



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO
SCARBOROUGH

Council on Student Services Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, January 16th, 2012 at 5:00p.m. in SL-232

Members: D. Pouyat, T. Doyle, R. Loudon, S. McRoberts, L. Arnason, P. Thavarajah, C. Bagot, Z. Murji, H. Karunamuni, D. Gigliozzi, M. Bidhendi, A. Tahir, M. Mahmood

Non-Members: L. Robertson, C. Cole, F. Shields, J. Crasta, A. Adamo, A. Al-baalawy

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Carl B. asks everyone to review the minutes of November 14, 2011. Scott identifies a minor error. Tina D. and Curtis C. point out errors in the attendance.

Motion to approve Nov 14 minutes:

Moved by: Carl B. Seconded by: Liza A.

2. CSS Enhancement Fund Resolution

Liza A. mentions that there were a lot of proposals and the total funding requested for this round was over \$50K.

Tina D. asks what the average amount is usually.

Liza A. responds about 10-15K.

Liza A. explains that there was discussion with the sub-committee on the use of club funding and the need to train them on sponsorships. She suggests that the department of Student Life should offer mandatory sessions on funding. Groups are depending on the CSS funding every year which is not the way to go. The enhancement fund is for new and creative groups. Existing groups need to find a better option for their re-occurring and annual events.

Liza A. mentions that along with the letters of approval, there will be a recommendation section for other funding options.

Liza A. describes the applications and recommendations made by the Enhancement Fund Sub-Committee.

Pags T. asks if there was conversation about transportation. He says that it's a big issue with the campus being far way, many events are not viable due to the distance.

Pags T. asks if the IDS conference is new and the details of the funding structure.

Liza A. responds that they have the funding structure but it isn't with her.

Pags T. asks if there was conversation around events with strong value. He asks if strong value events will be continuously funded.

Liza A. responds that all groups must apply each time. She explains that initially the 30K budget was enough but now with more groups it's getting close.

Massih B. explains that when it was created, not a lot of people knew about the fund. Now that awareness is growing, the budget should be increased by 10K.

Scott M. mentions that it's a great idea to educate about funding options. For events such as Best Dance crew, they look for ways to offset the costs when funding isn't there.

Liza A. adds that we need to be helping students build partnerships to make these events work.

Motion to pass enhancement funding omnibus.

Moved by: Carl B. Seconded by: Massih B.

3. Presentation by Liza Arnason, Student Life

Alex A. asks if there is a set amount of credits you get for study abroad.

Liza A. responds that it isn't set. She explains how a whole years worth of classes could be taken at another school.

Tina D. asks what the max number of students you can take somewhere is.

Liza A. responds the number of people eligible should be equal to the amount other universities are sending here. It's an equal exchange.

Curtis C. mentions too many students look into this and get the sense that it's too expensive.

Considering what students pay for education, this is a bargain. Some schools are much more expensive and students will only be paying U of T fees.

4. Presentation by Tina Doyle

Desmond P.: The largest disability within most centres is mental health disability. It's important to underline that mental health issues have a lot of stigma. As student leaders, each of you has a responsibility to get the word out and reduce this stigma. Some of the funding and events are used for this. The fund might sponsor events under the "brand" of mental health to reduce stigma. This is a big issue, a lot of progress has been made in Canada. Support and partnering is imperative to level the playing field.

Liza A. adds that although 300 students are registered with AccessAbility, many others are not comfortable because of the stigma.

Carl B. asks if there is collaboration between AccessAbility and Health & Wellness. Tina D. explains how AccessAbility works really closely with them and how they'll each address specific issues.

Ruth L. adds that AA&CC is also part of the mix because students will approach them when their academics are in jeopardy.

Scott M. asks if AccessAbility keeps a breakdown of the specific mental problems of the registered students.

Tina D. replied that they do keep that information but it can't be disclosed.

Desmond P. adds that a person can have more than one disability which can make things a little more complicated.

Liza A. mentions that UTSC is known for the amount of input and support that students give. When first coming here, it was very obvious.

5. Other Business

Abdalla A. mentions that the voting environment is different here than other meetings he's been to.

Liza A. explains that they have sub-committees so a lot of the decisions are pre-made.

Desmond P. mentions CSS works with SCSU in the summer to get it going for fall and that they are open to operate in new ways.

Motion to Adjourn

Moved by: Liza A. Seconded by: Mehr M.

MEETING ADJOURNED