

TGSA Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

10:00 am – 12:18 pm.

Members Present: Allison Murray (President), Fiona Li (VP Academic), Marie Green (VP External), Melanie Kampen (VP Conferences), Trent Voth (Biblical Rep), Gord Brown (Treasurer), Benjamin Lujan (St. Mike's Rep), Robyn Boéré (Regis Rep), Sheng Ping Guo (Historical Rep), Steve Hewko (Wycliffe Rep), M.J Perry (Knox Rep), Carla Marcoccia (Secretary).

Regrets: Matthew Bowman (Trinity Rep),

Guests: Mr. Michael (UTSU Rep) and Mr. Bruce (TGSA member).

1) Opening (Allison): 10:00 am

Welcome.

2) Event Debrief and Planning (Allison): 10:05 am

3) TGSA Space (Allison): 10:10 am

Allison announced the potential for a TST wide grad student social space, the news went well with Board members.

4) TGSA Fee (Allison): 10:21 am

MOTION: Moved by Ben to increase the TGSA fee by \$1. Seconded by Robyn. Motion carried unanimously.

5) Conference Update (Melanie): 10:25 am

There are two panel sessions proposed and twelve paper proposals. A schedule will be made in the next few weeks. Melanie is seeking Board members to moderate panels. The date is Friday, March 17, 2017 and the time is to be determined and announced. Marie asked about how the event will be promoted, Robyn suggested posters, the Board agreed.

6) Area Updates (Trent, Sheng Ping): 10:29 am

Trent reported on the January 30, 2017 Biblical department seminar; an interesting paper was presented and the event was well attended.

Biblical seminars are coming up on February 27, 2017 and March 27, 2017.

7) College Updates (Reps): 10:30 am

Ben (St. Mike's College Rep): January 27, 2017 was the pro seminar meeting, he was unable to attend but heard it went well.

The dean is organizing an event: Catholicism and Indigenous issues in May.

There is a position for a new professor in historical theology, there are three candidates.

Robyn (Regis College Rep): The culture fest went well. Regis has a new president (Fr. Thomas Worcester SJ) who is a professor of History, his biography is online. There is a conference being held by the Lonergan Institute of Research on February 24 and 25, 2017. Robyn will be presenting a paper, she welcomed everyone to join. Regis is having once a month student faculty lunch seminars beginning February 28, 2017. Robyn has

received emails in support of the referendum as well as concerns regarding the Varsity article.

M.J (Knox Rep): Knox is in the process of hiring a principal. Their routine has been broken because of the hiring process. Knox is in transition.

Trent (on behalf of Emmanuel): In the process of transitioning.

8) VP Academic Update (Allison): 10:36 am

M.J: Library meeting: truth and reconciliation. A major issue that surfaced was orientation for AD and BD students. Share information about orientations because they have the same basic skill info. MJ encouraged college reps to give a higher profile to library orientation. MJ also suggested multiple tours of the library to accommodate for different schedules.

Allison (on behalf of Fiona): The academic council is working on Schedule B clarification. Allen and Jerry appointment terms coming up for review, structure is under review. New certificate programs have been approved (i.e. psycho spirituality). Prof status in theological studies is being investigating.

9) VP External Updates (Marie): 11:20 am

Marie welcomed and introduced guests, Mr. Michael and Mr. Bruce. Marie asked Michael to speak to the issue of UTSU, GSU and roundtable discussion. Marie has contacted GSU to explore possible memberships, relationship building and by laws. Delay in meeting with GSU and UTSU because she left the meeting with questions. Marie secured a GSU meeting at TST with Gail (VP internal) and Liz (field worker). They were happy to have the conversation. The main reason TGSA ended up under UTSU is because of health and dental, at the time GSU did not cover these. They felt it was a natural fit to be part of that body. Next steps are to present benefits of joining GSU at the next Board meeting on March 7, 2017.

Marie has had no luck arranging a meeting with UTSU. She was excited to see Jasmine at the extraordinary meeting because she was able to follow up with her, however, she has not received an email confirming a meeting. The key question is the relationship with UTSU and GSU. There has been one correspondence with Orin (rep). Issued invite to attend meeting: didn't respond/attend. Marie introduced Michael to give background of roundtable UTSU relationship.

Michael's address (UTSU Rep):

Michael sends greetings from roundtable.

Michael has served as an UTSU rep from the 2012/2013 academic year.

Confusion: a year ago UTSU was restructuring the Board. There are internal elections taking place, nominations are needed.

Roundtable helps facilitate relationship with UTSU and TST. UTSU nomination open at February 27, 2017 and are open to grad and BD students and closes on March 3, 2017.

There are an unusual number of slates this year (3). They are downsizing and want to remove paid positions. Joint call for nominations.

MOTION moved to empower Marie to work with round table to work for call for UTSU nominations. Motion seconded by MJ. Motion carried, one abstention.

10) Housekeeping (Allison, Melanie, and Carla): 10:40 am

January 10, 2017 Meeting Minutes:

Corrections made by the Board.

MOTION moved by MJ to approve January 10, 2017 meeting minutes. Seconded by Sheng Ping. Motion carried, unanimously.

January 17, 2017 Meeting Minutes:

Corrections made by the Board.

MOTION moved by Trent to approve January 17, 2017 meeting minutes. Seconded by Ben. Motion carried, unanimously.

January 31, 2017 Meeting Minutes:

Board members present made corrections. As a courtesy to Matthew, the Board discussed making a special acceptance to send him the minutes to view, approve and comply. There were concerns about approving minutes over email. Allison suggested to post a PDF version online on the TGSA shared documents with the amendments made during the meeting with a word document to include adjustments and the Board initial for approval or offer alternative language if necessary.

MOTION moved by Ben to amend online the January 21, 2017 Board meeting minutes in format that Allison proposed. Robyn seconded the motion. Motion carried, with one opposed.

Allison moved the AGM to April 11, 2017.

11) Referendum Results (Carla): 11:35 am

108 votes were cast for the election:

Students should pay the non-academic incidental fee 40 votes (37%).

Students should not pay the non-academic incidental fee 68 votes (53%).

Michael noted this was the largest turnout since 2008.

12) Moving Forward (Allison): 11:37 am

Marie thinks the Board should advocate for students with needs and access issues.

Robyn explained the allegations of U of T being illegal, clarified by bylaws clarifying block fees (which is above the scope of the Board, which Allison noted). Trent thinks there should be plan B alternatives to health care, especially for UHIP students.

Allison reminded the Board is to fulfill mandate and advocate for students.

Issues that a member did not give permission to distribute correspondence. Concerns that someone did not clarify with other Referendum Committee members before reporting to Varsity. Concerns regarding bad behavior beyond an acceptable realm. Steve suggested a peace mediation. An additional concern surfaced regarding the Board does not have a code of conduct, however, that does not excuse bad behavior.

MOTION moved by Marie to seek a mediation process as Board extended to Trinity Rep to address grievances with a response of acceptance by Friday. Motion moved, 2 opposed, 1 abstention, 8 in favor.

Marie noted to adjust the minutes with regard to items that were not addressed during this meeting (i.e. apology, prayer, Facebook).

13) Board PD (Allison):

14) Other Business:

15) Adjournment: 12:18 pm.