

Minutes of TGSA Board Meeting, 18/01/2016

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

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

Chair: Laura Thursby

Scribe: David Hollands

Attendance: Laura Thursby, David Bak, Avinaash Persaud, Natalie Baron, Cory Baldwin, Swarsattie Kishun, Bafumiki Mocheregwa, Carolyn Reid, David Hollands, Erin Lavery, Alison Fraser, Sara Affleck, Michael Jorgensen, L. Renee Hendricks, John Bessai, Amany Raslan

1. Motion to Call Meeting to Order: David Hollands

Second: Alison Fraser

Approve: 15

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

Motion to Amend the December 3, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes to Reflect that Carolyn Reid Was in Attendance: David Hollands

Second: Carolyn Reid

Approve: 15

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

Motion to Amend the Agenda to Include David Bak's Motion to Introduce Troy Bordun's Application for Conference and Group Support for Consideration: David Hollands

Second: Renee Hendricks

Approve: 15

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

Motion to Amend the Agenda to Include a Presentation by Alison Fraser Regarding Gathering Information on Departmental Language Requirements: David Hollands

Second: Renee Hendricks

Approve: 14

Oppose: 1

Abstain: 1

Motion to Amend the Agenda to Include Alison Fraser's Motion on Buying Three Copies of Robert's Rules of Order: David Hollands

Second: Cory Baldwin

Approve: 15

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

2. Motion to Approve the Agenda: David Hollands

Second: Brent Whitford

Approve: 15

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

3. Motion to Approve the Minutes from the December 3, 2015 Board Meeting, and Addenda to those Minutes: Alison Fraser

Second: Cory Baldwin

Approve: 15

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

4. 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: David Hollands

Second: Alison Fraser

Approve: 15

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

5. Presentations:

- a. **President and VP Operations:** New TGSA Office Hours for the Winter Term (see attached)
- b. **President:** Looking for new TGSA members for next year. While it is still somewhat far away (April 2016), we are starting to search for individuals interested in filling the executive positions for next year. While they cannot be officially nominated or elected until closer to the Spring AGM, we would like to start the conversation with interested students (potentially current board members) to help explain our roles. For our GSA to be recognized as an Incorporated Non-Profit, we need to have the position of President, VP Finance, and VP Operations filled at the very least during the Spring election period, so for our GSA to sustain itself, we need to make sure that we can find individuals who are interested in filling these roles, and we want to have a larger transition period to help explain the duties required for fulfilling these positions. Please bring this information back to your departments (or consider it yourself) – we would like to hear from anyone who is potentially interested.
- c. **President:** Search for New Dean of Graduate Students. Dr. Elaine Scharfe's term as Interim Vice-Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies expires on June 30, 2016. The Office of the Provost is currently forming the Search Committee for a Dean

of Graduate Studies which will act in an advisory capacity to the Provost and VP Academic. Two GSA students have been asked to serve on the committee. We are looking for nominations/ self-nominations of board members and executives to sit on this committee. While unspecified, there are a few suggestions that I have for the composition of these two students: (1) One executive, one board member; (2) One arts student, one science student; One Ph.D. student, one Masters student. I think having these three requirements are important for the composition of this committee, though this is certainly open to discussion. We will want to motion and vote in our nominations once we have two people who are interested and are representative of the greater graduate student body as specified above.

- d. **President:** OGSA Update. (see Addendum I for President's added notes)
- e. **VP Internal Affairs:** Language Requirements.

Minutes

a.Renee: I need to email you that I can only hold some Tuesday meetings until 11pm. *action item*

b.Renee: we are also preparing very clear transition documents so it won't be a free for all, and that will be uploaded to Dropbox and google drive.

c.Brent: when would this committee begin?

Laura: they didn't specify, but they want it soon

Brent: so, current executive?

Laura: yeah. I could potentially sit on the committee. It would make sense for me to do that, but that would mean that other position we would want is a masters science student, but I am open to anyone else to nominate themselves.

Alison:

Motion: I nominate Laura Thursby for a position

Second: Brent Whitford

Brent: how often will this committee be meeting?

Alison: it's going to be an intense committee, a really quick flash in the pan having worked with so many Trent committees, so very rewarding and the work will be there. Who's a master of science in this room?

