

Canadian Psychological Association Annual Convention
Section for Students
Student Representative Meeting Minutes

4:00 -5:55 pm, June 8, 2007
Reception hosted by Philip Jai Johnson and Kelly Smith



CPA Student Section members in attendance:

Kelly Smith: *Chair*

Philip Jai Johnson: *Campus Representative Coordinator*

Roxanne Sterniczuk: *Undergraduate Affairs Coordinator*

CPA Campus Representatives in attendance:

Brock University:

Michelle Green – *Graduate Campus Representative*

Amanda Weston – *Undergraduate Campus Representative*

Carleton University:

Kathleen Hughes – *Graduate Campus Representative*

Dalhousie University:

Heather Fulton – *Graduate Campus Representative*

Huron University College at Western:

Evanya Musolino – *Undergraduate Campus Representative*

Kwantlen University College:

Michelle Behr – *Undergraduate Campus Representative*

Memorial University:

Brandy Doan – *Graduate Campus Representative*

McGill University:

Allison Kelly – *Graduate Campus Representative*

University of Ottawa:

Shannon Nuttall – *Undergraduate Campus Representative*

University of Prince Edward Island:

Yee May Siau – *Undergraduate Campus Representative*

Université du Québec à Montréal:

Geneviève Lavigne – *Graduate Campus Representative*

Jocelyn Bélanger – *Undergraduate Campus Representative*

University of Toronto:

Dawn Pollon – *Graduate Campus Representative*

University of Western Ontario:

Paula Brochu – *Graduate Campus Representative*

York University:

Benjamin Giguère – *Graduate Campus Representative*

Topics discussed:Information for current campus representatives:

- Reminder for reps to find their replacements when they resign from their position
Note: At some universities such as Carleton, undergraduate reps are elected by the local psychology student body

CPA Student Recruitment Poster:

- Put information about CPA awards and grants on the poster to attract students' attention
- Reminder on poster for students to pay their membership dues
- Note: this poster is being created by the Student Section Executive this summer for distribution in Fall 2007.

Student Quality of Life:

- To create a database on student demographics (e.g., funding stats), & quality of life (QOL) issues such as: travel grants, increasing lab space and equipment within universities, and reducing student debt
- Create an online survey and make the results public - but not by school, perhaps by province to ensure some degree of confidentiality
- Undergrad reps have difficulty getting undergrad students interested in joining CPA, since many have yet to decide if they want to pursue a career in psychology
- Create a "buddy" program with graduate students across the country for undergrad students (who may want to apply to grad school for instance)

CPA Convention:

- In order to offset conference costs for students and encourage their students to become more involved with CPA, host city universities could offer to pay their students' early registration fees. The University of Ottawa did so for their students this year, and many students from the U of O attended the convention.

- CPA is already trying to help out students as much as possible – early registration fees for students is already significantly lower than for non-student members
- The convention should be also advertised as an avenue for undergraduate students to meet potential graduate supervisors, and learn more about potential careers in psychology
- Address poster presentations etiquette in a handout for next conference
- Create a summary of convention programs, and create a PDF document to put on the website

New Student Executive Position:

- New Communications (bilingual) position within the CPA Student Executive opening in September: details to follow

Membership Concerns:

- Difficulty finding a faculty sponsor: CPA cannot distribute faculty email addresses to students looking for a membership sponsor
- Students cannot be membership sponsors, further complicating the search for a sponsor
- Sections must increase student representation and take note of their involvement. E.g., the developmental section is considering folding due to lack of interest, without considering the opinion of its student members
- Possibility that students seeking CPA membership may only require a letter from their department certifying their registration as psychology students. This will be voted on during the CPA Annual General Meeting. Note -it was passed!!

CPA Student Website recommendations:

- List school psychology dept website links, and their program manuals
- Make the student section website easier to navigate and more "attractive" - i.e., add pictures

Campus Representative Packages:

- Significant time delay in receiving hardcopies of rep packages from head office.