

**TGSA Board Meeting**  
**Thursday, December 5, 2024 @ 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm**  
**Via Zoom**  
**Minutes**

**Present:** Maureen O., Bohdan H., Jasmine W., David R., Susan M., Marina G.,  
Christine W-S., Matteo C.,

**Regrets:** Christian C-S., Hyelim Y., Sileen P., Noah M.

**1. Prayer/Territorial Acknowledgment.** The meeting was opened with a prayer led by David, at 12:10 PM, following which Maureen read the territorial acknowledgement.

**2. Approval of Agenda and November 7, 2024, Meeting Minutes.** Moved by Marina, seconded by Christine to approve the agenda and the November 7th meeting minutes as presented. Passed.

**3. Reports**

*A. President*

- i. TGSA Conference Awards policy. There was only one applicant for the Fall awards. After discussion it was suggested that we change the policy to reflect the following, a) that we not require a financial needs assessment in order to apply, with the proviso that if there are large number of applicants in any given year we would then require the financial needs assessment and b) that each applicant may only receive a reward once within any 12 month period, rather than the current 24 month rule.

MOTION: Moved by David, and seconded by Christine, that a) that we do not require a financial needs assessment in order to apply, with the proviso that if there are large number of applicants in any given year we would then require the financial needs assessment and b) that each applicant may only receive a reward once within any 12 month period. Passed.

- ii. End of semester summation. Maureen expressed her gratitude that all has gone well this semester, and David reported that we are in a very good financial position.
- iii. We have not heard back from the TST regarding our request to be informed about the accessibility audit which has been/is being planned. Maureen will follow up with a short reminder. She will also follow up with the TGSA college reps to determine if anything is being done on a college level. The importance of the theological basis for our concern was and should continue to be emphasized.

*B. Treasurer / Student Financial Aid Committee*

- i. Student funding. The follow-up meeting of the committee including the director of TST plus the heads of the colleges and David as the student representative in order to deal with the recommendation that the TST increase its funding towards students which was to have taken place has not yet taken place, it is scheduled to take place in January or February.

When David does attend the meeting, he will be suggesting that there be no hold back by the colleges when one of their students receives an OGS scholarship.

*C. VP Academic*

Christine reported that in regard to language exams, the TST will no longer charge a fee for language exams and will no longer be offering language courses. Going forward the TST will require language exams for all students for every language.

The U of T has increased their student support to \$40,000 per year, which results in a large discrepancy between the funding level between the U of T and the TST.

Christine also noted that John Sampson will be leaving his position with the TST to take up an academic position in the USA.

*D. VP External*

Susan related the history of the issue regarding the question of TST students opting in individually to the various programs/opportunities available to UTSU students. Jasmine asked about the possibility of being added to one of the categories which already exist for Hart House access, Susan reported that she would ask about this. Susan will also forward the updated Power Point and PDF presentations which she prepared last year.

Callie Callon will be offering a Louisville grant writing workshop in January, her presentations are excellent, and it was agreed that when and if possible TGSA should try to coordinate with and publicize her presentation(s) so it could be available to our student body.

*E. VP Conference*

- i. Call for Papers. Jasmine reported that the call for papers has been prepared and will be circulated.

There is a problem re: location in that St. Michael's Charbonnel lounge is booked. Jasmine will inquire to see if Seeley Hall at Trinity might be available.

In regard to the keynote speaker, Maureen suggested that going forward we TGSA strives to invite keynote speakers from various denominational backgrounds.

Matteo has included the call for papers in the latest TGSA newsletter and is preparing the conference poster.

#### *F. VP Communications / Library*

- i. Newsletter. The latest newsletter included information about the spring conference and the Research Poster Display which will take place in January. As per our earlier decision the newsletter will be coming out every two months. Several suggestions regarding what might also be included in the newsletter were raised, such as a “funny pages,” notifications about students who will be or have defended their dissertations, etc. All executive members are very impressed and happy with the excellent job Matteo has done with the newsletter.
- ii. Library Committee. Matteo reported that he was not able to attend the last committee meeting, but they are working on the research poster showcase which will take place from January 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> 2025, it will be held at Knox, due to space limitations it is limited to PhD students who have completed their exams. Communication will be going out very soon.

Moved by Marina, seconded by Susan to approve the executive reports. Passed.

#### *G. College Representatives*

- i. *Emmanuel*. No report.
- ii. *Knox*. No report.
- iii. *St. Mikes*. Susan reported that social activities including a nature walk, pumpkin carving, and a destressing workshop have taken place, as well as a memorial service in November, all together with the Regis students.
- iv. *Regis*.

- v. *Trinity*. Marina reported that the divinity class is attempting to set up a student retreat; she also followed up in regard to the accessibility issue, but has yet to receive a response.
- vi. *Wycliffe*

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

#### H. Program Reps

- i. *DMin Rep*. No report.

### 4. Events/Workshops

- A. *Mental Health for Scholars workshop*. Maureen reported that she has not had any positive responses from her contacts, so it appears this might have to become a student led workshop. David offered that if this is the case he would be happy to help lead such a workshop.
- B. *Doctoral Poster Presentation Event*. Matteo offered about this above.
- C. *End of Year / Christmas Event*. We will limit this to a cookie exchange like last year. Maureen will send out the poster.
- D. *Proposal / Prospectus Workshop*. Christine reported that Dr. Attridge has volunteered to lead this. Tentatively it will take place at the Kelly Library in February, perhaps March, date TBD.

Susan also suggested that we have an academic CV writing workshop. Maureen noted that this can be organized in cooperation with the U of T, and will follow through

Moved by Christine seconded by Susan to approve the events/workshops reports. Passed.

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

### 6. Next Semester meeting date/time?

Maureen will send a doodle poll to determine which day/time will work best coming next semester.

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

Minutes prepared by Bohdan Hladio