



Minutes

GSA Council Meeting

11 October, 2013, GSA House

Attendance

Chair: Gretchen King

Secretary: Golam M M Aurup

Voting Directors: Tariqul Amin (ENCS), Claude Fachkha (ENCS), Paramveer Singh Mann (ENCS), Karthikeya Nadendla (ENCS), MJF Rupom (ENCS), Vinoth Ramaiah (ENCS), Nishant Walia (ENCS), Arundeeep Malapati (ENCS), Sara Breitreutz (ARTS/SCI), Audrey Dahl (ARTS/SCI), Holly Nazar (ARTS/SCI), Trevor Smith (ARTS/SCI), Monique Boudreau (JMSB), Vivek Wadhwana (JMSB), Genevieve Moisan (FINE ARTS), Biagina-Carla Farnesi (IND),

Non-Voting Directors: Mohit Kumar (President), Vignesh Shankar (Vice-President External), Nassim Changizi (Vice-President Internal)

Observers: Liz Colford (Services Manager), David Clos-Sasseville (Department and Campaigns Advocate), Jamie Goodman (Finance Manager)

Absent: Stavros Athanasoalias (JMSB)

Documents:

Agenda for GSA Council Meeting October 11, 2013

Draft Minutes of council meeting on September 13, 2013

Appendix II: Reports

President Report

VP External Report

Finance Manager Report

Advocacy Manager Report

Department and Campaigns Advocacy Report

Service Manager Report

Board of Governors Representative Report

Summer Spending

Fall and Winter Budget

Annual Budget

Council Training Proposal

Resolution regarding food service renewal at Concordia

Report on course reserves

Appendix III

Motions



1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 10:12 am.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Following amendments proposed to the agenda

- Motion about late attendance to be added to 6.5- proposed by Trevor.
- Proposal to skip December Council Meeting to be moved from item 8.4 to 9.1- proposed by Mohit.
- Sara's announcement about resignation to be item 8.4
- A report regarding space booking for cancelled GA on 30th September to added to report of service Manager
- Committee appointment to be added as item 8.5- By Vignesh.

BIRT the GSA council approves the agenda with proposed amendments.

Proposed by- Claude

Seconded by- Audrey

Vote- Unanimous.

Motion carried.

3. Council Business

3.1 Chair's report – Council training

Gretchen presented her proposal for a training program for council members. She requested the council members to provide with feedback. She mentioned that the document would be 'living' and change over time to accommodate the need of the council members.

- It was decided that Roddy, David, and Vivek will come up with a presentation to facilitate this process.

3.2 Circulation of Attendance Sheet

Attendance sheet was circulated among GSA council directors.

4. Approval of Minutes

BIRT GSA minutes for GSA Council meeting on September 13th is approved.

Proposed by- Arun

Seconded by- Tariqul

Vote- Unanimous.

Motion carried.



5. Business Arising from the Minutes

5.1 Council meeting transparency

Vignesh informed the council members that all GSA members are informed of council meetings through newsletter and facebook. Also, the minutes are available on the website.

5.2 Advocacy committee

It was decided that Holly, Mohit and Claude will meet Roddy, consult minutes from August meeting, and report back to council meeting in this regard.

5.3 Council Honorariums

The following motions were proposed to modify article 16 of section V of GSA Bylaws as follows:

BIRT Council will determine annually the honorarium Directors will be entitled to receive per meeting attended. This amount must be ratified by 2/3 of all council members.

BIFRT General Assembly will determine annually the honorarium Councillors will be entitled to receive per meeting attended. This amount must be ratified by GSA members through a General Assembly.

Moved by: Audrey

Seconded by: Vivek

Vote: 10-3-0

Motion Carried.

6. Motions

6.1 Resignation (Sara Breitzkreutz)

Sara informed the council of her decision to resign from the council and requested council to accept that.

BIRT the council sadly approves Sara's resignation to be effective at the end of the meeting.

Moved by: Trevor

Seconded by: Holly

Vote: Audrey requested opposition to be noted.

Motion carried.

6.2 Motion of censure (Audrey Dahl)

Audrey proposed that the GSA censures itself for not following a previous GA mandate to hold GA and elections in September. It was decided that the original motion proposed by Audrey (see appendix III for original motion) be split in two sections to censure GSA for not holding the GA and not holding elections.



