

Minutes of TGSA Board Meeting, 15/10/15

Start: 6:14pm, End: 8:00pm

Location: Wallis Hall 102, Traill College, Peterborough, ON

Notes: Jessica Correa Skyping In, Alison Fraser calling in

Chair: Laura Thursby

Scribe: David Hollands

Attendance: Laura Thursby, David Hollands, David Bak, Alison Fraser, L. Renee Hendricks, Avinaash Persaud, Carolyn Reid, Hiten Dave, Jessica Correa, Michael Jorgensen, Natalie Baron, Sara Affleck, Theresa Treasure, Swarsattie Kishun, Melissa Baldwin - **Quorum Met**

1. Presentations:

- a. NONE

2. Motion to Call Meeting to Order: Laura Thursby

Second: David Hollands

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

3. Motion to Amend the Agenda to Include Carolyn Reid's Equity Commissioner Report:

Laura Thursby

Second: Theresa Treasure

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

4. Motion to Approve the Agenda: Laura Thursby

Second: Alison Fraser

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

5. Motion to Approve the Minutes from September 24, 2015 Board Meeting: Laura

Thursby

Second: David Hollands

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

6. Executive Reports (See Attached):

- a. President
- b. VP Internal Affairs
- c. VP Finance

- d. VP Operations
- e. VP Student Affairs
- f. Senator

Motion to accept reports: Alison Fraser

Seconded: Theresa Treasure

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

7. Commissioner Reports, Board of Director Reports, Committee Reports, and Other Reports

- a. **VP of Internal Affairs:** Food Services Advisory Committee--
This committee just met. It is forming four interesting subcommittees—budgets, operations and marketing, sustainability, and catering—if you think you might be interested in any of these, please let me know as they are open to people outside of the committee. Also there are new sustainable initiatives being introduced to the Symons Campus cafeterias, such as the Eco Tray. One of interest is when you bring a re-usable mug you will start getting \$0.10 discounts on your beverage. This initiative should be in full effect by October 2015. The DNA Café is a point of concern. Its operations are no longer sustainable. If you have any ideas or suggests for the café, the committee would like to hear them. Please email them to Alison Fraser (alfraser@trentu.ca). If you have any concerns or questions about the food on Symons Campus, please email them to Alison Fraser (alfraser@trentu.ca) to pass them onto the committee.
- b. **Equity Commissioner** Carolyn Reid
- c. **Environmental Commissioner** Theresa Treasure
- d. **International Student Representative** Bafumiki Ross Mocheregwa

Motion to accept reports: Laura Thursby

Seconded: David Hollands

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

8. Departmental Issues/Question Period

- a. --

9. Items and Main Motions:

9.1 Three Minute Thesis Competition Support (President)

Whereas the TGSA has supported the Three Minute Thesis Competition in previous years to the amount of \$500,

BIRT that the GSA continues to support the event by donating \$500.

Motion: Laura Thursby

Second: David Hollands

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

Justification:

The Three Minute Thesis is part of a professional/ developmental opportunity for graduate students. It is designed to allow graduate students to develop their abilities to present their research in a concise way that the general public can appreciate. For the past two years, the GSA has given the event \$500 per year. The money covered the registration fee for our winner to compete in the Provincials. The GSA is credited for funding the event.

9.2 Fekete Distinguished Lecture Contribution (President)

BIRT that the GSA offers a contribution of \$100-\$200 to the Fekete Distinguished Lecture.

BIFRT that we will offer a contribution to the amount of: \$150.00

Motion: Laura Thursby

Second: David Hollands

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

Justification:

Since its inception in 2013, the lectureship had brought distinguished interdisciplinary scholars to Trent whose work has been of interest to faculty, graduate students, undergraduate students, and members of the Peterborough community. This year's speaker, Colin Milburn, has an exemplary interdisciplinary profile. Dr. Milburn holds the Gary Snyder Chair in Science and the Humanities at University of California, Davis. A professor in English, Science and Technology Studies, and Cinema and Technocultural Studies, Dr. Milburn's research and publications focus on the relations of literature (especially Science Fiction and Gothic Horror), science (especially nanotechnology) and technology (especially as it relates to video gaming and to the Digital Humanities). He will be presenting his lecture, "Science Fiction and the Project of Posthumanist Science," on November 5th. The lecture is open to all graduate students, and there will be a seminar on the Friday morning open to all graduate students to meet with Milburn and discuss his work. Since the speaker is coming from the University of California, funding for visiting speakers is quite expensive, and the GSA has been contacted to help support the talk.

