

September 1, 2010

GSA Council Meeting Minutes

Written by Golam M Aurup
Administrative Coordinator





Attendance

<u>Chair</u>	
Roddy Doucet	
<u>Executives</u>	
President	Adnan Abueid
VP Internal	Nazanin Hazrati
Absent	Mathew Tziritas (VP External)
<u>Council Members</u>	
Art and Science	Matthew Macdonald
	Louise Birdsell Bauer
	Robert Sonin
	Holly Nazar
Interdisciplinary	Nadia Hausfather
JMSB	Mohammad Sabr
	Mahmood Salehi
ENCS	Mohammad Beajon
	Nayeem Ninad
	Mohammed Khader
	Yuhang Luo
	Natheer Alatawneh
Fine Arts	Emily Page
Absent	Ali Halawi (Art and Science)
	Rushdia Mehreen (Art and Science)
	Parastoo Naghavi (JMSB)
	Ajay Pooni (ENCS)
<u>Managers</u>	
Manager Finance	Trevor Nelson
Manager services	Anna Chigo
Manager advocacy	Roddy Doucet
<u>Minute taker</u>	Golam M Aurup



1.0 Call to order

Meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm

1.2 Approval of the agenda

Motion- Robert- BIRT we approve the Agenda for the Council Meeting. 2nd Louise. All in Favor. PASS.

1.3 Approval of Minutes

Following corrections are proposed to Minute:

The title of page has the wrong date of council meeting. It should be 5th August.

MOTION – Louise - BIRT we approve the minutes from the last council meeting with the above mentioned corrections. 2nd Mohammed Khader. All in Favor. PASS

2.0 Reports from Executives and Managers

President:

Adnan presented his report in brief.

Louise asked the name of the company we have liability insurance with. Adnan informed that we have renewed the insurance with Eссор.

VP Internal:

Nazanin presented her report. Answering a question from Holly, she informed the council that an online document is made available to the councilors which contain all details

Holly expressed unhappiness of the council as no report was submitted by VP External for two consecutive meetings.

Manager Finance:

Trevor presented his report. He informed that we have a loan from the university and things might be tight again after the orientation expenses are made. Adnan informed that the GSA can get another loan from the university in that case.

Trevor also informed that the last two years book keeping might take time and exact financial situation of GSA would be clear around next January. He also suggested that a purchase order should be in place for the purchases.

Motion- Holly- BIRT budget committee makes a policy on individual reimbursement of discretionary expenses. 2nd Beajon. For 11, abstain 1. PASS

Manager Services:

Anna presented her report. Holly pointed out that the part in her report regarding 'club and outreach' actually is a job of the VP External. She suggested that everyone should stick to the bylaws and job description.



Advocacy Manager:

Roddy presented his report. He informed that the agendas will be available from 13th of September; there will be 3500 agendas this year and a distribution system through the graduate program assistants would be pursued to increase efficiency of distribution. He also mentioned that the money from advertisements would be available within a week.

3.0 Orientation

Nazanin informed that there will be 2 movies nights, 2 BBQs, workshops, volunteer luncheon, party, art exhibition and sustainable food festival in this year's orientation. Answering a question from Mohammed about spreading the word more effectively, Adnan informed that help would be sought from graduate program assistants in this regard.

4.0 Student service fee agreement

Adnan informed that he was approached by the university to ratify the student service fee increases of previous years. Recently this was declared illegal by the Quebec Government and the university obtained ratification from the CSU in this regard. He also said that the university informed that if turned down by GSA, the fund would not return to students but go to the government. There was a lengthy discussion on the issue.

Motion- Mohammad Sabr- BIRT we postpone making any decision and do further research on the issue. 2nd Mohammed Khader. All in favor. PASS

5.0 Increase in student service fees

Roddy informed that he and Adnan talked with the university as student service fees was higher than the previous semester. The account office told them that it was due to the new billing structure.

There was another issue as the student accounts showed credits in portal of some students by mistake. When the students withdrew the amount and the system was restored, the accounts office charged the students with \$75 late fee. It was decided that the GSA would pursue accounts office to withdraw such fees.

6.0 FEM and GSA

6.1 Should GSA officially endorse FEM campaign?

Motion- Nadia- BIRT the GSA endorses one dollar campaign. 2nd Louise. 11 for, 2 abstain. PASS.

6.2 Office space for FEM

Motion- Nadia- BIRT the GSA endorses the 30th September BOG meeting protest. 2nd Louise. All in favor. PASS.



7.0 Policy to allocate fund

There was a detailed discussion on the proposed 'policy to allocate funds'. Councilors suggested that if GSA provides a portion of the fund in advance, it might be more helpful for the organizers to start work on the project.

Motion- Louise- BIRT the policy is approved with the correction that point 3 in the Procedure section should have an additional line 'However, organizers can request the council in case they need some portion of the requested fund prior to start of work. The council will decide on the issue case by case'. 2nd Beajon. All in favor. PASS

Amendment- Nadia- Point 3 in eligibility should have the word 'benefit' in place of 'direct benefit'. For 10, Abstain 3. PASS

8. IMSB 2011 Intl Case competition

There was a discussion on the issue. It was decided not to respond to the funding request as the limit provided by the organizers is beyond the budget.

9. Fall Classes

Nazanin informed the council about plans for fall classes.

10. Budget

There was a discussion on the necessity of executives and directors.

Motion- Robert- BIRT a new budget line of \$1000 is created for promotional items and business cards. 2nd Holly. All in favor. PASS

11. Change GSA Logo

It was decided that \$50 honorarium can be allocated for the new design.

12. Meet Dean of Graduate Studies

Tabled

13. Bob Rae, Toronto Center MP wants our ideas and to hear our concerns

The issue was discussed and it was decided that GSA Advocacy Manager would follow up with the issue.

15. The Shuffle 21.

Adnan informed about Shuffle 21.



Motion- Louise- BIRT \$100 is allotted for participation of GSA members in the shuffle. 2nd Robert. For 8, Abstain 2. PASS

16. Pakistan flood

Adnan informed that PSA requested GSA to endorse their fund raising activities. The possibilities to help the organization under CSU were discussed.

Motion- Holly- BIRT we do not endorse any organization. 2nd Mathew McDonald. For 8. PASS

17. Fall Meetings dates

It was decided that the GSA Council meeting would be held every first Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm.

18. Other Business

Nadia- Amendment to the external funding policy- GSA logo needs to be displayed prominently by the organizers

Emily- the GSA office requires the office 2010 home and student version.

Motion- Emily- BIRT Microsoft office 2010 Home and student edition is purchased for GSA which would cost \$150. 2nd Louise. For 10. Abstain 3. PASS

Adnan- Concordia volunteer abroad program wants to receive GSA fee levy. Mathew wanted to know if there is any policy for that. It was discussed how the previous fee levy groups got into the group.

19. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.