

November 4th, 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
VP External	Mathew Tziritas
<u>Council Members</u>	
Art and Science	Matthew Macdonald
	Louise Birdsell Bauer
	Robert Sonin
	Holly Nazar
Interdisciplinary	Nadia Hausfather
JMSB	Mohammad Sabr
	Mahmood Salehi
	Parastoo Naghavi
ENCS	Nayeem Ninad
	Mohammed Khader
	Yuhang Luo
	Natheer Alatawneh
	Mohammad Beajon
Absent	Ajay Pooni
	Emily Page (Fine Arts)
	Ali Halawi (Art and Science)
	Rushdia Mehreen (Art and Science)
<u>Managers</u>	
Manager advocacy	Roddy Doucet
Absent	Trevor Nelson (Manager Finance)
	Anna Chigo (Manager services)
<u>Minute taker</u>	Golam M Aurup



1.0 Call to order

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm

1.1 Chair's Remarks

Roddy welcomed the council and informed them that one of the Councilors, Rushdia, sent an email that she could not attend the meeting. Rushdia also wished to convey that she would not take the GSA sponsorship to attend the World Education Forum as she secured funding from other sources.

1.2 Approval of the agenda

Natheer informed that the TOEFL score requirement for the prospective applicants was increased and that needs to be discussed. It was added after item 10 in the agenda.

Mohammad Sabr informed that the BOG restructure issue, as mentioned in last meeting, is missing from the agenda. It was added after item 8.1.

Motion- Louise- BIRT we approve the Agenda for the Council Meeting with the proposed additions. 2nd Mohammad Beajon. All in Favor. PASS.

1.3 Approval of Minutes

Holly mentioned that in item 3.0, the amendment to motion has a few unnecessary words. The words - 'duties of the' - should be removed from the amendment.

It was recommended to replace informal phrase like 'scrapped from the agenda' with 'to be tabled in the next council meeting'.

MOTION – Louise - BIRT we approve the minutes from the last council meeting with the above mentioned corrections. 2nd Yuhang. For 10, Abstain 1. PASS

2.0 Reports from Executives and Managers

VP Internal:

Nazanin presented her report. She informed the progress regarding, French, English and Art classes; and the health workshop on women's health. She also informed progress with updating forms in the GSA website and asked for suggestions from council members.

She informed that a funding worth \$2,700 was secured from the CCSL to purchase new computers for the GSA which must be matched by similar funding from GSA. She requested a budget line of \$3,000 for this purpose.



VP External, Mathew, informed that the GSA already has \$5000 unused in the budget line for equipment purchase, so a new budget line is not necessary.

Natheer reported some students have raised their concerns over the art works hanging in GSA lounge which depict an uncovered female body. Roddy proposed to look into the university policy regarding this issue and report back at next council meeting.

Mahmood requested for a stable course curriculum to be followed for French classes for at least a year. Nazanin assured him that a single book is now being followed so that students can reuse in the later levels.

Beajon raised the concerns of an Engineering student who expressed his unhappiness over the price hike for French courses. Roddy and Adnan explained that the aggrieved student was corresponded duly. Answering another question from Beajon, Nazanin informed that the rise was not mandated through the council but was decided in a meeting of Executives and manager. She also mentioned that it was inevitable as no subsidy had been allocated for the classes in the current budget.

Holly commented that the council might think into the possibilities of going back to the previous price.

VP External:

Mathew presented his report. He informed progress regarding meeting the GSA Lawyer on CFS issues, meeting other student bodies in Quebec as a measure to know their position about CFS or tuition, pursuing ASEQ deficit issues and submitting party report.

He informed that the CFS money is now being collected by the university and is going in to custody of the lawyer. The lawyer suggested stopping collection of fees any more. The means to stop fee collection was discussed and it was proposed to forward the issue to the Dean of Students so that she can place to the Board of Governors for approval of a cease in collection. It was also said that this year's collection cannot be stopped now.

He informed that there is not really a deficit in the amount the GSA pays the ASEQ. The delay in payment procedure causes the confusion. He said that the Executives and Finance Manager is looking into the operation of internal account with the responsible financial officer in the university. Things should be sorted out soon he hoped.

Advocacy Manager:

Roddy presented his report to the council. He explained the nature of the advocacy manager position and gave details of his activities for the month of October. He also informed that the GSA has secured a fund of \$8500 to start the advocacy center soon.



