



TGSA Board Meeting Agenda

Date: July 5th, 2021 (Monday)

Start time: 3pm **End time:** 4:15pm

Location: Zoom video conference

Chair: Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay

Scribe: Stephanie Gao

Attendance: Devon Howell, Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay, Stephanie Gao, Emma Kaszecki, Mariana Castelli Rosa, Nicole Covey, Tanya Aminataei, Connor Elverson, Gabriella Peters, Shiva Javden

Regrets: Beatriz Bento

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: Gabriella

Second: Mariana

Discussion

No discussion*

Approve: All

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

4. Past Meeting Minutes

4.1 Adopt the Minutes from the Summarized Minutes from June 7th, 2021

Mover: Devon

Second: Tanya

Discussion

No discussion*

Approve: All

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

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

- a) Sebastian (President)
 - (i) Update on listserv

Document exists between TGSA and Grad Studies regarding the use of the listserv. Stephanie Belfry has drafted a document and has sent it to Craig Brunetti, the Dean of Graduate Studies. He will be going to sabbatical and James Conolly from the Anthropology department. Possibly some time before TGSA will be able to see the document since Craig is on leave. Stephanie Belfry also sent the document to Michael Eamon, who is also on vacation. Michael will not oppose to any censorship and wishes to work alongside Grad Studies.

- (ii) Update on meeting with Jennie Rennie on the Racialized Student Bursary

A report regarding the bursary exists. Jane Rennie says she wishes to set up a meeting to review this report. There is the matter of fund distribution and hopefully the meeting can discuss this (i.e. improvements, financial distribution).

- (iii) TGSA listserv

Stephanie will draft communication regarding the listserv.

- (iv) Update on meeting with Craig Brunetti regarding the emergency bursary and mental health

Sebastian and Mariana met with Craig Brunetti regarding mental health services at Trent and received a response from Nona Robinson from the Office of Student Affairs. She attached the main form regarding student health to every student who enters Trent. This is still ongoing.

- b) Devon (VP internal affairs)

Michael has stepped down from VP Senate and Devon has stepped down from this position to be VP Senate. However, Michael will still be involved with CUPE. No new updates from Devon regarding work in the past month. James Conolly will be the interim Dean while Craig is on sabbatical. Amendments for the by-law preliminary draft will be done prior to whoever is filling in the VP Internal Affairs prior to the next board meeting. Sebastian mentions a need for further amendments and clarification of by-laws are required.

- c) Stephanie (VP Communications)
 - (i) Update on newsletter, website, and comments on event promotion

Stephanie says that social media for event promotion seems to gather more attention. Specifically personal platforms on top of TGSA promotion. Gabriella suggests sending our posts to Trill College for event promotion. Sebastian suggests the Trill Newsletter.

- d) Mariana (VP Finance)

Mariana is meeting with Connor soon about the TGSA budget. Currently working on more bursary applications. Connor has been handling the issue with the insurance and is still in-contact with the company. TGSA Canva subscription is going to be renewed.

- e) Gabriella Peters (VP Student Affairs)
 - (i) Skribblo update

Event was successful and at least 5 people showed up. However, most attendees were invited through word of mouth. Discord is a good medium for online games and discussion amongst one another and is better than Zoom. Gabriella requests for TGSA members to send a brief email about members who would not be able to attend. Gabriella suggests a post-event email correspondence and/or social media to evaluate engagement. Gabriella is open to suggestions for academic summer events. Emma suggest using Netflix Party and Stephanie suggested using House Party as new game night ideas.

- (ii) Requirement of TGSA members at TGSA events

Discussion: Is it a requirement for TGSA members to be present at TGSA-hosted events?

Sebastian mentions that members should do their best to attend but it is understandable if some members cannot attend. A courtesy email should be sent to Gabriella in advance for organizational purposes.

- f) Emma (Environmental Commissioner)

Trent Nature Plan is moving forward. Development of the land has been submitted to the City of Peterborough for approval. The Seniors Village will move forward with development. No issues that TGSA will have to worry about now.

- g) Tanya (Equity Commissioner)
 - (i) TGSA/TCSA Joint event

First draft about LGBQ pride month has been sent to Devon as pending for confirmation. There should be no limitation as to when it will be published. Meeting on Wednesday pending confirmation.

Discussion of collaboration between TCSA and TGSA for orientation week regarding any events. Email Tanya if there are any available suggestions.

6. Updates from CUPE

Shiva has brought up Devon's concerning about delegation of work spaces at the Durham campus to CUPE. Shiva is also on the bargaining committee this year. Shiva suggests to voice concerns at the bargaining session regarding accommodation to Trent.

7. Nicole Covey (Canadian Studies, PhD Representative)

Nicole currently cannot divulge information now as there are some problems within the department. Nicole will submit a statement for the next meeting.

