



Athabasca University Graduate Students' Association
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Council Meeting Minutes

Date: August 29, 2012

Place: Web conference

Time: 6:00pm MDT

Attendance:

Amanda Nielsen, President
Lisa Barrett, VP External
Olivia Meyia, VP Academic
Wilson Ho, VP Operations & Finance
Maria Greaves, Faculty of Business Representative
Margaret Clappison, Faculty of Business Representative
Moiz Bhamani, Faculty of Business Representative
Greta Kirstein, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Representative
Mandy Nielsen, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Representative
Caitlin Cummins, Faculty of Health Disciplines Representative
Rob Janzen, Faculty of Science and Technology Representative
Sean Sommerfeld, Centre for Distance Education Representative
Adam Snider, Operations Coordinator
Eric Snow, Speaker of Council

Regrets:

Eric Lavoie, Faculty of Health Disciplines Representative
Steve Harris, Faculty of Science and Technology Representative
Jade Clarke, Centre for Distance Education Representative
Adam Chisholm, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Representative

| INDEX | MINUTES | ACTION |
|--|--|--------|
| 1.0 – Call to Order | Meeting called to order at 6:02pm MDT. | |
| 2.0 – Approval of Agenda | MOTION: That the agenda be approved as presented. (Janzen / Greaves) Unanimously carried. | |
| 3.0 – Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes | MOTION: That the minutes be amended to list Mandy Nielsen as absent and approved as amended. (Greaves / Nielsen) Unanimously carried. | |

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| 4.0 – Conflict of Interest Declarations | No conflicts of interest were declared. | |
| 5.0 – Reports | | |
| 5.1 – Financial Report | The VPOF presented a detailed financial report. Based on feedback from Ms. Clappison the VPOF will work to simplify the next month’s report so that it is easier to read at a glance while still providing sufficient detail for Council to understand the AUGSA’s financial position. | |
| 6.0 – Unfinished Business | No unfinished business. | |
| 7.0 – New Business | | |
| 7.1 – Comprehensive Governance Review | MOTION: That the AUGSA Council spend up to \$1,500 to hire a governance expert to conduct a comprehensive bylaw and governance review of the Association. (President / Janzen) Unanimously carried. It was noted that financial best practices should be included as a part of the governance review. | |
| 7.2 – CASA Conference Report | The VP External presented a report summarizing the CASA Policy & Strategy Conference and AUGSA’s role during the conference. | |
| 7.3 – Digital Textbooks for AU | MOTION: Be it resolve that the AUGSA meet with Athabasca University to advocate for student choice in the decision to have hard-copy versus digital textbooks, and offer the choice on a cost-recovery basis. (Ex. The cheapest material option will automatically be included in the course cost, and any differential costs for alternative formats will be covered by the students) Be it further resolved that AUGSA advocate student choice on each individual item within a particular course, and be asked to decide when enrolling in the course how they would like to receive each academic text. (VP Academic / Cummins) Unanimously carried. | |
| 7.4 – Ontario Graduate Council Expenses | MOTION: That the AUGSA approve sending the AUGSA President and one Ontario-based AUGSA Faculty or Centre Representative to Waterloo, Ontario for the first meeting of the Ontario | |

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| | <p>Graduate Council which is to be held from November 30 – December 1, 2012. (VPOF / Cummins) Unanimously carried.</p> <p>MOTION: That the AUGSA spend up to \$2,000 to cover 50% of the Ontario Graduate Council meeting costs, the other 50% of which will be paid by the University of Waterloo Graduate Student Association. (VPOF / Cummins) Unanimously carried.</p> | |
| 8.0 – Other Business | | |
| 8.1 – Resignation of Faculty of Health Disciplines Representative | <p>Because Ms. Andronowska resigned from her seat on council, the AUGSA must find a new Faculty of Health Disciplines Representative.</p> <p>MOTION: That the AUGSA Council replenish the Council by finding a new Faculty-based representative for the Faculty of Health Disciplines through a process of Council appointment, and aim to have a new representative in place by the end of October 2012. (VPOF / Greaves) Unanimously carried.</p> | |
| 8.2 – Alberta NDP Annual Provincial Convention | <p>MOTION: That the AUGSA spend \$160 to send the President to the Alberta New Democrats’ 50th Annual Provincial Convention from September 21 – 23, 2012. (VP Academic / Nielsen) Unanimously carried.</p> | |
| 9.0 – Adjournment | <p>MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned. (Clappison / Kirstein) Unanimously carried.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 7:02pm.</p> | |

Amanda Nielsen, President

Adam Snider, Coordinator

Date of Approval