



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

**Date:** August 11, 2011

**Place:** Web conference

**Time:** 6:00pm

**Attendance:** Amanda Nielsen, President  
Greta Kirstein, VP External  
Rob Janzen, VP Academic  
Nathaniel Ostashevski, VP Operations & Finance  
Denise Ferris, VP Student Life  
Adam Chisholm, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (FHSS) Rep  
Margot Van Sluytman, FHSS Rep  
Moiz Bhamani, Faculty of Business Rep  
Wilson Ho, Faculty of Business Rep  
Ric Wheeler, Faculty of Business Rep  
Sarah Gauvreau, Centre for Distance Education Rep  
Heather Clitheroe, Awards Committee Chairperson  
Steve Harris, Faculty of Science and Technology Rep

**Absent:** Meg Andronowska, Faculty of Health Disciplines Rep  
Jade Clarke, Centre for Distance Education Rep  
Eric Lavoie, Faculty of Health Disciplines Rep

INDEX	MINUTES	ACTION
<b>1.0 – Call to Order</b>	Meeting called to order at 6:10pm.	
<b>2.0 – Approval of Agenda</b>	<b>MOTION:</b> The VP Academic moved that the agenda be approved as presented and the VP External seconded; motion carried unanimously.	
<b>3.0 – Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes</b>	<b>MOTION:</b> Centre for Distance Education Rep (Gauvreau) moved to approve the minutes as presented	

	and the VP External seconded; motion carried unanimously.	
<b>4.0 – Reports</b>		
<b>4.1 – Executive Reports</b>	<p><b>President:</b> The President presented her report (see attached).</p> <p><b>VP External:</b> The VP External presented her report (see attached).</p> <p><b>VP Academic:</b> The VP Academic presented his report (see attached).</p> <p><b>VP Operations &amp; Finance:</b> The VPOF presented his report (see attached) and also noted that he is working on developing an “accounting training pack” so that future VPOFs will be able to easily learn how to use Quickbooks and perform the financial/accounting duties of the VPOF.</p> <p><b>VP Student Life:</b> The VP Student Life presented her report (see attached).</p>	
<b>4.2 – Financial Report</b>	The VPOF presented a trail balance, deposit list, budget update, and payroll report (see attached).	
<b>4.3 – Staff Reports</b>	The Coordinator gave an oral report on July’s activities indicating that it was a slower month with less activity to report as he was on vacation for one week out of the month. Main activities for the month were assisting with the by-election and reviewing materials such as bylaws and Robert’s Rules of Order.	
<b>5.0 – Old Business</b>		
<b>5.1 – Awards Committee Update</b>	<p>The Awards Committee Chair updated Council on the status of the Committee.</p> <p>There are now four Outstanding Distinction Awards for AU Graduate Students with a value of \$1125 each. The library donation associated with the Outstanding Distinction Award for AU Faculty has been reduced from \$3,000 to \$150; this award will also include a \$100 gift card to be awarded to the recipient. The Outstanding Distinction Award for Non-Academic Staff has been</p>	

	<p>changed to match the Faculty award.</p> <p>The awards will now be presented only once per year, with applications being due May 31, the Committee to meet and decide the winners on June and the money to be disbursed in July.</p> <p>The Awards Committee Chair suggested that members of the AUGSA Council and Staff not apply for the Outstanding Distinction Awards for AU Grad Students, although the terms of reference do not explicitly forbid them doing so. Council will make sure that this is listed in the terms of reference going forward.</p> <p>The Awards Committee will present a written report to Council at a later date.</p>	
<b>6.0 – New Business</b>		
<b>6.1 – AUGSA Policy Research</b>	<p>The VP External presented the first half of the attached document.</p> <p>The AUGSA is hiring Mark Coffin to research the five policies listed at a rate of \$30/hr for a maximum of 40 hours (\$1,200).</p>	
<b>6.2 – Calgary Meet &amp; Greet Event</b>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> The President moved that the AUGSA allow up to \$2,500 for the coordination of an in-person event in Calgary, Alberta and the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Rep (Van Sluytman) seconded; motion carried unanimously.</p>	
<b>6.3 – Alberta Student Summit Update</b>	<p>The President provided a quick update on the Alberta Student Summit – collaboration between the Alberta Graduate Council, the Council of Alberta University Students, and the Alberta Student Executive Council.</p> <p>Things are going well with this collaboration and they now have a joint policy committee of which the AUGSA President is a member.</p> <p>They may host a joint hospitality suite at one of the PC Leadership events.</p>	
<b>6.4 – CASA Update</b>	<p>This item was tabled until the next council meeting.</p>	

<b>7.0 – Other Business</b>	No other business.	
<b>8.0 – Adjournment</b>	<b>MOTION:</b> The Faculty of Business Rep (Wheeler) moved that the meeting be adjourned and the VPOF seconded; motion carried unanimously.  Meeting adjourned at 7:32pm.	

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Amanda Nielsen, President

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Adam Snider, Coordinator

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Date of Approval