

Meeting Minutes

Saturday, April 7, 2018 10:58 PM

Seventh meeting of the General Council 2017-2018 of the Science Students' Association University of Ottawa Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday April 9, 2018

Time: 7:30pm

Location: MRN 133

Attendance:

Executives

Brittany Love
Thomas Ehret (Tom)
Kevin Roy (absent)
Doan-Nghi Dam-Le
Aleksandar Lukic*
Matthew McCambley (Matt)
Melissa Paradis (Mel)
Mayur Tailor (absent)
Fériel Rahmani
Thao Dao
Marwa Ibrahim
Rae Woodhouse (absent)

Managers

Maya Dancey
Emily Roth (absent)
Ibraheem El-Baghdadi (absent)
Aazad Abbas (absent)

First Year Reps

Catalina Fernandez (Cata)
Sophie Gregoire-Mitha
Danny Ke
Victoria Ogden
Denis Qeska (absent)
Brenda Truong (absent)

CHM

Caroline Lu

PHY

Stephen Harrigan

BCH

Jane Arciszewski
Nina Hadžimustafić (arrives at 9:34 pm)

BIM

Tammy Bui
Xheni Konci (absent)

EVS

Jesse Lesniowski

GEO

Tess Hasenbacher (absent)

MAT

Dasa Ilham Riadi
Madisyn Turcotte (absent)

BPS

Kwame Agyei (absent)
Mahdi Mahallati (absent)

BIO

Rhiannon Lewis
Laura Weller

1. Opening of the meeting

- The meeting starts at 7:39pm

2. Motion to start the meeting

- Seconded by Stephen

3. Motion to adopt agenda

- Caroline - add land acknowledgement
 - Brittany gives land acknowledgement
- Seconded by Marwa

4. Approving last meeting's minutes

- Seconded by Jesse

5. Question period

- No questions

6. Executives' updates

6.1 Promotions

- Update via Brittany
 - Formal and Gradball promo and filters
 - Promo for gen council events
 - Started transition with incoming VP Promo

i. Promotion committee

- Done - no meeting

6.2 Senator

- Research option added to 3rd yr BIM/BIO
- Repeating course - can't repeat successful course for prereq for course that you have already taken; now can
- Class periods - now will end officially 10 min earlier (ex: 9:50am)

6.3 Senior Advisor

- History of SSA doc - tell her any issues or add any information
- Reach out if you need to

6.4 Internal

- Office is now closed, but if you are hanging out keep the door open
- Collect your things, dishware ASAP so it's not nasty for Doan-Nghi to clean up
- Key card collection email sent today - reply to her email

i. Services committee

- Did not meet - ice cream Wellness Wednesday was a huge success
 - ◆ Shout out to Cata and Sophie for organizing
- Big thanks to services committee

6.5 External

- No update sent
 - i. Clubs committee**
 - N/A
 - ii. OSG committee**
 - N/A

6.6 Academic

- FSWEP workshop - chill; little turnout, but was good. Too much pizza was ordered, and will note in transition report
- Good Last Lecture - any feedback?
 - Need better sound
 - Good layout of event
- Jane and Matt did Prof and TA of the Year
 - Currently updating 5 yrs of winners on plaques
- Promoting scholarships - either mass email or event
 - Apply peeps! - They're due May 1st, but do ASAP
- Other committee stuff
- Key stakeholder in meeting for self-regulation module
- Transition meeting with Jane
 - i. Scholastic Events committee**
 - Did not meet

6.7 Social

- Thanks to all who attended events; feedback will be put into transition report
- Any feedback from Last Lecture please send to Kevin
 - i. Formal committee**
 - Met
 - ii. Gradball committee**
 - Met

6.8 Bilingualism

- "Translations" BPS event, Last Lecture, Constitution
- Finished website translation and sent to Aazad

6.9 Finance

- Writing a bunch of cheques
- Budget review
- Started transition with Ibraheem
- Formal and Gradball

6.10 Philanthropic

- Herb Garden Sale - money to be donated
- Most events
- Giving Back Wednesday
- Grants committee

6.11 Logistics

- John came with the backordered sweatpants; thanks Danny for picking these up
- Set up Formal and Gradball
- Server at Last Lecture

