



**Athabasca University Graduate Students'  
Association**

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**AUGSA Council/2021 AGM Minutes**

**Date:** July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 - 6:00pm MDT

**Place:** Web conference

**Attendance :**

**Executive Committee:** Chris Edwards (VP Operations & Finance), Kelli Buckreus (VP External)

**Faculty of Business Representatives:** David Newman, Ian Chitwood,

**Faculty of Health Disciplines Representatives:** Sarah Reid, Sabrina Martin, Kayleigh Dodge,

**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Representative:** Heather McGilvary, Sarah James, Alice Kang

**Faculty of Science and Technology:** Ajibade Shodunke, Russell Rupok

**Staff:** Meaghan Sullivan (Executive Director), Derek Balay (Speaker)

**Regrets:** Julia Cornester (President), Kareena Hart (VP Academic), Margaret Clappison, Paul Valenti

		<b>PRESENTER</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Call to Order</b>	President	The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm MDT.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Approval of Agenda</b>	President	<b>Motion 2.0 To approve the agenda as distributed.</b> Moved: Sabrina Martin Seconded: Russell Rupok Motion carried without opposition.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Approval of Previous Minutes</b>	President	<b>Motion 3.0 To approve the minutes of June 15th, 2021.</b> Moved: Kayleigh Dodge Seconded: Sabrina Martin Motion carried without opposition.

4.0	<b>Reports and Presentations</b>	VP Operations & Finance	<p><b>Motion 4.0 To approve the audited financial statements for 2020 as presented.</b></p> <p>Moved: David Newman          Seconded: Margaret Clappison          Motion carried without opposition.</p>
	<b>4.1 President</b>		
	<b>4.2 VP Academic</b>		
	<b>4.3 VP External</b>	VP External	<p>Kelli Buckreus spent most of her time in June dedicated to the Dean Selection Committee for the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. The selection process is nearly the end.</p> <p>CASA:</p> <p>There were follow up meetings in June. Kelli Buckreus attended the CASA debrief and follow-up regarding foundations as well as attended the Equity, Diversity, &amp; Inclusions (EDI) committee meeting.</p> <p>The last week of July will be a week long session for strategy and policy, meaning we should have some advocacy campaigns come from this.</p> <p>abGPAC:</p> <p>Kelli Buckreus attended the transition for abGPAC that took place last month as well as the policy and governance training sessions. At the transition meeting Paul Valenti was appointed as Treasurer on the abGPAC board.</p>
	<b>4.4 VP Operations &amp; Finance</b>		<p>Chris Edwards commented that the Dean of Business Search Committee is underway.</p>
5.0	<b>Financial Reports</b>	VP Operations & Finance	<p>Chris Edwards presented the financial reports. AUGSAs position is healthy.</p> <p>Chris Edwards explained we are renegotiating the bookkeeper contract and are proposing an increase to \$42.00/hour. This works out to \$420 per month.</p>

			<p>This will bring the contract in alignment with other bookkeepers/accountants. The Council discussed the role and reviewed the budget in terms of which line item this would fall under.</p> <p><b>Motion 5.0: to approve the Bookkeeper pay increase to \$42.00/hour (\$420.00/month).</b>        Moved: Sarah Reid        Seconded: Ajibade Shodunke        Motion carried without opposition.</p>
6.0	<b>Council Reports</b>		<p>David Newman presented a detailed report on his meeting with the Mental Health Advisory Group.</p> <p>The Essential Skills Group did not meet in June.</p>
7.0	<b>GSRC Update &amp; Faculty Representative Involvement</b>		<p>Meaghan Sullivan gave an update on the Graduate Student Research Conference (GSRC). This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sponsorship Committee: achieved sponsorship to date is \$16,500</li> <li>- The Marketing Committee has reached out to all Deans, Program Coordinators, and anyone of interest that could help further the goals of the conference</li> <li>- The technology platform is set up</li> <li>- The Call for Abstracts is open until July 27th</li> </ul> <p>Meaghan Sullivan requested Faculty Representatives to e-mail her within the next two weeks on if they would be interested in volunteering for the day-of-the-event as moderators.</p>
8.0	<b>Membership Satisfaction Survey</b>		<p>The survey is almost at 400 respondents and two more newsletters are planned to go out on July 19th and July 26th. The survey closes on July 30th.</p>
9.0	<b>Committee Updates</b>		
	<b>9.1 Governance Committee</b>		<p>Chris Edwards has spent some time going over areas of the policy binder over the past month that</p>

			<p>requires review and updating. Today, areas of note in the policy binder were reviewed by Chris Edwards with the Executive Director.</p> <p>The Governance Committee plans to go over this policy work later this month.</p>
	<b>9.2 Awards Committee</b>		<p>The Awards Committee approved another bursary this past month. They have been working at reviewing the matrix and are considering revisiting the application form to ensure questions are specific enough to get the right information from applicants to make informed decisions.</p>
	<b>9.3 Engagement Committee</b>		<p>The engagement committee met on June 30th and reviewed priorities. They discussed social media content and creating a repository of content for the Executive Director to pull from and post. Kelli has created a spreadsheet that they will use to create content. This includes the creation of potential tweets, use of Canva, engaging international students, and the Newsletter. In the Newsletter, this could include highlighting student stories. The committee also discussed picking up the Grad Lounge in the future.</p>
	<b>9.4 Finance Committee</b>		<p>Chris Edwards informed the Financial Committee a meeting will be coming shortly for the committee's quarterly review of transactions.</p>
	<b>9.5 Strategic Planning Committee</b>		
	<b>9.6 Other Committees</b>  - <b>Digital Governance</b>		<p>Ajibade Shodunke attended the Digital Governance Committee in June. The Committee discussed social media tracking and clinical tracking software to be used by the students in the Bachelor of Nursing program.</p>
<b>10.0</b>	<b>Upcoming Events</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduate Student Research Conference</li> <li>• Annual Membership Satisfaction Survey</li> </ul>

<b>11.0</b>	<b>New Business</b>  - <b>Travel</b>		<p>Chris Edwards explained that Kelli Buckreus and Julia Cornester have been invited to meet with the Minister. As such, the Executive have discussed and recommend re-engaging our travel policy to allow in-person events now that the pandemic measures implemented in the province are opening up. The Executive are requesting Council to approve the following motion.</p> <p><b>Motion 11.0: to approve AUGSA re-engaging in travel and in-person events.</b> Moved: Chris Edwards Seconded: Ian Chitwood Motion carried without opposition.</p>
<b>12.0</b>	<b>Old Business</b>		
<b>13.0</b>	<b>Other Business</b>		
<b>14.0</b>	<b>Adjournment</b>		<p><b>Motion 13.0: To adjourn the meeting at 6:46 pm.</b>  Moved: Chris Edwards Seconded: Kayleigh Dodge Carried without opposition.</p>

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Julia Cornester, President

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Meaghan Sullivan, Executive Director

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Date of Approval