



**TGSA**

**ANNUAL  
GENERAL  
MEETING**

**2023/24**



# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND TGSA EQUITY STATEMENT

GRADUATE SOLIDARITY IS BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE THAT GRADUATE STUDENTS ARE EQUAL AND DESERVE MUTUAL RESPECT AT ALL LEVELS. ANY BEHAVIOUR THAT CREATES CONFLICT PREVENTS US FROM WORKING TOGETHER TO STRENGTHEN THE TGSA.

AS GRADUATE STUDENTS, MUTUAL RESPECT, COOPERATION, AND UNDERSTANDING ARE OUR GOALS. WE SHOULD NEITHER CONDONE NOR TOLERATE BEHAVIOUR THAT UNDERMINES THE DIGNITY OR SELF-ESTEEM OF ANY INDIVIDUAL OR CREATES AN INTIMIDATING, HOSTILE, OR OFFENSIVE ENVIRONMENT.

DISCRIMINATORY SPEECH OR CONDUCT WHICH IS RACIST, SEXIST, TRANSPHOBIC, OR HOMOPHOBIC HURTS AND THEREBY DIVIDES US. SO TOO, DOES DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF ABILITY, AGE, CLASS, RELIGION AND ETHNIC ORIGIN. SOMETIMES DISCRIMINATION TAKES THE FORM OF HARASSMENT. HARASSMENT MEANS USING REAL OR PERCEIVED POWER TO ABUSE, DEVALUE, OR HUMILIATE. HARASSMENT SHOULD NOT BE TREATED AS A JOKE. THE UNEASINESS AND RESENTMENT THAT IT CREATES ARE NOT FEELINGS THAT HELP US GROW AS A GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION. DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT FOCUS ON CHARACTERISTICS THAT MAKE US DIFFERENT; AND THEY REDUCE OUR CAPACITY TO WORK TOGETHER ON SHARED CONCERNS SUCH AS TUITION, ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, AND GRADUATE REPRESENTATION WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY, SOCIETY, AND IN OUR GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION. TGSA'S POLICIES AND PRACTICES MUST REFLECT OUR COMMITMENT TO EQUALITY. MEMBERS AND ELECTED OFFICERS MUST BE MINDFUL THAT ALL GRADUATE STUDENTS DESERVE DIGNITY, EQUALITY, AND RESPECT.

# AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. HOW THE MEETING WILL PROCEED
3. MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AND ALL ADDITIONS TO OTHER BUSINESS (IF ANY)
4. MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS WINTER AGM FEBRUARY 27TH, 2023.
5. EXECUTIVE REPORTS
  - 5.1 MOTION TO APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE REPORTS
6. COMMISSIONER AND REP. REPORTS
  - 6.1 MOTION TO APPROVE THE COMMISSIONER AND REP. REPORTS
7. MOTIONS
8. REFERENDA
9. ELECTIONS FOR 2024-2025 EXECUTIVES AND COMMISSIONERS
10. OTHER BUSINESS
11. QUESTION PERIOD AND DEPARTMENTAL ISSUES
12. NOTICES OF MOTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
13. ADJOURNMENT

# PRESIDENT—

## EMMA KASZECKI

Last year was busy for the TGSA with by-law rewriting, Board restructuring, and revitalizing the Association's relationship with Trent administration. This year we focused on maintaining positive relationships throughout the University and Peterborough community and advocating for graduate student needs.

### Completed tasks for 2023-2024:

- Negotiated the allocation of graduate-student-only space in the new residence buildings (September 2028)
- Regular meetings with Senior Administration to discuss current issues facing graduate students
- Restructuring TGSA bursaries to provide more funds for graduate students (~\$40,000 between TGSA Financial Support and TGSA Academic Development Bursaries)
- Created a TGSA Endowment to provide additional funds for the operating budget
- Helped coordinate the implementation of in-person Health & Safety talks during Orientation week with a lab safety component
- Complied information for WeDesign to develop a TGSA website that is informative and useful for graduate students
- Information tree for student resources and helpful contact information
- Negotiated with Miranda Studios to provide free photos for every graduate student who walked across the start at convocation
- Represented the TGSA on: Colleges and Student Services Committee (CASSC), Athletics Advisory Committee, Convocation Committee, Graduate Studies Committee (GSC), Research Policy Committee (RPC), and other associated awards committees and sub-committees

# VP, STUDENT AFFAIRS—

## SARAH RAYNER

As VP, Student Affairs this year I have been in communication with graduate students in a supportive role, helping with housing and academic issues. I have also planned and followed through with monthly events, and have offered support in others, including:

- Summer pub night at Publican House
- Pride film screening with CUPE
- Graduate student mixers at The Ceilie
- Fall Festival on Symons campus
- Zine-Making Workshop
- Film Screening of Crip Camp
- Blind Date With a Book
- Upcoming end-of-year party and TGSA Leadership Awards, details to come!

As I won't be returning to the TGSA next year, I've tried to make this last year count and am very proud of what I, and we, have accomplished.

