

MINUTES of Trent Graduate Students' Association Board Meeting

Meeting Date: April 03, 2014

Call to order: A board meeting of the Trent Graduate Students' Association was held in Seminar Room 224 at Wallis Hall of Trill College on April 03, 2014. The meeting convened at 10:00 AM, President Karen Everett presiding.

Location: Seminar Room 224 at Wallis Hall

Members participating:

Karen Everett (President)

Gozde Kilic (VP Operations)

Jenilee Gobin (VP Finance)

Veronica Lai (VP Student Affairs)

Allen Priest (Environmental Commissioner)

Adam Marques (Equity Commissioner)

Erin McMorrow (History Representative-M.A)

Rathika Balthasar (Environmental and Life Sciences Representative-PhD)

Gary Larsen (Theory, Culture, and Politics Representative-MA)

Jesse Lever (Canadian Studies and Indigenous Studies Representative-MA)

Michael Tessier (Materials Science Representative-MSc)

Maureen Elliott (Sustainability Studies-MA)

Tayo Aloh (English/Public Texts-MA)

Regrets: Jason Rae (VP Internal Affairs), Kaitlyn Watson (Senate Representative), Philip Abbott (Health Benefits Coordinator), Raymond McKie (First Year Science Representative), Steven Martin (CUPE Representative), Latchmi Raghunanan (International Representative), Stephanie Dotto (Canadian Studies Representative-PhD), Kyle Kenniphaas (Psychology Representative-MA/MSc), Philip Cook (Anthropology Representative), Theresa Stotesbury (Materials Science Representative-PhD), Michelle McCay (Environmental and Life Sciences Representative-MSc)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 13TH, 2014

- **MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM MARCH 13TH, 2014**
The word “abstain” is misspelled.
 - **AMENDED MINUTES APPROVED**

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- **MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA**
Karen will report Stephanie’s update. She will also talk about program reps for Jason.
Item added: Athletics fees (Jenilee)
 - **AMENDED AGENDA APPROVED**

REPORTS

1. Library Advisory Sub-Committee

- The library has to cut 2% from their budget, and one of the ways they are proposing to do this is through the introduction of fees (somewhere between \$2-\$5) for each inter-library loan. This will also have the effect of slowing down ILL service as everything will have to go through billing. The ILL fee is the last cost-saving measure they've proposed, but it is on the table. Stephanie has registered opposition on the part of grad students.
- Seminar room 314 in Bata (this is the room with the windowed walls) is being converted into a graduate student quiet study space.
- Traill dropbox is looking good although they move really slow on it; we should see some movement this summer.

2. President’s Advisory Committee on Human Rights, Equity, and Accessibility

- Trent is no longer legally required to take preventative measures to protect human rights and equity except for getting caught with an infringement.
- There was supposedly a report that found a glass ceiling within the university preventing women from upward mobility. Women take more responsibility as chair positions; this makes them less likely to publish and are therefore, less likely to be given emeritus status. Concern is that there are still some difficulties that at lower levels women are less likely to get positions than outside administrative roles. The Senate and Board are not representative of the university’s gender makeup, and less so for visible minority, aboriginal, and disabilities.
- Biggest challenges are that there is a complete lack of information concerning how many students and staff fall within gender, aboriginal, and disability status. First recommendation then is a census to establish a baseline of what the makeup of Trent is like. There may have to be a volunteer led effort to gather information concerning the makeup of the university. In summer, likely looking for volunteers from graduate students.

- There will be another meeting in April with possible organizational candidates to approve the buy-in of the census effort. Aim is to have the census organized for an early September launch.

3. Dean's Search Committee

- There is no Dean's Search Committee at the moment. The Provost's Office hasn't replied to Rathika's e-mails. She will follow up with another e-mail.

OLD BUSINESS

4. Update of covered bike racks

- Grounds and Facilities committee was enthusiastic about the idea of covered bike racks. They will forward this idea to PRD (Physical Resources) and Security to 1) find a way to secure bike parking and create covered bike racks on campus.

5. Auditor

- AGM comes prior to our fiscal year and we need to perform our audit after the fiscal year ends. The results of the audit will then have to be presented at the Fall AGM.
- Note: Next GSA should think about changing the fiscal year to the end of annual year in the bylaws.
- Quotes: One from McColl Turner referred to by Trent Financial Services: \$3,500-4,000
One from BDO referred to by TCSA: \$2,350—but they took more time to respond.
- Jenilee will contact McColl Turner and see if they are willing to adjust their quote. Re-address this at the transition meeting—TABLED

NEW BUSINESS

6. Review slides for AGM

- This is what the AGM agenda looks like:
 - Financial Report
 - Communications Report
 - Social Events Report
 - Senate Report
 - Environmental Report
 - Long Term Planning Committee Report
 - Referendum Questions
 - Health Benefits
 - KWIC Levy Fee
 - Bylaw Updates
 - Student Centre Levy Fee
 - Elections

- RA committee wants some time at the AGM to inform people about what they do. They can make an announcement at the beginning + informally chat during dinner
- Questions should be asked after each report.
- The whole presentation will take around 2 hours.

