

# Association of Graduate Planners – Meeting Minutes

Thursday January 27, 1pm

In attendance: Tanya Christidis, Rylan Graham, Mark Ouseley, Matt Quick, Hale Jones-Cox, Ria Brown

Agenda Items:

1. Updates on last meeting's items:
  - a. Meeting time:
    - This time is generally fine
    - If you can't make it tell someone so we know not to wait for you
  - b. Intramurals:
    - Both teams 1-0
    - Some spirit of competition issues
    - Still need to be paid by most people though, starting next game will be expecting more payments
    - Games will be on Wednesdays and Thursdays from next week on (overlaps with CAPS)
    - Hale will send out an e-mail update to members
  - c. AGP T-shirts:
    - Civilian worked out very well (except for some issues with Hale's shirt) so we should use them again
    - All the money has been sorted out between Mark & Tanya
  - d. AGP Website:
    - Domain name costs ~\$15/yr – if we get one we could just have it forward to the Wordpress site; Josh will look into domain name & hosting, create a chart and share the info by next week, next meeting we'll decide on this
    - Mark suggests using 50webs for free hosting – professional looking
    - Hale is not on the website under Meet the Executive – Josh will add him
    - Under roles Tanya's e-mail is incorrect – Josh will fix this
    - Adding a tab for prospective students: will have info to attract people to UW, website links (course timetable, Facebook group, etc.), blurbs - Ria & Tanya will work on content
  - e. Facebook group:
    - i. Rylan had tried to change the name of the old group but couldn't, but it turns out we could change the name of the old group (it's made to be difficult)
    - ii. Pros & cons to new type of group vs. old in terms of function
    - iii. Although the old group has more people they aren't very active
    - iv. Vote held:
      1. in favour of using the new group: 4
      2. in favour of using the old group: 1
      3. abstain: 2

4. We will continue using the new group, anyone with issues can talk to Tanya

f. WESEF:

- i. Large format printer/scanner – Hale discussed this with the department and they weren't receptive to the idea due to issues with maintenance costs not covered by the grant
- ii. TA room – Tanya's meeting with Mark Seasons is on Monday but it turns out the TA room will be moving (based on a notice in there now)
- iii. Other ideas for the money: fixing up the grad classroom (EV1 350) e.g. more outlets – we need to find out fate of the room & would need permission from the Faculty because it belongs to them; we should try to think of other ideas but a lot will depend on EV3 space allocation which hasn't all been figured out yet

g. Social events ideas for Feb (Hale/Rylan):

- i. Piggy-backing GSA skiing event to Chicopee on Feb 12 is an option
- ii. Orientation week idea – “Meeting in the dark” a la “Dating in the Dark”?
- iii. Laser tag
- iv. Skating
- v. Board games at Grad House – tentatively in two weeks (Hale will talk to Rose about availability of booking second floor/green room), will be BYO board games, probably 10-15 people expected
- vi. Group trip for the weekend – Detroit/Cleveland/Flint/Buffalo/Niagara Falls/New York
- vii. Social with Ryerson – could go to the Summit Centre for the Environment in Huntsville (this would then be the group weekend trip)

h. Trivia time (Ria on behalf of Erica):

- i. A survey was sent to those who attended either of the first two trivia games with 9 votes for Tuesday 12pm, 7 votes for Monday 8:30pm, 1 vote for either, and 3 non-responses → Trivia will be held each week on Tuesdays from 12-1pm

i. Snack'n'Learn (Tanya):

- i. This will happen after CAPS but a date is not confirmed yet
- ii. Mark Groulx and a friend of his (who is working now) will talk about their experience writing their Master's theses & answer questions provided by students in class
- iii. Tanya & Erica will provide snacks
- iv. Since this event is taking so much time to coordinate, Erica should start moving on the next one (probably for March)

j. Charity Ball (Tanya):

- i. Clay & Glass Museum will charge \$100/hr for venue rental & we would need to rent tables & chairs
- ii. We should wait until after CAPS to see if we like the venue
- iii. They have a list of suggested caterers & are licensed for alcohol
- iv. No new ideas on themes/charities

- v. Need to connect to EGSA on this – Tanya will talk to them
  - k. Constitutional reform position (Matt):
    - i. Matt hasn't talked to Jonathon yet but he will in the next week
- 2. EV3 Space Allocation (Tanya):
  - a. This was discussed at the ENV Town Hall meeting last week
  - b. There is a Space Allocation Committee headed by Rob de Loe - Tanya will be the grad rep & will push for grad space; there will also be an undergrad rep
  - c. There is an info meeting on Tuesday Feb 8, 3-4pm in EV1 221
- 3. OPPI Update (Matt):
  - a. Planning for the Future: votes postponed to April about changing the entry criteria for the profession
  - b. There are 2 scholarships available for OPPI student members: Southwest District, due in fall; graduate scholarship, due March 1 - both \$1000; Josh should put a link to this on the AGP website (Matt will send it to him to post)
- 4. CAPS Update (Matt):
  - a. Everything is going smoothly
  - b. Tentative meeting Monday at 3:30 for volunteers - will see an e-mail soon
- 5. School of Planning Update (Matt):
  - a. The eligible courses for the MES program are changing but this probably won't be applied to current students
  - b. Transitioning from Master's to PhD: draft guidelines have been developed (for instance, will need an 86% average over the 5 Master's courses)
  - c. The new Dean of the Faculty will start in July
  - d. Accreditation through Planning for the Future is being auditing: the school would like the PhD program to be accredited but there is little support because few schools have a PhD program; CIP is looking at bumping up the course requirements for the Master's program accreditation to 5 credits per term so it is standard across the board, but the courses could be adjusted (e.g. 710 could be worth 2 credits, thesis worth 5) - what has to be taught will also be standardized
  - e. Revamping of the MAES program is in the works
  - f. The School will be moving to EV3 over the summer & done by September
  - g. EV3 is on budget & on time
- 6. Dean's Council Meeting Overview (Tanya):
  - a. A new Master's program is being added - Knowledge Information
  - b. Discussed space allocation, how the space will look (design studio, map library) – open concept with dividers
  - c. Huntsville Summit Centre – students can book space to work on their thesis
- 7. Incoming Student Liaison Committee (Ria):
  - a. Rylan will post UW spam in Cyburbia
  - b. Ria will ask Brad & Kathryn for any files they have from last year
  - c. A blurb about the AGP will be put on the admission letter (Ria & Tanya are working on this)

- d. Other stuff doesn't have to be done until May
- 8. GSEF Application (Tanya):
  - a. The fund is for anything related to grad students so we should think of ideas
- 9. Photo Shoots in EV1 355/357 & 107:
  - a. **We need to be in these rooms next Monday 1:30-3:30pm** so they look full
  - b. They would like pictures of the AGP trivia game so we need to have fake trivia game 4-5pm on Monday<sup>i</sup> in the Grad house - Rylan will make up some questions, Erica should send an e-mail to the people who usually come to trivia asking them to be there

**Next meeting: Thursday February 10<sup>th</sup>, 1pm**

- *Agenda items should be sent to Ria and the agenda will be sent out on **Monday February 7<sup>th</sup>***

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<sup>i</sup> This time overlaps with the CAPS volunteer meeting so will have to be moved – look out for the new time.