

Graduate Students' Association Course Council Meeting Minutes



University of Saskatchewan
Thursday, December 6, 2012
5:00 P.M - 7:00 P.M
GSA Commons

Attendees

David Bennett, Justin Botterill, Miranda Cary, Patrick Chasse, Brittany Godzosa, Julian Hamara, Kristian Hermann, Adrian Hunt, Laura Larsen, David Edgar Lelei, Kung Chi Cinnati Loi, Cody Manchester, Wendie Marks, Molly Patterson, Sarah Purdy, Fred Sage, Sarah Sangster, Janelle Sloychuk, Anja Sorenson, Josie Steves, Megan Ck=larke, Austen ?Smith, Balazs Toro, Sarah Crawford, Jon Doering, Kurt Woytuic, Phillip Lashy, Omeasoo Butt

GSA Executive

President, Ehimai Ohiozebau
Vice President (Student Affairs), Steve Jimbo
Vice President (Academics and Awards), Dylan Beach
Vice President (Finance), John McLeod
Vice President (External Affairs), Elizabeth O'Meara
Aboriginal Liaison, Nicole Callihoo

Chair

Dena Burnett

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:08 PM by the chair.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was presented by the chair and a motion was proposed.

Motion 1 - To accept the agenda as presented

Motioned by Sara

Seconded by Cody

Motion Carried

3.0 Approval of last meeting Minutes

The minutes were provided to the council members at an earlier date and there was a motion from the floor.

Motion 2 - To accept the minutes as presented

Motioned by Sara

Seconded by Fred

Motion Carried

4.0 Ratification of new Course Councils

There were no new course councils to be ratified at this meeting.

5.0 Ratification of new Course Councillors

The members ratified the following new course councillors:

Balazs Toro, Kristian Hermann, Sarah Crawford, Jon Doering, Austen Smith

Motion 3 - To accept the three course councillors

Motioned by Sara

Seconded by Senty

Motion Carried

6.0 VP Student Affairs Report

Report was presented by the VP Student Affairs regarding potential rent increasing. The GSA has requested a postponement of the rent increase until all the deliberations on stipend increases are finalized.

Questions were posed to the VP of Student Affairs related to the potential increase and the response received.

7.0 VP External Report

VP External provided her report regarding the 1st Annual banquet for March 8, 2013 and the partnership with the pride centre. In addition, a survey is in progress related to positive spaces and what does that mean.

In addition, VP External provided an up-date related to International students and potential standardization of calculating GPA, the VP External will up-date the council once more information on this strategy is received.

Questions related to the survey, and dinner ensued.

8.0 Aboriginal Liaison Report

The Aboriginal Liaison provided her report and there were no questions from the group.

9.0 VP Academics Report

VP Academics provided his report and asked the question regarding interest around an ombudsman.

Discussion ensued around the ombudsman, academic and non-academic hearings, advocacy, and the universities position.

The GSA executive will provide more information around the ombudsman question in the coming meetings.

In addition, discussion ensued around the stipend review and recruitment of potential grad students.

10.0 VP Operations and Administration Report – will be delivered by the Aboriginal Liaison

VP Operations and Administration Report was provided by the Aboriginal Liaison and questions ensued regarding the good food box program.

11.0 VP Finance Report

VP Finance provided his report and added the following: Auditors suggestions regarding minutes (signatures) and cheques review process (at course council meeting).

There were no questions or discussion related to the VP Finance Report.

12.0 Presidents' report

The President provided his report and discussion ensued regarding: stipends review, UPASS Survey, and impact of cuts.

13.0 Questions and answers

During the question and answer portion of the agenda there was one question provided to the GSA Executive. This question was related to the timing of the new student residents and if there is availability for grad students.

The answer was that the residence is not completed yet and new residence will be based on admission on the amount of money you bring in...pay for eight months in advance –

14.0 Motion 4

WHEREAS there is more demand for daycare than there is supply

And

WHEREAS the U of S has postponed its project to increase the number of daycare spaces on campus

And

WHEREAS a Coop costs no money to start or maintain

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the GSA Course Council strike a committee to write the policy for a Day-home Coop for childcare for graduate students.

And

BE IT FURTHER RESOVLED THAT the committee determine legal feasibility of a Day-Home Coop

And

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the committee determine which executive should be responsible for maintaining the list in perpetuity.

Moved by Adrian

Seconded by Sara

There were 16 members in agreement of the above mentioned motion and 5 opposed.

2 members (Anja Sorensen and Molly Patterson) requested for their names to be mentioned in the minutes as opposed.

Motion Carried

Prior to voting on this motion discussion and debate took place related to liability, process, potential problems and the committee structure.

15.0 GSA Long term planning and discussion

The Course Councillors were encouraged to provide their list of priorities at the next meeting of the course council. This discussion was tabled until the January 2013 meeting.

16.0 Next Course Council meeting: Thursday January 24th, 5 – 7PM

17.0 Adjournment

Motion 5 – to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 PM

Motioned by Fred

Seconded by liz

Motion Carried