

Minutes of TGSA Board Meeting, 28/04/2016

Start: 4:11pm, End: 5:07pm

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

Chair: Laura Thursby

Scribe: David Hollands

Attendance: Cory Baldwin, Dorothea Hines, Isaac Jiang, Natalie Baron, Avinaash Persaud, L. Renee Hendricks, Miteb Abunayyan, Carolyn Reid, Alexandra Ha, Brent Whitford, Theresa Treasure, Michael Jorgensen, Anastasia Nepotiuk, Yeukai Katanda, David Hollands, Mackenzie Armstrong, Alison Fraser, David Bak, Erin Laverty, Laura Thursby -14, Quorum Met

1. Motion to Call the Meeting to Order: Alison Fraser

Second: Renee Hendricks

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

motion carried

2. Motion to Approve the Agenda: David Hollands

Second: Cory Baldwin

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

motion carried

3. Motion to Approve the Minutes from the April 4th, 2016 Board Meeting: Alison Fraser

Second: Cory Baldwin

Discussion

Motion to Amend the April 4th, 2016 Minutes to Remove “I’m okay” from Other Business 7.1 Discussion, and Change Cory’s Point on Page 6 to “we asked for more money”: Brent Whitford

Second: Renee Hendricks

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

motion carried

Final Vote-

Approve: 12

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 2

motion carried

4. Presentations:

- a. **Senator and VP Internal Affairs:** TGSA Election and Referenda Results (see Addendum I for Results)

Discussion

a. ****Avinaash and Alison Fraser present election and referenda results***

-Dorothea: can we make that text bigger?

-Alison: sure.

****makes page bigger on TV display****

-Avinaash: I don't know who the OGSA rep is... oh, it's Laura!

****everyone laughs****

-Alison: I want to point out to the board that we will move forward on potentially cutting back social events in the future. Also, Symons Series moving to Traill! We'll work up those documents.

-Renee: since Laura and I were instrumental in this, I told Drew that I would be available in May in a limited capacity to help the Health Benefits Coordinator. I'm still stickin' for May to help put this together.

-Laura: my chair is breaking. ****adjusts chair**** Okay, it's fine now.

5. 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: Cory Baldwin

Second: Alison Fraser

Discussion

-David H.: I wanted to add that the dates have changed. Traill doc screener for interviewees goes out Saturday, and the final doc premieres Monday. Sorry about that.

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

****motion carried****

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

- a. --

7. Main Motions

7.1 College Dinner License (President)

Whereas the TGSA has supported the Traill College Dinner in the past,

BIRT that the TGSA continue to support this event by donating \$75.00 to Traill College to cover the cost of the liquor license.

Justification

Traill College alone cannot pay for a liquor license, and as mentioned above, the TGSA has supported the Traill College Dinner in the past.

Motion: Laura Thursby

Second: Brent Whitford

Discussion

- Renee: we should be in good standing with our finances
- Alison: so we're paying for this because they screwed up?
- Cory: make sure to put that in the minutes.

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

motion carried

7.2 Thesis Binding Fee (VP Finance) ****TABLED FROM LAST BOARD MEETING****

Whereas the TGSA needs to revise its policy on Thesis Binding,

BIRT that the TGSA pursues one of the following options:

- i) Allocate more money from our budget to ensure we continue this program;
- ii) We modify our thesis binding policy (more detail in Justification);
- iii) We discontinue the program.

Justification:

A brief reminder of what our policy on this is (from VP Finance Transition Document):

As recommended by the 2013/2014 executive, the motion was brought to the membership, who agreed in favor to cover the cost of 1 thesis binding per graduating students. This line item isn't written into the constitution so it's up to the discretion of the TGSA (and general assembly) as to which budget it should be put in. However, since the College Budget is co-administered with Graduate Studies, it logically should be put into the College Budget. Currently the cost is \$30.00 per thesis. In future, this amount may need to be adjusted to reflect TGSA's budgetary constraints and rising costs. Invoices from Graduate Studies are charged against TGSA's internal account and such adjustments are reflected on TGSA's monthly statement.

