

## **GSA Executive Meeting Minutes – November 19, 2008, 4-6pm, Traill SCR**

### **Present: Andrea**

**Tom**

**Jenn**

**Vladimir**

**Jean**

**Josh**

**Deborah**

**John**

**Lynette**

### **Absent with regrets: Peter, Nina, Nick, Sarah**

1. Motion by Katy to approve minutes from November 4, 2008 meeting
  - 8 in favour
  - 2 abstentionsMotion Passed
2. President
  - a. Student and Supervisor responsibilities
    - i. Some information on Trent's Graduate Studies website (under Forms and Resources). Constitution is also on website, along with a blurb about GSA that needs updating.
  - b. TCSA update
    - i. There is currently turmoil within the TCSA exec, with a motion tabled to impeach the President; this may affect our ability to move forward with the health care referendum.
3. VP
  - a. Charter
    - i. The copy printed in The Arthur was not the version approved at CASSC so it will be retracted and reissued.
    - ii. The Charter has been endorsed by the Colleges and Student Services Committee, and will be brought to the next Board of Governors meeting in December. If it is endorsed there, it will come into effect in January.
    - iii. Financial aid: bursaries process is confusing, need standards.
  - b. CASSC update – changes have been made to the “terms of reference”, all minor wording changes.
4. Treasurer – not present
5. Communications
  - a. Media/Press
    - i. The Arthur: should GSA be e-mailing them with stance on charter and other political issues? Suggestion: bring back the “Graduate Spotlight” article.
  - b. Website

- i. Next meeting will have estimates of costs to host website (\$50-200/yr). Website should be hosted by end of term.  
Suggestion: a set amount should be set aside for website hosting in for future years.
- 6. Senator – nothing to report
- 7. Social Directors
  - a. November event – Date and time: Thurs Nov 20<sup>th</sup>, 7 to 9pm,  
Location: Bowlerama on Chemong Blvd.  
Cost: \$10/person (pizza and pop included), 6 lanes booked for 2 hrs.
  - b. Festivus - Dec 13<sup>th</sup> (Saturday)
    - i. Bring back Seinfeld! Will have an “Air Your Grievances” suggestion box and an aluminium poll.
    - ii. Still looking for 2 DJ time slots..
    - iii. Preference for food donations instead of money donations.
- 8. CUPE rep
  - a. Lynette went to the previous NPRT meeting. Current situation: waiting for RDC and Trent to re-file their proposals. Advertising and media: new bus advertisements can be seen on buses going to Trent until the end of the month. Mathew Martin did interviews on Chex TV and the radio.
  - b. CUPE is supporting York U’s strike. Mostly what they are fighting for is to be paid above the poverty line.
  - c. Possible Pub/Pool night in December. Updates to follow.
  - d. Meeting: Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, 6:30 pm in the CUPE office. Bargaining committee and the GSA president, vice president, and treasurer will discuss how to resolve the issue of a ceiling for student fees.
  - e. CUPE would like to request a fridge for the office in Wallis Hall.
- 9. Athletics – Athletics Advisory Committee meeting update (see PPT presentation).  
Note: PPT presentation was not accessible, waiting on another version.
- 10. Sub-committee reports back
  - a. Health Care (Allison, Jean, Josh)
    - i. Part-time (PT) student inclusion in the Health Plan – Tracy Miln is taking the motion to the Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> board of directors meeting for approval. Might be difficult to make it retroactive, more possible for Jan. start students. One positive is that since grad students are already on the plan, including PT students may be easier.
  - b. Student funding, fees, tuition (John - Chair, Nina, Vladimir, Jean)
    - i. Current status: would like to request “indexing” with tuition (i.e. if tuition rises, pay grade should rise too). Funding ultimately comes from supervisors, so in theory each program should have control over funding provided to their students and also authority to index.
  - c. Symon’s Series (Tom)
    - i. Next Symon’s Series is Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> (Wed). Speakers are Linda Rutledge and Kaitlin Friendship.
    - ii. Abstracts are due within the next month (Dec.). First seminar will be Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> (Wed.).
- 11. Next meeting – Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> (Wed.), 4-6pm in the Champlain SCR.

12. Other business

- a. Comment from Tom: since conference fees for arts students are often nil, conference bursary is not of much use for them. Should consider covering additional costs? Issue is tabled for next meeting when Nina will be present.

13. Motion to adjourn by Katy – unanimous. Meeting adjourned.