

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 08, 2016

Students' Union Building

1) Meeting Called to Order

4:00PM

PRESENT

Melissa Gordon	President
Amber Storvold	Vice President External
Eric Rankin	Vice President Internal
Sonya Charley	Aboriginal Representative
Julian Simpson	LGBTQ Representative
Noel Braganza	Director-at-Large
Mwansa Kaunda	Director-at-Large
Cameron Staff	Director-at-Large

REGRETS

Ryan Makar	Vice President Finance
Dana Prymak	International Students' Representative

ABSENT

Paige Bernard	Women's Representative
Rami Alzahrani	Graduate Students' Representative
Abdullah Alosaiwan	Director-at-Large

STAFF

Nathan Lane	Executive Director
Alex McLellan	Research and Governance Coordinator
Natalie Reisle	Membership Development Coordinator
Abbey McAuley	Services Coordinator
Dylan Robinson	Equity Coordinator

2) Approval of the Agenda

2.1) MOTION
CHARLEY/STAFF

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors adopt the agenda as presented
CARRIED

3) Approval of the Minutes

3.1) MOTION
STORVOLD/RANKIN

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors adopt the minutes from the February 23, 2016, Board of Directors meeting
CARRIED

4) Correspondence

FOR ACTION

FOR INFORMATION

Conference Grant Report – 2015-CG-069 – BC TEAL 2016 Regional Island Conference at ICA Victoria Conference

General Event Grant Report – 2015-GE-021 – TRU Political Science Mixer

Educational Event Grant Report – 2015-EE-005 – Keeping it Civil: Exploring Civil Liberties & the Charter in Canada

5) Presentations

TRUSU Grants Application #2015-CG-083 Association for Psychological Science 28th Annual Convention (Chris Wilson)

Wilson and another student presented the request for a grant to support the attendance of four students at the conference in Chicago on May 26-29. Three faculty members will accompany the student attendees as well. The annual conference is internationally recognized and a unique opportunity to learn about modern psychological research in a professional setting. Attendees are all planning on doing honours and graduate studies, and the conference will be an opportunity to meet with potential graduate supervisors. A bake sale fundraiser that took place today raised approximately \$170.

TRUSU Grants Application #2015-CG-084 Moving Trans* History Forward: Building Communities – Sharing Connections (Megan Fenkhuber)

Fenkhuber presented the request for a grant to support her attendance at the conference in Victoria on March 17-20. This will be the second time that University of Victoria has hosted this conference, and is unique in hosting a Chair in Transgender Studies and a transgender archive. TRU, on the other hand, does not offer any gender studies program. Fenkhuber has written several papers on the topic and will be presenting at the conference. She plans to attend the University of Victoria to complete a Masters in History, and this would be an opportunity to meet professors and explore the archive.

TRUSU Grants Application #2015-CG-085 Healthy Minds, Healthy Campuses (Katrina Boisclair)

Boisclair and Sarah Gillis presented the request for a grant to support their attendance at the conference in Vancouver on March 11-12. Both students volunteer with the Wellness Centre as part of the Student Wellness Ambassador Team to promote health and wellbeing. The conference will include both small and large group conversations and special speakers. It is an inclusive experience including yoga in the morning, Aboriginal perspectives, and policy discussions. The focus is on problem solving, and will allow the attendees to learn best practices from other universities.

TRUSU Grants Application #2015-CG-086 Canadian Parliamentary National Debate Championship 2016 (Eli Zbar)

Zbar presented the request for a grant to support the attendance of two students at the conference in Edmonton on March 18-20. Zbar recently returned from the last tournament, which went well although the TRU team missed the semi-final by one point. TRU is eligible to participate in the National Debate Championship where sixty teams from across Canada will compete for a trophy. This would be the first a TRU team represented at a national championship. Participation helps Zbar's legal studies and practice because the structure and requirements of a debate competition closely mirror those of legal proceedings.

TRUSU Grants Application #2015-CG-087 Canadian Psychological Association Conference (Anja Wieck)

Wieck presented the request for a grant to support the attendance of ten students at the conference in Victoria on June 09-11. The conference explores psychology from the Canadian perspective, which is a critical experience missing from many courses because most texts are Americanized and faculty are pressed to insert their own Canadian content.

TRUSU Grants Application #2015-FL-001 Writing Fiction and Memoir (Emily Dundas Oke)

Dundas Oke and Karen Hofmann, the faculty applicant, presented the request for a grant to support the lecture on March 17. The lecture will feature Michael V. Smith, a novelist, poet, performance artist, activist, and more. Smith is featured in a number of TRU creative writing courses. As a result, there is a built in audience, but the event will also be open to the broader community. Topics will include gay culture and identity, small communities, substance abuse, and the body. It will be an opportunity for students to meet a practicing writer.