Swarsattie raises hand

Swarsattie: I'll think about it.

Laura: any arts students?

Brent: okay.

Second: Alison Fraser

Laura: should we also have a Science student on this committee?

Brent: I think it would be important

Cory: yeah, different issues are to be considered

Renee: it is important for that

Laura: science execs interested?

Alison: I motion that we go with Laura and Brent for these positions if no one else comes forward by January 25th.

Renee: online vote if a science student wants to join?

Swarsattie: can I do what's Brent's doing? Wait, no, I take it back.

Laura: so moving forward, we'll have the nominations as Brent and Laura until next week if a science rep exec or board member doesn't come forward.

Alison: in that case, I propose an email call for nominations to be sent out tomorrow. *action item for tomorrow* Nomination period closes on the 22nd of January, vote for three days, and then it's done. Vote open from 22nd to the 25th.

Laura: let me make sure that they didn't specify a deadline... they did suggest having that by January 22nd.

Alison: so we should just set it for today, then.

Avinaash: if they need science, I can do it.

Alison: is it okay if Brent and Avinaash are both masters?

Cory: I think it's more important that we have both arts and science.

Laura: and I can forward my concerns to you as a Ph.D. student

Alison: so then Brent and Avinaash?

Motion to Amend: Alison Fraser

Second: David Hollands

Laura: so why don't we vote

Approve: 15

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

****motion passes****

d.Brent: two questions. Was our newly appointed OGSA rep informed of this meeting?

Laura: yes, she said she wouldn't be able to make it

Brent: any talk about improving communications to students?

Laura: there was a focus on that

Avinaash: is it just Ontario universities?

Laura: for Athabasca, enough students from Ontario are there that they formed their own group

Natalie: I think it'd be important to watch how they do over the next few months, and then see if we should pay

Laura: yeah, it is a small organization that are flexible in terms of pay, so if we decide to pay less, we could have less services, but they really do want to attract a number of different universities across Ontario. They are concerned about graduate student interests. Oh, and I did want to mention that they were interested in having their next meeting at Trent. It may fall on the next exec to organize that, but I think that's a good move on the OGSA's parts. And the president told me that he would be willing to come to one of our next Board meetings.

e.Alison: some PH.D. programs and masters programs have a vague language requirement, usually defined by department, so not standardized. If there is one, there is no assistance for grad students to meet that requirement to meet their degree. At Queen's, there were resources available, you have a number of different options. That's what I think we should have here at Trent: 1) define their requirement; 2) offer resources

Laura: in our program, we can take a free course, but there's limited time

Natalie: that is actually across all departments or programs, so they're using that as a way to make you take another course

Alison: what I was hoping to do is go around the table and let me know if there's a requirement and if there are resources available so that I can meet with you and discuss a proposal for standardization

Brent: and how they've met that language requirement

Alison: so I need your department, if there's a requirement, and if there are resources

Laura: it's unfair to those who aren't proficient in a second language

Alison: *goes around room, collects info* (see Addendum II for Alison's notes)

6. Commissioner Reports, Board of Director Reports, Committee Reports, Other Reports, and Other Updates

a. –

7. Items and Main Motions

7.1 February Event, Including Documentary Screening (VP Student Affairs)

Whereas the TGSA bylaws state that an International Event must be planned by the VP Student Affairs, partnering with the International Student Representative

BIRT the GSA host an International Event in the form of a February potluck and social.

BIFRT a budget of \$150.00 be set to cover the cost of drinks and sustainable/compostable cutlery and plates, as it will be up to students to provide food.

Justification: The TGSA bylaws state that an International Event must be planned by the VP Student Affairs, partnering with the International Student Representative. I would like to hold a Winter Social and International Potluck, where the TGSA provides hot drinks (coffee, tea, hot chocolate) and sodas, as well as all the plates, cutlery, etc. These can be compostable to comply with our sustainability mandate. Students will bring food, and we can include a Google Document sign-up sheet in the email to which students can volunteer to bring food items. I will be supplying some food, and other executives have also volunteered. We can also screen David Hollands' Traill documentary at this event. I propose the location be Bagnani Hall, as it has a projector, tables and chairs. This event should take place the last week of February, after Reading Week. I will contact Deb Nichols about possible dates Bagnani is open, possibly a Wednesday or a Thursday. Friday is also possible. The time could be 6-9 PM.

