



TGSA Board Meeting Agenda—Fall General Meeting

Date: October 22nd 2026

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

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

Chair: Jazmine Raine, President

Scribe:

Attendance:

Quorum:

1. Call to Order

2. Adopt the Agenda for Fall General Meeting:

Mover:

Second:

Discussion

Approve:

Oppose:

Abstain:

3. Approve the Minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting

Mover:

Second:

Discussion

Approve:

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 famine (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!

(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 centre 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

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

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

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

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 Nayler— 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

4.1 Motion to Approve Reports

Mover:

Second:

5. Question Period

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

7. Referenda (Not applicable)

8. By-Elections for 2026-2027 Positions

By- Elections, see companion document

VP Student Affairs

Anthony Mensah

International Student Commissioner

Radhika Rani

Abby Christy

Gagandeep Singh

Yicheng Tao

Durham Representative

Emerald Oluwanifemi Akinronbi

9. Other Business

10. Notices of Motions and Announcements

11. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn the Annual General Meeting

Mover:

Second:

Discussion

Approve:

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

2025-2026 TGSA By-Election

Candidate Profiles

Vice President Student Affairs

Anthony Mensah

Program: IDSR

Statement of Interest (350 words maximum):

I am writing to express my interest in serving as Vice-President, Student Affairs of the Trent Graduate Students' Association (TGSA). As a PhD student, I recognize that graduate student life involves more than academic achievement. Building meaningful connections, accessing support, feeling represented, and developing a sense of belonging are equally important to a positive graduate student experience. I am interested in this role because I want to contribute to a more connected, engaged, and supportive graduate student community.

My academic and professional experiences have equipped me with skills relevant to this position. My experience as a teaching assistant has strengthened my communication, organizational, critical-thinking, and interpersonal skills. Researching student housing in Peterborough has improved my understanding of the problems and issues faced by students and has taught me how vital it is to take into account diverse opinions when implementing inclusive initiatives.

If elected, I would approach this role with reliability, transparency, and accountability. In committee assignments, I will provide thoughtful, student-centred input while remaining open to learning from fellow representatives and university stakeholders. Also, I will raise awareness through TGSA's email, website and social media platforms about various resources available for graduate students, such as food security initiatives, housing support and many others. I will also organize events and activities for graduate students in order to make them more connected outside their departments. These activities will involve collaboration with other commissioners and the Durham campus representatives. I believe student leadership should not only respond to community concerns but also collaborate with others to find sustainable solutions.

I am prepared to bring my dedication, organizational skills and student-centred approach to the TGSA Executive team. This entails turning ideas into tangible initiatives and student concerns into constructive action. I ask for your support and the opportunity to serve as your Vice-President, Student Affairs. Together, we can build a more connected, inclusive, and vibrant graduate student community where every student has opportunities to participate, feel a sense of belonging, and make their voice heard. I look forward to working with you to improve the graduate student experience for everyone.

International Student Commissioner

Radhika Rani

Program: ENLS

Statement of Interest (350 words maximum):

My name is Radhika, and I am a first-year PhD student in the Environment and Life Sciences (ENLS) program at Trent University. Originally from Punjab, India, I am interested in joining TGSA as an International Student Commissioner because, as an international student myself, I understand the importance of feeling a sense of belonging in a new country.

Before moving to Canada, I moved to the United States in 2022 to pursue my master's degree and gained work experience there. Having already experienced the challenges of starting over in a new country, my transition to Canada felt smoother. However, I still remember the many firsts of living in the US. Seeing snow (I was actually very excited) for the first time was wonderful for someone who had never experienced it before. On the other hand, I also remember spending \$1300 (approximate) on tooth extractions because I did not fully understand how the healthcare system worked. I bet these experiences reflect the realities of being an international student.

My experience as a College Senator in the Graduate Student Senate at the University of New Hampshire has prepared me to work with student organizations and represent graduate student perspectives. This role strengthened my communication and listening skills and taught me the importance of understanding students' concerns and connecting them with appropriate resources.

