

MINUTES of Trent Graduate Students' Association Executive Meeting
Meeting Date: October 15, 2012

Call to order: An executive meeting of the Trent Graduate Students' Association was held in Champlain College on October 15, 2012. The meeting convened at 16:07, president Kaiti Nixon presiding.

Members in Attendance:

Kaiti Nixon	President
Adrian Borlesteau	VP Student Affairs (Sciences)
Kimberly Demers	VP Student Affairs (Arts)
Shrikaar Kambhampati	VP Finance
Elizabeth McIntosh	VP Executive
Lindsey Beals	Science Liaison
Elizabeth Morrison	First Year Representative
Ayden Sherritt	Environmental Commissioner
Adam Marques	Equity Commissioner
Kyle Morrissey	Senator
Andrea Samoil	CUPE Representative
Andressa Lacerda	International Representative

Regrets: Jessica Taylor (VP Communications); Stephanie Dotto (VP Operations)

Approval of Last Week's Minutes:

- Andrea motions to approve; Shrikaar seconds
- Seven abstentions

Approval of Agenda:

- Adam motions to approve; Ayden seconds
- Addition of VP Executive update to agenda
- Passes unanimously

CUPE Representative Update (Andrea):

- AGM is October 30th, at 19:30 in Bagnani. There will be food
- Motion (Andrea) for GSA to co-sponsor CUPE's next pub night, on Tuesday October 23rd at Pig's Ear, and give \$100 for food.
 - o Ayden seconds
 - o Passes with all in favour
- Land Use Committee Meeting Report:
 - o Trent to sell off parcels of land to fund further projects within the university
 - o What is going to be built is open to discussion – consultation process at end of October and early November
 - o Information booths on campus – opportunities for input
 - o Consultation will end by March.
 - o Do our part to help advertise.
 - o Only want one GSA rep.
- Political Action Committee – Kimmy, Kyle, and Adam express interest

VP Finance Update (Shrikaar):

- Conference bursary applications update
 - o 20 people have applied and the total amount came to \$4600
 - o GSA can give away only \$2500, which makes a max of \$125 per person
 - o If the number stays this high, we should increase the amount
 - o Kaiti: Once we stop paying for thesis binding, those funds could potentially go to conference and bursary support. Otherwise, not sure at this point where the money would come from. Increase student fees?
- Motion to approve conference bursary application for the amounts; seconded
 - o DISCUSSION: Is there a way to make sure that they have not gotten funds from their supervisor?
 - o Passes with six in favour, four abstaining
- Motion to give Synchro Club \$150 requested for group support; seconded (Beth)
 - o DISCUSSION: 20-25 members on team – two members are graduate students
 - o Passes with eight in favour, one abstaining

VP Operations Update (Kaiti proxy for Stephanie)

- Motion to use Survey Monkey for elections (Andrea); seconded (Andressa)
 - o DISCUSSION: We could get a GSA portal set up on Blackboard
 - o Motion not passed with six opposed, four abstaining
- Motion that Stephanie contacts IT to inquire about setting up GSA blackboard portal (Beth); seconded (Andrea)
 - o Motion passes

Environmental Commissioner Update (Ayden)

- Community Garden
 - o Would be a native plants and food garden at Traill that would be partially run through Peterborough Green-Up.
 - o Would use graduate student volunteers
 - o Would decrease our foot print and get students involved
 - o Would help support GSA events with the food
 - o Whoever helps with the garden gets the food
 - o Trent Rooftop Garden – on main campus – can they help out?
 - o Ayden has a list of people to contact now
 - o Environmental commissioner mandated to coordinate the garden?

President Update (Kaiti)

- Exec Training Recap
 - o Meeting Etiquette and Roberts Rules of order
 - respect – not talking over each other – one person has the floor
 - have to think of these meetings in a more formal sense
 - the neater our minutes can be the better
 - o Nona did a talk on conflict management
 - o Current Issues Session put together by Kaiti, Brea, Sharon
- CASA (Canadian Association of Student Alliances) Conference
 - o We have an invitation
 - o It will be political stuff that is getting beyond what we can accomplish
 - o We will put out the invite to our general membership
- OGC Meeting
 - o Joan Sangster present

- Met with reps from GSA's from all Ontario universities
- OGC first of its kind – invited student reps – no formal agenda – have a google group to communicate with other GSA's – will have notes for that
- Office hours update
- Key box
- Main campus presence for grad studies office?
 - Andressa will look into it
- New printer: \$0.10 a page.
- New Monitor – \$101.69 – Currently shipping
 - Getting a router for the office – the internet is unreliable
 - Beth will follow up with IT about this
 - Motion for a log sheet of internet failure (Kyle); seconded (Shrikaar)
 - Motion passes
- Getting first year grad student involved in events
 - where are the first years?
- Mental health campaign Active minds already working with TCSA – decreasing the stigma of mental health issues.

Health and Wellness Committee Update (Beth):

- CASC (Colleges and Student Services Committee) – priorities initiative – preventative approaches – talking to health and wellness about addiction services – they don't have their mental health campaign at Traill
- Motion to organize a sub-committee to discuss mental health awareness (Adam); seconded (Kyle)
 - Passed with all in favour

Other Business:

- Beth – CASC – prioritized initiatives for the year –Physical resources – takes over 40% from each college – little transparency to see where these are going
 - Contract with Aramak is expiring 2013 – opening on the food and housing committee
 - revise outlets – have an emphasis on local foods – see where the money is going on the meal plans
- PAC – must resign from this committee
 - Ayden and Liz– interested in taking Beth's place – Traill-based student desired
- Doug and Deb want to put on workshops
- TrentTalk wants a graduate speaker – topic is Arts Policy for Small Cities
- Motion that we donate \$100 to the Lib Dub video on the condition of having our logo at the end (Adrian); Seconded (Liz)
 - DISCUSSION: Andressa – would be a great opportunity – to get people out to participate; Adam – challenge – Aramark's policy with food on campus
 - Motion passes

Meeting adjourned at 18:05