

## MINUTES OF TGSA BOARD MEETING 08/11/2014

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**Start:** 08/11/14 9am – **End:** 08/11/14 11am

**Location:** Senior Common Room

**Members participating:**

Rathika Balthasar (President)

Tayo Aloah (VP Internal Affairs)

Latchmi Raghunanan (VP Operations)

Alexander McPherson (History Representative-M.A)

Athira Mohanan (Materials Science Representative-PhD)

Peter Hammersley (Anthropology Representative-M.A)

Lauren Banks (Environmental Commissioner)

Richard Herman (Environmental and Life Sciences Representative-MSc)

**Regrets:** Bex Williams (VP Finance); Elizabeth Ramsay (Interim VP Student Affairs); Kristen Potter (Sustainability Studies-MA); Michelle Klein (International Representative); Greg Tracey (Psychology Representative-M.A./M.Sc.); Steve Martin (CUPE); Stephanie Dotto (Canadian Studies-PhD); Paul Ciuk (Theory, Culture, and Politics Representative-MA); Gary Larsen (Senator)

**\*\*AGENDA\*\***

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Amended Minutes from June 9, 2014
4. Approval of Minutes from July 7, 2014
5. August BBQ
6. Intro week activities
  - a. *Environmental* walking tour [Lauren]
  - b. Movie night [Rathika]
  - c. *Historical* walk [Rathika]
7. Sustainable Studies concern re access time limit to contents of blackboard
8. Update on International Students' Union meeting at City Hall, Toronto [Latchmi]
9. Committee required for nominees for City of Toronto's International Student Awards
10. Update on Long-term planning committee
11. Update on OGSA representation
12. Members to update/ manage website
13. Members to manage twitter
14. TIP camp
15. Meeting Adjourned

**\*\*MEETING MINUTES\*\***

1. Call to Order  
9.15 am without quorum.
2. Approval of Agenda  
Approved in favour 7; Abstain 1. Absent: Philip Abbott (Health Coordinator), Ashley Neale (Equity Commissioner)
3. Approval of Amended Minutes from June 9, 2014  
MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM JUNE 9th (Rathika)
  - o **MOTION SECONDED [Latchmi] AND APPROVED**
  - o Approved, all
4. Approval of Minutes from July 7, 2014  
MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM July 7<sup>th</sup> (Rathika)
  - o **MOTION SECONDED [Latchmi] AND APPROVED**
  - o Approved, all.
5. **August BBQ**
  - Proposed date: 20th
  - Philip Abbott has a Costco membership which will be used to make purchases for the event; Athira Mohanan shall assist Latchmi Raghunanan with logistics for the event.
  - Richard Herman shall make arrangements for burger storage. Lauren Banks shall arrive early to assist with set up on the day.
  - Enquiries to be made into use of the Seasoned Spoon as a mitigation plan in the event of rain. Alternative will be LEC; we will avoid the Great Hall.
6. **Intro-week activities**
  - A GSA Talk for 20 minutes, a presentation shall be prepared and presented:  
  
MOTION TO APPROVE A TOTAL OF TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2000) FOR INTRO-WEEK ACTIVITIES (Latchmi)
    - o **MOTION SECONDED [Alex] AND APPROVED [In favour: 9; Against: 0;]**
  - a) ***Environmental walking tour [Lauren]***  
  
MOTION TO APPROVE A TOTAL OF A HUNDRED AND TWENTY DOLLARS (\$120) FOR GIFT CERTIFICATES FOR TRIVIA PRIZES (lauren).
    - o **MOTION SECONDED [Tayo] AND APPROVED [In favour: 9; Against: 0;]**
      - Event: tentatively September 2<sup>nd</sup> 11.00 am;
      - Indicate that we'll be ending at champlain. vegetable gardens, drumlin,
      - A plug shall be placed on Facebook on and sent to student lists. Latchmi to prepare a poster

- Risk assessment needs to be completed;

**b) *Movie night [Rathika]***

- It was determined that the 4<sup>th</sup> is the best for movie night.
- The GSA will need to rebook spaces with Deb.
- The movies will include 2 comedies that are family friendly for the first 2 hrs; Rio, Zoolander. Sunset on the movie night is expected at 7.30pm.

**c) *Historical walk [Rathika]***

- CUPE to reassign pub crawl moneys to historical walk? Philip Abbott will follow up to either the movie night allocation or historical walk allocation. The 5<sup>th</sup> is proposed tentatively as a date for the historical walk.
- Michael volunteered to lead the historical walk in the afternoon and end at the pub with it starting at Trend. A talk on the history of Trent, Trail, and Peterborough will be delivered to participants.

**7. Sustainable Studies raised concerns regarding the access time limit to contents of Blackboard**

- Agreed to put concerns forward.

