



TGSA Board Meeting Agenda

Date: August 8th, 2021 (Monday)

Start time: 3:00 pm **End time:**

Location: Zoom video conference

Chair: Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay

Scribe: Stephanie Gao

Attendance:

Regrets: Gabriella Peters (VP Student Affairs), Emma Kaszecki (Environmental Commissioner)

1. Presentation(s) and Discussion (s) without voting

Introduction and updates from board members

2. Call to Order

We respectfully acknowledge that we are on the treaty and traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig Anishinaabeg. We offer our gratitude to the First Peoples for their care for, and teachings about, our earth and our relations. May we honour those teachings.

3. Adopt the Agenda:

Mover:

Second:

Discussion

Approve:

Oppose:

Abstain:

4. Past Meeting Minutes

Adopt the Minutes from the Verbatim and Summarized Minutes from July 5th, 2021 Board Meeting

Mover:

Second:

Discussion

Approve:

Oppose:
Abstain:

5. Presentation(s) and Discussion (s) with/without motions

- a.) President - Sebastian
 - a. Update regarding meeting with Michael Eamon
 - b. Various meetings and student association updates (i.e. CUPE)
- b.) VP Senate – Devon
- c.) VP Communications - Stephanie
- d.) VP Finance – Mariana
- e.) International Student Commissioner – Beatriz
- f.) Tanya (Equity Commissioner)
 - a. TGSA/TCSA Joint event
 - b. Tabling for TGSA at Orientation
 - c. TGSA Lounge and funding required

6. Updates from CUPE (Allison Fraser)

- a. Bargaining progresses. The Collective Agreement (CA) expires at the end of August (this month).
- b. Unit 2 Meeting about bargaining
- c. Orientation! CUPE and TGSA joint-hosted event

7. Executive Reports (see Addendum I)

- a) President
- b) VP Internal Affairs
- c) VP Communications
- d) VP Finance
- e) VP Student Affairs
- f) VP Senate Representative

Minutes: Additions to Executive reports

Motion to Approve the Executive Reports

Mover:
Second:

Discussion

Approve:

Oppose:

Abstain:

8. Commissioner Reports (see Addendum II)

- a. Equity Commissioner
- b. Environmental Commissioner
- c. International Student Representative Commissioner

Minutes: Additions to Commissioner reports

Motion to Approve the Commissioner Reports

Mover:

Second:

Discussion

Approve:

Oppose:

Abstain:

9. Question Period and Departmental Issues

10. Business Arising from the Minutes

11. Motions

12. Other Business

13. Notices of Motions and Announcements

- a. The next board meeting TBD
- b. The reports and motions for that meeting TBD

14. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Mover:

Second:

Sebastian (President):

July was a very busy month for the TGSA. I was involved in a number of meetings and communications with various members of the administration on some important issues and can be summarized as follows:

First off, I met many times with Michael Eamon surrounding the issue of graduate student office space. With the opening up to in-person learning come the Fall, the university's position of denying graduate students the opportunity to work and learn in designated spaces on the Trill campus in particular is becoming increasingly untenable.

I want to recognize that the issue is deceptively complex and requires consultation with many levels of the Trent administration and staff at Trill. Without the cooperation of all levels and people involved, it seems unlikely that we will be able to have our own space on campus come the Fall. Michael has met with three key bodies thus far to communicate the need for office space at Trill for graduate students. Thus far, he has met with the VP Human Resources, the Dean of Graduate Studies, and the administrative assistants at Trill. One scenario which might transpire is a kind of voluntary sign-in for a designated office on campus with an additional option for a space where graduate students who are GTAs to sign up for specific times for office hours. I will continue to meet with Michael on these issues as they continue to develop.

To this end, I met with Ali Fraser, our VP Unit 2 at CUPE to discuss a number of issues. We began by talking about CUPE's intention to work alongside us as we work to get graduate students back on campus and in offices. CUPE is also keeping an eye on the re-opening of the university to in-person learning and encourages us to keep communication open if there are any concerns from the graduate student body.

We also talked about an ongoing issue that CUPE has raised with Consent at Trent and the Sexual Violence Prevention office concerning training material that had been developed and sent out to graduate students for use in their roles as GTAs. This issue is not likely to go much further, but it is worth mentioning for the record here. It is my opinion that given CUPE's primary responsibility to its members in issues concerning labour and training that the TGSA back them up on this should this issue continue.

I have also received a Communication Agreement from Graduate Studies concerning the use of the List Serve and distributed it to the Executive. I've taken a look over it and it seems to be in line with our understanding of what would be included. In short, it contains no surprises. I'm awaiting any feedback from the Executive before I sign it along with Devon Howell as the acting VP Internal Affairs.

Finally, I helped our team organize the upcoming orientation events for the incoming cohort of graduate students alongside CUPE and graduate studies and got the information sent off to Laurie Collette to be included on the orientation webpage. I will be attending two orientation and information sessions on behalf of the TGSA and talking about the three social and informational events we have planned over the month of August.

Devon (VP Internal Affairs): -

Stephanie (VP Communication): -

- Most of the TGSA board profiles are on the website
- TGSA events are updated on calendar
- Mailing List communications has been drafted, approval required before release
- July 2021 Newsletter was not sent out. August Newsletter is ready to be released today upon approval.

Mariana (VP Finance):-

Gabriella (VP Student Affairs):-

Devon (VP Senate):-

Addendum II
Commissioner Reports

Emma (Environmental Commissioner): -

As mentioned in the last month, I wanted to reach out to individuals at Trent that can lend some guidance and information beneficial towards the University Climate Change Coalition (UC3). That being said, it was very overwhelming to see the number of people that could be of use, and I needed to start somewhere. As per Michael Schmidt's recommendation at the beginning of the summer I reached out to the Student Representative on the Board of Governors, Daniel Palberg. Mr. Palberg is currently establishing himself on the Board, and is set to be out of the country for the duration of the Fall 2021 semester. Communication is set to continue before he departs, but I have essentially been back-burnered on the matter until he is free to chat.

Besides this slow progress, I have been working on my PhD conversion paper, and that is what the majority of my time has been dedicated to.

Beatriz (International Student Representative Commissioner): -

Tanya (Equity Commissioner): -

In the meeting that I had with the TCSA folks last month, we discussed several interesting mutual events for the upcoming semester. Regarding the orientation week, we talked about the TGSA having a table and preparing a number of welcoming boxes for the graduate

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students. Also, TCSA has been working on creating a lounge located in the student centre. The lounge can be used by graduate students as well as the TGSA in case we want to hold an event there. TCSA would like to know if we would be able to offer some funding to further help the preparation of the lounge. Its grand opening will be held soon