

Algoma University Students Union Meeting Agenda
Sunday, September 23, 2007

Volume 01
Issue 04

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Adoption of Previous Minutes
4. Car pooling Proposal (w/ Humberto Fernando Costa)
5. Law Club Presentation (w/ Jay Barban)
6. English and Fine Arts Presentation
7. Critics Review Presentation
8. Classroom Concerns
9. MPP Candidates Debate
10. The Sentient
11. Arcade Space Discussions
12. Office Hours
13. Adjournment

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*Present: Jessica F, Paul S, Chris C, Erin L, Ashleigh S, Jonathon F, Shauna W, Mustafa K,
Vern C, Karen C.*

Absent: Amie H, Mike P, Chantel L

Regrets: Amie H

• Motion to Call Meeting to Order (19:04)

Mover: Chris C

Seconder: Paul S

In Favour: Jessica F, Erin L, Ashleigh S, Jonathon F, Shauna W, Mustafa K

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

— Motion Carried

• Motion to Adopt Agenda

Mover: Paul S

Seconder: Shauna W

In Favour: Jessica F, Erin L, Ashleigh S, Jonathon F, Mustafa K

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

— Motion Carried

• Motion to Accept Previous Minutes

Mover: Paul S

Seconder: Jonathon F

In Favour: Jessica F, Erin L, Shuana W, Mustafa K

Opposed: None

Abstained: Ashleigh S

— Motion Carried

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- while waiting for several presenters to arrive, unanimous consent was given to allow agenda item six to precede items four and five.

6. English and Fine Arts Society

Presented by Sasha Chamberlin, Shuana Cory, and Jana Shaule.

- this is a new club attempting to establish itself among the students to create a bond of comradery among members of the students studying in both the English and Fine Arts departments.
- they are looking to facilitate a positive learning experience both educationally and culturally among student and the university as a whole.
- the group is still in its early stages, only being formed during the summer, but it is believed that since their first fund-raiser, the Shakespeare pub, interest has peaked in the student population. Membership increases is a priority for the executive members.
- There was a trip taken to Stratford to enhance students understanding of the Shakespearean plays, and they are looking to do this kind of event in the future.
- there is support from Dr. Linda Burnett, faculty in the English department, who is committed to helping the group get off the ground.
- at the moment, there are currently six students who are committed to this group.
- the floor is then opened for questions and comments:
 - Jessica asks how many people went to Stratford for the trip, and how much money was raised through their fund-raising efforts.
 - The Shakespeare pub raised a total of \$318.00 for the group, and a total of 10 people went on this trip.
 - Jessica then explains that what they are asking (a total of \$4000), is greater then the cost of the trip. When joining clubs, there are certain costs associated with it that members should expect to incur. AUSU likes the idea of the English and Fine Arts society and is willing to help, but the \$4000 is a whole years operating budget, and no club has ever received that much in the past.

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- Paul informed the presenters that he is currently reviewing the processes and procedures that regulate clubs, and offers the suggestion that the group use the Sentient as a means of promotion. There is not a lot of English and Fine Arts submissions, and this would certainly be appreciated.
- Ashleigh references the club guideline that all clubs recognized by AUSU must be open to all members of the Algoma University community, and this club should consider approaching members of other disciplines because others share an interest in the subject and would love to be involved.
- Ashleigh also agreed that the Sentient was a good forum for the group to get its name out to the students.
- most of the costs associated with this trip were done out of pocket, so the group will have to submit receipts to the board to review.

— End of Presentation —

- Motion to Amend Agenda to defer deliberation until all presentations are complete and to add a financial update as item 12

Mover: Paul S

Second: Ashleigh S

In Favour: Jessica F, Erin L, Jonathon F, Shauna W, Mustafa K, Vern C, Karen C

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

— Motion Carried

Item 4 – Car pool Presentation

- Our presenter, Humberto Fernando Costa was unable to attend the meeting, but did submit a proposal that AUSU get involved in establishing a car pooling initiative. This is something that we should seriously consider looking into.
- Ashleigh informed the board that on the university website, www.auc.ca, there is a car pool link, but it doesn't lead anywhere.

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- Jessica will talk to the administrators upstairs and discuss the issue with them.

Item 5 – Law Club Proposal

- the item will be deferred to a later date to accommodate our presenter.

Item 7 – Critics Review

- the club has requested galaxy movie tickets from the board, but we are hesitant to allow this.
 - if we just give out the tickets, there is no accountability mechanism in which we know the tickets are being used for their intended purposes
 - the board feels more comfortable giving the club gift cards to Blockbuster video, so they can have showings at the university.
 - the board is willing to help out in any way we can, so they can be self-sustaining. The possibility of selling concessions during the movie could help bring in some revenue.
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English and Fine Arts Society Deliberations

- All club requirements are spelled out in the club recognition forms
- the biggest factor in this case is that this trip was not open to all students, but only students enrolled in the Shakespeare Class, and as Ashleigh points out, emails were sent out to students all winter semester telling people to get enrolled and the costs associated with it.
- the precedent we need to be setting is that we want to support the club, but not paying for the class trip.
- the trip itself costs \$4000, and their fund raiser only brought in \$318, and as Jessica points out, by the sounds of the presentation, their other fund-raising abilities are not going forward.
- This trip stems from the English class, and that is what drew people to the class itself. The trip was organized by Dr. Linda Burnett, not the club, which presented the feeling that AUSU would

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pay for the trip regardless of the circumstances.

