



University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union  
Board of Directors (General Council) Meeting Highlights  
31 January 2017

1. Meeting Comes to Order at 6:16 pm

**MOTION B-01-17: BIRT the agenda be amended to switch item 5a and 5b. Moved by Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner), seconded by Brianne Berry-Crossfield (Finance & University Governance Commissioner). MOTION B-01-17 CARRIES.**

**MOTION B-02-17: BIRT the agenda be amended to add item 3d, Approval of Revised Financial Statement 2015-2016. Moved by Brianne Berry-Crossfield (Finance & University Governance Commissioner), seconded by Branden Rizzuto (Academics 1 &2 Commissioner). MOTION B-02-17 CARRIES.**

**MOTION B-03-17: BIRT the General Council of the Union / Board of Directors adopts the agenda as amended. Moved by Lynne Alexandrova (OISE), seconded by Philip Baiden (Social Work - PHD). MOTION B-03-17 CARRIES.**

**MOTION B-04-17: BIRT the General Council / Board of Directors of the Union approves the 06 December 2016 minutes as presented. Moved by Connor Zeer-Wanklyn (Chemistry), seconded by Lucy Bartlett (Occupational Science & Therapy). MOTION B-04-17 CARRIES unanimously.**

**MOTION B-05-17: BIRT the UTGSU General Council of the Union / Board of Directors receives all reports. Moved by Robyn Jones (Sociology), seconded by Eriks Bredovskis, (History). MOTION B-05-17 CARRIES unanimously.**

**MOTION B-06-17: BIRT the UTGSU Council/Board of Directors approves of all Special Grants for the 2016-2017 Academic Year as presented; and BIFRT the remainder of the Special Grant funds be re-allocated to the Conference Grant Budget line for the 2016-2017 Academic Year. Moved by Brianne Berry-Crossfield (Finance & University Governance Commissioner), seconded by Branden Rizzuto (Academics & Funding 1 &2 Commissioner). MOTION B-06-17 CARRIES unanimously.**

**MOTION B-07-17: BIRT the UTGSU Council/Board of Directors approves of all Fall Conference Grants as presented. Moved by Brianne Berry-Crossfield (Finance & University Governance Commissioner), seconded by Branden Rizzuto (Academics & Funding Division 1 & 2 Commissioner). MOTION B-07-17 CARRIES.**

**MOTION B-08-17:** BIRT the UTGSU General Council of the Union allocates \$600 for the Health Innovation & Technology Unconference to be taken from the Sponsorship and Donations budget line. Moved by Brienne Berry-Crossfield (Finance & University Governance Commissioner), seconded by Ouliana Oguieuko (Dentistry). **MOTION B-08-17 CARRIES**, with abstentions.

**MOTION B-09-17:** BIRT the UTGSU General Council of the Union / Board of Directors approve the revised audited financial statement for the UTGSU, as prepared by the Grant Thornton LLP for the Fiscal year 2015-2016. Moved by Brienne Berry-Crossfield (Finance & University Governance Commissioner), seconded by Phil Spencer (economics). **MOTION B-09-17 CARRIES** unanimously.

**MOTION B-10-17:** BIRT the UTGSU General Council ratifies the following referendum question and places it on the ballot for the 2017 UTGSU election cycle. Moved by Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner), seconded by Brienne Berry-Crossfield (Finance and University Governance Commissioner). **MOTION B-10-17 Carries** unanimously.

**PREAMBLE**

Last year, part-time members of the University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union (UTGSU) passed a referendum authorizing the UTGSU to collect a non-academic incidental fee of \$274.02 from all part-time graduate students, for a twelve (12) month health insurance plan. The fee includes a \$4.41 administration fee and provincial sales tax. The coverage begins each year on 01 September (it began in 2016), and includes prescriptions, travel insurance, and other sickness and health benefits. The fee is refundable to part-time students if they are covered by alternative health insurance.

Similar to full-time health and dental fees (which have annual inflationary increases based on a supplementary health insurance industry adjustment), the UTGSU is seeking consent from its part-time members to authorize the General Council to approve annual inflationary increases for this fee. The total Health Insurance Fee (currently \$274.02) would be annually adjusted based on the supplementary health insurance industry rate. The purpose of this question is to avoid holding referenda every year for the changes in the premiums.

**QUESTION:** In order to maintain the supplementary health insurance plan for part time graduate students beyond the coverage period of 01 September 2016 to 31 August 2017, do you authorize the General Council of the Graduate Student' Union to approve an annual inflationary cost adjustment based on the supplementary health insurance industry index? The vote would require a 2/3 approval by UTGSU General Council.

