



TGSA Board Meeting Minutes

Date: August 26th 2026

Start time: 6pm

End time: 8pm

Location: Zoom

Chair: Jaz Raine

Scribe: Jaz

Attendance: Jaz, Heather, Jordan, Connor, Cinthia, Uzma, Jamie, Tyler, Kristin, Jonathan, Vy (Ngoc)

Regrets: Almat

Land Acknowledgement Exercise and prompt

Approve Previous Minutes:

Motion to approve previous meeting minutes

Mover: Cinthia

Second: Kristin

2. Call to Order:

Mover: Cinthia

Second: Jordan

3. Adopt the Agenda:

Mover: Jordan

Second: Cinthia

Discussion

Approve:

Oppose:

Abstain:

4. Presentation(s) and Discussion (s) with/without motions (read through submitted reports)

Jaz Raine President VP Student Affairs

Meetings

Meeting with Craig and Mark Skinner re: blackboard colour code scheme, training modules, update on SAS policy.

Jaz gave context and background for each of the three. Provost and Dean willing to consider altering the colour coding scheme, look into providing BlackBoard training modules for incoming students, and re-iterated issues with the SAS procedures not including graduate students in the same process the undergrads go through.

- Uzma said that her undergraduate students go through a process to activate their accommodations. Jaz responded agreeing that the undergrads have a process and explained the current graduate student procedure for accessing accommodations.

Meeting with Finance, SGS, Financial Aid, Advancement Office regarding our bursaries and terms of reference

Meeting with Glenn VP Durham

- Durham listening session issues reported to him

Communications with Ma Mgmt. program at Durham re: in person orientation. TGSA will have a table at the orientation session.

Forthcoming:

Meeting this Thursday to discuss beading event for Orange T Shirt Day that I will be planning with Uzma once I get more information

PVP meeting in mid-September. Priorities will be established and shared with the board ahead of the meeting.

Reached out to schedule meetings with TCSA and UHIP surrounding changes to benefit plan, included Cinthia on the email.

- Cinthia can only share high level information and it's not confidential. She said usage of medical coverage has exceeded the plans capacity and that is why the benefits are less and the cost is more. She read this from a news publication from Ontario News Release and from UHIP. Students are using it more than they expected so they raised prices to make profit.

Uzma- experience with physio and she realized that the max you can claim for one treatment is 50\$ and from that 50\$ they cover 80% but it is misleading because they just say they cover 80% so students pay more out of pocket than they are expecting. To a max of 300/year.

Ongoing projects:

Waiting to hear back from Julie at Wellness regarding SAS procedures.

Submitted feedback on the Terms of Reference for the Scholars at Risk bursary this afternoon to the provost office.

By-law cleaning up with Jordan ahead of our Fall General Meeting

Request for funding for Grad Skills Retreat (motion to come)

Sadlier House TGSA TVG fridge is now officially open and ready for use, announcement soon to come

Groups and Clubs MOU update

Accessible Learning policy and procedures

Wellness Fee and budget

Website work update

Trent Radio levy proposal forthcoming

Note taking template for your committee work to be sent to VP Senate before each monthly meeting

VP Student Affairs

Vacant- Filled by Jaz Raine in the interim

Event planning for the year and budget

Board meetings, attendance and report

Attend events if you can

Save the dates:

Peterborough Orientation, September 8th @ 11am in the Gzowski Atrium. You're welcome to join me at the TGSA table to welcome incoming grad students

Durham Orientation, September 9th at 11 (to be confirmed) at the Durham campus.

Trail Carnival September 12th 8-3 in Bagnani Hall, you are welcome to come and help me host the mocktail/games pavilion

Welcome event for students: waiting to hear back from banquets about availability.

Uzma adding re: meeting times and dates that it works well for her to give a 'last tuesday of each month TGSA meeting'.

Jaz saying yes absolutely

Heather Klyn Hesselink VP Senate Committee Work

SAC – There have been many appeals over the summer which I attended. Richelle states that they have more student representatives incoming, so that will release me a little for some of the appeals this year.

Coordinated the initial TGSA sub-committee ideas and chairs.

Attended Executive meetings as needed to approve yearly budget, events, updated website, etc.

