



GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Executive Meeting

Executive Agenda

Tuesday, January 9, 2018 4:30 – 6:30 PM

GSA Commons



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

1. Call to Order / Opening Remarks

- a. Meeting called to order at 4:41 PM.

2. Approval of the Agenda

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

Motion Carried.

3. Approval of December 15 Executive Minutes

4. Open Session

a. Funding Requests

i. EGCC – Feb 15, 2018 Event

- Social event is biggest event for the academic year; participation is very high because students look forward to it. The attendees include faculty and staff. Avenue for students to relax and meet people from other departments. Potentially more than 200 attendees, the current number of graduate students in the college is 392. Likely more than 300 people will attend.

- Since EGCC represents 6 different departments, Kiani moves to fund the event for \$800. Sahtout seconds. All in favour.

Motion carried.

b. Studentcare EmpowerMe Discussion

i. Guest Speaker: Peter Hedley

- Abridged version of the presentation - might need to book another meeting later to go through the full details. The number of days for students waiting to receive mental health counselling has decreased. There are now a variety of outlets for students to seek counselling through, not just one to one counselling. They have found that 90% of students who require mental health services are now accessing it on campus; this is up from 50% prior to the new initiatives. The remaining 10% may have also already benefited from these services or have access to services through external means. The new model has introduced new types of practitioners on campus and is showing measurable benefits. USSU has changed coverage in their plan to include 75% of up to \$800, which the University bills through Studentcare. The GSA does not do this currently, but it is an option that would provide the new model with additional funds to continue offering its services. How does our plan currently allow for these supports and what are the ways we can improve/change this? Future meeting date TBD.

c. FNIM Scholarship Committee (Previous email decision)

i. Efimoff brought the following information and motion forward to the Executive committee via electronic mail on December 2, 2017. The information and motion are as follows:

- I [Efimoff] have been invited to sit on a selection committee for the Metis, First Nations and Inuit Leadership Award administered by CGPS. Given the time-sensitive nature of the request, I am hesitant to wait until our next executive meeting to discuss this. [Therefore:]
- I [Efimoff] would like to move a motion to have I. Efimoff, Indigenous Liaison, sit on this committee. Please respond with any questions, discussion points, and your vote.
- Prior to end of day December 2, 2017, 3 members of the Executive committee voted in favour of this motion.

Motion Carried.

d. Commons Operation/Office Duties

- i. Jan 10** – Jordan 9-12, Naheda 1-3, Iloradanon 3-4:30
- ii. Jan 11** – Naheda 9-4:30
- iii. Jan 12** – Ziad 9-12, Ali 12-4:30
- iv. Jan 15** – Naheda 9-4:30
- v. Jan 16** – Jordan 9-2:30, Ziad 2:30-4:30
- vi. Jan 17** – Naheda 9-4:30
- vii. Jan 18** – Kiani 9-12, Naheda 1:00-4:30
- viii. Jan 19** – Iloradanon 9-12, Ziad 1-4:30
- ix. Jan 22** – Naheda 9-4:30
- x. Jan 23** – Naheda 9-1:30, Ziad 1:30-4:30

e. Executive Updates

- i. Indigenous Liaison** – Survey discussions with Peter Hedley;
Sustainability Slam on February 15.
- ii. VP Student Affairs** – Winter Orientation was on January 8, lots of different speakers came to the event, and more than 50 new students came to the event. Spent less than what was budgeted. Working on planning for the 3MT and conference now. Social event will take place on January 26. Planning for workshop and discussion panel.
- iii. VP Finance & Operations** - Bonkowski has been liaising with the bookkeeper to close December 2017 financial records and working to draft a job description for the Office Manager position. A Coordinator schedule was created for January 2018, and Bonkowski will be managing the semi-monthly payroll submissions for the Coordinators as well. Course Council cheques will be prepared in time for the January Council meeting.
- iv. VP External** – The Faith Leadership Council has been created and as the graduate student representative, I continue to attend meetings and events throughout my term. Initiated discussions with the GMCTL about a supervisory skills and graduate student module, which would work in parallel to the student-supervisor agreement. Working on the Awards Gala and the Health Chat series. Working on the Sustainability Slam with the Indigenous Liaison and members of the Sustainability Committee. Participated in a Sustainability Campaign, hosted by the City of Saskatoon, with other members of the Sustainability Committee.

Continuous efforts with ThinkGrad, which I have been nominated to be the Secretary until April 31st, and the Canadian Federation of Students.

f. Other Business

- i.** The GSA Council meeting has been moved to 5:00 PM on January 30 to accommodate special speakers. The second Executive meeting will now take place at 4:30 PM on January 23.

5. Confidential Session

6. In Camera Session

7. Adjournment

- a.** Kiani moves to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 PM. Ghaith seconds. All in favour.

Motion Carried. Meeting Adjourned.