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2023

TORONTO SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, May 16th

4:00pm-5:00pm

via Zoom

link in email

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

When I accepted the presidency last year, the TGSA board and I were eager to resume in-person events and gatherings with you all. As we continue to move towards a new normal, we have discovered the ease and flexibility Zoom offers for TGSA meetings and workshops. At the same time, questions and concerns brought on by the lack of in-person events continue to emerge.

At the beginning of the year, we hosted our (pre-Covid) annual pizza social gathering on the Wycliffe Lawn, as well as our SSHRC Grant Writing Workshop hosted virtually on Zoom. At the conclusion of the Fall term, we hosted an inperson study hall during finals. We were happy to be able to resume events in the TST building and grateful for its return to shared community space.

With the goal of offering more opportunities for fellowship, particularly for students in the research phase of their programs, TGSA instituted a new monthly program, Cohort Cohesion, for friendship and conversation to be enjoyed over caffeine and snacks. Given our robust budget acquired during the pandemic, and the ability for students to return to in-person conferences, we were able to increase our TGSA Conference support by offering more funding per award this Winter semester and by extending the coverage of TGSA Conference Awards through an additional three awards offered for summer conferences.



As the need for student fellowship through in-person events and programs remains at the center of TGSA's work and our ability to effectively relay and advocate on behalf of your concerns, and life has taken me farther from Toronto, it no longer makes sense for me to continue as TGSA president. I am immensely grateful to my fellow TGSA Board members for their commitment to student concerns and interest and to TST for their continued advocacy for the graduate students.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Student fee rates remained the same from Winter 2022, at \$9.50 for the Fall/Winter Semesters for full-time students and \$4.75 for part-time students.

The conference awards for the 2023 Winter season were temporarily increased from the usual \$325.00 per award to \$540.00 for three awards, for the duration of the Winter term only. This decision was made with the intent to distribute the funds left over from two awards that were left over from the Fall season.

There were none of the usual costs associated with the annual TGSA conference, as there was no VP of Conferences until too late in the academic year. Other costs were associated with food for social events, such as the fall lunch, the Dec. 5th study social, and the Monthly Cohort Cohesion gatherings which began in the Winter term.

WELCOME TO OUR INCOMING BOARD MEMBERS

VP Academic – Christine Way Skinner

VP External — Susan McElcheran

Thank you for your nominations! The new board will be ratified on May 23, 2023.