

# Education Graduate Students' Society

**Wednesday, March 24, 2010**

12:00-2:00 (Room 203)

**Chair:** Jessica Toste  
**Minutes:** Colin Campbell  
**Present:** Colin Campbell, Swan Kennedy, Lisa Nelson, Erin Sirett, Jessica Toste, Beverly Baker, Xi Li, David Macaulay, Martin Picard, Ladan Mahabadi, Leron Lewis, Lena Palacios  
**Regrets:** Heather Phipps

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1. PGSS referendum
  - NO campaign – CFS affiliation
  - Ladan Mahabadi
    - Good idea to leave due to ineffectiveness of lobby efforts in Ottawa (no goals or objectives)
      1. Post-doc loss of student status
      2. Lack of student representation on the tri-council policy
    - Tend to sue their own member student unions
    - Top down structure, difficult to make changes
    - Lack of transparency
  - [www.pgss.ca/EAC](http://www.pgss.ca/EAC)
  - [www.notocfs.ca](http://www.notocfs.ca) website, and Calgary, Concordia websites
2. Approval of agenda
  - Erin- selecting a date for general assembly
- 3) Approval of minutes
  - Approval of meeting minutes – No changes, |Erin motion to approve, Bev second
4. Business arising / updates
  - Graduate student profiles
    - Jessica to send questions
  - Conference 2010 feedback
    - Conference co-ordinators to attend meeting in April
    - Conference made money! To be transferred to next year's conference committee
    - May want to reconsider pricing of conference, low attendance for some presentations
  - Instructor transparency/priority issues
    - Jessica to meet with Caroline (DISE)
    - ECP is giving priority to PhDs, but an issue still exists with transparency
    - Appears to be a university wide issue

- Priority to PhD students when all else is equal
- KPE has a few undergraduate KPE courses (4-5) taught by professors, not many by students or sessionals
- Not an issue in SIS

5. Portfolio reports

■ **VP Academic** – Jessica

- EDUS talk on demystifying grad school, proposed for 8 or 15 of April. EDUS to get back to us with date by next week.
  1. Grad students to talk from DISE, ECP, KPE and SIS, with a variety of MA and PhD students, as well as different units.
  2. Getting undergrads who transitioned to grad school to speak as well
- Teaching portfolio scheduled for Tuesday April 20, 2:30 – 3:30. Presented by teaching and learning services. Potentially for room with space for 40 (627?). To be sent to faculty members and listservs
- PGSS open lab week. Looking for people to be part of organizing committee
- PGSS issue on fee levees. GSA's to write letter to McGill stating why fees are valuable to student life.

■ **VP Finance** – Xi Li

- Still waiting for receipts from conference, and last 2 INJA workshops

■ **VP Diversity & Equity**

- Last INJA workshop this week on zero tolerance policies and effective community solutions to dealing with those policies

■ **VP Info & Technology** – Swan

- AV task force- Mathide Messamie? Has volunteered to sit on committee. Next meeting in May
- Jack Cram not working very well at moment, will be updated over the summer. Nothing to be done before then
- PA system was given to EGSS, to be shared with EDUS. To be stored in EGSS office.

■ **Department reps (DISE)** – Beverly

- Request made by department to filter messages sent to students
- EGSS listserv could be modified by department

■ **Department reps (ECP)** – Colin

- No report

■ **Department reps (SIS)** – David

- No report

■ **Department reps (KPE)** – Martin

- No report

6. EGSS commitment to charitable work

■ Charitable actions in Haiti

- Solidayti: supporting a school in Haiti that is in need
  1. Items can be shipped there for free
  2. Possibility for student representation on board

- Final social event can be done to get materials to support this organization. Bev to organize a list of items needed
- Delegation from EGSS can go to Haiti to visit the school
- Promotion of fundraising events by Solidayti
- Information to be put in EGSS newsletter

#### 7. AGSEM representation

- Leorna (Past President) and Lena (DISE rep)
  - TA union
  - Elections March 24, 2010.
  - Looking to improve relationship with student societies in order to help with collective bargaining agreement (expiring 2011) to better represent student views
  - Looking to unionize sessional instructors (currently priority)
  - Department reps to be responsible for recruiting AGSEM reps
- Erin: Needs based funding- limited number of jobs available on campus
  - Greater hours worked has been linked to decreased completion rates
  - Means for assessing needs based funding has to be established
  - Awareness needs to be raised about need based funding available from PGSS
- PGSS parent committee
  - Allocating \$100,000
  - Awareness needs to be raised on this issue (networking, etc.)

#### 8. EGSS Fellowships

- Developed on survey from 5 years ago
  - Merit awards, based on guidelines
  - Guidelines may not be followed
  - Merit is contribution to field, community, etc., not only on academic merit, GPA, etc.
- Development of a needs based fellowship?
- Fellowship to be amended so that if all other things are equal for applicants, priority will be given to students without major funding.

#### 9. Support for French courses

- Next meeting

#### 10. Student space

- To be addressed next meeting

#### 11. Listserv regulations and policies

- To be addressed next meeting

#### 12. Schedule next meeting.

- To be arranged via e-mail