- this trip was a good opportunity for students in this field, just as this club is beneficial, but AUSU cannot afford to set the precedent that classes can take out of town trips and have it paid for from student fees. If the English and Fine Arts club wishes to make this trip in the future, and advertises it to the student body, then we can re-visit the issue.
 - Karen asks if we are willing to set limits to what we give to clubs, but this is not a reality since some clubs provide more to the students and need more assistance than others.
 - It was suggested that the English department should be approached for financial support, seeing as this was one of their endeavours.
 - There was very minimal individual costs involved to the participants, and the funds derived from the fund raiser pub were not put towards this trip.
 - We shouldn't be retroactively paying for trips, but would consider granting start up fees for the club itself for future trips, should they request it.
 - Motion to grant the English and Fine Arts Society \$4,000 towards their Stratford trip
- Mover: Paul S
Seconder: Ashleigh S
In Favour: None
Opposed: Jessica F, Erin L, Jonathon F, Shauna W, Mustafa K, Vern C, Karen C
Abstained: None

— Motion defeated

Item 8 – Classroom Concerns

- The presenter is going to require 2 days notice prior to the meeting, so item will be deferred to the next regular meeting.

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Item 9 – MPP Candidate's Debate

- AUSU has organized an all candidate's debate among the provincial candidates, and all five parties will be represented at the event.

- Format will be that of questions posed to all the candidates, and all questions will focus on students focussed issues. There will be a slight change, where the introductions have been changed from 5 minutes to 2 minutes, but the length of the debate will depend on the volume of questions posed.

- Paul Skeggs will moderate the debate, and we will need members to encourage others to submit questions.

- Ashleigh asks if the questions should be sent to the ausu@auc.ca alias, but Paul would like the questions submitted the night of, to ensure anyone who has questions, will have them answered.

- Jonathon wonders if we should present this in a town hall format, where people just get up and ask their questions, but Paul wants to keep this format to ensure all voices are heard and prevent attacks on one candidate.

Item 10 – Sentient

- Paul announces that the first issue has come out and is available around the campus, but he is looking for more writers on staff.

- A meeting was held a few days ago to gauge interest in getting people to write for the paper, and so far, there was about 10 people interested, one being a professional writer for the Washington Post.

- AUSU members should do their best to submit articles whenever they can, and possible topics can be found from the communications department.

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- Shauna says that the food bank will submit a monthly article on their positions, and anything else of interest.
- Divisional reps should, if they can, write some sort of update on the happenings within their departments for the students.
- If there is anyone interested, just write Paul an email to set up a meeting time.

Item 11 – Arcade Space Discussion

- The intended purpose of the area outside the AUSU offices is to develop a quiet study area for people who don't like the Speakeasy or the library.
- A proposal was sent to the board requesting a ping pong table be bought for the arcade space, but this is not conducive to its intended purpose.
- In regards to the space near the offices, Bruno Barban wants to address the board, and have an open line of communication.
- It was also suggested that we move this table to the Speakeasy, but due to space concerns, it is not feasible, but we could talk to Amanda. In regards to the theft and vandalism aspect, it was suggested that the paddles/balls can be signed out from the bar, but the bartenders don't want this kind of responsibility. If there is a large enough request for this, then we can look into just purchasing tables, and have players provide their own equipment.
- Should we be looking at purchasing gaming equipment, we should be purchasing something of top quality, and our finances need to be in order for this to happen.
- In terms of gaming, the current pool table is owned by Top Hat Billiards and we receive ½ the

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profits made. In the future, we should talk with Tom Mauro about fixing the pool table owned by the school and donating it to the Speakeasy to allow us to retain all the profits.

- the fooseball table should also be repaired because we currently make 100% profit from the proceeds, and we should do what we can to encourage this.

Item 12 – Financial Update

- the executive members shall meet with our auditor at BDO Dunwoody Tuesday, September 25 at 1 pm.
- according to the audit, the board is \$162,000 in 'deficit', which simply means that this amount of money lacks the proper accountability mechanisms, i.e. there are no invoices. Overall, this looks bad on our part, as the board of directors.
- \$100,000 could potentially be accounted for, so long as the university can provide a receipt. This is for payment by the board for their portion of the new ICT Student Centre. Of the resulting \$62,000 costs, they are most likely resulting from the start up costs for bar operations.
- Karen suggests we, as a board, set a deficit reduction plan in place. It has been three years, and no action has been taken, and it is our concern to understand the deficit, and set sights on the reduction.
- overall, our audit remains unqualified since there are no invoices or documentation of any kind to account where the money is being spent, and we need to find these missing link, which could possibly be as easy as calling upstairs. Once received, the audit must be submitted to administration, so they can release our funds.
- To date, there is \$23,000 in the bank, but there are outstanding bills which need to get paid.

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- The AUSU Board will meet on Sunday, September 30, 2007 to address the financial audit.

Item 13 – Office Hours

- Members of AUSU need to establish office hours to allow for greater student access. We are asking as many people as possible to sign up for hours, something as little as two hours per week, just so the office can be open to the students.

- E-mail the hours to the ausu@algonau.ca alias and Jonathon will post them on the website as well.

- Motion to Amend the Agenda for the addition of a discussion of Shinerama

Mover: Paul S

Seconder: Ashleigh S

In Favour: Jessica F, Erin L, Jonathon F, Shauna W, Vern C, Karen C

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

— Motion carried

Item 14 – Shinerama

- Erin informed us that the Shinerama campaign will be hosting a fun filled pub night in support of the cystic fibrosis campaign. This year's theme of will be 'the battle of the sexes' and she is looking for great prizes she can give away.

- She is currently establishing meeting times, when its convenient for those who wish to participate and plan the event.

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- An email will be going out shortly to inform the students of this cause, and an article will go into the Sentient as well.

- Motion to Adjourn the Meeting (21:05)

Mover: Paul S

Second: Karen C

In Favour: Jessica F, Erin L, Ashleigh S, Jonathon F, Shauna W, Mustafa K, Vern C

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

– Motion Carried