Motion: L. Renee Hendricks

Second: Second

Approve: 15

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

Minutes

Laura: did we want to set a date?

Renee: haven't heard back, but I was going to propose the 24th, 25th, or 26th. A Friday might be best in this case, which would mean there wouldn't be a lot of classes. It would give us time to clean up and ensure stronger participation. So tentatively let's say Feb 26th from 6-9pm .

Brent: throwback to the language requirement. Anthro doesn't have a formal language requirement, but the supervisory committee can ask you to demonstrate language proficiency.

Natalie: we have a student in Anthropology whose articles are all in French, and had to learn French to go to France and read all her articles

Brent: if that's the case, they should at least let the students know beforehand. We all choose our areas of research. I may have to learn Bulgarian.

Laura: there should be support for students to know what they should do.

7.2 Renewal of Health and Dental Insurance Plan with Student VIP (President and VP Student Affairs)

Whereas the TGSA currently uses Student VIP as their health and dental insurance provider,

Whereas the TGSA has established a relationship with the organization, and have worked together to implement strategies for going forward,

Whereas our insurance contract with Student VIP expires at the end of August 2016,

BIRT that the board approves the renewal of our contract with Student VIP for the next year.

Justification: Our insurance with Student VIP expires at the end of the year (August 2016), and so we have two options for how to proceed. First, we could do nothing at this point and allow the next executive to decide if they are wanting to renew this insurance, or second, we could make a decision to renew the insurance now, during our term. The benefits for the first option are as follows: the next executive and board will make the decision that will come into effect during their own term and so they will have control over what insurance provider we use. The benefits for the second option are as follows: we have an established relationship and have created an action plan set in place for providing more efficient health care services next year (especially in terms of opting in and out, and are discussing the possibility of other services, like the Massage Day, Exam Week De-Stress Events, etcetera). Making this decision now would also assist the incoming executive, since this decision would need to be made early on in their tenure and they may not have the knowledge developed to make an informed decision. This would allow us to have something in place already for the next executive team. We have used other insurance providers in the past and did not have open communication or a good relationship, and have found Student VIP to be very open and accessible to communicate our issues with. It might also be difficult for the next board/ executive to pass a decision on this issue, especially since it is very difficult to make quorum over the summer month meetings. Moreover, since the contracts tend to last for at least two years, it is certainly not unprecedented for the previous GSA to make this decision going forward. Attached is the contract for the renewal.

Motion: L. Renee Hendricks

Second: David Hollands

Approve:

Oppose:

Abstain:

Minutes

-Renee: all I would have concerns about is that they can't lock in rates, and that depends on how students are using the plans

-Laura: I met with one of the past presidents who was in charge, and that VIP did say that the rates are sustainable, and that she is surprised that the rates are increasing. She says she can come to our next meeting with Drew to ask why that is the case. I think it would be good that rather than passing the motion, we'll get ahold of Drew in February to discuss

-Renee: we can do this since this doesn't have to be done until August 2016

-Cory: I move that we table until after the discussion in February.

Motion to Table: Cory Baldwin

Second: Alison Fraser

Approve: 15

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

-John: I have one observation. I was wondering if there's some way we could ask if we could get our teeth cleaned more than once a year.

-Laura: that's based on students fees and enrolment, which is why our plan isn't as good as other universities. We could suggest if there's a way to restructure things that are being asked for, but I'm not sure what they'll say

-John: what I've noticed is that it seems that you can go see a dentist twice if you need to, and a lot of us need to see hygienists, so maybe ask if we can make adjustments before we renew

-Renee: we'd have to take to them to see if they could do anything for us, but my concern is that they would raise our rates.

-David B.: I would add that when we made that decision, there were different combinations that we made, dental went up less than the other coverage. So we could potentially toggle things around.

-Natalie: could something be done at the AGM to see what the students think? And then the next GSA can decide whether to move forward with that?

-Laura: as a referendum.

-Brent: do the undergrads have benefits?

-Alison: VIP

-Laura: you're getting at pooling together? That has been suggested, I'm open to that, but that was the case in the past, and a lot of the undergrad issues overrode any decisions made on the graduate level.

