



**Athabasca University Graduate Students'
Association**

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AUGSA Council/2021 AGM Minutes

Date: December 14th, 2021 - 6:00pm MDT

Place: Web conference

Attendance :

Executive Committee: Julia Cornester (President), Kelli Buckreus (VP External), Chris Edwards (VP Operations & Finance), Kareena Hart (VP Academic)

Faculty of Business Representatives: Ian Chitwood

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

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

Faculty of Science and Technology: Ajibade Shodunke, Russell Rupok

Staff: Meaghan Sullivan (Executive Director)

Regrets: Alice Kang, Charlesly Salter, Margaret Clappison

		PRESENTER	ACTION
1.0	Call to Order	President	The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm MT.
2.0	Approval of Agenda	President	Motion 2.0 To approve the agenda as amended. Moved: Russell Rupok Seconded: Kelli Buckreus Motion carried without opposition.

3.0	Approval of Previous Minutes	President	<p>Motion 3.0 To approve the minutes of November 9th, 2021 as presented.</p> <p>Moved: Sabrina Martin Seconded: Ajibade Shodunke Motion carried without opposition.</p>
4.0	Reports and Presentations		
	4.1 President		<p>In addition to the work dedicated to advocacy week, Julia Cornester plans to continue working on AUGSAs advocacy agenda into the new year, with activities planned for end of January and early February.</p> <p>There has been an increase in Board of Governors work this month. Additionally, Julia Cornester met with the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences this month to discuss collaboration on student needs.</p> <p>A lot of dedicated work went into the AUGSA Awards Committee this month with adjudications, and discussions on more a strategic bursaries portfolio in regards to the establishment of endowment.</p>
	4.2 VP Academic		<p>A majority of the month was spent on the Awards Committee. There has been a large uptick in applications. Today the most recent batch of applicants have been approved. This has been a tremendous amount of work for the three committee members and Kareena thanked the team.</p> <p>AUGSA Trans Research Bursary: The endowment is moving along at AU with discussions initiated but no paperwork yet. We will keep you abreast of the updates as we move along.</p> <p>AUGSA bursaries endowment fund: We are looking to set up an AUGSA endowment bursaries fund at AU to embrace a more</p>

			governance model rather than working committee model. This could be set up with surplus funds from AUGSA. We will come back to Council in the new year on this initiative.
	4.3 VP External		<p>The biggest activity for November was the abGPAC advocacy week, which has actually spanned out over three weeks of meetings. A lot of pre-work went into the development of the advocacy policies, advocacy training, and preparation for these meetings. Approximately ¾ of the meetings have been attended so far with some meetings still outstanding. There will be opportunity to do follow up with some ministers and representatives including the childcare minister.</p> <p>Kelli Buckreus and Julia Cornester have been working on independent advocacy activities for AUGSA specifically to take place around the end of January and beginning of February.</p>
	4.4 VP Operations & Finance		<p>The HR Committee reviewed the Code of Conduct.</p> <p>There may be changes to tuition in the future at AU.</p>
5.0	Financial Reports		Graduate student registration is up, which has impacted our revenue this year. AUGSA is trending towards a significant surplus this year, although there are plans in the works from the awards committee to get this money back into the hands of students.
6.0	Committee Updates		
	6.1 Governance Committee		Nothing to report.
	6.2 Awards Committee		<p>Motion 6.2: to approve the addition of \$1700 for a total disbursement of \$8,800 in bursaries this month.</p> <p>Moved: Kareena Hart Seconded: Sabrina Martin Motion carried without opposition.</p>
	6.3 Engagement Committee		Nothing to report.

	6.4 Finance Committee		Nothing to report.
	6.5 Strategic Planning Committee		AUGSA has been meeting with AU staff and MLA representatives in government. In January, the strategic planning committee plans to meet and develop a second survey to send out to membership that can identify challenges they are facing as well as collect data that can assist in effectively advocating for AU graduate students.
	6.6 Elections Committee		Motion 6.6: to appoint Sarah James and Ajibade Shodunke to the Elections Committee. Moved: Julia Cornester Seconded: Kareena Hart Motion carried without opposition.
	6.7 Other Committees		
	6.7.1 Mental Health Committee		Motion 6.7.1: to appoint Ruby Tano to the Mental Health Committee. Moved: Julia Cornester Seconded: Kareena Hart Motion carried without opposition.
7.0	Upcoming Events		The Graduate Student Research Conference (GSRC) is tentatively scheduled for October 14 th & 15 th , 2022. We are asking Council members to think of theme ideas and submit them through the survey link provided by Meaghan Sullivan. We can regroup at the January 11 th , 2022, Council meeting to select the theme for recommendation to the GSRC Steering Committee.
8.0	New Business		
	8.1 Executive Planning Session (March)		Motion 8.1: To approve the Executive Retreat in March in Canmore, Alberta (approximately \$7,000). Moved: Julia Cornester Seconded: Heather McGilvary Carried without opposition.
9.0	Old Business		

10.0	Other Business		
11.0	Adjournment		Motion 11.0: To adjourn the meeting at 6:34 pm. Moved: Russell Rupok Seconded: Chris Edwards Carried without opposition.
12.0	Scheduled In-camera Session – December 14th, 2021		Motion 12.0: To move in-camera at 6:34 pm. Motion 12.1: To move out-of-camera at 6:41 pm.

Julia Cornester, President

Meaghan Sullivan, Executive Director

Date of Approval