As International Student Commissioner, I would like to collaborate with TGSA members and Trent International to support international graduate students by sharing information about UHIP and other available resources, promoting Trent International programs and events, and bringing students' concerns forward.

I hope to create a welcoming and supportive community where international graduate students feel comfortable asking questions, sharing concerns, accessing resources, and getting involved in

university life. Having navigated the experience myself, I would be excited to help others find their place and feel that they truly belong at Trent.

Abby Christy

Program: ANTH

Statement of Interest (350 words maximum):

My name is Abby Christy, and I hail from the United States! I am interested in becoming more involved with TGSA as the International Student Commissioner because of my desire to provide continued fair and equal representation for international graduate students coming to Trent University. In my undergraduate program in the US, I worked for two years as a tutor for the university and worked closely with the ESL (English as a Second Language) Program. In my role, I interacted with international students at all degree levels from undergraduate to doctoral. There were also many varying age ranges for these students from 17-year-old first years to older adults who are coming back to school to further their education later in life. I got to know their friends, families, and communities. This gave me ample experience working with international students from all walks of life. I also spent four years volunteering my time as a university honors peer mentor, ushering incoming honors students into university life. I spent my summers coordinating events, acknowledging academic expectations, and providing updates and resource information in the lead up to the beginning of each fall semester. I got to know these students and acted as their first friend on campus as well as their source of information for all campus facilities/resources. Both of these roles have made me well prepared for connecting with international students and introducing them to the resources available on campus. I also feel confident in my ability to familiarize myself with the ongoing issues of not only international students but new students as a whole. What I learned from these positions is that I not only have a desire to help people, but also a love of learning from the communities that I am working with. I believe that positions, like the ones being offered by TGSA, are opportunities to not only gain experiences and skills but also allow us the ability to learn from the diverse array of people that are in the Trent University Graduate Program.

Gagandeep Singh

Program: M.Mgt

Statement of Interest (350 words maximum):

I am applying for the International Student Commissioner position because I believe international graduate students should have a strong, informed, and approachable voice within

the GSA. As an international student at Trent University, I understand that studying in Canada involves more than academics. International students often have to navigate healthcare, insurance, finances, immigration-related pressures, unfamiliar systems, and the challenge of building a sense of community far from home. I would like to use my experience and perspective to help make those challenges easier for other students to navigate.

My background in clinical research and healthcare has taught me to listen carefully, understand individual concerns, communicate information clearly, and connect people with the appropriate resources. My current experience at Trent has also given me a better understanding of the student environment and the importance of accessible and reliable support. I am comfortable communicating with people from different backgrounds and would approach this role with openness, confidentiality, and respect.

As International Student Commissioner, I would focus on identifying recurring issues affecting international graduate students and bringing those concerns forward constructively to the Board of Directors. I am particularly interested in helping students better understand UHIP and the UHIP Health and Dental Benefits Plan. I would make information easier to access by actively promoting available resources, reimbursement opportunities, Trent International programs, services, and events through appropriate student communication channels.

I also believe representation should involve listening, not simply speaking on behalf of others. I would make an effort to hear students' experiences, identify common concerns, and work collaboratively with Trent International, and other relevant partners to find practical solutions.

Most importantly, I want international graduate students to feel that there is someone they can approach without hesitation. I would bring a friendly, dependable, and solution-oriented approach to the position and would be committed to making international students feel informed, represented, welcomed, and supported at Trent.

Yicheng Tao

Program: CUST

Statement of Interest (350 words maximum):

As an international student who has been studying in multiple countries, I deeply understand the academic, financial, and health challenges—as well as issues of inequalities—that international students, especially graduate students, face at Trent. I want these voices to be heard; I want international students to receive adequate and professional support. Therefore, I am applying for the position of International Student Commissioner at the TGSA.