-Renee: you also paid monthly instead of yearly.

-Laura: I wouldn't consider taking that off the table. It's a decision that could happen if people are interested, but there are a lot of students in the past who have advised against that

-Renee: we have discussed that within our own exec, we decided that we wanted to keep GSA health care separate because it strengthens our mandate, it gives us a bargaining chip with the admin and the TCSA and are directly answerable to grad students.

-Renee: ****action item**** get in touch with Drew before we bring it up again

7.3 Purchase Three Copies of Robert's Rules of Order (Alison Fraser)

Whereas we do not have any copies of Robert's Rules of Order for the TGSA,

BIRT the TGSA purchase three copies of Roberts Rules of Order.

Justification: the TGSA does not have copies of Robert's Rules of Order, and we need copies of Robert's Rules of Order for the TGSA.

Minutes

-Alison: we've been under budget, and the copies are \$17 each

-Cory: I second the motion! So, why three?

-David B.: five was proposed first, so I said 2 to 3.

-Laura: we can order three now, order more, see if they're used, if so, order more.

-Alison: \$51 for all three, minus HST

Motion: Alison Fraser

Second: Cory Baldwin

Approve: 15

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

7.4 Troy Bordun's Application for Conference and Group Support for Consideration

Motion: David Bak

Second: Cory Baldwin

Approve:

Oppose:

Abstain:

Minutes

-Alison: was that the date of our social?

-David B.: yes.

-Alison: it means that we'd be competing for Bagnani.

-David B.: ****reads description**** (see Addendum III)

-Laura: I wanted to add to this that I've been approached for another potential group for funding next month, so keep that in mind

-David B.: to date, this support hasn't expended anything. We have \$1000.00.

-Renee: do we know for sure that the other two groups will come forward?

-Laura: I know one for sure.

-Renee: we should divide it into thirds.

-David B.: I did mention that I proposed \$250.00.

-Laura: in relation to this, we may want to put together a policy—

-Alison: it's done. You'll see it by the next meeting.

- Brent: other groups are putting up funding for this? Has he mentioned them? \$610.00 is the money they need from all these groups?
- John: what are we actually discussing? I don't know about this filmmaker or his work, what's the name of the filmmaking and what does he do?
- David B.: according to Troy, he's a world-renowned filmmaker
- David H.: he does adult entertainment and LGBT exploitation films
- Cory: do we want to be seen to be endorsing this?
- **Erin leaves**
- Renee: I wouldn't have a problem, as Trent is a very liberal community, and we shouldn't be seen as shying away from it. I do have a problem with the amount.
- David B.: that's why I said \$250.00.
- Brent: considering they want \$610, and they don't know what they're going to get, I think we can lower the amount even more.
- Jessica: I agree, it's a lot of money, and if it's not serving a broader crowd, I don't know how many would be interested
- Alison: I strongly suggest that we give them the \$250, 'cause they won't have enough money for such an event. I think it would be great for the GSA to do this as an equity event, I would strongly like us to support this.
- John: Here's my thought: if there's \$1000 and a few other groups, I would just go into thirds, it would get them there, and we can give the applicants half of what they ask for
- Brent: I would ask them to earmark \$100 specifically for food and refreshments.
- Natalie: I agree.
- Cory: I agree with \$250 because we know two groups are interested in applying for our funding, so if we spend all of it, there's nothing for anyone else
- Alison: in addition to \$100, they have to put our logo on their ads and acknowledge our sponsorship to get our name out to the community.

Motion to Amend to offer \$250, \$100 to food/refreshments, we mandate that our logo placed on ads: Brent Whitford

Second: Alison Fraser

Approve: 15

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

Motion to Approve Amended Motion: David Hollands

Second: Renee Hendricks

-David B.: a little more context, I asked Troy what if there was a surplus. He said there were several options: allows for more promotion and snacks, put toward Trent Film Society, pool into next year's event, or to return the money.

-Alison: surplus

-Renee: or a pool to start a bank account to go into future GSA events.

