



Grant Allocation Committee (GAC) MINUTES

2010 - 2011 #4

Date: June 7th 2011

Time: 4:30 pm

In Attendance:

Saadiq Sumar (SU Councilor GAC Chair)
Sirina Hamilton-McGregor (SFAIC Staff)
Zafir Kanji (SFAIC Staff)
Devonne Brandys (SFAIC Staff)
Susu Liang
Colten Yamagishi (USPC)
Andy Cheema

Excused Absence:

Others in Attendance:

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Andy Cheema at *insert time 4:30pm*.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA Saadiq Sumar moved that the June 23rd Thursday 2011's agenda be approved as *tabled*.

Seconded by SuSu Liang.

Vote on Motion 7 *In Favor / 0 Not In Favor / 0 Absent*
CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES *Andy Cheema* moved that the *June 7th's 2011* minutes be approved as *tabled*.

The motion was seconded by SuSu Liang.

Vote on Motion 7 *In Favor / 0 Not In Favor / 0 Absent*
CARRIED.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

5. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

6. OLD BUSINESS

7. NEW BUSINESS

8. DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION ITEMS

1) Awards Program Expansion

a.) Process

b.) Funds Available

c.) Defining Financial Need

Andy Cheema: Are we setting different amounts for each category of student?

Sirina Hamilton-McGregor:

1300\$: For a single student living away from home.

500\$: For a single student living at home with parents, this amount covers everything except for rent.

2400\$ - 2500\$: For a married student number, not including dependents.

1500\$ + 520\$/700\$ per dependent: For a single student with child.

Sirina Hamilton-McGregor: Hold amount at 1300\$. We need to determine living allowance and we need the applicants' notice of assessment. Last year we took of the requirement that applicants must work. Students should not have to go to work while attending school. We expect applicants to work in the summer and save 1350\$ over 4 months and applicants do not require part-time earnings during school months. Should we force student to contribute the way that the access fund does? Government makes sure that students contribute to their education, if they are available to work. The argument here is that, the student could say that they were volunteering the whole summer and could not work.

Colten Yamagishi: I would prefer not to take work status into account just because of the circumstances.

Sirina Hamilton-McGregor: Supplemental bursaries are different from the access fund, supplemental bursaries do not require that you have to apply for student loans.

SuSu Liang: People with bursaries should apply for student loans because this way we can weed out the people that do not really need the bursaries and we can give the bursaries to students who have exhausted their options (student loan) and are still in financial need.

Sirina Hamilton-McGregor: Access fund are a last resort bursary; you have to accept student loan, whereas supplementary bursaries don't require you need to apply for a student loan you just need a good reason. Maybe half of the awards should have a student loan requirement?

Colten Yamagishi: People apply have very strong merit, if it created that much work to just to see their student loan status, we should just leave out that requirement.

Sirina Hamilton-McGregor / Devonne Brandys: Convince the group that checking applicant's student loan status would not be a

problem.

Sirina Hamilton-McGregor: Basically we want students to exhaust every option first (including student loan).

Zafir Kanji: Lots of students do not want to get loan because they don't want to be in debt, it would be unfair if we had 2 students and if ... One student had a student loan. The other student did not have a student loan. But we give the award to the student who does not have a student loan, because it seems like the student who does not have a student loan is in deeper financial need, when actually the student who has a student loan is in deeper financial need.

Sirina Hamilton-McGregor: True we do count a student loan as an income instead of a debt. That is one of the shortfalls.

SuSu Liang: How would you go about seeing who has a student loan ?

Sirina Hamilton-McGregor: We would get front desk to check all the applicants that have a student loan.

(Group seemed as if they agreed that a Student loan should be required)

Saadiq Sumar: Maybe we should have a check off box for not in financial need on application form?

Devonne Brandys & Sirina Hamilton-McGregor : We will create new awards

Andy Cheema : We should write up a formal documentation of this agreement.

d.) Old Awards

Andy Cheema: Do we want to increase the value or the number of awards?

Colten Yamagishi: The old awards can be bumped up to 2500\$.

Andy Cheema: It might be easier to increase existing awards instead of making new awards.

Colten Yamagishi: If we add more money to existing awards, we definitely need to have a financial need award in the existing award.

Andy Cheema: What if no one demonstrates financial need?

Sirina Hamilton-McGregor: We would first consider the people who applied for the award if no one is qualified we would pull someone else for that award.

e.) Number, Size and Criteria for New Awards

Some Ideas For New Awards Contributed by Meeting Members

Criteria for Awards: Refugee Status, Out of Province, Science, Edmonton Residents, Sororities, Disability.

Naming of Awards: Retirement of SU members, the Registrar, Frank, Jerry, (For a disability award) the man who got cancer and still attended school and maintain his grades.

9. REPORTS

10. CLOSED SESSION *NIL*

11. NEXT MEETING *June 30th 2011 Thursday @ 4:30pm*

12. ADJOURNMENT Andy Cheema moved that the meeting be adjourned.
The motion was seconded by Colten Yamagishi.

*Vote on Motion 7 In Favor / 0 Not In Favor / 0 Absent
CARRIED.*

Meeting adjourned at *6:15pm*.