



TGSA Board Meeting Minutes—Fall General Meeting

Date: October 22nd 2026

Start time: 5:30 End time: 7:00

Location: Zoom video conference and in-person at the Ceilie

Chair: Jazmine Raine, President

Scribe: Jaz Raine

Board Attendance: Jaz Raine, Jordan Webb, Heather Klyn-Hesselink, Almat Kabyl, Connor Elverson, Vy Huynh, Tyler Majer, Kristin Jones, Jonathan Nayler

Board Regrets: Heather Klyn-Hesselink, Jamie Burnett, Uzma Danish

Quorum: 38/20

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement- Jaz Raine

1. Call to Order

2. Adopt the Agenda for Fall General Meeting:

Mover: Almat

Second: Jordan

Discussion

Mickaela Lewis noted that the time of the agenda needed to be adjusted from 5:00pm to 5:30 pm. Motioned to adopt the amended agenda.

Approve: Yes

Oppose:

Abstain:

3. Approve the Minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting

Mover: Jordan

Second: Almat

Discussion

Approve: Yes

Oppose:

Abstain:

4. FGM Presentation(s), Updates, and Discussion (s) with/without motions

(1.) Jazmine Raine—President, VP Student Affairs

Est. 2022

I currently sit on the following committees: Academic Planning and Policy, Research Policy, The Colleges and Student Services Committee (CASSC), SSHRC Awards Committee, and various hiring committees. I fill in for others on their committees as needed and at the discretion of the VP Senate. I am completing my term as a governor on Trent's Board of Governors. Last year we bought into the TCSA food pantry, funded the Vine Community Meals for 6 months, supported conferences and scholarly competitions, purchased ArtSpace membership blocks for graduate students, gave out hundreds of dollars in grocery gift cards, and hosted dozens of events.

I have many projects on the go at any given time and most of them involve collaborating with other groups or departments. Here are some that have launched recently or are close to completion. Collaborators are listed in brackets.

Sadleir House food security fridge and pantry (TVG/Sadlier House/TGSA)

TGSA Sanctioned Groups and Clubs (check out our website to see how to register a club or group) (AVP Office)

Bursary for students coming from countries experiencing humanitarian crisis, conflict, and/or faming (TGSA, TUFA, OPESU, CUPE)

We are also working to launch a scholarship bank where applicants can view application packages from past award holders.

We are establishing a cell-phone bank to help graduate students who lose access to their phones during the year and need a replacement.

We are working with Trent advancements to attract more donor dollars to graduate students. If you have exciting research, please come speak with me after the event tonight!

Policy and advocacy work is ongoing and scoping (SAS, Academic Amnesty for students attending protests or walkouts, clearer bursary processes for graduate students)

(2.) Jordan Webb- VP Internal Affairs

Committee work

Animal care committee: review multiple animal use protocols, attended facility audit from Canadian Council for Animal Care (CCAC).

Food services advisory committee: attended introductory meeting, reviewed budget for this year.

Cyclical program review committee: reviewed two different programs that were at two different stages of the cyclical program review process.

NSERC grant advisory subcommittee & Colleges and student services committee: meetings haven't started yet

Events organized or attended

Met lots of new grad students at both grad student orientations.

Attended Trent Vegetable Garden's anniversary dinner.

Attended the molecules, cells, systems (MCS) research center social.

Plan to attend the grad studies social

Updates

Have been working with Jaz on updating TGSA bursary disbursement, specifically for the emergency fund. Progress is being made and the funds should be more accessible to graduate students for the next academic year.

(3.) Heather Klyn-Hesselink- VP, Senate- In Absentia

My position organizes TGSA representatives to sit on the various committees around campus
I personally sit on Research Ethics Board, Special Appeals Committee, Senate and Senate Executive Committee, Spiritual Care, and a grant committee
My special projects include Graduate Student Accessibility Services, Food Insecurity, AI, Onboarding manual for committees

(4.) Uzma Danish—Equity Commissioner- In Absentia

Uzma sits on the Library Advisory committee, the Teaching Awards Committee, the Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Committee, and the Charter of Rights and Responsibilities Review Subcommittee.

(5.) Jamie Burnett- Environmental Commissioner- In Absentia

Committee Work: Sustainability and Fair Trade Working Group, Nature Areas Committee
Chairing the TGSA Food Insecurity Subcommittee. Please contact for information

jamieburnett@trentu.ca

Events Organized or Attended:

- Organizing **TGSA hike next week (October 29th @ 3PM)**, please come out!
- Attended orientation events and met incoming grad students
- Attended some ENLS specific events to meet grad students in my program

(6.) Kristin Jones—Arts Representative, PhD- In Absentia

Committee Work includes Careers Peers, Consent at Trent, Athletics Advisory Committee
Chairing the TGSA AI Response Subcommittee (contact for more *information*

kristinjones@trentu.ca)

Member of the TGSA Food Insecurity Subcommittee

Priorities this year

- I want to continue to work on the TGSA to advocate for graduate students at Trent, to make it easier to have a good quality of life while pursuing our graduate degrees
- Things are changing and I want to help make sure grad students' needs are still being represented and cared for

Events and Other Involvement

- Planning Committee and attendance at the Symons Series
- As much as possible, I'll be where you are and be easily accessible whenever you need me.

