



APSA General Council Meeting
November 29, 2021 17:00

1. Call to order (17:00)
2. Roll call (2 min) Marzena, Talia, Carolina, Molly, Rachel, Ivy, Zoria, Alyssa, Daniel, Jasmine, Kallie, Katie, Nathan, Garrett, Naomi, Mostafa, Jared, Rokhand, Amandeep, Diane, Alyna, Mahnoor, Saad
 - a. Regrets: John
3. Additions to the agenda (1 min)

Motion: To approve the agenda
First: Molly. **Second:** Rachel.
4. Minutes of the last meeting (1 min)

Motion: To approve the previous meeting minutes
First: Molly. **Second:** Talia.

New Business:

5. Study Groups - Garrett (10 mins)
 - a. Garrett: This idea fits in with the survey we sent out to students we sent out. We got around 125 responses from students. Over the Christmas break, the executive council will work on summarizing the results and make a sheet that will answer and address questions and concerns. We saw a lot of students wonder if there is a possibility to have tutor groups or study groups. That is something we think that we can provide and put together easily. Our plan is to have some study groups for finals. We are going to be booking rooms in ECHA and we will have sign-up sheets for students to study in groups and help each other out. It is very informal, and students can study, do group work or use them as they see fit for studying.
 - b. Amandeep: I talked with the class representatives in my last meeting with them. We are waiting on booking confirmation and then we can start sending out the sign-up sheets. 1st and 2nd years were the most interested as the 3rd years mostly have their study groups.
 - c. Garrett: Yes, we saw it mostly from 1st and 2nd years as they haven't had the chance to socialize as much and make those connections. I also think this is a way for us to help students socialize and make new friends.
6. Funds for Awards Committee - Daniel (10 mins)
 - a. Daniel: I wanted to bring up that we may have missed an award during the original budget approval. It is the Community Service Learning award. It was previously valued at \$500 back in 2019-2020, but in 2020-2021 no one applied which made us consider if it is needed. Now Amandeep and the awards committee discussed it with me, and we want to continue giving back to the student body for what they are doing for the community and not just for the faculty. Our proposition is to reinstate the \$500 into the 2021-2022 budget. This would increase our budget for VP Academic by \$500 and the logic behind that is to give back to our peers. This is an important time to recognize the work that students have been doing. Garrett and I can't make this motion on our own, which is why I am bringing it up to council. As an aside, everyone should be able to view the budget, so you are more than welcome to look at it, but it is not available to the public. We will also have a few more expenses for this year, for insurance and CAPSI memberships. Over the Christmas break, I will try to reconcile all the expenses that we have made.
 - b. Garrett: Before we vote on this, does anyone have any comments?
 - c. Carolina: I am just wondering about the 3rd years right now, is there a way that you will distinguish community service from the community service course we are in? Is that valid as community service?
 - d. Daniel: There are criteria for every award and we can review that in the meetings with the



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- committee. I don't think it excludes it, but I can discuss it with Amandeep.
- e. Amandeep: If they did want to use that as part of their application they can, but we will review that. Say if all students that applied only applied based on the community service course, and no one had anything beyond that, then perhaps we would give the award based on that. There is the application form and letter of intent, so we really do look into that. I am hoping that individuals know that CSL was a course. Do you think it might be valuable to make that an exclusion criteria?
 - f. Carolina: Dr. Guirguis made such a difference between volunteering in the community and community service learning, and since it was technically a course for credit, it might be a good idea to exclude it.
 - g. Amandeep: Thank you for bringing that up, I'll bring it up to the committee.
Motion: BIRT APSA approves the reinstatement of \$500 into the VP Academic budget for Community Service Award with 2 recipients for the 2021-2022 school year.
First: Daniel. **Second:** Zoria. **All in favour. None opposed. Garrett abstains.**
7. APSA Bear - Molly (2 mins)
- a. Molly: Hi everyone, I wanted to say thank you again to John for giving me the APSA Bear last week. This week I wanted to give it to Jasmine. She has been doing a great job with fundraising and it boosted my spirits last week receiving some candy boosters and I think all the students appreciated that. A lot of work went into Unveiloween and moving RxFactor, so thank you Jasmine.
 - b. Jasmine: Thank you for that, I am very honoured. I'm excited for more fundraisers, especially the Pie-In-The-Face fundraiser. The contestants will include the Dean, Dr. Beahm and Anjela.
8. Additions to the Agenda
- a. Councillor Reports - Marzena (1 min)
 1. Marzena: I wanted to remind everyone that they are due on December 22 at 5pm. They are a way of keeping us accountable and transparent to the student body. If you have any questions, you can ask me. If you want to see some examples, they are listed on the APSA website. Does anyone have any questions regarding that?
 - b. Summary of Planned Events - Marzena (3 mins)
 1. Marzena: This idea was brought up and students have reported this in our survey. They would like to know more about what we have planned for the rest of the school year. We will compile a summary of planned events for the winter term, so I ask that you kind of work on this over the Christmas break if you have time. I wanted to ask if it sounds fair to have this posted by the first week of the winter semester. It would be done by January 7, 2022.
 2. Carolina: Will this be a document that everyone can access?
 3. Marzena: It'll be similar to the event spreadsheet that I made at the beginning of the semester, that way students can kind of look forward to what we have going on.
 4. Garrett: I think that's a great idea and I think it is reasonable to provide it to students at the beginning of the semester.
 5. Diane: I was wondering if this is for tentative events as well?
 6. Marzena: Yes, it is. Even if it isn't planned yet, you can put it in there and that way we will also be able to gauge student interest in the event. I will make a combined document and then everyone can kind of work on it during Christmas break.
9. Adjournment (17:20)
Motion: To adjourn
First: Diane. **Second:** Rokhand.