



TGSA Board Meeting Minutes

Date: July 6th, 2022

Start time: 6:05 pm **End time:** 7:56 pm

Location: Zoom Conference

Chair: Emma Kaszecki

Scribe: Sarah Rayner

Attendance: Emma Kaszecki, Sarah Rayner, William Kim, Egan Henderson, Jordan MacDonald, Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay

Absence with regrets:

Absence without Regrets: Connor Elverson

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: Jordan

Second: Will

Discussion

Approve: All

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

4. Past Meeting Minutes

Adopt the Minutes from June 1st, 2022 Board Meeting

Mover: Egan

Second: Will

Discussion

Approve: All

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

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

a.) Emma – President

(i) Resignation of Equity Commissioner and Cultural Studies representative because of personal life reasons

(ii) Convocation photos

- Lou Fitze of Fitze Photography took free photos of the 2020, 2021, and 2022 graduates on June 8th as they walked across the stage,
- This was very well received by graduating graduates. 68% of the students that did walk across the stage reached out before the ceremony requesting their photos, and additional students that requested their photos after the ceremony brought that number up to 72% of students

(iii) Lunch with Michael Eamon

- Discussed increasing the TGSA and graduate student presence at Trill College by working closely with Trill
 - o Invited to participate in the Trill Carnival and the Symons Series
 - o Invited back to participating in Symons Series
 - Do we want to expand the Symons series? Do we want to do our own conference?
 - Discussion and brainstorming around the purpose of the Symons Series vs. what we are aiming to do (focus on alumni relations? Skill building? Etc.)

(iv) Student Leaders Meeting

- Nona Robinson stepping down to be Vice Provost at York University
- Not much from meeting that related to graduate students

(v) Attended Board of Governors Meeting (June 24)

- Last meeting before the BoG recessed for the summer
- Lots of policy amendments passed (nothing that directly impacts graduate students)
 - o Sexual Violence Policy passed with recommendations to be brought back to the task force: Why is there a section that specifically highlights sexual assault against women and marginalized women?

(vi) Meeting with Dean of Graduate Studies (James Conolly)

- Canadian Studies + Indigenous Studies Masters program is combined
 - o This is not liked by many students as Indigenous Studies students do not feel like they have enough representation as many of the classes taught are from the point of view of colonizers

- Representation for graduate students
 - o Trent's \$100 million campaign
 - Julie Davis (VP of Relations) is meeting with the Deans of each department to discuss where the money should go and what it should be used for
 - Will talk with Julie to potentially get some funding to get some graduate space at Symons
- Introduction of a new program: Interdisciplinary Aging Studies
 - o Less science, more social work: 2-year research MA + placement to work in elder care/hospital
 - o Linked to old age centre going in at Trent
- Something interesting:
 - o For the first time *ever* the administration is asking for specifics when it comes to financial projections (ie. enrolment, allocation of resources, program expansion etc.)
 - International acceptances are up 60%

(vii) Meeting with Mark Murdoch (Food Services)

- Publicly issued request for proposal (RFP) for the Bata Bean
 - o Charwell's took over the space as local establishments contacted said they did not want to do it
 - o White Buffalo Coffee Company out of Calgary is an Indigenous and smudge-certified coffee company that will be selling coffee out of the Bata Bean (we will be buying their coffee from them and selling out as a grab-and-go style)
- Original concept of the Bata Bean was to have local businesses provide their own snacks/pastries/sandwiches etc. to be sold (increases awareness of local businesses and is another source of income for the business)
 - o TGSA can assist with helping this vision come to life in exchange for getting our name on the Bata Bean = marketing for us
 - o Tell local businesses that they only need to provide goods and not have to provide staffing

(viii) Meeting with Provost Khan

- Open to helping overtime graduate students
 - o Is Revamping the continuing education fee and is providing a fund for graduate students that go overtime due to extenuating circumstances
 - o Brought up our prior options and opinions on graduate fees for students who have gone overtime
 - Logistics can be messy regarding OSAP (main concern), university budgets, etc.

b.) Emma- VP Finance

(i) Bursary funds

- Increasing the amount of funding each student can get by rounding up to the "next \$100" as to not potentially run a deficit this year

- Separate academic and conference bursaries with clear lines for what the bursaries can be used for

(ii) Key Pad for TGSA Office

- We just need to pay a \$150 one-time fee for the key pad
- Will be easier than having to pass around physical keys (only Emma and Connor have keys)

(iii) Grad Orientation

- TGSA will supply the liquor license and popcorn machine for Traill Carnival
- Contact Karbon about beer — can use this as additional fundraiser

c.) Sarah- VP Communication

(i) Website Maintenance

- Has been updating the website page-by-page
- Has updated the current board headshots and bios

(ii) Social Media

- Has been updating our social media channels for our events, and has made a post about current vacant positions

d.) Egan- VP Student Affairs

(i) July Event at Cork and Bean

- July 20th, 6-8pm, (approx.) 20 people
 - o Pay for one drink voucher for everyone
 - o Discussion about how RSVPing should work

e.) Will- VP Senate

- (i) Currently modifying the TGSA Bylaws (ongoing)
- (ii) In organizing the upcoming committee meeting assignments

6. Updates from CUPE

Sebastian- Unit 2 Lead Steward

- (i) Unit 2 is still looking for Unit 2 Stewards
 - Small outreach event was held, but wasn't well attended
- (ii) Graduate Orientation
 - Possible collaboration between TGSA and CUPE
 - Table beside each other?
- (iii) Issue of Students Being Denied CUPE Positions
 - Rumblings of students being denied CUPE positions based on the department they have been teaching in in previous terms — this is not okay, and grievable