(Description of the lecture: This lecture will address the curious relationship of science fiction to modern science and the production of high-tech futures. Focusing on a historical case study—the physicist Gerald Feinberg's theorization of tachyons—and then expanding to consider broader intersections of speculative fiction and experimental research in recent decades, Colin Milburn will show the extent to which science fiction as a narrative genre and a mode of discourse

propagates a posthumanist way of doing science, disordering inherited distinctions between mythology and technology, present and future, the human subject and its alternatives.)

Minutes

-Cory: had we expected to budget some funds for this?

-Laura: The GSA does have funds to give to Graduate students, though this specific one we have not given to before. David B. would know more of the budget.

-David B.: emergency donation budget available, wasn't used last year, so we can use

-Jessica: who else is funding it?

-Laura: they didn't say specifically, but I know that some of the department, Cult Studies, is giving money, not sure who the other departments are

9.3 Pumpkin Carving Event (VP of Student Affairs)

Whereas it would be fun to have a pumpkin carving contest at the GSA pumpkin carving event,

BIRT we get \$5 and \$10 dollar gift cards to local businesses totaling \$30.00 as prizes for the pumpkin carving event.

Motion: Renee Hendricks

Second: Cory Baldwin

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

Justification:

The pumpkin carving event is coming up, and if anyone has any ideas regarding prizes, let me know. They need to be cheap. I suggest \$5 and \$10 dollar gift cards to local business like Black Honey.

Minutes

-Theresa: carving equipment?

-Renee: I'm looking into getting carving equipment for the event

9.4 Prizes for Trent Trivia

Whereas Michael Eamon has approached the GSA to be a prize sponsor for Trivia at the Trent,

Whereas gift certificated to the Trend are a nice prize,

BIRT the GSA buy 3 gift cards to the Trend for Trivia totaling \$30.

Motion: Renee Hendricks

Second:

Approve:

Oppose:

Abstain:

MOTION NOT HELD

Justification:

Would we want to sponsor cheap prizes for the Trivia Nights at the Trend? Michael Eamon has asked me to help plan these, but I might need to step down, as I was informed they would be held on the third Thursdays of the month, the same time as our board meetings. Traill College cannot give out prizes, but the GSA can. I know last year it was gift certificates to the Trend; they wouldn't have to be expensive (maybe \$15, \$10 and \$5).

Minutes

-Cory: is this a monthly expense?

-Renee: yeah, though Michael told us not to worry about that this month

-Theresa: trivia is Oct 22

-Laura: so this would be continuous?

-Renee: yes, we can table it for the next meeting. Event goes to April

-Laura: want to look at budget first

-Laura: I may be able to get more gift cards, would we want to look at cards other than the Trend?

-Renee: Eamon said Traill College cannot give out prizes :(

TABLED FOR NEXT MEETING

10. Other Business

a. Laura Thursby: CUPE AGM and Committee Position

-Laura: CUPE's AGM is next THURS at 7pm at Bagnani Hall, free food! Can department reps please let your departments know?

-Laura: CUPE has a health and safety committee that still isn't filled, it is a paid position, if interested, please email Alison. A once a month or so time commitment. You go around to different physical spaces making sure if they are safe and secure.

-Laura: and OUR AGM is Nov 18th.

-Renee: we won't have food for it

-Laura: it's an event, and there's supposed to be food for it.

-Theresa: I can help Renee.

11. Notice of Motions and Announcements

- a. **President:** After speaking with our CUPE representative at the last board meeting, it seems that the GSA is interested in supporting the efforts to address issues of funding for ABD students. The GSA is looking to form a Graduate Student Issues Research Committee to help conduct research about tuition that we could use to support our grievance. (The committee would be responsible for conducting research to compare tuition with other similar sized universities across Ontario and Canada; it would

- examine the funding formulas at Trent in comparison to other Canadian universities; it would research to see if other Canadian universities offer reduced tuition in later years of the program, after the student has finished coursework, etc). Please contact Alison Fraser at alfraser@trentu.ca if you are interested in forming this committee.
- b. President:** Reminder that it would be greatly appreciated if board members attended the Symons Seminar Series talks to support fellow graduate students and their developing research. The first installment of the series was on October 7th, and there were two wonderful talks given. The next event is Wednesday, November 4th, from 6:00-8:00pm in Bagnani Hall. Free food is provided. Please make sure that your departments know about this series, and encourage graduate students to attend. The event importantly helps bridge the gap between the arts and sciences and works to develop interdisciplinary links across our student body. It also helps support the GSA's academic initiative, so it would be wonderful if we could get a lot of graduate students interested in attending these talks!

