

**MINUTES of Trent Graduate Students' Association Executive Meeting**  
**Meeting Date:** November 12, 2012

**Call to order:** An executive meeting of the Trent Graduate Students' Association was held in Bata Library 107.1 on November 12, 2012. The meeting convened at 16:05, president Kaiti Nixon presiding.

**Members in Attendance:**

Kaiti Nixon	President
Elizabeth McIntosh	VP Executive
Stephanie Dotto	VP Operations
Kimberly Demers	VP Student Affairs (Arts)
Elizabeth Morrison	First Year Representative
Adam Marques	Equity Commissioner
Kyle Morrissey	Senator
Ayden Sherritt	Environmental Commissioner
Andrea Samoil	CUPE Representative
Lindsey Beals	Science Liaison
Adrian Borlestean	VP Student Affairs (Sciences) (arrived late)

**Regrets:** Jessica Taylor (VP Communications); Shrikaar Kambhampati (VP Finance); Andressa Lacerda (International Rep)

**Approval of agenda:**

- Passed unanimously

**Approval of minutes:**

- Passed with two ratifications (Andrea not present at 10.29 meeting; RA Committee not linked to CUPE)

**CUPE Representative Update (Andrea)**

- Report from Land Use Steering Consultation Committee
  - o Trent selling off or developing 24-25 parcels of land
  - o if we want to speak up, we need to do it now
  - o how does building for residential use enhance our academic mission?
  - o Committee has an Internet presence – Facebook, blog – but they want to censor uncomfortable questions
    - They don't want to talk about why they're selling off land
  - o Small meetings and larger forum will happen (on-campus); there will also be a town hall, all happening before Christmas
- **Motion:** Be it resolved that the GSA participates in the Trent Lands Use consultation process and furthermore, that the GSA encourages its members, by posting details on our website and sending out an email on the matter, to attend small sessions and to commenting through various online media.
  - o *Motion passes unanimously*

- CUPE PDEA deadline November 15<sup>th</sup>

### **Social Events Update (Kim):**

- Bowling is happening Friday November 23<sup>rd</sup> @ Bowlerama on Chemong (walking distance from Traill)
- Sober volunteers needed
- \$6/game incl. shoes
- **Motion** for GSA to provide \$100 for food for November 23 bowling event
  - o *Motion passed unanimously*

### **Festivus Event Venues (Beth):**

- many of the bars from Orientation pub crawl promised to subsidize and then didn't, including Spanky's
- Spanky's also is not very accessible
- **Motion** to change location for Festivus; seconded
  - o DISCUSSION: Spankys has a preferable environment for grad students; huge food platters only \$20
  - o McThirsty's? Now owned by Reggie's.
  - o Beth will look into it
  - o We will need two weeks for risk assessment to pass
- *Motion passed*

### **Mailbox Update (Steph proxy for Andressa):**

- **Motion:** be it resolved that we assign responsibility for the checking of the GSA's new mailbox on the Symons campus
  - o DISCUSSION: Adam willing to do it, will check at least once a week
  - o DISCUSSION: Will we tell people about it?
  - o *Motion passed*

### **President's Update (Kaiti):**

- new student centre
  - o alumni donation of \$300K to support building
  - o two committees formed about it (TCSA and President's Office)
  - o Kaiti talked to Sarah Pipher about sitting on the committees
- Health Benefits Coordinator position
  - o Candy is only here until December
  - o \$500/term
  - o have to respect confidentiality, be a good communicator, and understand health benefits inside and out
  - o ideally, whoever we hire in January will be interested in doing it through to next April (16 months)
- Retreat
  - o **Motion:** to set a date for Winter Retreat (December);
  - o *Motion passes* with agreement to set up a doodle
- We are getting a Free Market bin in Traill (OPIRG)

- Relay for Life: Invite for Grad Students – March 10<sup>th</sup>? - registration will open up soon
- Erin emailed about microfilming fees. They're not going up right now and the increase will be much smaller than anticipated. Our current rate is ~\$45, rate for 2012-2013 is \$50/student, next year it goes up to \$58. Fee increase is \$8/year.
- Health Benefit opt-out checks are a work-in-progress
  - o it is a complicated process
- **Motion:** to send out emails to membership no less than once every two weeks, and no more than twice/week
  - o **DISCUSSION:**
    - weekly emails of events
    - online calendars could be set up
    - VP Communications is responsible for sending us an email request for items
    - Adam: we could have everything in to her on Friday, she could send on Monday
    - Beth: this should go in the VP Communications description in constitution
    - Twice a week will only occur if there's a last minute update
    - All this is the responsibility of VP Communications
    - *Motion passed*
- **Motion:** to update GSA website in conjunction with every email sent
  - o Also responsibility of VP Communications
  - o *Motion passed*

**Other Business (Beth):**

- CASC meeting this Wednesday – about physical resources and budget transparency
  - o Avenue for students to see how budget is dispersed?
  - o Concerns with confidentiality or blowback
  - o Question about publicity?

**Meeting adjourned at 17:17**