



Athabasca University Graduate Students' Association
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Council Meeting

Date: November 29, 2010

Place: Teleconference

Time: 5:00pm, MST

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

Absent: Nathaniel Ostashewski, VP Operations & Finance
David Keene, Arts Rep

INDEX	MINUTES	ACTION
1.0 – Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 5:08pm.	
2.0 – Approval of Agenda	MOTION: Ric moved to approve the agenda as presented and Denise seconded; motion carried unanimously.	
3.0 – Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting	MOTION: Amanda moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting as presented and Ric seconded; motion carried unanimously.	
4.0 – Old Business		
4.1 – Communications	Denise presented the attached report.	All – before next

<p>Proposal</p>	<p>MOTION: Denise moved, beginning in December, to increase the rate of executive communication compensation from \$50/month to \$75/month based on market research AND to increase the rate of council communication compensation from \$20/month to \$35/month based on market research; Michael seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.</p> <p>MOTION: Denise moved to pay for one (1) headset for each member on Executive and Council at a cost of no more than \$40.00 (excluding governmental and provincial taxes); Ric seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.</p> <p>ACTION ITEM: Purchase your headset prior to the December Council meeting (date TBA).</p>	<p>council meeting.</p>
<p>4.2 – BluFyre Website Design Edit Quote</p>	<p>MOTION: Lorna moved to approve paying BluFyre the quoted rate of \$75-150 dollars (1-2 hours of work) to edit the design of the AUGSA website and Ric seconded; motion carried unanimously.</p>	
<p>4.3 – Hotel Policy</p>	<p>MOTION: Lorna moved to approve allowing AUGSA council members/staff to book individual rooms on business trips and Ric seconded; motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>MOTION: Ric moved to that AUGSA council members/staff should book a standard double room at Wyndham hotels (or equivalent) for AUGSA business and Amanda seconded; motion carried unanimously.</p>	
<p>4.4 – Committee Autonomy</p>		
<p>4.4.1 – Committee Charter Plans</p>	<p>MOTION: Lorna moved to approve the charter document as presented and Melissa seconded; motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>ACTION ITEM: Committees should draft/fill out a charter document for Council approval at the first January council meeting (sooner if possible)</p>	<p>Committees – Jan 2011</p>
<p>4.5 – Transition Package</p>	<p>MOTION: Ric moved to approve the transition package, conditional upon Eric von Stackelberg signing a contract with AUGSA, with the understanding that the</p>	

	content about Eric will be removed if he does not sign a contract; Greta seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.	
4.6 – MBA Fees	<p>MOTION: Ric moved to accept the MBA proposal that AUGSA fees from MBA students, effective December 1, 2010, be collected at the rate applicable at the time tuition is paid, and that the fees be remitted to the AUGSA when the student takes the course. These fees will be remitted to the AUGSA within 60 days. Denise seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.</p> <p>MOTION: Amanda moved that the AUGSA ask the Faculty of Business to wire us \$45,000—rather than the \$30,000 they have offered—on the assumption that they owe us \$60-65K and, as such, will not be “over paying” us; Ric seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.</p>	
5.0 – New Business		
5.1 – Health & Dental Plans	<p>Denise provided a basic overview of the information that she has received from health care consultants that she and Amanda have been dealing with: Galvin & Associates, C&C Associates, and Student Care’s “I Have a Plan.”</p> <p>Denise will post the full proposal from each provider on the AUGSA Council Landing group for in-depth discussion in advance of the December council meeting.</p>	Denise – Dec 3
5.2 – BluFyre Hosting Package Recommendations	<p>This item was tabled until research into alternate hosting providers can be completed.</p> <p>Recommended that Council members delete all emails that do not have an archival/historical value (especially those containing attachments) to free up web space in the meantime.</p>	All – ASAP
5.3 – Workshops with Faculty of Graduate Studies	Amanda informed the council that the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) is planning to develop some workshops similar to those that we have discussed previously. If you are planning on tackling any of the suggested workshop topics, please get in touch with Pamela Hawranik to see if the FGS is working on anything similar so that we can collaborate with them	

	and offer joint workshops if possible.	
5.4 – AUGSA Holiday Party	<p>MOTION: Amanda moved that the AUGSA hold a volunteer/staff holiday party and pay for the Coordinator’s meal and his significant other’s meal as well as one drink for each of them, and also pay up to \$15 for each other member of AUGSA toward the cost of their meal; Michael seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.</p> <p>The Edmonton area members will hold a party (other Alberta members are invited to attend this event) and the people in Toronto may also hold an event in their area.</p>	
6.0 – Other Business		
6.1 – Eric von Stackelberg & AUGSA Contracts	<p>The recently appointed MSIS rep, Eric von Stackelberg, has raised some concerns with signing the AUGSA board member contract. He has asked for some changes to be made before he will sign.</p> <p>After discussion, it was decided that this issue will be tabled and moved to the AUGSA Council Landing group for discussion over the next 2 business days, after which time a decision will be made on what to do.</p> <p>Michael would like for us to meet with Eric to get a better understanding of where he is coming from. Nathaniel and Amanda noted that they have both discussed this issue with him in person already.</p>	
6.2 – December Meetings	<p>After discussion, it was decided that only one council meeting will be held in December, due to the shutdown over the holiday break.</p> <p>This meeting will be scheduled via Doodle and will occur in approximately the middle of December.</p>	
6.3 – Academic Counselling	<p>Michael suggested looking into the possibility of offering some sort of academic counselling to students, especially those who are considering dropping out, to see if they might be able to find a program that is better suited to them, rather than simply dropping out altogether.</p> <p>Michael felt that this falls under the VP Academic</p>	

	portfolio and that he could take this on. Melissa also offered to look into this more.	
7.0 – Adjournment	MOTION: Michael moved to adjourn the meeting and Melissa seconded; motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:04pm.	

Amanda Nielsen, President

Adam Snider, Coordinator

Date of Approval