

**TGSA Board Meeting**  
**Thursday March 20, 2025 @ 11:00am – 12:30pm**  
**Via Zoom**  
**Minutes**

**Present:** Maureen O., Christian C-S., Marina G., Hye-lim Y., Christine W-S., Bohdan H., Sileen P., Matteo C., Susan M., David R.

**Regrets:** Jasmine W., Noah M.

- 1. Prayer/Territorial Acknowledgment.** The meeting was opened at 11:09 AM. Maureen led the prayer and read the territorial acknowledgement.
- 2. Approval of Agenda and February 25, 2025, Meeting Minutes.** Moved by Christine and seconded by Marina to approve the agenda and the February 25th meeting minutes with the addition of Marina as seconder to the motion in agenda item 3a. Passed.

**3. Reports**

*A. President*

- i. **2025 Elections / Nominations.** Maureen volunteered to serve as CRO for the upcoming elections. The nomination period will be tentatively from April 1<sup>st</sup> till April 18<sup>th</sup>. Call for Nominations will be sent via the listserv as well as posted on TGSA website and social media. She invited any current board members interested in serving in a different capacity to let her know. Motion to approve Maureen as the CRO made by Marina, seconded by Christine. Passed.
- ii. **Conference Awards.** The conference awards are open for application. Following Maureen's contact with the TST office the TGSA policy changes were incorporated into the conference award announcement.
- iii. **Highlights from the TST Board of Trustees Meeting relating to TGSA**  
  
Enrolment: Maureen highlighted that enrollment remains a challenge for the TST, targets are not being met and consequently the TST is receiving less in terms of government grants. Likewise, the recent change to government policies in regard to international students is having a negative impact on enrollment as well.  
DMin Program: There is a move to develop the DMin program into a professional doctorate.  
Conference: The TST hopes to host annual conferences, to showcase what the institution has to offer. An Ethnography and Ecclesiology conference organized by Dr. Wigg-Stevenson. is scheduled to be held from May 8<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup>.

Congress, the meeting of Canadian academics, is happening in Toronto this year at George Brown College. TST is hosting a reception on June 3rd at the TST building for participants in the CTS conference, which is part of Congress.

Language Course: The TST has traditionally offered two language courses – French and German to enable students meet language requirements. It is unlikely that the TST will offer these courses going forward because they no longer meet the diverse language needs of students and enrolment has been low. Dr. Attridge is looking into other models for language courses.

Sileen noted they had talked about language requirements at the last Council meeting and the issue identified was language requirements not aligning with efforts to decolonize theology. Maureen said that one of the options being considered by the TST is to adopt a language course model like that of the U of T.

Ecumenism: An “ecumenist in residence” program is being explored by TST, a non-funded appointment. The goal is to promote ecumenism within the TST.

Toronto Journal of Theology: There is a move towards succession planning as Dr. Khan plans on retiring from his long-term role as Editor-in-Chief. An assistant editor will shadow Dr. Khan with the goal of taking over from him when he retires.

*B. Treasurer / Student Financial Aid Committee*

- i. David reported that he has been in contact with Jasmine regarding the rental for the location for the Conference; regarding the catering it was suggested that we have a better selection of food and refreshments. David will discuss this with Jasmine.
- ii. TGSA Fees. David reported regarding the incremental increase motion for fees which was made last year. The new rate would be \$20 per academic year for full-time students, \$10.26 for part-time students (basically 25 cent increase per semester).

Moved by David seconded by Christine to approve this increase. Passed.

- iii. David asked if he could send promotional material for the Wycliffe Biblical Colloquium to other members of the executive to be circulated to the other TST colleges. All agreed that this would be beneficial.

*C. VP Academic.* No report.

*D. VP External.* There is a turnover in personnel of the professional faculties of the U of T, Susan will endeavour to make contact with the new representative.

*E. VP Conference*

- i. Proposal submissions. Jasmine reported that we received 14 proposals for the spring conference. We have accepted 12 of them. The 2 we declined do not meet our eligibility requirements, as outlined on the Call for Papers. The location for the conference will be at Loretto College (St. Mike's). We will be meeting as a committee again in April in order to organize the schedule for the day and set a registration form. If you're available to help in a small part on the day of the conference, please send me an email. There are a handful of tasks that would be great to have folks help with (registration at the start of the day, helping monitor the Owl/virtual presentation software for a portion of the day, etc.), if interested. And if you'd rather not be involved in that way, please do plan to attend the conference! That is a form of helping in its own right.

Maureen emphasized the need to have good and nutritious food and snacks.

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

- i. Newsletter. Matteo reported that he has been very busy preparing for exams and so the newsletter has not gone out yet, and he does not have the bandwidth to prepare a newsletter in the short term but will post up all information to social media.
- ii. Library Committee. Nothing to report.

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

#### *G. College Representatives*

- i. Emmanuel. HyeLim reported that a conjoint Victoria/Emmanuel College dinner went well.
- ii. Knox. Sileen's report regarding scholarships available is attached.
- iii. St. Mikes. Susan reported that the student life committee is working with the Regis students association in order to compose a joint constitution, the process is going well. A successful "cultural food" event was held after Liturgy, and a commissioning service will be held in a couple of weeks. Seminars for AD students to present their research are being held as well.

Such AD seminars are held at other colleges more or less frequently, and the idea of holding such seminars was very positively received by all members of the TGSA executive.

- iv. Regis. No report

- v. Trinity. Marina reported that Trinity is doing a disability and mental-health needs assessment; summer courses are being offered.
- vi. Wycliffe. Christian reported that a lecture on Christian Ethics will be offered tomorrow and next week the Jacob Jocz lecture will be offered. In May the scripture colloquium will be held. The Wycliffe Graduate Society is currently looking for a new co-coordinator.

Maureen also asked that we bring closure to the accessibility issue, hopefully by next month the college representatives will be able to offer an update of where the various colleges stand.

Moved by Christine seconded by Marina to approve the college rep reports. Passed.

#### *H. Program Reps*

- i. DMin Rep. Sileen's report as well as a scholarship document are attached to these minutes.

Moved by Marina, Seconded by Matteo to approve the program rep report.

#### **4. Events/Workshops**

- A. *TheoSocials*. The March event was not held. We will endeavour to hold the final TheoSocial on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Bohdan and Marina will be in contact regarding this.
- B. *Mental Health for Scholars workshop*. This event was cancelled due to the illness of the presenter. It was agreed that this event should be postponed till the autumn.
- C. *Resume and LinkedIn Profile Building Workshop ((U of T Career Exploration and Education Centre)*. This event will be taking place next week as planned.
- D. *Annual General Meeting*: The AGM will be held sometime at the end of April or the beginning of May. Maureen is tentatively looking at the last week of April. She would also like to have an end-of-year event. It was agreed that the best and easiest event would be at a pub/restaurant with a private room. Maureen will search for an appropriate location.

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

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

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

The next meeting will be held in early April – Maureen will send a doodle poll, we are hoping to have full attendance as this will be the last meeting of the semester.

Adjournment was moved by Christine. Meeting was adjourned at 12:23 PM.

Minutes prepared by Bohdan Hladio