



Athabasca University Graduate Students' Association
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Council Meeting Minutes

Date: January 11, 2012

Place: Web conference

Time: 7:00pm MST

Attendance:

Amanda Nielsen, President
Greta Kirstein, VP External
Rob Janzen, VP Academic
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
Meg Andronowska, Faculty of Health Disciplines Rep
Steve Harris, Faculty of Science and Technology Rep
Sarah Gauvreau, Centre for Distance Education Rep
Jade Clarke, Centre for Distance Education Rep
Lorna Howieson, Speaker of Council
Adam Snider, Coordinator

Regrets:

Eric Lavoie, Faculty of Health Disciplines Rep

Absent:

Ric Wheeler, Faculty of Business Rep
Nathaniel Ostashewski, VP Operations & Finance

INDEX	MINUTES	ACTION
1.0 – Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 7:07pm MST.	
2.0 – Approval of Agenda	MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented. (Chisholm / Gauvreau) Unanimously carried.	
3.0 – Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes	MOTION: That the previous meeting's minutes be approved as presented. (Janzen / Van Sluytman) Unanimously approved.	

4.0 – Reports		
4.1 – Executive Reports	Each member of the Executive Committee presented his or her report. As the VPOF was absent, the President presented on his behalf.	
4.2 – Financial Report	As the VPOF was absent, the President spoke to this item: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finance is on track this year, ready for audit. - A bit of reserve funds have been built up; looking to grow this amount. 	
5.0 – New Business		
5.1 – Learning Resource Committee	MOTION: That the official position of AUGSA with regards to the Learning Resource Committee be that we want to keep the current system in place for delivering text books to students, and that the Learning Resource fee be broken down for transparency purposes and for students to where their money is being spent. (Janzen / Van Sluytman) Motion carried unanimously.	
5.2 – AUGSA Policies Development Update	MOTION: That we spend \$1,500.00 from the Policy Research budget line for the advancement of the following four policy directions for the AUGSA: fair copyright laws, digital infrastructure, graduate student representation on the AU Board of Governors, and part-time student loans. (Kirstein / Harris) Motion carried unanimously.	
5.3 – Bylaw Amendments	MOTION: That the AUGSA adopt the amended AUGSA bylaws as reviewed and revised by the AUGSA Council Governance Review Committee with the definition of “signing of petition” expanded to include: AU is a distance-based university, ‘signing a petition’ in the AUGSA’s context includes physically mailed letters, and email letters for or against a particular letter. (Nielsen / Kirstein) Motion carried unanimously.	
5.4 – Elections & Referenda Committee	MOTION: That the AUGSA appoint Sarah Gauvreau as a council member, who will not be seeking re-election, to the AUGSA Elections &	

	Referenda Committee for the 2011/2012 year. (Nielsen / Kirstein) Motion carried unanimously.	
6.0 – Other Business		
6.1 – AU Proposed Fee Increase	<p>MOTION: That the AUGSA accept and vote in favour of AU proposed tuition fee increases for the 2012/2013 year in order to ensure AU has the funds necessary to provide a quality graduate student experience, recognizing the difficult economic times for the university. (Nielsen / Gauvreau) Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>MOTION: That the AUGSA reject the proposed \$50 Fax Transcript fee as being excessive, and recommends instead a fee of \$30 for the Fax Transcript fee. (Nielsen / Chisholm).</p> <p>It was moved in amendment that the AUGSA reject the proposed \$50 Fax Transcript fee as being excessive, and recommends instead a fee of \$15 for the Fax Transcript fee. (Van Sluytman / Andronowska)</p> <p>The amended motion was carried unanimously.</p>	
6.2 – Co-Curricular Transcripts	MOTION: That AUGSA spend \$400 of policy money be allocated to research co-curricular transcripts and transcribing awards at other institutions and how students have reacted to them. (Janzen / Chisholm) Motion carried unanimously.	
7.0 – Adjournment	<p>MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned. (Janzen / Clarke) Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 8:36pm.</p>	

Amanda Nielsen, President

Adam Snider, Coordinator

Date of Approval