Advanced Degree Students Association
Minutes: January 14, 2015

| Rachel Knight-Messenger | P | Robyn Boere | E | Gordon Brown | P |
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| Michael Buttrey | P | Matthew Charlesworth | P | Steve Hewko | E |
| Matt Koovisk | P | Jonathan Lofft | P | Benjamin Lujan | E |
| Beth McCutcheon | P | Alison Murray | P | Andrew Nussey | P |
| Hilary Ryall | P | Anthony Spellacy | P | Becca Spellacy | P |
| Bruce Worthington | P |  |  |  |  |

Guests: John Sundara (from UTSU),

1) Welcome/Opening Prayer

Meeting opened with prayer by Andrew Nussey at 12:01. Motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting by Jonathan, and agreed to unanimously.
2) Introductions (as needed)

Introductions were made of members present. Becca noted the meeting time for this semester will be strange because no time during the week was available for everybody to attend. Instead this time slot should allow the most people to attend at least half the meeting.
3) Treasurer's Report

Report was tabled. The treasurer answered questions of clarification. Jonathan moved to accept the report, which was seconded by Matt Koovisk, and approved unanimously.
4) College Reps
a. Saint Mikes

No report
b. Wycliffe

The board offered congratulations on Wycliffe's new website.
TST is putting on a panel discussion on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission during week of Christian Unity, on Jan 27, at Wycliffe. Panelists include Bishop Mark MacDonald, Mayo Moran, and Bob Rae.
c. Regis

Book launch of Professor Mongeau's Book "Embracing Wisdom: Summa Theologiae as Spiritual Pedagogy" on Jan 28 with refreshments to follow. Jan 22 will see "culture fest".
d. Trinity

Orthodox will be doing an Orthodox/Eastern Christian prayer service for the Week of Christian Unity on Jan 29 at 7:00pm in Trin's Chapel. Trinity is also hosting the Trinity Institute once again on Jan 22 and 23 on the topic of Racial Justice.
e. Emmanuel

TFM Symposium on Social justice will occur today (Jan 14) at 2:00. A Social happen next week.
f. Knox

Currently have visiting scholars from Cuba.
g. ICS

Dean was unable to attend but sent his report to Michael. ICS Senior member Bob Sweeten will respond to Mongeau's book at it Book launch on Jan 28. Dr. Sweeten will also be publishing a book on Christian Scholarship, bringing together common problems among evangelical, reformed, and Catholic approaches and experiences. The ICS blog (groundmotive.net) will be hosting a blog symposium of a forthcoming book by Lambert Zuidervaart titled Religion, Truth, and Social Transformation: Essays in Reformational Philosophy, and the symposium will include a number of respondents posting on the blog.
5) Program Reps
a. Bible (Bruce)

Biblical Seminar is going on. Looking for another presenter
b. Theology (Benjamin)

No report
c. Contextual (Rachel)

No report
d. MA (Hilary)

Hilary may be taking a Leave of Absence and will try to find another rep. for her position.
e. ThM (Andrew)

No report
f. Pastoral

Clarification on what constitutes the Pastoral "Department".
g. History

No report
6) Committees
a. Academic Council

AC appointed a committee of people to discuss the bridge program with the university. They presented a proposal for a program which was agreed to. Concerns were raised by the board over the scope of this proposal because it did not represent all students' interests.
b. Graduate Studies Council

GSC is looking forward to the New MA program, planned for admission in 2017.
Conversation on PhD comps looking for clarification on them, which will be continued at the next GSC meeting. GSC considered the PhD bridge is a done issue.
c. Board of Trustees

Becca discussed the treatment of Students at the at Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees has been tasked with a Risk assessment, which will include student satisfaction (something that we having been talking about with them).
d. Alan/Jerry
i. Fees Town hall/status of students

A meeting with Alan, Jerry, Becca and Anthony. It discussed some of the survey results (including the large cohort class and the nature of the courses for the cohort). Jerry sees the new program as an interdisciplinary. Jerry and Alan thought about having a discussion with the cohort course might help (members proposed an idea that the town hall
system might be problematic and that outside facilitation would be a good idea).

Student fees were also discussed. Last year the board did a survey and students decided against paying these fees. Jerry informed Becca that students would need to pay or lose services. Jerry is scheduling a town hall to discuss this with Lucy. Becca's concern is that we have not gotten an answer as before when asking what will be lost if we don't pay fees. Becca wants to make sure students get a real answer. Date for town hall will be coming in the future.

Discussion of the MA also occurred.

## e. UTSU

John reiterates the report, given by Matthew Charlesworth at the last meeting, on the restructuring meeting.

Wycliffe part-time students were looking at going outside of UTSU for health and dental and might look for help.

## f. Library

Library survey will occur at some point, possible in winter or fall. Not many of the non-conjoint MA library cards have been given out.

## 7) Conference

One paper proposal has been received thus far, deadline in Jan 31. Jonathan would like to create a committee for reviewing the submissions. TST will not be providing any funding, (our budget allows up to $\$ 2,100$ ). We will make sure that ICS knows about the conference and reiterate their invitation to participate.
8) Travel Bursaries

Reminder that Travel Bursaries were distributed in the fall and ours were not completely given out.
9) Survey Results

65 students responded to the survey. We received good data.
Survey gift card drawing occurred. Two students email were chosen.
10) Election

It is time to start organizing elections for next year. Elections Code needs revision, so the policy revision committee will start working on that. An overview of the election process was given.

Becca asks that members start considering their participation for coming years and if they know any others that would be good for the board.
11) Professional Development Seminar

Becca proposed a seminar given by a Trin student (Carol King) on course preparation. Discussion occurred about this. Becca will discuss with her about the logistics.
12) Insurance

Becca and Michael are still working on the discussion about insurance with GSU and UTSU, etc.
13) Other business

GSU: Michael attended a meeting with GSU. The talked about online systems for the opting out of the Optional levies, talked about funding and travel grants, started a mental health discussion, and about fees during post-residencies.

Michael is looking for people to join him at the next meeting on Jan 22.
14) Closing

Meeting closed at 1:34 pm, by motion of Johnathan. Next meeting will be Feb $4^{\text {th }} 2016$.

TORONTO SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION (TGSA)
FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2015-2016
as at 14 December 2015


