

**EGSS Council Meeting Minutes**

**November 29, 2013**

**EDEC 233 –14:00-16:30**

Present: Stephen Peters, Rosalind Hampton , Chloe Garcia , Sylvie Wald, Marcia Malcom, Ying Syuan Huang , Marilee Nugent, Jocelynn Hartle, Sarah Mostafa- Kamel , Arzina Zaver

Regrets: Fernanda Soler; Chris Turnbull, Jessica Hébert, Amy Kim

Absent: Jessica, Marianne

Meeting began at 2:12

Chair: Stephen

Introduction of Members

**New members to send Bio's to VP Comm.**

1. Approval of the agenda for meeting November 29, 2013 (5')

approved unanimously as amended

2. Business arising from previous minutes

Follow up on Committee on Dean. Decide if we want to make a statement about it. Express concern about process and lack of transparency.

Next steps: We can talk to the Provost office. Draft a statement or letter and send to PGSS

**VP Academic: Will draft a blurb and send it to Council for approval. Send it by Wednesday Dec 4. Feedback by Tuesday Dec 10**

**3. Approval of minutes previous meeting Oct 4, 2013 (5')**

approved

**4. Finance/ Logistics re: Conference (15')**

Miscommunication between Finance bodies- have an independant account for Finance Conference

Because only two people have signing power. That type of proposal would require amendment to Constitution. Suggestion to table this for next meeting with motion to amend Constitution

Amendment required because Conference Chair needs signing power.

**Agree to raise this at next meeting- Conference Chair to bring a motion for next meeting. VP Academic and VP Finance to follow up on Constitution and finance protocol.**

**5. Scheduling Dean's office meetings (January, April or May) (5')**

Dean has asked to meet with Council as a whole. Make meeting open to all students.

Dates: January and April or May

May want to request dates that align with Council meeting. Council meeting and then meeting with the Dean.

Suggestion: Decide on dates and state moving forward we would like bi-monthly. Can we confirm that the communication re:bi-monthly went through?

Suggestion: meet in Jan and April and then move forward bi-monthly. Suggestion approved

Timing: before or after council meetings

**Next Council meeting not scheduled- schedule one for January. Secretary to schedule using doodle.**

**6. Crafternoon Event Dec 6 (10')**

Held next Friday from 5-7pm. Facebook event and on Wordpress.

Participants to bring any craft item they are working on or just come to hang out

No alcohol. Tea and snacks provided.

Wheelchair accessible

Marcia (PGSS Councillor) , Sarah ( Co- Vp Student Life) and Ying (PGSS Councillor) to help set up- anyone else available to help out welcome.

Council members encouraged to attend

Facebook page launch on Monday- invite friends to page

Suggestions/ Questions

budget to have crafts there if people don't bring something- can be holiday themed as an option

EGSS activities primarily for EGSS members- can we open it up so more attendance?

Accessible to all- very broad, can bring in anything including writing

Generate ideas/ interest on Facebook page

Funds to buy paper for origami **KPE Rep to communicate with VP Social Life re: reimbursement)**

**VP Social Life to email MLISSA EGSS rep**

## 7. Travel Awards (10')

Everyone claimed.

Next deadline for Winter Semester : February 15 2014. Faculty wide

**VP Academic to follow up with VP Communications regarding communication and marketing**

For next year have Nov 15 as deadline

Sylvie: any donation needs to be accompanied with EGSS letter. Can create EGSS letterhead. Request for letter of award

**Since there is no President, VP Finance can send it. VP Communications to find the template (Can find hard copy template in office)**

Suggestion to streamline process even more. Not necessary to have supervisor to sign off on this. **VP Academic to look into this and present**

## streamlined EGSS process next meeting

### 8. Follow up on position re: Teach For Canada (10')

Story run in Globe and Mail. Teach for Canada, mirror image of Teach for America. Recruit graduate students to teach in Native American communities

Concern: recruit non- education graduates, pay above scale. First Nations education is underfunded. No cultural or educational training. Not against helping First Nations students, proposal is going about it in the wrong way. Can be damaging to community

**VP Academic and VP Diversity and Equity to draft a letter and send it to Council for amendments. Once approved publicize the letter**

Questions:

What about teachers in these communities?