Reviewing last year's invoices reveals that 68 thesis bindings were covered by the TGSA, at a unit cost of \$30.00 (68 x \$30.00 = \$2040). With 3 invoices remaining for this year, we have already covered the cost of 97 thesis bindings (\$2910). As of April 30th, 2015 the balance on our account was \$3618.45. As of January 31st, 2016 (memo Feb.22nd) our balance is \$698.45. In our budget, we had agreed to contribute \$1740 which was based on the incorrectly recorded expense for this line item. Even if we do not cover the cost of any more thesis bindings for the rest of this fiscal year, our contribution would leave \$2438.45 in our internal account -- an insufficient amount IF we have more than 81 thesis bindings next year. One solution would be to reallocate funds within our budget (eliminate Emergency Donations [\$1000/year], for example). Furthermore, an increase in our Levy Fee would additionally help to ensure that we are able to maintain this program. Another option would be to either decrease the amount of bindings, either by units (first come, first serve) or % covered per binding -- an option which I would be opposed to. Finally, there is the option that we discontinue the program altogether and instead departments or students cover the cost of binding fees.

Motion: David Bak

Second: Dorothea Hines

Discussion

-David B.: the TGSA student support fund was approved, so a significant raise in income as well as the fact that Laura's Mom contributed another cheque to the TGSA in the amount of \$1500.00.

-Laura: it's BMO, not my Mom!

-Cory: we should add Laura's Mom branding to everything.

-**everyone laughs**

-David b.: Given that, I think that the TGSA should continue to go forward with this policy. Practically all grads take advantage of this one. We should continue with this. If it's okay with the board, this should be decided by the next exec, but I feel we should continue this

-Theresa: you're opposed to first come first serve option?

-David B.: the best option would be to just do this or not. We're in good shape to continue

-Natalie: what are the finances looking for this year? All the thesis binding this year is covered?

-David B.: yes, our internal account is topped off. Next year is good until roughly halfway in

-Renee: is there a possibility for the increase in TGSA support fees, that part of that money is allocated for thesis binding?

-David B.: that's a separately held account. We've taken pressure off the college account.

-Brent: suggestion: any way to have an estimate from the beginning of the year on those who are planning to graduate and do this thesis binding at the end?

-David B.: last year it was 67, the one caveat is that the program started later in Sept or Oct. That's one reason why we had less this year. I spoke with Jen Richardson, said roughly 100 students are expected to graduate this whole year. Suggests to me that it's more than what she said. Almost all grads are in programs where they have a thesis.

-Cory: to be very clear, we're voting to continue the program as it stands?

-David B.: yes. A month ago, because of uncertainty with the referenda and if we would have another donation from Laura's Mom, this was a protective measure

-Cory: so right now it's just whether to continue or not?
 -David B.: yes.

Approve: 13
Oppose: 0
Abstain: 1
 motion carried

8. Honoraria (click [here](#) for Board Meeting Attendance Sheet)

Executives: \$1000.00 for each executive as outlined in the March 2015 Bylaws & approved in the budget in the Fall.

Board Members: \$50 for each board member as outlined in the bylaws & approved in the budget in the Fall.

Bonuses: Board members can be awarded an additional \$50 for service, if nominated, and if approved by a board vote. We also typically award \$50 to each Symons Seminar Series organizer.

As a board, we will vote to determine if each member will receive their honorarium at this meeting. The member will be sent out of the room while the decision is made.

David Hollands will provide an attendance sheet to determine how frequently members came to the board meetings.

Discussion

-Brent: you mean approved in last fall's budget?
 -Alison: Jane? Not hear. She attended 6 out of 10 recorded meetings, and started late in the fall semester.
 -Brent: out of 10?

-Alison: this is the fairest way we do that. This is THIS semester's board meetings, and then September to October. We're basically giving a mark out of 10.

Jane Affleck leaves the room

-Motion to Give Jane Affleck a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

motion carried

Jane Affleck reenters the room

David B. leaves the room

-Alison: David B. attendance: 9 out of 10.