Beginning to organize committee representations. Reminder: All committees will come to me for the beginning of September. If you receive emails from previous committees, please forward them to me. I will start reaching out for volunteers once TA positions have been confirmed ?second week of September

Events:

Writing Retreats – Organized some graduate writing retreats over the summer. Those that attended were very grateful and wanted to know if we could continue during the school year.

Attended some Traill Pizza Friday's, the Catering open house, Heart of Trent

Other:

Coordinated the initial sub-committee ideas and chairs.

Meetings with Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies about colour coding of Blackboard. Have tentative agreement to move forward.

Coordinating with T&L and Wellness to provide Duty of Care/Inquiry to GTA's.

To Do:

Work with SAS/Wellness to solidify Graduate Student Accessibility (procedure, training, transparency).

Get the subcommittees going

Finish Committee Manual

The main thing I want to talk about is committees coming up. This year for every committee

coming up so far I have written back that they are to use her email address (VP SENATE) and she will be attending any early September (first week) meetings and will be reaching out to BoD to let give people their committee assignments to get volunteers in place for committees.

She has assigned a few based on deadlines that committees have had but for the most part committees are open and some have emailed with committee requests which she will work through. If anyone hears from a committee they sat on last year please forward it to Heather.

Heather is going to look at the by-laws regarding the REB committee to confirm Jordan for Animal Care. REB has told Heather that they have confirmed a PhD student representative, Jaz will follow up with Anna about this and said that student reps are committees represent graduate students and the TGSA is elected to serve as the student representatives. Anna offered Heather to have two PhD students so they can continue on in the role. Anna said the person approached the new chair this year to ask.

In chat: Jonathan and Kristin noted their desire to remain on the same committees they sat on last year.

Heather has not heard back from Julie from Wellness about the GTA lunch and learns but has been in communication with Dana.

Is still working on the committee manual and will use the monthly reports to flesh it out.

Reported that Jamie is going to chair the food security sub committee

Kristin to chair the AI subcommittee.

Heather will ask both Jamie and Heather to collaborate to send out an email to the general population to solicit interest in joining the subcommittees.

Writing retreats over the summer were very successful and reported that students wanted to know if they could continue. Heather is looking to see if it is possible to have them continue during the school year taken on by someone else.

Jordan Webb VP Internal Affairs

VP Internal Affairs

Jordan Webb

Meeting Date: August 26, 2026

Submission Date: August 25, 2026

Name: Jordan Webb

TGSA Position: VP Internal Affairs

Committee Work:

- First animal care committee meeting scheduled for Sept 11

Events Organized or Attended:

Website reorganization meeting

Added as a signatory for financials

Attended a meeting with Jaz + grad studies, grad finance, financial services, etc. to discuss TGSA sponsored bursary disbursement (because current for disbursement is not aligned with our by-laws).

REPORT

Its been summer so the Animal Care committees are just about to start

Jaz covered the other things she did. We had the meeting to reorganize the website and the meeting to talk about the bursaries and how they are being distributed and how that is not how they should be distributed based on our bylaws.

She was added to the bank account and that has been confirmed today (Jaz confirmed). Jordan will schedule a meeting with Jaz to go over the by-laws to go over what we are editing.

Deposited levy cheque at the Kawartha Credit Union.

Uzma Danish Equity Commissioner

Apologized for camera not working today.

Reported a slow summer regarding committee work. She has been working to organize events with the Trent Durham Orientation Committee and Equity Office to organize a drumming event but it will not be an orientation event officially.

Trill College music event, meeting tomorrow, that is looking good

Would like to meet with Jaz to discuss events for this coming year.

Reported frustrating with her experience with our insurance plan and the low amount of coverage for certain claims.

Heather sympathized with the insurance claim issues as the insurance seems to be covering less while the cost of healthcare is rising. Uzma said the way that the coverage amount is communicated feels deceptive. She asked if there are TGSA reps on the benefits negotiating committee, Heather is not sure.

Cinthia Hernandez International Student Commissioner

Jaz read the report verbatim

Jaz expressed an interest helping Cinthia plan the TGSA benefits seminar and the October event.

Jamie Burnett Environmental Commissioner

it's been the busiest summer ever and didn't get out to many events

Wants to chair the food security subcommittee which we will vote on.

