

TGSA Board Meeting
Friday, October 15th, 2021 10am - 12 pm
Via Zoom

In Attendance: Nathan Bradford Williams, Morgan Bell, Vincent Yi, Mia Theocharis, Gustave Ineza, Maureen Ononiwu, Patrick Nolin, Hannah Scanlon, Hannah Ferguson, David Kennedy

Regrets: Deborah Ko

1. Prayer/Territorial Acknowledgment

- Prayer offered by Morgan B., territorial acknowledgment offered by Mia T.

2. Approval of Agenda and Meeting Minutes from April 7, 2021

- Nathan W. motions to approve the agenda and meeting minutes. Vincent I. seconds.
- **All approve. Motions carries.**

3. Reports

A. President

- **Motion #1:** Hannah Ferguson as *Regis College Representative*
- **Motion #2:** David Kennedy as *Doctor of Ministry Representative*
 - Morgan B. motions to accept the new board members. Gustave I. Seconds.
 - **All approve. Motion carries.**

1. **Appointment of new TST personnel** — Carolyn Ibana as Assistant Registrar Graduate Programs and Institutional Research Co-ordinator and Jesse Billet as Associate Director, Graduate Programs; Pam has a new title as well, TST Executive Director.
2. **Referendum?** We want to amend the constitution to take out area rep positions as they no longer reflect the PhD program. But do we also want to switch over to GSU from UTSU? Thoughts? Update constitution give to board.
3. Student rep on the **hiring committee for Pam's replacement**
4. We still need someone to fill the **MA rep** role and also **secretary**; I'm going to send out an email today.
5. **Old Facebook group** has officially been **deleted** so if you can, add people you know from TST to the new group.

6. I was able to get access to all **TST student emails** which I've added to our **TGSA listserv**; so we can communicate directly with students without having to go through GCTS directly
- Hannah F. motions to accept President's report. Gustave I. seconds.
 - **All approve. Motion carries.**

B. VP Academic

- Worked with Jesse Billet to host the SSHRC/OGS grant writing workshop; Dr. Freeman led the workshop, 25 in attendance; first years and MA students; it may be more beneficial to students to separate the workshops? — one for SSHRC and one for OGS
- Academic Council met on September 20th — new structure, emphasis on faculty members who are not deans of the colleges, it has more powers than it used to — it is the top academic council and now it includes library committee, and curriculum committee etc...they are subcommittees; emergency extensions for covid will be granted based on time in program/good standing, funding would be a college issue/not so much discussed, one more program extensions has been granted
- Graduate Studies Council meeting; methods requirements, what constitutes a methods course; they would indicate on the course catalogue what course is a methods course by writing "M" beside it
- Admissions changes — date to submit applications to TST for PhD /DMin is pushed later, so from December 1st to January 21st
 - David K.: TST does not have a great marketing practice in place, similar to how it was in the 70s. Much hasn't changed but demographics have.
- Morgan B. motions to accept report. Patrick N. seconds.
- **All approve. Motion carries.**

C. VP External

- Our new insurance is with Greenshield.

- Hannah S. motions, Gustave I. seconds.
- **All approve. Motion carries.**

D. VP Conference

- Move away from two smaller conferences, make it more annual — bring in other people not just from TST; possibly an in-person conference
- Mia T.: It would be nice to have a woman or visible minority keynote speaker; the last two keynotes have been white males in academia.
- Nathan W.: Keep TST conference and TGSA conference separate
- Hannah F.: It was a headache working with TST for the conference, we had to be TST specific — better to avoid it and have our own thing; what was the summer seminar topic? Usually the conference theme goes off of that
- Hannah S., motions, Gustave I., seconds.
- **All approve. Motion carries.**

E. Treasurer

- Grant money for travel bursary
- MOA between TST and U of T — our change to talk about tuition fee exemption; they are going to vote on this; it was recommended that we start at GSC.
- Morgan B. motions, Hannah F. seconds.
- **All approve. Motion carries.**

F. College Representatives

- I. Wycliffe: programming online from last year, chapel services online, smaller clubs online, theology pub nights online; accommodating folks online and in-person
- II. St. Mike's: Thursday liturgies resume, pro-seminars once a month on Wednesdays via zoom, Kelly Cafe meetings resume in-person and online, tuition fee exemption discussion with Dean and grad director; new professor Keenan chair of

religious education Cynthia Cameron. Covid Emergency Grant is offered for the third time; there was also a library grant for students who had to buy books during pandemic

III. Trinity: Graham Library is reopened and open on weekends; the main building open and junior fellowship room is open, some limits, only 1 person in the room at a time; dining hall is limited capacity as well; concerns regarding safety of students because of COVID, no one is really checking vaccine status

IV. Regis: everything in-person, not really great when it comes to online options, the advanced degree committee at Regis filed a formal complaint about admissions deadline being moved from Dec. 1st to Jan 21st. Very unhappy

V. Emmanuel: Voss Roberts steps down from role as principle, new interim principle John Yonge, there is a principle search going on; students have brought a labour dispute to the administration about not being paid for TAships, if they're not paid then they aren't employees; if you opt out of the research fellowship you don't get \$6,000 of your funding but they legally can't do that with the funds

VI. Knox: N/A

- Patrick N. motions to accept college rep reports, Hannah S. seconds.
- **All approve. Motions carries.**

G. Area Representatives

I. Doctor of Ministry:

- The program is up in the air for revision; it looks like it might go in the direction of streams (i.e., chaplaincy, prisons, schools)
- Will a stream theme diminish the number of people? No one is being told to focus in one area or the other
- One positive change might be having students meet on a monthly basis with the director of a particular stream, what

professors have experience with qualitative research and what areas are they strong in; the strengths of every professor will be listed and whether they are able to take on DMin students

- **Important:** What profs can support DMin students, this has often been an issue; regarded as a second-third class degree; finding people to teach courses is also difficult
- TST has been asking students what they would like to see change in the program — students experience is important when it comes to revising the program; there seems to be a listening problem at TST
- Patrick N. motions to accept DMin report, Gustave I. seconds.
- **All approve. Motions carries.**

H. Non-Voting Representatives

I. Communications

II. Library Representative

4. Events/Workshops

- What are we thinking for events/workshops? Any ideas?

5. Questions/Concerns/New Business?

- **Meeting dates:** Does Wednesday's from 3-5pm work for everyone?

Adjourn 12:05pm

Respectfully submitted by Mia Theocharis