Motion to Give David Bak a \$1000.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

****motion carried****

****David B. reenters the room****

****Cory Baldwin leaves the room****

-Alison: Cory's attendance: 7 out of 10. Was on the Constitutional Changes Committee. Very helpful.

Motion to Give Cory Baldwin a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

****motion carried****

-Laura: I want to put forward a nomination for an additional \$50. Cory rewrote the bylaws.

-Alison: I would caution against this. We haven't calculated for additional funds.

-David B.: we need to establish how many we can.

-Alison: so how many can we give out this term?

-David B.: Five max.

-Alison: okay, we have five. Laura?

-Laura: yeah, continue.

Motion to Give Cory Baldwin an Additional \$50.00: Laura Thursby

Second: David Hollands

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

****motion carried****

****Cory Baldwin reenters the room****

-Brent: can you tell us how many to go through?

-Alison: 21 left. Okay, Melissa Baldwin. Not here. She was the Frost Centre MA rep.

-Cory: in her defense, we always scheduled the meeting when she's teaching.

-Brent: technically, in most boards, if you don't show up for 3 consecutive meetings, you're gone

-Natalie: has the GSA not given honoraria to anyone in the past?

-Laura: No.

Motion to Give Melissa Baldwin a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: David Hollands

Approve: 8

Oppose: 2

Abstain: 3

****motion carried****

****Natalie Baron leaves the room****

-Alison: Natalie Baron. Attended 7 meetings.

Motion to Give Natalie Baron a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

****motion carried****

****Natalie Baron reenters the room****

-Alison: John Bessai. Joined late. 3 meetings attended.

-Dorothea: how late?

-Alison: December.

-Dorothea: so he's technically only missed one meeting then?

-Alison: yes.

-Renee: we've had five board meetings since December?

-Brent: I'm getting confused about the ten meetings thing. Two election cycles.

-Alison: election cycles depend on the programs.

-Brent: okay, but in the case where we have that info, can we say when the term started?

-Alison: yes. John started in December.

Motion to Give John Bessai a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

****motion carried****

-Alison: Jessica Correa. 5 meetings attended.

Motion to Give Jessica Correa a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 10

Oppose: 3

Abstain: 1

****motion carried****

-Alison: Hiten Dave: 1 meeting attended. A: 1 O: all, defeated.

Motion to Give Hiten Dave a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 0

Oppose: 13

Abstain: 1

****motion failed****

-Alison: Alison. ... Oh shit, it's me! ****Alison leaves room****

-Brent: what happens if we all abstain?

-Laura: Ha ha! So \$1000 for Alison. Anything to discuss?

Motion to Give Alison Fraser a \$1000.00 Honorium: David Hollands

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

****motion carried****

Alison reenters room

Renee Hendricks leaves the room

-Alison: Renee Hendricks. Attended 10 meetings. Perfect attendance. A: all, carries

Motion to Give L. Renee Hendricks a \$1000.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: David Hollands

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

motion carried

Renee Hendricks reenters the room

-Alison: Dorothea Hines. Term started...

-Laura: She started early. She was here with the summer BBQs.

-Alison: attended 5 out of 10.

-Laura: and she sent delegates.

Motion to Give Dorothea Hines a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

motion carried

-Alison: David Hollands. Get out, David.

David Hollands leaves the room hanging his head awaiting judgment

Motion to Give David Hollands a \$1000.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

motion carried

David Hollands reenters the room apprehensively

Michael Jorgensen leaves the room

-Alison: Mike Jorgensen. Full term. Attended 7 out of 10. A: all, carries unanimously

Motion to Give Michael Jorgensen a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

motion carried

Michael Jorgensen reenters the room

-Alison: Swarsattie Kishun. Not here. Full term as first year rep, shorter term by nature. Mostly because I couldn't make that election until after orientation. The 1st year reps start in November. 5 out of 10.

-Theresa: even though she couldn't be elected in the summer, she came to meetings, even if her participation wasn't recognized.

-Brent: 5 out of 10 meetings attended?

