**MEETING MINUTES**

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|  | **Meeting:** | General Council Meeting |  |  |  |  |  |
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|  | **Date of Meeting:** | 9th September 2020 | **Time:** |  |  12:00 PM to 01:00 PM |  |
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|  | **Minutes Prepared By:** | GSA Secretary – Naga Venkat Palaparthy | **Location:** |  |  Individual home via Google Meet. |  |
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|  | **1. Meeting Objective** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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General Council Meeting

 **2. Attendees**



Executive Council Members: Sandeep Bonagiri (President), Naga Venkat Palaparthy (VP Academic Affairs and External Relations), Deepthi Gudapati (VP Student Life)

Management: Dr. Schmidt, Dr. Barb, Mr. Blair.

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| 3. Agenda and Notes, Decisions, Issues |
| Topic | **Discussion** |
| Other Issues   | * Sandeep told everyone that GSA funds transfer from financial department is pending and will be completed by next week
* He said that GSA emailed the registrations department to request the student count specific to program so that it will help all the council members to plan budget for the fall term.
* He added that registration department redirected us to contact financial department to know the details.
* Sandeep asked Dr. Schmidt whether GSA is authorized to ask for student count, or the information requested is confidential?
* Dr. Schmidt informed everyone that in terms of knowing numbers is one thing and there is no way of knowing the personal information.
* He further asked whether GSA is asking for information to confirm the amount received from students.
* Sandeep replied saying no GSA is not asking the information to confirm the funds received and the exact reason for asking the student count is GSA haven’t received funds of spring and summer from financial department and at the same time we can’t hurry uop and ask financial department the transfer date. So, to in order to plan for fall semester and for budget approvals we need an estimated total budget.
* He added that when planning for fall semester we estimated the student count to be 293. According to student statements, there is 150$ charge for student support and 25$ for GSA support, so we calculated 175$ per student and thought of planning the budget.
* While addressing the student concerns, GSA members realized that those numbers are not same for diploma students which results the estimated numbers to be less and also those who are doing diploma can’t be considered for upcoming semesters. To sum up, GSA asked the details for budget planning.
* Dr. Schmidt said that he will follow up with student accounts and financial department to know what information can be shared along with anticipated timelines for GSA funds transfer, so that GSA can plan accordingly.
* Dr. Barb told everyone that registrations department is not comfortable in sharing the exact student count instead they will share a tentative count information.
* Sandeep told that Dr. Sergey was approached by startup Edmonton where they asked for a meet with Concordia Graduate students.
* He said that GSA is interested in taking the ownership and conducting the workshop under startup Edmonton to all the students.
* Dr. Schmidt asked whether the event is open to MISAM/MISSM and asked is the event includes information about practical opportunities in and around Edmonton
* Naga replied saying that we planned for a meeting with Dr. Sergey where can have more information about the event and other details to proceed further.
* Deepthi said that she filled all the checklist parameters and she is planning to have published the event details through social media
* She further added that games planned for events is totally un interactive more like a quiz.
* Deepthi said that the registrations for the meet and greet event is strictly for Concordia students and the food ordered for the event is costed to be around 450$.
* She told that Taylor penny whose presence is mandatory for campus events will be present for 12th event but said that she won’t be available for 25th event which need to be discussed.
* Bhargava told that he is working the E transfer thing and also said that he has appointment with the accountant to file IT returns for GSA.
* Dr. Schmidt told that work related to Graduate Assistance is completed and students who are interested to apply for GA positions will need to complete the online course to be eligible.
* He added that the moving the course to online we ensured that the same information is shared among everyone and expectations for student’s assistance to professors.
* Dr. Barb asked all the council about the feedback on online teaching from the students.
* Naga said that students are receiving it very well given that it saves lot of time in travelling to university and also said few courses have prerecorded sessions from professors which gives students more opportunity to revisit.
* Deepthi asked Dr. Barb about the intention of prerecording the Diwali and Africa day events and making available to students as a recording is bothering her lately.
* Dr. Barb said Deepthi to have a planning conversation with Nancy where there is possibility of having limited number of students on campus by following the precautions.
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