

MINUTES of Trent Graduate Students' Association

Meeting date: Wednesday, November 16, 2011

Call to order: An executive meeting of the Trent Graduate Students' Association, was held in Bagnani Hall on November 16, 2011. The meeting convened at 8:15 PM, President Karen Gillis presiding, and Shanel Raney, VP Operations.

Members in attendance: Bethany Hunt, James Lisowski, Jason Henry, Hilary Fast, Kaiti Nixon, Kyle Morrissey, Beth McIntosh, and Willow Burns

Members not in attendance: Robert Arkell, Diana Kouřilová, Megan Lloyst, Kristen Schultz, Agnès Pelletier, and Julia Smith

CFS Presentation: Sandy and Mike

- Ontario has the highest graduate tuition fees of all the Canadian provinces.
- Over time Ontario government tuition funding has decreased, while tuition costs have increased.
- CFS student represents at local, provincial, and national levels: they represent undergraduate, graduate and college students and offer services. There are four general meetings a year.
- They put on equity and justice campaigns: no means no, united against racism, no bottled water campaign, etc.
- CFS works together to save students money: they helped secure tuition freeze, got grants to be awarded (first in Ontario),
- Membership fee \$6/semester, about \$13.02/year. We are on their health plan, but as of now we don't need to join to keep our health plan.
- CFS currently represents 90% of Ontario's graduate students.
- If we join and decide to leave we can hold a referendum and vote on whether to do so or not. If the vote fails we will not be able to vote to leave for four years. But the first vote can take place as little as a year after joining.

United Way: Karen Gillis

- The man in charge in the Peterborough area wants to know how to raise money for it or if we would like to donate. We can't donate money but maybe we could join forces with our events to raise money for them.

Committees: Karen Gillis

- Research and Ethics Board (Kaiti Nixon) and CASSC sub-committees: Housing and Food Committee (Kaiti Nixon), Campus Card committee (Kyle Morrissey), Career services (Hilary Fast), Religious Affairs (Karen Gillis), Co-curricular Record (Kaiti Nixon)

Ph-D Movie: Shanel Raney

- The cost will be \$550, which is too much money for the GSA to pay.
- James Lisowski: could ask Doug Evans to see if Traill College could fund it as a Traill event for Graduate Students.

Events: Beth McIntosh

- Non-drinking events: art show with music and potentially combine it with the united way. Maybe biweekly potlucks, tonic karaoke, laser tag, skiing, or skating.

Principal Advisory Committee for Traill (PAC): James Lisowski

- No traill college cabinet now. But want to create one so traill problems could be given to them rather than with the GSA dealing with it.
- Chef Daniel/Trend: Contract ends this year so the GSA will have to make sure to play a role in the decision.

Traill Cabinet: In order to get a connection/communication from students to faculty this group should be formed.

- Subcommittee on how to structure the cabinet as one has not yet been made this year. Hilary Fast, James Lisowski, and Beth McIntosh will sit on the subcommittee.

CFS Benefits:

- Would more guarantee access to our health plan. This would make us part of a union. We would get an ISIC card. The only problem is the concern about how we could leave the plan if we decided to leave.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM.

VP Operations
Trent GSA

Date of approval