

GSA Regular meeting, Traill Senior Common Room February 28<sup>th</sup>

**Members in attendance**

Allison Hayward	President
Heidi Scott	VP Executive Affairs
Rachel Herron	VP Operations
Beth Evans	VP Student Affairs
Agata Durkalec	VP Finance
John Franey	VP Communication
Jessica Ellison	Human Rights Commissioner
Geoff Eve	Senator
Agnes Pelletier	Science Liaison
Hilary Fast	Arts Liaison
Jim Johnson	International Student Rep.
James Lisowski	First Year Rep.

**Environment commissioner report:**

- Sustainable Peterborough has approached the GSA as a potential stakeholder for the initial plan that they are developing for the city of Peterborough. James Knott, from the consulting firm hired to assist with the plan, would like to come give a presentation to the GSA and get their feedback. Meghan asked (by e-mail) if the GSA would be interested in this presentation or if it might be something the GSA could/should engage the larger graduate student body in as an environmental event for the year. It was decided that Rachel will contact Meghan about her availability to organize such an environmental event in April.

**International Student Social**

Rachel reminded the GSA about the international student social.

**Ancillary fee meeting:**

- The only vote-able issue presented at the ancillary fee meeting was the transportation budget.
- There were presentations from the disability services office, wellness, campus card and transportation.
- Health services reported on their expansion—66% of it has been supported by ancillary fees, the rest of the costs have been covered by OHIP and UHIP billings. They have also developed a new Nurse/health educator, coordinator position. Health services also explained that UHIP cannot be billed for nursing activity because they are not employed by doctors. The development of health teams has been discussed to target this issue. Health services also stated that they will be adding an extra clinic in the evening.
- Counselling services reported on staff recruitment/retention issues because their staff are not competitively paid. Need for full-time staff with benefits.
- Campus card reported that the card system will be to a single access card.

- Voting on the transportation budget was delayed by a suggestion that graduate students should not be able to opt out of transit pass. Jeff cadence will draw up a new budget for the next transportation committee meeting.

### **Women self-defence endorsement:**

There was discussion of Graduate student-run women's self-defense course that is to be held Sunday march 13, 20, 22, and 24<sup>th</sup> at Trent in the multipurpose room at the Athletics Complex. The current cost \$30 per student. Subsidization will be discussed at a future meeting.

### **General Meeting**

Information for the general meeting should be posted online Monday March 14<sup>th</sup>. Poster need to be made about nominations and elections. There was discussion of creating a motion to commit the new GSA to incorporation, passing the name, objects, and the proposed structure.

### **Health plan**

- Beth met with the Dean of Graduate studies to discuss the health plan. She suggested that the GSA could write letter to the Arthur about the TCSA.
- Beth is actively investigating other potential health benefits providers. She is also meeting with CFS as a perspective member of the consortium of student unions to inquire about their health plan. She reported that the GSA would have 450 clients to buy into a health plan if CUPE members were included with the GSA.

### **Trail College/GSA subcommittee:**

- The Trail College/GSA relations sub-committee reported that they have met once to review the contract and the budget. They met with Leonard Conelly—he was generally confident that Trail College will benefit from mutual subsidization provided that GSA offers programing that includes upper year graduate students.
- Agata reported back from meeting with Dean of graduate studies and Erin Davidson. They were very open about changing the budget. They explained the microfilming costs, which will no longer be an issue in 2013, as everything will be made electronic. For the time-being, the GSA might consider paying a smaller portion of the microfilming fee, since this cost does not apply to all graduate students (ie students doing MRPs) They suggested that Trail might help administer conference bursaries so that financial need could be taken into consideration. They suggested the GSA could leverage funding to access/control space and set up a Trail College Council.
- The levy fee was also discussed—it has not increased in a long time. Allison will research the exact date.

### **Events:**

There will be a St. Patrick's day event at Trend. The cost is \$5 at the door. There is also a laser tag event next Tuesday at 7pm. The cost is \$5.

### **AOB**

