

**Staff Association Area Reps Meeting
Minutes of October 10, 2013**

Present

Rebecca Burwell	Ray Butterworth	Luanne McGinley
Annette Dietrich	Barb Blundon	Gail Spencer
Jason Gorrie	Robyn Landers	Jeremy Steffler
Tom Graham	Carlos Mendes	Melissa Zapletal
Trevor Grove	Carrie Lyn Hunting	Jason Gorrie
Jessica Bondy	Dianne Foreman	Monica Bothwell

1. Approval of Agenda

Add item on upcoming social events.

2. Approval of Minutes of September 12, 2013 Area Reps Meeting

Accepted as published.

3. Business arising from minutes (Carlos Mendes)

Carlos Mendes will report on the Provost search at next meeting.

4. AGM

AGM announcement has been circulated. In addition to the usual election procedures, there will be a presentation on the staff satisfaction survey by the organization that conducted it.

There are four director positions open, plus president. Only two applications were received for the director positions, and none for president-elect. Special steps may be needed after consulting the UWSA constitution. Write-in candidates are a possibility.

Question arose: What does it say to the UW Administration if we can't get directors or president? Increasing awareness is an important goal. UWSA has had some recent success, e.g. the announcement from Provost about UW engaging Excellence Canada in response to recommendations from the staff lifecycle project.

Comment: Serving on the board has benefits of representing other staff and side-benefit of exposing one to career path opportunities.

Question about time commitment: Minimum is 4 hours per month for the board meetings, plus another couple of hours for subcommittee meetings, and more for further preparations and more in-depth involvement. The university grants 10 hours a month of release time for directors, and a bit more for treasurer and secretary.

Suggestion: Hold an orientation session for new directors as to how things work, to start off on a positive note. Carlos confirmed that planning and preparation for that is already underway.

5. Upcoming social events

Annual craft sale, SLC, November 6/7. A handful of spots are still available for the shopping trip Nov 8-10.

6. Other Business

The agenda was completed quickly. Casual discussion on various topics followed. A sampling of comments...

The staff satisfaction survey showed a large proportion of respondents are satisfied or neutral; it's hard to get people engaged.

Send just one early announcement, and then one last-minute announcement for meetings/events etc. There has been some success observed by using last-minute announcements.

Use Exchange calendar to invite all UWSA members to meetings etc.

Use MailChimp for analytics of email / web responses.

Some staff who come to the career action centre with serious problems are unaware that the UWSA can help them.

Carlos is urging the administration to publicly acknowledge UWSA's significant involvement in UW affairs, e.g. the rewrite of Policy 18, and to include UWSA president in UW town hall meetings.

Perhaps area reps could be called on for ad hoc participation on specific topics.

Chair: Carlos Mendes

Minutes: RBL