

**Council Meeting Agenda – 15th of April 2017**

---

**Date:** Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> of April 2017

**Time:** 5:30 pm

**Location:** Tilley Hall 104

**Chair:** Cody Waite

**Recording Secretary:** Krista Harris

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call/Call for Quorum =Yes.
3. Wolastoq Acknowledgement – The Graduate Student Association at University of New Brunswick recognizes and honors the Wolastoq Nation and their un-ceded territories where we have gathered today.
4. Adoption of Agenda – Agenda correction change date from March to April. In favor = yes. Add a Motion – bills? Motion to change (1) Computer Science (2) Biology.  
In favor = Yes, opposed = none.
5. Adoption of the February Minutes (1) Computer Science (2) Biology. In favor = Yes. Opposed = none.

Presentation by Lee Thomas from StudentVIP on the “My Definition” campaign. Question: VP Academic – are the counselors certified? Yes, they can be from Canada or the US but they all have a Master’s level or higher with a minimum 5 years of experience in the field. The resource navigators are trained in tele-health and are nurses or nurse practitioner.

Question: Mechanical Engineering – is the fee for this service included already? Yes, the SAP, the other would be an additional cost. It adds the whole holistic picture and offers support and training on the ground level and rolls it all into the app. Available to both research and non-research based Grad students.

Question: Mechanical Engineering – If the number of students goes up will the cost go up? President – the number is a calculation based on the number of students and is accurate and included in this contract.

Question: VP Academic – 12.50/...? Per year.

Question Psychology – How many sessions? Up to three per year with a minimum of eight people in minimum attendance.

Question: President- How long is the training valid? Indefinitely, although Canadian mental health recommends updating every 5 years.

## Council Meeting Agenda – 15th of April 2017

---

### 6. Summary of Executive Activities (All Executive Members)

VP Admin – composed letter of sanctuary which will be sent out as soon as receive a reply from No One is Illegal. Updated the website. General Admin announcement request from the executive that all councilors use institutional email addresses for GSA communications to ensure institutional history is maintained. In addition, April 15<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for society cheques to be picked up at the GSA office.

VP External – Met with CFS and discussed future growth, discussed lobby week on campus – great opportunity. Reviewed investment options with executive. Looking now to develop a strategic plan, open this up to you, council, to work on and develop over the Summer. Create a template, mission statement, and goals for September. Any interested individuals can contact me personally by email.

Comment: Mechanical Engineering – GSA is supposed to be like a government and does not need to grow and make a profit. We should keep it as small as possible as is less expensive and we need to figure out current issues. VP External – that would be part of the discussion – the concept of what is growth, what does it look like for the GSA. What are our issues?

Chair: Want to strike a committee? Move the motion – Yes, (1) VP External (2) Computer Science. All those in favor of a Strategic planning committee = Yes. Opposed = none.

VP Academic – Discuss today the Tuition Access Bursary program which is not currently available to Graduate students, and is hindering access to education in many cases. This is a political issue, urge the Councilors to contact their provincial representative and ask them to please include graduate students.

In the Senate, they are currently discussing Premium Graduate programs. More money is great but we need to be cognizant of who is really paying. There is concern that it may take away resources and faculty from other programs/students because they are not paying more money like students in premium programs. Due to limited resources would like to make sure that people in general programs are not having decreased resources by default. Opinions welcome.

Question: Sociology – Has this been passed already? Not yet, but it looks almost certain to pass based on the number of votes at play on the floor.

## **Council Meeting Agenda – 15th of April 2017**

---

Question: Sociology – Has the issue been brought to the actual Senate yet? No, it has been raised and discussed at the senate nominating committee, and partially discussed on the senate floor.

Question: Mechanical Engineering – Are the essential differences between general versus premium programs money? Yes.

Question: Mechanical Engineering – UNB is forming committees – is there anything that we can do? VP Academic - Of course.

Question: Mechanical Engineering – are we doing it? Do we need a motion? Chair – no, is an Executive proceeding.