Jamie would like to plan an event before winter hits and wants to graduate in the winter.

A group hike event in the Trent nature trails and wants to pick a date and submit the risk assessment soon!

In the chat: Enthusiastic support for the nature trail walk from Kristin.

Almat Kabyl PhD Science Rep

Read attached report in absentia by Jaz

no questions in chat or verbally

Kristin Jones PhD Arts Rep

Is hoping to work as a workshop leader (not a GTA) which gets assigned later and once assigned will be able to get her meeting availability to Heather.

Helped with the first writing retreat and attended the second.. She seconds Heather endorsement of the event writing retreat.

CUPE did a writing retreat as well and it was well attended

Likes the idea of workign with Academic Skills to have them continue to offer them

Through her work on the CUPE Board as lead steward, she has concerns with the shortage of GTA Workshop/Leader jobs.. and notes that inconsistencies with how the jobs are appointed because the changes have not been implemented across the board but says that some departments have severe shortages and one left grad students without fall GTA-ships (sociology and cultural studies)

Jonathan notes in the chat that Chanie Wenjack has been efficient

Tyler Majer said that he got a GTA for cultural studies in the second term and one in English for

the first term. Kelly Egan said there are more GTA's than there are positions this year but said they have made alternative positions but they are just like 'media equipment handler' which has GTA's working in a room distributing tech for workshops in cultural studies.. pays the same but would be frustrated having to accept one because the point of having a GTA is also work experience. Also said that they applied to a job posting before getting a notification that the posting had been canceled. Noted that this may be due to enrollment issues.

Heather said her question was if GTA's get their funding even if there is no position? Tyler said in Cultural studies it seems to be the case or at least they have the alternate roles.

Kristin said that the member told her they don't have enough jobs so she isn't getting the job.

Heather said we (CUPE) should look into this. CUPE said this was flagged in the CA wording "GTA's who want to be considered" despite being in the contract.

Jordan reported that this has been brought up in the Psych department and that everyone is frustrated with the amount of cuts. There were not enough TA positions available already but there have always been TA's for the upper year specialized courses but this year there are only 1 or 2 third year courses that have TA's. No first year psych TA's. Many are unhappy with their assignments as they are not enjoyable courses.

Tyler had a question for Jordan, saying there are no positions but that they post course assistant positions on the faculty websites but it is less money for the term for first year positions. Wonders if they are working around it this way.. having a stop gap between the marker/grader and the GTA ship.

Jordan said in those postings, you cannot apply if you do not have a GTA-ship in the contract.

Jaz said the question is to figure out if those positions are expanding to throw away GTA-ships and does this violate the CA. Also pointed out that a single violation of the CA or contract is worth investigating.

Tyler said Eric from CUPE asked what a course assistant was, Kristin said course assistants only grade true false multiple choices and more admin responsibilities.

Tyler noted that the Cultural Studies workshop positions need tech, but that they might just be having the assistance sitting waiting for students to potentially sign out tech.

Kristin pointed to something in her report saying we need to watch out for this and possibly collect data on it. Kristin also agreed with Jaz saying that one person having their contract violated is enough.

Jonathan Nayler MA Arts Rep

Vy (Ngoc Khanh Vy Huyn) MsC Science Rep

Vee introduced herself as the new MSc rep. She is new to the role and is getting familiar with the role and is looking forward to connecting with master's students

She would like to explore ways that we can create a feedback channel for master's students for organized and informal networks so if they have problems, they know how to reach out. Currently they have to send an email out with their information and would like to have an anonymous reporting channel to the MA rep. She would also like to build an informal network across the programs so they can share experiences with other students and new master's students. She would like to work towards these goals and wants our feedback!

Jordan said that if Vee wants to organize a networking event, she sits on a committee for life sciences and is currently planning an event for October 1st for upper year UGs and Grad students involved in life sciences. She said there will be more information going out for at least that portion of science graduate students and said that Vee is more than welcome to join. Jordan said posters will be put up around campus and will also reach out by email.

Vee was open to Jordans suggestion and added there might be other ways to incorporate other sciences.

Jaz said this might be covered by the student experience survey but wondered about having a platform for anonymous ongoing feedback.