Minutes

- Theresa: some of the people in Symons were informed about changing the funding?
 -Laura: off topic for this, but we can discuss this after
- c. VP of Internal Affairs:** Please encourage any first year graduate students you know to apply for the First Year Representative Position. I have had no one email with interest in the position.

Minutes

- Theresa: I sent one, but it got messed up, so I sent another. Should I send again?
 -Laura: yes, send Alison a message is interested
- d. VP of Internal Affairs:** I have a meeting with Jen Coulter (Director Housing). This is a great opportunity to bring our concerns, successes, and any ideas we may have about graduate housing to those who control housing. Please send me your ideas to my email alfraser@trentu.ca before Nov 3, 2015.
- e. Equity Commissioner:** Notice of the PACHREA Accessibility Subcommittee initiative to promote the MV1 Van.

Minutes

- Carolyn: this is a service provided to students free of charge, an article came out that showed out Trent wasn't designed for accessibility, this van is booked after you show documentation that you are in need, and it will take you from class to class on campus. They have a thing called Share Point, where you can post stuff like Google Docs. When they post the poster, we can go point it off.
 -ACTION ITEM, Carolyn: put poster for van in the next newsletter, Carolyn to send David H. the poster

12. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Alison Fraser

Second: David Hollands

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

ADDENDUM TO BOARD MEETING #1
(added to minutes October 19, 2015)

●●○○ ROGERS 11:24 PM 28%

SurveyMonkey Inc.

No rules applied

Rules allow you to FILTER, COMPARE and SHOW results to see trends and patterns. [Learn more](#)

SAVED VIEWS (1)

Original View (No rules applied)

+ Save as...

EXPORTS

SHARED DATA

No shared data

Sharing allows you to share your survey results with others. You can share all data, a saved view, or a single question summary. [Learn more](#)

Share All

PAGE 1

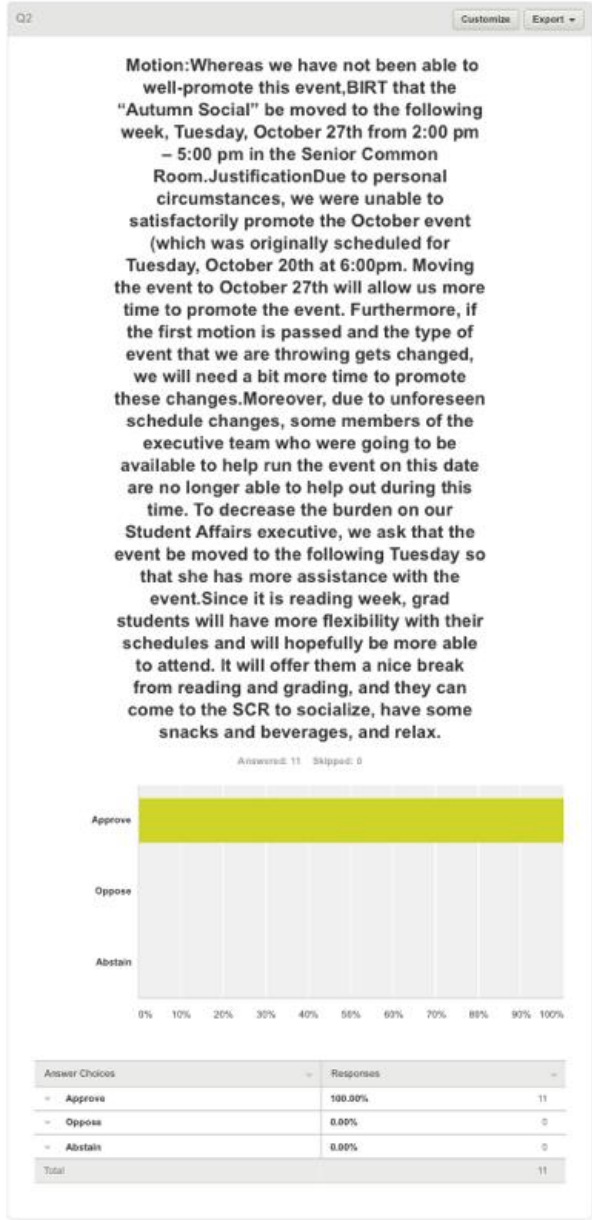
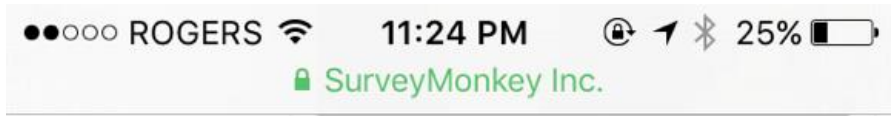
Q1 Customize Export