TRUSU Grants Application #2015-GE-027 The Colour of Something: A Phenomenological Approach to Art Analysis (Emily Dundas Oke)

Dundas Oke presented the request for a grant to support the hosting of the event on March 14. The event will be an artist workshop and talk with Kristina Fiedrich, a TRU alumnae and Master of Applied Arts. It will be an opportunity to reap the benefits of her Masters research regarding a phenomenological critique of artwork. Most art critique is compositional or technical, and this workshop will provide a different approach. The grant would support an honorarium in accordance with the national standard set by the Canadian Artists' Representation.

6) Committee Progress Reports

Campaigns Committee

No report

Services Committee

No report

Entertainment Committee

No report

Equity Committee

Robinson reported that the committee has been focused on its two March events as set out in the Equity Plan: International Women's Day, and participation in TRU International Days.

For International Women's Day, which is today, the committee hosted an outreach table in Old Main on the issue of violence against women. The committee aimed to raise awareness about what gender violence is, how prevalent it is in our community, and how to take action against gender violence in our everyday lives. There was also an opportunity to participate in a photo pledge as part of the United Nation's #HeforShe campaign. In total, the committee interacted with a couple hundred campus community members and collected dozens of photo pledges, which met the outreach goals of the Equity Plan.

For International Days, the committee is hosting an International Beer Seminar and Tasting on March 16 from 6:00-9:00PM in the Grand Hall in order to enhance intercultural understanding by exploring the diversity of international beer cultures. Tickets are on sale at the Members Services Desk for \$20, which entitles participants to ten tastings of international and craft beers, paired appetizers, and seminars. Seminars will be led by local experts from Red Beard Café, and will include topics such as "Did the creation of beer make modern civilization possible?" There will also be a grand prize draw. Over 138 tickets have sold and they are limited. Logistics are in place and the event is expected to be a unique experience.

Policy Committee

Lane reported that the committee has recommended one policy for consideration by the Board of Directors in its agenda today, Operational Policy 35 (OP35): Equity Committee Terms of Reference.

As Board members may be aware, it is practice close to the end of a Board term to consider revisions to policy to reflect opportunities for improvement based on the experience of the current year.

Proposed revisions to the Equity Committee Terms of Reference include significant revision of the preamble to define a clear mandate to address structural and systematic oppressions; the addition of poverty as an equity issue to be addressed, particularly given its intersection with other oppressions; the addition of coalition work; and the addition of the potential development of campaigns to address equity issues.

Executive Committee

Lane reported that the committee has met twice since the last Board meeting.

The Executive determined to send a delegation to the Long Night Against Procrastination. That delegation attended and indicated that it was a successful event and worth the Union's continued support and participation.

The Executive determined to send a delegation to the Stick Games Tournament as part of TRU Aboriginal Awareness Week, but delegates were unable to attend due to illness and other extenuating circumstances.

Regarding building operations, there was a recent break in to the Students' Union Building. The Executive is reviewing existing security protocols and exploring potential new strategies to ensure the safety and security of both Union property and individuals who access the Students' Union Building.

7) Institutional Student Representation Reports

Student Caucus

McLellan reported that the Student Caucus met once, on February 24, since the last Board meeting. Members received reports and provided feedback on the projects laid out in the Student Caucus Plan. Importantly, members provided a roundtable update of their participation in TRU committees. Unfortunately, a common thread has continued in members experience in terms of infrequent and irregular meetings and poor document distribution and communication. There may be an opportunity to address this in a meaningful way as will be reported below.

The Student Caucus Steering Committee has met twice, on March 01 and 08, since the last Board meeting. The committee continues to effectively manage the Student Caucus projects and meetings.

There are four Student Caucus projects to report on: student representative recruitment and support, the Student Budget Consultation, student course evaluations, and parking.

On student representative recruitment and support, the Student Caucus has maintained a highly successful 95% occupancy rate of seats to which the Students' Union appoints. The Caucus has added a new member, E. Dundas Oke, who serves on the Arts Faculty Council. The Caucus has secured a new student position, to be filled shortly, on the Policy Subcommittee of the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee. This position will help address the Student Caucus Plan initiative to create coherent and transparent system of policy development and review at TRU. In terms of student representative support, the Caucus has been advocating for some time that the Senate Steering Committee complete its mandated review of Senate Committees. After not fulfilling this mandate for over nine years, this committee is finally set to do so. The Caucus will ensure that all Senate committee members, including students, have an opportunity to contribute to that review.

