

MINUTES of Trent Graduate Students' Association Executive Meeting
Meeting Date: January 25, 2013

Call to order: An executive meeting of the Trent Graduate Students' Association was held in the Science Complex W2 on January 25, 2013. The meeting convened at 12:09, VP Executive Elizabeth McIntosh presiding.

Members in Attendance:

Elizabeth McIntosh	VP Executive
Kimberly Demers	VP Student Affairs (Arts)
Stephanie Dotto	VP Operations
Elizabeth Morrison	First Year Representative
Kyle Morrissey	Senator
Andressa Lacerda	International Representative
Andrea Samoil	CUPE Representative
Ayden Sherritt	Environmental Commissioner

Regrets: Jessica Taylor (VP Communications); Shrikaar Kambhampati (VP Finance); Kaiti Nixon (President); Adam Marques (Equity Commissioner); Adrian Borlestean (VP Student Affairs); Ian Fyfe (Health Benefits)

Approval of agenda:

- Add items for Equity Commissioner
- *passes unanimously*

Approval of minutes:

- *passes with abstentions*

Equity Commissioner Update (Andressa proxy for Adam):

- fitness challenge update
 - o starting about two weeks from now
 - 8-week challenge
 - o MOTION: to charge \$20 per person for the fitness challenge
 - DISCUSSION: for one program or all three? \$20 gets you into all three
 - *Passes unanimously*
 - o Adam wants one person from GSA at each seminar because he won't be able to make all the meetings – keep that in mind
- Adam met with Active Minds pres.
 - o Art Gala – people can donate art – fundraising for mental health
 - o Musical presentation
 - Both events are also awareness-raising
 - o Wellness Symposium with Adam presenting w/Active Minds about mental health issues and grad students
- PACHREA – accessibility document – conferring with Andressa

CUPE Rep Update (Andrea):

- Conversation with NDP Education critic Teresa Armstrong
 - o Critic was 'affable'
 - o we should not expect help from that end re: university financing
 - o tuition freezes are their proposal but that only delays the problem
- Social Committee meeting Feb 7 @ 4:30 in Stewart House – please join!
- CUPE will still accept TA log sheets

Senator Update (Kyle):

- Conversation with NDP Education critic Teresa Armstrong
 - o Kyle had same impression as Andrea – not tons of support coming from that direction
 - o She didn't really know about Strategic Mandate
 - o not familiar with university structures
 - o willing to listen
- \$750 head tax on new international students
- new Masters programs for Trent: M.Ed. and M.A. in Arts Administration
 - o revenue-generating programs
 - o Kyle has a hundred-page doc you can read
 - o above and beyond Trent's grad funding from gov't
 - o negotiating tactic for getting more funding
 - o hoping to become funded spots with CUPE stipends but finance would rather have them be professional degrees with differential tuition
 - o will be a different kind of graduate student in the GSA
 - o M.Nursing bandied about but no real discussion
 - o Motion to write a report on our opinion and Kyle will send to Grad Studies committee
 - So we need to email Kyle our thoughts – by end of next week
 - ***Motion passed***

VP Exec Update (Beth):

- incorporation documents sent to TD to show we are the only TGSA
 - o there will be cheques with new "TGSA" acronym
- WEBSITE: new and improved contact info updated
- Incorporation requires a logo – old logo fine – Sword will be the "T"
- ING account: being followed up on – probs a complaint being filed with ombudsman with ING – hope to be settled by end of April at the latest
- Deb and Doug want us to spend more money on events at Traill – geared towards professional dev'tment
 - o Kim and Adrian should contact Doug
- Spring AGM : proposal to increase student levy +\$10 = \$1500/term – could go towards conference and group support
 - o Kimi: right now there \$9000 in it
 - o Andrea: we need to advertise it sooner
 - o Jess could add to emails?

- STRAW POLL: paying \$10 more in fees?
 - We pay much less than most schools
 - Much less than TCSA
 - Has not been increased in 8 years
- McMaster Summitt:
 - Motion: to pay \$72 for 407 ETR and gas bill for McMaster summit reimbursement
 - *Passes unanimously*

Other Business:

- Liz:
 - Principal Advisory Committee Report
 - Revamping of college system going on
 - Traill students giving their opinion
 - PAC felt CPC document gave short shrift to grad students/Traill
 - PAC sending response straight to the provost
 - First year student survey – thinking of opening it up to all grad students
 - Motion to have a \$20 FreshCo prize for incentive to complete:
 - *Passes unanimously*
 - 2 weeks to complete survey
- Ayden:
 - Meeting w/Doug and Deb about garden
 - Vegetable gardening would have to be container gardening
 - all the plants on Traill are already native and all mulch is already recycled so . . . what are we doing?
 - Dead-ended on this idea

Meeting adjourned at 12:55.