



TGSA Board Meeting Summarized Minutes

Date: January 13th, 2020 (Wednesday)

Start time: 0500PM **End time:** 0630PM

Location: Zoom video conference

Chair: Sandra Klemet-N'Guessan

Scribe: Shyong Quan (Elicia) Yap

Attendance: Shannon Fiedler, Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay, Sandra Klemet-N'Guessan, Mariana Castelli Rosa, Nina Schmitz, Nicole Covey, Connor Elverson, Tanya Aminataei, Jordon Williams, Verena Sesin, Autumn Jordon, Logan Hamer, Shiva Javdan, Beatriz Bento, Elicia Yap (15, quorum met)

Regrets: Carol Andrews, Dominique O'Bonsawin, Maryam Helae, Devon Howell

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: Sandra Klemet-N'Guessan

Second: Verena Sesin

Discussion

-no discussion

Approve: 15

Oppose:

Abstain:

motion carries

4. Past Meeting Minutes

Adopt the Minutes from the Verbatim and Summarized Minutes from 2nd December 2020 Board Meeting

Mover: Sandra Klemet-N'Guessan

Second: Jordon Williams

Discussion

-no discussion

Approve: 15

Oppose:

Abstain:

motion carries

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

a) Sandra (President)

(i) Updates from meeting with Sexual Harassments Prevention team

(ii) Election

Sandra updated the board about her meeting with Malika from the sexual harassment prevention team. They are planning to do a survey to assess the situation and have an idea of graduate students' experiences and needs. This training may be in a form of a workshop and could be a part of orientation week in the future.

Our elections will happen in February. Sebastian gave a brief overview of how our elections, nomination period, annual general meeting (AGM) and voting period will occur as outlined in the bylaws. Sandra reminded the executives and commissioners that they will have to prepare a little presentation of what they have accomplished and present it during the AGM. The board also discussed about ways to attract graduate students to our AGM such as inviting a speaker such as Shaun McCracken from housing or Dr. Craig Brunetti from the School of Graduate Studies, giving out a gift card and frame the AGM as a discussion event for graduate students.

b) Sebastian (VP Internal Affairs)

(i) Motion for proposed amendments and designation on overseeing election

Motion 1:

Policy 4.01 outlines that TGSA elections are to be overseen by the outgoing VP Internal Affairs and that if the VP Internal Affairs is running again for any position that they designate Board members who are not standing for election again to oversee the election by a majority vote of the Board.

I move the current President, Sandra Klemet-N'Guessan and VP Student Affairs, Jordon Williams, take over the task of overseeing this election.

Mover: Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay

Second: Shannon Fiedler

Discussion

Sandra discussed about the responsibilities which are drafting the communication components, managing the Qualtrics survey and running the AGM.

Approve: 15

Oppose:

Abstain:

motion carries

Motion 2:

I move to add to each section of Policy 2 of our By-Laws and Policies. These amendments concern the addition of a paragraph to each portfolio of Section 2 outlining each Board Member's responsibility to maintain their own folders and documents in the Shared Google Drive of the TGSA. This amendment is intended to clarify following Amendment 1 ii., passed by the Board on December 2nd, 2020. A full draft of the amendment is included below.

Amendment 1.) In response to Amendment 1.ii. of the proposed amendments document voted on and passed by the TGSA board on December 2nd, 2020, this amendment will insert the following text as a new paragraph into the portfolios of each Executive, Commissioner, and Representative portfolio as found in "Policy 2: Executive, Commissioner, and Program Representative Portfolios" of the TGSA By-Laws and Policies document:

"To maintain their respective Portfolio Folder in the TGSA Google Drive database and organize the documents wherein"

Mover: Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay

Second: Shannon Fiedler

Discussion

Sandra mentioned to the board about updating and maintain their own google drive. She also talked about the transition document that all executives and commissioners have to prepare by the end of April as well as meeting with the newly elected people for training.

Approve: 15

Oppose:

Abstain:

motion carries

- c) Verena (Environmental Commissioner)
 - (i) Update on TGSA action on the TLNAP

Verena gave a brief update on the Trent lands and nature areas plan. The board decided to further advocate for this matter such as signing on to the press release and draft a response letter to Julie Davis. The board also talked about running the survey that TCSA sent to the graduate student body so that the TGSA can craft a response letter that can be backed up by data from the survey.

Jordon also updated the board about event ideas he had in mind for this semester which would focus more on discussion boards and groups. He is also planning to have events pertaining to poverty and the environment as suggested by Tanya and Verena.

6. Updates from CUPE

Shiva talked about the upcoming unit 2 caucus meeting, positions available for members and what their roles would be.

