

TGSA Board Meeting
Friday, December 10, 2021 @ 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Via Zoom

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

Regrets: Maureen Ononiwu, Deborah Ko

1. Prayer/Territorial Acknowledgment

- Hannah S. offers prayer; and Mia T. territorial acknowledgment.

2. Approval of Agenda and Meeting Minutes from November 17, 2021

- David K. motions to accept the agenda and meeting minutes, Gustave I. seconds.
- **All approve. Motions carries.**

3. Reports

A. President

1. Referendum

- I looked at the USTU Executive Board for reference in regards to Hannah F.'s point about having an uneven #. The UTSU exec board has six members. Our executive does not vote without the entire Board. Adding another position to the exec won't change that.
- Total positions available in the current constitution: 19
- Total positions available in the proposed constitutional change: 17
- But usually the board is around 9-13 people because executives often represent their own college. It's difficult to find 17 students willing to be on the board.
- **Motion:** To accept the proposed changes to the constitution that will be voted on for the Referendum. (The changes include: Adding a VP Communications position to the exec + 2 at large positions; and removing the area rep positions as they no longer reflect the current conjoint PhD).
 - David K. motions to accept, Hannah S. seconds.
 - **All approve. Motion carries.**

2. Transferable Skills and Alternative Academic Careers

- Workshop sometime at the end of January; I'm meeting with Mary McAuliffe from Career Exploration and Education to discuss the workshop (i.e., what we want included).
 - Are there any suggestions?
 - Nathan W.: More about publishing (+editing and proofreading)
 - Work with non-profits more generally
 - David K.: Academic administration (in churches and nonprofits as well); possibly theological advisors/consulting — bishops in need of ghost writes for things like conferences and synods
 - 3. Meeting with Pam
 - I met with Pam last week to let her know our decision to hold off on the referendum (it came up on her end because of the MoA with U of T).
 - She is all good and understands our reservations with respects to receiving the necessary votes!
 - 4. Search Committee for Executive Director
 - We are underway; currently trying to make the position more desirable/attractive and the committee is brainstorming ways to do so
 - Next meeting is Tuesday, December 14th.
- * Patrick N. motions to accept the President's report. Hannah S. seconds.
- * **All approve. Motion carries.**

B. VP Academic

- Admissions cycle dates, GCTS confident for decision to get to students by the 18th of Feb; discussion of future admission cycles and what that will look like
- Funding committee being set up to address those issues flagged in the UTQAP report:
 - Mia T.: I'm sitting on the committee and doing work for TST collecting data. Also, current student Adam Chebahtah will be joining the committee alongside me as the student reps. No meeting has been set yet, more to come.
 - David K.: DMin students unable to collect OSAP because they are not considered full-time. How do students who are not funded by outside sources make it through?

- Nathan W.: A possible solution to the issue of funding is maybe fewer grad students, fewer PhD students. This is an ethical issues. How many students do supervisors have? We need to support students well.
 - David K.: It's a business, raising more money, going out and getting donors.
- * Morgan B. motions to accept the VP Academic's report. Vincent Y. seconds.
- * **All approve. Motion carries.**
- C. VP External*
- Nothing new to report. Working towards getting referendum process going.
- * Hannah S. motions to accept VP External's report. Hannah F. seconds.
- * **All approve. Motion carries.**
- D. VP Conference*
- Nothing new to report. Will have more to discuss when planning begins in 2022.
- * Morgan B. motions to accept VP Conference's report. David K. seconds.
- * **All approve. Motion carries.**
- E. Treasurer*
- No response from GCTS regarding the Conference Awards yet. Will reach out in the New Year.
- * Patrick N. motions to accept Treasurer's report. Vincent Y. seconds.
- * **All approve. Motion carries.**
- F. College Representatives*
- I. Wycliffe: A lot of things going back in person; chapel through zoom.
 - II. St. Mike's: First pro-seminar this month; difficulty getting people in the chapel; Christmas dinner hosted for faculty, students, staff and anyone who could attend.
 - III. Trinity: Not much new; Graham Library is extending their hours for December.
 - IV. Regis: More things going back in person; Wednesday liturgies; an "unstudy" space for students to unwind has been created.
 - V. Emmanuel: Slated to go back entirely in-person; Principle search on-going, promising candidates; Labour dispute with the administration still going on; grad funding for Emmanuel students from Victoria University will be available for future students.

VI. Knox (*Report sent via email*): Not much to report; gatherings (zoom) for the weekly worship services and 2 community lunches with colleagues in December. The communication between the college and the students have been made through emails.

* Hannah F. motions to accept College Rep reports. Gustave I. seconds.

* **All approve. Motion carries.**

G. Area Representatives

I. Doctor of Ministry: Revamping of the DMin program still on-going, no decisions have been made.

* Patrick N. motions to accept Area Rep reports. Morgan B. seconds.

* **All approve. Motion carries.**

H. Non-Voting Representatives

I. Communications: N/A

II. Library Representative: A decline in books that students were taking out from the library, COVID is bound to change that as we move forward. People are more apt to online materials. The committee is trying to figure out what types of media expansion they should do/what should they acquire in terms of online vs. hard copy books.

4. Events/Workshops

- **January** — workshop with Mary McAuliffe from *Career Exploration and Education* about transferable skills and alternative academic careers
- **February** — panel discussion with a Queer theologian, theologian of colour, a female theologian who can talk about navigating the academy (Morgan Bell to take lead)
 - Patrick N: Possibility of building this into the conference theme?
- **March?**
- **April?**

5. Questions/Concerns/New Business?

- **Next meeting date:** Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 3:00-5:00pm?

Motion to Adjourn 11:30am

Respectfully submitted by Mia Theocharis, President
December 16, 2021