

Graduate Students Association of McMaster University
Council Meeting

July 26th 2018
GSA Office, East Tower the Refectory
5:00 p.m.

Minutes

Attendees: Tim van Boxtel (GSA President), Ashley Ravenscroft (DoO), Mohammed Chowdhury (FRC Engineering), Julia de Lange (FRC Engineering), Shawn Hercules (VP External), Sara Oikawa (VP Internal), Anita Acai (Senator Science), Xiaomin Huang (FRC International), Kara Tsang (GSA CRO), Julian Yabut (FRC Health Science), Maleeha Qazi (Senator Health Science), Tiffany van Lieshout (FRC Science), Cynthia Monaco (FRC Health Science)

Call in: Lily Eskin (FRC Social Science),

Regrets: Aaron Roberts (Senator Humanities), Anthony Quarshie (FRC International)

Absent: Mariam Munawar (Senator Business), Rodrigo Narro (BoG), Taylor McKenzi (Senator Social Science), Rachelle Ho (FRC Science)

Call to order 5:04

1) President remark

- International students welcoming application is launching, students are filling in their flight information, and volunteers are ready to go to Pearson airport.
- The GSA will reimburse for \$15 Phoenix gift card for the GO bus ticket.
- Team building event at altitude was a success, the team was very skilled and have problem solving abilities.

2) Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda of July 26th, moved by Tiffany seconded by Sara, all in favour motion carried.

3) Approval of minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of last meeting moved by Tiffany, seconded by Anita, 1 abstention, 10 in favor motion carried.

4) Executive updates

Vp External:

- Shawn mentioned that the club admin portfolio moved to the VP External.
- Some suggested changes for sponsorship clubs will be announced soon.

- Planning BBQ at the Phoenix for August

Vp internal:

- Currently finalizing the Health and Dental information for workshop for international students in September.
- She and Ashley had a phone conversation with Sean regarding meetings to review OMBUDS.
- Tim added that they are preparing in September to host graduate council regarding discussing students' finances, specifically increases around the study period and whether is it enough from the point students start till they finish. By next September they will try to get a bump to minimum funding.
- Sara and Tim are going to thinkGrad next week, this is a grad student conference that discuss common problems grad students are facing. If any of the council members want to add a discussion item, can email Tim.

FRC Engineering:

- Engineering Grad conference is organized in August
- Welcome week activity specific to engineering students, scavenger hunt and potluck lunch
- Looking through grad student pay scale they sent a survey to engineering grad students, however, only 6 responses received; they are expecting more responses on the survey to get a full picture. The survey was sent through the department admin, however, some of them didn't send it out, hence they will resend the survey again.

FRC International,

- They are still working on IGSA bylaws, a section will be modified to add FRC in their meetings, in addition to a representative from clubs that must be affiliated with the GSA. There will be only 1 voting right representative from clubs, however, the meetings are open session and the rest are welcome to attend and have observing status in discretion of the chair.
- They are planning a nature hike event, but they need information regarding EHOSS approval; Ashley will send this information to Xioamin.
- Volunteering for air port is going well, however, they still are missing volunteers at Go bus location.

FRC health science,

- Julian contacted Daphne (dept. Secretary) she will send him all health science club list in order for him to connect and fill out faculty association documents.
- Ashley suggested that they shall apply for club status because the faculty are not supposed to approve events any more, which means any events they will organize will be

subject to liability, in addition, clubs get funding through the GSA in which they will get \$300 seed money not inclusive of event.

- In replying to Sara’s question, Ashley mentioned that if the club plan to collect fees then they should be housed under faculty.

FRC science

- No new business

6) senate/BOG updates

- No new business

7) Ratification of neuro TechHA club

- Ashley has some questions regarding the budget and non for profit comment in the constitution, she will connect with Rachelle to get the needed explanation.

Motion to approve the Neuro TechHA pending clarity on some points moved by Shawn seconded by Anita, all in favor motion carried.

8) New business:

- Ashley mentioned that FRC need to get the GSA message out regarding Welcome Week events.
- We still need volunteers internally for GSA Welcome Week. FRC are welcome to sign in for their availability to volunteer sheet on Google.
- Tim added that he is trying to get a web server space on campus to host clubs and associations web sites. The documents for applying for the webserver will be ready by next September.
- Ashley will send HSR booklet as it is a bit different for new students and returning students.

9) Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 5:33 p.m. moved by Shawn, seconded by Xiaomin, all in favor motion carried.

Item	Action by	Due date
Send information regarding EHOSS	Ashley	By next meeting
Email Rachelle to get the explanation needed around the budget and constitution of neuro TechHA club.	Ashley	ASAP
Send HSR booklet	Ashley	By next meeting