



TGSA Board Meeting Minutes

Date: March 27th, 2023

Start time: 6:09 pm **End time:** 6:53 pm

Location: Traill College and Zoom Conference

Chair: Emma Kaszecki

Scribe: Sarah Rayner

Attendance: Emma Kaszecki, William Kim, Sarah Rayner, Egan Henderson, Conner Elverson, Heather Klyn-Hesselink, Margaret Appiah

Regrets: Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay, Jordan MacDonald, Jaz Raine

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

Introductions and update 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: Egan

Second: Will

Discussion

Approve: All

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

4. Adopt the Minutes Previous

Mover: Will

Second: Heather

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

a.) Emma — President

(i) Board of Governor Luncheon (detailed notes in appendix)

- (ii) CASSC Updates (detailed notes in appendix)
- (iii) Research Policy Committee Meetings (detailed notes in appendix)

VP, Internal

- (i) TGSA by-laws, policies, and appendices have all been approved by the membership!

b.) Sarah — VP, Communications

- (i) AGM planning went well, and the AGM went well overall (details in appendix)
- (ii) Planning for grad student and supervisor awards is underway (TGSA Community Leadership Award and Excellence in Supervision Award)
- (iii) There have been some last minute issues with the end-of-year party regarding location, which are on the way to being resolved

c.) William — VP, Senate

- (i) Attended monthly meetings for Senate, Undergraduate Study, and Grad Studies, as well as IT Strategy Steering Committee and Senate Teaching Awards Subcommittee (meeting details in appendix)

d.) Egan — VP, Student Affairs

- (i) Ran TGSA elections and referendum (details in appendix)
- (ii) Ran the sustainable plan potting event with Heather (details in appendix)
- (iii) CASSC and Athletics Subcommittee meetings, as well as Library Advisory and Housing Advisory Committee meetings (meeting details in appendix)

e.) Heather — Environmental Commissioner

- (i) Food Services and Sustainability Committee meetings (details in appendix)
- (ii) Plant potting event feedback (details in appendix)
- (iii) Lab recycling survey is out

6. Student Support Co-Ordinator—Connor Elverson

7. Updates from CUPE

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 held TBD
- b. The reports and motions for that meeting are due TBD

13. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting (8:14pm)

Mover: Egan

Second: Will

Addendum I

Executive Reports

Emma (President)

Board of Governor Luncheon

- Attended the BoG luncheon on behalf of the TGSA
- Had a conversation with President Groarke about the progress of graduate student space on Symons campus
 - Offered the opportunity to move SGS and create spaces in the academic block of the new residence building
 - President Groarke asked VP-AI Idrissi in his report about the new residence building about allocation for graduate student spaces (design plans are being drawn up in the fall and I have been welcomed to the discussion by President Groarke, VP Ali-Idrissi, and AVP Bianco)

CASSC Updates

- Ancillary fee budget presentations are in full swing
 - College Fee: asking for 6.9% increase
 - Student Leaders are meeting to discuss this further
 - Athletic & Recreation Fee: asking for 6.9%
 - Further discussion in CASSC
 - Campus Card Fee: increased by 7.9% (\$0.73) to \$10.00
 - Campus Safety Fee: asking for 6.9% increase
 - Orientation Fee (graduate students do not pay): asking for 6.9%

Research Policy Committee Meetings

- Review Strategic Research Priorities for comments
- Finalization of Research Data Management Strategy

Overtime fee proposal was approved for 5th year PhD Students!

(VP Internal Affairs)

TGSA by-laws, policies, and appendices have all been approved by the membership!

Sarah (VP Communications):

- February was an event planning and “looking forward” month, as I booked and organized the AGM and spent the majority of the month planning the end of year party
- Ordered travel mugs for incoming members/award winners/ prizes
- Created social media posts and did outreach through SGS

Will (VP Senate Report):

I attended the monthly senate meeting (see below for a summary of what was discussed), as well as other subcommittees.

Senate Teaching Awards Subcommittee (STAS)

- o Discussed and selected the recipients for the teaching awards (Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching, Award for Educational Leadership and Innovation, Award for Excellence in Online Teaching, CUPE 3908-1 Award for Excellence in Teaching, and Award for Excellence in Teaching Assistance)
- o Discussed implementing new criteria for selecting recipients for the awards.

IT Strategy Steering Committee

- o Discussed how to cultivate a healthy workplace within the IT department (e.g., empowering the IT team, innovations in the IT department, and finding meaningful ways to engage IT with the Trent community).

Senate meeting:

- o Discussed the recipients receiving the teaching awards (Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching, Award for Educational Leadership and Innovation, Award for Excellence in Online Teaching, CUPE 3908-1 Award for Excellence in Teaching, and Award for Excellence in Teaching Assistance)
- o Strategic Research Plan of 2023-2028 was discussed. Further discussion in this section includes addressing the strengths/weaknesses, as well as future direction/key actions, of research conducted at Trent University.
- o Undergraduate Studies Subcommittee: Couple of changes to the syllabi of various courses
- o Graduate Studies Committee: Minor changes to course names, adding new course to the IDSR PhD program, removing the 10-hour rules for graduate students working at the University.

Egan (VP Student Affairs):

Ran TGSA elections and referendum. Created a Qualtrics survey, sent it to all students, collated data and determined results. These results were sent to all students along with being posted into meeting minutes from the Winter AGM. All positions were confirmed and all referendum questions passed.

Ran Sustainable Plant Potting Event at Traill on March 23. Used supplies from previous paint night and brought in a couple plastic pots for those who didn't bring their own.

Planning end-of-term party. Generating trivia questions, etc.

Planning Literary Cafe with Jaz (Equity Commissioner)

- April 27, Wenjack Theatre, 6-10pm
- Students (grad and undergrad) can present a creative piece in under 4 minutes, audience open to general public
- Catering/snacks/refreshments will be available, alongside blind date with a book

Met with CASSC and Athletics Subcommittee

- Athletics fee increase
- Residence cost increase

Met with Library Advisory Committee

- Archives presentation, interesting resources for certain fields
- Changing over to Omni for book borrowing

Met with the Housing Advisory Committee on March 21

- Updates on Residence Standards, primarily reorganization and small changes
- Biggest updates are to social gatherings, smudging, and overconsumption leniency

Kept up incoming emails from students and others

Addendum II **Commissioner Reports**

Jaz (Equity Commissioner):

Margaret (International Student Commissioner):

Heather (Environmental Commissioner):

- Food services – surveys going out to assess food insecurity and other pertinent undergrad concerns, process underway for new bidding of food services contracts
- Sustainability – Looking into “Useful” as a new sustainable option instead of ecotrays. Like a library program for plates and cups. Fines for late returns and replacements.
- Also looking into more diverse food options for campus particularly during holidays when only a few eateries are open.
- Energy and Sustainability Steering – Stiletto was the chosen consultant. The student portion questionnaires and focus groups have begun to try to get input before students leave for the summer.
- Trent U has already done most facility related greening that is low cost and easy. What remains to be done is higher cost and operation heavy - concern was raised over the lack of input by senior admin/finance to include this sort of thing in the budget.

- Events: Potting event – not exactly a success. Next attempt: summer with better temperatures, outside, at Symons campus, ? advertising paper fliers ? email blast, suggestions?
- Laboratory recycling survey: Last day for survey was today. I will converse with Shelley for the results and next steps.

Addendum III