



University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union  
Board of Directors (General Council) Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, 6 December 2016

1. Meeting Comes to Order at 7:14 p.m.

a. Equity Statement

b. Adoption of Agenda

**MOTION B-138-16: BIRT the General Council of the Union / Board of Directors adopts the agenda as presented. Moved by Phil Spencer (Economics), seconded by Conor Zeer-Wanklyn (Chemistry). MOTION B-138-16 CARRIES unanimously**

c. Roll Call: guests, proxies, and all non-voting members

Faraz Shahidi - Public Health, current chair of the BDS Committee

Robert Prazeres - Linguistics and BDS Committee member

Avi Lipsitz - CERES Proxy

Thomas Cullen - Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Guest

Cai Henderson - Medieval Studies Proxy

Chaim Katz - Biomedical Engineering Guest

Scott Surphlis - School of Public Policy and Chief Returning Officer nominee

John Koenig - Art Proxy

Natan Adelman - Occupational Science & Therapy Proxy

Kevin Ledda - Occupational Science & Therapy Proxy

d. Approval of Minutes and Roll Call - 15 November 2016

Motivation: In the last meeting, the second to last speaker on pg. 6 appeared to be very nervous, and as such made the comment that "The committee is categorically anti-racist, anti-Semitic, anti-oppressive organization", which contradicts itself. We would like to strike the word anti-Semitic from the minutes in order to preserve the intention and meaning of their statement.

**MOTION B-139-16: BIRT the 15 November 2016 minutes are amended on page 6 to strike the word anti-Semitic from the 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph (headed Speaking For). Moved by (inaudible), seconded by Colleen Gillon (Scarborough GSAS). MOTION B-139-16 CARRIES with opposition by two. Opposition by Julianne Baarbe (Medical Sciences) noted.**

**MOTION B-140-16: BIRT the General Council / Board of Directors of the Union adopts the 15 November 2016 minutes and roll call as amended. Moved by Colleen Gillon (Scarborough GSAS), seconded by Andora Chui (Rehab Sciences). MOTION B-140-16 CARRIES, with one abstention.**

e. Unfinished Business

2. Financial Business – Brie Berry-Crossfield (Finance & University Governance Commissioner)

a. Audited Financial Statement 2015-2016

Provided an overview of the audit report during the Annual General Meeting.

**Executive Motion E-11-16: BIRT the Board of Directors of the Toronto Graduate Students' Union adopt the final Audited Financial Statement for the UTGSU, as prepared by Grant Thornton LLP for the fiscal year 2015 – 2016. Moved by Brie Berry-Crossfield (Finance & University Governance Commissioner). MOTION E-11-16 CARRIES Unanimously.**

3. Elections and Referenda – Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner), Ondrej Halgas (Chief Returning Officer Nomination Committee Member).

a. Chief Returning Officer (CRO) Appointment

**MOTION B-141-16: BIRT that Scott Surphlis (School of Public Policy) be granted speaking rights. Moved by Eriks Bredovskis (History), seconded Janina Kowalski (Geography & Planning). MOTION B-141-16 CARRIES Unanimously.**

Ondrej Halgas (Chief Returning Officer (CRO) Nomination Committee Member):

A call for applications for the CRO was put out on social media and in The Digest. 9 applications were received. 5 applicants were interviewed. 4 had previous election experience, and one was a professional. From these candidates, Scott was chosen as the best candidate. It was emphasized to candidates that their major goals would be to increase voter turnout and explore options for online elections.

Scott Surphlis (Chief Returning Officer Candidate):

Wants to encourage everyone to get involved in the election process this year, whether that is running for a position or getting involved in the election committee. Online voting is going to be his number one priority. Last year turnout was at 1.6%, probably less than 200 people out of a body of at least 1,500. Looking to increase turnout through a number of methods, including possibly a mixed ballot system. If you have any questions about the election process or any ideas, please contact him.

**MOTION B-142-16: BIRT Scott Surphlis from the School of Public Policy be appointed the Chief Returning Officer for the upcoming UTGSU Executive election for the 2016 – 2017 academic year. Moved by Elizabeth Eng (Internal**

Commissioner), seconded by Philip Spencer (Economics). MOTION B-142-16 CARRIES unanimously.

b. Striking of Elections and Referenda Committee Representatives

MOTION B-143-16: BIRT Victoria Fisher (HAPSAT) and Aaditya Patel (Aerospace) be appointed as the Division 1 & 2 and Division 3 & 4 UTGSU General Council Representatives respectively for the elections and referenda committee for the 2016 - 2017 academic year. Moved by Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner), no seconder. MOTION B-143-16 CARRIES, with abstentions by Victoria Fisher (HAPSAT) and Aaditya Patel (Aerospace) noted.

4. Defense Committee Report

MOTION B-144-16: BIRT the UTGSU General Council session moves *in camera*. Moved by Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner), seconded by Sarah Cooper (Executive-At-Large). MOTION B-144-16 CARRIES Unanimously.

MOTION B-145-116: BIRT the UTGSU General Council moves *ex camera*. Moved by Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner), seconded by Sarah Cooper (Executive-At-Large). MOTION B-145-116 CARRIES Unanimously.

5. Reports

a. Executive and staff Reports

Written reports can be found in the agenda package on pg. 20.

b. Course Unions

None

c. Standing Committees, Ad-hoc Committees, and Caucuses

None

d. Governing Council, Graduate Education Council, CUPE 3902, and USW 1998

None

e. Canadian Federation of Students Meeting Highlights

None

f. Motion to Receive Reports

MOTION B-146-16: BIRT the General Council of the Union / Board of Directors receives all reports. Moved by Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner), seconded by Simen Johnsen (Earth Sciences). MOTION B-146-16 CARRIES Unanimously.

6. Any Other Business

7. Next Meeting - Tuesday, 31 January

8. Adjournment

**MOTION B-147-16: BIRT the General Council meeting be adjourned at 8:06 p.m.  
Moved by Brie Berry-Crossfield (Finance & University Governance  
Commissioner), seconded by Branden Rizzuto (Academics 1 & 2 Commissioner).  
MOTION B-147-16 CARRIES Unanimously.**

Evan Rosevear  
Chair

Samantha Larocque  
Secretary