

MINUTES of Trent Graduate Students' Association Executive Meeting
Meeting Date: November 26, 2012

Call to order: An executive meeting of the Trent Graduate Students' Association was held in the Senior Common Room at Trill College on November 26, 2012. The meeting convened at 16:08, 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
Andressa Lacerda	International Commissioner
Lindsey Beals	Science Liaison
Adrian Borlestean	VP Student Affairs (Sciences)

Regrets: Jessica Taylor (VP Communications); Shrikaar Kambhampati (VP Finance); Andrea Samoil (CUPE Rep); Ayden Sherritt (Enviro Commissioner)

Approval of minutes:

- With revisions:
 - o Spelling of Sara Pieper
 - o We will alert people about Symons mailbox
 - o CASSC committee has two S's
- *Passes unanimously*

Approval of agenda

- *motion passes*

Equity Commissioner Update (Adam):

- PACHREA Update
 - o meeting today
 - o revisions to Blackboard system – does not meet standards according to ADOA
 - going to be workshops for how to use it and make it accessible
 - o harassment and discrimination policy and procedures have not been updated since 1995
 - no institutional set-up for students to file a complaint
 - hopefully there will be a draft up in a few months
 - Adam will find out if there is going to be a review process
 - o Academic Advisory Committee held successful anti-oppression training
- Future events planning

- PACHREA planning to do a postcard campaign – anonymous postcards published
- Motion to carry out our own postcard campaign amongst graduate students – as a way to research – TAs and RAs
 - *Motion carried*
- Motion to pursue a cooperation with Active Minds to plan our own events for National Stress-Out Day, Eating Disorder Awareness Week
 - DISCUSSION: Do our own relaxing event for stress-out day, Seasoned Spoon workshop, use addiction as a topic
 - *Motion carried*

VP Operations Update (Stephanie):

- Elections Update
 - Motion to set dates for online election:
 - DISCUSSION: People have already had their chance to campaign; not a concern.
 - Motion amended: election will be held over a week, from this Wednesday to next Wednesday. A reminder email to go out both Tuesdays.
 - *Motion carried unanimously*

Senator Update (Kyle):

- GSC meetings update:
 - Tri-council Scholarships (CIHR; SSHRC; NSERC) expected to be downloaded to universities like OGS (no timeline set) – not a matter of if, but when
 - Limits to how many times you can apply
 - Not sure if faculty scholarships will have same limits
 - GSC would like to have conversation with us GSA about attendance at PD meetings
 - Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario HEQCO reviewing strategic mandate
 - One member would like universities to be more hierarchical – like in States
 - Kaiti: HECQO full of dirty industrialists
 - Programs may appoint a committee member from outside Trent
 - Ottawa U court case where student sued university for inadequate supervision
 - GSC worried about precedent set

VP Student Affairs Update (Kim):

- Bowling debrief
 - 14 participants
 - we only spent \$50 (underbudget!)
 - site very accommodating, gave a free game, ordered pizza, gave us a deal on shoes

- Festivus update
 - Will hold it at McThirsty's
 - Motion: host Festivus on December 7th
 - DISCUSSION: Posters would have to be done by Friday, food donation gets people free drink.
 - *Motion carried.*

Other Business:

- Beth
 - Please look over your position descriptions for the retreat
 - Planning to put together a Traill FAQ
 - Wants to discuss Traill/Scott House weekend access
- Kaiti
 - Motion to end office hours as of December 6th for the semester
 - *Motion carried unanimously*
 - Retreat will happen 10am to 6pm
 - Informal but constructive day
 - If we call it a special meeting we can make motions but that is not the purpose of the day
- Liz
 - PAC for Traill meeting with College Advisory Committee
 - Thinking of reforming college system
 - Traill isn't getting much money
 - Changing to be a college system fee so that Traill gets an equal share of funding
 - Opening it up so people can change their college throughout their university career
 - Each college is going to focus in on one aspect (i.e. sustainability, independent learning)
 - Grad students will not all be assigned to Traill
 - Liz said she would prefer for grad students to all be one college
 - But they didn't care
 - Kyle: Traill does not have a designated senator; all other senators are on behalf of colleges; in the new format; what happens to grad representative; does the GSA position get dissolved?
 - Not decisive; getting feedback
 - Probably going to open up Traill to undergrads again
 - They are asking for consultation; go to the meetings!
 - BETH: Motion to consult with Melanie, who is chair of College Committee, to draft an open letter outlining where we foresee grads fitting in
 - DISCUSSION? Sub-committee with Beth and Liz spearheading would take charge of issue.
 - *Motion carried*

Meeting adjourned: 17:02