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: Sandra Klemet-N'Guessan

Second: Elicia Yap

Discussion

-no discussion

Approve: 15

Oppose:

Abstain:

motion carries

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: Sandra Klemet-N'Guessan
Second: Elicia Yap

Discussion
-no discussion

Approve: 15
Oppose:
Abstain:
motion carries

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 TBA
- b. The reports and motions for that meeting TBA

14. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting
Mover: Sandra Klemet-N'Guessan
Second: Jordon Williams

Discussion
-no discussion

Approve: 15
Oppose:
Abstain:
motion carries

Addendum I **Executive Reports**

Sandra (President):

The month of December has been pretty calm since we went on holidays. The bulk of my work has been to oversee the planning of our Festivus event, and follow up with Craig Brunetti and Michael Eamon after our last board meeting with our suggestions. I also met with Malika Whelan from the Sexual Harassment Prevention team and other TGSA members and CUPE to brainstorm

ideas to address these issues for graduate students at the student and TA levels. Lastly, I had my regular meeting with the Anti-racism Task Force with tasks that each member should complete for the next meeting.

Sebastian (VP Internal Affairs):

Over the past month, I have been involved in a number of different initiatives concerning the Trent Lands and Nature Area Plan (TLNAP). This included attending the TCSA Board meeting on December 6th, and subsequently helped draft a letter to the TLNAP Planning committee and Trent Vice President External Relations and Advancement, Julie Davies.

On December 18th, I attended a meeting with representatives of the TGSA and CUPE 3908 on the topic of developing a program of awareness and outreach for Sexual Violence Prevention among graduate students with Trent Sexual Violence Prevention Educator, Malika Whelan.

I've drafted and put forth a straightforward amendment to each section of Policy 2 of our By-Laws and Policies. These amendments concern the addition of a paragraph to each portfolio of Section 2 outlining each Board Member's responsibility to maintain their own folders and documents in the Shared Google Drive of the TGSA. This amendment is intended to clarify following Amendment 1 ii., passed by the Board on December 2nd, 2020. A full draft of the amendment is included below.

Finally, as I am running again in the upcoming elections, I wanted to put forward a motion to designate Sandra and Jordon as the Board members who will oversee the election process.

Motion:

Policy 4.01 outlines that TGSA elections are to be overseen by the outgoing VP Internal Affairs and that if the VP Internal Affairs is running again for any position that they designate Board members who are not standing for election again to oversee the election by a majority vote of the Board.

I move the current President, Sandra Klemet-N'Guessan and VP Student Affairs, Jordon Williams, take over the task of overseeing this election.

Appendix:

Proposed amendments to the Policies and By-Laws of the TGSA

January 2021

Compiled and Drafted by:
Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay, VP Internal Affairs

As per By-Law 26.03, the topics of the following amendments were reported to the VP Internal Affairs 30 days in advance of the January 2021 Board meeting.

All Amendments will require ratification by the General Membership at the next General Meeting, as per By-Law 26.01 and 11.01, respectively.

Amendment 1.) In response to Amendment 1.ii. of the proposed amendments document voted on and passed by the TGSA board on December 2nd, 2020, this amendment will insert the following text as a new paragraph into the portfolios of each Executive, Commissioner, and Representative portfolio as found in “Policy 2: Executive, Commissioner, and Program Representative Portfolios” of the TGSA By-Laws and Policies document:

“To maintain their respective Portfolio Folder in the TGSA Google Drive database and organize the documents wherein”

Elicia (VP Communication):

This month, I have been working on:

- Distributed our December newsletter
- Compiled information for the January issue
- Uploaded a section on Sexual Violence Disclosure: Resources for TAs on our website
- Publicized TGSA’s initiatives on TLNAP

Mariana (VP Finance):-

Jordon (VP Student Affairs):

The Model Parliament event has been cancelled, but I spent some time drafting a new document so that the event can be passed down to other students. In other words, the TGSA has done its part in setting up the event, and it is up to other students to pick up where we left off. I TA for Political Studies this term and will be passing along the information to first and second-year students.

Festivus was successful and a great deal of fun. The TGSA discord server worked well with almost no difficulties, minus one attendee with one of the games. We briefly met on Zoom to vote on the ugly sweater contest for the event. We then moved on to our games. We played Among Us and a couple of games from the Jackbox party pack. Gift cards have not been distributed due to the lockdown in Ontario. Once I can get the cards, they will be distributed. The goal is no later than the end of the lockdown.

For the coming term, I have been brainstorming what events we could have as the TGSA. Beyond having another Life After Trent event, I would like to focus on other academic and discussion-oriented events. I will be contacting our commissioners to develop events that cater to the particular commissioner roles as per my role in the bylaws policies section. For January, I would like to host a basic social night with the option to play the game Among Us. The setup for the game takes almost no time, and it does not require money. I will be submitting a list of potential events with possible dates by Monday evening. As for the social in January. That date will also be sent on Monday.

Janina (VP Senate):-

Addendum II
Executive Reports

Verena (Environmental Commissioner):

In the month of December most of my work has been focused on the Trent Lands and Nature Areas Plan. This plan is open for public comment until January 4th. I have received graduate student concerns on their ability to adequately review the plan and provide comments, due to the short comment period, the complexity and confusing presentation of information, as well as an unclear communication and resolution process. In response to these comments, I have initiated a joint working group between the TCSA and TGSA which drafted and submitted an official letter requesting an extension of the comment period until March 2021. This request was dismissed by Julie Davis on behalf of the official plan committee. We are currently brainstorming on how we could appeal this decision, and/or what other ways of support we can offer to graduate students in this matter.

Maryam (International Student Representative Commissioner): -

Tanya (Equity Commissioner):-