MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
January 21, 2010

ATTENDANCE: Zach Fentiman, President
Leah Trueblood, Vice President (Academic)
Beverly Eastham, Vice President (External)
Nick Dehod, Vice President (Student Life)
Marc Dumouchel, General Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by FENTIMAN at 12:30.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: FENTIMAN/TRUEBLOOD moved to approve the January 21, 2010 agenda as amended.
   4/0/0 CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: TRUEBLOOD/DEHOD moved to approve the January 14, 2010 minutes and to table the January 18, 2010 minutes until the next meeting.
   4/0/0 CARRIED

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS: No announcements.

5. ACTION ITEMS: Not reviewed.

6. STUDENTS’ COUNCIL: EASTHAM: Have heard that the January 26, 2010 meeting may need to be adjourned and then reconvened on the same night after a short bylaw meeting in order to get the PAW referendum question passed correctly. Will talk to the Speaker about this and see if he is aware of what is going on.

7. OLD BUSINESS: No old business.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

   a) Wall of Gold

      FENTIMAN: Elections would like to use the Wall of Gold over the course of elections for advertising.

      TRUEBLOOD: I imagine that other people may want to use the wall for other things during this time, so specific dates that elections would like to use the wall would probably help us decide whether or not to approve this request.

      FENTIMAN: Let’s table this request until we know the specific dates that elections would like the wall.

9. DISCUSSION PERIOD:
a) Conference Report
(FENTIMAN)

FENTIMAN: We have received a conference report from Amissa Jablonski for the NODAC (National Orientation Directors Association National Conference 2009) Conference that she went on. It is being tabled as an information item for the executive.

b) Haiti Relief
(EASTHAM)

EASTHAM: Justin Benko (AVPX) is working on this. It looks like he has been able to get the Red Cross to set up a giving page. We will probably launch this next week. Nigel has put together a really good powerpoint presentation that we will be able to play on SUBstage and has also got a webpage going that we can launch when we launch the rest of this campaign.

c) Elections Video Camera Request (FENTIMAN)

FENTIMAN: The CRO is looking to get a video camera that could be used to do profiles of the candidates for elections. Once the student group video camera is purchased she should be able to that one.

Dumouchel: For short-term immediate needs Jen Wanke is looking at getting something using the capital budget for the RSDS (they will need to stream the debate and this will likely need a video camera of some sort) which could likely be passed of to Jen for elections use after RSDS is over.

Action Item: Dumouchel will check in with Jane Lee about the status of the video camera that was supposed to be purchased for students groups

d) Group Events (DEHOD)

DEHOD: Recently I have been invited to a number of events that different student groups are holding. While I can’t make it to all of them it might be good to see if we can divvy them up and have a few execs at each of these events.

Action Item: Dehod will send out information about events that we have been invited to, Execs will check their schedules and see what they are able to make it to

e) Academic Materials Consultant (TRUEBLOOD)

TRUEBLOOD: Kindle will be coming to Canada in the next 12 months. This will really speed along the changes that we were expecting to see in digital textbooks, etc. This issue crosses some portfolio lines, so it might be something that we want to talk more about before we continue pursuing it.

DUMOUCHEL: Is there any objection to trying to retain the position functionality of the Academic Materials Consultant (no opposition for the exec was noted)

TRUEBLOOD: Lots of room to think about the possibilities of using this position. Need to also think about getting this work up on the wiki as Kristen is separate from the organization in some ways and this work has not being archived on the wiki yet.

f) Action vs Resources

DUMOUCHEL: This week has been a tiring one for a lot of people. I think it has started to bring the discussion about action vs. resources into the spotlight. Nick and I had a very good discussion about the number of projects/activities (actions) that our organization, executives, staff, directors, etc. pursue in a year. There is a tremendous amount of work being done and I
am unsure whether this is how it always is in our organization or if this is an exceptional year.

In my opinion there are three likely possibilities:

a. We are doing a lot of work, but everyone is working efficiently and this is as much as we can do with what we have
b. We are doing a lot of work, but not everyone is working efficiently and we could get more done if they were
c. The work load has significantly grown and even though everyone is working efficiently the available resources have not kept pace with work load

It seems like the third option is the most likely.

We need to do a better job of transition, but I am unsure who actually has the time to enhance this process. Have identified 7 areas where I would put more people in if we had all the money and resources in the world (which we clearly do not).

GROUP DISCUSSION:
There is a need for an internal governance officer (that you could go to with questions about referendum questions, operating policies, and other internal governance questions – they could make sure that everything is standardized and meeting our internal governance standards)

Business manager would be helpful.

A communication person would be very valuable.

Student group liaison would be amazing. Someone whose job it would be to go around and talk to students. In the end it doesn’t matter how much of our communications are moved online, the best way to talk to students will still be to go out and talk to them face-to-face.

A full-time programmer would help with many of the ‘extra’ events that we find ourselves doing (RSDS, Centenary Celebrations, Dodgeball Tournament).

We are under resources, but as our resources are limited it is a question of where staff hours can be best used and how positions in departments can be moved or restructured to match up with our needs. There is a way to strategically invest in staff hours to ensure the largest return on investment. It is just a question of taking the time to figure out what it is and what the best way to do it will be.

10. REPORTS:

a) President

- Going through 1 on 1s with councillors and other stakeholders
- VPOF Nomination Committee is going well – meeting tomorrow to look over nominations and interviewing on the weekend
- BAC yesterday – user fee details were delineated there and further discussion will happen at GFC Student Caucus tonight and at GFC on
Monday
- PAW Meeting today
- CAUS going to Lethbridge this weekend

b) VP Academic
- ASC was all morning
- Students and governance meeting yesterday
- GFC Student Caucus is tonight
- Etiquette model about how the university communicates expectations to students – working on this with Nigel
- Feedback from FAs on their ‘letters of understanding’ in regards to market modifiers to the governors

c) VP External
- Have been spending a lot of time working on CASA Policy Committee work – policies need to be in to Home Office by Feb 12
- CAUS is going to Lethbridge this weekend – we will likely talk about the campaign or “day of action” that we have planned for Feb 2
- Next week is going to be incredibly busy – so many things to get done by the end of February!

d) VP Student Life
- Working on Dodgeball. Always. Dodgeball everything!
- Health Plan meeting was on Wednesday
- Going to start preparing everything for the PAW referendum

e) General Manager
- Many really exciting things to work on these days
- Focusing on “fixing fundamentals”: budget stuff, manager meetings
- Process identified last term, looking at strengths and weaknesses
- Planning and options preparation: helping to get the staff up to speed faster
- Talking to Nigel about taking a serious look at how the website works and also developing a useful/more effective communication and marketing strategy
- Something very interesting I am working on: packaged a number of key university documents together and will be distributing them to staff and directors so that they can look at how these documents tie in with what their units are working on – will later be asking them to give suggestions on what they think should be perused
- Lying the ground work on video information system in SUB and at Infolink locations
- Room and Venue management systems and ways to resolve some of the issues that we are having with this currently

11. CLOSED SESSION: No closed session

12. ADJOURNMENT: EASTHAM/FENTIMAN moved to adjourn. 4/0/0 CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 13:45.