# **VP, SENATE—**

## **WILLIAM KIM**

- Involved with selecting the new Trent President
- Involved in research grants at Trent University
- Involved in undergraduate and graduate course development committees

# VP, INTERNAL AFFAIRS—

## DANIEL PALBERG

- Developed endowment alongside the TGSA President and Financial Advisor. Approximately \$160,000 will be placed into an endowment, from which the interest earned will be added to the annual operating budget. This brings additional operating funds while aligning with by-law conditions.
- Switch from TD Bank to Kawartha Credit Union (KCU) to reduce fees associated with account maintenance and routine transactions.
- Designed and implemented the International Student Affairs Committee (ISAC) terms of reference in alignment with the TGSA by-laws and policies.
- Collaborated with Trent Graduate Finance and the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) to roll out the Academic Development Bursary, including recommendations for per-student allocation, eligibility requirements, and conditions of use.
- Consulted with website designers and awarded contract to WeDesign after formal RFP process. Worked intimately with web engineers to redesign the TGSA website.
- Alongside TGSA executive, orchestrated the discontinuation of formal audits, while adhering to provincial and federal laws and guidelines for not-for-profit organizations. Regular financial statements will continue to be cross-checked and issued by the TGSA. Dispensing with formal financial audits will increase the operating budget by approximately 10%.
- Represented the membership as the graduate student representative on the Science Safety Committee, Trent Student Charter Review Committee, Trent Sexual Violence Policy Committee, Graduate Studies Committee.

**VP, INTERNAL AFFAIRS & FINANCE & OPERATIONS CO-ORDINATOR**

Trent Graduate Student's Association

2023/24

<i>Income</i>	Projected	Actual YTD	
Levies	110,000.00	117,319.84	
Event Revenue	\$ -	\$ 992.52	
Donations (CUPE)	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	
<b>Interest and Investments</b>			
Endowment Allocation (3% * 6 Months(estimate) * 100K Start)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	
Capital Reserve Interest	\$ 800.00	\$ 817.52	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 113,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 120,329.88</b>	
<i>Expenses</i>	Projected	Actual	% Operating (actual)
<b>Bursaries</b>	<b>\$42,890.97</b>	<b>\$41,890.97</b>	<b>34.81%</b>
Academic Development Bursaries	\$ 16,327.29	\$ 16,327.29	13.57%
Financial Support Bursaries	\$ 25,063.68	\$ 25,063.68	20.83%
Symons Series	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	0.83%
3MT	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	0.42%
<b>Events</b>	<b>\$19,806.41</b>	<b>\$13,286.62</b>	<b>11.04%</b>
Orientation	\$ 1,145.03	\$ 1,145.03	0.95%
Summer Events	\$ 1,818.00	\$ 1,818.00	1.51%
Fall Events	\$ 6,843.38	\$ 6,843.38	5.69%
Winter Events	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 3,480.21	2.89%
<b>Operations</b>	<b>\$31,400.00</b>	<b>\$23,825.11</b>	<b>19.80%</b>
Honoraria	\$ 15,500.00	\$ 11,666.56	9.70%
Office Expenses/Misc	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,170.54	1.80%
Professional Fees (Accounting, Legal)	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 3,900.00	3.24%
Insurance	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,016.43	1.68%
Bank Fees	\$ 400.00	\$ 384.03	0.32%
Finance & Operations Coordinator	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,687.55	3.06%
Sponsorships	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 94,097.38</b>	<b>\$ 79,002.70</b>	
<b>Operating Surplus</b>	<b>\$ 18,902.62</b>	<b>\$ 41,327.18</b>	



# **EQUITY COMMISSIONER—**

## **JAZ RAINE**

- As a committee member, I attended the Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Committee Meeting on February 2nd and will attend the next one this Friday March 1st.
- Sarah Rayner and I worked to execute the first Social Justice Film of 2024 at Sadlier House, showing Crip Camp.
- Henrietta Appiah, Sarah Rayner, and myself planned a Black History Month event, happening tomorrow morning in the student center.
- This coming year, if elected to the position of TGSA President, I am looking to continue Emma's excellent work of developing and strengthening relationships with university administration, external community level stakeholders, and to serve as an advocate for Trent graduate students. I would like to continue to work at developing more robust support for Trent graduate students who are seeking support with organizations like Student Accessibility Services, and am looking forward to hearing about the priorities and desires of current students moving forward.

# ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSIONER— HEATHER KLYN-HESSELINK

- Accomplished last term:
- Aided in getting the laboratory recycling program up and running
- Sat on the Sustainability and Energy Steering Committee which provided feedback on
- initiatives for a Green Trent in the future
- Took part in the RFP process for the next Food Services contract
- For ideas about future projects, contact [heatherklynhesselink@trentu.ca](mailto:heatherklynhesselink@trentu.ca)

# **INTERNATIONAL STUDENT COMMISSIONER— HENRIETTA APPIAH**

- · Proposed starting an International Student Affairs Committee.
- · Sent out a call for applications, received and selected members for the committee.
- · We had our first meeting on February 20th, sharing some ideas and some broad areas that should be addressed for international students.
- · Helped Jaz with the Black History Month Self Care event.

# **SCIENCE REPRESENTATIVE, PHD—**

## **BRADLEY HOWELL**

- Sat on the Trent ACC and reviewed/renewed research proposals involving animal

# SCIENCE REPRESENTATIVE, MSC— HOLDEN LOWES

## Member of the Trent Research Ethics Board

- Joined in August 2023
- Attend monthly meetings reviewing minimal and above minimal risk applications.
- Have personally reviewed and provided feedback on 22 applications (Most recently 2 in February).
- In 2023, the REB processed a total of 140 research applications.
- Revise policies surrounding research involving humans.
- Helped revise the current lab protocols/consent policies and currently revising the research involving humans' policy.

## Graduate Science Representative (MSc)

- Appointed in September 2023

# **ARTS REPRESENTATIVE, MA— PRISCILLA OSEI**

- Newly appointed, and eager to collaborate with faculty members, administrators, and fellow student representatives to address concerns, implement positive changes, and celebrate the achievements of our vibrant arts community.
- Appointed to the Mental Health Wellbeing Committee