6.12 President

- Validating CCR hours; have until April 30th to have them validated
- Working for planning transition meetings
- Summer exec and managers application sent by Google Form
- Reps please respond about Faculty Council
 - i. Constitution committee**
 - Did not meet; outstanding second readings and new motions
 - ii. Elections committee**
 - Congrats to all who ran in election
 - Reimbursements have been given to all candidates
 - iii. Sponsorship committee**
 - Met online
 - \$393 to 5 uOttawa science for kids' summer workshops
 - iv. SSA2020 committee**
 - Tom bought a BBQ; Doan-Nghi and Brittany buying microwaves

7. Managers' updates

- Secretary
 - Constitution update with new passed motions
 - Summer exec and manager interview schedule
- Webmaster
 - Opinion asked via Doan-Nghi - on main page, can now pick French or English, but will be an extra \$110/yr

- Keep separate or amalgamate with both languages on same page
- Have reached the limit of pages
- Danny - make French button bigger
- Caroline - look into having separate page for each language
- Tom - way to gross to scroll through that much info, and at the end of the day the extra moola is worth it
- Tammy - way more aesthetically pleasing to be separate
- Ferial - not a huge dent in our budget, scrolling is annoying
- Jesse - on Tom's side; what would that \$110 even go to if we save it
- Doan-Nghi agrees with spending
- Finance Assistant
 - Via Tom
 - Same old
- Social Media
 - Via Brittany from Mayur
 - Same old

8. Green director updates

- Report
 - Super cute with a succulent on the cover
 - 7-8 pages; will send soon for translation
 - Goes through each event, stats, conclusion and goals for next year
 - Hopefully done in next week
- Thrift swap
 - SO GREAT
 - Two boxes of clothes to donate to Free Store
 - Brittany - congrats on this, it was so cool

9. Department reps updates

- BIM - Tammy
 - BIM event - low turnout, but super cute
 - Date could've been better
 - Departmental meeting
 - Finalize lab course evaluation
 - ◆ Relatively the same kind of questions, with a comment box for each question
 - ◆ Want to have some sort of evaluation for the lab coordination itself
 - ◆ No question on how lab material reflects exam material
 - ◇ Maybe it could be brought up at Faculty Council
 - ◆ Laura - was this mentioned on email chain?
 - ◇ Tammy - yes; shut down because students tend to answer based on how well they're doing in the course
 - ◆ Brit - we will try again
 - ◆ Stephen - valid point that it's not up to them to decide how students give their opinion
 - ◆ Stephen - can other programs answer this evaluation?
 - ◇ Tammy - will go with other course
 - ◇ Brittany - will ask at Faculty Council
 - ◆ Ferial - French labs?
 - ◇ Tammy - yes
 - ◇ Ferial - extra question about the quality of the translations should be done
 - ◇ Tammy - issues with French students not being able to complete their evaluations in French
 - ▶ Mel would fight this if she got a bad grade because of it
- CHM - Caroline
 - Event; 10% of students came
 - Sustainability centre gave dishes
 - Hoodies came in and were picked up
- BIO - Laura
 - Seeds and Snacks went surprisingly well
 - Recommending for next year
 - Got to talk to a lot of students
- MAT - Dasa
 - Gonna be really cute
 - Math advice form sent; many replies
 - To be discussed with the chair on Apr 16th
 - uOttawa Women in Math club
 - Acting as advisor
 - Going well; 2 chill meet and greet events
 - ◆ Goals, history
 - Starting to grow
 - Gaining great momentum and hoping to continue next year
 - Mayur made really cute logo
 - Plan some seminars with female profs - hopefully be cute
 - Hoping for SSA support - applying to be club under SSA

- uOttawa LGBT+ in Science
 - Mayur made cute logo
 - Planning cute, LGBT nights
 - Doan-Nghi - suggests Rupaul screening
 - Hoping to go somewhere with this; quiet right now, hoping to gain momentum
 - Improve image for inclusivity in the SSA
 - Give a platform for oppressed minority
 - EVS - Jesse
 - Sweaters came in
 - New exec and EVSA president underway - Carolina