Tyler Majer CUPE Rep

Tyler is with our union CUPE 3908 so any issues or information relating to our work at Trent as a GTA they handle the labour side of things. So anything regarding that they would handle as VP of Unit 2.

Not alot to report without a lot of committee work over the summer
An equity committee planning meeting for CUPE will be coming up.
Kristin and Tyler hosted a writing retreat.
First week of September they will be at the Traill Carnival

5. Finance & Operations Co-Ordinator (updates from Connor Elverson)

Budget for the coming year
Audit update

Finances are still looking good. Connor finished getting everything together to send to our auditors today and there should be fairly quick turnaround. He said we should be well situated for our AGM. He said he will be setting a meeting with Kawartha Credit Union to get our endowment going.

6. Question Period and Departmental Issues (questions from exec + external team)

Covered in ongoing discussion throughout reports

7. Business Arising from the Minutes (anything to discuss from last month/minutes)

Covered in reports and updates.

For next month tasks are as follows.

ALL: send VP Senate your GTA assignment and workshop times so she can assign committees as soon as possible.

ALL: look over bylaws and through SharePoint ahead of TGSA retreat day.

VP Senate to assign committee roles.

VP Senate to check if the TGSA has ever had a representative on the health benefits committee.

VP Internal Affairs: continue to note issues with by-laws and meet with Jaz to work on them ahead of our FGM.

President/VP Student Affairs:

- Follow up with Anna from REB about PhD student representative.
- Follow up with Wellness and Student affairs about SAS process and MOUs
- Schedule meeting with Advancement about our TOR
- Get cheque signed by VP Internal Affairs to launch TVG/Sadlier/TGSA collaboration
- Plan welcome event
- Get organized for orientation tables
- Get organized for Traill Carnival
- Meet with unions regarding Scholars at Risk Bursary TOR
- Meet with commissioners about events this year
- Work on website continues
- Meet with VP Internal Affairs re: bylaws
- Plan Fall General Meeting
- Meet with UHIP and TCSA about benefits
- Prep with exec team for PVP meeting
- Send out poll for next meeting(s)
- Send Meaghan Kelley our certificate of insurance ahead of Traill Carnival

Commissioners: Meet with Jaz about commissioner events

Representatives: Continue to familiarize yourselves with our health plans and SGS/TGSA policies so that you can answer questions from your peers.

Sub Committees: Chairs (Jamie and Kristin) to assemble a small team and draft a TOR to be presented and voted on at our retreat day.

8. Motions (voting for any motions)

Motion that the TGSA Board of Directors contribute \$150.00 to the Grad Skills Retreat hosted by Academic Skills on October 27th 2026. The funding will go to providing snacks and beverages to registered students and the TGSA logo will be included on the event pamphlets.

Motion made by: Jamie

Seconded by: Kristine

Discussion: Is the TGSA going to fund the whole thing, Jaz answered no. Cinthia said hopefully it is a success re: turnout because she is not sure how many grads

Passed/Failed: Passed all in favour

Abstentions

Motion that the TGSA Board of Directors establish a subcommittee, to be known as the AI subcommittee.

Moved: Jordan

Seconded: Kristin

Motion passed

The subcommittee titled the AI Subcommittee which exists for the purpose of determining how the TGSA should respond to the impact of generative AI on the work and studies of graduate students at Trent, shall be chaired by a TGSA board of directors member appointed by vote at a TGSA board of directors meeting. The committee will come up with a terms of reference detailing committee scope, purpose, and membership and will report to the TGSA board of directors monthly. All actions recommended by the committee shall be approved and actioned following a majority vote of the TGSA board of directors.

Motion made by: Jordan

Seconded by: Heather

Passed/Failed: Pass unanimously

Abstentions

The subcommittee on AI shall be chaired by a Kristin Jones who was appointed by vote at a TGSA board of directors meeting on August 26th 2026.

Motion made by: Heather

Seconded by: Uzma

Passed/Failed: Pass unanimously

Abstentions

Motion that the TGSA Board of Directors establish a subcommittee, to be known as the Food insecurity subcommittee.