Who is entering into agreements with Teach for Canada? Look into this.

Stipulation for qualifications?

Teach for America does take students from education background. Agreement with teacher associations in Canada?

Are we providing a solution or a statement against it? First do research

### 9. Follow up on motion re: accessibility of Coach House (10')

Motion passed at last EGSS meeting allowing for accessibility.

Fernanda brought forward the motion at the meeting: had support. Agreement that department will put pressure on Faculty

No motion passed at DISE meeting

Suggestion to pass a motion now for Coach house to be made a priority over all other improvements

Concern over increase in rental fee at Coach House

Call attention to the conference fee. **VP Diversity and Equity can bring it up at next Council meeting**

**PGSS Councillor (Ying): follow up on detail of the fee- send this to Vp Diversity and Equity.**

**Motion to call on Faculty Council for improvement until Couch House accessibility: Put forward by VP Diversity and Equity. Motion**

**passed unanimously.** (Motion in google doc titled 'Motions' Direct link

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pcNBZ-rsOz-DYIYCdSCc504OLkmFg8CcE-6Zegiizmo/edit>)

**Next step: VP Academic to take motion to Faculty Council. Voted on unanimously.**

**10.** Position of Interim Director of FNIE (10')

Brought to EGSS because EGSS has expressed concern over equity and diversity. Interim Director is not a member of a First Nations Community. Questions and concerns of DISE faculty. Perhaps we want to make a statement about this situation. Do we feel as a council that is something we would pursue? No sense of consultation. We can facilitate conversation among various groups. Do we have a sense of responsibility to pursue sense of consultation?

Issue is not over who is chosen but with transparency- no hiring committee and process specific to First Nations hiring.

Rosalind: proposal to seek out a conversation with First Nations people to have a better understanding on where they stand on this. Can't speak on behalf of groups/ individuals without first initiating conversation.

**VP Diversity and Equity will look into this and we discuss this at the next meeting.**

**11.** French Courses available through McGill School of Continuing Studies (15')

First year of accreditation of Program

Any graduate level person can take these French courses, shown on transcript but not on GPA.

Interested in increasing visibility of Program amongst graduate students.

Is French a necessary component of education studies?

Comments:

Responsibility to pass on information and options of French language courses

Not friendly to international students and have to look into international student fees.

Concern over title 'intercultural communication' : what is the 'culture' they are learning about? What are the goals of this program?

**VP Communications and VP Academic: propose to look at all opportunities and post on website**

**12. Report on PGSS Meeting (15')**

Marcia: only one at PGSS meeting and we have 5 votes

3 members on Council, 2 seats available

**VP Communications to update website with seats available. Announce vacant positions on newsletter**

Suggestion to have Council members go in place of PGSS member

**13. Fill in for Fernanda**

Fernanda's duties: follow up on what was said in Council meetings- follow up on tasks.

Go over action items from last meeting. **Secretary to follow up on individual tasks from Council meeting.**

Encourage students to follow up on filling out course evaluations

Requests for presence at other meetings go to email- call out to be sent to Council list, those who want to go can step up

**14. Update on Motion re: P6**

Have motion on website on P6

Update: Member of CLAC has filed a constitutional challenge- we are included in this

Class action suit also filed

**Link to constitutional challenge posted on website- VP Diversity and Equity to do this**

**15. Appointments**

Clarification on Marilee's appointment. Have to do an official by- election. Can appoint until next by- election.

President (Sara Hashem): meet Council first and come to next meeting

Union Rep (Ashley DeMartini): Voted and accepted.

**VP Comm. to email Sara (President applicant) and Ashley (Union Rep applicant) to next meeting**

Meeting adjourned: 4:42