



# GRADUATE STUDENTS' UNION

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
LOCAL 19, CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS

**HAPPY NEW YEAR! To celebrate, please join us for pizza and drinks  
in the Bahen Centre lobby at 5:30pm.**

**GSU General Council Meeting  
Thursday January 28, 2010, 6:10pm sharp  
Bahen Centre for Information Technology  
40 St. George Street, Room 1130  
(north of College Street, ground floor, first door on your right)**

## Agenda

1.
  - a) Agenda<sup>i</sup>
  - b) Roll call
  - c) Minutes<sup>ii</sup>
  - d) Business Arising from the Minutes
  - e) Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG) Report
2. Master of Management and Professional Accounting Mississauga Course Union  
Constitution Approval
3. Election of Chief Returning Officer and Elections Committee<sup>iii</sup>
4. Health and Dental Plans
5. Notice of Motion Regarding Referenda Questions
  - a) Bikechain Referendum Question<sup>iv</sup>
  - b) Eva's Initiatives for Homeless Youth<sup>v</sup>
6. Finance Committee:
  - a) Financial Statement<sup>vi</sup>
  - b) Conference Funding<sup>vii</sup>
  - c) Special Grants<sup>viii</sup>
  - d) Notice of Motion re. COLA increase in GSU fee<sup>ix</sup>
7. Canadian Federation of Students – National General Meeting Report
8. Sub-Committee and Caucus Reports
  - a) Academics and Funding Sub-Committee
  - b) Social Justice Sub-Committee
  - c) Sustainability Sub-Committee
  - d) University Affairs Sub-Committee
  - e) International Students' Caucus
  - f) Queer Caucus
  - g) Women's Caucus

## 9. Reports

- a) Course Unions
- b) Executive/Staff/Announcements/Questions
- c) Governing Council, Graduate Education Council, CUPE 3902

## 10. Other Business

11. Next Meeting – Thursday Feb. 25, 2010, 6:10 pm, Bahen Centre, Room 1130

12. Adjournment – there will be no social in Sylvesters Café this month

- If you require family care subsidies please contact [carol@utgsu.ca](mailto:carol@utgsu.ca).
- If you require disability related accommodations please contact [ruth@utgsu.ca](mailto:ruth@utgsu.ca) by January 18.
- Please seal and bring your envelope back so we can reuse them.

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<sup>i</sup> 1.a) Draft Motion: BIRT (Be it resolved that) the Council approve the agenda (as amended).

<sup>ii</sup> 1.c) Draft Motion: BIRT the minutes of the December 10, 2009 Council meeting be approved (as amended).

<sup>iii</sup> 3. Draft – BIRT (name) of the (dept.) be appointed Chief Returning Officer for the upcoming GSU Executive election for the 2010/2011 academic year.

Draft – BIRT (name) of the (dept.) be appointed to the GSU Elections Committee as GSU General Council Representative.

<sup>iv</sup> 5.a) Draft Referendum Question: **Bikechain**

At our September GSU Council meeting we decided to run a referendum for Bikechain. For information contact [michelle@utgsu.ca](mailto:michelle@utgsu.ca), <http://bikechain.utoronto.ca>

Draft Motion: BIRT GSU Council approve the following Bikechain referendum question: I agree to authorize the Graduate Students' Union to collect an incidental fee (refundable within 3 weeks of registration) of **\$0.50** per session from all full-time graduate students (**\$1 per academic year, \$0.50 cents** per academic year from all part-time graduate students) on behalf of the University of Toronto Bikechain, effective September 1, 2010.

<sup>v</sup> 5.b) Draft Referendum Questions: **Eva's Initiatives**

We are asking that a referendum be run to support Eva's Initiatives. They run three homeless shelters, one adjacent to UofT, serving youth age 16 to 24. They provide emergency and transitional housing, harm reduction services, counselling, employment and training programs, housing support and more. This benefits our members who are evicted or otherwise become homeless. For information contact [greg@utgsu.ca](mailto:greg@utgsu.ca), <http://www.evasinitiatives.com>

Draft Notice of Motion: BIRT GSU Council approve the following Eva's Initiatives referendum question: I agree to authorize the Graduate Students' Union to collect a non-refundable incidental fee of **\$1** per session from all full-time graduate students (**\$2 per academic year, \$1** per academic year from all part-time graduate students) on behalf of Eva's Initiatives, effective September 1, 2010.

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**Executive Motions:**

<sup>vi</sup> 6.(a) Ex. Motion - BIRT the GSU Council accept the interim financial statement for September to December 2009.

<sup>vii</sup> 5.(b) draft - BIRT the GSU Council approve the allocation of Conference Funding to the requesting applicants.

<sup>viii</sup> 6.(c) draft - BIRT the GSU Council approve the allocation of Special Grants to the requesting Course Unions.

<sup>ix</sup> 6.(d) The cost-of-living increase is determined annually by a vote of the GSU General Council. The amount would be equal to or less than the increase in the Statistics Canada annual Consumer Price Index, up to a maximum of 5% per year. Council would also have the option of rejecting any cost-of-living increase (passed in GSU referendum March 1987). Information is presented at our January meeting, and a decision is made at our February meeting annually.

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**Policy #1: Elections**

**1.01 The Elections Committee**

The Elections Committee shall be established by General Council, before January 31st of the year in which the election is to be held, to supervise the election of the GSU Executive Officers, and/or to supervise the running of a referendum. All Election Rules as stated in this policy apply to GSU referenda. Normally, any referendum shall be held in conjunction with the regular GSU March Election of Officers.

The Elections Committee shall include the Chief Returning Officer, one other member of General Council, and a GSU staff person.

The Chief Returning Officer:

-shall be a member of the General Council

-shall be elected in person at GSU Council; however, a candidate who will be absent for the Council meeting may, if Council approves by a 2/3 majority, run in absentia for the position of CRO if s/he provides a written statement of qualifications to the Secretary of Council in advance of the meeting and appoints a nominator to speak on her/his behalf. The Secretary of Council shall handle all correspondence concerning this position.

-shall not be a member of the GSU Executive

-shall chair the Elections Committee

-shall be responsible for the conduct of the election which includes hiring a Deputy Returning Officer (if required) and Poll Clerks. The Deputy Returning Officer shall be a member of the Graduate Students' Union. Poll Clerks shall be University of Toronto students and preference shall be given to members of the Graduate Students' Union. The responsibilities of the Deputy Returning Officer and the Poll Clerks shall be at the discretion of the Chief Returning Officer in accordance with Election policy.

-shall ensure that nominations papers are valid

-shall advertise the nominations and elections using ads, posters, and electronic distribution means

-shall be responsible for resolving any or all discrepancies in the nomination, campaign and election process.

The Election Committee Council representative(s) shall be a member of, and elected from, General Council.

The GSU Staff person shall prepare the ads, posters and nomination forms for the nomination period, in accordance with the policy, shall distribute upon request the nomination papers, and shall work with the Chief Returning Officer to perform whatever tasks are required.