

Algoma University Students Union Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, September 12, 2007

Volume 01
Issue 03

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Adoption of Previous Minutes
4. Old Business
5. President's Update
6. Supplies
7. Classroom Conflicts
8. Speaker Panel on MMP
9. Club Funding
10. Shinerama
11. WUSC
12. New Business
13. Adjournment

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Present: Jessica F, Paul S, Amie H, Mike P, Crystal S, Shuana W, Jonathon F, Chris C.

Absent: Erin L, Chantel L, Mustafa K, Karen C, Vern C.

Regrets: Erin L, Mustafa K.

• Motion to Call Meeting to Order (21:50)

Mover: Paul S

Second: Amie H

In Favour: Jessica F, Crystal S, Shuana W, Jonathon F, Chris C

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

— Motion Carried

• Motion to Adopt Agenda

Mover: Paul S

Second: Amie H.

In Favour: Jessica F, Crystal S, Shuana W, Jonathon F, Chris C.

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

1. Old Business

There is no old business to discuss at this time

2. President's Update

- Frosh Week was a great success this year; there was a great turnout.

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- There was a 40% increase of revenue for the student's centre during this frosh week
- In terms of first year sign ups, 110 students have signed up, and attended the events. This is a jump of 30% over previous years.
- Christine from the CFS attended our 'Discovery Street', and was quite impressed with the event.
- A big thank you to all AUSU members who came out to the events to show support.
- The Alumni Council has opened up 1 seat for an AUSU representative. This job usually goes to the student union president, but anyone who is interested can sit on this committee. More details can be discussed later on.
- With Algoma University soon to be an independent school, the University President, Celia Ross, is looking to AUSU to help get the information to the student body. For the time being we will reforward the 'Have you heard the news' flyer.
- In terms of event planning, if we are going to do an event involving international students or student services, both departments are willing to enter into a cost sharing agreement with us. This is beneficial to AUSU, both in terms of decreasing operating costs and creating a bigger impact in the student community.
- AUSU needs to have a greater presence on the campus. Most students go to the student services coordinator with their issues, and we need to come up with ways that we can become more of a go-to point.
- Bruno Barban would like to have a meeting with the board to discuss our spaces. Amie asked if we own the arcade space next to our offices, and in fact we do own it. But Jessica cautioned us that we should still include Bruno in any decisions we make concerning the space.
- AUSU, in conjunction with increasing our presence on campus, are looking to give a gift to the students on residence. In the quad area, near the barbeques, we are looking to paint the Thunderbird image, along side the AUSU image. It's a good opportunity to increase visibility and we could ask the fine arts department for volunteers to do the painting for us.

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3. Supplies

- Paul wanted to know if we were still interested in getting t-shirts for Board Members. The general consensus was that the t-shirts would be a good idea. Amie suggested that we work buy fair labour made t-shirts, especially since the CFS has contacts for fair labour organizations.
- The next item on this subject was organizational devices. In the book store there are leather bound folders complete with clipboard and pockets on the interior, and in the past, board members have received them. They cost roughly \$20.00 each, and Paul was gauging interest among members.
- Chris will see if there can be some sort of deal between AUSU and the bookstore in terms of discounting costs on these, but if was agreed to that we will defer making a decision on this until some time in the future when our finances are more clear.
- It was suggested that we look into long distance cards for the office. Amie tells us that since there is no long distance on the phone lines, it makes it difficult to plan events, like the Spirit of the North conference. It was a generally accepted idea, but Jessica also suggested that we contact IT and have that feature added to our phones, so long as its used responsibly.
- It was also suggested that we look into the mailing situation for AUSU. It was asked if we have a mailing account in the main office, and if not, then we should set one up.

4. Classroom Conflict

- This is a complex issue that needs the student to be present to address all of the issues. Unfortunately, this student could not be in attendance and did not have a chance to email the board. Paul provided some quick background information for the board, which included the severe overcrowding of the classroom and a refusal to address the situation by administration. The issue will be deferred until further notice.

5. Speaker Panel on MMP

- During the provincial election on October 10, there will be a referendum question on changing the current electoral system from first past the post to a mixed member proportional. The issue has officially been endorsed by AUSU, and are looking to do an information campaign for the

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students. Amie is working with representatives from Laurentian University to bring a guest speaker to both Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie to work the information sessions. There will be a cost sharing deal between Laurentian and Algoma, and our portion will include car rental from Sudbury to Sault Ste Marie and back, and accommodation in Sault Ste Marie. The car should be around \$150 including gas, and there may be a possible deal with Super 8 motel.

- Amie also is looking for volunteers to work to promote MMP to the students.
- Algoma University will play host to an all candidates debate, and AUSU should look to branding the speakers panel through this.
- A motion will be brought before the board next meeting for approval of this.

6. Club Funding

- Last year's board gave student clubs lots of money in hopes that it would allow them to become more self-reliant. As a board this year, we need to establish policies that would tighten allowances for clubs.
- This year we should be looking into just providing start up funds for clubs to get their operating budget off the ground and have their first fund-raiser.
- Club recognition as a whole needs to be reformed, and a defunct committee is being looked at to be reformed, which would assist clubs register and design their budgets, etc.
- AUSU needs to correct the reputation its been associated with in the past, and priorities where the money should be spent. If a club provides a service to the student population, they should be able to get more money than a group that is formed to serve a small segment of the population.
- The English and Fine Arts club has submitted a proposal for funding to go on their Stratford trip. The amount exceeds what the trip will cost, and there will be a fundraising event held within the week. To consider the proposal we will ask the club to re-submit a revised budget.
- On a general note, clubs requesting funding will have to come before AUSU and make a formal presentation before the board.

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- Paul will contact the clubs with these details, and Jonathon will publicize the dates of meetings. Jessica also suggested we get a cork board for outside the office so students can still get the information they need, even if no one is in the office.

7. Shinerama

- From the discovery street barbeque and the Shinerama event Saturday, September 8, we raised a total of \$800. Erin is a little discouraged since her over all goal is \$10,000. As a board we can do something to help raise more money.
- There is a bigger issue in this. There was not one staff member or faculty anywhere near the event. Jessica wants to email the President to outline our disappointment that no one could show up to support this student lead event. This is a trend we've seen at most student events, it's as if supporting student affairs is not a priority for this administration. As a group, we agreed that this email is appropriate and will stand in solidarity.

8. WUSC

- WUSC sent the board a \$2,400 budget proposal for club funding. We don't necessarily have to give the whole amount, but this is a group that deserves our support. At the moment, they only run the student refugee program, but hopefully they will expand their work into other areas.
- Unfortunately, due to our financial situation, we cannot decide how much to give the club, but we would like the group to come before the board and make a presentation to us, and Paul has agreed to talk with them.

9. Other Business

- On the AUSU laptop, there is a set of contracts which each board member has to sign. We also have found a more recent copy of the AUSU constitution on the office computer, but we still need to sit down with the lawyer and have him go over it with us before it can be legal.
- Mike wanted to know about the bid for independence, and whether or not students have a say in if we come independent or not. We do not have a choice in the matter, but we do hold influence and we can show our support for it. There needs to be feedback on this matter.

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- Shuana asked about the status of the corporation audit. Audit is completed, but just has to be brought before us. Chris will talk to Karen about getting a copy of the audit to the meetings so we can deal with it as soon as possible.

- Motion to Adjourn (22:47)

Mover: Paul S

Seconder: Chris

In Favour: Jessica, Amie, Mike, Crystal, Shuana, Jonathon

Objection: None

Abstained: None

— Motion Carried