-Laura: out of 6, actually. Because of the first year rep requirements.

Motion to Give Swarsattie Kishun a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

****motion carried****

-Alison: Vishol Kishun. Not here. Ab: 2 O: else, motion defeated

Motion to Give Vishol Kishun a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 0

Oppose: 12

Abstain: 2

****motion failed****

-Alison: Erin Laverty. Score of 4 out of 10, started in November, so out of 6.

-Brent: out of 5, since this is the sixth.

-Alison: Yeah. Your attendance sheet sucks, David.

Motion to Give Erin Laverty a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

****motion carried****

-Alison: Bafumiki. Not here. 3 meetings attended. Heh.

Motion to Give Bafumiki Mocheregwa a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 4

Oppose: 6

Abstain: 4

****motion failed****

****Avinaash Persaud leaves the room****

-Alison: Avinaash Persaud. 8 out of 10 meetings attended. And consider the workload of being the Senator.

Motion to Give Avinaash Persaud a \$1000.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 14

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

****motion carried****

****Avinaash Persaud reenters the room****

-Alison: Amany Raslan. Not here. 5 out of 10 meetings attended.

Motion to Give Amany Raslan a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 12

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 2

****motion carried****

****Carolyn Reid leaves the room****

-Alison: Carolyn Reid. Equity commissioner. 8 out of 10 meetings attended.

Motion to Give Carolyn Reid a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 14

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

****motion carried****

-Laura: I nominate her for an additional \$50.

Motion to Give Carolyn Reid An Additional \$50.00: L. Renee Hendricks

Second: Alison Fraser

Approve: 14

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

****motion carried****

****Carolyn Reid reenters the room****

-Alison: Anne Showalter. Not supposed to be on this list. You screwed up again, David. Why can't you stop screwing up? Okay, Laura Thursby. I chair when she's not here.

****Laura Thursby leaves the room, Alison Fraser chairs****

Alison: 9 out of 10 meetings attended. Did a Hell of a lot this year. And remember, Laura's Mom...

Motion to Give Laura Thursby a \$1000.00 Honorium: David Hollands

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 14

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

****motion carried****

-Renee: can I nominate Laura's Mom?

****everyone laughs****

-Alison: it's BMO, technically. We don't want to give more to corporate interests.

****Laura Thursby reenters the room, returns to chairing****

****Theresa Treasure leaves the room****

-Alison: okay, Theresa Treasure. 8 out of 10 meetings attended.

Motion to Give Theresa Treasure a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 14

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

****motion carried****

-Laura: I nominate Theresa for an extra \$50.00.

Motion to Give Theresa Treasure An Additional \$50.00 Honorium: L. Renee Hendricks

Second: Alison Fraser

Approve: 14

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

****motion carried****

****Theresa Treasure reenters the room****

****Brent Whitford leaves the room****

-Alison: Brent Whitford.

-Natalie: for first year reps, the term goes to...

-Alison: to now. Well, a little shorter, but basically to now.

-Alison: so anyway, vote on Brent. A: all, carries.

Motion to Give Brent Whitford a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 14

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

****motion carried****

-Laura: nominate Brent to receive additional \$50.00.

Motion to Give Brent Whitford An Additional \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: David Hollands

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

****motion carried****

****Brent Whitford reenters the room****

-Alison: And finally, the votes on the Symons organizers.

-Laura: all right, so first organizer, Charise Currier for \$50.00.

-Erin: She was Communications and Finance?

-Laura: Yeah. So for Charise?

Motion to Give Charise Currier a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

****motion carried****

-Laura: Okay, and Jessica Lee? \$50.00 honorium. And she was Finance.

Motion to Give Jessica Lee a \$50.00 Honorium: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

Approve: 13

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

****motion carried****

-Brent: if anyone's confused, I was the third exec for Symons at a time.

9. Departmental Issues/Question Period (if any)

10. Other Business

10.1 Additional Nominee: Senate

Discussion

-Alison: so as per our new bylaws, we can elect board members here. I would like to nominate Mackenzie Armstrong. Do you accept?

