



Athabasca University Graduate Students' Association
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Council Meeting Minutes

Date: November 26, 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
Adam Chisholm, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Representative
Greta Kirstein, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Representative
Caitlin Cummins, Faculty of Health Disciplines Representative
Eric Lavoie, Faculty of Health Disciplines Representative
Rob Janzen, Faculty of Science and Technology Representative
Jade Clarke, Centre for Distance Education Representative
Sean Sommerfeld, Centre for Distance Education Representative
Adam Snider, Operations Coordinator
Eric Snow, Speaker of Council

Regrets:

Mandy Nielsen, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Representative

Absent:

Steve Harris, Faculty of Science and Technology Representative

INDEX	MINUTES	ACTION
1.0 – Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 6:00pm MDT.	
2.0 – Approval of Agenda	MOTION: To adopt the agenda amended so that items to be presented by the President are moved to the end of the agenda. (President / Janzen) Unanimously carried.	
3.0 – Approval of Previous	MOTION: To approve the previous meeting's	

Meeting's Minutes	minutes as presented. (Sommerfeld / Clarke) Unanimously carried.	
4.0 – Declaration of Conflicts of Interest	No conflicts of interest were declared.	
5.0 – Reports		
5.1 – Executive Reports	<p>The Executive team presented their reports as written.</p> <p>Council inquired as to why some Executives seem to be doing significantly more work than others, specifically the VP External.</p> <p>The VP External noted that several of her meetings for the month were cancelled and that September and October were slower months for her portfolio.</p>	
5.2 – Financial Report	<p>The VPOF presented a financial report, noting that AUGSA is currently in good financial shape: the Association is currently underbudget and revenues have been higher than originally projected.</p> <p>Clappison requested an income statement and a 2011 vs. 2012 comparison. The VPOF indicated that he can provide these documents at the next Council meeting or via email.</p>	
6.0 – New Business		
6.1 – Resignation of Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Representative	<p>The VPOF announced that Greta Kirstein resigned from her position as Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Representative.</p> <p>MOTION: That the AUGSA Council replenish the Council by finding a new Faculty-based representative for the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences through a process of Council appointment, and aim to have a new representative in place by the end of October 2012. (VPOF / Greaves)</p> <p>MOTION: To amend the motion by striking out the words “October 2012” and replace them with “January 2013.” (President / VPOF) Unanimously carried.</p>	

	<p>The main motion, with the amendment, now reads:</p> <p>MOTION: MOTION: That the AUGSA Council replenish the Council by finding a new Faculty-based representative for the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences through a process of Council appointment, and aim to have a new representative in place by the end of January 2013. (VPOF / Greaves) Unanimously carried.</p>	
6.2 – Credit Card Report	<p>MOTION: That the AUGSA follow the recommendation outlined in the AUGSA Credit Card Report and not pursue a credit card at this time. (VPOF / Cummins) Unanimously carried.</p>	
6.3 – McMaster Ontario GSA Invite	<p>MOTION: That the AUGSA send the AUGSA President to the Ontario GSA event being hosted by McMaster University Graduate Students’ Association on December 7, 2012. (VPOF / Lavoie) Unanimously carried.</p> <p>The President requested that any Council members in the Hamilton area who may be able to attend with her should contact her for details.</p>	
6.4 – Update on Governance Review Process	<p>The President updated Council on the Governance Review Process, indicated that AUGSA has hired Pressing Matters Consulting to complete the review process. They have experience with the GSAs from Wilfred Laurier University and the University of Waterloo, so the Executive feels that they will do a good job.</p> <p>Pressing Matters will be looking at all AUGSA governance issues with an eye to how they can be improved; they should have a report available by mid-December.</p>	
6.5 – AU Ombuds Report	<p>MOTION: That the AUGSA use the report entitled “Taking Student Services to the Next Level: Restructuring and Strengthening Athabasca University’s Ombuds Office” to being lobbying AU for improvements in the Ombud service. (Sommerfeld / Lavoie) Unanimously carried.</p>	

<p>6.6 – Appointment of Faculty of Health Disciplines Representative</p>	<p>MOTION: That the meeting go <i>in camera</i>. (Janzen / Sommerfeld) Unanimously carried.</p> <p>The meeting with <i>in camera</i> to discuss the appointment of a new representative to the vacant Faculty of Health Disciplines seat.</p> <p>MOTION: That the meeting go <i>ex camera</i>. (President / Lavoie) Unanimously carried.</p> <p>The meeting exited the <i>in camera</i> session at this point.</p> <p>MOTION: That the AUGSA Council appoint Julia Radke to the vacant Faculty of Health Disciplines Representative seat on Council for the remainder of the 2012/2013 AUGSA Council term. (President / Lavoie) Unanimously carried.</p>	
<p>6.7 – Future of Post-Secondary Education Conference</p>	<p>MOTION: That AUGSA provide \$1,500 in sponsorship to the Future of Post-Secondary Education Conference. (President / Greaves) Unanimously carried.</p>	
<p>6.8 – Holiday Cheer Events (Information Item)</p>	<p>President informed Council that AUGSA hosts holiday cheer events in AU Edmonton and AU Athabasca and sends items to AU St. Albert and AU Calgary. AUGSA will be doing this again this year; it is already a budgeted expense.</p>	
<p>7.0 – Other Business</p>	<p>No other business.</p>	
<p>8.0 – Adjournment</p>	<p>MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned. (Janzen / Clarke) Unanimously carried.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm MST.</p>	

Amanda Nielsen, President

Adam Snider, Coordinator

Date of Approval