

EGSA Minutes

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Attendees

Marc Berrzowski, Kumari Beck, Johanne Provencal, Kristi Lauridsen (co-chair), Cher Hill Shoaleh Bigdeli, Soheila Gholamazad, Margit Berenc, Michael Caulkins, Sarah Hickinbottom, Karen Kurytnik, Hisako Hayashi (co-chair), Gillian Judson, Anne Chodakowski, Thomas Falkenberg, Karen Audet, Rob McTavish

Guests: Ella Judson (non-voting member [3 month old baby]), Tom O'Shea (Director of Grad Programs)

Regrets: Cathi Shaw

Chair: Kristi Lauridsen

Minute Taker: Mark Weiler

Next Meeting: October 7, 2004, 3:30, EGSA Lounge

Quorum achieved

Group Introductions

1. Funding Items

a) Kristi conducted the Lottery Draw for conference funding for the summer semester (money coming out of core funding)

- Recipient: Mahbouhbeh Asagari (\$100)
- Recipient: Bianca Buteri (\$100)
- Backup: G. Van de Weir (\$50)
- Backup: Andrea Sator (\$100)

Kristi will contact the lottery winners; back-ups will be contacted if the recipients are unable to accept and/or do not meet terms of reference.

The lottery for conferences this (Fall) semester (\$400) was to be conducted. However, in light of very few applications for this semester draw, this semester draw will be done at the BBQ. Kristi will email to remind people of the new conference system.

b) Kristi raised a discussion on spending of core funding: \$500.00
Possibilities: Fall BBQ, Colloquium Series, Christmas Social Event, Lounge needs.

Cher said funding situation for the BBQ is good and said that the best way students can help out is to attend, bring food, offer rides, and make effort to connect with new grad students

Kumari described the funding for the Symposium. EGSA money will only be needed if SFSS doesn't provide full \$1500; may need up to \$200 from EGSA

Cher suggested purchasing another microwave for the lounge. There is a need for it during peak periods (ie. dinner breaks for classes).

Cher suggested having gift or some form of recognition of administrative staff

Motion:

Up to \$50 for staff recognition gift

Up to \$150 for microwave

\$200 for EGSA Symposium contingency fund

\$100 TBD

Moved: Kristi

Second: Mark B

Discussion: none

Vote: Carried, no dissension

Tom O'Shea (Director of Grad Programs) arrived.

Introductions; Tom extended bridge between Grad Programs and grad students and explained his role as Director is entirely administrative, therefore he should be available at least 3 days per week. Tom invites all grad students to drop in to discuss their experiences of the grad programs in a spirit of update, revision of programs where needed.

Mark W. asked Tom about whether the PhD survey that was conducted last year will be made available to graduate students.

Tom provided a status of the PhD survey and subsequent report prepared last year. The report has not been reviewed by the faculty Executive Committee. It will be presented at October meeting of the EC. EGSA can expect answer about the availability of the PhD survey in first week of October.

1. continued

c) Kristi raised a discussion about Stan's donation (\$10,000) for the use of graduate students. Options for the funding:

--put full amount into a "university cost centre" (a university account), which requires a large fund

Cher: SFSS can't put money into those accounts; the account may have some constraints

Sarah: does it accumulate interest? Answer: No

Rob: Who has signing authority? Answer: Not sure

--To have the funds given to use directly and have EGSA invest and manage independently (this account has potential to return interest)

Rob: This can have a lot of logistics (need directors, officers)

--University Scholarship fund (guaranteed fixed interest 5% per year), account can't be drawn on, it becomes university administered for

Michael: supported the scholarship idea

Kumari: with a university scholarship we would more easily approach other organizations, advancement officers, alumni, etc as sources for contributions.

It was clarified that Stan gave the donation to be used by EGSA in whatever way they see fit.

Motion to Table the discussion for next meeting

Moved: Kumari

Seconded: Kristi

Carried, no dissensions

Kristi will pursue answers to the questions raised, particularly about the cost centre option, and make this information available as soon as possible.

2. Kristi talked about upcoming dates:

Sept 11 – new student orientation; Anne, Sarah, Cher, Kristi, and Hisako will attend and represent EGSA/TSSU

Sept 19 – welcome BBQ at Cher and Rob's – please bring food, pick up people

Sept 24 – Faculty Forum at Wosk Center; EGSA executive were invited to attend and nominate respondents to the panelists; Cathi and Kristi have volunteered but a respondent is still needed for the panel on educational research; please let Kristi know ASAP if you are willing to do this.

Executive members wishing to attend should contact Alana Nordstrand to RSVP.

Oct. 15-17 – Education With/Out Borders symposium – plans are progressing well; please encourage people to register (web reg being launched Sept. 11)

3. Pizza party follow-up:
Will be discussed at the next meeting as Mark had to leave.
4. Committee business
 - a) Johanne Provencal was acknowledged as the Ed. PhD student rep for the Burnaby Mountain College steering committee
 - b) Motion: that Michael Caulkins be nominated and accepted as GIC rep to replace Kumari Beck (interim rep).
Moved: Kumari
Seconded: Kristi
Carried. Welcome, Michael.
5. Other business
Research Interests Management System will be discussed at the next meeting.
6. Adjourned.