Projects and Collaborations

- Whether I'm re-elected to the CUPE board or not, I'd like to give special attention to grad students who are outside of their funding and the unique issues we face
- Engaging with the Learning Commons about training for GTAs on the duty-to-inquire, and to make sure that outsized responsibilities aren't being put onto grad students for their students'

wellbeing

(8.) Almat Kabyl— Science Representative, PhD

Committee Work

Graduate Studies Committee (GSC) – PhD Representative

Distinguished Research Award Committee

Convocation Subcommittee

During the Graduate Studies Committee meetings, we reviewed and discussed proposed course changes in ANTH, ENLS, and MSMG, as well as program changes in BEMA.

Priorities for This Year

Continue advocating for graduate students and ensuring their voices are heard in university decision-making processes.

Promote transparency in university policies and decisions affecting graduate students.

Participate in the Convocation Subcommittee to help improve the convocation experience for graduating students.

(9.) Ncog (Vy) Huynh —Science Representative, MA

Committee Work:

Participated as a graduate student representative on the Teaching & Learning Advisory Committee (TLAC). The committee discussed its role in supporting teaching and learning at Trent, including ongoing work related to AI guidance, academic integrity, and teaching support initiatives.

Events Organized or Attended:

Attended the Teaching & Learning Advisory Committee meeting on September 24, 2026. The meeting included an overview of the committee's mandate, membership, Teaching Commons involvement, and the Teaching Awards Subcommittee.

Ideas related to my role:

Graduate Student Perspectives in TLAC

Continue bringing graduate student perspectives to TLAC discussions, particularly on teaching practices, academic policies, AI use in education, and graduate student learning experiences.

(10.) Jonathan Naylor— Arts Representative, MA

Program – MA in Indigenous and Canadian Studies

Committees that I am on – Indigenous Education Council, Graduate Studies Committee, and also the Housing Advisory Committee representing students living in Residence

Community Involvement – O-week leader for Otonabee for four years, Otonabee College Cabinet in my undergrad, FPHL, TCSA during my undergrad, CUPE Equity Committee, Improv at Trent, Elders Gathering, Trent Liberals, providing support for Trent during recruitment events on campus, Trent Alumni (LGBTQ+ ally and Indigenous alumni groups), GTA for INDG 1001, and a proud active member of the Otonabee community, and advocacy work for the

neurodiverse and Indigenous communities at Trent

(11.) Tyler Majer - CUPE Representative

Outreach Events Held Over the Past Year:

Winter Online GTA and Graduate Student Orientation (2026), Fall Term GTA and Graduate Student Orientation; Writing Retreat(s). Winter Wreath-Making Event

Board Games Night!, Coffee with CUPE 3908, Tabeing at Peterborough Nogojiwanong Pride;

PDEA AND UHIP Fund Reminder:

All full-time GTAs are eligible for up to \$600 (\$1000 with the surplus) each academic year for professional development.

Full-time International GTAs, without OHIP coverage, are eligible for a UHIP reimbursement of up to \$200.

Application periods: November 15, March 15, and July 15

Always looking for Stewards!

We are looking for broader representation! – Get to know your Collective Agreement and connect with other members and executives.

Interested Unit 1 members may contact: vp1@cupe3908.org;

And Unit 2 members may contact: steward2@cupe3908.org!

No Grievances filed this year!

The local encourages members to come forward with any questions they may have.

A grievance is never filed without the members' consent.

Talk to us if any concerns, most time can be resolved at an early informal stage.

(12.) Connor Elverson- Budget Presentation and Financial Review- Student Support Coordinator

Connor reported a successful audit with no concerns from our review engagement. Budget, financial statement, and audit letters were presented to the membership.

During the question period Mickaela Lewis asked Connor if the levy fee shown on our financial statement referred to the levy that the TGSA receives from graduate students. Jaz and Connor confirmed this and added that it should also include the space fee for the new college.

4.1 Motion to Approve Reports

Mover: Jordan

Second: Almat

5. Question Period

No further questions.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

7. Referenda (Not applicable)

8. By-Elections for 2026-2027 Positions

Jaz introduced the election and reviewed some rules for voting (only vote once, how long voting is open, ways students can vote etc).

Jaz listed those running and invited all in attendance to speak. At this time Jordan asked candidates attending on zoom if they would like to speak.

VP Student Affairs

Anthony Mensah - spoke to the membership

International Student Commissioner

Radhika Rani - spoke to the membership

Abby Christy - spoke to the membership

Gagandeep Singh

Yicheng Tao - spoke to the membership

Durham Representative

Emerald Oluwanifemi Akinronbi- was asked if she would like to address the membership over zoom but after a few minutes had not responded. Note: Emerald indicated a desire to address the membership, but this was not received until after the meeting had adjourned, and once the members in attendance had left their tables and gone to get food and was not able to address the membership.

9. Other Business - no other business

10. Notices of Motions and Announcements

11. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn the Annual General Meeting at 6:32 pm.

Mover: Mickaela Lewis

Second: Kristin

Discussion

Approve: yes

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0