

EGSA Minutes

Wednesday, November 10, 2004

Attendees: Cathi Shaw, Michael Caulkins, Mary Catherine Lennon, Marc Berezowski, Kristi Lauridsen, Rob McTavish, Marianna Bogomolny, Hisako Hayashi, Roland Schulz, Cher Hill, Mark Weiler, Gerda Van De Windt

Minute Recorder: Cathi Shaw

Voting on \$10,000 bequest

Kristi gave a recap of the three options as follows:

- a) place all \$10,000 in a university cost centre account with Donalda Meyers as signing officer
- b) place all \$10,000 in an external investment account with 2 signing officers (one chair and the treasurer) that allows withdrawal of annual interest and part of the principal on a yearly basis
- c) divide the funds between options 1 and 2
- ie) \$5,000 into a cost centre and invest \$5,000 for five years; the interest rate is lower (around 3.5%).

Followed by a ballot vote.

Option B was selected by a majority of those present. Kristi, Hisako and Soheila will talk with Cher about the research she had done regarding external investment accounts. Kristi will contact Donalda to initiate the funds transfer.

Proposed Amendments to EGSA Constitution

Background: the new Student Union Organizer has alerted us that our Constitution is outdated in relation to the practices we have been observing for the past 2-3 years at least.

Kristi Lauridsen moved that another amendment be added to the list of proposed amendments as follows: d) add TSSU to the organizations that the steering committee liase with. Cher Hill seconded the motion. Carried

Kristi Lauridsen proposed a motion to adopt proposed amendments to the Constitution as follows, subject to ratification by the Student Union Organizer:

- a) having the Constitution reflect our normal practice of electing executive members in May, for a year-long term
- b) formalizing the positions of Communications Officer, GIC rep, and SFSS rep
- c) as well as some minor changes to wording recommended by the Student Union Organizer to reflect new SFSS structure
- d) add TSSU to the organizations that the steering committee liason

Kristi Lauridsen moved that the wording of chairperson be changed to chairpersons. Seconded by Cher Hill, carried.

Original motion seconded by Rob McTavish, carried.

Education With/Out Borders symposium follow-up

Cathi Shaw gave a summary of the evaluations which were received back. There was some discussion of our next symposium being organized with the 40th anniversary celebrations of SFU in mind. One meeting has already taken place and a proposal for funding submitted to the 40th anniversary committee. Cher Hill indicated that Charles Bingham had offered to help with next year's event.

Discussion/planning of a holiday celebration event for grad students

We have \$100 in funds leftover from this semester to fund such an event. Rob McTavish suggested that we use the extra funds to sponsor graduate students who wish to attend the faculty Xmas party which takes place on December 10th. Kristi Lauridsen suggested we put a call out for interest. Cher Hill moved that we allocate \$100 to subsidize graduate students who wish to attend the faculty Xmas party, based on need. Rob McTavish seconded the motion, carried.

Kristi Lauridsen motioned that any leftover funds from this semester be carried over to January. Seconded by Michael Caulkins. Carried.

Committee reports:

GIC – (Michael Caulkins)

- 1) There will be a social for Graduate students on November 19th at the Highland Pub at 4:30 – free pizza and \$2 beer.
- 2) TSSU buttons -> the union is hitting obstacles in contract negotiations and asking all Graduate students to wear a button in support of the Union. The TSSU is also looking for Job action committee members.

- 3) GIC has identified a University-wide need for more graduate courses. The problem has been presented to Jon Driver and they are developing survey for students.
- 4) GIC has started up a free graduate lunch program – The first one will be on November 22nd and Penny Simpson will be speaking.
- 5) Michael has agreed to be a representative on reappointment committee for Dr. Driver and there is a grad student representative on the reappointment committee for President Michael Stevenson.

GPC (Mark Weiler)

- 1) PhD review original document will not be distributed (a 53 page doc't) – Kelleen Toohey made a report which was then reviewed by Tom O'Shea who subsequently made his own report. The O'Shea report is available for distribution. Mark will get an electronic copy of Tom's report and circulate it to the Executive.
- 2) Pizza Party report – the report must be presented at a faculty meeting. Issues: (a) Webpace for cohort – there was support for this suggestion but some concern as to why we weren't using WebCT or FC. Mark suggested using Wiki technology instead which would allow students to truly own the webpace and add information as needed. (b) Automatically register grad students on maillist – feedback on this was that there was enough advertisement of the listserv

SFU 40th/Epress (Mark Weiler)

Mark and Johanne are meeting with the Dean to discuss Epress plans on Friday, November 12th.

TSSU (Cher Hill)

Part of the contract negotiations is looking at office space -> Cher was asked if we wanted to file a grievance with the union re: insufficient office space in Faculty. Cher indicated that our contract states that office space is provided IF AVAILABLE. She suggested that instead we formally request a private meeting space to meet with our students. Kristi suggested that she and Hisako ask Tom O'Shea for information on the space committee activities and an update on expansion plans and forward a request for aeroport service in the current office space.

ESA (Michael Caulkins)

The undergraduate students association has invited graduate students to attend their social on Dec 3rd 7 p.m. in Highland Pub. They are creating Faculty of Education hoodie sweaters and bumper stickers. There is a contest for designing. They encourage participation from graduate students.

Other business

A) Roland suggested posters to brighten up lounge, world map, bulletin board. Cher noted that we were not allowed to use nails in the wall – Facilities Management must be called if anything is to be affixed to the wall with nails. Roland also noted the ceiling leak. Kristi has already contacted Facilities requesting service for this.

B) Hisako and Kristi spoke to Jan Flagel about a spring event – will send an email with details of conversation to Executive

C) Cathi, Hisako and Kristi have received correspondence from Kareen McCaughan regarding Faculty of Education graduation statistics. In order to discuss this as an agenda item, we require a clear statement of the question, its purpose and rationale, and the action requested of the EGSA.

Next Meeting Monday, December 6th at 3:30