

## **MINUTES of Trent Graduate Students' Association**

**Meeting date:** January 16, 2011

**Call to order:** An executive meeting of the Trent Graduate Students' Association, was held in Junior Common Room on November 30, 2011. The meeting convened at 7:10 PM, President Karen Gillis presiding, and Shanel Raney, VP Operations.

**Members in attendance:** Hilary Fast, Kaiti Nixon, Beth McIntosh, Willow Burns, Megan Lloyst, Kristen Schultz, Agnès Pelletier, Kyle Morrissey, Bethany Hunt, Robert Arkell, Diana Kouřilová, Julia Smith, and Jason Henry

**Motion to Approve Agenda:** Karen Gillis, 2<sup>nd</sup> → Kristen Schultz

**Budget Update:** Kristen Schultz

- There have been large and unexpected expenses this year out of our levee fee budget. Our college fee budget is going well.
- Levee fee budget problem is that we had to pay a lot of money for operating costs: we spent \$800 and normally we would pay \$200, had to buy cheques and pay a bill for the website which only comes up every three years. We also had to pay the lawyer fee from the incorporation advice (it was a really reduced rate but we also had to pay interest for it not being paid last year). Another problem was that microfilming went \$700 over budget despite us being informed that this cost should be low this year.
- Levee fee budget is now \$1300 over budget, right now not an issue because there have been people who have really underused their budget, such as Megan Lloyst from the first week events; \$800 saved which could be put to this over budget problem. But this leaves \$500 we need to get from somewhere.
- Should we wait until we get the levee fee cheque in early February to figure out a solution? Any ideas on a solution? Currently there is no problem at the bank account, but the budget is not balancing and if we don't fix it we'll have to eat into the savings. But we have had some onetime events that have come out of the budget, such as the incorporation lawyer fees.
- Still have \$1800 left in conference & group support so could use some of it towards the PhD movie event.
- Megan Lloyst: think we should wait until we get the Levee fee cheque for this year.

- Hilary Fast: take money from the communications and \$100 from environmental and human rights events and money that was budgeted for food at meetings.
- Kristen Schultz: Move to consider corporation expenses and website to capital purchases to take the pressure of off levee budget. 2<sup>nd</sup> → Kaiti Nixon, all approve

**Conference and Group Support: Kristen Schultz**

- Eighth annual Trent and Carlton Canadian Studies Conference: total cost \$4500 and are requesting \$500 to cover the reception.
- Karen Gillis: Motion to give \$500 to support the Eighth annual Trent and Carlton Canadian Studies Conference. 2<sup>nd</sup> → Kristen Schultz, all approve

**CFS: Hilary Fast, Kaiti Nixon, & Beth McIntosh**

- All detailed information (pros and cons) available via drop box.
- GSA should be neutral in CFS campaign. If we do not join CFS we have been told that we will not lose our health plan.
- GSA has to decide how much we are willing to pay towards campaigning, which is also how much that they are allowed to spend on Trent Grad Studies tailored campaign items.
  - o Hilary Fast: Motion to set limit to CFS campaigning at \$1 a student giving a total of \$400. 2<sup>nd</sup> → Kaiti Nixon, not all approved
  - o Amended: Agnès Pelletier moves to change the CFS campaign limit to \$200. 2<sup>nd</sup> → Jason Henry, 1 abstention, 8 agree, 4 disagree (Kaiti Nixon, Hilary Fast, Beth McIntosh, and Kristen Schultz). Motion Passed.
- Kaiti Nixon: the campaign should start after reading week and go for two weeks, February 27 to March 9<sup>th</sup> and the vote will therefore start March 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - o The vote has to be a physical vote. We also have to submit a list of eligible voters and we need 10% of eligible people to vote to get a yes or no that CFS will accept. We can do a mail out and an on campus vote.

- Two people need to sit with two CFS members to oversee the voting process: Bethany Hunt (because she has to according to the referendum) and Kaiti Nixon will be these two people.
- Kristen Schultz: Motion for the GSA to remain neutral on CFS participation/campaign and we will provide unbiased information about the pros and cons of joining CFS. 2<sup>nd</sup> → Shanel Raney, 1 abstention (Robert Arkell), motion passed.

**Karen Gillis:**

- Bata hours: problem was that graduate students could not access it after hours over the Christmas break.
  - Julia Smith: the Frost Centre is meeting with library services and maybe the GSA could be a part of the discussion. The GSA could send out a poll to get a general feeling on the reduced hour issue. Hilary Fast and Julia Smith will make and send out a pole, which they will share with the Frost Centre.
- Trail part time students: are going to join Trail College. But not sure if the part time students have had a referendum on joining.
- Joan Sangster (Trent University Dean of Graduate Studies) apart of the Canadian association of Graduate Studies (meeting of all Canadian University Deans). Since the student member/representative was removed from this group she was wondering if Trent grad students had something that they wanted addressed at this meeting.
  - Agnès Pelletier: can international students be part time? Because if they are working and are not just a student they should be allowed.
- Academic Plan Response: Is there anyone interested in altering it? Kyle Morrissey and Julia Smith.

**PhD Movie Group:** Julia Smith

- Sent out fundraising letters and got \$400 confirmed funding. Budgeted \$200 from the GSA so can buy the film for February 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in Bagnani Hall and then get people to go to the Trend afterward.
- Kristen Schultz: Move to support the PhD movie at \$200 from conference and group support. 2<sup>nd</sup> → Agnès Pelletier, all approve

**Agnès Pelletier:** Galaxy Theaters showing old movies and in March they are showing Willy Wonka (March 24 and 25), would like to do this as an international student event.

**Motion to End Meeting:** Karen Gillis, Seconded by Megan Lloyst, all approve

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

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VP Operations  
Trent GSA

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Date of approval