VP Finance: Finalized calculations relevant to the GSA surplus. We are missing records for 5 years and we have almost finished 2 years, hopefully all will be completed by August. Sat with UNB budget committee and we will be receiving announcement for UNB regarding rates during the first week of May and see if there will be a hike in fees.

Question: Chemical Engineering – will rates increase for summer? VP Finance – Fall.

Question: Mechanical Engineering – is the fee hike a percentage per year and NB students are again paying more? VP Finance – essentially, yes.

Question: VP Academic – So how is it that the University states that enrollment is going down but cost is going up? VP Finance – they do not give information based on numbers, but instead, percentages. The Math department has produced a study for those interested in reviewing the link can be provided.

President: Nothing new to report – great job everyone.

### **7. Committee Reports**

Executive Director's report (Krista Harris): met with the new book keeper and have almost completed the 2015-16 year, working now on 2016-17. Worked with VP Finance to streamline and build an inclusive system of reporting and communication to preserve institutional history going forward.

Bar: very busy with year end events – excellent, what we like to see happening. Met with the FM refrigeration dept. head and began the steps to build out a preventative management schedule for the building. Met with UNB security and Chubb Edwards to update, inspect, and repair fire alarm monitoring system. Submitted annual liquor silence, house insurance documents, Worksafe NB documents and arranged payments. Utilizing a new payroll system which is now set up and functioning smoothly. Working with Revenue Canada to define HST numbers for WCB and GSA.

Questions: none.

Finance Committee (Bipin Kumar, VP Finance) – no meetings to report.

## **Council Meeting Agenda – 15th of April 2017**

---

Events Committee (Brittany, VP Societies, and Events): absent.

Constitution and Bylaw Committee (Benoît, VP Administration): Second reading of proposed by-law changes has been sent out for review. Any issues? None. Moved by (1) VP Admin (2) Mechanical Engineering.

### 8. New Business

Summer term meeting dates: May 10<sup>th</sup> and August 23<sup>rd</sup> proposed. Motion to amend to May 11<sup>th</sup> and August 23<sup>rd</sup> moved by VP Finance and seconded by CRO. In favor = yes, opposed = none.

Discussion about GSA surplus: Chair – recommend that we move to the next meeting as more time is needed. Motion to move to May? (1) Computer Science (2) Biology. Any issues = none.

New Business discussion brought forth by Computer Science: Need to put forth a more rigorous structure about how we define and move forward on Bills. Then people can review the information ahead, have discussion, and have real abstentions and a real count at council on the vote. Example of template provided for consideration.

Comment: Mechanical Engineering – if you want to have a Bill discussed maybe bring it up in the previous meeting so people will know it will be discussed at next meeting.

Civil -Perhaps put in a feed so everyone can reply. VP Finance – expresses concerns about information privacy.

Computer Science, Mechanical engineering and Forestry discuss counsellor's responsibilities with respect to checking emails and how Bills are brought to individual society members.

Motion: Sociology – can we make a vote to determine if the council floor feels continuing this discussion is valid? Seconded by education. Question on the floor: Continue this way and direct the executive to disseminate information in a timelier manner? Thanks to Computer Science for bringing this discussion forward. All those in favor, Yes = 12, No = 9, motion passes. Chair suggests that the councilor puts something together and brings it back so that a plan can be made. Please email concerns.

### 9. Announcements: CRO – Election – VP Clubs and Societies – emails will be sent with nomination forms and relevant deadlines.

Benoit joined in late January – chair moves that we continue with this trajectory and move the election for VP Admin to next May. Motion: (1) Mechanical Engineering (2) Biology. In favor = yes, opposed = none.

### 10. Adjournment: motion (1) Computer Science (2) Mechanical Engineering

**Council Meeting Agenda – 15th of April 2017**

---

**\*Note to Students:** PLEASE SEND any inquiries or questions you have regarding these agenda items (prior to the meeting!) to the appropriate GSA Executive and please cc Krista Harris (gsa@unb.ca) in your email!