

GSA-UW Council

Minutes of Meeting

Date: Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Time: 4:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.

Place: NH 3407

Present:

GSA-UW Council Attendance List

Total members of Council					41
Quorum=					14
	26	16	0	0	

Fall 2017

Meeting dates =

				13	12	15	n/a
				Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Board/Officers							
	Chair of Council	Lindsey Daniels	1	1	1	1	
Officers	President	Robert Bruce	1	1	1	1	
	Vice President	Max Salman	1	1	1	R	
Board	Chair	Norman Kearney	1	1	R	1	
	Director	Matthew Morison	1	R	R		
	Director	Richard O'Brien	1	1	R		
	Director	Serxho Selmani	1		1		
	Director	Ramy Tannous	1	1		1	
	Director	Beth Timmers	1	R		R	
	Director	Evan Andrews	1	1	R	1	
	Director	Sondra Eger	1		R	1	
	Director	Allison Sachs	1			1	
	Director	Amanda Joynt	1				
	Director	Julie Cook	1				

FAC. DEPARTMENT

AHS	AHS Dean/Social Work*						
	Kinesiology	Daniel Martel	1	1	R	1	
	Rec & Leisure	Naima Samuel	1	1	R		
	SPHHS	Julia Goyal	1	1	1	1	
ARTS	Accounting and Finance						
	Anthropology						
	Classical Studies						
Stratford	Digital Exp. Innovation*						
	Economics						
	English Lang& Lit	Jason Lajoie	1		R	1	
	Fine Arts						
	French Studies	Sushma dusoweth				1	
	German&Slavic						
	Global Governance	Clay Dasilva	1	1	1	1	
	History	Russ Freure	1	1	R	1	
	Peace & Conflict MPACS	Matthew Morales	1				
	Philosophy	Chris Wass	1	1	1	1	
	Political Science	Mackenzie smith				1	
	Psychology	Emily Cyr	1	1		1	
Wat.	Public Service, Master*						

	Religious Studies						
	Sociology&Legal Studies						
Camb ENG	Architecture*	Tanvi Kundiliwal (Nov/17)	1	n/a	n/a	1	
	Chemical	Guratam Singh Ahluwalia	1	1			
	Civil & Env	Jessica Achebe	1	1	R		
	Electrical & Computer	Takin Tadayon	1	1	1	1	
	Management Sciences	Alison Jennings	1	1		1	
	MBET						
	Mech & Mechatronics	Kissan Mistry	1	1	1	1	
	Systems Design						
ENV	Geography and Env. Mgmt	Vicky Vanthof	1	R	1	1	
	School of Planning	Garrett Mombourquette	1				
	SEED						
	SERS	Patricia Huynh	1	R	R	R	
MATH	Math Dean						
	Applied Mathematics	Josh Thompson	1	n/a	1	1	
	Combinatorics & Opt	Chris van Bommel	1	1	1	1	
	Computer Science	Camile Andres Munos	1	n/a	n/a		
	Pure Mathematics	John Michael Sawatzky	1	n/a		1	
	Stats & Actuarial Sci	Danqiao Guo	1	1			
SCI	Biology	Emilie Spasov	1	1	1	1	
	Chemistry	Ryan Amos	1	1	1		
	Earth & Env Sciences	Maria Digaletos	1	1	1		
	Physics and Astronomy	Jennifer Reid	1	1	1	1	
	Optometry	Dania Abuleil	1	1		1	
Kit.	School of Pharmacy*						
THEO	Catholic Thought						
Non-	Gradute Student/Senator	Samantha Shortall					
Voting							
	Gsa gss	jithin				1	
	General Manager S/T	Rose Vogt		1	1	1	

MINUTES

1. Chair's Welcome & Opening Remarks

The Chair calls the meeting to order at 4:11 pm.

2. The Agenda is adopted. (as amended – note amendments on the agenda above with **)
**Policy 58's discussion has been kept aside, as GSA Vice President is not in attendance. Any comments or enquiries that the Council has can be directed to GSA VP by email.
**Discussion based on update from board given by Chairman of Board, to help clarify any doubts or enquiries.

Motion to adopt the agenda

Moved by Council Chair

Seconded by Robert Bruce

Abstain- Jessica Achebe

Carried

3. Declarations of Interest:
No declaration is made.

4. The minutes from the October 12, 2017 meeting are approved.
(m/s)

Motion to adopt previous meeting minutes

Moved by Chris van Bommel

Seconded by Julia Goyal

Carried.

5. Consent Items:

Motion to adopt the consent items

Moved by the Council Chair

Seconded by Allison Sachs

Carried

Enquiries, regarding the President's Roundtable, mentioned in GSA President's report, are made. The roundtable is to reach out to different constituencies in the university to talk about the issues and concerns they have. It would be good if councillors, being representatives of graduate students are in the loop.

The council's opinion on the Executive term limitation point mentioned in the report, is asked by the director.

The topic of employment of graduates as TAs is put forward. As of now no full draft is present. Meetings have been organised in the next couple of weeks, which will go through remaining articles. The draft which will then be ready can be circulated after the above said meetings have taken place. As the entire process is not being rushed, there is no definite timeline to give now.

