



MINUTES

Graduate Students' Association
Board Meeting
Thursday, August 27, 2020
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Online Meeting

Attendees:

Christopher Yendt – President
Daislyn Vidal – VP, International
Hannah Young – VP, Internal
Mohammad Moinul Hassan – VP, Equity & External Affairs
Adil Naik – Senate Representative
Melanie Extance – Senate Representative
Barb Daly – Office Coordinator

Regrets:

Marina Casavecchia – VP, Communications
Upinder Singh – VP, Finance

Absentees:

None

1. Meeting called to order at 12:07 p.m. by GSA President presiding

2. Approvals

Minutes of Board Meetings – Aug 13/20

Moved by Daislyn, Seconded by Melanie, All in favour

3. Items Arising from the Minutes

4. Executive Reports

President

- Will send Terms of Reference document to execs for GSA committees
- Asked Executives to keep the afternoon of Tuesday, Sept 8/20 open for orientation requests that the GSA has been asked to participate in. The spreadsheet with the list of requests will be circulated to all executive so that they can volunteer to assist.

- Advised that gsoffice@brocku.ca email has been transferred to Mary Tibollo, our new GSA Admin & Health Plan Administrator. You can send any newsletter items to Mary for inclusion – will be sent out every Friday as previously done.
- Was on campus last week to film an orientation video with the new Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies as introduction for new grad students. Videos will be ongoing in future, with a more informal format
- Negotiations have been completed with the Niagara Regional Transit service and service from Sept to Dec/20 has been secured. Bus pass accessed with your Brock Student ID card.
- Brock Board of Trustees met this week to discuss fall term at Brock. Doesn't look optimistic for fall term due to loss of revenue (tuition freeze, international tuitions, etc)
- The following new GSA Bylaw documents were circulated for first approval:
Doc 015A – Board of Directors Bylaw
Doc 018A – Program Assembly Bylaw – creating an assembly to allow each program (50 currently) to provide direct feedback to the GSA in a more informal setting than the Board of Directors
Moved by Melanie, Seconded by Adil, All in favour
- GSA meetings, beginning in the fall term, will consist each month of
1 Board of Directors meeting – 2 hours
2 Executive meetings – 1 hour each – week before and after the Board meeting
- There will be more new policy documents to come in following weeks to accommodate the new ONCA requirements for non-profit corporations
- Requested permission to begin recruiting for the new GSA positions as follows:
1st – Board of Directors representatives
2nd – Program Assembly representatives
All in agreement to move forward
- Will produce Terms of Reference for the GSA Governance Committee as relates to selecting the GSA Board of Directors representatives
- GSA Retreat being held on Sunday, Sept 13/20 from 2-7 pm

Vice-President, Internal

- Working on Orientation planning with university – meeting next week
- Engagement Community rolling out for new term. They hired grad students to guide new grad students, using Teams.
- Working with FGS on student panel for the Sept 8/20 orientation
- Have secured artist for paint night, first week of Oct. Have a choice of 4 pictures they can make. Have prepared contract for the artist to sign
- Planning Trivia night for the first week of fall term – Thursday
- Working with Marina on events for September

Vice-President, International

- International committee meeting being planned for 2nd week of September
- Reached out to HRE to advise their source for online programming for their recent event. They advised co-ordinated through the Performing Arts centre. Will follow up with them

Vice-President, External

- Has been participating in CFS meetings which have been ongoing all week
- Need a copy of the orientation script for a Goodman orientation presentation on Friday morning

Vice-President, Communications (*Absent*)

- As of Aug 27 with values representing the number of events (+/- from the previous report)

Platform	Followers	Engagement/ Interactions/ Profile Visits	Reach (Unique Accounts)
Facebook	2269 (-2)	20 (-1)	492 (+13)
Instagram	725 (+16)	26 (-40)	420 (+8)
Twitter	510 (+3)	47 (-6)	-

Graduate Student Senators

Melanie Extance

- Met yesterday with the Chaplain (Zach) from the Brock Faith & Life Centre to provide grad specific programming for students. They are trying to communicate with students regarding outreach. Many ideas were explored for events/opportunities. Will continue to correspond with them through social media

Adil Naik

- Inquired about previous year's orientation events when numerous events were attended by the GSA execs and if there are similar opportunities available this year.

5. Items for Additional Consideration

A. Other Business

6. Conclusion

- A. Next Meeting, September 3, 2020 – 12pm-1:30pm online**

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned 1:30 pm