

The Interdepartmental Science Students' Society

Executive Meeting

Minutes

5:00 p.m.

November 23, 2011

CCIS 1-035

Attendance

Executives: Stephen Chin, Jessica Nguyen, Siwei Chen, Brett MacGillivray, Cian Hackett, Dustin Chelen

Other: Anthony Wu

Chairperson: Stephen Chin

Minutes: Anthony Wu

1. Call to order

Meeting called to order at 5:02pm.

2. Approval of minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the last Executive meeting of November 16, 2011 as written. Siwei/Cian. Motion carried 6/0/0

3. Approval of agenda

Motion to approve the agenda below, as written. Siwei/Brett. Motion carried 6/0/0.

4. Old Business

1.

5. New Business

1. **Motion** to move in-camera. Jessica/Cian. Motion carried 6/0/0.
 - a. **Motion** to move ex-camera. Jessica/Dustin. Motion carried 6/0/0.
2. Green and Gold Grant Discussion, Cian
 - a. Cian: Regarding the email I sent, I want to discuss our options for group and individual development. The two alternatives are consulting and conferences, and I would like your thoughts on which ones I suggested are favourable to us as an organization.
 - b. Stephen: A couple of these conferences were not relevant and were not professional.
 - c. Cian: Would you like me to make an application for us?
 - d. Dustin: I am looking for skills that have application in the future, and things that I can apply, as I grow older.
 - e. Stephen: How about combining both a consultant and a conference?
 - f. Dustin: Would it be wise to find a consultant outside of Edmonton to get a better idea of conferences abroad?
 - g. Brett: Would we need to spend our own money?

- h. Stephen: I feel that consultants only present one view, and that conferences are more a sharing of ideas.
 - i. Brett: I also agree with Stephen on this issue.
 - j. Cian: I need a verdict.
 - k. Siwei: I prefer anything outside of Edmonton. Banff would be okay.
 - l. Stephen: I fine with anything as long as it is relevant.
 - m. Cian: I will look into more plausible options before reaching a compromise on this issue.
3. **Motion** to approve \$25.00 for cost of 5 beverages for DSR consultations with departmental council student representatives. Dustin/Brett
- a. Dustin: We provide food for COSSA members in the past. To provide incentive to make these meetings more appropriate, I believe we should provide beverages as this better reflects that ISSS and to build relationship with other faculty members.
 - b. Siwei: I would not like to see alcoholic beverages.
 - c. Brett: I don't think this is appropriate.
 - d. **Motion** to amend the main motion to read "Motion to approve \$25.00 for the cost of 5 non-alcoholic beverages for DSR consultations with departmental council student representatives" Siwei/Cian. Motion carried 6/0/0.
 - e. Brett: \$25.00 is pretty expensive if we're talking about non-alcoholic beverages.
 - f. Siwei: The costs are not appropriate. I have utilized less money to provide food and drinks for COSSA meetings in general.
 - g. Brett: Are these 5 beverages going to be brought at once?
 - h. Dustin: These beverages are to be brought at once. The cost is sufficient to provide each member a drink. These drinks would help facilitate our relationship with other members.
 - i. Cian: Will these meetings be documented?
 - j. Dustin: Good question. I think yes.
 - k. Stephen: How many meetings are you planning to have? How are you going to plan each meeting?
 - l. Dustin: We don't know currently how this planning is going to look like. We are looking into ways in accommodating a plan that best is suitable towards everyone's needs.
 - m. Siwei: I spent less money on meetings prior.
 - n. Stephen: Food and beverages could be cordially purchased by the participants of the meeting. Some people may be obligated to purchase their own food. Furthermore, providing food may induce a feeling of bias.
 - o. Siwei: Larger organization will pay for food for individual meetings. Based on our situation, I don't think we're on that scale.
 - p. Cian: I feel that the amount is worth it to support the efforts of a Director who would like to spend the money as he sees fit to improve student representation. I also believe that the \$25.00 is a sufficient amount.
 - q. Dustin: I understand that we're on a tight budget however I believe the

investment has long term benefits. I also believe our budget can accommodate this expense seeing that other organizations have likewise done the same.