-Mac: yes.

Motion to Nominate Mackenzie Armstrong for TGSA Executive Officer Position of

Senator: Alison Fraser

Second: L. Renee Hendricks

-Laura: would you like to make a speech?

-Mac: I don't really have anything else to say beyond my bio on the website ****leaves room****

-Laura: discussion? Seeing none, let's vote.

Approve: 14

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

****motion carried****

10.2 Additional Nominee: Health Benefits Commissioner

Discussion

-Alison: Miteb Abunayyan has graciously put forward his candidacy for this position.

Motion to Nominate Miteb Abunayyan for TGSA Position of Health Benefits

Commissioner: Alison Fraser

Second: David Bak

-Laura: anything to say, Miteb?

-Miteb: yeah. I went through the duties in the bylaws, and I believe that I'll be able to help out well.

-Alison: okay, get out.

****Miteb leaves****

-Carolyn: it's awesome that he's doing that. He has three kids.

-Renee: he'll be working in concert with the TGSA, TCSA...

Approve: 14

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

****motion carried****

-Alison: okay, anyone for Equity Commissioner?

****no one responds****

-Alison: all right then.

10.3 CUPE End of Financial Year

-Renee: CUPE's financial year doesn't end until June. We are still able to get reimbursed for tonight's Spring Fling. And for future board members, CUPE offers \$1000 per year in \$200 increments for social events. It would be Philip Abbott, still. BBQs, Spring Flings, etc. Heads up to the next board and exec. Look into doing that. Just send a copy of receipts to them. After Spring Fling tonight.

10.4 First Year Arts Reps Terms

-Brent: I'm done now?

-Alison: yes.

-Brent: super. Scratch that. Never mind!

10.5 Carolyn's Statement on Equity Commissioner Position

-Carolyn: until you get a new equity commissioner, I can help transition.

10.6 Avinaash's Statement on Senator Executive Officer Position

-Avinaash: my term ends in May, so I'll still be around.

11. Notice of Motions and Announcements

- a. President:** I was able to secure one last donation for the TGSA for next year from BMO (a.k.a. "Laura's Mom") to the sum of \$1500 to be used to throw our orientation week in September
- b. VP Internal Affairs:** We now have three shiny copies of Robert's Rules of Order to be read by all future TGSA executive members.

Discussion

-Laura: before we adjourn, Spring Fling is tonight! I'm getting drunk! Everyone should too. We'll have fun. And one more thing: for those who are joining us in the new year, stay back, and we'll do a brief transition, and then I really wanted to say thank you to everyone. It's been an interesting year, and it's been fun. With that, thank you all very much. And keep in touch!

-Theresa: I wanted to know about the transition document. When do we give those?

-Alison: you have 30 days. Can you send it to me, and the next one holding your position?

-Theresa: sure.

12. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Alison Fraser

Second: Cory Baldwin

Approve: 14

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

****motion carried****

Addendum I-
Election and Referenda Results (click [here](#) for full results report)

POSITION: President
Alexandra Ha

POSITION ENDORSED

In favour: 50%

Against: 43% (split between Mackenzie Armstrong and Michelle Hisson)

Abstain: 8%

BIO: My name is Alexandra Ha and I am a Masters student in the department of psychology. Raised in Mississauga and graduated from Brock U with a B.A., I am now completing graduate studies with a focus on emotional intelligence. Broadly speaking, I study the way individuals perceive, manage, express, and understand emotions in themselves and in others, and how people use emotions to process cognitions, achieve life successes, become effective leaders and team players, and build meaningful relationships. In addition to being a strong believer in emotions as the fundamental impetus for human behaviour, I am also a strong believer in social justice and equity, particularly for graduate students at Trent U. Extremely motivated to become the president of TGSA, I believe that I will be attentive and respectful of all graduate students' concerns/needs, in part because I am an active listener and an empathetic individual. Also, as a focused, open-minded, and reliable candidate, I will demonstrate commitment in representing and supporting graduate students by providing visionary and strategic leadership for TGSA via open communication and active collaborations.