10. SFUO updates

- Presented by Caroline
- Passed 5 motions recently that will affect SSA for next term
- Leader action passed second reading
 - All execs will need to attend Leader Action training
 - Tom - penalty constitutionalized?
 - Caroline - some sort of levy
 - Paid by SFUO
 - April 28th for incoming execs
- VP Equity
 - Every fed body needs separate position of VP Equity
 - Cannot be in conjunction with another VP
 - Needs to implemented in exec elections 2019
 - Jesse - what is it...
 - Marwa - accessibility
 - Caroline - working on mandate ideas next year
 - Jesse - can we do a trial run?
 - Brittany - no; it's in the SFUO constitution. At the end of the day, it's going to be good addition
 - Caroline going to work to make it clear what can and needs to be done, with room for fed body adjustments
- Pronouns - they and them will replace she/her in constitution
 - French - what to do?
 - Ferial - will need to do both
 - Caroline - French reinforces the gender binary
- 101 week - now don't have to do Shinerama
 - Only passed first reading
 - Most likely will pass
 - Choice between Shine or another philanthropic event
 - Will likely have to rename Shinerama coordinator
 - Brit - Shine has been a thing forever; why this came up?
 - A lot of VP Phils felt pressured to do this instead of other causes they felt passionately about
 - Mel - may be due to specific fed bodies' concerns
 - Caroline - current VP Equity says that people actively avoid Shine fundraisers
 - Mel - This is a national thing, we are getting better. Possible laziness factors that could come.
 - Brittany - agrees where fed bodies could potentially put in more effort to a cause closer to them that more funds could be raised
 - Anticipates that those who care about Shinerama will continue to do so
 - Doan-Nghi - issue is that this is a campus spirit thing, and losing the unity for one cause. Gets where Brittany is coming from, but how will VP Phil know what their fed body supports as a whole?
 - Mel - the finance logistics for all the different charities compared to one large impact cheque
 - Caroline will bring these points up
- Motion wasn't passed, but probably come up - Bilingualism in positions
 - Might be a change where certain number of university classes in French/English will count instead of bilingual test
 - Doan-Nghi - what about fed bodies with separate anglo and franco positions?
 - Don't know
 - Marwa - understood it to be for Presidents
 - Presidents must be bilingual
 - Didn't pass also because of fed bodies that are specific for languages (ex: English, la Nutrition)
 - Might come back

11. Annual Budget Review

- 1) questions - put your hand up; back up if behind the pole in the room
- 2) specific locations? Talk to Tom after
- 3) big differences will probably be mentioned or worked out later
- 4) whole budget events out
- Expenses
 - Under for Gradball; Over for Formal but increased ticket sales
 - New Academic Fund - Matt went under it; will be transitioned to Ibraheem
 - Merch will be made back once sold, same with jackets
 - Clubs went over
 - Will tell Ibraheem to allocate more moola for clubs

- Historically clubs haven't spent their full budgets, why the allocation was lower
 - Grants budget pretty close
 - Services committee, Mel made money
 - Volunteer appreciation will be a bit over, but it was decreased substantially since last year
 - Separate honorarium budget
 - Way to go BLove on elections budget
- Revenue
 - Mel made money in her budget, so did Kevin
 - Matt did not
 - Need to push those merch sales next year peeps
 - Services committee made some money
 - All departmental funding thanks to Caroline's hoodie sales
 - Thao enforced that \$5 late rental fee - way to go Thao Dao
 - Some reallocations
 - Levies haven't been recorded - last will come in the summer
 - Science levy has some inflation
- Summary
 - events
 - Expenses - \$200,643.77
 - Revenue - \$129,409.04
 - Difference - \$71,234.73
 - Merchandise
 - Expenses - \$91,904.73
 - Revenue - \$36,026.00
 - Difference - \$55,878.73
 - University Affairs
 - Expenses - \$24,08.94
 - Revenue - \$2,967.20
 - Difference - \$21,141.74
 - Ancillary
 - Expenses - \$2840.00
 - Revenue - \$1660.61
 - Difference - \$1179.39
 - Levies
 - Expenses - NA
 - Revenue - \$107,489.11
 - Difference - -\$107,489.11
 - Grand total
 - Expenses - \$378,892.76
 - Revenue - \$320,741.86
 - Difference - \$53,150.90
 - Expected grand total
 - Expenses - \$385,533.76
 - Revenue - 330,826.86
 - Difference - -\$54,706.90
 - Grand total excluding merch
 - Expenses - \$293,62.03
 - Revenue - \$294,800.86
 - Difference - \$1171.83
- A lot of money tied up in merch
- Mel compares Tom to Houseman
- Will recommend for next year having separate merch budget because it is continuous