Motion:Whereas we have just discovered that the pumpkin carving event has various unforeseen restrictions placed onto it (including location, risk, and cost: see justification below)BIRT that the pumpkin carving event be changed to an "Autumn Social" with a reduced budget of \$100.**Justification:**We have recently learned that we will not be permitted to book indoor event space at Trallif if we plan to carve pumpkins, which would mean that this event would have to take place largely outside and would be subjected to weather conditions (and it is starting to get very cold out). We also have looked into the cost of pumpkin carving tools, and they are more expensive than originally budgeted. Also, risk assessment will not allow use of other types of carving tools (like larger knives), making it very costly for us to run this event as planned.Instead, we propose that we have an "Autumn Social" – a casual, and relatively inexpensive hangout for graduate students. We will book the SCR and will be making various autumn-inspired baked goods (Halloween cupcakes, cookies, Halloween candies/ chocolates, vegan and gluten-free snacks, etcetera), as well as favourite fall drinks (apple cider [non-alcoholic, of course], hot chocolate, coffee, tea). Students can drop by and mingle for as long (or as short) as they would like. We also will no longer have to buy pumpkins, pumpkin carving tools, or prizes for this event, which will save a significant amount of the budget for future events, like our upcoming AGM, where we will need a larger event budget and will want to be prepared to serve a lot of food.Furthermore, since the GSA would not really have use for things like pumpkins and pumpkin carving tools for future events, we will be avoiding spending larger expenses on things that will not actually be used again by the GSA.

Answers: 11 Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Responses
Approve	100.00%

ADDENDUM TO BOARD MEETING #2
(added to minutes October 19, 2015)



ADDENDUM TO BOARD MEETING #3
(added to minutes November 5, 2015)

MOTION: Budget of Food and Drink...

Summary Design Survey Collect Responses Analyze Results

▼ CURRENT VIEW ?

+ FILTER + COMPARE + SHOW

No rules applied ?

Rules allow you to FILTER, COMPARE and SHOW results to see trends and patterns. [Learn more >](#)

▼ SAVED VIEWS (1) ?

Original View (No rules applied) ▼

+ save as...

▶ EXPORTS ?

▼ SHARED DATA ?

No shared data

Sharing allows you to share your survey results with others. You can share all data, a saved view, or a single question summary. [Learn more >](#)

[Share All](#)

RESPONDENTS: 18 of 18 [Export All](#) [Share All](#)

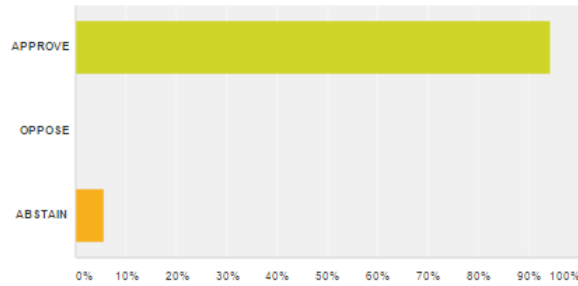
Question Summaries Data Trends Individual Responses

PAGE 1

Q1 [Customize](#) [Export](#) ▼

MOTION: Set Budget of Food and Drink for Nov. 18, 2015 TGSA AGM at \$250.00 Whereas there should be food provided at the TGSA Annual General Meeting on November 18th, 2015, BIRT the budget of the TGSA Annual General Meeting on November 18th, 2015 be set at \$250.00 for pizzas and assorted soft and non-flavored drinks from Pizza Pizza. **JUSTIFICATION:** \$250.00 was spent on last year's TGSA AGM for approximately 60 to 80 people. This sum covered the cost of pizza and beverages from Pizza Pizza. Based on the assumption that the event would attract the same number of people, the same budget of \$250.00 for this year's fall AGM is appropriate.

Answered: 18 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
APPROVE	94.44% 17
OPPOSE	0.00% 0
ABSTAIN	5.56% 1
Total	18