

Education Graduate Students' Society

Thursday, November 12, 2009

2:00-4:00 (Room 203)

Chair: Jessica Toste
Minutes: Lisa Nelson
Present: Swan Kennedy, Xi Li, Lisa Nelson, Martin Picard, Erin Sirett, Jessica Toste
Regrets: Beverly Baker, Colin Campbell, Heather Phipps

1. Approval of agenda
2. Approval of meeting minutes
 - Approval of meeting minutes from October 28th – Erin motioned to approve, Lisa seconded the motion, all approved.
 - No business arising.
3. Portfolio reports
 - **VP Academic** – Jessica reminded group of Dean's meeting on Monday November 23rd at 8:30am. This will be an opportunity to bring up issues/questions regarding media services.
 - **VP Finance** – Xi reported that all Travel Awards have been given out to students from the October 15th award period. Xi asked about coffee machine, to follow-up with Beverly. Swan suggested purchasing coffee maker to have accessible in the lounge.
 - **VP Diversity & Equity** – Erin has organized the first INJA student-led workshop (collage) next Monday, November 16th. She has also helped advertise a folk opera that Arwen from DISE is involved in. Send this out on listserv as an EGSS endorsed event.
 - **REF (Research Exchange Forum) Meeting** – Erin attended the open REF meeting held last week. This is a forum for both students and faculty to present research. Teresa Strong-Wilson stepped down last year and Enrique Garcia from KPE will be organizing. Goal to bring all four departments together, although this is not always achieved. Informal space to share and discuss research. Enrique is looking for volunteers to be on the REF organizing committee, which is a sub-committee of the Student Committee for Doctoral Students in Education.
 - **VP Info & Technology** – Swan reported that the pick-up of computers is going well, except for one person he is still trying to schedule. A couple of students have turned down the computer, will re-select names for these. Only 2 organizations have come to pick-up their computers (Women's Immigrant Workers and CKUT). We need wiring for computers/internet access in the 6th floor lounge and basement space. Swan to connect with Beverly re: space in B180. Three computers are set-up and ready to use.
 - Newsletter will be going out Sunday, November 15th. Please send submissions to Swan by Saturday evening. The e-newsletters will move to every second week to make sure we are able to include all new information.

Any information for things like EGSS awards or events should be sent out in separate individual e-mails. Swan to e-mail a reminder to EGSS Executive. Jessica to send information for acclamation of Heather's position (VP Student Life). Erin to send Swan information regarding the INJA workshops and Folk Opera.

- **Department Reps:** Martin (KPE) reported that he attended a department meeting last week, where Dean Perrault made a presentation. She met with faculty members to discuss the Institute for Applied Human Development and Well-Being. Associate Dean, Andy Large, has put together a brief report of findings of other similar institutes at McGill and development/well-being centres internationally. There is discussion of a preliminary step to the institute – a research centre to be attached to the Currie Gym. There was unanimous agreement to move forward. Kinesiology would come to the table with this research centre and be connected to the institute.
- Marten inquired about the distribution of GREAT Awards. Department of KPE received \$5,000 divided into 7 awards. Jessica to ask at next RGS meeting to confirm how much money was distributed to our Faculty.

4. EGSS Goals and Priorities

- Jessica distributed goals and priorities document for 2009-2010. The main priorities we wanted to target for the coming year include:
 - Requesting follow-up on effectiveness of the fellowship mentorship program. Discuss continuation and possible assistance of EGSS for this program.
 - Informal professional development.
 - Greater transparency of and priority in assigning course instructors (main issue in DISE and ECP). Jessica to ask at that this be added for discussion at the SCDSE meeting.
- Discussed minor revisions and edits to the document. See attached with distribution of minutes.

5. Response to closure of media services

- Swan got an email from Romy, stating that things are moving forward.
- Jessica to send an email over listserv asking for feedback. Swan to update listserv today (get PGSS contract from Jessica).
- We need to address main questions re: access to equipment.

6. Student representation on DISE GPC (Graduate Program Committee)

- Erin stated that the main concern is that the student appointed to the GPC is an individual student representing his individual interests. He is not accountable to anyone, nor was he not voted in to the position.
- ECP has student representatives on Executive Committee that are voted in. Perhaps DISE can consult with ECP for procedures for this.
- Should we ask student representative to communicate with students somehow about issues raised at GPC meetings?

7. Conference 2010

- Erin reported that 8 individuals are on the organization committee. Ahmed to attend next EGSS meeting to provide updates. Jessica reported a call for proposals has been sent out for feedback. Erin did not receive.
- New group of students involved in organizing committee, so they are still developing cohesion. Erin suggested giving the group time to develop without us (Executive members) attending conference meetings.

8. EGSS Fellowships

- Jessica distributed information on EGSS Fellowships – application form/ criteria and adjudication procedures. Jessica discussed that last year's applications were not reviewed by RGS committee; we are not entirely sure who was involved with review.
- Purpose is to make sure that we have very clear guidelines for adjudication. We should not be using different standards/criteria/procedures from year to year. Students must know what to expect.
- Evaluative criteria are currently merit based. Discussion of distribution of award based on financial need. Decided to defer to next meeting as we will need longer period of time and want full council present.

9. Graduate student profiles

- These will be simple, fun profiles of few random students from the faculty. To be posted on the website and changed every month or so.
- Lisa to find someone from ECP and Jessica to find someone in SIS. See list of 10 questions on page 5.

10) Schedule next meeting

- Other Business
 - Update on space – grad lounge and B180, need to organize/clean

**Next Meeting: Thursday, December 10th 4:00-6:00pm (Room 338)
*Followed by Holiday Dinner at Villa Wellington***

EGSS WEBSITE – GRADUATE STUDENT PROFILES

- Photo
- 50-100 word bio [name, department, area of research]
- 10 “fun fact” questions
 - Where do you call home?
 - What is your favourite food?
 - What do you like most about being a student at McGill?
 - What do you like least about being a student at McGill?
 - What is your favourite thing to do when your nose isn't buried in an academic book or journal?
 - What surprised you the most about being a graduate student?
 - Do you have a nickname?
 - What is your favourite restaurant in Montreal?
 - How do you feel about winter?
 - When you were little, what did you want to be when you grew up?