12. Motion to add Biotechnology Representative

- Presented by Stephen, seconded by Dasa
- Discussion:
 - Dasa - last year Faculty Council said BTC is being phased out due to low graduation rates
 - Brit - kept because there was high number of 2nd years
 - Matt - affect BCH rep numbers?
 - No
 - Thao - can add for now and remove later
 - Brittany - introduced because BTC used to be in Engineering, but entire degree now in Science
 - Tom - one rep?
 - Yes

○ Y: 17 N: 0 A: 2

- The motion passes

13. Motion to remove General Science Representative

- Presented by Stephen, seconded by Dasa
- Discussion:

- Mel - does it exist as a program?
 - No longer can apply to this program
 - Mel - good side to have still if there are students still registered
 - Thao - why BIO?
 - BIO is one of the majors that is mostly picked in Gen Sci
 - Caroline - what if they fall under whatever rep based on the major they have?
 - Tom - difficult for logistics, emailing
 - Brit - we don't know who has what major currently; may be more simpler to have one rep
 - Numbers of Gen Sci are going to be low
 - Mel - is it really a big deal to keep the rep?
 - Brit - wants them to be represented, but not overrepresented
 - Stephen - faculty may be removing Gen Sci completely
 - Danny - only way now into Gen Sci is academic probation?
 - Doan-Nghi - can graduate with it if have enough credits for a major
 - Y: 15 N: 1 A: 3
 - The motion passes
- 14. Motion to modify duties of Chairperson of Association Council**
 - Presented by Stephen, seconded by Dasa
 - Discussion:
 - Tom - motions passed?
 - Add during the summer term
 - Let the record be clear it was his intent to include during the summer
 - Just to make Gen Council aware of what was passed during the summer
 - Y: 17 N: 0 A: 2
 - The motion passes
- 15. Second reading: Motion for reallocation from in/out scholarships to ancillary expenses and revenue**
 - Presented by Tom, seconded by Caroline
 - Y: 16 N: 0 A: 3
 - The motion passes
- 16. Second reading: Motion to amend the functions of the VP of Philanthropic Initiatives**
 - Presented by Caroline, seconded by Dasa
 - Discussion:
 - Thao - SFUO passing new Phil motion change this?
 - May not need to change if SSA decides to keep Shinerama or not
 - Mel - SFUO has Movember and Relay for Life
 - Brit - SFUO will take priority later
 - Y: 17 N: 0 A: 2
 - The motion passes
- 17. Second reading: Motion to amend the functions of the VP Finance**
 - Presented by Caroline, seconded by Ferial
 - Y: 17 N: 0 A: 2
 - The motion passes
- 18. Second reading: Motion to amend the functions of the Shinerama Coordinator**
 - Presented by Caroline, seconded by Jesse
 - Y: 17 N: 0 A: 2
 - The motion passes
- 19. Second reading: Motion to amend 6.12 and 6.13 of By-Law 6 (clubs)**
 - Presented by Caroline, seconded by Dasa
 - Y: 17 N: 0 A: 2
 - The motion passes
- 20. Second reading: Motion to amend executive positions eligibility**
 - Presented by Brittany, seconded by Dasa
 - Discussion:
 - Tom - why numbering all weird
 - It just is
 - Y: 18 N: 0 A: 1
 - The motion passes
- 21. Second reading: Motion to update roles of departmental representatives**
 - Presented by Stephen, seconded by Dasa
 - Discussion:
 - Applying 3.2.9.1
 - Dasa loves
 - Dasa votes to amend to wording for execs; second by Thao
 - Y: 8 N: 0 A: 1

