



Athabasca University Graduate Students' Association
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Council Meeting Minutes

Date: August 23, 2016

Place: Web conference

Time: 6:00pm

Attendance:

Teagan Gahler, President
Margaret Clappison, VP Operations & Finance
Steve Green, VP Academic
Jamie Czerwinski, Vice President External
Lisa Gray, Faculty of Health Disciplines Representative
Komal Kumar, Faculty of Health Disciplines Representative
Lindsay McNena, Faculty of Health Disciplines Representative
Vanessa Colettas, Faculty of Business Representative
Shawn Ang, Faculty of Business Representative
Peter Chan, Faculty of Business Representative
Shanna Rowney, Centre for Distance Education Representative
Patrick Corbett, Faculty of Science & Technology Representative
Robert Janzen, Faculty of Science & Technology Representative
Michelle Halle, Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences Representative
Ross Tyson, Executive Director
Eric Snow, Speaker of Council

Absent:

Susanna Suchak, Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences Representative
Mahsati Abdul, Centre for Distance Education Representative

Regrets:

INDEX	MINUTES	ACTION
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1.0 Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm MDT.	
2. Approval of Agenda	Motion: To approve the agenda as distributed. (VPA,VPOF) Carried Unanimously	
3. Approval of Previous Minutes	Motion: To accept the minutes of June 14 as distributed. (Corbett, Chan) Carried Unanimously	
4. Reports		

<p>4.1 Executive Reports</p>	<p>All executive members presented their reports as distributed. Highlights include:</p> <p>President: Teagan reported the new President has been selected Neil Fassina. Coming to us from NAIT. Teagan knows Neil quite well having worked with him previously. Neil has been contacted to join us in a meeting.</p> <p>General meetings have taken my time lately as well as conference planning time.</p> <p>VPA: Steve attended many meetings. A couple of the committees will be renamed and repurposed.</p> <p>Attended the CASA meeting in Winnipeg.</p> <p>Also attended the OGSA meeting in Ontario. Will be serving on the Board as VP.</p> <p>Looking forward to seeing people at the September conference.</p> <p>VP External: Attended CASA to set advocacy priorities for the rest of the year.</p> <p>Jamie is the grad council chair at CASA and as such coordinates grad council advocacy issues.</p> <p>Attended abGPAC and serves as Treasurer there. Is building the budget and looking for an ED (part time)</p> <p>Looking to amend the PSLA and is working on the consultation with that issue.</p> <p>The Government is doing a funding review as well.</p> <p>VPOF: a lot of movement towards consultation with students at the governance committee of AU.</p> <p>Margaret has now reorganized the books and all is well.</p>	
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<p>4.2 Financial Reports</p>	<p>VPOF Margaret shared reports with the group. The organization is financially sound.</p>	
<p>4.3 OGSA Report</p>	<p>VP Academic Steve: Rob Bruce is president of OGSA and Steve will be working with the other three exec members to hit the Ontario legislature to bring forward issues for grad students. Grants is a big item for grad students.</p> <p>Working closely with CASA and adding support to common initiatives.</p> <p>Met with both Provincial and Federal politicians for letters of support towards the issues.</p>	
<p>4.4 CASA Report</p>	<p>VP External Jamie: Jamie is coordinating a couple of projects: White paper on research and innovation in Canada: a grad student perspective; policy on Graduate student and supervisor professional development. Federal encouragement for provinces.</p> <p>Another White paper on student employment after graduation. We will be collaborating with undergrads as well.</p> <p>We will be doing a full review on all of the CASA policies</p> <p>Another White paper on student wellness is an additional area. Looking at funding for mental health funding in each province.</p>	
<p>5. New Business</p>		
<p>5.1 Sub-Committee Updates</p>	<p>Awards committee is planned for September 7.</p>	

	<p>Engagement committee had their first meeting at the beginning of August. Updates are being prepared for the next meeting which will be ready for the beginning of September: file sharing (Hosting in Canada- will be complete in October)</p> <p>Using the office 365 group area.</p> <p>Updating the Ooh La La app.</p> <p>Governance committee will be meeting early September. Agenda will be out the previous Sunday.</p>	
6. Old Business		
7. Other Business		
7.1 Graduate Student Conference	Teagan update us on the Research Conference.	
7.2 Update from Faculties	No Reports from faculties at this time.	
8. Adjournment	<p>Motion: To adjourn the meeting (VPEX, Gray)</p> <p>Carried unanimously</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 7: 45</p> <p>Next meeting: September 13, 2016</p>	

Teagan Gahler, President

Ross Tyson, Executive Director

Date of Approval