POSITION: VP Finance
Anastasia Nepotiuk
(ran unopposed)

POSITION ENDORSED

In favour: 90%

Against: 1%

Abstain: 9%

BIO: My name is Anastasia Nepotiuk and I am finishing my first year of a Master's in Psychology. I am studying motor control and expertise using a vegetable-chopping task to see if performance changes with more practice. I have a strong background in math and science, and feel at home at Trent University after finishing my undergraduate degree here. Born and raised in Peterborough, I have deep roots and feel a strong connection to Trent that translates into a desire to work to help make graduate students feel as supported as possible. I feel that I can contribute to the TGSA executive as VP finance through my hard work and attention to detail. I have strong communication and time management skills that I think will serve me, and the TGSA well. I am confident that I can make the smooth transition to the new VP finance.

POSITION: VP Student Affairs
Swarsattie Kishun
 (ran unopposed)

POSITION ENDORSED

In favour: 89%
 Against: 3%
 Abstain: 12%

BIO: My name is Swarsattie Kishun and I am currently completing the first year of my Master's degree here at Trent in Neuroscience Psychology. University should be about more than just writing tests and spending tireless hours doing research. It should be fun, memorable and most of all rewarding. If I am elected VP of Student Affairs, I will commit to fostering the success of graduate students. I will provide the support needed to contribute to enriched learning and continue to maintain the strong sense of community we share here. I will try my best to encourage growth of my fellow students through the involvement of student life and most of all, I will listen, understand and represent you.

POSITION: VP Internal Affairs
Alison Fraser

(ran unopposed)

POSITION ENDORSED

In favour: 79%

Against: 10%

Abstain: 11%

BIO: Alison Fraser is a 2nd year PhD candidate in Cultural Studies. Coming out of an MA at Queen's University, she became involved in student politics as the Art History department representative on the Society of Graduate and Professional Students. This inspired her to later run for and be elected as the Equity Officer for PSAC 901, the TA and TF union at Queen's University. She has continued this political trend at Trent University serving as the VP Internal Affairs on the TGSA.

POSITION: VP Communications (formerly VP Operations)

David Hollands

(ran unopposed)

POSITION ENDORSED

In favour: 84%

Against: 5%

Abstain: 11%

BIO: I am David Hollands, a Ph.D. candidate in the Cultural Studies department. I nominate myself for the position of VP Communications for a second term. My current work explores the transformations of Hollywood classical narration—the common styles and structures of Hollywood films, past and present—in the age of New Media and convergence culture. I am also a filmmaker. I put my abilities to use this past year to produce a fully self-funded documentary on Trill College, which will have its premiere at the Trill College dinner on April 22nd, and will then be released online to the TGSA YouTube page I created at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCA_yh0twJBXeq-w1KZM69pQ. In the past, I have produced videos for the Government of Canada, one for Ottawa's Jamaican Community Association, and edited a music video called "The More Love You Give" for the Aboriginal Women's Support Center in Ottawa. I have considerable experience dealing appropriately

with different tasks in mid- to high-stress situations. I am always willing to learn and experience new aspects of my current work environments. I feel I can continue to apply my organizational experiences as a film director and educator to this position very effectively. I thank you kindly for your consideration.

POSITION: International Student Representative Commissioner
Yeukai Katanda

POSITION ENDORSED (only international students vote on this position)

In favour: 57%

Against: 24% (voted for Miteb Abunayyan)

Abstain: 19%

BIO: My name is Yeukai Katanda, a 1st year Ph.D. student in Environmental and Life Sciences. At the University of Manitoba where I completed my MSc, I was very active in the Soil Science Graduate Students Association (SSGSA), first as a committee member and eventually as the President. I oversaw and facilitated many successful SSGSA activities, acted as the liaison between various bodies and the students' body and represented the SSGSA in the Departmental Council. I am highly motivated, dedicated and personable, and believe that I have the skills and personality required for this position. As an International Student Representative Commissioner, I promise to provide effective representation and make the time to listen and follow up on concerns pertaining to international grad students. I would like to provide the voice required for them to feel at home here at Trent. Being an international student myself, I know firsthand how isolated and lonely one can feel if they do not have the assurance that there is someone ready to be their friend, I want to be that DEFAULT friend for international students.