- r. Stephen: I would be in favour of a smaller value.
 - s. Siwei: I think that this is beneficial but per capita, we are spending more money than in other circumstances where students have helped the ISSS, which I find unfair.
 - t. Dustin: To address Stephen's point, I would argue that \$1.00 is not a sufficient amount of money.
 - u. Siwei: Is there a way of having a meeting with all the members at the same time?
 - v. **Motion** to table the main motion to the next meeting. Dustin/Siwei. Motion carried 4/2/0.
4. FAMF Allocations Discussion, Cian
- a. Starting with a summary of consultations done to date, I would like to generate a discussion on allocations to suggest to Council to present at the Town Hall on November 30.
 - i. Cian: I think we need to finalize allocations (such as science week, etc), in regards of helping improving consultations. We had advice from the SAGM in regards to this issue on how to improve these areas. We are looking for issues on how science students and members might respond to this.
 - ii. Siwei: I thought we were discussing on our profiles.
 - iii. Dustin: We have already done some of these allocations such as collecting surveys from science students. We should be focused on more tentative issues and areas where our values may be more applicable. Also, we need to decide where money in general should be invested and allocated in projects and also future events in accord to public opinion.
 - iv. Siwei: I agree with Dustin.
 - v. Dustin: To what extent should students be knowledgeable in regards to the FAMF?
 - vi. Cian: We can't propose a breakdown as of right now as we are not fully knowledgeable of how the money should be best allocated. I believe we need more student input in regards to this issue.
 - vii. Siwei: We should make an effort to at least push forward in this area.
 - viii. Dustin: Students should be knowledgeable to what they're voting for and on and also what we plan on marketing while not being too vague.
 - ix. Cian: We're not quite sure what students value; therefore it's hard to have everything "written in stone" and expected by the general public such as how we as an organization distribute excess funds. It may reflect a dishonest motion made by us.
 - x. Brett: The month of rethinking where to distribute excess funds may not necessarily be dishonest.
 - xi. Siwei: On the topic of transparency, it's not very apparent.

- xii. Brett: Radical idea-do not do it this year. I do not believe we are ready as we lack proposal and we do not have the much time to gauge on this issue.
 - xiii. Dustin: I agree, we should wait next year but we should not give the idea up completely. We should postpone this issue.
 - xiv. Brett: I also agree however we should be sure of what we are going to present if this idea is going to be motioned to council.
 - xv. Cian: I think we should worry about how the allocations are going to be compromised before presenting it to council.
 - xvi. Siwei: I would disagree that presenting this issue is really important.
 - xvii. Dustin: What should this discussion process involve? (If we are to delegate this issue to council tomorrow).
 - xxviii. Cian: We should not be worried. A discussion involving FAMF would be correlated to the profiles of the executives.
 - xix. Stephen: When are we going to get this through? Especially when we have gone through this issue a number of times? (student consultations, etc).
 - xx. Siwei: Executive profiles encompass many responsibilities and tasks so it would also be important that we look into this issue carefully especially when we have invested a large amount of time regarding this issue.
 - xxi. Jessica: When should we be expecting this?
 - xxii. Dustin: We have many credentials in regards to this issue involving consultation however; we make the final verdict on how these consultations should be met.
 - xxiii. Cian: Seeing our current situation, we need to invoke a decision (seeing that we have little time to propose this motion).
 - xxiv. Stephen: I don't think we should hasten this issue seeing that this issue is important and should be carefully looked into.
 - xxv. Siwei: I agree.
 - xxvi. Brett: What do you propose? (directed to Stephen)
 - xxvii. Stephen: Not quite sure, but there was a lot of time and effort put into this issue.
 - xxviii. Siwei: We need to look for alternative potential avenues to market and make the organization's activities more transparent (example how money in general is being allocated).
 - xxix. Cian: I think we have the sufficient amount of resources to make a sound decision. Perhaps we should have a time to reconvene to discuss this in a collaborative effort to reach a collective compromise.
5. **Motion** to rename "Director of Professional Development" to "Director of Career Development". Cian/Siwei. Motion carried 6/0/0.
 6. AIESEC Partnership Discussion, Siwei.
 - a. Siwei: There are many internships and research opportunities that will help undergraduates in terms of work and employ-ability in the future. This will

help students on careers in regards to science. Advertising will be done on this behalf. I have made additional efforts to remedy this process by incorporating my director to facilitate this.

- b. Dustin: There are already opportunities elsewhere that have marketed career development. In addition, I would see this as preferential treatment to students.
- c. Siwei: This is student helping student run-organization. Also, the organization will help facilitate exchange students abroad in terms of transitioning them into career development opportunities.
- d. Cian: Which profile should this director be situated in?
- e. Siwei: I think that this best belong under my profile since it aligns strongly with many of the community values in my profile.
- f. Dustin: Where does career development fit constitutionally?
- g. Stephen: Could this position be a position of sponsorship instead of directorship?

7. ISSS Online Success Compilation Discussion, Dustin

- a. Dustin: I was introduced a website that would help inaugurate change within the general public (students of the faculty of science) in regards to improving advocacy with students about the many issues of the services we operate. I think this is a positive step as this well help showcase ISSS to get student feedback.
- b. Cian: I like the idea.
- c. Brett: I like the idea.
- d. Jessica: Is this going to be a page associated with the ISSS website?
- e. Dustin: Yes.
- f. Siwei: I'm confused as to why we are using this site.
- g. Dustin: We're using this site as a template and this is not the site ISSS will be using.

6. Good and Welfare

Comments and criticisms of the meeting for the good and welfare of the organization.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Executive will be at 8:00a.m., November 28, 2011 in CCIS 1-035. The chairperson of the next meeting will be Siwei Chen
Minutes will be taken by Michelle Truong.

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:11pm. Motion carried 6/0/0.