
Minutes of GSA Council Meeting held on 29th October 2009 at GSA House
(5th Council Meeting, 2009-10)

Members Present:	Mahboubeh Khani	(President)
	Mohammad Faisal Uddin	(VP - Services)
	Manu Jain	(VP-Advocacy)
	Altayeb Qasem	(VP - Finance)
	Peipei Shi	(Director - ENCS)
	Nadia Hausfather	(Director - Arts)
	Roddy Doucet	(Director - Arts)
	Mathew Tziritas	(Director - Science)
	Sussan Dolatshahi	(Director - JMSB)
	Zachary Kenny	(Director - Fine Arts)
	Erik Chevrier	(Director - IS/SIP)

Members Absent:	Zafar Ullah Khan	(VP - External)
	Shikui Wu	(Director - JMSB)
	Svetla Turnin	(Director - Arts)
	Natheer Alatawneh	(Director - ENCS)

Agenda of the Meeting:

1. Call to Order
 - 1.1. Chair's remarks
 - 1.2. Approval of the Agenda
 - 1.3. Approval of Minutes
2. Presentation by Gender Advocacy (*added later*)
3. Report of the Survey Committee
4. Report of By-Law Committee
5. Approval of Budget
6. Reports of the Executives.
7. Judith Woodsworth's comments in Link (*added later*)
8. Adjournment.

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:35 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Agenda was unanimously approved after adding following additional points: Presentation by Gender Advocacy and Discussion on Judith Woodsworth's comments in Link.

3. Approval of Minutes

Erik and Mathew told that there were some grammatical mistakes in the last Meeting Minutes which needs to be corrected. So, Minutes will be approved after correction in next council meeting.

4. Presentation by 'Gender Advocacy'

The Gender Advocacy representatives told the council about the problems they are facing as staff of gender advocacy centre. They requested GSA's help by sending an email to graduate students about their Special General Meeting. Erik suggested that a neutral, unbiased and simple informational email can be send to students informing about the Special Meeting of Gender Advocacy Center.

5. Presentation by Mathew MacDonald

Mathew MacDonald informed the council that he applied for Sustainable Action Fund. since GSA is not a contributing member, hence their application got rejected because all the applicants are graduate students. So, he requested GSA to contribute in some manner like referendum.

Erik suggested including few undergraduate students in their proposal to be applicable for this funding. GSA is already working on a very tight budget and it would be difficult to support this fund with the present funding of GSA. About referendum, since sustainability is a very important issue, it can be decided in GA whether to impose additional fee on students or not.

6. Report of Survey Committee

The survey report submitted by Zafar was circulated in Council. Erik, Mathew and Roddy commented that the report is not completely informative and suggested to have more detailed report with demographic breakdown. Since, Zafar was not present in the meeting to explain the Survey Report and also all the members of survey committee were not able to

MOTION - Faisal - BIRT the Council tables the Survey Committee Report to next Council Meeting since Zafar is absent to present the the Survey Report. Also, the Survey Committee should meet next week to gather all the suggestions by council and present a detailed report in next council meeting. Mathew seconded. All in favor. Motion PASSED.

7. Budget Approval

In the proposed budget submitted by Budget Committee there was a deficit \$23,000. In order to have a balanced budget, the council discussed each expenditure item in the budget and the amount allocated to each item. During the discussions some items were completely rejected and some amounts were modified. The discussions concluded with a budget with reasonable deficit of \$5410.

MOTION - Faisal - BIRT the Council approve the Budget with the changes suggested today. Erik seconded. All in favor. Motion PASSED.

The approved Budget as of 29th October 2009 is attached at the end of minutes.

8. Report of By-law Committee

Roddy informed that an email requesting the suggestions on new by-laws was sent to all graduate students. The mail contained both the old By-Laws and new proposed By-Laws. Mah informed that there will be an open Hearing and Forum to discuss the changes in by-laws on 12, 13 and 20 November. Erik suggested that we need to advertise it strongly because later on during GA it might get rejected and all the efforts might get thrown out. For this Mah requested all the council members to be familiar with both the By-law versions and be present in the hearing and forum so as to be completely part of the process and make the by-law changes successfully.

9. Judith Woodsworth comments in Link.

Erik informed the Council about about the comments that Dr.Judith Woodsworth made in Link about privatization of the University.

