

GSA Agenda – March 25, 2008-DRAFT

Present:

Nic, Erin, Adrienne, Sarah, Francis, Andrea S-S, Denina, David, Stacy, Andrea M, Vikki

Absent with regrets:

Derek, Kathryn

Permanent Regrets:

Kristina

Absent without regrets:

Peter

Agenda Items

1. Reports Back

President

1. TCSA Handbook
 - i. Suggestions for changes: revise number of students to approximately 350 enrolled, increase the number of graduate programs to 12, mention the endowment bursary fund, etc.
2. CFS Update
 - a. CFS is aware that the referendum is not to occur and is supportive of the decision.

Vice-President

1. Conversation with Human Rights Commissioner re: anti-choice posters on campus
 - a. Potentially meeting with Sarah on Thursday and would like an official GSA stance on the issue

Motion by Sarah: While the GSA believes in the spirit of academic freedom and maintaining a stimulating intellectual environment at Trent, the GSA condemns the use of advertising and informational tactics that are overly aggressive, malicious, and potentially deemed offensive by members. It has been brought to our attention that a particular poster lately distributed on campus, including on official Otonabee College poster boards, was not only tasteless, but potentially racist and sexist. We urge those with authority over the content of college message boards to be more vigilant.

Seconded by Adrienne
Vote: 7 agree, 0 opposed, 4 abstained.
2. Elections/Nominations
 - a. Nominations closed last night, March 25, 2008.
 - b. Elections open on March 27th at midnight and close on April 3rd at 11:59pm. Stacy has sent out a reminder email.
3. CASSC/ Revised NAMP

- a. David: We should be aware of the fact that opposition of NAMP by the undergraduate students during elections was around 70%. David suggests opposition as a strategy as opposed to acceptance of the new NAMP.

Motion by David: While the NAMP Task Force has made significant improvements on the original NAMP Pilot Project, the document institutes an illegitimate court that sets up a parallel justice system that includes a doubling over of the jurisdiction of the state and the jurisdiction of the institution. In view of the recent overwhelming opposition to a NAMP as demonstrated by the undergraduate referendum, the GSA opposes any NAMP including the Trent University Charter of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

Seconded by Stacy

Vote: 8 agree, 0 opposed, 2 abstained

4. Constitution Update

- a. A sub-committee meeting is scheduled for Monday March 31, 2008. Revisions/updates are almost complete.

Motion by Sarah: To add a provisionally entitled equity commissioner position to the core executive who oversees an equity sub-committee including, but not limited to, indigenous, disabilities, queer, religious, and women's issues.

Seconded by Stacy

Vote: Unanimous

- b. Suggestions for role/responsibilities of position to be outlined in the constitution:

- i. Liaise with those who require equity representation through an equity sub-committee,
- ii. Mandatory committees for attendance,
- iii. Mandatory professional development activities with a suggestion of 2 events per year, etc.

5. Seasoned Spoon Update

- a. Sarah attended the board meeting last week. Very receptive and enthusiastic about having a Seasoned Spoon at Trail College.
 - i. Denina and Stacy have worked out a proposed budget which will be submitted to the board in order to put a Seasoned Spoon at Trail.

6. IT Update

- a. Storing equipment at Trail
 - i. Sarah has talked with IT, Wendy Scammell, and Doug Evans about having permanent IT equipment stored at Trail for Symons Series, etc. IT is supportive of the idea. Logistics have to be worked out.
- b. Internet hook-up at GSA office
 - i. Denina will provide the appropriate information for internet hook-up.

Treasurer

- 1. GSA Newsletter completed
 - i. The newsletter will be placed in each student's mailbox. Newsletter includes a reminder of the upcoming AGM and encourages attendance.

- ii. Each program representative will be responsible for placing these newsletters into graduate student mailboxes. Nina will email program reps to inform them.
- 2. Motion by Nina: In 2 weeks we will discuss honorariums and the discussions will occur in camera.
 - Seconded by Sarah
 - Vote: Unanimous
- 3. GSA Office cleaning- needs to be done!
- 4. GSA Filing- perhaps purchase new filing cabinets, etc. Other input for office improvement is welcome.

CUPE Representative:

- 1. Bargaining survey completed.
 - i. A newsletter is being distributed. John will email Andrea M to inform WEGs students of this newsletter as their mailboxes are currently under construction to facilitate the increased number of graduate students enrolled in the program.

Secretary

- 1. Pass March 8, 2008 Minutes:
 - Motion by Andrea S-S: To approve the GSA Minutes from March 11, 2008
 - Seconded: Adrienne
 - Vote: 9 agree, 1 abstain, 2 absent

Communications Officer

- 1. Motion by Stacy: To endorse the Peterborough Coalition for Palestine Solidarity (PCPS) event "The Academic Boycott of Apartheid Israel: Palestine-Solidarity Struggles on University Campuses in Ontario" to be held on Thursday April 3rd at 3pm Champlain Senior College Room
 - Seconded by Adrienne
 - Friendly amendment: The GSA supports the Peterborough Coalition for Palestine Solidarity (PCPS) event "The Academic Boycott of Apartheid Israel: Palestine-Solidarity Struggles on University Campuses in Ontario" in its effort to facilitate a free forum for open dialogue.
 - Accepted by Stacy
 - Seconded by Adrienne
 - Vote: 10 agree, 2 abstained

Social Coordinators

- 1. End of the Year Party
 - i. April 4th at the Gordon Best Theatre. Need volunteers for cash collection and set up and take-down. Erin will email everyone requesting a volunteer.
 - Motion by Nic: To have a 50/50 draw using numbered raffle tickets
 - Seconded by Adrienne
 - Friendly amendment: To have both a 50/50 draw and collect donations for the Kawartha food bank.
 - Accepted by Nic
 - Seconded by Stacy
 - Vote: Unanimous

2. Other Items:

1. AGM Update:

- a) Promote this event as a potluck and a venue to meet and greet GSA executive candidates

Date: April 3rd, 2008

Location: Champlain Senior College Room-Potluckt

Time: 3pm

a. Agenda:

1. Constitution
2. Elections
3. Financial Update
4. Task Force Charter

3. Motion to adjourn:

1. Seconded: Stacy
2. Vote: Unanimous