

Executive Meeting

Minutes

Friday, February 5, 2021

3 pm

Present: I. Jama (Chair), E. Davy, F. Vito, F. Nami, P. Grover, V. Chen, M. Taylor, J. Seto (Secretary)

1) Approval of the Agenda

MOVED(Chen/Davy): "That the agenda be adopted as presented."

*CARRIED

2) Approval of the Previous Minutes

MOVED(Chen/Vito): "That the minutes of January 15, 2021 be adopted as presented."

*CARRIED

3) Report of the President

I. Jama gave an update on the conversation she had with J. Seto and the Dean on the Same Fees, Same Degree project. The Dean has said that nothing can be done right now as the Budget has already been approved for the next academic year. She does think that the Faculty could have bi-yearly budget consultations where they could meet with some students and ASSU. We need to work collectively to see what this group would look like.

The UTSU is asking if ASSU is willing to write a letter of support for UofT to leave the CFS. There was some discussion amongst the Executive. I. Jama will ask the UTSU specifically what they need from us.

I. Jama is looking for speaker names for the Black History Month speaker series – looking to secure a minimum of 3 prominent Black Canadians to speak about their experiences. Please send suggestions to Ikran.

I. Jama also reported that we are looking for prominent speakers for an end of the year speaker series where the general theme is Advocacy.

4) Executive Reports

E. Davy reported that there is a new podcast episode available. She has set up a new Soundcloud subscription as well. She and M. Taylor hope to record another episode over Reading Week.

Davy also attended an EDI meeting yesterday where Departments were sharing their EDI issues with each other.

F. Vito reported that the Arbor Journal would be done for the last week of February. He has been working on the Speaker Series event and has reached out to a few people already – one person being Malual Bol Kir.

Vito also updated the Executive on the meeting of the Special Committee that he and I. Jama attended recently. The Committee is proposing a retake policy where students can take any course up to 2 times to enter into a program and can choose the higher mark for their CGPA. Also, the Committee briefly talked about ASSU's CR/NCR proposal – but ran out of time before they could really address all the issues.

V. Chen thanked all of the Executive who helped out with the URC – it went very well, despite the disrupters. They have been in touch with the presenters about the disrupters issue. Chen also reported that she talked to A. Boland this morning about the ASL proposal – which officially passed at the January curriculum meeting. Everything is a go and the Faculty will continue now with course development.

5) Report of the Executive Staff

J. Seto reported that the deadline for the Katharine Ball Graduating Course Union Award has been extended by one week to Friday, February 19th. She will also be working on the T4 slips for staff and executive soon, to meet the end of February deadline. The Audit is being reviewed by senior partners right now so we should receive the draft next week.

J. Seto went over the various awards that the Executive is responsible for deciding recipients for: Ranjini (Rini) Ghosh Excellence in Teaching Award, Sanjeev (Sanj) Dewett Course Union of the Year Award, Terry Buckland Award for Diversity and Equity in Education, and Urmila (Uma) Sarkar Award for Outstanding Service to Students

6) Conversation on Political Science & Scholarship Issue

The Department of Political Science has made a decision regarding the complaints about award recipient A. Singh. They have stated that whatever is submitted on applications is what the committee would use to select their winners.

ASSU is still getting a lot of messages from students, pushing us to make a move. We need to talk more with Departments about how they give out scholarships.

It was decided that the statement that ASSU made originally is what stands.

7) ASSU Scholarship Committee

J. Seto explained the duties and time commitment for the Scholarship Committee. It was decided that F. Vito and F. Nami would sit on the committee.

8) Dean's Meeting Preparation

The Executive went over the items for the Monday Dean's meeting – Reading Week, CR/NCR and Quercus Modules. V. Chen also suggested a virtual learning follow-up. I. Jama will write up speaking points and share it and Executives can decide if they want to speak to one of the items.

9) Other Business

None

10) Adjournment

MOVED(Nami/Taylor): "To adjourn."

*CARRIED

Secretary to the Executive