

## Association of Graduate Planners - Meeting Minutes

Wednesday January 12, 2pm

In attendance: Anthonia Ogundele, Erica Warsh, Hale Jones-Cox, Matt Quick, Ria Brown, Rylan Graham, Tanya Christidis

Agenda Items:

1. School of Planning December Meeting Overview (Matt)
  - Discussed the prospect of upgrading from a Master's to a PhD program after 1 year but possible funding issues
  - Also discussed undergraduate course review starting in 2013 and changing some course titles
2. A better AGP meeting time?
  - Need to move the time so Mark can attend
  - People won't come on Monday or Tuesday because of class
  - New time: Thursdays 1pm – **Tanya will e-mail Mark & Josh to let them know**
3. Social Update (Hale & Rylan)
  - AGP will have dodgeball and soccer teams this term with games on Wednesdays (starting Jan 12) sometime between 3 and 10pm
  - Hale will be organizing soccer, Rylan will be organizing dodgeball
  - Each team has a \$225 fee plus \$50 performance deposit, paid by Rylan and Hale – **Mark needs to give them money for this**
  - Communication for the teams will be by e-mail
  - Both teams need more players
4. CAPS Volunteers (Matt)
  - An e-mail was sent to all grad planners before the holidays but more volunteers are needed
  - **Matt will announce in 701 on Monday asking for more volunteers**
  - **Exec should announce in their TA classes that volunteers are needed** (and it's a CV builder!)
  - There are currently 200 people registered for CAPS with 90 UW students
5. T-shirt distribution (Erica)
  - Done except for Hale's shirt which was screwed up – **Erica will be getting this remedied**
  - **Mark needs to talk to Tanya about the money** – she paid for them and gathered the money, but there was a \$2 profit margin on each, and she bought Pierre's shirt

6. Suggestions for website → Josh should implement these

- In “Meet the Executive” the formatting is off and should be fixed (ex: l?m)
- In “Executive Roles” the names and e-mails are out of date and need to be changed
- Some of the pictures are pixelated (Matt, Mark especially) – next meeting we’ll take new pictures
  - can Josh or Mark bring their camera? (Tanya will find out)
- A post about CAPS should be added
- A tab/section about past and future social events should be added
  - Erica will send Josh the trivia scores to post
- A tab/section for incoming students should be added
  - Rylan will talk to Josh about the content but it’ll include an invitation for new students to contact the exec with any questions about courses, picking an advisor, where to live, research topics, etc.
  - Also the possibility of a “landing” or “splash” page to direct new vs. current students
- Possibility of purchasing a domain name
  - Cost – around \$10/year plus a bit more to customize it
  - What are Josh’s capabilities for this?
  - Ria will ask Darryl about costs and get a quote
- AGP Facebook group is difficult to find
  - Rylan will create a new group: University of Waterloo Association of Graduate Planners
  - AGP exec will be made admins and can add people to it
  - Class of 2012 group will be shut down also once this is up & running

7. WESEF (Anthonia)

- The difference from last semester of \$500 will be distributed in the next 3 weeks – Anthonia will verify this with Ryan
- Another \$40,000 is available this semester so if there are any ideas ask Anthonia or check the website for criteria for applying
  - Put it toward the TA room – tables, dividers; Tanya will find out what the future of the room is at her meeting with Mark Seasons next week
  - Hale suggested purchasing a large-format printer/scanner
    - cost about \$20,000, not currently one on campus
    - Hale will talk to John Lewis about this (it had been discussed by the department before but didn’t proceed because of cost recovery issues)
    - need to consider space to put it – MAD lab? Map Library?
- In October there will be a competition for \$100,000 (was supposed to have been granted last semester but too few applications were received and most considered simple aesthetic changes) – this will be advertised this term

## 8. Social event for January (Hale & Rylan)

- Goal of one social and one learning event every month
- Tanya would like there to be something small organized to introduce the new students to everyone
- Ideas for events
  - Snowboarding day trip in February
  - Laser tag (possibly with Tron)
  - Yuk Yuk's – maybe for next weekend, **Hale will call them**
  - Outdoor skating/hockey game
  - Game's night – could rent a room in Grad House and use their games, this could be organized quickly
  - Inviting Ryerson students (reciprocate fall walking tour of Toronto) – maybe sports day
  - Brewery tour
  - Baseball or basketball game
  - **Hale & Rylan will decide on January social event by end of the week** (probably Yuk Yuk's)
  - **Everyone should brainstorm ideas for events**
- Should Trivia time be moved?
  - Low turn-out this week (Tuesday 12pm)
  - Monday after class? – late so second years wouldn't come and always work due Tuesday, but some people trying to have class end earlier because of commuting to Toronto
  - Will try Monday this week (Jan 17) to see if more people come – **Erica will write an e-mail to send to everyone with the new time**

## 9. Lunch seminar for January

- Aiming for something educational/helpful for thesis: how to write funding proposals/apply for grants, explaining the thesis process and expectations, poster presentations from peers on their research, what a thesis proposal looks like, how they chose a topic/timeline/scope
- **Erica will ask Mark Grulx to host one in January**
- Lunch & learn – will provide snacks/coffee – Environment Coffee Shop?

## 10. Connecting with new/incoming students

- Should consider using Cyburbia – flood student lounge/forum with UW promos

## 11. Charity Ball

- Goal of \$50 cost (\$10 of which will be donation), plus a non-perishable food item
- Theme ideas:
  - Night in Paris (girls love that stuff)

- Safari
- Want to keep it formal, will discuss next meeting – **everyone should brainstorm ideas**
- Location possibilities:
  - Tannery, Bauer Kitchen are too expensive
  - Tanya is waiting to hear from Starlight but would need a caterer
  - Train to St. Jacob's opens April 2 – too late in term but could be a social event venue for next year (murder mystery for Hallowe'en?)
  - The Museum - \$2000 to book, max 150 people – would be affordable if we could get a cheap caterer
  - Clay & Glass Museum – going there for CAPS, **Tanya will get a quote**
  - FedHall/South Campus Hall also options, but off campus would be better
  - Roxanne's?
  - Could ask for free use of the venues as a donation
- Charity possibilities:
  - Habitat for Humanity – local, planning-related
  - Humane Society – puppies are cute
  - Something environment related so EGSA will be on board

Additional Items:

12. A big thank you to our Christmas Party organizers, Hale & Rylan!
13. Creating a new AGP position for constitutional reform and appointing Jonathon Pinto
  - Motion by Erica, seconded by Tanya
  - Vote: 7 for, 0 against
  - **Matt will talk to Jonathon**

**Next meeting: Thursday January 27<sup>th</sup>, 1pm**

- *Agenda items should be sent to Ria and the agenda will be sent out on **Monday January 24***