

{GSA Council Meeting and Minutes}

Wednesday, October 17th, 2018

Carleton #106

Chair: Cody Waite

Recorder: Krista Harris

1. Call to order

2. Roll Call/Call for Quorum

3. Wolastoq Acknowledgement – The Graduate Student Association at the University of New Brunswick recognises and honours the Wolastoq Nation and their unceded territories where we have gathered today.

4. Adoption of Agenda: moved by Civil and seconded by VP Admin. In favour = yes, opposed = none.

5. Approval of minutes – September 2018: Moved by Forestry and seconded by English. Any issues? In favour = yes. Opposed = none.

6. Summary of Executive Activities (All Executive Members) Please see Executive Report section of the GSA website.

President – Questions = none.

VP Finance – Questions = none.

VP External – Questions = Physics: anything interesting to report from the task force meeting?

Reply – nothing at this time, was only the first introductory type meeting.

VP Admin. - Questions = none.

7. Committee Reports:

- Executive Director's report (Krista Harris)

GSA: Finalizing enrolment for UNB SJ MBA, processing manual opt-outs, and submitting to StudentVIP. Verifying bus pass opt-outs and submit to UNB financial services. Helping to facilitate elections & executive change-over. Working with facilities management to prepare for Fall, tree removal, lighting, stairs. WCB: Investigating options and preparing to install new updated sound system in bar. Working to update POS system and integrate new screens & counters. Bar is busy – great to see so many different groups using the space.

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- Finance Committee (Bipin Kumar, VP Finance): Nothing new to add.
- Events Committee (Brittany, President & VP Societies and Events) Nothing new to add.
- By-Law Committee (Scott, VP Admin) Nothing new to add.

8. New Business:

- Funding task force update – presented by the chair: Cody Waite.

Questions: Business Administration – problem with the syntax in reading. Cody – syntax will be adjusted accordingly. Question – Rules of the Scholarship, because there is no other funding, this dictates no money from UNB.

Suggestion by Chair: all those in favour to add recommendation report = yes, opposed = none.

- Elections & Speeches by VP Finance, VP External, VP Administration, VP Academic (during AGM – as absent).

Scrutineers: Perry & Scott Young

Results: VP Finance = Bipin Kumar; VP External = Kahleel Arfen;

VP Administration = Rajat Sharma; VP Academic = Mehboob Reza.

Congratulations!

9. Old Business

- Bursaries: desire to put in place a system where a portion of money is collected from students and the university matches this contribution. Presented the idea to the Dean of Graduate Studies and it can't happen this year as the budget has been done, however, next year the School of Graduate Studies will explore and determine if there is interest. This system has been found to work well at other universities. If there is interest at council the VP Finance will investigate and create the procedure required. This will open the discussion into this matter and then council can be updated to see if they want to support this idea. The goal would be to set up a bursary system for graduate students, like the undergraduate structure. Question – Physics: would there be limits on the extent to what fees can be used for? For example, travel grants and the like for conferences? Yes, exactly, we would pay into something like that to help others. Question – Electrical Engineering: we already have this in our faculty – how would it work in this case? VP Finance – we would need to conduct further research to look at the actual

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structure, and to make the plan more transparent. At this point we are only looking to ascertain if Council would like the GSA executive to invest more time in exploring this as an option next year. Currently, there is only 1 bursary of \$500 available to one graduate student. Question – Physics: clear purpose and function is needed first. VP Finance replies yes, we would form a committee, look at best practices in other universities, and determine any biases. Motion by Education, seconded by Forestry. In favour = yes, opposed = none.

10. Announcements:

- Provincial lobby week: Happening soon! We welcome ideas, input, and participation in the Town Hall. An online submission platform will be forthcoming.

UGSW _ Perry: Nov. UGSW Fall AGM is happening. An opportunity for graduate students to voice their opinions. All those with member cards are encouraged to come out and vote.

11. Adjournment: moved by VP Administration and seconded by the President. All those in favour = yes, opposed = none.