

Trent University Graduate Student Association, Regular Meeting, October 20, 2010

Traill College Junior Common Room

Members in attendance:

Allison Hayward	President
Rachel Herron	VP Operations
Beth Evans	VP Student Affairs
Kyle Borrowman	VP Student Affairs
John Franey	VP Communications
James Lisowski	First Year Rep
Jessica Ellison	Human Rights Commissioner
Agata Durkalec	VP Finance
Judith Mintz	Senator
Agnes Pelletier	Science Liaison
Meghan Buckham	Environmental Commissioner

Members not in attendance:

Kim Wilson	CUPE Representative
------------	---------------------

Approval of agenda

Approval of minutes

- Kyle amend Trend cost to \$50 instead of \$450.
- Beth motion to approve September 29th minutes, seconded by Allison, approved.
- Kyle motion to approve the October 12th minutes, seconded, approved.
- Meghan motioned to approve GM minutes, seconded by James, approved.

President's remarks

- Heidi Scott returns from Ireland in November
- Senate issue: the number of student seats on senate is being reduced. With full attendance, current number of senate representatives infringes on fire codes and is high compared to other universities (2/College, 1/TCSA, 1/GSA). Reductions will see each College and Student Association with one seat. Senate representation will be proportionate. Traill College seat should be a graduate student to ensure College and student representation.
- Principles Advisory Council: Allison sits on PAC as science representative. PAC is currently discussing budget. Undergraduate students will no longer be paying fees to Traill after this year, but they still use Traill space during the day. Leonard is writing to Gary Boire before Head of College meeting to discuss Undergraduate funding for Traill. Traill may require funds that GSA currently gets from College fees.
 - Science Professor Representation not currently present on College Board. Should talk to Joan Sangster about equal representation. Discuss potential of science representative with Jim Schaffer, Head of ENLS.
 - Science representation should be cast as fostering open dialogue, inter-disciplinarity and cross-fertilization

- Pushing for council rather than advisory council for more structure
- Transportation meeting: TCSA wants to take over administration of transportation at Trent. Current administration takes 6.6% out of all ancillary fees to pay for \$100 000 of operating budget. They have not tracked how that money is spent. There is concern that TCSA wants to make bus passes/fees mandatory for all Students. They cannot stop Graduate Students from opting out, unless we have a referendum in which GSA votes not to have the right to opt out. Agata looked through 2003 files; GSA said they would withhold funds last time discussion of mandatory payment came up.

Other transportation issue concerns:

- TCSA has high turnover rate, and would have to have permanent staff.
- In current structure, not sure where students take their concerns. Peterborough transportation bills Trent at end of school year.
- If over budget, money gets transferred to next year; it's not a user-pay service.
- Will City of Peterborough be as willing to negotiate with Student Association as Student Affairs.
- TCSA employs people, but TCSA changes yearly: where does the balance of power lie when staff member are constant and students are not?
- A few different positions get paid out of \$100 000 ancillary fee "pot." Will somebody get fired?
- \$20-30 000 will go to part-time position. Minimal amount of money filtered back to students.
- Bus pass will need to increase by \$10 next year (4 trips).
- Staff and faculty also take bus. If there are changes to administration all users should be represented.
- Allison suggests Beth and Agata write letter with GSA position.
- Why can't student affairs make service better?

GM Process

- Changes to constitution had to be presented two weeks before General Meeting
- No requirements exist for posting before online election.
- Change constitution quorum: double current executive plus one. Twice GSA executive plus 1, %8,
- Should be potential to outvote GSA executive members
- 2/3 of voters required to oust an executive member.
- Leave quorum changes until spring.
- Online vote should recommend general assembly look at the constitution. Point - form explanation of changes will be provided. Agata writing a statement about changes.
- Changes to Equity Commissioner Position effective with new executive.
- International Students position appointment after vote unless position is contested.
- Budget: Agata, will make changes, send to GSA executive for last call amendments. Everything will go online Monday or Tuesday.

Bursaries:

- 2 people who submitted bursaries past deadline will be excluded from poll.
- People who left blanks in form not considered.

- Form states that you must. Divide funds evenly up to maximum of 250, distribute.
- Agata motioned to approve 13 awards of \$175, 1 of \$86.89 and 1 of \$135. Judith seconded, all in favour. Beth motioned to approve fall conference bursary support, seconded, approved.
- When is the appropriate time to ask for funds? -When event is planned.

Clubs and groups funding:

- Kyle motioned to approve giving GSA soccer team \$100, Agnes seconded, approved (Break down: \$40 fee, \$60 deposit).
- Re-frame film festival- deferred because form incomplete
- Baudelaire night (Nov. 11): poetry readings and performance pieces, costs for posters, Judith motioned to approve \$50 of group support, seconded by Meghan, approved.
- Trent Syncro Team: Heathyr, Graduate Student running program with \$5000 dollar total budget, Last year GSA supported team but cheque was not cashed. Beth motion to approve \$500 to Trent Syncro Team, seconded by Rachel. Encourage to resubmit for next semester.
- Community Garden: Peterborough Community, beside lift locks is being planned. Land lent by Parks Canada lent land. Asking for money to support Garden, which includes Graduate Student Members, to support tractor rental and rototilling to break ground before November. Beth motioned to approve \$200 given in support of Community Garden, Jess seconded, all in favour/ one abstention.
- Research in Action Series: November 15th. The Acid Rain Story will be featured at Traill. Traill paying for posters, Graduate Studies is paying for food, Beth suggested series use Trend and GSA approve \$50 in support of wages for Trend staff plus up to an additional \$25 for speaker honorarium: Traill College scarf and GSA merchandise. Beth motioned to approve \$75 in support of event, Agnes seconded, approved.

Events:

- Trent climbing club looking to host event.
- All funded events should be on website.
- Human rights office film series happening, digital file to be added to website. Includes panel discussion Graduate Students might be interested in speaking at. Encourage Graduate Students to get involved.
- Human Rights Day, December 10th: movie night to be planned.

Student blogging:

- Graduate Studies hired Donald (last name unknown) to revitalize Graduate Studies website. Plans to get Graduate Students blogging for \$100 honorarium. Money taken from paper calendar. Donald wants to come to GSA meeting to pitch blogging. Rachel will e-mail him for next meeting.

AOB

- Incorporation: GSA executive would like to be incorporated as a legal entity instead of Allison being held legally accountable. Involves name search, paper work, \$150 fee. Change in board of directors must be documented, more rigorous

book-keeping. Agata motioned, Beth seconded motion to access up to \$1000 from ING savings to consult a lawyer for purpose of incorporation.

Motion to adjourn, approved.