Motion to Amend the Amended Motion to Stipulate that Surplus Go to Funding for Future Troy Bordun Events: Alison Fraser

Second: Renee Hendricks

Approve: 15

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

MOTION to Approve: Alison Fraser

Second: Renee Hendricks

Approve: 14

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 2

8. Departmental Issues/Question Period

a. --

9. Other Business

a. Discussion on Traill Review (President) (see Addendum IV for notes)

Minutes

-Natalie: the president brought up the controversy of moving to downtown campuses. Then in brackets he said that undergrads pay more in fees than grads, which I see as a dig to us.

-Renee: I know we talked to Eamon about this, we've talked about opening Traill up to the hub of—

-Laura: I cover that in my notes too! I'm going to finish the whole thing.

-Laura: was Chris' info offered?

-Natalie: no. They mentioned a secretary whose email they provided to set up appointments.

-Laura: I heard that he might also be taking phone calls.

-Natalie: the article did say he would be taking in-person interviews

-Laura: the Arthur editor suggested otherwise. The call-only option is ridiculous because it limits voices, and we need to make sure that we're screaming loud enough

-Brent: here's what I don't know: whatever we're paying, I'm paying a lot in tuition to come to Peterborough which has nothing to offer, so if they're going to say what we're paying in fees, I'm going to raise questions about where the rest of my ridiculous tuition is going

-Laura: they're going to lose grad students.

-Brent: why are they okay with that?

-Natalie: all department reps should be going to their directors to bring it up with their departments

-Laura: we also want the directors to be on this working committee

-Natalie: I know some departments have certain agendas, so this could be a bargaining tool

-Laura: yeah, we really do want those directors involved

-Alison: I would like the GSA exec a letter to the Arthur and to Chris Tindall saying how much we love Traill and how untransparent this process is.

-Cory: and how important is for all grad students at Trent

Motion to Write that Letter: Alison Fraser

Second: Renee Hendricks

-Carolyn: ancillary fees have to be mentioned in the letter

-Laura: and invite the president to our board meeting

-Alison: he was saying negative things about Traill. It would be a meeting where nothing else is discussed

-Jessica: I do think that there is a lack of demand among grads, so while it's great for us, if there really aren't many people using this space, it's hard for us to make for us to make that argument, so we have to draw more grads to Traill to make that argument legitimately.

-Laura: the problem is the division between arts and science. I would say as a Humanities student that this college is so important to me and my education, and a lot of our tuition goes to Symons campus and services that I will never use, as a grad in the Humanities, this is my space, so for me this is very important

-Michael J.: how do we propose this in a way that is developing Traill?

-Laura: having Michael E. come to speak to us would be critical. Even the Trend was suggesting having breakfast programs to attract students here. There's a bunch of things that can be done to bridge that gap even more.

-Michael: as a science student, I spend no time here, but I like the idea of what it is in terms of Trent culture

-Laura: it's symbolic

-Michael: it's a history point in the community, it'd be good for me to bring something back to the Psych department

-Laura: I've also talked to science students who don't know that spaces here are available to here

-Brent: grad res is here, Bagnani is here, facilities are here, so even if science students don't use it, I'm very doubtful that there aren't science grads here. Everyone can make a better effort to use the space here

-John: I wanted to agree with Jessica. I've noticed since I started that this really is beyond comprehension that kinds of incredible things going on in Bagnani. It would be an act of vandalism to eliminate this aspect of Peterborough. I think it's taken for granted that this is a cultural capital of Peterborough. Not that there aren't cool things in Peterborough, but I will say that the linkage to Symons is well maintained. There's no problem getting between campuses. What they're after is probably the cost of the linkage. If we need case studies of people using Traill, maybe there can be a shortlist of people who can attest, who can be the subject of that research. You want to talk to certain people who, right off the top of their head, have info about how important Traill actually is. What is it that we can say to turn this around? I think the fee stuff was important.

-Laura: it's what David's been doing with his documentary, trying to get more student voices as possible

-Swarsattie: from talking to sciences students, they spend time at Symons because their labs are there, if you ask a science student why they don't come to Traill, they have no reason to go, they don't know that they can use this space for other things. I was able to mention a few of these things to them, but they were centered in the idea that they don't care. And there's a lot of them. Science student have a lot of voting power.

-Laura: suggestions or strategies to reach them?

-Swarsattie: I'll brainstorm

-Cory: our only avenue of communication will be blocked. We need to have ways to back channel info to Chris Tindall that can't be blocked.

