



GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Executive Meeting

Executive Agenda

Friday, October 27, 2017, 4:15 –5:30 pm

GSA Commons



Present: Ghaith, Z. (President), Bonkowski, J. (VP Finance & Operations), Kiani, A. (VP Student Affairs), Sahtout, N. (VP External), Efimoff, I. (Indigenous Liaison).

Regrets: none

1. Call to Order / Opening Remarks

- a. Meeting called to order 4:26 PM.

2. Approval of the Agenda

- a. Efimoff moves to approve agenda. Sahtout seconds. All in favour.

Motion Carried.

3. Approval of October 13 Minutes

- a. October 13th meeting minutes are presently available on website. Sahtout moves to approve the minutes. Efimoff seconds. All in favour.

Motion Carried.

4. Funding Request – Indian Students' Association

- a. Parichay – Takes place on November 4, 2017, approximately 400 people will attend.
Delay in funding request due to the ratification process for social clubs.
- b. ISA is requesting \$600 in funding. Efimoff cites that funding limit doesn't exceed \$500.
Kiani moves to fund the social club for \$500, Efimoff seconds. All in favour.

Motion Carried.

5. VP External – Update

- a.** CFS regional meeting in Regina November 4 – will place a motion for funding or the Graduate Student Achievement Week. CFS national meeting in Quebec November 17 – 20.
- b.** Laughter Therapy took place this week, approximately 18 attendants. Feedback has been positive. The next health chat session will be Zumba and will be held late November / early December.
- c.** Sahtout has been discussing funding with the Wellness Strategy group for these health chats, they instead have options for free workshops that could potentially be of interest to graduate students.
- d.** Sahtout has been working on preparing and sending out the funding requests / door prize requests for the Awards Gala and all the other details of the event. Award nominations will be sent out in mid-November.

6. VP Student Affairs – Update

- a.** Meeting w/ students regarding problems in academic scenarios, as well as 3 meetings involving non-academic issues. These instances included working with Consumer Services and Residence.
- b.** Meetings with VPTL office, University Council, Parking and Transportation, and a Student Forum, PSAC regarding Holiday event.
- c.** Immigration workshop took place on October 24. Event was successful, positive feedback. Halloween social event is tonight. Next month there will be a panel discussion about studying abroad.
- d.** Kiani has been communicating with Parking and Transportation Services regarding the parking needs for the GSA office.

7. VP Finance & Operations – Update

- a.** Bonkowski is presently working on insurance renewal and financial reconciliation efforts

- b. Will also perform an audit of the GSA website to ensure resources are up to date.

8. Indigenous Liaison – Update

- a. Resource person in planning a Men’s Circle through the Aboriginal Students’ Centre.
- b. IGSC hosted Indigenization Town Hall, 35 attendees (mostly students, some staff and faculty). Efimoff will compile the information that was gathered during this session and will present it to TLARC.
- c. Still working on indigenizing the Learning Charter with the GMCTL and VPTL.
- d. Attended first search committee meeting for Vice-Dean, Indigenous in Arts and Science.
- e. Gap has been identified with Indigenous research resources, will explore opportunities to overcome these barriers.

9. President – Update

- a. Participated in UNESCO, lots of issues facing graduate students were discussed. Sahtout helped Ghaith with preparation for which he is grateful.
- b. U-Pass survey was sent today to gather graduate student feedback about the program. So far approximately 400 responses have been gathered.
- c. University is signing a MoU with the city of Saskatoon. The city has requested to meet with student leaders.
- d. One college has opted to pilot the student-supervisor agreement for a one year term.
- e. Meet and greet event with graduate students Council committee members sometime in November to acquaint everyone.

10. GSA Survey

- a. Survey software is currently being evaluated. Efimoff suggests utilizing Voxco through university licenses. It costs approximately \$200 / month. Their data is stored in Canada. Efimoff is familiar with Voxco, and believes that SSRL would help with any issues that would arise. The software will not be needed until the ethical evaluation has been

completed successfully. Efimoff moves to utilize \$400 from the New Initiatives budget line to fund the license for 2 months, as needed. Bonkowski seconds. All in favour.

Motion Carried.

- b. Question editing might be necessary in order to gather accurate information as the formatting is somewhat inconsistent. The content of the questions will not change, but the formatting may be open to alteration to improve consistency and hopefully response rates.

11. Academic Council Cheques

- a. Bonkowski and Ghaith will work to make the Academic Council cheques available for the November Council meeting.

12. Crisis Aid Program

- a. Cheque with allocated funds for the Crisis Aid Program should ideally be prepared prior to the end of 2017

13. Other Business

14. In Camera Session

15. Adjournment

- a. Ghaith moves to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 PM. Efimoff seconds. All in favour.

Motion Carried. Meeting Adjourned.
