

TGSA FALL AGM, 2014-2015

Start: Oct 29, 2014 **6.00pm** – **End:** Oct 29, 2014 **8.00pm**

Location: Bagnani Hall, Catherine Parr Traill College.

****AGENDA****

1. Call to Order
 2. Introductions
 3. Goals
 4. Referendum Questions (I)
 5. Audit report
 6. Budget report
 7. Communications report
 8. Social Events report
 9. Elections
 10. How you can get involved
 11. Referendum Questions (II)
 12. Q&A
 13. Meeting Adjourned
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****AGM****

- **Call to order at 6.30pm**
 - Quorum met: 27
 - Guest attendance: president of the Part-Time Student Association.
- **Karen moved motion for approval of audit for 2013-2014 fiscal year.**
 - Seconded Julia
 - Motion carries unanimously.
- **Motion to approve budget for 2014-2015 fiscal year: Gary**
 - Seconded: Gozde.
 - Motion carries unanimously.

Aside: TGSA needs to invest in laser pointer

- **Online polls open for one week.**
 - Opens 8pm tonight.
 - **Motion to adjourn AGM till spring: Stephanie.**
 - Seconded Kolawole Olujoba
 - AGM adjourned
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****AGM Results****

- Ballots opened Nov 6th
 - Present at opening of ballot: Rathika, Latchmi, Tayo
- 77 participants from 462 total graduate student population
 - 17% voter participation.
- **Referendum Question 1:**

The Senator position on the board of GSA has taken on additional responsibilities this year, including participation in meetings that are key to the functioning of the association ([see here for full case](#)). The executive strongly endorses that this post be transitioned from a Board of Director assignment to that of an Executive Officer, with the accompanying change in honorarium to \$1000/yr (standard of all TGSA Executives), effective from the 2014-2015 academic year.

 - Q1a. *Do you support retroactively amending Articles 9 and 10, and Sections 5 and 6, of the GSA by-laws to make the TGSA Senator position an Executive position from 2014/2015 Academic Year onwards?*
 - **MOTION CARRIES; The TGSA Senator position is now an official member of the TGSA Executive Team.**
- **Referendum Question 2:**

The GSA is now registered as a not-for-profit incorporated association. This means that we require both a formal Mission Statement and Objectives. Presently, we have only formal Objectives (represented as Article 2 in the current bylaw). We, therefore, require a formal mission statement.

 - Q2a. *Do you support an amendment of Article 2 of the bylaw to create Articles 2A and 2B giving our Objectives and Mission Statement, respectively?*
 - **MOTION CARRIES; The TGSA now has both an official Objective and a Mission Statement.**
 - Q2b. *Do you support the following as our new Mission Statement?*
 - "To foster, support and contribute to the intellectual growth and cultural development of graduate students by advocating for their unique needs and concerns while building a sense of community amongst them and a positive relationship with the Trent family and the community at large."
 - **MOTION CARRIES; The TGSA's official Mission Statement now reads as above.**

- **Referendum Question 3:**

In the past, the TGSA has sponsored the cost of graduate students' mandatory thesis microfiching costs for Library and Archives Canada thesis copies. In 2013, mandatory microfiching was eliminated when Library and Archives Canada switched to a computerized storage system. This year, the TGSA proposes to reallocate the funds previously used for microfiching towards a thesis-binding rebate for all graduate students.

- Q3a: *Do you support that the TGSA provide a rebate of \$30 per graduate student to subsidize mandatory thesis binding costs, effective retroactively to September 1st, 2014?*
- **MOTION CARRIES; The TGSA will now provide a \$30 rebate per graduate student to subsidize mandatory thesis binding costs, effective retroactively to Sept 1st, 2014.**

- **Referendum Question 4:**

The Ontario Graduate Students' Alliance (OGSA) strives to work collaboratively, informed by the voices of graduate students residing in Ontario, to advocate for policy and system change to support the continued improvement of the graduate student experience in the Province of Ontario. It represents over 18,000 graduate students at its seven member universities: University of Waterloo, McMaster University, Wilfrid Laurier University, Trent University, University of Ontario Institute of Technology, University of Guelph, Athabasca University and Lakehead University.

For more information on OGSA's current projects, as well as details on its Mission, Vision, and Values please refer to their [Annual Report for 2013-2014](#).

In 2013-2014, the Trent GSA was granted complimentary membership in OGSA for a trial period while donations from partner universities funded the efforts of this Not-for-Profit. However, OGSA wishes to hire professional staff to grow its membership and lobby government. For this, they are in discussions with all universities about fee contributions for continued membership. Documentation of budget and fee use is available here: [Membership Policy](#) and [REVISED-Budget & Fee Statement](#).

They are requesting a base fee of \$1000 from each member university and the implementation of a scalable levy amount per student.

Note: Even if we immediately terminate our relationship with the OGSA, we may still owe them fees for the current year based on membership policy.

- Q4a: *Do you support the current TGSA levy budget allocation of \$1400 in support of the TGSA's membership in OGSA for 2014-2015?*
- **MOTION CARRIES; The TGSA will allocate \$1400 from its 2014-2015 fiscal levy budget towards OGSA 2014-2015 membership.**
- Q4b: *Do you support the TGSAs continued membership in OGSA for subsequent years through a \$1000 base fee and a per student yearly levy fee of \$2.00, effective Fall 2015?*

- **MOTION CARRIES; The TGSA will continue to be a member of OGSA post Fall 2015 with an associated cost of a \$1000 annual base membership fee and an additional per student levy fee of \$2.00/yr.**

- **ELECTION NOMINEES**
 - **Official TGSA Vice President, Student Affairs: Jamie Lynch**
 - **Official TGSA English Literature (Public Texts, M.A.) Program Representative: Kate Sykes**
 - **Official TGSA Anthropology (M.A.) Program Representative: Peter Hammersley**
 - **Official TGSA Materials Science (Ph.D.) Program Representative: Athira Mohanan**