7. Gift for Symons Seminar Series organizers

- There are three organizers for the SSS: Morgan, Lena, and Owen. The idea is to get three gift baskets at about \$50 each: cheese basket, chocolate basket, and tea basket; present them at the Gala.
- MOTION TO APPROVE \$150 FOR PURCHASING GIFTS FOR SSS ORGANIZERS
 - MOTION SECONDED AND APPROVED

8. Conference bursaries - a few exceptions to discuss

- a) Travel expenses associated with Symons Seminar Series: A student living in Ottawa requested that her expenses traveling from Ottawa to Peterborough are covered. She is going to make a poster presentation at the Gala.
Policy in the bylaws needs to be developed in relation to such issues, whether travel to local conferences is covered or not, as it's currently not detailed. Next GSA should look into that.
- MOTION TO ALLOW CONFERENCE BURSARY TO COVER TRAVEL COSTS FOR STUDENTS TO COME TO PETERBOROUGH WHO NO LONGER RESIDE IN HERE TO PRESENT THEIR WORK AT A CONFERENCE AT TRENT.
 - MOTION SECONDED AND APPROVED
 - *Travel expenses are covered only if you're presenting at a conference here.
- MOTION TO ALLOW CONFERENCE BURSARY TO COVER ACCOMODATION COSTS FOR STUDENTS TO COME TO PETERBOROUGH WHO NO LONGER RESIDE IN HERE TO PRESENT THEIR WORK AT A CONFERENCE AT TRENT.
 - MOTION DOES NOT CARRY (1 in favour; 6 opposed; 7 abstain)
- b) Extra \$112: We have leftover funds from conference bursary in the amount of \$112 due to clerical error. The fund can be distributed among people who maxed out their amounts for one conference but did not receive full amount. In that case, do we want to bother writing \$2-5 cheques to each person?
Jenilee proposes to change this policy in the bylaws: instead of giving it out to people, roll over because otherwise we have the problem: why certain individuals get it and not all students?
- MOTION TO NOT PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL FUNDING AND INSTEAD ROLL OVER THE AMOUNT \$112, 90.
 - MOTION SECONDED AND APPROVED

9. Conference and Groups Support: Dragon boat Team

- Funding a dragon boat team including a group of students—specifically from ENLS—that could fill a boat. Dragon boat Festival is an annual event to raise donations for breast cancer research, so it’s for a good cause.
- 20 paddlers and 1 drummer in total; in June
- \$800 registration for a boat
- People from other departments should also be able to join the team. We should keep it open.
- MOTION TO SUPPORT CONFERENCE AND GROUP SUPPORT APPLICATION FOR A PRIMARILY ENLS DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL TEAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$800.
 - MOTION SECONDED AND APPROVED

10. Confirmation of the amount of the green-up donation from the February event

- ENLS Department’s donation for the Green Event has never really been documented. We spent \$189, 50 of \$300. If we’re going to max our money from the ENLS, we should look into ways to spend the balance \$110,50.
- One way is to donate \$110, 50 to GreenUp. Together with the cash donations (\$34, 50) from the event and GSA donation (\$55), we can round it up to \$200.
- MOTION TO DONATE A TOTAL OF \$200 TO PETERBOROUGH GREENUP WITH FUNDS COMING FROM ENLS SUPPORT, STUDENT CASH DONATIONS, AND GSA ASSOCIATED WITH THE GREEN UP.
 - MOTION SECONDED AND APPROVED

11. Gift for Justin, Riley’s Manager

- To maintain good business relations for the future and for being accommodating, Karen proposes to spend \$25 to buy a box of chocolate for Justin, Riley’s manager.
- MOTION TO SPEND \$25 FOR A GIFT FOR JUSTIN, THE MANAGER OF RILEY’S
 - MOTION SECONDED AND APPROVED

12. Update of Spring Fling

- Spring Fling is scheduled for Good Friday. How do you think it will affect the attendance?
- We cannot change the date at this point, so we will try to make it an event for people who stay in town on Good Friday and don’t plan to go home.

Other Business:

13. Program reps

- Programs should primarily be responsible for finding their reps. If they don’t do it, we will appoint for them. In the bylaws, change the election of program reps: should be elected in September (serve from September to September). The next GSA can do it over the summer.
- Follow up with Jason at the next exec meeting with recommendation to put forward in the next bylaws.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:14