Moved: Kristin

Seconded: Jordan

Motion passed unanimously

The TGSA subcommittee titled Food Insecurity Subcommittee Aims to address campus food insecurity among graduate students, including barriers to accessing affordable, nutritious food. It aims to **develop campus and community initiatives that will benefit graduate students by improving access to food.** The subcommittee shall be chaired by a TGSA board of directors member appointed by vote at a TGSA board of directors meeting. The committee will come up with a terms of reference detailing committee scope, purpose, and membership and will report to the TGSA board of directors monthly. All actions recommended by the committee shall be approved and actioned following a majority vote of the TGSA board of directors.

Motion made by: Jordan

Seconded by: Kristin

Passed/Failed: Pass unanimously

Discussion; Heather is hopeful that once Jamie graduates someone will be interested in stepping in to chair this in the new year.

I move subcommittee titled the Food Insecurity Subcommittee shall be chaired by a Jamie Burnett who was appointed by vote at a TGSA board of directors meeting on August 26th 2026.

Motion made by: Heather

Seconded by: Jordan

Passed/Failed: Pass unanimously

9. Other Business (anything else needs to be said)

Canadian Association of Graduate Studies workshop on project management for graduate students and we purchased a block of tickets for graduate students which “sold out” quickly.

10. Notices of Motions and Announcements (any future meetings, due dates, etc.)

Future meetings to be scheduled as we get our GTA assignments. September ‘meeting’ will be our board retreat day.

12. Meeting Called to a Close

Mover: Jaz

Second: Uzma

Addendum I **Executive Reports**

President

Jaz Raine

Welcome to all

TGSA and the year ahead

TGSA Board Retreat + Picture day, September 13th 11:30-5. Meet in the Senior Common Room. We will take everyone's individual pictures when you arrive and the group picture at 12pm when we officially start. Bylaws are attached to this email. We will be doing TGSA jeopardy so make sure you read through them and look through our sharepoint ahead of the meeting!

Meetings

Meeting with Craig and Mark Skinner re: blackboard colour code scheme, training modules,

update on SAS policy.

Meeting with Finance, SGS, Financial Aid, Advancement Office regarding our bursaries and terms of reference

Meeting with Glenn VP Durham
- Durham listening session issues reported to him

Communications with Mgmt. program at Durham re: in person orientation

Forthcoming:

Meeting this Thursday to discuss beading event for Orange T Shirt Day that I will be planning with Uzma once I get more information

PVP meeting in mid-September

Scheduling meetings with TCSA and UHIP surrounding changes to benefit plan

Ongoing projects:

Waiting to hear back from Julie at Wellness regarding SAS procedures.

Submitted feedback on the Terms of Reference for the Scholars at Risk bursary this afternoon to the provost office.

By-law cleaning up with Jordan ahead of our Fall General Meeting

Request for funding for Grad Skills Retreat (motion to come)

Sadlier House TGSA TVG fridge is now officially open and ready for use, announcement soon to come

Groups and Clubs MOU update

Accessible Learning policy and procedures

Wellness Fee and budget

Website work update

Land Acknowledgement Exercise

Trent Radio levy proposal forthcoming

Note taking template for your committee work to be sent to VP Senate before each monthly meeting

VP Student Affairs

Vacant- Filled by Jaz Raine in the interim

Event planning for the year and budget

Board meetings, attendance and repor

Attend events if you can

Save the dates:

Peterborough Orientation, September 8th @ 11am in the Gzowski Atrium. You're welcome to join me at the TGSA table to welcome incoming grad students

Durham Orientation, September 9th at 11 (to be confirmed) at the Durham campus.

Traill Carnival September 12th 8-3 in Bagnani Hall, you are welcome to come and help me host the mocktail/games pavilion

Welcome event for students: waiting to hear back from banquets about availability.

VP Internal Affairs

Jordan Webb

Meeting Date: August 26, 2026

Submission Date: August 25, 2026

Name: Jordan Webb

TGSA Position: VP Internal Affairs

Committee Work:

- First animal care committee meeting scheduled for Sept 11

Events Organized or Attended:

- Website reorganization meeting
- Added as a signatory for financials
- Attended a meeting with Jaz + grad studies, grad finance, financial services, etc. to discuss TGSA sponsored bursary disbursement (because current for disbursement is not aligned with our by-laws).

