



**Athabasca University Graduate Students' Association**  
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## Council Meeting

**Date:** June 21, 2011

**Place:** Web conference

**Time:** 5:00pm, MST

**Attendance:** Amanda Nielsen, President  
Greta Kirstein, VP External  
Rob Janzen, VP Academic  
Denise Ferris, VP Student Life  
Adam Chishom, Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences Rep  
Margot van Sluytman, FHSS Rep  
Moiz Bhamani, Faculty of Business Rep  
Wilson Ho, Faculty of Business Rep  
Ric Wheeler, Faculty of Business Rep  
Jade Clark, Centre for Distance Education Rep  
Meg Andronowska, Faculty of Health Disciplines Rep  
Adam Snider, Coordinator

**Regrets:** Nathaniel Ostashewski, VP Operations & Finance  
Sarah Gauvreau, Centre for Distance Education Rep

INDEX	MINUTES	ACTION
1.0 – Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 6:47pm.	
2.0 – Approval of Agenda	<b>MOTION:</b> Ric moved to approve the agenda as presented and Jade seconded; motion carried unanimously.	
3.0 – Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes	<b>MOTION:</b> Rob moved to approve the agenda as presented and Meg seconded; motion carried unanimously.	
4.0 – Old Business	No old business.	

<p><b>5.0 – New Business</b></p>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> Rob moved to change the order of business and discuss item 5.4 first; Greta seconded and the motion carried unanimously.</p>	
<p><b>5.1 – Communicating Student Deadlines</b></p>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> Amanda moved that the AUGSA council direct the AUGSA Executive to investigate the possibility with AU of a centralized, public place for publishing student deadlines (either through the university or through each faculty/centre) and Rob seconded. The motion carried unanimously.</p>	
<p><b>5.2 – Visit from CASA</b></p>	<p>Jessica Seguin and Alex Lougheed from CASA joined the meeting at 6:56pm.</p> <p>Jessica and Alex gave a brief presentation about CASA’s history and what CASA is.</p> <p>Jessica and Alex went over CASA’s primary advocacy points from the previous year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affordable, quality childcare for students</li> <li>• Investing in Canada’s Aboriginal peoples</li> <li>• Eliminating the textbook tax</li> <li>• Needs-based grants for graduate students (none currently exist at the federal level)</li> <li>• Supporting international students</li> <li>• Dedicated education transfer (transfer payments from Feds to provinces specifically earmarked for education)</li> </ul> <p>Alex briefly discussed the policy and strategy conference coming in July to set the policy direction for the current year. AUGSA is sending two delegates to this conference (President &amp; VP External).</p> <p>Jessica and Alex exited at 7:44pm.</p>	
<p><b>5.3 – Transition Check-in</b></p>	<p>The council was given the opportunity to ask questions and share thoughts on how the transition to a new council has gone so far. This conversation brought up an explanation of how the Executive compensation process works, who the AUGSA is accountable to (Executive is</p>	

	<p>accountable to the Council; the Council is accountable to the students).</p> <p>The question of whether or not Faculty Reps need permission from Council to speak to concerns within their faculty was raised. While it is good for the reps to keep the Council informed of issues, they do not need to get permission to solicit opinions from students in their programs—this is a key part of their duties, in fact.</p>	
<b>5.4 – Communication methods / issues</b>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> Amanda moved to go <i>in camera</i> and Moiz seconded; motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>The meeting went <i>in camera</i> at this point.</p> <p>A discussion of internal communication issues was held in confidence.</p> <p><b>MOTION:</b> Amanda moved to go <i>ex camera</i> and Greta seconded; motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>The meeting went <i>ex camera</i> at this point.</p>	
<b>6.0 – Other Business</b>	No other business.	
<b>7.0 – Adjournment</b>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> Greta moved to adjourned the meeting and Ric seconded; motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 8:29pm.</p>	

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Amanda Nielsen, President

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Adam Snider, Coordinator

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Date of Approval