



Athabasca University Graduate Students' Association
10818 Jasper Avenue
PO Box 35092
Edmonton, AB T5J 0B7

Phone: 1-866-625-5943

Fax: 780-497-7003

Web: <http://www.augsa.com>

Council Meeting

Date: December 20, 2010

Place: Web conference

Time: 5:00pm, MST

Attendance: Amanda Nielsen, President
Denise Ferris, VP External
Michael Balaski, VP Academic (entered at 5:24pm)
Nathaniel Ostashewski, VP Operations & Finance
Ric Wheeler, VP Student Life
Lorna Howieson, Business Rep
Melissa Seaborg, Counselling Rep (entered at 5:09pm)
Greta Kirstein, Heritage Resources Management Rep
Adam Snider, Coordinator

INDEX	MINUTES	ACTION
1.0 – Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 5:05pm.	
2.0 – Approval of Agenda	MOTION: Amanda moved to approve the agenda and Ric seconded; motion carried unanimously.	
3.0 – Approval of Previous Minutes	MOTION: David moved to approve the minutes from November 29, 2010 and Denise seconded; motion carried unanimously.	
4.0 – Reports		
4.1 – Executive Reports	VP External presented her report (see attached). VP Student Life presented his report (see attached). He also noted that the emergency medical services document he is working on is not quite ready, but expects to be done by December 25, 2010.	

	<p>President presented her report (see attached).</p> <p>VP Operations & Finance presented his report (see attached) and provided a verbal update on the audit (will be ready to go and sent to the auditor by Jan 31/11). He also noted that we have still not received outstanding fees from the MBA program.</p> <p>VP Academic presented his report (see attached).</p>	
4.2 – Council Reports	The program reps each presented their reports (see attached).	
4.3 – Staff Reports	The coordinator presented his report (see attached) and verbally added that he was involved in assisting with GCAP student concerns during November.	
5.0 – Old Business		
5.1 – Transition Package Update	Ric noted that the transition package (see attached) is now completed and on the website. A link to the package was included in the December newsletter.	
5.2 – Speaker of Council	<p>The job has been posted for nearly 3 months and only 1 applicant has been received, despite extended the deadline. Council discussed ways to increase applications and the following points were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend the deadline again (Jan 31/11); • Make it clear that training will be provided (Adam to rewrite the job posting); and • The ideal candidate would be an AU grad student, but the position is open to the public (Council to share the posting with contacts who may be qualified, both within and outside of AU). 	Adam – Dec 21
6.0 - New Business		
6.1 – Bylaw Amendment	<p>MOTION: Amanda moved that the following be added as a footnote to the AUGSA Bylaw No. 1: “<i>Note: Attendance can be in-person or via online teleconference participation (unless otherwise specified).</i>” Nathaniel seconded the motion and it was</p>	

	unanimously carried.	
6.2 – Open Course Ware Consortium	Amanda noted that AU is a part of the Open Course Ware Consortium. Given the challenges surrounding Access Copyright, it may be worthwhile to share this concept with other universities and start a wider conversation about the benefits of open learning resources.	
6.3 – Online Meeting Space Rentals for Grad Students	The idea of giving students the ability to rent online meeting space (i.e., GoToMeeting or some other web conferencing access) was raised. Amanda will look into cost and services.	Amanda – Jan 2011
7.0 – Other Business		
7.1 – Health Plan	After discussion, it was decided that Council would like to have one more opportunity to look over the information provided by each of the insurance consultants; a vote will be conducted on the Landing (votes must be in by December 22, 2010).	All – Dec 22/10
7.2 – Student Advisory Plan	MOTION: Melissa moved to put forward a student mentorship program and Nathaniel seconded; motion carried unanimously.	
7.3 – In-person Event	AUGSA’s first in-person networking event for students has been booked for January 13 in Edmonton. If you are in the city, please attend.	
7.4 – Orientation Events	AUGSA orientation events for new students have been booked for Jan 2011. Please let Amanda know if you can attend one or all of the sessions and provide assistance.	
7.5 – Committees	With the departure of Rob Janzen and Fraser Porter, the WIMP committee now consists of just Amanda and Adam. If you would like to join the committee, please let one of them know. The Newsletter committee is also open to additional members.	
7.6 – Aboriginal Student Representation	An aboriginal student at the Western GSA Assembly raised the point that there does not appear to be much representation of aboriginal students at the graduate	

	<p>level and suggested the idea of GSAs creating a seat specifically for an aboriginal student representative.</p> <p>After discussion, it was decided that Adam would contact the Centre for World Indigenous Knowledge and Research regarding elder support for aboriginal students. Melissa agreed to sit on an Aboriginal Student Working Group within the Western GSA Assembly; she also noted that, as a Métis person, she does provide aboriginal representation on the AUGSA and would be willing to be more public about being Métis if doing so would help all students feel more included/better represented by the AUGSA.</p>	
<p>7.8 – Flight to AGC Research Conference</p>	<p>Denise noted that she has taken an internship in Thailand and requested that AUGSA pay for her flight to and from the AGC Research Conference so that she can be present in her role as one of the conference organizers.</p> <p>After discussion, it was decided that it was important for both the AGC and for AUGSA to have Denise physically present at the conference.</p> <p>MOTION: Nathaniel moved to provide Denise with up to \$1,500 to ensure that she, as our AGC coordinator, will be present at the AGC research conference; Michael seconded the motion and it carried by a vote of 5-2 (with 2 abstentions (Denise abstained from the vote, along with one other member)).</p>	
<p>8.0 – Adjournment</p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 7:03pm</p>	

Amanda Nielsen, President

Adam Snider, Coordinator

Date of Approval