

## **UTERN EWG Meeting**

**26 March 2014**

**6:20-7:25pm, ES1042**

### **MINUTES**

**Present:** Lesia Kinach (UTERN Internal Executive Liaison), Martin Zhang (UT Marine Life Advocacy), Ananthavalli Kumarappah (GSU), Jessica Denyer (Harvest Noon), Lorena Tere (U of T Energy Fair), Alex Tavasoli (U of T Energy Fair), Melanie Mastronardi (GCI)

#### **1. Environment Week Feedback**

- Martin suggested that UTERN provide more help with promoting events
- Suggestion: have two executive members in charge of social media and ensure they are covering different networks
- some questions raised about how the panelists were selected

#### **2. UTERN Feedback**

- a. Funding application process
  - i. GCI felt it was a very lengthy process and were unclear on how specific you need to be in the application
  - ii. There were some miscommunications about how to get the money
  - iii. Would be helpful to post a good sample application online and create a list of guidelines for what UTERN will or will not fund
  - iv. It would help if UTERN set a deadline for submitting applications so groups know approximately how long they will have to wait for a response
- b. Borrowing cutlery/plates
  - i. Providing disposable plates and cutlery is helpful for clubs
  - ii. UTERN should make it clear on the website that you still need to fill out a funding application for the plates and cutlery, and disposables
- c. EWG meetings
  - i. Meetings were enjoyable and good for making connections
  - ii. Suggestion: leave some meeting time unstructured and open for discussion/networking amongst attendees
  - iii. Suggestion: make meetings more of an informal social; have attendees bring other members from their groups with them so students in the environmental community get to know each other
  - iv. Suggestion: invite outside organizations to sit in on meetings or connect with UTERN so students can hear about other resources and opportunities (e.g. Ontario Centre for Excellence)
- d. Green Drinks – what attracts students to events?
  - i. lack of options for vegans/vegetarians can be a barrier

- ii. Suggestion: host a meeting or event just before so that people can attend Green Drinks after as a group
  - iii. Suggestion: can get a liquor license to host an event on campus instead
- e. Website
  - i. The updated layout looks good
- f. Facebook use
  - i. The internal Facebook group is working well
  - ii. Suggestion: create another Facebook group or page for external use, where all students can access info on U of T environment events
- g. Environmental leadership training
  - i. Lorena suggested that hosting an exec training workshop geared towards environmental groups could be very helpful
  - ii. Jes mentioned that OPIRG has this kind of programming
  - iii. other leadership training workshops are not very accessible and not geared towards environmental leaders
  - iv. Lorena also mentioned it might be helpful to have different professors give advice on what areas to focus on in the environmental movement

### **3. UTERN elections**

- a. Date: April 16<sup>th</sup> – see website for more info

### **4. Updates from Groups**

- a. MLA
  - i. Currently working on a letter campaign
- b. Harvest Noon
  - i. Hosting a procrastination event series in April – see Facebook/website
  - ii. Launching a survey to find out how to improve the café's programs
- c. HH Farm Committee
  - i. Last event of the term is Sugaring Off
  - ii. Looking to get the gardens more productive over the summer