I previously worked at The Center for International Education at a university in the U.S., where I coordinated communication between international students and the university, answered inquiries, and promptly disseminated the latest updates and resources. I also helped organize various cultural exchange and community-building events to represent a diverse international community. As an international PhD student at Trent, I have actively helped coordinate

academic conferences and contributed to website development within the department. I have proudly developed strong communication and collaboration skills from these experiences, and now I want to bring my passion to a larger community.

My goal is to build connections, amplify voices, and provide support. I want to make sure that every international graduate student's rights and interests are protected and that everyone feels seen, welcomed, and supported. I look forward to collaborating with members of the TGSA and Trent International, and I will keep learning from them to better serve and represent the international students. A sense of community is not just a verbal promise; I want to build genuine trust and connection by attentive and patient listening, open and inclusive communication, and proactive action. By graduate students and for graduate students, let's make changes together.

Durham Representative

Emerald Oluwanifemi Akinronbi

Program: M.Mgt

Statement of Interest (350 words maximum):

I am interested in becoming the Durham Representative because I care about the student experience and believe that every student should feel heard, supported, and included in their university community. As a Master of Management student at Trent's Durham campus, I understand the importance of having representatives who listen to students' concerns and work towards making campus life better. Through my experience as a Board of Directors Member with the Trent Durham Student Association, I have had the opportunity to represent student perspectives, contribute to discussions, and support initiatives focused on improving the student experience.

My involvement as a Global Ambassador, Orientation Leader, and Creative and Design Coordinator with the Black Student Association has also helped me develop my communication, teamwork, and organizational skills. These experiences have taught me the value of connecting with students, sharing information, and helping create a welcoming and inclusive environment.

I understand that this role involves representing Durham graduate students, supporting student groups, helping organize campus events, and participating in committees. If selected, I would bring my earlier experience, willingness to listen, and genuine interest in student engagement to the position. I would also be committed to learning and following TGSA's bylaws and relevant university policies.

I see this as an opportunity to continue contributing to the Trent Durham community, build stronger connections among graduate students, and help ensure their voices are represented. I

would be excited to work with the TGSA Board and fellow students to make our campus experience more engaging, supportive, and inclusive.



TGSA Board Meeting Minutes—Annual General Meeting

Date: February 24th, 2026

Start time: 6:07

End time: 7:43

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

Chair: Jazmine Raine

Scribe: Davida

Attendance: All but one TGSA Board member was in attendance - 12 in person, 1 on Zoom.

1. Jazmine Raine—President
2. Sarah Adjei - VP Internal Affairs
3. Heather Klyn-Hesselink- VP, Senate
4. Davida Egbung- VP, Student Affairs
5. Uzma Danish—Equity Commissioner (absent due to conflict)
6. Cinthia Hernandez - International Student Commissioner
7. Jamie Burnett- Environmental Commissioner
8. Almat Kabyl—Science Representative, PhD
9. Kristin Jones— Arts Representative, PhD
10. Jordan Webb —Science Representative, MA
11. Jonathan Nayler— Arts Representative, MA
12. Emmanuel Anyinka - Durham Representative
13. Tyler Majer - CUPE Representative
14. Connor Elverson - Student Support Coordinator

Quorum before meeting was called to order: 21

1. Call to Order

Welcome, present order of the evening (welcome, food served, BoD updates, budget presentation, by-election candidate statements, trivia, closing)

2. Adopt the Agenda for Annual General Meeting:

Mover: Tyler

Second: Kristin

Discussion

Approve: All

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

3. Approve the Minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting

Mover: Almat

Second: Jordan

Discussion

Approve: All

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

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

(1.) Jazmine Raine—President

Read the land acknowledgment for all in attendance

The work has been focused on completing projects that have remained open, making progress on existing initiatives (cell phone bank, space access agreements, graduate sanctioned clubs and groups), and on working to clarify institutional processes that have become opaque or confused (bursary disbursement, health insurance processes) and need to be tightened up or adjusted.

There have been fewer flashy projects on my desk and more work directed at tightening up policy language, and looking at often confusing protocols and systems with the intention of achieving a higher level of clarity for graduate students.

