

MINUTES of Trent Graduate Students' Association Executive Meeting
Meeting Date: July 31, 2012

Call to order: An executive meeting of the Trent Graduate Students' Association, was held in the Senior Common Room of Trill College on July 31, 2012. The meeting convened at 19:12, president Kaiti Nixon presiding.

Members in Attendance:

Kaiti Nixon	President
Julia Smith	CUPE Representative
Adrian Borlestein	VP Student Affairs (Sciences)
Jessica Taylor	VP Communications
Kimmy Demers	VP Student Affairs (Arts)
Autumn Corvus	Human Rights Commissioner
Kyle Morrissey	Senator
Elizabeth McIntosh	

Regrets: Stephanie Dotto (VP Operations)

Due to low numbers, President votes to achieve quorum.

Approval of last month's minutes:

- Kyle Morrissey not listed as having sent regrets
 - o Motion for amendment (Julia)
 - o Seconded (Adrian)
 - o Minutes approved with amendment

Health Benefit Coordinator Position:

- Discussion about the payment –important to have someone treat this as a job
- Previously paid \$5 per student = \$1000
- Motion to pay \$500 at end of first term and \$500 at end of second term (Autumn)
 - o Seconded (Julia)
 - o Approved unanimously
- Motion for position to be advertised by tomorrow, with a soft deadline of a week from then (Autumn)
 - o Seconded (Kyle)
 - o Approved unanimously

Adding Seasoned Spoon to Health Plan:

- staff was considering going with the TCSA, but our premiums are better
- we cannot answer this right now. Need to check to see if it is even possible
- Contacts have to be made for more information

Executive Updates:

- Kyle (Senator)
 - Had his meeting with Julia about the positioning committee, talked about the University's plan for representing itself. Needs to be in a more honest way.
 - University Secretary – influential position because they are virtually in every meeting, but how much say are we really going to have? (No volunteers)

- Adrian (VP Student Affairs – Science)
 - Discussion of orientation week activities (pool night, pub crawl)
 - Last BBQ successful even in the rain. Came in on budget.
 - Next BBQ scheduled for August 21st. Discussion of how to better control flow of people.

- Jessica (VP Communications)
 - Email distribution list now working.
 - Updating international student part of website – total overhaul- whole new system for it – done before September.
 - Planning to do a bi-weekly email – rather than a bunch at a time

- Elizabeth
 - University has gone ahead and moved all email into gmail
 - Cons: issues about security and privacy
 - Pros: familiar system. More space. Other platforms we have access too. Cheap way for the University to deal with a large problem
 - GSA – responding about the lack of consultation – there were two meetings opened up to graduate students in which there was a lack of response
 - Make the graduate students aware there is an option to opt out on website
 - Question: GSA gives away two bursaries? Can a member of the GSA be able to get the bursaries?
 - We give money to the bursary – we do not make the decision
 - New owner of Traill café is B&E Catering – want to be in contact with the Social Reps. Opens in September.

- Julia (CUPE Representative)
 - New Unit 2 VP and new Unit 2 Chief Steward decided at meeting tomorrow. This is Julia's last GSA meeting.
 - Kaiti went to the last meeting – spoke about formalizing the relationship between the two groups
 - Orientation – Andy volunteered to do calendar – send the events to Julia
 - Bursaries – keep them coming
 - New for this year: Health benefit fund: students who hold a CUPE contract are eligible towards \$50 back
 - RA info committee: conducted a survey: goal of the committee is to bring people together. Talk about their work and how they could improve it. Send out the results and encourage people to get involved. Email is going to come out. FB group to come out. Log sheet for the fall.

- Kaiti (President)
 - o Gillian (Arts Liaison) has sent in her letter of resignation. That position is now open for the fall.
 - o MTCU consultation email – want feedback by the end of August 25th. Kaiti will form a conglomeration.
 - o email Lisa and Kaiti about GSA Constitution feedback. Needs tidy-up. This has to be prepared and presented to the members by the AGM.
 - o send an email to Lisa about what committees we want to be on. Do not update on the Dropbox website.
 - o Savings account update: we still don't know who the signing authority is on the account.
 - o Getting money from TUFA for last BBQ?

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 8:20pm (Jessica). Seconded (Adrian). Passed unanimously.