

**AUGSA Council Meeting Minutes**

March 14th, 2023 – 6:00pm MST  
Microsoft Teams

**Attendance**

**Executive Committee:** Chris Edwards (President), Sarah Reid (VP Academic), Dennis Delgado (VP Operations & Finance)

**Faculty of Business Representatives:**

**Faculty of Health Disciplines Representatives:** Kelly DeCoste, Sarah Atkinson, Sabrina Martin, Charlie Salter, Jillian Nickel

**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Representative:** Kangendra Bhandari, Angelo Delli Santi, Heather McGilvary

**Faculty of Science and Technology:** Rayees Khan, Russell Rupok

**Staff:** Meaghan Sullivan (Executive Director)

**Regrets:** Ian Chitwood, Gordon Chandler, Margaret Clappison

		<b>PRESENTER</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Call to Order</b>	Chris Edwards	The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm MT.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Approval of Agenda</b>	Chris Edwards	<b>Motion 2.0 To approve the agenda as presented.</b> Moved: Dennis Delgado Seconded: Sabrina Martin Motion carried without opposition.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Approval of Previous Minutes</b>	Chris Edwards	<b>Motion 3.0 To approve the minutes of February 21, 2023 as presented.</b> Moved: Dennis Delgado Seconded: Russell Rupok Motion carried without opposition.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Reports and Presentations</b>		Reports presented as distributed.
	<b>4.1 President</b>	Chris Edwards	Anne-Marie Scott is leaving Athabasca University. Chris Edwards noted that this will have a



			<p>significant impact on the university and may delay the rollout of the ILE.</p> <p>ab-GPAC is emphasizing the importance for Alberta grad students to exercise their rights and raise their student voice by voting in the upcoming Provincial election.</p>
	<b>4.2 VP Academic</b>	Sarah Reid	<p>There was a few emergency bursary applications were reviewed in February. The next bursaries deadline is March 15th with applications scheduled to be reviewed shortly after.</p> <p>Sarah Reid attended all scheduled meetings as a part of the VP Academic portfolio representing graduate students.</p>
	<b>4.3 VP Operations &amp; Finance</b>	Dennis Delgado	<p>The HR Committee met to review the Executive Directors performance as annually scheduled.</p> <p>The Bargaining Committee is still awaiting on the University to get back to AUGSA regarding the collective agreement and next steps.</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Financial Reports</b>	Dennis Delgado	
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Membership Fees Review</b>	Chris Edwards	<p>Chris Edwards presented on the consideration for a fee increase of \$1.00 per credit for AUGSA membership fees. Fees have not increased since September 2013, which is 10 years where AUGSA has been able to keep our rates level. The proposed one dollar increase would not be effective until January 1, 2024. The Council expressed that it will be important to communicate messaging to the students what benefits the increase would support on behalf of our students. Benefits discussed included the management of a more comprehensive bursaries</p>



			<p>portfolio, professional development services, and more.</p> <p><b>Motion 5.0: to schedule a Special General Meeting for the approval of a membership fee increase of \$1/credit from the current rate of \$13/credit to \$14/credit effective January 1st, 2024.</b></p> <p>Moved: Chris Edwards Seconded: Dennis Delgado Motion carried without opposition.</p>
7.0	Elections	Meaghan Sullivan	<p>The elections have concluded for the eight (8) positions on AUGSA Council for the 2023-2024 period. As per AUGSA bylaws, there are two seats per faculty. The results are as follows:</p> <p>FACULTY OF BUSINESS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Brittany Hollet</li> <li>2. Jason Kauenhofen</li> </ol> <p>FACULTY OF HEALTH DISCIPLINES</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Skyler Todd</li> <li>4. Kyra Johnston</li> </ol> <p>FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Lindsay McNena</li> <li>6. Khagendra Bhandari</li> </ol> <p>FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Rayees Khan</li> <li>8. Russell Rupok</li> </ol> <p>The Chair and Vice-Chair of AUGSA Council will be elected at the first Council meeting, which takes place on May 9th.</p> <p><b>Motion 6.0: to approve the appointment of the eight (8) elected Faculty Representative for the 2023-2024 AUGSA Council as presented.</b></p> <p>Moved: Chris Edwards</p>



			<p>Seconded: Dennis Delgado Motion carried with one opposition.</p>
8.0	Committee Updates		No further updates.
9.0	Upcoming Events		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 3MT – March 14</li> <li>2. Map the System - April</li> <li>3. Research Conference - October</li> </ol>
10.0	Old Business		
11.0	New Business		
12.0	Other Business		<p><b>T2/T1044:</b> The Council discussed AUGSA's administrative improvements over the past several years shifting critical operational functions from students in short-term roles to full-time staff. The Executive Director noted AUGSA has made leaps and bounds in progress over the past number of years, and that while AUGSA has met all the requirements for audits and financial management, AUGSA has never exercised an annual filing, which is not uncommon for a non-profit or a student run organization to overlook. The Executive Director recommended that given the significant improvements to management and shift in governance in the past several years, AUGSA should do so moving forward starting in 2023. AUGSA is in the process of acquiring requests for quotes for an auditor. During the auditor selection process, the Association will be including additional annual work as part of the request for quotes, meaning the quotes will be higher than what we have traditionally paid over the past number of years. This additional work includes the auditor being responsible for filing a T2 and T1044.</p> <p><b>Research Forum Panel:</b> The coordinators of Research Week are looking to create a Research Forum Panel of graduate students. This would</p>



			include one graduate student per faculty, for a total of four students. If anyone is interested in participating, please let the Executive Director know.
13.0	Adjournment		<p><b>Motion 11.0: To adjourn the meeting at 6:27 pm.</b>  Moved: Khagendra Bhandari  Seconded: Dennis Delgado  Motion carried without opposition.</p>

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Chris Edwards, President

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Meaghan Sullivan, Executive Director

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Date of Approval

