



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

**Date:** October 11, 2016

**Place:** Web conference

**Time:** 6:00pm

**Attendance:**

Teagan Gahler, President

Jamie Czerwinski, Vice President External

Margaret Clappison, VP Operations & Finance

Steve Green, VP Academic

Lisa Gray, Faculty of Health Disciplines Representative

Komal Kumar, Faculty of Health Disciplines Representative

Shawn Ang, Faculty of Business Representative

Peter Chan, Faculty of Business Representative

Patrick Corbett, Faculty of Science & Technology Representative

Michelle Halle, Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences Representative

Ross Tyson, Executive Director

Eric Snow, Speaker of Council

Shanna Rowney, Centre for Distance Education Representative

Vanessa Colettas, Faculty of Business Representative

**Absent:**

Robert Janzen, Faculty of Science & Technology Representative

Susanna Suchak, Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences Representative

Mahsati Abdul, Centre for Distance Education Representative

**Regrets:**

Lindsay McNena, Faculty of Health Disciplines Representative

| INDEX                    | MINUTES                                 | ACTION |
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| <b>1.0 Call to Order</b> | Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm MDT. |        |

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| <b>2. Approval of Agenda</b>           | <b>Motion: To approve the agenda as distributed. ( Gray, Rowney)</b><br><br><b>Motion to amend the agenda to remove the guest speaker(VPA, President)</b><br><br><b>Carried Unanimously</b> |  |
| <b>3. Approval of Previous Minutes</b> | <b>Motion: To accept the minutes of September 13 as distributed. ( Kumar, Halle)</b><br><br>Carried Unanimously   |  |
| <b>4. Guest Speaker</b>                | There were none   |  |
| <b>5. Reports</b>                      |   |  |

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| <p><b>5.1 Executive Reports</b></p> | <p>All executive members presented their reports as distributed. Highlights include:</p> <p><b>President:</b></p> <p>Presented a gift to outgoing President McKinnon.</p> <p>The research conference went extremely well with the Minister of Advanced Ed attending.</p> <p><b>VP External:</b></p> <p>As a member of abGPAC:</p> <p>Locally we are reviewing legislation to ensure a right to strike. The Ministry is accepting submissions.</p> <p>Advocating to have Grad Student Associations to lobby without registering under the lobbyist legislation.</p> <p>CASA: Will be in Ottawa in November to meet with MP's in advocating for Grad students: accessibility and other policy stance documents.</p> <p>Vanessa wondered about information on sexual harassment at Universities. She saw an article in the Metro newspaper. Is CASA focusing on this issue? This issue has been discussed at CASA and there are excellent advocates on this issue. Vanessa will share the article with Jamie.</p> <p>VPOF: Looking at budget process.</p> <p><b>VPA:</b> Commented about harassment issue. Had a good discussion on this item and AU students are included in the discussion and appropriately so.</p> <p>The VPA will be attending Health Disciplines meeting. Faculty will report later in this meeting.</p> <p>Research conference debrief takes place in a meeting tomorrow.</p> <p>OGSA is having a student engagement meeting with E-Campus Ontario.</p> |  |
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|  | <p>Lately, the VPA has been dealing with students who are having a hard time with life pressures. We need to be on board helping them with these issues.</p> <p>There will be an additional awards committee meeting in October.</p> |  |
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| <b>5.2 Financial Reports</b>                        | As distributed. The organization is in good financial order.  |  |
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| <b>6. New Business</b>                              |   |  |
| <b>6.1 Call for members on Bargaining Committee</b> | <p>President Teagan presented.</p> <p><b>Motion: To approve the appointment of Michele Halle and Vanessa Collettas to the 2016/17 AUGSA collective bargaining committee, chaired by the Vice President Academic.</b></p> <p><b>( VPA, VPOF)</b></p> <p><b>Carried Unanimously</b></p>   |  |
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| <b>7. Old Business</b>                              |   |  |
| <b>8. Other Business</b>                            |   |  |
| <b>8.1 Update from Faculties</b>                    | <p>Lisa Gray would like to discuss some GCAP student concerns regarding registering as a psychologist or psychological associate in different provinces across Canada and the difficulties our students have been experiencing applying for PhD programs. I am still gathering information and am hoping to speak more to this in the near future. More on this after some research into the issue.</p> <p>The University of Calgary does not accept our students into the PhD counselling psychology program as they do not accept online schooling.</p> |  |

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| <b>9. Adjournment</b> | <b>Motion: To adjourn the meeting (Collettas, Gray )</b><br><br>Carried unanimously<br><br>Meeting adjourned at 7:00<br><br>Next meeting: November 15, 2016 |  |

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Teagan Gahler, President

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Ross Tyson, Executive Director

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Date of Approval