

AGSU Meeting Minutes - September 29, 2006

Attendance:

Eugenia Tsao
Andrew Riddle
Isabelle Guimont
Amber MacKenzie
Graydon Gibbins
Kris Meen
Anna Johnston
Emily Court
Jenn Campbell
Mike O'Rourke
Greg Braun
Alyson Stone
Laura Sikstrom

Mathew Mosher

Agenda, Points of Discussion:

1. Social Coordinator Introduction and discussion of past events and plans for fall and winter events.
2. Medusa Update
3. Treasurer update
4. GSU rep update
5. Communications coordinator update
 - Discussion of ink situation in the grad room
6. Vis a Vis update
 - Survey progress
 - Timeline for survey release
7. CUPE update and official recognition of Daniella Joffre and Michael O'Rourke as our CUPE reps.
8. Committee meetings update, Discussion of where we are in this process. Discussion of changes anticipated in the future.
9. Schedule Meeting for October 11th, so that we can have the election. General meeting.
10. Additional points brought forward for discussion by the executive.
11. Pictures of executive
12. AOB?

1. Social Coordinator Introduction and discussion of past events and plans for fall and winter events (Isabelle).

Past:

- i. Orientation Day
- ii. Wine and Cheese (a lot of people)

Upcoming:

- i. Wine and Cheese in December. We'll be using the UC room - make sure to ask for the music when you book the room.
- ii. Karate teacher give a session on self-defense. If anyone is interested in this, please let Isabelle know
- iii. There will be a slide show at the end of year. Anyone who takes pictures at AGSU events should send them to Jenn or Emily for this.
- iv. Does she need help? Yes, but right now she's not sure what.

ACTION:

- i. What are we doing about the beer bottles?
- ii. Isabelle says she has a car this weekend and can take care of it
- iii. Jenn says there's a dolly in Michael Chazan's lab to transport bottles to Spadina beer store
- iv. Kris offers to volunteer his time to help

Any ideas?

- i. Andrew wants to have a trip to the Satellite campus's to do a pub night or something to include them because they feel left out.
- ii. Jenn and Greg are UTM students so they will help coordinate this.

2. Medusa Update (Graydon)

- o Graydon has arranged two dates for Medusa: Oct. 13 and Nov. 10.
- o He will send an email to Emily so people have time to prepare and respond.

3. Treasurer Update (Matthew)

- o So we did the head grant and waiting to hear from the bank to know how much we have.
- o Mathew is in the process of doing a budget report for last year
- o Emily requests cheques.

4. GSU Rep Update (Alyson)

- o There was a meeting on Sept. 27, 2006. It was an introduction to the other GSU reps. There are soooo many departments it's unbelievable.
- o There's a GSU listserv every Thursday that Emily will send out. Anyone can announce to the GSU listserv, but you have to send things in by Wednesday.
- o The 'Grad Escapes' are social events the GSU organizes (opera, bowling etc.) for under 20\$ (see the listserv for more info)
- o The head count? Alyson tried talking to Charlotte and there doesn't seem to be anything to do about this so we can get all the money

- o In February there's a campus wide student protest against university fee increases that we can take part. If interested get email from Alyson.
- o Members at large could run for the position [sorry Alyson, what position is this?] and they get money (if you're interested tell Alyson)
- o For the Ladies: Birth control is now in the health plan
- o GSU and CUPE have dental. You can opt out of GSU by Oct. 6, and there's an opt-in for families on Oct. 6th.
- o Head grant was submitted and there were no problems but we don't get the money until mid-October.
- o Graydon asks what's the difference between two dental plans? Alyson replies that CUPE is more flexible (there are no restrictions).
- o Mike says that CUPE is looking into a way for us to use CUPE money to pay for our GSU dental. He'll look into it.

5. Communications Coordinator (Amber)

- o Amber wants some suggestions on what we could use for the computers. Please email her with your concerns at: amber.mackenzie@utoronto.ca
- o Goal this week was to get the website up. She was foiled by Chass. She requested for information about how to go about the website. The plan is twofold:
 - a) First, go to the office in person
 - b) Draft an email for Jenn and they'll take it to Janice who will present our needs to Chass for more clout.

6. Ink Situation (Emily and Jenn)

- o We went through 1 toner cartridge in two weeks
- o Printing is WAY up from last year and is not sustainable
- o The printer was not meant to replace the home printer, and shouldn't be used to print articles from reading lists.
- o Options:
 - i. Collect a second Ink Fee in January
 - ii. Increase Ink Fees for next year
 - iii. Upper year students could pay the ink fee if they're using the printer
 - iv. An email needs to be sent out to tell everyone of the situation and to try and follow the guidelines - but no one wants to have a 'police' situation. Responses will be requested from the group
 - v. Where can we get cheaper toner cartridges? Costco? Any ideas? Please let the AGSU know (Best buy?). What about the university? Do they have a preferred supplier? Jenn will talk to Natalia about where the faculty gets their ink

7. Vis a Vis

- o Andrew says some of the survey has been drafted to ask the faculty to get a feel for their awareness, the role they see it playing, recommend

their students to publish there?

- o There is a long debate about what Vis a Vis should be, for who and it's feasibility and place on campus.
- o Everyone agrees that Vis a Vis has a purpose, so we'll gage faculty interest is and then we can re-open this debate and hold ourselves to the time-line.
- o The survey will be put in mailboxes etc., before Thanksgiving. The results will be organized and we can have some discussion.

7. Daniella Joffre and Michael O'Rourke are our CUPE reps
- no update

8. Committees (Jenn)

- o Graduate board and graduate committee meetings
- o 2 large issues here:

1). there may be some restructuring of boards and committees this year and we have positions on committees but the tone seems to be that we'll be reorganizing them into a single board that has no graduate student reps and one board that will give recommendations to the other board. This has not been officially decided. An email has been sent out drafting our concerns about not being involved.

2). The dept. doesn't have a constitution so the process was never constitutionally amended to allow us on the boards so we can have a voice

- o the decision is being made on a committee that we've agreed to not sit in on so we don't know how this is going to work out. For now, there isn't much we can do.

9. Schedule October 11th meeting

- UTSC - hiring to replace Janice Boddy - we have one non-voting position to present graduate interests and two interested students to sit on this committee.

- So we have to have a meeting to have a selection for anyone for this position (and Forum; which is over 15 members)

- Oct. 13th - at 2 or 4pm - To Be Confirmed

10. AOB?

- Recycling? Janitors don't take the recycling in this room.

- Can we apply for the four bins?

- Mike volunteers to take care of the recycling issues (talk to the janitor directly) or Max the space person.

- Eugenia and Graydon say there are places we can get free used computer equipment (include Amber's email address here so we can get general feedback).

- Sheet near computers to list problems

- Pin board for pictures (get your photo today!)