

Algoma University Students Union
Minutes – October 28, 2007

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Issue 02

Present: Jessica F, Chris C, Amie H, Erin L, Chantel L, Mike P, Jonathon F, Vern C, Karen C

Absent: Paul S, Shuana W, Ashleigh S, Mustafa K

Regrets: Paul S, Shuana W, Ashleigh S, Mustafa K

- Motion to Call Meeting to Order (19:08)

Mover: Jessica F

Second: Chantel L

In Favour: Amie H, Erin L, Mike P, Jonathon F

Opposed: none

Abstained: none

– Motion Carried

- Motion to Adopt Previous Minutes

Mover: Jessica F

Second: Erin L

* Minutes will be tabled at the next meeting

– Motion Carried

- Motion to Adopt the Agenda

Mover: Erin L

Second: Amie H

Amendment to move Tom Mauro to agenda item 4, insert the Hockey team proposal as agenda item 5, and move the Proud Algoma Presentation to agenda item 6.

In Favour: Jessica F, Amie H, Erin L, Chantel L, Jonathon F, Vern C, Karen C

– Motion Carried

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Agenda Item 4: Tom Mauro

- With the Bar Manager's position becoming vacant in the next months, Tom has come before the board to consult with AUSU as partners in operation of the Speakeasy.
- Tom provides the newcomers to the board with some history to the student centre. Opened in 2005, the new student centre was made possible through the partnership of AUC, AUSU, PUC Telecom, and Fednor. The previous board held a referendum to allot a portion of fees toward the student centre, which was passed by the students.
- In terms of funding for the student manager position, the current manager's salary is coming from a grant from Fednor and the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund, which is covering close to 90% of the funding for a 12 month contract.
- The current contract is expiring December 14, 2007, and will need to be replaced as soon as possible. Ideally, a new manager should be in place by the first weeks of December to facilitate a smooth transition, and orient themselves with their duties.
- As per the memorandum of understanding between the university and AUSU, there will be a 50/50 cost sharing agreement in funding the manager's salary once our grant has ended.
- The idea of possibly establishing a committee to ensure there is a strong relationship between all players will continue into the future.
- Tom believes that AUSU has expectations and we should have some say. He was receptive to the idea of forming a committee, but cautions that there needs to be a willingness on behalf of all participants.
- Tom then distributed a document defining the roles and responsibilities of all the participants involved with the Speakeasy. He feels that there is some ambiguity and discrepancies, and is open to dialogue.
- There were some concerns that the AUSU constitution is being trumped, and should be introduced into the document, given that the role is defined through the constitution.
- Amie inquired that if we are sharing in the expenses of salary, who decides who becomes the employer? According to Tom, the position is unionized, and belongs to the bargaining unit. AUSU has no authority over the collective agreement, and are here in a supporting role.

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Agenda Item 6: AUSU By-Elections

- By-election has been called to fill the 2 vacant positions of residence representative and social science representative. Karen Bailey has the nomination forms, but they will be available from the office as well.
- Nominations will open October 29, 2007, and candidates will have to register with the CRO to be on the ballot. Election day is November 14, 2007, so we are looking at a 2 week process for the entire by-election.

Agenda Item 7: Fair Trade Purchasing Policy

- AUC and Chartwells have adopted policies regarding fair trade purchasing, and AUSU should follow suit. This club will be enforced in all clubs sanctioned by AUSU.
- Amie then read the policy aloud to the board for their consideration. Copies will be distributed to the board to read and amend where necessary.
- Jessica asked where one would go about getting information on Fair trade products, especially in regards to sporting equipment. Fair Trade Algoma has information on these places, some of which are local businesses.
- in terms of cost-efficiency, there will always be a better deal to buy non-fair trade, but there needs to be some encouragement on our part to promote this among the students and clubs. The Canadian Federation of Students offers members the opportunity to buy fair trade shirts in bulk, and we should utilize these services.

- Be it resolved that the Fair Trade Purchasing Policy be tabled for consideration by the Board

Mover: Amie H

Seconder: Erin L

In Favour: Jessica F, Chantel L, Jonathon F, Vern C, Karen C

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

– Motion Carried

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- The Board needed to return to the previous items for discussion.
- In regards to our meeting with Tom, there seems to be general content with how things are being handled, we will wait for the information to be forwarded to AUSU, and the first steering committee meeting.
- The hockey team's proposal is asking for a lot of money from the board, basically asking for the remainder of their costs. There is essentially no fundraising done on their part, and their expenses regarding the travel costs are unrealistic, especially since we turned down the same costs by the English and Fine Arts Society. The team needs to become more self-sustainable, so we need to ask them to come back with a more comprehensive budget, but we will wait for Paul to return. It was suggested that we inform clubs that they should bring forward a fundraising budget to the meeting, alongside their proposal.
- Proud Algoma re-introduced their proposal, adding \$130 for fuel costs. The board had agreed to cover the registration fee and van rental to get the delegates to Ottawa. There was no commitment on the part of AUSU to cover fuel costs, and it would set a precedent for other clubs, so we will have to say no to the fuel costs. We will re-imburse them for their actual costs, minus the fuel, and Amie will communicate the information to them.

Agenda Item 8 : New Business

- Chantel wanted to address the issue of school spirit around campus. We seem to be lacking in this respect, but are getting better. We now have the LOAMERS, a social networking club provides students the opportunity get out and meet other students.
 - We need to get staff to support the students and clubs on campus. A club mailing list is being established so all the clubs can support each other.
 - This issue has been talked about ad nauseam, and we are no different then most universities, but it seems more prevalent because of our smaller numbers. Success is not determined by numbers, but through attitude.
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- Jonathon has received communication from administration, asking for our assistance on how to better reach the students. There has been a lack of participation and awareness on the part of the students, but there needs to be reciprocal respect from each side. The administration needs to be honest with the students if they want them to listen.

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- The administration must take into consideration that the demographics are uneven, with an older demographic trying to communicate to the younger demographics, and there needs to be a way to bridge the gap. They should consider implementing steering committees and recognizing that students have busy schedules.
 - The new representative positions need to be addressed. Their referendum success indicated approval by the students, but other issues must be addressed prior to adding these to the board. There will be no need for a by-election for these positions this time around. But, for consideration, there may be other pertinent positions to create if we are going to open up the board.
 - We are looking to complete our union policy. It has been borrowed from Guelph Central Students Association, and we could comb through it and cut and paste the parts we need. Everyone will be given sections pertaining to their own role and asked to work on it.
 - The date of the Annual General Meeting will be set for later in the year. Usual protocol is that it takes place sometime after the AUSU elections in April.
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- CFS Spirit of the North Conference will be November 9-11, and AUSU will be hosting this conference. Everything is put on and paid for by the CFS. The Conference will start the Friday at 5, and the finish approximately Sunday at noon. Delegates are being hosted at the Holiday Inn.
 - There is no final itinerary, but there are varying workshops and socials (wet and dry) being planned, and once everything has been finalized, the board will be emailed.

Motion to Adjourn (21:33)

Mover: Amie H
Seconder: Erin L
In Favour: Jessica F, Jonathon F, Chantel L, Vern C, Karen C
Opposed: None
Abstained: None