

Graduate Students' Association Executive Meeting Agenda



University of Saskatchewan Graduate Students' Association Executive Meeting Minutes Tuesday, December 9, 2013 5:00 P.M -7:00 P.M GSA Commons

Attendees: Ehimai Ohiozebau (President), Izabela Vlahu (VP Academic), Steve Jimbo (VP External), Kiri Staples (VP Operations and Communications), Mohammad Rafati (VP Finance), Reanne Ridsdale (VP Student Affairs)

1. Call to Order – 5:06
2. SENSSA Funding request
 - Approved
3. Congress and Gala
 - a. Congress Coordination
 - Concerns with timeline and whether the plans for the Congress will be implemented for the timeline we have set
 - Motion to renew Conference Coordinator contract
 - In favor – 1, Opposed – 3, Abstain – 2
 - Contract will be not be renewed
 - b. Criteria for GSA Awards Gala Keynote Speaker
 - Need to send criteria to Alumni Association:
 - 1) Innovative, 2) Graduate student alumnus, 3) Inspiring and engaging speaker
 - Some recommendations: Lynnore Swisston, Elaine Hulse (Anthropology), Lorne Babiuk
 - Topic: academics and society
4. Meeting with Hon. Rob Norris

- Letter from President's office, will confirm with Mayor's office and Dean's office
 - Have also heard from individual students
 - Is Friday at 9 AM, not 9:30 AM at the GSA Commons
5. President's Breakfast Meeting
- Reminder that the meeting for December will take place on Monday
 - UPDATE – meeting has been cancelled
6. TransformUS Report
- Report has been released, presentation will be given at Friday's meeting
 - Opportunity to make recommendation for ombudsperson
7. Graduate Studies Review
- Have to ensure graduate student is represented on the committee
 - Provost (Brett Fairburn) will be invited to next Council meeting to present on this
8. Next GSA Council Chair and Gift for Dena
- Will mention need for new Chair at next Council meeting
 - Time requirements is 4 hours a month
 - Will get gift to Dena
9. UPASS
- a. Hours
 - Half of budget for implementation was spent in Fall semester – concerns about spring/summer term
 - Might be good idea to reschedule hours for staff to make it more efficient after January
 - These hours were based on recommendations of staff based on previous experience, were drawn up within budget – we can still learn from our current experiences now though (i.e. not starting in early December)
 - b. Office space
 - There are challenges with sharing the Executive office space with UPASS implementation – i.e. meeting with students on sensitive issues, use of computers, etc.
 - Would it be possible to have a table and laptop just outside of the Executive office for the UPASS staff to use during implementation?

- Staff would have to come in and out for files, are not sure if it would be possible to run a wire outside, would disturb any events going on in the Commons
- Motion to investigate moving UPASS implementation outside the doors of the Executive office
- In favor – 3, Opposed – 3
- Without a majority, we will respect the decision made in June to share the Executive office space