

## Athabasca University Graduate Students' Association

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## **Council Meeting**

**Date:** February 02, 2011 **Place:** Web conference **Time:** 5:30pm, MST

**Attendance:** Amanda Nielsen, President

Denise Ferris, VP External Michael Balaski, VP Academic

Nathaniel Ostashewski, VP Operations & Finance

Ric Wheeler, VP Student Life

Lorna Howieson, Business Representative Melissa Seaborg, Counselling Representative

Greta Kirstein, Heritage Resources Management Representative

**Absent:** David Keene, Arts Representative

INDEX	MINUTES	ACTION
1.0 – Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 5:38pm.	
2.0 – Approval of Agenda	<b>MOTION:</b> Nathaniel moved to approve the agenda as presented and Ric seconded; motion carried.	
3.0 – Approval of January 25, 2011 Minutes	MOTION: Greta moved to approve the January 25, 2011 meeting minutes as presented and Ric seconded; motion carried unanimously.	
4.0 – Reports		
4.1 – Executive Reports	<b>President's Report:</b> See attached; the President also reported on feedback from post-orientation surveys. The response so far has been positive, students are glad to have had the opportunity to attend an orientation session.	

	VP External's Report: See attached.	
	VP Academic's Report: See attached; the VP Academic also noted that he has been doing a lot of work with his role AUAC's Ad Hoc Plagiarism Committee; the committee is currently working to develop a policy surrounding the use of TurnItIn.	
	VPOF's Report: See attached.	
	VPSL's Report: See attached.	
4.2 – Council Reports	The program representatives presented their reports (see attached). The Business rep expanded and discussed having assisted a business student suspected of academic fraud navigate the situation (without going into the details of the individual case).	
4.3 – Staff Reports	The Coordinator presented his report (see attached) and noted that he will be working to compile a policy binder that includes all policy-related decisions/motions that are currently recorded only in the minutes.	
5.0 – Old Business		
5.1 – Financial Forecast	Lorna presented the attached financial forecast.	
5.2 – AUSMT Summary	Nathaniel presented a summary of the AUSMT course (see attached). He also noted that, out of the discussions during the course, some things that may be worth mentioning to AU professors arose, such as:  • Many profs/coaches/tutors don't currently use social media to communicate with their students; many students would like to see this change.  • In particular, students noted that the use of	
	<ul> <li>video in a manner similar to the way it was used in the course (on YouTube, or elsewhere) would be beneficial to their learning.</li> <li>There is tangible data to support these claims, and this will be put together into a more formal report.</li> </ul>	

6.0 – New Business		
6.1 – Coordinator iPhone	The Coordinator is currently using his own phone, and being reimbursed for costs above and beyond his personal use; this was intended to be a short-term solution.	
	Nathaniel has looked into cell phone packages at Telus, Bell, and Rogers for the iPhone 4. All are relatively similar, but Bell has the best plan: slightly better pricing, unlimited incoming calls, 2GB data, and the "Fave Five" option for approximately \$80 per month. Telus and Rogers both charge about \$100 for a similar plan.	
	MOTION: Nathaniel moved to purchase an iPhone 4 and cell phone plan from Bell at a cost of approximately \$159 for the phone and \$80/month for the plan; Ric seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.	
6.2 – Budget Requests	The Budget Committee asked if Council had any items	
2011	that needed to be added to the budget that were not already included. Some members noted that they had expense claims coming up, but no major budget items were added.	
6.3 – AUGSA Policy	MOTION: Amanda moved to create an AUGSA policy	
Committee	committee to research and develop policy for AUGSA	
	and organizations that AUGSA is a part of, such as	
	CASA. Greta seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.	
CA AUCSA C	•	Dudget
6.4 – AUGSA Governance Structure (Program	After a discussion about changing to a system where Council Representatives are Faculty Reps (or Centre	Budget Committee
Representatives) &	Reps, in the case of the Centre for Distance Education)	– Feb 4
Compensation	rather than program reps, and who will paid using a new system (hourly rate or a per-meeting rate), the Council agreed that the Budget Committee should discuss this issue and make a recommendation to Council.	165 1
6.5 – AUGSA Elections &	Adam will develop a nomination form.	Adam –
Campaigns	<b>MOTION:</b> Nathaniel moved to extend the nomination period to February 17 for this year only and Michael seconded; motion carried unanimously.	Feb 5

Created by: Adam Snider

Last revised: February 15, 2011
File location: M:\Documents\AUGSA\Minutes\02 February 2011 Minutes.doc

6.6 – Violence in the (AUGSA) Work Place	This item was tabled until further notice.	
7.0 – Other Business		
7.1 – Weighting Performance Criteria	After a discussion of the fact that, under the current rubric, missing a single meeting results in a sufficiently low Attendance score that it creates an imbalance in the value of all other meetings, it was decided that the conversation would be moved to the Landing.  Nathaniel provided notice of a motion to be moved at the next Council meeting.  NOTICE OF MOTION: That the Executive members not be required to attend more than 6 meetings per month and that extra meetings be considered when evaluating performance.	
8.0 – Adjournment	MOTION: Lorna moved to adjourn the meeting and Michael seconded; motion carried unanimously.  Meeting adjourned at 7:16pm	

Amanda Nielsen, President	
Adam Snider, Coordinator	
Date of Approval	