

My Report

Last Modified: 04/28/2016





1. Please indicate your program

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Anthropology (M.A/M.Sc)		10	9%
3	Applied Modeling and Quantitative Methods (M.Sc)		6	5%
4	Canadian and Indigenous Studies (M.A)		0	0%
5	Canadian Studies (Ph.D)		9	8%
6	Cultural Studies (Ph.D)		9	8%
7	Educational Studies (M.Ed)		4	4%
8	English (Public Texts) (M.A)		4	4%
9	Environmental and Life Sciences (M.Sc)		13	12%
10	Environmental and Life Sciences (Ph.D)		13	12%
11	History (M.A)		5	4%
12	Human Resource Management (Post-Graduate Certificate)		1	1%
13	Indigenous studies Ph.D)		2	2%
14	Marketing and Entrepreneurship (Post-Graduate Certificate)		1	1%
15	Materials Science (M.Sc)		0	0%
16	Materials Science (Ph.D)		1	1%
17	Psychology (M.A)		11	10%
18	Psychology (M.Sc)		16	14%
19	Sustainability Studies (M.A)		4	4%
20	Theory, Culture and Politics (M.A)		3	3%
	Total		112	




2. Are you an International Student?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes		25	22%
2	No		87	78%
	Total		112	

3. Who do you elect to be your new TGSA president?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Alexandra Ha		53	50%
2	Mackenzie Armstrong		23	22%
3	Michelle Hisson		22	21%
4	Abstain		8	8%
	Total		106	

4. VP Finance Candidate: Anastasia Nepotiuk
 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 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. Do you approve Anastasia Nepotiuk for this position?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes		95	90%
2	No		1	1%
3	Abstain		10	9%
	Total		106	




5. VP Student AffairsCandidate: Swarsattie KishunMy 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.Do you approve of Swarsattie Kishun for this position?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes		89	85%
2	No		3	3%
3	Abstain		13	12%
	Total		105	

6. VP Internal AffairsCandidate: Alison FraserAlison 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. Alison would like to continue in this position in order to strengthen the work she began in terms of increasing graduate representation on university committees, reviewing the bylaws of the TGSA, and working to create institutional memory for the TGSA.Do you approve of Alison Frasser for this position?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes		83	79%
2	No		10	10%
3	Abstain		12	11%
	Total		105	




7. VP Communications Candidate: David Hollands 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 Traill College, which will have its premiere at the Traill 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. Do you approve of David Hollands for this position

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes		88	84%
2	No		5	5%
3	Abstain		12	11%
	Total		105	



8. International Student Representative Here are your candidates

1. Miteb Abunayyan My name is Miteb Abunayyan, a graduate student in the AMOD M.A. program and a graduate of the business administration program at Trent University in 2015. As an international student, I have been involved in different initiatives to help support international students and worked with the Trent International Program (TIP). I believe that there is a great need not only to advocate on behalf of international students but also to reach out to them. International students do have a unique position especially when it comes to knowing their rights, responsibilities, and resources available to them that is vital to their success academically and personally. I am highly motivated to serve in the TGSA as the International Student Representative Commissioner where my expertise and services are employed to help them succeed, build upon success and create new opportunities.




2. Yeukai Katanda 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 Who do you elect to be the International Student Representative?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Miteb Abunayyan		5	24%
2	Yeukai Katanda		12	57%
3	Abstain		4	19%
	Total		21	

9. Environmental Commissioner Candidate: Zankhna Mody
 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. Do you approve of Zankhna Mody for this position?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes		93	89%
2	No		0	0%
3	Abstain		12	11%
	Total		105	


10. Ontario Graduate Students' Association (OGSA) Representative Candidate:
 Laura Thursby 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. Do you approve of Laura Thursby for this position?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
2	No		1	1%
3	Yes		93	89%
4	Abstain		11	10%
	Total		105	


11. M.Sc AMOD Representative Candidate: Hiten Dave
 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. Do you approve of Hiten Dave for this position?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes		4	67%
2	No		0	0%
3	Abstain		2	33%
	Total		6	


