

PENDING MINUTES

JACFA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

December 17, 2014

Penfield 204

1. Adoption of Agenda.

Julien Charest moved; Jessica Burpee seconded. Carried.

2. Adoption of minutes of General Assembly on September 22nd, 2014.

We did not have quorum at the October 7th General Assembly therefore we need to adopt the minutes from the September GA. Alex Panassenko moved; Stephen Bryce seconded. Carried.

Announcements

Jessica Burpee (Geography) presented a letter calling for support for climate change literacy and integrating sustainability into all College processes and practices in the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan. She asked members who support it to sign her letter before forwarding to the directors' team for consideration for the Strategic Plan. [APPEND TEXT]

Sandra Stephenson (HPR): The College will soon have electric car charging stations.

Deb Lunny (HPR): JAC has its first gender-neutral bathroom (the first in Quebec). Location is in the corridor in Stewart Hall near HR. Thanks to Roger Haughey for supporting this student initiative. The College is including two additional gender-neutral bathrooms in the renovation plans.

Roy Fu: Through negotiations with Administration, JACFA and other syndical organizations on campus were able to secure a role on the Strategic Plan "editing" committee.

INCA: We have a new proposal from the Admin (November 2014). There will be an online survey to gather faculty's comments and suggestions and a discussion and vote at the February 2015 General Assembly.

3. Financial Report and Financial Motions

Richard Masters gave a brief overview of our finances and presented the financial report [APPEND REPORT]. We took in \$530,000 in revenue and spent \$488,000. This resulted in a surplus of \$49,000 which we put into our strike fund (at present \$252,000). For reference, in 2005 we struck for five days and spent approximately \$200,000.

Stephen Bryce proposed we amend the motion by revising the name of the committee to the "Financial review committee."

The statement was reviewed by Christine Jacobs (ILT) and Violaine Ares (HPR), JACFA's financial review committee. **Financial report moved by executive. Carried.**

Financial Motion

BIRT General Assembly authorise the Treasurer to send a \$300 donation to the CSN Christmas Basket Fund. (Executive Motion). Carried.

BIRT JACFA provides financial assistance in the amount of \$250 for the Simon Kevan lecture. Moved by Sandra Stephenson. Seconded by Eileen Kerwin-Jones. Carried.

4. Updates

a. Insurance Plan Changes, Jeffery Brown

Changes were voted to insurance in October. Jeff explains the changes and answered members' questions.

b. Mobilization and Negotiations update

Jean-Marc Beausoleil gave an update on mobilization and negotiations; during a recent phone conference at the latest Regroupement FNEEQ learned from Yves Bolduc that the priority of the Ministry of Education is to reorganize the "college offer" to create; this could mean asking CEGEP teachers to take on more work for less pay. Austerity is an ideology of fear used to destroy the social contract in Quebec; Common Front is composed of over 450,000 public service workers working together to negotiate the new collective agreement. March 31st is the expiration date for our current collective agreement. Members offered their views on austerity and mobilization along with what they believed would be effective mobilization strategies and questions for our collective reflection.

c. Labour relations

Sharon and Mark gave an update and answered members' questions.

5. CEEC—Boycott of Quality Assurance (*Assurance qualité*)

Jean-Marc Beausoleil gave a presentation on the background of Quality Assurance and asked members for their perspectives and suggestions for how to deal with its arrival on our campus. At stake is what the Demers report characterizes as the consistent production of a "marketable educative product" which we believe will result in a deformation of general education and critical thinking at the heart of the CEGEP mission. A spirited discussion followed. Some concerns were expressed about the motion and potential boycott because we may lose control of formulating the questions and interpreting the results. It was suggested that we articulate an alternative vision of quality education along these lines:

Quality education is achieved by well-resourced departments and autonomous teachers working collaboratively in a dynamic environment not increased bureaucratic oversight and imposition of a corporate model in public education.

Motion

Whereas the Quality Assurance process entails bureaucratic and ineffective methods; whereas the Quality Assurance process threatens to erode teachers' professional autonomy; BIRT all John Abbott teachers, in solidarity with other CEGEP teacher unions, refuse to participate in any manner in the CEEC Quality Assurance process.

6. Movement contre l'austerite