- a. Board Reports
 - b. Executive Reports
 - c. Committee Reports
6. The Council Membership Report is received for information. (m/s)
Two councillors have retired from council. Two councillors have joined.
7. The University Committee Report is received for information.
Appointments made last month are noted in the report.
Course evaluation committee is still vacant. If anyone is interested, contact the Chair of Council.
8. Presentations
- a. Fall Reading Week Expectations, R. Bruce
The need to gain a better understanding of the methodology employed.
Within the conversation, the interests and expectations of the graduate student community is held at forefront. No academic deadline so far.
The need for fine line of understanding between the graduate expectations and faculty is a must.
Further discussions will be held to better transfer the graduate expectations on to the grad calendar regarding the same.
 - b. Funding Transparency, R. Freure
Councillor Russ Freure brings up the topic as a similar case was reported in the department of history. The issue was regarding external funding not OGSA. AS the external funding was issued, university funding was clawed away.
Fears that this might not have been an isolated issue is raised in the council.
It is noted that there are three classification of funding available, internal, external and interal-external. These are not formal categories.
The need for clear expectations when you get an external award is raised.
 - c. Update from the Board, N. Kearney

Motion to take a 5 minute break

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Emily Cyr

Opposed- Takin, John Swatzky.

Carried. at 4:53 pm

Break over- 5:01 pm

The Board came out of the retreat recently. The draft report of the same will be brought before the Board next week, from which a detailed report will be made.

The Board's report follows, led by the Chair of Board. (available in the report)

Joint board council workshop on Nov 29.

Chair suggests a doodle poll to see which day and time works best for everyone. Since everyone seem to be interested in having a joint workshop.

The status regarding OGSA membership is raised.

Motion to go to confidential to discuss the same

Moved by Norman Kearney

Seconded by Robert Bruce

Carried at 5:42 pm.

The concerns that lot of progress regarding the shift in governing model has been made, and why the council is hearing about it late and now, is raised.

It is clarified that nothing is set in stone and that there is room for cooperative work in the workshop for the same and then decisions can be made.

If council does not agree to adapt to changes no reforms will be pushed through.

The existence of a lot of policy gaps is the reason for the need for a management change. Need for a system that works cohesively.

The wording regarding "CEO" is raised as it sways more towards managerial role. Since this is not a business, the process of appointing the CEO/ED is enquired about. Will the electoral process remain?

It is noted that "CEO" might not be the right word in the context, and it can be changed.

No settlement yet regarding the appointment report.

At minimum preserve, the system where the board and council co-appoint the person can be analysed. Job description will co-worked on by board and council.

Motion to extend the meeting by 30 mins.

Moved by Chair

Seconded by Emily Cyr

Opposed by Takin

Carried.

The need for buffer period for the new ED is raised, to ensure no one with high influence can influence the said person.

Since the current GSA President sits on lot of committees to represent grad community, concerns regarding what will happen if the new proposed model is followed, is raised. Under the proposed model, the Board and Council are the voice of the community, that will not change.

Some seats will be filled by students from the community as others will be occupied by the ED.

Senate and board needs students on it. So that will be a problem unless ED is student. So the university might want to discuss before such things happening.

It is expressed that the student representation in all these committees are crucial, though the current GSA President has fiduciary responsibility as the governor, his presence as a student representative also has weight. Such a presence could be lost if ED is not a student.

What risk measures would be in place to prevent someone who is in favour of university from coming in this position.

Counter argument that even students in these roles can have university pressure, is expressed.

Therefore, someone with democratic ethos and good track record can clearly represent the grad community in this role.

The need for board and council to monitor the activity of the ED and setting up a disciplinary setup to deal with any unfortunate events, is also raised.

Council gives no marching order to the new ED, it is all a dialogue. Board ensures the ED carries out the results of these dialogues. By having joint policies, it helps.

The council needs a pro-con analysis for a neutral discussion regarding this issues, before making a decision.

Report is being worked in by the board as of now, with a pro-con analysis.

9. Discussion

- a. Fall Reading Week
- b. Funding Transparency

- c. Policy 58- removed due to absence of GSA Vice President. Councillors can mail him regarding any issues or clarifications.

10. Motions:

- a. **BIRT** the GSA-UW Council ratify the appointments as detailed in the report for item 7.
(m/s) **Carried.**
Moved by Lindsey Daniels
Seconded by Jennifer Reid
Abstain Norman Kearney, Chris von Bommel, Takin Tadayon.
- b. **BIRT** that the GSA-UW Council approve the mental health survey questions prepared by StudentCare.
(To be discussed by CEC) But this was at CEC. Was agreed to be taken to council.

Motion 10.b

- Moved by Jennifer Reid**
- Seconded by Takin Tadayon**
- Defeated**
- Discussion ongoing.

Friendly amendment is suggested regarding questions 23, 24 to change the wording used in the same.

- Moved by Julia Goyal**
- Seconded by Takin Tadayon**
- Abstain- Norman Kearney, Clay Mackenzie, Chris Wass, Chris von Bommel**
- Carried(m/s)**

- 11. Confidential Session
- 12. Notices of Motion
- 13. Other Business
- 14. Meeting is adjourned at 6:53 pm.