



**Athabasca University Graduate Students' Association**  
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## Council Meeting

**Date:** May 29, 2011

**Place:** Web conference

**Time:** 6:00pm

**Attendance:** Amanda Nielsen, President  
Greta Kirstein, VP External  
Rob Janzen, VP Academic  
Nathaniel Ostashevski, VP Operations & Finance  
Denise Ferris, VP Student Life  
Adam Chisholm, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (FHSS) Rep  
Margot Van Sluytman, FHSS Rep  
Moiz Bhamani, Faculty of Business Rep  
Wilson Ho, Faculty of Business Rep  
Ric Wheeler, Faculty of Business Rep  
Jade Clarke, Centre for Distance Education Rep  
Sarah Gauvreau, Centre for Distance Education Rep

**Regrets:** Meg Andronowska, Faculty of Health Disciplines Rep

**Absent:** Abdul Wadood, Faculty of Health Disciplines Rep

INDEX	MINUTES	ACTION
<b>1.0 – Call to Order</b>	Meeting called to order at 6:08pm.	
<b>2.0 – Approval of Agenda</b>	<b>MOTION:</b> Nathaniel moved to amend the agenda to add “Courier Services” and “AGC Executive” to the agenda and approve it with those amendments; Rob seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.	
<b>3.0 – Approval of Previous Meeting’s Minutes</b>	<b>MOTION:</b> Greta moved to approve the previous meeting’s minutes as presented and Margot seconded;	

	motion carried unanimously.	
<b>4.0 – Old Business</b>		
<b>4.1 – Litigation Insurance</b>	Information: Adam noted that we are covered against litigation under our general liability insurance.	
<b>5.0 – New Business</b>		
<b>5.1 – AU VP Search Committees</b>	<p>Ideas of what qualities the Council would like to see in a new AU VP Finance and AU VP Advancement were discussed. These included: appropriate credentials, experience with non-profits, understanding of distance education, sensitivity to tuition increases, has been (or currently is) a graduate student.</p> <p>These ideas will be passed on to the students who will be sitting on the search committees.</p>	Adam – June 1
<b>5.2 – Tax Credits Policy Direction</b>	<b>MOTION:</b> Adam C moved to go forward with the refundable tax credit policy as presented and Rob seconded; motion carried unanimously.	
<b>5.3 – Leaders Hall</b>	<b>MOTION:</b> Ric moved to table this item until after GSA funds have been deposited to our account in June and Greta seconded; motion carried unanimously.	
<b>5.4 – Social Media Policy &amp; Athabasca University</b>	<p>Some students have approached the AUGSA president regarding some troubles they have had with AU in regards to the students’ use of social media; AU has also approached the AUGSA president regarding working with AUGSA to develop a policy regarding appropriate academic use of social media.</p> <p>Amanda would like to form a committee to look at this issue.</p> <p>After discussion, it was decided that Rob, Ric, Adam C, and Amanda will sit on this committee.</p>	
<b>5.5 – July In-Person Event Relocation &amp; Budget Increase</b>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> Nathaniel moved to run July’s in-person event in Toronto instead of Calgary, since Amanda &amp; Greta will already be in Toronto that month; Greta seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.</p> <p>After discussion, it was decided that the budget would</p>	

	not be increased.	
<b>5.6 – AUGSA Awards Committee Structure</b>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> Rob moved to approve the suggested structure as presented and Nathaniel seconded; motion carried unanimously.</p> <p><b>MOTION:</b> Sarah moved to advise Heather Clitheroe, Sean Sommerfeld, and Val Olver that they will be on the committee for the next term. Greta seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.</p> <p>Decision as to who will be the Chair of the committee will be made at a later date.</p>	
<b>5.7 – AGC Executive</b>	<p>Information: The AGC now has an 8-person executive, two from each member GSA. Amanda is now the Policy Chair and Nathaniel is now the Conference Chair.</p> <p>Paul Walz from the University of Lethbridge GSA is the new Chair of the Alberta Graduate Council.</p>	
<b>5.8 – Courier Services</b>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> Greta moved to use FedEx as our courier service in the event of a CUPW strike and Nathaniel seconded; motion carried unanimously.</p>	
<b>6.0 – Other Business</b>	No other business.	
<b>7.0 – Adjournment</b>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> Ric moved to adjourn the meeting and Greta seconded; motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 7:18pm.</p>	

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Amanda Nielsen, President

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Adam Snider, Coordinator

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Date of Approval