

Council Meeting Agenda – 11th of May 2017

Date: Wednesday, 11th of May, 2017

Time: 5:30 pm

Chair: Cody Waite

Recording Secretary: VP Admin –
Benoît LeBlanc

Location: Tilley Hall 302

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call/Call for Quorum
Quorum attained.
3. Wolastoq Acknowledgement – The Graduate Student Association at 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 Electrical Eng seconded by Mechanical Eng
Vote is unanimous in favor.
5. Adoption of the April Minutes
Moved by Math seconded by Computer Science
Vote is unanimous in favor.
6. Summary of Executive Activities (All Executive Members)
VP Academic – Has come across some graduate students facing difficulties in navigating legal issues such as landlord-tenant contracts, tax benefits, etc. If this is something pervasive, then GSA could look into providing basic legal advice and information in such situations by partnering with Student Legal Information Clinic (SLIC) at UNB. Currently, only undergraduate students are eligible to access SLIC.

VP External – Red schal/dress campaign october 10th to raise awareness about missing and murdered indigenous women. If anyone is interested let us know. We would like grad students. Also, next wednesday may 15th will be a drop in session in Harriet Irving for the stategic plan group. Also, a link to an article from rabble to talk about corporatization of universities. Some students are starting to fight back (like Guelph and Saskatchewan).

VP Admin – Union organization workshop was really informative. I'll let you guys know.

President – Update on ISIC and bus pass : This year we will have ISIC card with bus pass, but as of sept we won't have bus pass on ISIC since we will have it on UNB card. Some more ISIC-friendly businesses will be coming to Fredericton as well, so good news. On Faculty club, the faculty

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are currently taking final decision to commit. Will update.

Q: Some students are trying to use ISIC card but getting told by employees that there is no deal.

Answer from Pres.: Sometimes there is communication gap. Best is to show them the website.

7. Committee Reports

- Executive Director's report (Krista Harris)
Krista is absent. Cody fills in: Spent week before last fixing up barbecues and setting up backyard. Bookings are filling up. New office hours for summer, updated on website.
- Finance Committee (Bipin Kumar, VP Finance)
Nothing to report.
- Events Committee (Brittany, VP Societies and Events)
Nothing to report.
- Constitution and Bylaw Committee (Benoît, VP Administration)
(Happy birthday song for Sarah). Met with committee, discussed revising constitution for introduction of motions.

8. New Business

- Discussion about GSA surplus
VP Finance: Executive recommends GIC rather than market based investment.
Q from Computer Sci: Have you sat down with banks/investors?
Why was this decision taken?
VP Finance: Yes, many options provided from Investors Group and RBC, they push for market based. Executive wanted however to protect principal. For the short time span, there is no use to make an investment in market.
Computer Sci: How about we have council decide?
Chair: this was discussed in prior meetings. Council told executive in march to make a recommendation.
Civil Engineering: Whats the time-span on investment?
VP Finance: 5 years. Which explains why we aren't looking long term investment
Computer Science: Why not get a financial advisor?
VP Academic: Financial advisors in Canada do not have a legal fiduciary duty towards their clients. GSA cannot trust a financial advisor.
Chief Returning Officer: Call to question
Motion to invest in GIC, moved by VP Finance, seconded by CRO.
Vote is unanimous in favor.

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- Honoraria for Executives
Executives step out. Honoraria was discussed for executives.
Honoraria presented by Chair, seconded by President.
Vote is unanimous in favor.

 - Appeal from Physics Society for cheque
Physics: We had trouble reconstituting council. Propose motion to forgive and give society cheque
Moved by physics, seconded by VP Finance. Vote is unanimous in favor.
English:
CRO: In the future, when this happens, we should think about asking societies to come to council for a bit before getting cheques.
Chair: All of this is because councillors asked that we be more responsible. The bylaws say you have to be at 75% of the meets.
The attendance is more important than being late.

 - Elections for VP Societies and Events
Chief Returning Officer: Brittany is only nominee. Motion that we ask Brittany to leave room and vote by show of hands.
Vote is unanimous in favor.
Election happens.
Brittany is voted in as returning VP Societies and Events.
9. Announcements
Education: We are hosting Education Grad Student Conference. It is Saturday June 24th at Marshall D'Avray.
10. Adjournment
Motion to adjourn at 18h54.
Moved by VP Societies and Events, seconded by Education.
Vote is unanimous in favor.

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