

Gateway Student Journalism Society

Meeting Minutes
Thursday March 18, 2021

Opening

The regular meeting of the Gateway Student Journalism Society was called to order at 7:11pm on March 18, 2021 remotely over Google Meet by Mitchell Pawluk.

Note: Adam Lachacz took a leave of absence for this meeting, and Mitchell Pawluk was appointed Acting Chair.

Present

- Robyn Paches
- Damian Lachacz
- Kate Turner
- Pia Co
- Mitchell Pawluk
- Emma Jones
- Katie Kidd
- Jonn Kmech
- Lee Craig

Approval of the Agenda

Mitchell Pawluk motioned to approve the agenda. Pia Co seconded. The agenda was approved with amendments to New Business.

Approval of Minutes

Action Items: Minutes from the February meeting and last week's emergency meeting need to be approved

Reports

- Editor-in-Chief

Pia Co took their report as distributed.

They will be working with Campus Saint-Jean on Guest Columns. There will be a continuing partnership with ISA and The Landing (training happening in two weeks). The Purity Test is coming out tomorrow. Lastly, payroll has been arranged for the rest of the year.

- Magazine Editor

Pia Co reported in lieu of Tina Tai.

Due to the DFU vote loss, Magazine Production will be halted immediately. 50 copies of the February magazine will be printed to be distributed to volunteers. March/April magazine issues will be combined in an online magazine for the end of the semester.

- Online Editor

Pia Co reported an increase in 25,000 views from last year. More election coverage articles than have ever been posted. The Penguin Protest and Brain Drain articles among others have received a lot of traffic.

- Executive Director

Emma Jones reported that curbside and mail pick ups have slowed down. Management decided that the Square website should be closed at the end of the month and re-evaluated in future years.

The U of A Alumni Association donated \$2,000 to The Gateway. The ED and Finance Committee are making it easier to collect donations from alumni and students at large through PayPal. Additionally, in order to set up a Gateway Patreon, need to become a federally recognized non-for-profit organization. The Gateway Alumni Association should be considered for revival. Some future measures could include an alumni newsletter, mailing list, etc.

The Executive Director advised the Board that the position's focus for the next two months should be re-considered from ad sales to donations and bursaries.

Discussion Questions

- Jonn Kmech asked about the inactive Gateway Alumni Association existing within the U of A Alumni Association. There should already be an in-depth list of alumni from the 90th and 100th anniversaries.
 - He confirmed to Emma Jones that contacting the U of A Alumni Association for access to Gateway files. Pia Co mentioned that it may require the permissions of a current U of A Alumni Association member.

- Marketing & Outreach

Emma Jones reported in lieu of Shenin Mehnaj.

The latest readership survey bumped out follower numbers on social media. The Student Issues Survey was used to guide questions at the Gateway election forum. Shenin has taken over newsletter responsibilities from Pia Co. Marketing & Outreach are anticipating engagement around the Purity Test.

- Finance Committee

Robyn Paches reported for the Finance Committee.

They focused on reviewing Emma Jones' financial documents, discussing interactions with the U of A Alumni Association and what the role of the ED should look like for the next two months.

Robyn advised speeding up the Gateway seeking casino status, work towards the organization to be designated to run a casino, as well as federal non-for-profit status.

- Governance Committee

Emma Jones stated that the committee is in an uncertain time due to restructuring from the DFU vote loss.

She suggested that committee operations should be paused until priorities (such as revising bylaw) are more fleshed out.

- Human Resources Committee

Alana Krahn was absent from the meeting, but a more substantive update will be held later in the meeting in camera.

- *The Gateway* Future Plans Task Force

Mitchell Pawluk reported on the task force's progress so far.

Unfinished Business

- In-camera discussion: Gateway media and statement strategy

The meeting moved to in-camera at 7:37pm.

The meeting returned to out-of-camera at 8:08pm.

New Business

- Winter Readership Survey Results

Basic statistics were included in the Marketing & Outreach report.

Action Items: A full report similar to the previous readership survey should be sent to the Board shortly.

- In-camera discussion: HR Committee Discussion

The meeting moved to in-camera at 8:14pm.

The meeting returned to out-of-camera at 9:05pm

- Discussion regarding priorities for March and April

Priorities list prepared by management staff and Mitchell Pawluk

Determine who on staff is essential

Action Items: A Doodle poll will be sent to all Board members to decide when an emergency meeting discussing next year's staffing should continue.

Pia Co and Emma Jones explored the possibility of the Annual General Meeting on April 30.

The best time to discuss this will be next meeting.

Action Items: Volunteer availability and bylaw requirements for providing notice of the AGM.

Jonn Kmech mentioned that the remaining federal funding needs to be allocated.

Agenda for Next Meeting

- The meeting minutes from February's meeting and last week's emergency meeting require approval
- Discussion items for emergency board meeting

- Allocation of remaining federal funding

Adjournment

Motion for Meeting to adjourn by Mitchell Pawluk Seconded by Damian Lachacz. Meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm by Mitchell Pawluk. The next general meeting will be at 7:00pm on April 15, 2021 remotely over Google Meet.

Minutes submitted by: Damian Lachacz

Approved by: The Gateway Student Journalism Society Board