There was no report from the President as he returned from a leave. Service Manager and Financial Manager were absent. It was discussed that the report from financial manager is crucial and should have been submitted.

Motion- Louise- BIRT the Finance Manager submits a report on financial condition of the GSA in two weeks time. This should be sent to all council members by email. 2nd Robert. All in favor. PASS

3.0 JMSB 2011 MBA Intl Case Competition sponsorship

Two student organizers of the event presented the sponsorship package proposal. There was a discussion following the presentation. Available funds in the sponsorship budget line, possibility to offer other support than financial, and GSA's long term ties with the event were discussed.

Motion- Louise- BIRT the GSA offers \$700 as sponsorship money and internal recognition, and the GSA house for any event during the competition. 2nd Robert. For 8. Against 2. Abstain 3. PASS.

Amendment to Motion- Mathew- let the amount to be \$500. For 6, Against 5, abstain 2. FAIL.

4.0 Allocating Budget for Appropriate Insurance Policy

Roddy and Adnan informed that, in the meeting with the responsible insurance expert in the university, the GSA is advised to include council members and umbrella organizations into the existing insurance policy. This might require \$2500 a year whereas we have a budget line of \$1100 for this purpose. The extra amount can be adjusted with the departmental allocation application of the umbrella organizations so that it does not affect GSA budget.

Motion- Mathew McDonald- BIRT the GSA pursues the proposed additions in liability insurance, raise the insurance budget line from \$1100 to \$2500 and adjust the budget accordingly with departmental allocation funds. BIFRT the GSA strikes a committee comprising Nazanin (VP Internal), Anna (Service manager), Beajon and Mathew McDonald (Council member) and Aurup (Administrative Coordinator) to make the policy to develop relationship between the GSA and the umbrella associations. 2nd Mohammad Beajon. All in favor. PASS.

5.0 FEM Budget

To be placed in next meeting

6.0 Budget allocation to match CCSL contribution for computers

It was decided that the budget line for equipment purchase be used for this purpose.

7.0 Response to Frais Institutionnel Obligatoires (FIO)- Roger Cote

There was a lengthy discussion on this issue as councilors were trying to find out probable implications of acceptance or rejection of the proposal. Later it was decided to take the issue to the students to decide.



Motion- Louise- BIRT the GSA puts the issue to referendum along with GSA election in March 2011.
2nd Robert. For 11, Abstain 1. PASS

8.0 VP External Duties

8.1 GSA Relationship with External Student Associations

There was a long discussion on the issue as the VP External submitted the report and suggestions regarding relationship with external student associations. Nadia and Holly informed the background of the motion of October meeting which asked VP External to submit this report.

There were arguments that he acts more wisely in meetings with the other student bodies and does not alienate valuable partners of student rights movements by making negative comments in media.

Holly proposed 3 points for the VP External that - (1) he puts forward constructive alternatives to fight tuition increase, (2) a committee is formed to help him attend meetings with GSA counterparts in other Quebec universities, (3) a part time position be created to represent GSA in meetings.

Motion- Louise- BIRT an ad hoc committee is formed to help Mathew in performing his job endeavors in coordination work with other student organizations. 2nd Robert. For 7, Against 3, Abstain 3. PASS

9.0 BOG Restructure issue

To be tabled to next council meeting

10.0 Report from orientation team

To be placed to next council meeting

11.0 Report from Mohammad Sabr regarding JMSB doctorate survey

To be placed to next council meeting

12.0 Change in policy of TOEFL requirements for admission

It was decided that Roddy and Robert will work with Natheer to delve into the issue and present in the next council meeting.

13.0 Welcome policy for student media outlet

The issue was tabled to the next meeting.

14.0 GSA communication policy

It was decided that Roddy will submit the policy in next council meeting



15.0 After hours GSA House usage policy

Nazanin informed that a draft will be presented at the next council meeting

16.0 Developing new GSA logo

Mathew informed that the GSA logo was re-created to print in the T-shirts for orientation and the same person would submit 3 different logos (within budget) for the council to choose from.

17.0 Security camera policy

To be tabled to the next Council meeting

18.0 Report on meeting with Dean of Grad Studies

To be tabled to the next Council meeting

19.0 Other Business

The councillors recommended that the GSA Council meets more frequently from now on as a 3 hour meeting a month does not cover the issues the GSA needs to discuss. The chair promised to look into the issue of having a meeting every two or three weeks.

18.0 Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.