POSITION: Environmental Commissioner
Zankhna Mody
 (ran unopposed)

POSITION ENDORSED

In favour: 89%

Against: 0%

Abstain: 11%

BIO: I'm Zankhna Mody, currently wrapping up my first year of course work as a Master's in Anthropology graduate student. My research focuses on the study of sacred natural sites and socio-ecology in tropical Asia, with a focus on South India, Sri Lanka and Cambodia. I was born and raised in India and but have since made Peterborough my home for the last 12 years, so I'm very familiar with this community. I also completed my undergraduate degree, a BSc in Environmental Studies and Biology here at Trent. I was involved with the group Sustainable Trent as an undergraduate student and have been involved in other environmental initiatives in Peterborough and Toronto. I'm a critical thinker, highly organized and passionate about local and global environmental issues, and would be honoured to join in the TGSA as the Environment Commissioner.

POSITION: Ontario Graduate Students' Alliance (OGSA) Commissioner
Laura Thursby
 (ran unopposed)

POSITION ENDORSED

In favour: 89%

Against: 1%

Abstain: 10%

BIO: Laura Thursby is a fourth-year PhD candidate in Cultural Studies. She spent the 2015-2016 term serving as President of the TGSA, where she chaired monthly board meetings and bi-weekly executive meetings, and attended regular meetings with the Associate VP of Student Affairs, the Dean of Graduate Studies, the Board of Governors, the Provost, and the President to draw attention to the specific issues faced by graduate students at Trent. Additionally, she sat on multiple University and TGSA committees, where she consulted with other university administration and students and helped draft university policy to enhance student experiences. Of relevance to this position, she attended OGSA meetings over the past

year and has a good understanding of the OGSA's position as an advocacy group. She also wants to continue to push for the OGSA to offer their paying members more services/support (like training on lobbying, assisting with GSA governance, leadership training, offering help with drafting policy/referenda, etcetera). Serving as OGSA Commissioner will allow her to continue to participate with the TGSA's operations, albeit in a more minimal role, so she can also work on completing her dissertation. Her continued service would aid the TGSA in maintaining its institutional memory and would help strengthen the TGSA going forward.

POSITION: M.Sc. Applied Modeling and Quantitative Methods
 Representative
Hiten Dave
 (ran unopposed)

POSITION ENDORSED (only M.Sc. AMOD students vote on this position)
 In favour: 67%
 Against: 0%
 Abstain: 33%

BIO: This past year has been a very intriguing journey for the TGSA. As a first year AMOD student it has been an honour to represent my peers in the AMOD executive committee. During my tenure, I have become very familiar with my program's executive team and how the program functions. I was a part of ongoing discussions on the introduction of a course-based AMOD program, which will provide additional options for both current and incoming students regarding their degree-path. With this experience, I would be honoured to continue representing my fellow graduate students as M.Sc. Student Representative for the AMOD program.

POSITION: Ph.D. Cultural Studies Representative
Joshua Noiseux
 (ran unopposed)

POSITION ENDORSED (only Ph.D. Cultural Studies students vote on this position)

In favour: 100%

Against: 0%

Abstain: 0%

BIO: My name is Joshua Noiseux. In 2015, I completed my MA at in Trent's Theory, Culture, and Politics program, and now I am wrapping up my first year in the Cultural Studies PhD program. During my time in TCP I was deeply engaged with community building and institutional organizing, participating in the formation of the TCP Students Association, representing TCP at departmental meetings, and co-organizing the highly successful Technology/Politics conference. Outside of academia I am the owner of a tree care business, and in the past I worked in managerial positions in arts administration. Now, I am super excited ramp up my involvement with the TGSA and the grad student community. As CUST rep I will advocate strongly to represent and advance the interests of CUST students in the TGSA and in the broader Trent community. I look forward to being a responsive, proactive, and energetic member of the TGSA board.

