

TGSA Board Meeting — Wednesday, October 30, 2019
3:00-5:00 pm

In Attendance: Fiona Li, Michael Rogers, Samuel Needham, Jordan Balint, Michael Anderson, Mia Theocharis, Mariia Ivaniv, Meghan Bowen, Hannah Ferguson, Elizabeth (Beth) Anne Fisher*, Paul Kye, Maureen Ononiwu, M.J. Perry and Carolyn Mackie.

Guest: Colleen Shantz

Regrets: Leanne Ketcham

*= Attended Via Teleconference.

Call to Order 3:05 pm

1. Prayer; Territorial Acknowledgment — 3:05 pm

- Opening prayer was offered by Sam N.
- Territorial acknowledgement offered by Fiona L.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda/Approval of September Meeting Minutes — 3:10 pm

- Mike R. motions to approve agenda. M.J. P. seconds.
- Meghan B. motions to approve September meeting minutes. Mariia I. seconds.
- **Both motions carry, agenda and minutes approved.**

3. Interim VP Conference's Report — 3:15 pm

- We are invited to shift the date of our TGSA conference to coincide with the TST conference which is being held Thursday, May 7th to Friday, May 8th.
- Dr. Colleen Shantz came to speak more about the TST conference (she provided everyone with a handout with further details).
 - There is currently a Call for Papers (mechanisms that make valuing possible)
 - The TST conference has two keynote speakers — Dr. Finn on Thursday, May 7th; followed by a reception at Regis College) and Dr. Lofton on Friday, May 8th.
 - There will be a panel discussion on the Saturday, May 9th with a third keynote speaker; TST is hoping for a moderator (the Saturday is more open to the public); students are welcome to put in proposals for this part of the conference which will be held at Carr Hall.
- If TGSA joins with TST it will give more momentum to our conference; should someone from TGSA be on the TST planning committee?
- How should we relate our conference topic to TSTs? Broad, wider scope? Maybe reflecting on meaning and theological significance of the university campus? Do we want something more distinctly theological? Regardless, we should still link the themes — **NB: We need to finalize this at our next meeting.**
- We should have our own separate Call for Papers — one to TST and then one to TGSA.

- It'll bring more faculty — advantage for CV being associated with the wider TST rather than just TGSA but it will be a distinctly TGSA conference.
 - Mike A. mentions language, maybe use “pre-conference” language rather than just conference so there isn't any confusion between the TGSA and TST conference.
 - Sam N. offers “value of dialogue” or “value of ecumenism” as titles.
 - Fiona L. asks what date do we want to send out Call for Papers? Mike R. says we should send out Call for Papers in the next couple of weeks (so around the time of our next general meeting)
 - Mike R. motions to move the TGSA conference to Wednesday, May 6th to Thursday, May 7th. As well, Mike R. motions for the conference committee to draft a new Call for Papers. M.J. P. seconds *but* to have cooperation with the TST committee.
 - **All in favour. Motion carries.**
- 4. President's Report — 3:30 pm**
- Fiona L. motions to accept President's report. Mike R. seconds.
 - **All in favour. Motion carries.**
- 5. VP Academic's Report — 3:35 pm**
- Some notes from the report (you can see the detailed report at the link Fiona L. Provided via email):
 - Discussion of language requirements, possibly adding additional language exams; also, possibly more reading for the comprehension exams because our reading list is not up to par with the American and European models.
 - Mike R. said he will call for a delay in case anything changes, although it should not affect current students in the program.
 - SSHRC Grant Writing workshop may need to change — Mike R. raises the possibility of switching back to an early spring workshop.
 - Maybe tie in the SSHRC workshop into our conference in May?
 - Sam N. motions to accept Mike R.'s report. Jordan B. seconds.
 - **All in favour. Motion carries.**
- 6. VP External's Report — 3:45 pm**
- Some notes from the report (you can see the detailed report at the link Fiona L. Provided via email):
 - TST belongs to the University of Toronto's Student Union (UTSU)
 - Sam N. attended one of their general meetings — there was significant discussion about mental health, we are suppose to go to our respective colleges first for mental health assistance.
 - There is lack of information on health and dental plans; UTSU is having a referendum in the spring to deal with issues surrounding health and dental plans
 - There was talk about liaising with other faculties that are part of UTSU (particularly med students) — maybe we could organize a social in the near future? This is also good for networking.
 - Mike R. motions to accept, Meghan B. seconds.
 - **All in favour. Motion carries.**
- 7. Treasurer's Report — 3:55 pm**

- Fiona L. motions to add Leanne’s Treasurer’s report. Meghan B. seconds.
 - **All in favour. Motion carries.**
- 8. College Rep Reports — 4:00 pm**
- See the detailed reports at the link provided by Fiona L. via email.
 - Mike A., Knox: What do other colleges have for their graduate students? Re: writing support, possibly one on one writing assistance. Student at Knox is under the impression that other colleges have one on one outreach — Kelly library at St. Mike’s and Regis College have this, Emmanuel and Wycliffe do not.
 - Jordan B., Emmanuel: October 2nd there was a grad student social with faculty and students.
 - Meghan B., Regis: There were lectures given and a pub night social.
 - Mariia I., St. Mikes; AD Seminars, divine liturgy every Wednesday.
 - M.J. P. motion to accept the college rep reports. Mike R. seconds.
 - **All in favour. Motion carries.**
- 9. Area Rep Reports — 4:05 pm**
- See the detailed reports at the link provided by Fiona L. via email.
 - Bethanne F., Pastoral: Planning an end of semester social.
 - M.J. P., History: Two symposiums planned for next semester.
 - Maureen O. Contextual: Nothing yet, hoping to meet with people in November.
 - Hannah F., MA: Plans to get in touch with students via email.
 - Sam N. motions to accept area rep reports. Mike R. seconds.
 - **All in favour. Motion carries.**
- 10. Social Chair’s Report**
- Mike R. motions to add Social Chair’s Report to agenda, Meghan B. seconds.
 - **All in favour. Motion carries.**
 - Very successful pizza lunch with both the first year and second year PhD’s. Sam N. is open for other ideas.
 - Carolyn M. motions to accept. Mike A. Seconds
 - **All in favour. Motion carries.**
- 11. Looking Ahead: Event Planning (November 13: Mental Health for Scholars event; Writing bootcamp with Allison Murray; Approval of adding “Writing Boot Camp” in TGSA events) — 4:20 pm**
- Adding pizza social to Mental Health for Scholars event at the reception afterwards?
 - Allison Murray has offered to host a “Writing Boot Camp” for TGSA — possibly during February reading week; could be a day-event, facilitated with food and an honorarium? NB: Invite Allison to our next meeting to talk more about the event/ what support she envisions from TGSA.
 - Fiona L. motions to add “Writing Boot Camp” during February reading week with Allison Murray. Beth Anne F. seconds.
 - **All in favour. Motion carries.**
- 12. New Business (Facebook group concern; google calendar) — 4:25pm**

- Who is monitoring the facebook page? What is our central communication area? Facebook, twitter, email etc...?
- Fiona L. created a Google calendar; hoping to create something that everyone can access and so all the colleges know what is going on.
- Mike A. proposes a workshop specifically for book reviews; editors from Toronto Journal of Theology could come and speak with students, Abraham Khan has other people that could help as well. — Amy P. will gather a list of people that could assist. When should we have this? January or March? Wednesday is preferable. Mike A. is going to look into a date that works for everyone.

Motion to Adjourn at 4:45 PM

Mike R. motions, Fiona L. seconds. Approved by Consensus.

*Respectfully submitted by Secretary Mia Theocharis
October 30, 2019*