On the Student Budget Consultation, it was previously reported that the survey portion successfully received a greater number of responses than last year. That survey provided a comprehensive snapshot of students' opinions on the full breadth of experiences at TRU, leading to the identification of top priorities including: food service, Student Awards and Financial Support, study space, classrooms, and the Bookstore. The next stage serves to find out more about those priorities. This included a follow-up survey of all previous participants, which received 50 open-ended responses. Finally, it will conclude with the Student Budget Consultation Town Hall this Wednesday, March 09 at 12:30-2:00PM in the Alpine Room, Campus Activity Centre. Any Board member or student available at that time is encouraged to attend.

On student course evaluations, over six years of slow progress by TRU and two years of concerted effort by the Student Caucus are closer than ever to achieving a critical milestone. This semester will be the first in which all students have a change to evaluate each and every one of their courses. Student course evaluations will be accessed through each student's myTRU account and made available by each individual instructor between March 21 and the last day of classes. The Student Caucus will be promoting participation and receiving any concerns students have in the process. The Caucus anticipates there will be much more work to improve the process and will ensure that work is completed based on students' feedback.

On parking, the Parking Appeals and Advisory Committee held an extraordinary meeting over the Reading Break to specifically address the need to develop changes to recommend to the Vice President Administration and Finance in response to the Student Caucus proposal. The committee reached a general consensus on a new model of parking that holds promise in terms of affordable options, flexible options, and better use of space. The committee will meet next week to finalize a proposal and a final decision from the Vice President is expected by the end of the month.

- 8) **Canadian Federation of Students Report**
- 9) **Finance Report**
- 10) **Staff Report**
- 11) **Old Business**
- 12) **New Business**

- 12.1) MOTION – TRUSU GRANT
STORVOLD/BRAGANZA

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors fund TRUSU Grant Application #2015-CG-083 \$4,000.00 to attend the Association for Psychological Science 28th Annual Convention on May 26-29, 2016

CARRIED

- 12.2) MOTION – TRUSU GRANT
SIMPSON/STORVOLD
Be it resolved that the Board of Directors fund TRUSU Grant Application #2015-CG-084 \$333.00 to attend the Moving Trans* History Forward: Building Communities – Sharing Connections Conference March 17-20, 2016
CARRIED
- 12.3) MOTION – TRUSU GRANT
KAUNDA/STAFF
Be it resolved that the Board of Directors fund TRUSU Grant Application #2015-CG-085 \$650.00 to attend the Healthy Minds, Healthy Campus Conference on March 11-12, 2016
CARRIED
- 12.4) MOTION – TRUSU GRANT
STAFF/CHARLEY
Be it resolved that the Board of Directors fund TRUSU Grant Application #2015-CG-086 \$1,400.00 to attend the Canadian Parliamentary National Debate Championship 2016 on March 18-20, 2016
DEFEATED
- 12.5) MOTION – TRUSU GRANT
BRAGANZA/SIMPSON
Be it resolved that the Board of Directors fund TRUSU Grant Application #2015-CG-087 \$5,000.00 to attend the Canadian Psychological Association Conference on June 09-11, 2016
CARRIED
- 12.6) MOTION – TRUSU GRANT
STAFF/KAUNDA
Be it resolved that the Board of Directors fund TRUSU Grant Application #2015-FL-001 \$350.00 to host the Writing Fiction and Memoir Faculty Lecture on March 17, 2016
CARRIED
- 12.7) MOTION – TRUSU GRANT
SIMPSON/KAUNDA
Be it resolved that the Board of Directors fund TRUSU Grant Application #2015-GE-027 \$300.93 to host The Colour of Something: A Phenomenological Approach to Art Analysis on March 14, 2016
CARRIED
- 12.8) MOTION – OPERATIONAL POLICY 35 (OP-35) EQUITY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE
BRAGANZA/STORVOLD
Be it resolved that the Board of Directors adopt Operational Policy 35 (OP-35) Equity Committee Terms of Reference as presented
CARRIED

12.9) MOTION – COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT
CHARLEY/BRAGANZA

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors appoint Cameron Staff to the 2015-2016 Electoral Committee

CARRIED

12.10) MOTION – HONORARIA REPORT
SIMPSON/BRAGANZA

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors receive the Honoraria Report for the period of February 11-24, 2016

CARRIED

13) Meeting Time

Tuesday, March 22, 2016 – 4:00PM

14) Notices of Motion

15) In Camera Section (if needed)

16) Adjournment

16.1) MOTION
STORVOLD/KAUNDA

Be it resolved that this meeting be adjourned

CARRIED