



Athabasca University Graduate Students' Association
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Council Meeting

Date: June 23, 2010

Place: Teleconference

Time: 6:15pm, MDT

Attendance: Amanda Nielsen, President
Denise Ferris, VP External
Michael Balaski, VP Academic
Nathaniel Ostashewski, VP Operations & Finance
Ric Wheeler, VP Student Life
David Keene, MAIS Rep
Melissa Seaborg, GCAP Rep
Lorna Howieson, MBA Rep
Greta Kirstein, GDHERM Rep
Adam Snider, Coordinator

Regrets: Lawrence Poon, MSc Rep

INDEX	MINUTES	ACTION
1.0 – Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 6:22pm	
2.0 – Approval of the Agenda	MOTION: David moved to approve the agenda as presented and Michael seconded. Motion carried unanimously.	
3.0 – Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting	MOTION: Nathaniel moved to approve the previous meeting's minutes as presented and Melissa seconded. Motion carried unanimously.	
4.0 – Old Business		
4.1 – Information Sharing Agreement Update	Amanda updated Council on the status of the Information Sharing Agreement that is being negotiated with AU. While the agreement is now much closer to one that we	Amanda – July 02

	<p>can live with, it is not perfect and AU has indicated that they will not engage in any further negotiations.</p> <p>A discussion ensued as to what AUGSA’s course of action should be. After discussion the following motion was made:</p> <p>MOTION: Denise moved that we email the University one last time asking for the same clause that AUSU has in regard to inspection of records to be included in our agreement; Amanda seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.</p>	
4.2 – Bylaws Amendment or Approval	<p>Keith Shustov (AUGSA Legal Counsel) has reviewed all of the bylaw documents that we have approved to-date and has not noted any legal issues with them.</p> <p>MOTION: Amanda moved to approve the bylaws that have been reviewed by legal counsel and Denise seconded. Motion carried unanimously.</p>	
5.0 – Reports		
5.1 – Executive Reports	<p>The executive members each presented a report on their recent activity.</p> <p><i>President’s Report – See attached.</i></p> <p><i>VP External’s Report – See attached.</i></p> <p><i>VP Academic’s Report – See attached.</i></p> <p><i>VP Operations & Finance’s Report – See attached.</i></p> <p><i>VP Student Life’s Report – See attached.</i></p>	
5.2 – Council Reports	<p>The council members each presented a report on their recent activity, except for the MSc rep, who was absent (his written report is attached, however).</p> <p><i>MAIS Rep’s Report – See attached.</i></p> <p><i>GCAP Rep’s Report – See attached.</i></p> <p><i>MBA Rep’s Report – See attached.</i></p> <p><i>GDHERM Rep’s Report – See attached.</i></p>	

	<i>MSc Rep's Report – See attached.</i>	
5.3 – Staff Reports	The Coordinator presented his report. See attached.	
6.0 – New Business		
6.1 – Bookmarks	<p>Denise has been looking into the cost of bookmarks (as decided during the last Awards Planning Committee meeting), to be sent out as part of a correspondence package to graduate students each year. The estimated cost to print and mail bookmarks and tri-fold pamphlets is approximately \$2 per student.</p> <p>As Council was unable to review the information prior to the meeting, the decision as to which bookmark provider will be used will be decided by an email vote.</p> <p>Nathaniel and Lorna exited the meeting after this discussion (8:15pm).</p>	
6.2 – Coordinator Probationary Period		
6.2.1 – Three Month Review	This issue was tabled, as the Coordinator's probationary period is one year.	
6.2.2 – Benefits	<p>Denise provided information regarding a number of health insurance benefits plans for the Coordinator.</p> <p>During this presentation, Nathaniel returned to the meeting (8:19pm).</p> <p>MOTION: Amanda moved that Adam review the various plans and select the one that he likes best, and AUGSA will cover 80% of whichever plan he chooses for himself; Denise seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Denise exited the meeting after the motion (8:26pm).</p>	
6.3 – AUSU/AUGSA Collaboration/Meetings	<p>A discussion of the June 16, 2010 meeting between AUSU and AUGSA was held. Several points were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting was very long (approx. 3 hours). • Conversation frequently deviated from agenda. • AUSU indicated a preference to holding informal 	

	<p>meeting with AUGSA, wherein minutes are not recorded.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings should be mutually beneficial to both organizations; if they are not, then they should not be held. • It was suggested that future meetings with AUSU have a firm time limit and agenda. <p>MOTION: Nathaniel moved that meetings with AUSU have a 1-hour time limit, have minutes and an agenda, and be held once per month; Melissa seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.</p>	
7.0 – Other Business		
7.1 – Accountant and Auditor	<p>Nathaniel discussed our accounting and auditing needs, professionals he has found to work with us, and their rates. \$200/hr for the accountant (see below) and approx. \$7,000-8,000 for the audit (see below).</p> <p>MOTION: Nathaniel moved that we hire Universal Wisdom Inc. as the accountant, at an hourly rate of \$200/hr, and Ric seconded. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>MOTION: Ric moved that we approve hiring Jay Chatha of Chatha Accounting as our auditor and Michael seconded. Motion carried unanimously.</p>	
7.2 – Business Cards	<p>MOTION: Amanda moved that we print 500 cards for Adam, Amanda, and Denise and that we print 250 cards for everyone else on Council; Ric seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.</p>	
8.0 – Adjournment	<p>MOTION: Nathaniel moved to adjourn the meeting and Ric seconded. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 8:43pm.</p> <p>Next meeting – to be scheduled using Doodle meeting scheduling software.</p> <p>Final bylaw meeting – to be scheduled using Doodle.</p>	

Amanda Nielsen, President

Adam Snider, Coordinator

Date of Approval