Ideas related to your role:

Pertinent student communications:

VP Senate
Heather Klyn Hesselink

Meeting Date: Aug 26, 2026
Submission Date: Aug 24, 2026
Name: Heather Klyn Hesselink
TGSA Position: VP Senate

Committee Work

SAC – There have been many appeals over the summer which I attended. Richelle states that they have more student representatives incoming, so that will release me a little for some of the appeals this year.

Coordinated the initial TGSA sub-committee ideas and chairs.

Attended Executive meetings as needed to approve yearly budget, events, updated website, etc.

Beginning to organize committee representations. Reminder: All committees will come to me for the beginning of September. If you receive emails from previous committees, please forward them to me. I will start reaching out for volunteers once TA positions have been confirmed ?second week of September

Events:

Writing Retreats – Organized some graduate writing retreats over the summer. Those that attended were very grateful and wanted to know if we could continue during the school year.

Attended some Traill Pizza Friday's, the Catering open house, Heart of Trent

Other:

Coordinated the initial sub-committee ideas and chairs.

Meetings with Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies about colour coding of Blackboard. Have tentative agreement to move forward.

Coordinating with T&L and Wellness to provide Duty of Care/Inquiry to GTA's.

To Do:

Work with SAS/Wellness to solidify Graduate Student Accessibility (procedure, training, transparency).

Get the subcommittees going

Finish Committee Manual

Commissioner and Representative Reports

Equity Commissioner

Uzma Danish

Meeting Date: August 26, 2026

Submission Date: August 25, 2026

Name: Uzma Danish

TGSA Position: Equity Commissioner

Committee Work:

No Committee work for this month.

Events Organized or Attended:

Working with the Trent Durham Orientation committee and the Equity office to organize a drumming event for 2026 orientation. As it stands, the drumming will not be part of the orientation week event.

Working with Trail College to showcase South Asian Musical event for the orientation on September 12, 2026

Ideas related to your role:

- Would like to get together to discuss events for 2026-2027 year
- Recently had experience to submit a physiotherapy claim through our health plan. I learned that our plan only reimburses maximum of \$40, same for message therapy. Our health plan is not the greatest and I am wondering if our voices are represented. Are there TGSA reps on the health benefit negotiation committee?

Pertinent student communications:

International Student Commissioner

Cinthia Hernandez

Meeting Date: Wednesday August 26, 2026

Submission Date: Monday, August 24, 2026

Name: Cinthia Hernandez

TGSA Position: International Student Commissioner

Committee Work:

No committee work during the summer; committees will start again in September.

Events Organized or Attended:

- I've attended a couple of Pizza Friday lunches at Traill College during the summer; these events are also a good opportunity to talk with other Graduate Students and Traill College staff.
- Looking forward to attending the TGSA Retreat and Photo Day on September 13th. 😊

Ideas related to your role:

- I really liked Meghan's idea to tentatively host the International Student Social + Potluck in October at Sadleir House.
- I would also like to repeat the TGSA Health & Wellness Benefit training in November. With new students joining, it's advantageous for them to understand their medical and dental plan benefits as early as possible.

Pertinent student communications:

- I've discussed the new tuition fees for the 2026-2027 academic year and the rising cost of UHIP with a few international students. While I understand these are due to rising costs and inflation, it's concerning how international students will manage these payments.

Environmental Commissioner
Jamie Burnett

Meeting Date: 08-26-2026

Submission Date: 08-25-2026

Name: Jamie Burnett

TGSA Position: Environmental Commissioner

Committee Work:

- NA; no committee work going on over the summer

Events Organized or Attended:

- Super busy summer, and unfortunately didn't spend a ton of time in Peterborough and did not make it out to many events over the summer.

Ideas related to your role:

- Food insecurity subcommittee – ToR to follow
 - o Would be great to collaborate on ideas – Megan and Heather had some great ideas as well
- Event in the fall – group hike in the Trent Nature Trails ?
 - o End of October?

Pertinent student communications:

Science Representative—PhD

Almat Kabyl

Meeting Date: August 26, 2026

Submission Date: August 25, 2026

Name: Almat Kabyl

TGSA Position: PhD Science Representative

Committee Work: n/a

Ideas related to your role:

This year, I would like to continue advocating for graduate students and remain actively involved in committees such as the Graduate Studies Committee and the Distinguished Research Award Committee. I would also like to support initiatives that enhance the overall graduate student experience and contribute to the Convocation Committee to help ensure this important milestone is well organized and meaningful for students.

