Council on Student Services Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, January 17, 2011 at 5:00p.m. in SL-232


Non-Members: C. Balarajah, M. Lindsay (Secretary)

1. Chair’s Comments

Mr. Abdus-Samad welcomed everyone back from the holidays and called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Arnason clarified agenda item number 5 to include the Enhancement Fund decisions.

MOVED: L. ARNASON
SECONDED: Z. MURJI
AGENDA APPROVED

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes – March 30, 2010

MOVED: Z. MURJI
SECONDED: L. ARNASON
MINUTES APPROVED

4. COSS Representative

Mr. Abdus-Samad explains COSS is the Council on Student Services, on which UTSC has one seat. At the first meeting, the CSS was supposed to nominate and vote a UTSC member to attend. Mr. Pouyat explained COSS is a mirror-group of CSS at St. George. At the next meeting Hart House will be presenting their budget as well as discussing concerns, student life, etc. UTSC’s role is primarily observant since most topics cover St. George, however UTSC could get items on agenda if necessary. Mr. Pouyat continues by adding it is interesting to watch the process, part time students are active members of COSS. He encourages UTSC students to take a more active role in attending COSS. The last COSS meeting an interesting issue was raised – students felt the university should be paying more for student services which brought forward interesting proposals and discussions. Mr. Pouyat adds UTSC should be looking for more partnerships with some projects as there is definite room for collaboration as far as money goes. Ms. Arnason adds attending COSS is also a good way to build networks and see other student leaders and gain an understanding for how other areas in U of T work. Ms. Doyle asked what the time commitment was and when meetings are usually scheduled. Mr. Pouyat said there are 6-7 meetings per academic year with approximately 2-3 already finished and more closer to budget time. Meetings are usually held Tuesdays from 5:00pm – 7:00pm. Mr. Pouyat added a motion was brought forward at the last COSS proposing the use of skype for meetings. While this has not yet happened, it is likely for the future.

After no students volunteered to represent UTSC, Liza stepped in as Chair so Mr. Abdus-Samad could be nominated by J. Aruldason and seconded by T. Habibollahi. No objections were made to Mr. Abdus-Samad being the new UTSC COSS Representative.
5. CSS Updates from Sub Committees

Student Life Advisory Committee: met a second time and discussed budget and whether or not there will be an increase. At this point, the group is discussing what an increase would look like and what it would be for (i.e. staffing, programming, etc). Mr. Zajch and Ms. Murji added students feel Student Life is important and growing. The committee is still working with Business Officer to examine budget options.

Enhancement Sub Committee

Ms. Arnason asked everyone to look at the proposals and proceeded to go through the list.

BIRT CSS approve up to $500.00 for Gallery 1265’s “Out of the Crate” and “Documentations” exhibitions.

BIRT CSS approve up to $2750.00 for African Students’ Association’s “Black History Month Fashion Show”.

BIRT CSS approve up to $1000.00 for Mishiti: Caribbean Connections’ “Black History Month Gala”. BIRT CSS approve up to $850.00 for IMANI: Black Student’s Association’s “Black History Month Food Festival”.

BIRT CSS approve up to $3000.00 for P.A.C.E’s “UTSC Best Dance Crew”.

BIRT CSS approve up to $590.00 for Best Damn Sports Club’s “Profs vs. Student Dodgeball Tournament”.

BIRT CSS approve up to $1000.00 for Afghan Student Union’s “The Children of Afghanistan”. BIRT CSS approve up to $3470.00 for Muslim Students’ Association’s “Islamic Awareness Week”. BIRT CSS approve up to $3000.00 for LIVE Business Conference’s “LIVE Conference 2010”.

BIRT CSS approve up to $895.00 for Shutterbugs Photography Club’s “Photo Contest and Exhibition”.

Ms. Arnason mentioned Q Entertainment was cited in 3 separate proposals. She proceeded to explain that Q Entertainment is a light and sound company that is used by students for various on campus events. Mr. Aruldason explained that Q’s pricing and flexibility is the reason everyone hires them, including the SCSU for large events such as Orientation and Cultural Mosaic. Ms. Arnason questions whether it would be beneficial to have own sound system to use. This possibility has been discussed by both Enhancement Fund and Student Life committees. Mr. Aruldason argues the equipment is very expensive but more importantly is set up and service, which no campus member would be able to do if the equipment was owned by UTSC. Mr. Zajch added set and storage will be an issue if equipment is purchased. Ms. Arnason stated all student groups requesting funding for sound equipment must be granted money, which is increasing between each funding round. She asks SCSU/students to consider how they would like to move forward. Mr. Zajch recommended a partnership with Q Entertainment and Ms. Doyle added UTSC could make them a preferred vendor. Mr. Pouyat asks students to work on a preferred rate since every event has different needs. Mr. Abdus-Samad asks Ms. Aruldason and Zajch to look into a preferred rate. Mr. Aruldason suggested Q Entertainment may be able to forward invoices directly to Student Affairs for payment.

Changing the subject, Mr. Abdus-Samad asks Mr. Zajch if any groups have doubled up with clubs funding. Mr. Zajch says IMANI and MSA will likely ask for money in the next round.

MOVED: J. ARULDASON SECONDED: Z. MURJI ENHANCEMENT FUND PROPOSALS APPROVED
Athletics Advisory Committee:
second meeting has been held. Gym rules has been dominant topic and came to a conclusion with the survey and sub-sub-committee findings. Ms.’s Ramchan and Habibollahi continued: the gym had to go back to the drawing board and see what issues arose from the surveys. The biggest problem is students don’t know the rules and more visual displays are needed. Ms. Calder added the largest problem stemmed from clothing restrictions. Shorts and tanktops are now approved as long as they provide “tasteful coverage”. She adds the budget was presented to the advisory committee with possible changes coming.

Health & Wellness Advisory Committee:
a second meeting has been held and the group is currently looking at the 5-year forecast. Ms. Love and her Business Officer had to go through finances and are looking at a potential increase but still examining different scenarios. Ms. Love said she is looking forward to meeting with the group to discuss different scenarios and come up with a resolution.

Academic Advising & Career Centre Advisory Committee:
Ms. Louden said there is no plan to make any funding requests since 50% Career Councilor position was approved last year which increases budget for this year. Group hasn’t had a chance to look at all possibilities yet.

Finance Advisory Committee:
Mr. Pouyat says Student Affairs not planning any asks or additions to staff, only going with inflationary increase for staffing which is approximately 2%.

6. Other Business

Mr. Aruldason, chair of Policy and Bylaws Advisory Committee asks anyone with issues to inform the chair and a meeting will be called as required.

7. Other Business

Motion to adjourn the meeting

MOVED: L. ARNASON SECONDED: M. ZAJCH
MOTION CARRIED

MEETING ADJOURNED