10. Meeting Adjourned at 9:25pm.

	First proposed budget	Approved budget in summer	Actual From June to Sept 2009	Expected From Oct 2009 to May 2010	
Available budget	Projected revenues			Projected revenues	Available budget
Balance of current accounts	40304.78			17000	Balance of external account
Student fee collected in October 2009	200,000			193000	Student fee collected in October 2009(balance of internal)
Student fee collected in January 2009	5,000			5000	Student fee collected in January 2009
COI funding	14,270			14270	COI funding
Work study	0			4400	Work study
CCSL funding	0			0	CCSL funding
Total Expected Budget	259574.78			233670	Total Expected Budget

Expenditures	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Expenditures
Office Support (Administrative Assistant & Lab Monitor)	33,120	33,120	10800	20976	Office Support (Administrative Assistant & Lab Monitor)
Benefits (Administrative Assistant & Lab Monitor)	3,276	3,276		3,276	Benefits (Administrative Assistant & Lab Monitor)
Stationary & office supplies	800	800		800	Stationary & office supplies
Convenience supplies (water cooler)	12	12		12	Convenience supplies (water cooler)
Moves	50	50		50	Moves
Concordia postage	12	12		12	Concordia postage
Photocopier charges (printing service)	160	160		160	Photocopier charges (printing service)
Local telephone & tel. service & fax	1,476.37	1,476.37		1,476.37	Local telephone & tel. service & fax
Computer service	200	200		200	Computer service
Cable TV	576	576	198	378	Cable TV
Renovation (funded by millennium committee)	31,000	31,000		31000	Renovation (funded by millennium committee)
Orientation	14,270	14,000	13428.71	6200	Orientation (3700 COI+2500 GSA)
				1000	Referendum
Election 2009	10,000			10000	Election 2009
				2000	By-law Committee (compensation +food+posters,...)
GSA meetings, transportation	1,000	1,000	47	953	GSA meetings, transportation
Summer balance for next GSA	20,000			20000	Summer balance for next GSA
Directors' honorarium	5,500	5,500	1600	3900	Directors' honorarium
Executives' honorarium	41,250	41,250	15000	26250	Executives' honorarium
Conference subsidies (GSA)	3,000			2000	Conference sponsorship for GSA Council
Conference sponsorships (4 students*\$500 & 15students*\$100)	3,500	2,500		7700	Conference subsidies (35 students*\$100)+SIP
Daily free coffee	1,617	1,617	124.52	1492.48	Daily free coffee
				0	Free tax filing
				9500	Legal clinic
GSA Advocacy center (new)	25,000			0	GSA Advocacy center
Posters and advertisements	3,000			1500	Posters and advertisements(GA)
Campaigning	6,000	1,000	154.93	2845.07	Campaigning
GSA sponsorships	3,000	500	500	3000	GSA sponsorships
GSA TA center	8,000			0	GSA TA center
GSA Social gatherings	6,000			10000	GSA Social gatherings (Christmas party + End of year party)

	First proposed budget	Approved budget in summer	Actual From June to Sept 2009	Expected From Oct 2009 to May 2010	
GSA Trips	8,000		1400	6500	GSA Trips
Random fees	1,500			0	Random fees
Auditor	4,000			4000	Auditor
				5000	Legal expenses
Career placement workshops	15,000			0	Career placement workshops
Free breakfast (3 times a week)	1,200			0	Free breakfast (3 times a week)
Agenda	6,100		9142	0	Agenda
Better GSA equipment (projector, more sustainable printing, LSD TV, furniture, more recycling boxes,...)	6,000			0	Better GSA equipment (projector, more sustainable printing, LSD TV, furniture, more recycling boxes,...)
Election expenses from last year			390	0	Election expenses from last year
Classes (French, English)		1,000	200	800	Classes(French, English)
Daily office expenses			445.46	0	Daily office expenses
Liability insurance (Essor)			1303	0	Liability insurance (Essor)
				500	Sustainable Committee
				600	web design
Departmental social initiatives	50,000		594	55000	Departmental social initiatives
Total Expenses	313,619		55327.62	239080.92	Total Expenses

Revenue- Total Expenses	-54,045			-5410.92	Revenue - Total Expenses
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