I have been working to shore up TGSA institutional memory, and to create more comprehensive training and onboarding documents to support the teams' efforts for future years.

I am hoping to be re-elected to this role for one final year to tie up many of the large-scale projects that you've been hearing me reference (collaboration with TCSA regarding Bill C-33, work to create more accessible and clear language surrounding funding packages, getting graduate student representation on more internal Trent committees, creating deeper and richer material support systems for graduate students) that we have been working towards over the last 2 years.

(2.) Sarah Adjei - VP Internal Affairs

Assisted in the organization of the 2026/2027 Board elections

- Running of elections
- Voting on referenda
- Engaged in the Food Advisory Committee meetings focusing on catering services on campus
- Engaged in an onboarding meeting with the executive with Jazmine Raine (President)
- Attended executive and board of directors periodic meetings

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

VP Senate organizes TGSA representation for committees we are invited to attend and participates in Senate Executive and Senate on behalf of graduate students at Trent. Explains the role of the senate on campus

Additional projects:

Revamping the procedure for assigning and communicating TGSA representatives to SGS and CASSC by trying to brainstorm an easier process for all involved.

Writing a TGSA Committee manual for incoming members, which will detail overall committee aims, major committee projects and TGSA responsibilities to ensure incoming TGSA members know their responsibilities with regards to committees.

Campus safety completed a campus-wide lighting survey for us, including the areas flagged to me by Trent students, and has passed on that information to Facilities. Next steps: Connecting with Facilities Management to respond to our concerns and figuring out best steps.

Conducting research into graduate SAS policies: found that accommodations could be made easier and will be researching more on this.

Represent TGSA on REB, SAC, T&L

(4.) Davida Egbung- VP, Student Affairs

VP Student affairs is in charge of making sure that all TGSA events run successfully, ensuring vital communications, and active student wellness and equity advocacy

Committee: Colleges and Student Services Committee (CASSC), Colleges sub-committee

Projects and Collaborations: Working with Uzma on our black history month panel, and with Cinthia's on our wellness brunch, TGSA Community Leadership Awards will take place soon.

(5.) Uzma Danish—Equity Commissioner (read by Davida Egbung)

Committee Work:

Cyclical Program Review Committee Meetings:

· February 4th: Review of PSYC Final Assessment Report. February 25th: Canceled

Housing Advisory Committee Meeting: February 5th, 2026:

- Overview of the student non-compulsory fees was presented (i.e. residence withdraw charges, winter break stays, improper checkout)

- Champlain College revitalization consultation: discussed ideas around what students would like to see improve in their residence rooms.

- Student conduct processes: Key proposed changes for 2026-2027

- o Empowering residents

- o Provide training specific to Residence Community Standards (RCS)

- o Reviewing and updating student housing policies to align with RCS

Athletic Advisory committee meeting: No meeting for the month

Sexual Violence and Prevention Committee: Meeting on February 20th

Slide 2:

Event Coming up: Zoom Black History Month February 26, from 6:30–8:30 p.m. Theme: Black Brilliance Across Generations. Registration Link:

<https://trentu.zoom.us/meeting/register/MtO9Kt-8RsmYStHfvmZw0A#/registration>

(6.) Cinthia Hernandez, International Student Commissioner (Read by Davida Egbung)

Program of Study: Master of Arts in Sustainability Studies

Committee Work

- Member of the Library Advisor Committee 2025-2026.
- Member of the Teaching Awards Committee 2025 – 2026.

Priorities this year

- Represent international graduate students within TGSA and advocate for their interests and concerns.
- Engage with students to identify needs and enhance the international student experience.
- Collaborate with university departments and student groups to strengthen support and engagement initiatives.
- Promote cultural and academic events for international students.

Projects and Collaborations

- Develop and implement the Peer Mentorship Program, along with the Trent International Student Office.
- Provide information on scholarships, grants, and funding opportunities specifically for international students, along with the Trent International Student Office.