Whereas the decision of holding elections in General Assembly as soon as possible at the beginning of Fall Semester decided by April 30th General Assembly was not respected;

Whereas the decision of holding elections in General Assembly as soon as possible in the two last weeks of September decided by May 7th Council was not respected;

Whereas the decision of holding elections in General Assembly of September 30th decided by August 20th Council was not respected;

Whereas the seriousness of the room booking problems were not presented in complete transparency by GSA executives on September 13rd Council;

Whereas the room booking problems were not understood as seriously as they were by Council;

Whereas a plan B with another date and other possibilities of rooms was not discuss by Council on September 13rd meeting;

Whereas the action to promote the elections were not put in place by executives, council and staff during the numerous channels we had during orientation and tabling;

Whereas the GSA Executives and GSA Council are responsible vis-à-vis their members to make everything they can to realize General Assembly and Council mandates;

Whereas the GSA Executives and GSA Council recognize their accountability toward their decisions and their members;

BIRT the GSA council censure themselves and their Executives for not respecting their own mandates to hold a General Assembly in the two last weeks of September.

Moved by: Audrey

Seconded by: Vivek

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried.

BIRT the GSA council censure themselves and their Executives for not respecting their own mandates to hold elections to fill the vacancies of the two executives and the two Councillor positions.

Moved by: Vinoth

Seconded by: Nishant

Vote: 9-0-3

Motion Carried.

BIRT GSA council take action to create resources aimed at avoiding future issues related to room booking and scheduling of GA or other events.

Moved by: Sara

Seconded by: Holly

Vote: 13-1-0, Audrey opposed.



Motion Carried.

6.3 General Assembly motion (President);

BIRT, a quorum count shall be called 30 minutes after the proposed meeting time. If quorum is not achieved the General Assembly shall be postponed until a date approved by council or executive committee notwithstanding room availability and University closures.

Amendment to motion: BIRT the time to call quorum count be increased from 30 minutes to 60 minutes.

Moved by: Mohit

Seconded by: Sara

Vote: 6-2-1

Motion carries with amendment.

BIRT, the GSA General Assembly shall adopt a “closed door” quorum procedure, meaning that the moment that quorum is called for the doors shall be closed and the count shall be taken.

Moved by: Mohit

Motion failed in vote with no support.

BIRT, in order to ensure there is a chance at equitable representation of all members and that decisions taken by the Assembly are seen as legitimate within the eyes of our members that General Assembly quorum be raised to 3% of the total membership.

Moved by: Mohit

Motion failed in a vote with no support.

6.4 Resolution regarding the renewal of a food services provider contract (Holly Nazar)

WHEREAS exclusive contracts with large single food service providers create near-monopoly conditions on campus that reduce choice, affordability and quality for students and employees;

WHEREAS student-run locations provide beneficial opportunities for experience, employment and community involvement to students as well as contributing more than external companies to student life;

BIRT the Graduate Students' Association of Concordia University urges the Vice-President of Services and other relevant decision makers to negotiate the new food services contract (starting 2015) with the goal of maximizing the variety of food providers on campus and of facilitating the opening of new student-run food service locations.

Proposed by: Holly

Seconded by: Sara

Vote: Unanimous



Motion carries

6.5 Motion regarding late attendance (Trevor)

Tabled.

7. Reports

7.1 President

See document 'report of President' for details.

7.2 VP-Internal

See document 'report of VP-Internal' for details.

7.3 VP-External

See document 'report of VP-External' for details.

7.4 Service Manager

See document 'report of services manager' for details.

Liz also explained the problems regarding space booking for GA on September 30th.

7.5 Finance Manager

See document 'report of finance manager' for details.

a) Budget Presentation

Jamie presented the budget to council. Vivek suggested him to put a column to show actual expense for each item.

Sara suggested him to add explanation notes so that members at the GA can understand GSA expenses easily.

Council also requested Jamie to work with Mohit to develop a training material so that Council members can understand the budget better. Vivek was requested to review the document upon completion.

BIRT the council approves the budget for 2013-2014 as presented in council.

Proposed by: Mohit

Seconded by: Audrey

Vote: All in favor

Motion carries.

7.6 Department and Campaign Advocate

See document 'Department and Campaigns Advocacy Report' for details.

7.7 Advocacy Manager

Absent.



7.8 Senate Report/BOG report

See document 'Board of Governors Representative Report' for details.

8. Other Business (20mins)

8.1 Item for information on the Graduate Certificate in University Teaching (Holly Nazar)
Tabled.

8.2 Follow-up point about CJILO (Audrey Dahl)
Tabled.

8.3 Report back on course reserve system (Holly Nazar)
Tabled.

8.4 Committee Appointment

Sara informed that she is part of elections review committee, GA committee, campaigns committee, and bylaws committee. She mentioned that she is willing to contribute to committees which accepts GSA members from outside of council.

9. Next Meeting

It was decided that the meeting will be held the following Friday (November 15) at 10:00 am.

9.1 Skipping December council meeting (President);

Tabled.

10. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 1:20 pm.