Pertinent student communications:

I communicated with students regarding UHIP fees for January intake students. To better understand the issue, I consulted with international students and reviewed previous fee structures. I found that UHIP fees have traditionally been prorated for January intake students, whereas the TGSA Health and Dental Insurance Plan does not follow the same approach.

Arts Representative – PhD
Kristin Jones

Meeting Date: August 26, 2026

Submission Date: August 24, 2026

Name: Kristin Jones

TGSA Position: PhD Arts Rep

Committee Work:

Not any committees yet for the upcoming year. Looking forward to continuing with some of the same committees as last year, including The Wellness Committee.

Events Organized or Attended:

I helped Heather with the first TGSA writers retreat, and also attended part of the second one. With CUPE I hosted another one. I'm hoping that we can provide more of these throughout the upcoming year. People really responded well to them and were very appreciative that we hosted the space, and included Academic Skills, and extra activities like yoga.

Ideas related to your role:

Pertinent student communications:

I'm concerned with the confluence of a lack of TAships and workshop leader jobs and the change and/or increased confusion with how TAships are appointed. As CUPE rep I am aware of two departments that could not provide enough work for grad students still within funding. I think this is something we need to watch out for.

Science Representative—MSc
Ngoc Khanh Vy Huynh

Meeting Date: August 26, 2026

Submission Date: August 26, 2026

Name: Vy Huynh

TGSA Position: Master of Science
Representative

Committee Work:

As a new representative, I am currently familiarizing myself with the TGSA structure and identifying key priorities for Master of Science (MSc) students.

Events Organized or Attended:

No events organized or attended in my representative capacity yet.

Ideas related to your role:

- | 1. | MSc | Student | Feedback | Channel |
|----|--|------------|----------|--------------------|
| | Create a simple and accessible feedback channel, such as an anonymous Google Form, where MSc students can share concerns, suggestions, and issues they would like brought forward to the TGSA. | | | |
| 2. | MSc | Networking | and | Community Building |
| | Explore opportunities for an informal MSc networking or social event to help students from different science programs and research areas connect with one another and build a stronger graduate student community. | | | |

Pertinent student communications:

No specific student concerns have been brought forward to me yet. I plan to introduce myself to MSc students and establish an accessible way for students to share feedback throughout the year.

Jonathan (Arts Representative – MA)
Jonathan Nayler

Meeting Date: Aug 26, 2026

Submission Date: Aug 24, 2026

Name: Jonathan Nayler

TGSA Position: MA Arts Representative

Committee Work: Indigenous Education Committee will be on the 29th of October at the Gathering Space

Events Organized or Attended: Motivation Mondays and associated thesis writing sessions on Zoom

Ideas related to your role: Planning on meeting new students at the graduate orientation, Graduate Student Meetup, and the welcome back dinner at the Celie in Mid-September, advocating for FIXING OSAP ASAP and post-secondary education, and attending the protests at Dave Smith's office

Pertinent student communications: Unfortunately, me and Kristin just got word that Windy Pines will be for incoming PhD students only this year so we plan to attend James' Graduate Student Meetup at Traill College on the 9th of September and enjoy the great company with the new Frost Centre students and all of the Arts, Master of Management, and Education students. We are so missing the undergraduate and graduate students right now at Trent – very peaceful on campus

Durham Representative
Vacant

CUPE Representative

Tyler Majer

Meeting Date: August 26th

Submission Date: August 25th

Name: Tyler Majer

TGSA Position: CUPE Rep

Committee Work:

None to Report

Events Organized or Attended:

Kristin and I hosted a Writer's Retreat type event with CUPE over the summer

CUPE will be doing a short presentation at the GTA Orientation

CUPE will be at the Service Fair on September 8th, as well as Trail Carnival the following Saturday

Things in Process: Sip & Learn for the Winter Term

Coffee W/ CUPE events in the fall – PTBO, Durham, Maybe online?

Ideas related to your role:

None to Report

Pertinent student communications:

None to Report