Community Involvement

- Participating in Traill Sunday College Dinners, to meet and engage with International Graduate Students. Advised students to come to the dinners with their families as well.
- Volunteering as a judge for the Symons Seminar Series for Graduate students.
- Volunteering at the 2025 Annual Elders & Traditional Peoples Gathering which occurred last week.

(7.) Jamie Burnett- Environmental Commissioner

Environmental and Life Sciences M.Sc. Candidate in Earth Sciences stream

Committee Work:

- Advocating for the needs of graduate students by being the TGSA representative in the following committees:

- Environmental advisory board

- Research grants (HSS) determining grants recipients for the science stream.

- Research ethics board (REB) for human participants

Events planned

- Currently planning a spring plant pot painting event for graduate students

- March 28th at Sadler house; more details to follow

(8.) Almat Kabył—Science Representative, PhD

Committee Work

- Graduate Studies Committee (GSC) - PhD

- Research Grants Committee - NSERC

- Distinguished Research Awards Committee

Represented graduate students in the review and adjudication of research grant and award applications and contributed to funding allocation decisions.

Advocated for graduate student interests at the Graduate Studies Committee, including successfully supporting the maintenance of existing on-campus work hour limits for graduate students.

Proposed the acceptance of Cambridge English B2 certification alongside IELTS and TOEFL to reduce barriers for prospective graduate students.

Raised concerns regarding the requirement for January-intake graduate students to pay for an additional year of the Health & Dental Plan.

Collaborated with faculty, staff, and student representatives to support policy development, research funding, and graduate student welfare.

Advocated for transparency, fairness, and student recognition through awards and institutional decision-making.

(9.) Kristin Jones— Arts Representative, PhD

Committee Work

Spiritual Affairs Advisory Committee

Accommodation Policy Committee

Trent Nature Areas/Trails Sub-Committee

FSAC Sustainability and Fair Trade Working Group

Wellness Committee

Priorities this year

I want to continue to work on the TGSA to advocate for barrier free accommodation for graduate students at Trent, to make it easier to have a good quality of life while pursuing our graduate degrees

As much as possible, I'll be where you are and be easily accessible whenever you need me.

Projects and Collaborations

Still working with CUPE on the executive, where we're continuing to build our steward network and finding ways to engage with grad students that are working as TAs, Workshop Leaders, Student Markers, Academic Assistants, Lab Demonstrators, and Proctors

Encouraged everyone to read the sustainability survey.

(10.) Jordan Webb —Science Representative, MA

Committee Work

- Animal Care Committee: review protocols for animal use in teaching and research to ensure adherence to ethical guidelines outlined by the Canadian Council for Animal Care (CCAC).
- Graduate Studies Committee: review proposed changes to graduate courses and programs.

Priorities this year

- Run for an open position on the TGSA once I'm registered for my PhD in the fall!

Community Involvement

- Joined the Molecules, Cells, Systems (MCS) research centre management committee as the social media representative. Follow our IG @mcsresearchcentre for updates & announcements about our fourth annual research symposium!

(11.) Jonathan Nayler— Arts Representative, MA

Program – MA in Indigenous and Canadian Studies

Committee that I am on – Senate Committee on Indigenous Education (responsible for approval of courses for the ICR) and the Convocation CASSC

What have I Been Advocating For: Against Bill 33, fighting for OSAP Grants to be restored attended two meetings related to graduate students researching Indigenous topics as part of my role in between TA'ing seminars for INDG 1001 – I am very dedicated representative for MA students

(12.) Emmanuel Anyinka - Durham Representative (Read by Cinthia Hernandez)

Committee Work:

Durham CASSC

I was scheduled to attend two CASSC meetings for February which were all cancelled for obvious reasons. The committee has scheduled two other meetings on March 6,2026 and March 20,2026 to discuss matters arising from the 2026 budget and other related issues.

Updates:

On February 19,2026, the Master of Management Department organized a mandatory presentation and orientation for 4th and final term students who will be starting their internship in the Spring/Summer semester. The essence of the meeting was to help the students understand the requirements for the course (MSMG5000Y).

