



# GRANT ALLOCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

2014 – 2015

Date: June 26<sup>th</sup> 2014

Time: 6.08 pm

In Attendance:

JAMES HWANG (Chair)

NICHOLAS DIAZ

ANDY WONG

BO ZHANG (Proxy for Zhaoyi Chen)

ROGER CROUTZE

Excused Absence:

SHUBHAM GARG

CORY HODGSON

Others in Attendance:

TIM IRA (CSD)

SIRINA HAMILTON

HAILEY MARKOWSKI

SACHITHA KUSALADHARMA

**1. CALL TO  
ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by HWANG at 6.08 pm.

**2. APPROVAL OF  
AGENDA**

*CROUTZE moved to approve the agenda for June 26, 2014 as tabled.*

*The motion was seconded by WONG.*

*Vote 5/0/0*

**CARRIED**

**3. APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES**

*HWANG moved to approve the minutes for June 12, 2014 as tabled.*

*The motion was seconded by DIAZ.*

*Vote 3/0/2 (Abstentions by WONG and CROUTZE)*

**CARRIED**

#### 4. OLD BUSINESS

##### (a) Access Fund Status Update

HAMILTON: We don't have any official updates.

There have been some delays, and we are moving forward slowly. The bursary coordinator we were working with got sick. We have drafted terms for the bursary, which explains what the bursary actually is about. It's not detailed at all. It just outlines what the bursary is for, and how it differs from a general bursary. We have also worked with her to draft some bursary policy. They have taken our Standing Orders and generalized them. So, we were able to use the Student Union's (SU's) policy to make the University's policy.

We will need to convene a summer selection committee. We have also mapped out a new bursary process. The University doesn't want to interview every single applicant. We'll see whether we can get the technological support to run it the way we want to, and come back to you guys.

They are also moving forward with trying to formulate an advisory committee on financial support for the registrar. We have said repeatedly that there should be a member of the Grant Allocation Committee (GAC) in that. So, this will be starting during the fall semester.

In our draft bursary policy, we have an appeals committee. A member of GAC would be included in that as well. The University will be making the selections. But, if a student decides to appeal it, it would go to the appeals committee.

CROUTZE: Would students needing help in the upcoming fall term have access to the Access Fund?

HAMILTON: I think they will. Either with this new process or the current process. We are going to operate the fund in some fashion. One of the stipulations when the SU agreed to this transition was that programming would continue.

MARKOWSKI: We need 2 volunteers for the summer selection committee.

*The names of Councilors Hwang and Chen were tentatively suggested as members for the selection committee.*

##### (b) Standing Order changes from CSD

HWANG: This was sent out via email 2 days ago. Does anyone have anything they need clarification on?

DIAZ: How does a member of the SU Awards staff get selected as secretary?

IRA: The reason why I selected SU Awards staff instead of Center for Student

Development (CSD) staff was so that it could be anyone from our office. Part of our proposal which is currently sitting in the executive committee is to refer to my staff as student awards staff or orientation staff depending on the situation. I used the term SU Awards staff here because it's a bit more flexible. Even if it moves out of the CSD in the future, the people who are delegated the SU Awards will still be SU Awards staff.

***HWANG moved to approve the changes to the Grant Allocation Committee's Standing Order changes as proposed by the Center for Student Development.***

***The motion was seconded by CROUTZE.***

***Vote 5/0/0***

***CARRIED***

IRA: These changes were administrative. I will draft more contentious items in a later amendment. Those could be things regarding policy, about the medical students, etc.

CROUTZE: What's the distinction between SU Awards staff and SU Awards permanent staff?

IRA: We use the word permanent to mean somebody who works full-time on a continuous contract. SU awards staff would mean someone on a term contract.

I have a question. Will CSD staff be guests in the future, or will they be non-voting members such as Sirina and Hailey?

HWANG: I'm not sure. We'll have that discussion later on.

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

### **(a) Standing Order changes summary from SGS**

HWANG: There are some changes to Standing Orders proposed by the Student Group Services (SGS). Kaz Haykowski will come to our next meeting to describe these in detail. So, as she's not here today, let's move to our next item.

DIAZ: My biggest concern is conveying how grants work to students.

### **(b) Members removal discussion**

HWANG: In our Standing Orders, if you miss 2 meeting without a proxy, your removal is considered by the committee. So, we have to discuss about Councilors Zhaoyi Chen, Roger Croutze, and Shubham Garg.

***ZHANG moved to amend point 5) of the Grant Allocation Committee's Standing Orders from***

***"Voting members of the Grant Allocation Committee who are absent, without***

*proxy, from two consecutive meetings shall automatically be recommended by the chair to Students' Council to be removed from the Grant Allocation Committee."*

**to**

*"Voting members of the Grant Allocation Committee who are absent, without proxy, from three consecutive meetings shall automatically be recommended by the chair to Students' Council to be removed from the Grant Allocation Committee."*

***The motion was seconded by CROUTZE.***

***Vote 5/0/0***

***CARRIED***

**6. CLOSED SESSION** HWANG: Sirina and Hailey were talking about the conflict of interest in GAC members or even council members applying for the awards. They were not in favor of GAC members finding a way to apply for these awards. We should have a discussion about this. To keep it fair to GAC members, we should inform about this to Council. You don't want to have a situation where several GAC members quit when they want to apply for awards.

DIAZ: A counter argument would be that GAC members also require financial assistance.

ZHANG: In my perspective, as long as you are not in the discussion on who actually gets the awards, it's not a problem.

DIAZ: It's important to articulate the difference between the awards adjudication committee and GAC.

ZHANG: I'm assuming that if you are in the adjudication committee, you would declare your conflict of interest.

HWANG: When you sit on GAC, you can make changes to the whole selection process.

ZHANG: But you can say that for all of Council.

DIAZ: Also, if you are friends with GAC members who are on the adjudication committee, wouldn't that have an effect?

ZHANG: Nobody is going to make changes that would help a certain person.

DIAZ: So, the argument should be about trusting the discretion of GAC and the awards adjudication committee.

HWANG: We'll bring the discussion back during the next meeting.

**7. CLOSED SESSION** ***HWANG moved that the committee move into closed session at 6.24 pm.***

***The motion was seconded by DIAZ.***

***Vote 5/0/0***

***CARRIED***

***ZHANG moved that the committee move out of closed session at 6.37 pm.***

***The motion was seconded by HWANG.***

***Vote 5/0/0***

***CARRIED***

**8. NEXT MEETING** *July 10, 2014 at 6 pm.*

**9. ADJOURNMENT** *HWANG moved to adjourn the meeting.  
The motion was seconded by WONG.  
Vote 5/0/0  
CARRIED*

The meeting was adjourned by HWANG at 6.46 pm.