-Natalie: as an Anthro student, I'm on the Symons campus, I think that the excuse that I have no reason to come is terrible, enviro students have no place to study, why not open spaces for them? It depends whether they would want an office on Symons here or not.

-Brent: I agree that the excuse is stupid. The GSA's at Trent. Grads have a reason to come to Traill. Can grads live at Symons?

-Alison: no, they would live at the Annex by Tim Horton's. No individual apartments.

-Brent: we should focus heavily on the science program directors, if the students don't live on Symons. Program reps should talk to their departments about booking Bagnani solid for the rest of the year. It has residence here! There is no excuse.

Motion to AMEND: Alison Fraser (we have the Letter to Arthur and Chris Tindall which we vote on, I will get in contact with the entire Board and GSA exec send out an email to contact program director with a handy letter attached, and to hold special meetings specifically with science student departments to discuss Traill and the GSA)

Second: Cory Baldwin

-Renee: I have my events at Traill. If people don't come, talk up the February events

-Brent: I understand that we're targeting sciences. I think we amend to push ALL the programs!

-Alison: sure! I'm already doing it. We'll add all departments.

-Jessica: one last thing... I'm wondering if they added how to develop Traill to grab more people to come here.

-Laura: that'll be the working group.

Motion to AMEND to send letters to all departments: Alison Fraser

Second: David Hollands

Motion to send two letters, all department reps with attachments to send to graduate chair about Traill, and meetings with all grad reps with their departments to discuss GSA and Traill College: Alison Fraser

Second: Cory Baldwin

Approve: 15

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

-*action items, President*: email Chris Tindall and President to ask if they can come to board meetings, and email Michael E. to attend our next meeting

-Natalie: if we do end up finding that the timeline is until the end of February that we have an emergency meeting

-Laura: it's going to last until March

10. Notice of Motions and Announcements

- a. **VP Operations:** I want to interview you for the Traill College documentary! If you would like to participate, please send me an email at davidhollands@trentu.ca to schedule the interview. I have until the last week of January 2016 to finish collecting interview. **Please contribute your voice!**

11. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Renee Hendricks

Second: Alison Fraser

Approve:

Oppose:

Abstain:

Addendum I – President’s OGSA Meeting Notes

- OGSA Meeting
- Will be putting together a list of gains that have been made, so we can distribute to board / student bodies
- Rather new organization – participants include: Waterloo, Guelph, Trent, Laurier, McMaster, Athabasca, UOIT (other universities in attendance at the most recent meeting – interested in joining)
- 4 years old
- Focus has been largely on government advocacy – have been part of talks on university funding reform consultation – are being recognized by invite-only stakeholders, focus on Queen’s Park-recognition in the House
- Received their budget but have not had time to look it over, but can bring that to our next board meeting to discuss – establishing long-term connections – considering how to get graduate student voices heard directly
- As opposed to other organizations, like the CFS, CASA, OUSA- very much a member-driven organization – based on member’s needs – Only group advocating specifically for graduate student interests – recognizing that graduate student needs and interests are not the same as undergraduates – and contributions of graduate students are unique
- Identifying various issues unique to graduate students –
- Current focus on low-hanging fruit opportunities – actionable items that can be obtained-partnering and lobbying with other organizations
- Organization for communicating and developing relationships to other GSAs for sharing of best practices
- Focus on changing the broken funding formula- recognizing the differences between research excellence and teaching excellence
- I brought up at the meeting that members need to have more than just lobbying – we need support as GSAs
- Will be sending an update on specific services that can be provided to members – (since recent, these are relatively recent things) – but training on lobbying, assisting with GSA governance, leadership training, help drafting policy/ referenda
- Importance now of making sure that there is follow-through with what is suggested –
- Interest in having the next meeting at Trent
-
-
- Traill Review
-
- Tonight/ tomorrow there will be an article in the Arthur from the President about the Traill Review (important that we all read this letter and tell other graduate students about it-

apparently it is quite optimistic in tone, but it is important that we scrutinize it, because there is very important information that is not being provided to us – and the process for the Traill review has not at all been transparent – the letter in the Arthur does not discuss what the process and mandate will be for this review – it offers no timeline and is very vague