On February 2,2026, Durham graduates' students participated in the launch of Black History Month at Trent University Durham with an inspiring Opening Ceremony centered on history, resilience, and community. The event featured a keynote address from Rosemary Sadlier, an author, educator, and one of Canada's leading voices in Black history advocacy. A related activity that we participated was the Equity and Human Rights Office for a powerful panel featuring Black leaders sharing insights on resilience, advocacy, and action on February 10,2026.

(13.)Tyler Majer - CUPE Representative

· Reaching out from CUPE 3908 Unit 2!

- Representation from the union for all student academic staff at Trent including GTAs, AAs, markers, SLDs and proctors

- Most graduate students have the unique position whereby Trent is both their employer and their educator

- I am your point of contact for any questions you have regarding your academic positions at Trent, whether that be regarding your role itself, professional development support, or any issues you may have.

- Important Supports for You! Or (Let's talk Money!)

- Professional Development & Employee Assessment Fund: All full-time GTAs are eligible for up to \$600 (or \$1000 until surplus exhausted) each academic year for professional development!

- UHIP Reimbursement: (\$200) for all full-time International GTAs, without OHIP coverage, are eligible for reimbursement

- Comfort Fund: (\$50 Gift Card) to recognize important moments in the lives of our members

- Gender Affirmation Fund: (\$5000) in a first come, first served fund that supports members, their domestic partners, and dependent children with the social, legal, medical, and any other costs associated with transition.

- Who to Contact! · Lead Steward Unit 2 — steward2@cupe3908.org (Me – Tyler Majer)

(Contact for grievances* and employee and employer relationships.) · Vice President Unit 2 — vp2@cupe3908.org (Kristin Jones!)

Contact for general union information, university relations, and involvement. · Yvonne LaRose, Office Manager — office@cupe3908.org (for funding applications)

(15.) Connor Elverson - Student Support Coordinator

Reported that the association is in a strong financial position with total assets of \$287,913.67. Stated that the TGSA is currently performing under budget on events, spending \$10,946.00 against a \$25,000.00 budget.

On Discretionary Funding: There is a \$17,500.00 budget for discretionary community investment; students are encouraged to propose projects that improve graduate student welfare.

Operational Health: All board members are being paid on time, and the year-end forecast predicts an operating surplus of \$7,450.32.

Statement of Financial Position	2026	2025
As At February 23rd, 2026		
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$242,410.39	\$213,581.46
Due from Trent University	\$45,000.00	\$38,044.83
Inventory		
Prepaid Expenses	\$503.28	\$479.25
	\$287,913.67	\$252,105.54
Liabilities and Fund Balances		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabiliti	\$13,995.00	\$14,226.50
Fund Balance		
Unrestricted	\$95,222.59	\$65,472.83
Contingency Fund	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
Endowment	\$126,317.00	\$126,317.00
GSA Space Fund	\$12,379.08	\$6,089.21
	\$273,918.67	\$237,879.04
	\$287,913.67	\$252,105.54

4.1 Motion to Approve Reports

Mover: Jordan

Second: Tyler

5. Question Period

1. A graduate student with affiliations with Traill College asked how great students could get information about the events from other colleges because they are used to getting newsletters from Michael Eamon, the principal of Trail College, but they are interested in seeing what the other colleges have to offer. Melanie answered the question, saying they can work on a big distribution channel where people can find information about every college event. She advised that the person who asked the question reach out to them and they can sign her up to ensure she has access to other newsletters. There is also a website that shows all the different updates on all the colleges.
2. Does the Champlain College revitalization include discussions of making it more accessible? The response to this was yes, Champlain has a whole list of things that they're trying to do to the best of their ability to ensure that their college is more accessible but with limited funding. They encourage people who have further ideas regarding accessibility to come and have conversations with them. They are hoping that over the next year or two, they get to do all of that.
3. Questions were asked on Collegiate Awards and they informed us that they are still up and available for graduate students to access until Friday.
4. What does Jaz do to create more accessible, clearer language surrounding funding packages? Jaz plans to increase the clarity of the language around the funding packages so that grad students are not met with unwarranted surprises at the end of their master's or PhD, especially regarding making decisions like being a part-time student with full time course load, which might affect their funding. There's also an opportunity to

potentially work with Student Accessibility Services and the School of Graduate Studies to see if there's any opportunity for flexibility around this.

