

**TGSA Board Meeting**  
**Thursday, January 16, 2025 @ 1:30 pm - 3pm**  
**Via Zoom**

**Minutes**

**Present:** Maureen O., Bohdan H., Christian C-S., Christine W-S.,  
Matteo C., Marina G., Susan M., Sileen P., David R.,

**Regrets:** Hye-lim Y., Noah M., Jasmine W.

- 1. Prayer/Territorial Acknowledgment.** The meeting was opened at 1:30 PM. Maureen read the territorial acknowledgement followed by a prayer led by Sileen.
- 2. Approval of Agenda and December 5, 2024, Meeting Minutes** Moved by Marina, seconded by Matteo to approve the agenda and the December 5th meeting minutes as presented. Passed.

**3. Reports**

*A. President*

- i. TGSA Internal Communications. Maureen suggested that it would be more efficient to keep the threads from each meeting discrete, e.g., minutes from a particular meeting should be circulated on the thread which contains the zoom invitation, etc. Likewise, if a thread is started in regard to a specific issue, responses should be made on the same thread.
- ii. Accessibility Concern follow up. Maureen reported that she and other members of our executive have continued to follow up this issue, and asked the college reps to continue to follow up regarding the accessibility issues in their own colleges. We are hoping that a satisfactory outcome will be achieved.

*B. Treasurer / Student Financial Aid Committee*

- i. We are doing well financially, David will be in Toronto this coming week and will be preparing the financial statements at this time, but we are very much under budget.

*C. VP Academic.* Christine noted that at this point there is nothing to report as the semester has only begun and no meetings have yet taken place.

D. *VP External*. Susan noted that she did not have anything to report as it is the beginning of the semester and nothing new has been brought forth in the interim.

E. *VP Conference*. Jasmine was not able to attend; the call for papers has been circulated; we are still in negotiations regarding the cost for the use of Loretto Hall.

F. *VP Communications / Library*.

- i. Newsletter. Matteo reported that the next newsletter will be coming out in the middle of February. Anyone with material for the newsletter is asked to forward this material to Matteo by the first week of February.
- ii. Library Committee. He also reported that the poster display has been postponed until next year. He suggested that TGSA might host a workshop on how to prepare an academic poster display. It was suggested that this poster showcase would be a good event to hold in congruence with the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Christine suggested that a poster presentation could be offered as a part of our TGSA student conference. This is something which can be discussed with the student conference organizing committee.

Moved by Christian, seconded by Susan to approve the executive reports. Passed.

G. *College Representatives*

- i. *Emmanuel*.

Hye-Lim reported that Dr. Tom Reynolds continues to be the Graduate Director and they will have a GD students gathering sometime mid-semester.

Also, Regarding the elevator and accessibility protocols: EM reconstructed the elevator pretty recently and seemed to have set up a good protocol in case of emergency. The office continues to consult with students with disabilities to make sure that the EM building is adequately accessible. I also asked the EM registrar about accessibility and elevator emergency protocols, and below is the answer:

In a fire, the first responder will be the fire warden in consultation with the other fire wardens and VicU Infrastructure & Sustainability staff.

For being stuck in the elevator, it'll be the Margaret Addison Front Desk who responds to the ALARM button.

The college registrar communicates directly with the students in wheelchairs regarding emergency procedures.

And this is posted on the Emmanuel College Quercus site: <https://vicu.utoronto.ca/about-victoria/human-resources/health-and-safety/fire-safety-recommendations/>

- ii. *Knox*. Sileen reported that the Knox College will be hosting the TST ecumenical service on 22 January in the context of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.
- iii. *St. Mikes*. Susan spoke about upcoming presentations at St. Mike's as well as the public seminar series at the Sheptytsky Institute from January through March. She also mentioned the "Bridges and Boundaries" conference which generally went well. Regarding the accessibility concerns, Susan mentioned the difficulties of actually accessing "accessible" facilities became evident when one of our students whom she was accompanying attempted to enter the facility.
- iv. *Regis* – Noah submitted the following report:

All is well and the Jesuits are under control.

Regarding the elevator and accessibility issues that has been brought to us by Heather Morgan, reconciliation efforts are now underway as I am organizing a meeting between Heather and the Regis Administration to discuss moving forward in a good way.

"Artificial Intelligence: A Theological Perspective – Panel Discussion & Lunch" on January 21st is an event at Regis open to the TST community ( <https://regiscollege.ca/event/artificial-intelligence-a-theological-perspective-panel-discussion-lunch/> )

- v. *Trinity*. Marina reported that she has received a response from the person responsible for accessibility issues stating that Trinity their accessibility assessment received a positive grade and all accessibility and security issues are covered, the policy and procedure are available on the Trinity Web-site.

She also mentioned the RTA meetings which have been begun under the aegis of the TST. These meetings are potentially very helpful, but it seems that they are not being publicized well. One of the other problems is that the sessions need to be held at times which are convenient, and many students are very busy.

- vi. *Wycliffe*. Christian reported that the building has had heating issues, either too cold or too hot; he also noted the increased number of phishing e-mails being circulated to students; he has been in contact with the administration regarding accessibility issues, Wycliffe is between facility managers, so any lacunae which the students can help identify would be very good to address. Maureen mentioned that in general it is important to have a phone or other contact

information visible to those who might be stuck indoors, outdoors, in an elevator, etc.

Susan noted that there is a U of T address where students can forward suspicious e-mails for verification: [report.phishing@utoronto.ca](mailto:report.phishing@utoronto.ca)

Moved by Marina seconded by Susan to approve the college rep reports. Passed.

#### *H. Program Reps*

- i. DMin Rep.* Sileen had nothing to report.

#### **4. Events/Workshops**

- A. OGS Workshop.* Maureen reported that she has been in contact with Prof. Callie Callon and Prof. Callon will be hosting an OGS workshop in February. We will forward her invitation to all students.
- B. Mental Health for Scholars workshop.* Prof. Angela Schmidt has agreed to lead a Mental Health for Scholars workshop, the goal would be to have it in person, with perhaps a hybrid component. David has agreed to help with this workshop if possible.
- C. Resume and LinkedIn Profile Building Workshop ((U of T Career Exploration and Education Centre).* Mary McAuliffe of the University of Toronto Career Exploration and Education Centre has agreed to lead such a workshop, the proposed date is the last Thursday of March
- D. Proposal / Prospectus Workshop.* Prof. Attridge proposed that the workshop be held on March 4<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM till Noon. Christine will follow-up with him to make sure there are no culinary conflicts in regard to pancake preparation.

Moved by Susan seconded by Marina to approve the events/workshops reports. Passed.

#### **5. Questions/Concerns/New Business?**

The TheoSocials will be held on the first Thursday of each month from one till three PM.

#### **6. Next meeting date/time?**

Maureen will circulate a doodle poll to see what works as far as a convenient day and time for meetings going forward.

Moved by Susan, seconded by Christine to adjourn the meeting at 2:48 PM.

Minutes prepared by Bohdan Hladio