- Undermining graduate student importance- challenge to the only ‘graduate’ student space at Trent – also, we do pay fees to the college -so we deserve to have our voices represented in a fair and transparent way
-
- Chris Tindall (sp?) is the only reviewer – and has close connections to the President (they wrote a book together) – not really an independent review – also, by calling this a ‘review’ the president is avoiding having to form a committee that would be composed of serious stakeholders at Traill (graduate students, in particular, but also professors, administrators, Traill’s principal, etcetera) – since this is not a Senate issue, or a Board of Governor issue – not really a process of who decides the process -
- There will be recommendations in place based on this review that will be followed through – based primarily on the economic operations (not ideology)
- Argument- the college is not sustainable through college fees – graduate ancillary fees are quite low – the 30 undergraduate students who are currently affiliated with Traill bring in more revenue than all of the graduate students combined
- (\$15 ancillary fees for graduate students, hundreds of dollars for undergraduates)
- Traill is not making revenue at the level of other colleges – buildings also more expensive to maintain (and have been facing years of deferred maintenance – for instance Steward House is now permanently closed)
- Background:
- The colleges are responsible for their own physical resources - every college charged rent to exist- Trent is the landlord – each college is responsible for heat, hydro, maintenance fees, staff salaries – these things are not centralized within the university
- Tuition is separate from ancillary fees – tuition covers so-called ‘academic’ costs – labs, libraries, etcetera – the College is not seen as part of that (though I am sure many students here would disagree with this assessment – somewhat arbitrary to delineate ancillary fees as separate from tuition – many of us use Traill for educational needs)
- Graduate college by name -
- What is the Vision for Traill? – What makes Traill different from other colleges?
- Following Twitter, FB – get more followers
 - Possibilities?
 - Importance of community at Traill
 - Graduate Students
 - Institute/ college for the humanities (though fear of doing away with the departments – has to be done carefully and strategically)
 - Graduate students: questions to ask – I will be following up with the Dean – how much more money is coming in from graduate students? High tuition, high BIU (basic income units per students) – why ancillary fees?

- Graduate college by name – importance to graduate students needs to be made clear – failing to recognize the value of graduate students
 - Really want science students involved in the support – want to have a discussion with science students to hear what they would want from Traill
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- Compromises? Suggestions?
- Ancillary fees are very low compared to undergraduate students, and also other graduate students across Ontario - \$15 – would it make sense to raise this to \$30?
- Undergraduate affiliation (what should this look like, what challenges will we face from those who are against this reform?) – allowing 3rd and 4th year students join – emphasis on mature students – and academic focus – perhaps enticing undergraduate students to join by implementing mentorship programs, faculty supports for those wanting to pursue graduate studies)
- Concern about loss of student office space at Traill – it would be important to figure out how students use their office space – not all students are using it – so we need to see how it is being used – compromises with this? What fees would we be willing to increase? – survey of how office spaces are used at Traill – nominal fee increase for office space?
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- Can see if Michael Eamon would be available to talk with us next board meeting
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- Brainstorm session:
- What can WE do?
- David’s documentary
- Formal letter from GSA
- Invite President to speak with GSA at board meeting
- (Setting up endowments?)
- Going to be a working group established to represent graduate students, professors, administrators, service providers, etc., at Traill
- If Chris Tindall’s email is offered, I suggest we encourage students to flood email with comments – we can provide a sort of template on what to bring up, and then have students add their own issues to this – I was speaking to an editor at the Arthur, though, and it seems as though Chris will only be taking phone calls on the issue – if that is the case, we need to strategize the best way to get through – make a call list? Take turns calling – this excludes voices – not accessible – perhaps only limited to certain hours of the day, so not every voice is being heard
- Write letter to the editor – Arthur – in response – official letter from GSA. But also student voices
- Circulating a newsletter to make clear all of the goings-on at Traill – especially those academic in nature and importance to graduate student community
- Act as soon as possible

Bring to LTPC

Addendum II – VP Internal Affairs Language Requirement Board Survey

Language Requirement for Graduate Departments

Department	Language Requirement Y/N y is requested by supervisor	Course Available	Test Kind
Anthropology	n	n	
Cultural Studies	Y	N	
ENLS	n		
psychology	n		
history	n		
Canadian studies	y	n	
indigenous studies	y	n	translate
material science	n		
Applied modeling	n		
sustainability	n		