POSITION: M.A. Psychology Representative

Erin Lavery

(ran unopposed)

POSITION ENDORSED (only M.A. Psychology students vote on this position)

In favour: 100%

Against: 0%

Abstain: 0%

BIO: My name is Erin Lavery and I am a current Masters of Arts student at Trent University in the Psychology department. My research looks into the social psychology of human sexuality. More specifically, I study sexual behaviours and beliefs surrounding first sexual experiences and how these may relate to later sexual experiences. I am also a teaching assistant for undergraduate psychology courses (including social psychology). I am a strong link in the network of Psychology graduate students and believe I

can represent these student interests well. I held the Psychology (M.A.) representative position for the Trent Graduate Student Association (TGSA) in the 2015-2016 academic year and would love the opportunity to remain in this position for the upcoming year (2016-2017).

POSITION: M.A. Sustainability Studies Representative

Elizabeth Aslin

(ran unopposed)

POSITION ENDORSED (only M.A. Sustainability Studies students vote on this position)

In favour: 100%

Against: 0%

Abstain: 0%

BIO: --

POSITION: M.A. Theory, Culture and Politics Representative

Yunqi Jiang

(ran unopposed)

POSITION ENDORSED (only M.A. Theory, Culture and Politics students vote on this position)

In favour: 100%

Against: 0%

Abstain: 0%

BIO: I am a master's candidate from the Centre for Theory, Culture and Politics working on my second MA. I currently hold a BA (York) and an MA (Western) in philosophy. My research draws from debates in 20th century continental philosophy, phenomenology, mysticism, feminist theory, queer theory, critical race/disability/madness theory, media materialism, object oriented ontology and so on. Which will hopefully congeal towards a project, with emphasize on an exploration of attention, orientation, eroticism, and subjectivity, as a strategic compromise between research

interests and institutional demands. I look forward to working with TGSA as TCP's deferred presence.

REFERENDUM QUESTION:

This year, the Constitutional Changes Committee, a subcommittee of the TGSA, has created a new bylaws and policies document of the TGSA, with approval from legal counsel. This document serves to clarify and strengthen the rules for the governance of the TGSA, and will allow the organization to function more easily, effectively, and with considerably more transparency moving forward. Should the TGSA adopt these Bylaws?

ENDORSED

Yes: 66%

No: 7%

Abstain: 27%

REFERENDUM QUESTION:

Should the administration of the Symons Seminar Series for Graduate Research be transferred from the authority and financial obligation of the Trent Graduate Students' Association to that of Trill College under the terms of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding? The Bylaws of the TGSA will be amended accordingly.

ENDORSED

Yes: 75%

No: 3%

Abstain: 22%

REFERENDUM QUESTION:

In order to decrease fees and increase services to the Graduate Student Health Plan, do you endorse the merger of the Trent Graduate Students' Association's (TGSA) health plan with the Trent Central Students' Association's (TCSA) and the Trent Durham Students' Association's (TDSA) health plans, noting that we will retain the right to cancel this arrangement should we find unreasonable barriers in our advocacy for our members?

ENDORSED

Yes: 76%

No: 3%

Abstain: 21%

REFERENDUM QUESTION:

In an effort to maintain the feasibility of the TGSA's current programs (Conference Bursary, Conference & Group Support, Thesis Binding), and contributions to others (Symons Seminar Series, Three Minute Thesis), do you support an increase to the TGSA Graduate Student College Fund levy by \$12.00 and \$6.00 for full-time and part-time students, respectively?

ENDORSED

Yes: 70%

No: 14%

Abstain: 16%

REFERENDUM QUESTION:

This year, Traill College, the college designated for graduate students, has come under review. One of the issues identified was the amount of money that graduate students pay to Traill are not enough to sustain the college. In light of this, do you approve of raising the fees collected from graduate student ancillary fees that goes specifically to Traill College from \$15.36 to \$30 for full time students and \$7.68 to \$15 for part time students?

ENDORSED

Yes: 66%

No: 15%

Abstain: 19%