

**TGSA Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, Dec 12, 2023 @ 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm**  
**Via Zoom**  
**Minutes**

Present: Maureen O., Bohdan H., Susan M., Christian C-S., Marina G., Rosemary B., Sileen P., Li-Wei L., Matteo C., Hyelim Y..

Regrets: Christine S. Sam A., Matthew F.

1. **Prayer/Territorial Acknowledgment.** A prayer was offered by Sileen, following which Maureen read the Territorial Acknowledgement.
2. **Approval of Agenda and November 12, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Moved by Sileen /Seconded by Susan to approve the agenda and accept the minutes of the November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Passed

3. **Reports**

- A. *President*

- i. Board Membership:
  - a. Ratification of Matteo Carboni as VP Communications and Library Rep. Moved by Sileen and seconded by Susan to ratify Matteo as VP Communications and Library Rep. Passed.
  - b. Ratification of HyeLim Yoon as Emmanuel College Rep. Moved by Marina seconded by Rosemary to approve Hyelim as Emmanuel College Rep. Passed.
- ii. TST Board of Trustees Meeting. Maureen reported that not much information was given regarding the restructuring of academic degrees, and the student letter regarding the Israel Gaza war was referenced, noting that this letter was drafted and sent independently, not under the aegis of TST or TGSA. Maureen also noted that a memorandum of affiliation between the TST and the Institute for Christian Studies, NAIITS and the Conrad Grebel institute in Waterloo has been signed.
- iii. Call for Papers Hub. Maureen initiated a call for papers hub on the TGSA web-site, and invited anyone who wished to circulate a call for papers which might be of interest to TST students to forward them to either Matteo or Maureen for posting on this hub.

- iv. End of Semester Finance Report. Maureen had circulated the financial report in advance of the meeting. She reviewed it and there were no questions.

Moved by Susan/Seconded by Rosemary to accept the president's report. Passed

*B. VP Academic*

- i. Academic Council.
- ii. Graduate Studies Council

Christine forwarded a written report, noting that the following items were discussed at the most recent Graduate Studies Council Meeting

**Research Language:** Discussions are taking place regarding changes to the biblical languages requirements.

**Awards:** There was an acknowledgement about how difficult the adjudication process for SSHRC was this fall due to the complications of the SSHRC website being inaccessible. The names of three doctoral students have been forwarded to Ottawa. As well, it was noted that four TGSA travel awards were granted.

**AAR-SBL:** 45 students (23 faculty, 22 students) presented at the AAR-SBL this year. It was noted that we need to standardize nomenclature for conferences such as these (i.e. TST, colleges, etc.) for the purposes of being noted for international rankings. When students ask a question at conferences, it is important for them to stand up and identify which college they are from.

**Admissions:** As of November, 2 students have been admitted into the M.A. program for Fall 2024, 3 into the PhD and 7 into the ThM. There are also a number of admissions in progress and incomplete.

**Course Assessments:** The GTS is considering the manner in which course evaluations are held and used to the end of making them more effective for quality assurance as well as quality improvement.

**ADGP:** The Associate Director of Graduate Programs (M. Attridge) noted that he will be on sabbatical from January to June 2024 but will monitor e-mails. John Sampson will step in and Darren Dias when needed.

*C. VP External*

- i. U of T amenities that are available to TST graduate students (Student Life amenities and fees; UTSU versus GSU). Susan presented a detailed report of the various amenities via power point, which are attached to these minutes.

Following discussion Maureen thanked Susan for her excellent report and it was decided that Susan's information will be shared with the TST student body.

Maureen asked whether the members of the executive would like to move forward with determining whether it would be desirable to have access to all the UTSU student services. The consensus was that it would be good to proceed forward with the goal of determining the exact details of how this would work, the cost, the effect this might have on college fees, and ultimately to determine whether it would make sense to go forward with a referendum.

Moved by Marina, seconded by Sileen to approve Susan's report.  
Passed.

#### *D. VP Conference*

- i. Call for papers. Li-Wei presented the minutes from the committee's meeting (attached to these minutes). It was decided that the conference will take place in person with no hybrid component. As to a keynote speaker, Mary Jo Leddi and Jack Costello were also suggested as candidates. Maureen asked that everyone submit their preferences for the keynote speaker by e-mail within the next week.

Moved by Susan, seconded by HyeLim to approve Li-Wei's report.  
Passed.

#### *E. VP Communications / Library:*

##### Library Committee:

- i. The library committee would like TGSA to organize a poster fair for doctoral students to show off our research. This would be held annually after the Agape Service. TST will give us a hand. The thinking is that it will be good practice for conferences and talking about research concisely.
- ii. For training sessions run by librarians, the library committee would like to know what would be helpful for AD students. There is talk of doing a training session on using Zotero and navigating the library search system.

#### *F. College Representatives*

- i. Emmanuel – no report.
- ii. Knox – no report

- iii. St. Mike's – Rosemary reported that cooperation with Regis is going well, the faculty is working at merging some of the programs with Regis, mourning the loss of a former dean who just passed away, and are still searching for a patristics professor.
- iv. Trinity – Marina reported that she has been looking into the possibility of colleges providing services which are not covered by student life.
- v. Wycliffe – Christian reported that everything has closed down for Christmas break, interviews are continuing for a new professor for Global Christianity, TA positions are being filled for the next semester, with uneven results.

Moved by Marina/Seconded by Susan to accept the College Representatives reports. Passed

*G. Program Reps*

- i. DMin Rep – no report at this time. Sileen is attempting to gather more information.
- ii. MA Rep – no report.

Moved by Rosemary/Seconded by Susan to accept the Program Rep reports. Passed

**4. Events/Workshops**

- A. Reminder – Christmas Cohort Cohesion Cookie Exchange this Thursday. Bohdan will not be able to be present due to a family function, several of our other executive members kindly offered to help organize this event on Thursday.
- B. Ideas for proposed Proposal and Prospectus workshops in February.
- C. Other workshop ideas?

Susan suggested that we might organize workshops on publishing as well as career development. These will be discussed at our next meeting.

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

None.

- 6. **Date of next meeting?** It was agreed that we will continue to meet on the second Tuesday of each month.

Moved by Rosemary, seconded by Susan to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 2:26 PM.

Minutes prepared by Bohdan Hladio