

TGSA Board Meeting
Thursday, November 7, 2024 @ 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm
Via Zoom

Minutes

Present: Maureen O., Christian C-S., Bohdan H., Hyelim Y., Sileen P., Matteo C., Marina G., Noah M.

Regrets: Christine W.S., David R., Susan M.

- 1. Prayer/Territorial Acknowledgement.** The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Sileen at PM, following which Maureen read the territorial acknowledgement.
- 2. Approval of Agenda and October 17, 2024, Meeting Minutes.** Moved by Sileen, seconded by HyeLim to approve the agenda and the October 17th meeting minutes as presented. Passed.

3. Reports

A. President

- i. Follow-up on accessibility response. Maureen reported that the letter was sent to the TST administration as per the decision made at our last meeting. No response has been received to date. If no response is received by mid-November we will send a follow-up letter.
- ii. Maureen also referred to the call-for-paper hub and asked that we strive to update the hub and forward any calls-for-papers which we might individually be aware of for posting. Susan had asked by e-mail if there has been a general email reminder about this sent out lately to all TST students?

A. Treasurer / Student Financial Aid Committee. No report.

B. VP Academic. No report.

- i. Follow-up on Language Exam Issue. Maureen reported that the issue we had discussed last month has been addressed by way of a letter which was drafted by Matteo and sent to the TST. Dr. Attridge has responded that our suggestions have been recognized and will be taken into account going forward.

C. VP External. No report

D. VP Conference. Jasmine reported that

- a) we would like to schedule the conference for Saturday, May 3rd,
- b) we would like to hold the event at the Charbonell lounge, the same location as last year, Jasmine will reach out to Susan to determine availability and cost.
- c) The proposed topic would be “Theology and Conflict,” which would be accessible to a broad range of students and theological disciplines,
- d) As a keynote speaker Chris Brittain’s name was proposed. Matteo will follow-up with other possibilities from the Prophecy and Trauma group he is familiar with.

E. VP Communications / Library

- i. November Newsletter. Matteo reported that he had drafted the letters to the TST regarding the languages and accessibility issues brought up at last month’s meeting. He reported that he is not getting much material for inclusion in the newsletter and asked that we submit material to him in a timely fashion for inclusion. Ultimately if no material is coming in the frequency of the publication will have to be limited. Maureen asked that the college reps strive to always forward information regarding events and activities happening at their own colleges to Matteo.

Moved by HyeLim seconded by Marina to approve the executive reports. Passed.

F. College Representatives

- i. *Emmanuel.* HyeLim reported that a pizza gathering and meeting took place yesterday with the students which was very helpful and positive. She also reported that Heather Morgan has stepped in as the Graduate Student liaison for Emmanuel.
- ii. *Knox.* Sileen reported that on 5 November Knox celebrated 108 years of activity. There is an ongoing effort to try to get students to participate in this 108-year celebration by posting selfies. Chapel services continue to be held on Tuesdays at 1:15 PM. Nominations for the honorary doctorate degree are due on December 15th.
- iii. *St. Mikes.* Susan reported that the Sheptytsky Institute at St Mike's is holding a Jesus Prayer33 Challenge. It's a group of people gathered to commit to praying the Jesus Prayer 33 times/day for a set length of time. The Jesus Prayer is also called the Prayer of the Heart, made known in the book *The Way of the Pilgrim*. It is a short prayer

designed to be repeated on the breath, to move from the head to the heart and body. Anyone is welcome. It just began yesterday, and they are open to people joining throughout the process. Susan has joined and reports it is a very welcoming group.

- iv. *Regis*. Noah reported that all is well; the 2024 chancellor's lecture is coming up in two weeks and Noah will share the details with us.
- v. *Trinity*. Marina reported that she tried to e-mail Trinity about accessibility issues and emergency plans. She has not yet received a response. She also noted job opportunities, activities, and lectures which have been posted or are upcoming.
- vi. *Wycliffe*. Christian reported that at the end of October there was a meet and greet with the three finalists for the Principal position; that several successful conferences were held at the end of October and beginning of November; and that Wycliffe will be transitioning to the traditional language of the Book of Common Prayer for the chapel services.

Moved by Jasmine seconded by Sileen to approve the college rep reports. Passed.

G. Program Reps

- i. *DMin Rep*. Sileen reported that nothing is new from the TST other than the announcement of the Trudeau Foundation Scholarship. The guidelines indicate that it is for doctoral students and is valued at \$50,000 per year for three years. All information can be found at the web-site trudeaufoundation.ca. She also reported that the Anglican Foundation of Canada is also offering scholarships for DMin students.

Moved by Matteo seconded by HyeLim to approve the program rep reports. Passed.

4. Events/Workshops

- A. *Mental Health for Scholars workshop*. Maureen reported that it is not possible to hold this workshop this semester. She is waiting for confirmation from Dr. Yang and will follow-up. If any executive members have any suggestions for workshop leaders please let Maureen know. If we cannot find a leader from the TST community Maureen will reach out to the U of T wellness centre. Sileen has offered to speak to Angela Schmidt or Glen McCollough as well.

- B. *Santa Claus Parade Viewing.* The TST has asked if TGSA would be willing to host this event on November 24th. So far we have two volunteers, anyone else who is able to help is asked to let Maureen know.
- C. *Doctoral Poster Presentation Event.* This is sponsored by the library committee. Anyone who is interested in participating is asked to let Maureen or Matteo know. This event will take place in association with the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.
- D. *End of Year / Christmas Event.* This will take place during our TheoSocial in December. It will be a Christmas Cookie exchange, the same as last year. Sileen suggested that we include wreath-making be included as an activity, which was supported by the other executive members. It was decided to combine both the cookie exchange and wreath-making activity, which will be held on the regular day, December 12th, from 1:30 till 3:30 PM at the TST building.
- E. *Proposal / Prospectus Workshop* In the absence of Susan and Christine we could not discuss much, but we hope to continue offering this. We will discuss this at our December meeting. In her e-mail prior to the meeting Susan had suggested that we think about planning a workshop for Academic CV-writing. We would need to start planning now.

Moved by Marina seconded by Matteo to approve the events/workshops reports. Passed.

5. Questions/Concerns/New Business?

Our next meeting will be on December 5th.

Motion by HyeLim to adjourn, meeting was adjourned at 1:27 PM.

Minutes prepared by Bohdan Hladio