MOTION TO TAKE LETTER OF CONCERN TO GRAD STUDIES AS IS (rathika)

- **MOTION SECONDED (Alex) AND APPROVED [In favour: 9; Against: 0]**

**8. Update on International Students' Union meeting at City Hall, Toronto**

- Latchmi presented on the meeting and agreed to follow up with graduate studies on the information presented to graduate students.

**9. Committee required for nominees for City of Toronto's International Student Awards**

- Rathika Balthasar, Tayo Aloh, Athira Mohanan and Lauren Banks shall comprise the committee.

**10. Update from Principal Michael Eamon**

- Thank you to Rathika for Saturday's participation at the BBQ.
- Jim Henry is running for Town Ward and wishes to engage with students at Trill. He is a progressive liberal this is not an endorsement he wants to engage students who live in the Ward. His email is [jhendry9@cogico.ca](mailto:jhendry9@cogico.ca). The GSA is not to start engagement with politicians and cannot give out the student mailing list or contact information. The responsibility of discussion does not reside with the GSA. The GSA can organize debates

for Town Wards to facilitate engagement of graduate and Traill students with the community.

MOTION MOVED BY (Alexander McPherson) that if joint discussion with other candidate is proposed the GSA would be willing to inform their membership of such an event. Beyond that it is not our mandate.

○ **MOTION SECONDED [Peter] AND APPROVED [In favour: 8; Against: 0; Abstained: 1 (Tayo)]**

- Other: College fellows: Bill and Marley Waser, both trent alumni are to be hosted in guest suite the college will meet costs, there shall be a formal hall (reception) in November 2014.

#### **11. Update on Long-term planning committee**

- There was no meeting of the Long-term planning committee to decide what long term goals of GSA will be. An Advertisement will be paced in the newsletter informing students that if they have strong feelings about what goes on into the GSA short and long term goals they can communicate this to the GSA.
- The goal is to integrate grad students into college

#### **12. Update on OGSA representation**

- Sage Flemming has accepted the position as OGSA student rep. It is now the decision of OGSA board whether they accept her or not.

#### **13. Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

- All questions submitted for membership to be review at least two (2) weeks prior to the AGM. This will require the full attendance of board members at the September meeting. The date for the AGM needs to be discussed along with the updated by-laws by this meeting. The referendum question of an OGSA levy of four dollars (\$4.), and the promotion of a senator to an executive position.

#### **14. Members to update and manage the GSA website**

- It is the responsibility of the Vice-President Operations to update the website. However, input is required from the Board.
- Talks of overhauling the existing TGSA website to make more user friendly. A tentative budget restriction of \$100 is imposed for this exercise. Gary's contact is to be contacted to find out what we can do.
  - what do we want the site to contain? mobile accessible, less tabs.
- Phillip suggested that maybe CUPE can volunteer support.

- Alex is willing to assist Latchmi with website management; will be provided admin access to TGSA webpage.

#### 15. Members to manage Twitter

- There are not many students that use twitter the GSA doesn't have a strong twitter presence as it is not a popular mode of communication among Trent students.
- It is suggested that in future the management of Facebook and Twitter should be moved to student affairs portfolio.

MOTION TO MOVE SOCIAL MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS TO VICE-PRESIDENT STUDENT AFFAIRS POSITION (rathika).

- **MOTION SECONDED [Richard] AND APPROVED [In favour: 6; Against: 0; Abstained: 2 (Latchmi, Rathika)]**

#### 16. Trent International Programme (TIP) camp

Discussion: Do we still want representation at TIP if we only have one person? Resolve: It's not about numbers, it's about representation.

*The membership is not clear about what TIP provides.*

MOTION TO WRITE BOTH PARTIES (TIP OFFICE, GRADUATE STUDIES) TO BRIDGE GAPS (Latchmi).

- **MOTION SECONDED [Rathika] AND APPROVED [In favour: All]**

#### 17. Binding for thesis (voting items)

MOTION TO APPROVE THREE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED AND NINETY DOLLARS (\$3390) OF BUDGET TO BE ALLOCATED TO SUPPORT THESIS BINDING FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS ASSUMING 100 GRADUATING STUDENTS (Rathika)

AMENDED MOTION TO REFLECT \$16.95 PER COPY FOR THE BINDING OF 2 THESES

- **AMENDED MOTION SECONDED AND APPROVED [In favour: All; Against: 0; Abstained: 0]**

#### 18. Other:

- Introweek
  - Teaching Assistant training to be provided online training; CUPE suggested a 30 minute talk.

- A discussion of GSA speaking experiences to be held with Jennifer this training is not to be scheduled on same day as the intro.
- Trent think tank.
  - Traill is assigned a book course of action to be undertaken is in question.
- CUPE update
  - To be provided by Wednesday for the newsletter an item from CUPE advertising steward for all departments (16); 16 stewards ideally; 50/ semester.
  - The definition of a steward was requested it was defined as a representative Specific to a department the first point of contact.
- TGSA Committee representation
  - Tayo Aloh (VP Internal Affairs) is actively recruiting for unfilled positions

**19. Meeting Adjourned 11.31am**