5. How the TGSA will deal with less income and the ability to support students financially. If we lose funding from Bill 33? Response: We are confident that even if we can't contribute because we're bringing in less money through levies to some of those financial material supports, we are still going to be advocating for students and trying to support and seek funding in other ways. We've actually started to coordinate with several other graduate student organizations across the country. We had a dinner meeting in Ottawa in October with about 15 other GSA's, and there will be an informal symposium where we all get together in the next month or so, the different presidents from all over Canada to talk about this and to plan out ways that we can support students more collaboratively and collectively, and we're working more closely with the TCSA.

6. How does the TGSA plan to keep advocating for grad students with the looming budget cuts? Response: We are pushing back against that in the ways that we're able to, not just from Trent budget cuts, but also at a provincial level. A number of us are going down to Queen's Park next week on Wednesday to the education rally put on by the Canadian Federation of Students. We're also talking with TCSA about potentially renting buses to take you down in case you want to go down for free. We have a lot of action that's planned, and we're also meeting with a bunch of other student groups tomorrow at Sadlier House to discuss ways that we can act, collaborate, and to push back very, very heavily.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

Jaz encouraged graduate students to apply for open positions in the TGSA for the new election cycle.

7. Referenda

Referendum Question 1

Motion to Approve Submission of Graduate Student College Fee Increase Referendum Question to Plebiscite at the 2026 Annual General Meeting

Whereas the Trent Graduate Student Association has authority to propose fee changes to its membership through a referendum process at a duly called Annual General Meeting;

Whereas any proposed change to student fees requires approval of the membership by plebiscite;

Whereas the Board of Directors has considered the need to bring forward a proposed adjustment to the existing College fee structure for graduate students at the Peterborough campuses;

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors approve the submission of the following referendum question to the membership for vote by plebiscite at the Trent Graduate Student Association Annual General Meeting scheduled for February 24, 2026:

“Do you approve an increase of \$30.00 to the existing College fee for full-time students, and a \$15.00 increase to the existing College fee for part-time students registered at the Peterborough campuses (Symons Campus and Traill College)?”

Referendum Question 2

Motion to Approve Submission of Sadleir House Levy Increase Referendum Question to Plebiscite at the 2026 Annual General Meeting

Whereas the Trent Graduate Student Association has authority to propose changes to Association levies through a referendum process at a duly called Annual General Meeting;

Whereas the proposed referendum concerns an increase to the existing Sadleir House levy for Peterborough graduate students from \$5.00 to \$15.00 per year, for the purpose of supporting the

continued operation and planned expansion of Sadleir House services and programming for graduate students;

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors approve the submission of the following referendum question to the membership for vote by plebiscite at the Trent Graduate Student Association Annual General Meeting scheduled for February 24, 2026:

“Do you approve an increase to the Trent Graduate Students’ Association levy for Sadleir House from \$5.00 to \$15.00 per year for Peterborough students, effective upon ratification, for the purpose of supporting the continued operation and planned expansion of Sadleir House services and programming for graduate students?”

8. Other Business

Principals of Gzowski College: Melanie Buddle, Trail College: Michael Eamon, Champlain College: James Onusko, and Lady Eaton College: Aaron, were present at the AGM to further explain the reasoning behind the colleges' fee increases to be put to a vote for graduate students. They also individually cited the benefits that all graduate students receive from each college, regardless of their college affiliations; this was in response to a question from a graduate student in the audience. They also emphasised the importance of colleges still being able to provide the same level of service that they have been providing without skimping out on other important areas.

9. Notices of Motions and Announcements

10. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn the Annual General Meeting

Mover: Kristin

Second: Cinthia

Discussion

Approve:

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0