12. Ph.D Cultural Studies Representative Candidate: Joshua Noiseux 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. Do you approve as Joshua Noiseux for this position?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes		8	100%
2	No		0	0%
3	Abstain		0	0%
	Total		8	


13. MA Psychology Representative Candidate: Erin Lavery 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). Do you approve of Erin Lavery for this position?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes		11	100%
2	No		0	0%
3	Abstain		0	0%
	Total		11	

14. MA Sustainability Studies Representative Candidate: Elizabeth Aslin Do you approve of Elizabeth Aslin for this position?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes		3	100%
2	No		0	0%
3	Abstain		0	0%
	Total		3	

15. MA Theory, Culture and Politics RepresentativeCandidate: Yunqi JiangI 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.Do you approve of Yunqi Jiang for this position?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes		3	100%
2	No		0	0%
3	Abstain		0	0%
	Total		3	

16. Referendum for Proposed Bylaws 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? Information regarding this question is available at <http://trentgsa.ca/wp-content/uploads/TGSARreferendum2016Question1.pdf>

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes (comments?)		67	66%
2	No (comments?)		7	7%
3	Abstain (comments?)		27	27%
	Total		101	

Yes (comments?)	No (comments?)	Abstain (comments?)
These are a substantial improvement.	Information to make a clear, informed decision is not available. The two documents provided are large enough that the readers will not spend time comparing both documents but must instead take your summary of changes	Abstain
These are awesome. I can't wait for them to be adopted!	While I appreciate the effort that has gone into producing this document, I am voting no because it is too many changes presented in too short of a timeframe and with too little consultation. As a TGSA member, I would have appreciated a separate meeting where the bylaws could have been presented in a more detailed manner and the current executive could have presented a clear justification for the drastic changes beyond what was offered at the AGM.	Agree with certain parts but, having not been at too many board meetings, I can't necessarily just throw in a Yes vote. I understand it is difficult to describe certain language changes but I'm sure other board members will make the right vote :)
They are great!	Not enough time given to review new vs old doc, considering the extreme changes made.	N
I think these bylaws are a wonderful change for the TGSA		Abstain
If the health care referendum is not passed, I would recommend providing a stipend, rather than honorarium, of \$250 per trimester for a health care coordinator		none
The bylaw referring to the GSA hosting a set number of events per month needs to be scrapped. It is a waste of money for events that are under-attended. I would prefer a few bigger events instead (1/semester?)		
Yes		
Thank you for all of the hard work your team has done this year. As a previous TGSA member, I understand the challenges that come with reworking bylaws. Thank you again. informative		

17. Referendum on the MOU between the TGSA, the Symons Seminar Series, and Traill College 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 Traill College under the terms of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding? The Bylaws of the TGSA will be amended accordingly. Information regarding this question is available at <http://trentgsa.ca/wp-content/uploads/TGSARreferendum2016Question2.pdf>

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
4	Yes		76	75%
5	No		3	3%
6	Abstain		22	22%
	Total		101	

18. Referendum on Proposed Health Care Merger 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? Information regarding this question is available at <http://trentgsa.ca/wp-content/uploads/TGSARreferendum2016Question3.pdf>

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes		76	76%
2	No		3	3%
3	Abstain		21	21%
	Total		100	

19. Referendum on Proposed Increase To TGSA College Fees 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? Information regarding this question is available at <http://trentgsa.ca/wp-content/uploads/TGSARreferendum2016Question4.pdf>

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes		69	70%
2	No		14	14%
3	Abstain		16	16%
	Total		99	

20. Referendum on Proposed Increase to Trail College Fees This year, Trail 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 Trail 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 Trail College from \$15.36 to \$30 for full time students and \$7.68 to \$15 for part time students? Information regarding this question is available at <http://trentgsa.ca/wp-content/uploads/TGSARreferendum2016Question5.pdf>

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes		65	66%
2	No		15	15%
3	Abstain		19	19%
	Total		99	