7. Student Support Co-Ordinator – Connor Elverson

8. Question Period and Departmental Issues

9. Business Arising from the Minutes

10. Motions

11. Other Business

12. Notices of Motions and Announcements

- a. The next board meeting will be (tentatively) held on August 3rd at 6:00 pm
- b. The reports and motions for that meeting are due August 3rd, 2022 (by 12pm)

13. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Mover: Will

Second: Sebastian

Addendum I
Executive Reports

Emma (President):

Loss of Board members

- Resignation of Equity Commissioner and Cultural Studies representative

Convocation photos

- Lou Fitze of Fitze Photography took free photos of the 2020, 2021, and 2022 graduates on June 8th as they walked across the stage
- 68% of the students that did walk across the stage reached out before the ceremony requesting their photos, and additional students that requested their photos after the ceremony brought that number up to 72% of students

Lunch with Michael Eamon

- Increasing the TGSA and graduate student presence at Traill College by working closely with Traill
 - Collaborating to bring life back to Traill and increase graduate student activity at Traill
 - Invited to participate in the Traill Carnival
 - Work on Orientation packages and Grad Swag sooner than later
 - Invited back to participating in Symons Series
 - Do we want to expand the Symons series? Do we want to do our own conference?
 - Work on increased representation for graduate students on Symons campus
 - Figure out how to improve the transit routes to Traill College

Meeting with President Groake

- Working towards a better graduate student experience at Trent University through the collaborative efforts of the TGSA and Trent University administrators
 - Increasing graduate student representation on Symons campus
 - Regular meetings to discuss TGSA progress and initiatives
 - Working towards a concrete plan to assist students that go overtime in their research (to be presented at the PVP in February)

Student Leaders Meeting

- Nona Robinson stepping down and going to York University
- More information for TCSA orientation

Attended Board of Governors Meeting on June 24

- Last meeting before the BoG recessed for the summer
- Lots of policy amendments passed (nothing that directly impacts graduate students)
 - Sexual Violence Policy passed with recommendations to be brought back to the task force: Why is there a section that specifically highlights sexual assault against women and marginalized women?

Meeting with Dean of Graduate Studies (James Conolly)

- Canadian Studies + Indigenous Studies Masters program is combined
 - ID students do not feel like they have enough representation because many of the classes taught are from the point of view of colonizers
- Representation for graduate students
 - Trent's \$100 million campaign
 - Julie Davis is meeting with the Dean's of each department to discuss what their vision would be for use of funds (Can we contribute money from the levy fees we received?)
 - Could be used to help increase graduate student representation on Symons and increase the graduate student presence
- Introduction of a new program: Interdisciplinary Aging Studies
 - 2-year research MA + placement to work in elder care/hospital
 - Linked to old age home going in at Trent
- Something interesting
 - The Provost and President Groake saw the increased growth of the graduate programs at Trent as "financial support for the institution"
 - For the first time ever the administration is asking for specifics when it comes to financial projections (ie. enrolment, allocation of resources, program expansion etc.)
 - International "accepts" are up 60%
 -

Meeting with Mark Murdoch (Food Services)

- Publicly issued RFP for the Bata Bean

- Everyone that was contacted about the opportunity said they did not want to do it
→ Charwell's takes over the space
- White Buffalo Coffee Company out of Calgary is an Indigenous and smudge-certified coffee company that will be selling coffee out of the Bata Bean (we will be buying their coffee from them and selling out as a grab-and-go style)
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 - TGSA can assist with helping this vision come to life in exchange for getting our name on the Bata Bean = marketing for us

Meeting with Provost Khan

- Open to helping overtime graduate students
 - (i) Revamping the continuing education fee + providing a fund for graduate students that go overtime due to extenuating circumstances
- Wants to help increase graduate student representation on Symons campus

Setting up regular meetings going forward with Craig and myself to touch base and work collaboratively to meet our goals

Emma (VP Finance Report):

Bursary funds

- Increasing the amount of funding each student can get
 - Round up to the next hundred?
- Separate academic and conference bursaries with clear lines for what the bursaries can be used for

KeyPad for TGSA Office

- \$150 one-time fee

Orientation

- TGSA will supply the liquor license and popcorn machine for Traill Carnival
 - Contact Karbon about the event?

Emma (VP Internal Affairs):

Sarah (VP Communications):

During the month of June my focus remained on updating and doing maintenance our website. I updated all of the Board's bios and headshots and took a walk around campus to take new photos of campus for our page banners. I made sure to update our social media accounts with

advertisements for our grad photo endeavour. This upcoming month I will be focusing on creating postings to try and grab new Board members for our vacancies.

Willl (VP Senate):

- Currently modifying the TGSA Bylaws
- In the process of organizing the upcoming committee meeting assignments

Egan (VP Student Affairs):

This last month I planned our July event and reached out to several local businesses around Nogo/Ptbo.

July Event

- Social event being held at Cork & Bean on George St.
- July 20th, ~6-8pm, ~20 people
- Pay for one drink “voucher” for everyone

Meeting W/ Michael Eamon

- Met with Michael to discuss ideas for Traill BBQ/Carnival
- TGSA is going to run the liquor/beer tent, and have a popcorn machine running
- This helps us advertise ourselves to new and current students
- He wants to work together on events in the future, so we may be able to “piggyback” off events Traill runs and just hop in on the action

Otherwise, my duties were keeping up with emails and thinking of potential events to run for August-September. There are some ideas floating around but nothing concrete.

Addendum II
Commissioner Reports

Addendum III