8. 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:

9. Commissioner Reports (see Addendum II)

- a. Equity Commissioner
- b. Environmental Commissioner
- c. Health Benefits Commissioner
- d. 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

13. Notices of Motions and Announcements

- a. The next board meeting will be held August 9th, 2021 due to Civic Holiday
- b. The reports and motions for that meeting are due July 28th, 2021

14. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Mover: Gabriella

Second: Devon

Discussion

Approve: All

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

Addendum I
Executive Reports

Sebastian (President)

This month was primarily taken up with following up on certain issues that have been left hanging and that the TGSA has been waiting to hear back on.

Prime among these is the document regarding the list serve. We have heard that it now exists but have yet to receive a draft of it from Grad Studies. My impression is that Stephanie would like both the Dean of Graduate Studies and Michael Eamon to look at it before we get to see it. Naturally, both Michael and Craig were off this past week and then compounding this is the fact that James Connolly is covering for Craig's upcoming sabbatical. I am sure we'll eventually receive this document.

I have been in touch with Jane Rennie regarding the racialized student bursary. Jane and Stephanie are putting together a report on how that was received and how we might be able to improve it moving forward. I also need to meet with them to go over and sign our financial distribution agreement.

A couple of other things to note here: I am still hoping that we can try and work on the creation of an email list which would allow us to avoid the pitfalls of the listserve. It would make sense if this was a concern of the VP Communications, but if anyone else would like to help out or has experience with this kinds of things and knows a good and dependable way to make an email list, that would be greatly appreciated.

Mariana and I met with Craig Brunetti to talk about mental health services and the possibilities for the fall regarding international students especially. We're still looking to update our emergency bursary form to reflect the fact that the TGSA considers issues surrounding mental health to be included alongside health and dental as it is currently laid out in the application.

Devon (VP Internal Affairs):

Stephanie (VP Communication):

In the month of June, I worked on:

- Prepared and released June Newsletter
- Designed poster regarding discovery of the Kamloops grave and releasing it
- Creating draft of blurbs and pictures of all board members for eventual release

Mariana (VP Finance):

Gabriella (VP Student Affairs):

In regards to running events, I was wondering about what kind of events people wanted to see happen this summer. The overall response was to keep things light and fun over the summer by running game nights. After reaching out over Instagram to see what games people would like to play, a majority of people expressed interest in playing the game Skribblio.

Returning to last month's dilemma on how to run an event without putting people in breakout rooms, we decided to try and use the platform Discord instead of Zoom. Discord allows participants to join a voice channel so participants can be in separate groups (for the purpose of server capacity) while all conversing in the same general chat. Although this still separates people to an extent, I think it is still more functional than Zoom's completely isolated rooms. Hopefully, this is something we can improve in the future.

The Skribblio event took place on June 25th at 7pm. It ran for a total of 1.5 hours, and eight people attended the event and came in and out of the call. The overall response of the event was successful.

Skribblio's server capacity is eight players, so I did not have the chance to test using the different voice channels on Discord.

A comment that an attendant made was "where are the other TGSA members" and to that, I did not have a concrete answer. I think it is important to have a bigger TGSA presence at events, or at least let me know if people cannot attend so that I have a better grasp on what to expect when starting an event.

I like engaging with the student body to see what kinds of events they would enjoy partaking in, so for the rest of the summer I intend on reaching out to the community to see what events they would like to see the TGSA facilitate.

Addendum II **Commissioner Reports**

Emma (Environmental Commissioner):

For the month of June my focus has been primarily on my research as I prepare to write my PhD conversion proposal. That being said, there were two developments in my role.

First, a dialogue opened between myself and Ruth-Ann Dafoe for the Trent Lands & Nature Area Plan (TLNAP). She informed me that the construction of the Senior's Village will be modeled after that of the new Forensic Crime Scene Lab on the East Bank across from the DNA building. The construction of this building was entirely carbon neutral. Additionally, the TLNAP provided a framework for how they expect the construction to proceed. This involves obtaining green construction certifications including LEED, The WELL Building Standard, The Living Building Challenge, and other programs. This reassurance can help ease the minds of students who worry about the integrity of the land remaining intact. I am of the opinion that at this time there is no need for the TGSA to interfere or work to slow and/or halt this project.

Second, preliminary research has begun regarding the University Climate Change Coalition (UC3). The criteria to become a member is rigorous, and requires extensive involvement by Trent University. Further research is required to understand where Trent stands with regards to the requirements, and what would need to be changed or implemented going forward. The goal this month will be to establish a dialogue with the appropriate administration about academic and institutional climate change stances and initiatives.

Beatriz (International Student Representative Commissioner): -

Tanya (Equity Commissioner):

For the past month, I have been drafting the TGSA's statement for the pride month. Devon and I are working on it before sending it out. Also, I have been in touch with the TCSA and we are planning to have a meeting soon in order to organize a couple of TGSA/TCSA joint equity events for the upcoming orientation week