Yes / No / Abstain

**MOTION B-11-17:** BIRT the UTGSU General Council/ Board of Directors votes to implement an information-based campaign as opposed to a Yes/No campaign. Moved by Daniel Hanna (Pharmacology), Andrea Constantino (Academics 3 & 4 Commissioner). **Motion B-11-17 CARRIES**.

**MOTION B-12-17:** BIRT the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors deems the upcoming referendum question on Part-time Student Health Insurance Annual Adjustment an "Information-Based Campaign";

**BIFRT** the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors strikes a Part-time Student Health Insurance Annual Adjustment Information-Based Campaign Sub-Committee;

BIFRT this Sub-Committee be comprised of three (3) members, two (2) of which shall be appointed by the Elections and Referenda Committee one (1) of which shall be appointed by the UTGSU General Council;

BIFRT the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors appoints Lynne Alexandrova (OISE) to the Part-time Student Health Insurance Annual Adjustment Information-Based Campaign Sub-Committee as the UTGSU General Council representative; and

BIFRT the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors supports the provision of information to the electorate by providing financial support to the Part-time Student Health Insurance Information-Based Campaign Sub-Committee, up to the amount of \$400.

Moved by Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner), seconded by Suzanne Narain (Civics and Environment Commissioner). MOTION B-12-17 CARRIES unanimously.

MOTION B-13-17: BIRT the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors puts in a formal request to the Vice-Provost, Students to enhance the functionality of the UElect System for ranked ballots. Moved by Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner), seconded by Lynne Alexandrova (OISE). MOTION B-13-17 CARRIES, with opposition and abstentions.

MOTION B-14-17: Move to amend the draft motion (footnote x, agenda item 4e) to include the following clause: "BIFRT that this report be given to the Policy and Operations Committee". Moved by Sarah Cooper (Executive-At-Large), seconded by Lucy Bartlett (Occupational Sciences & Therapy). MOTION B-14-17 CARRIES.

MOTION B-15-17: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/ Board of Directors strikes a sub-committee to research online voting systems and propose comprehensive policy changes to the current elections and referenda policy at the end of October 2017. BIFRT that this report be given to the Policy and Operations Committee. Moved by Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner), seconded by Suzanne Narain (Civics and Environment Commissioner). MOTION B-15-17 CARRIES.

MOTION P-01-17: BIRT the Board of Directors of the Union adopts all the amendments to the proposed amendments to Policy G2: Elections and Referenda as presented in the agenda bundle. Moved by Andrea Constantinof (Academics 1 & 2 Commissioner), seconded by Sarah Wheeler (Executive-At-Large). MOTION P-01-17 CARRIES.

AMENDMENT P-02-17 BIRT that G2.9 and G2.2.5 be severed from the full package of the proposed amendments and considered as separate amendments. Moved by Victoria Fisher (HAPSAT), seconded by Aiden Loweth (Architecture, Landscape & Design). Vote in favour 19, against 28. MOTION P-02-17 FAILS.

AMENDED MOTION P-03-17: BIRT the Board of Directors adopts all amendments to Policy G2: Elections and Referenda, as amended and presented in the agenda bundle; and BIFRT the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors of the Union revokes all previous policies and positions of the Union that may conflict with the following policies. Moved by Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner), seconded by Sarah Wilk (Medieval Studies). MOTION P-03-17 CARRIES with 46 in-favour, 3 opposed, and 4 abstentions.

**MOTION P-04-17:** BIRT the Board of Directors of the Union adopts all amendments to Bylaw Article 8: ELECTIONS as presented; and BIFRT the Board of Directors of the Union revokes all previous policies and positions of the Union that may conflict with the following policies. Moved by Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner), seconded by Sarah Cooper (Executive-At-Large).

**AMENDMENT P-05-17:** Move to amend the motion to accept amendments to Bylaw Article 8: ELECTIONS to instead accept all amendments to article 8.1 and refer all amendments to articles 8.2 and 8.3 to the Policy and Operations Committee for further review. Moved by Sarah Cooper (Executive-At-Large), seconded by Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner). **MOTION P-05-17 CARRIES.**

**AMENDED MOTION P-06-17:** BIRT the Board of Directors of the Union adopts amendments to Bylaw Article 8.1, and refers proposed amendments to Articles 8.2 and 8.3 to the Policy and Operations Committee; and BIFRT the Board of Directors of the Union revokes all previous policies and positions of the Union that may conflict with the following policies. Moved by Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner), seconded by Sarah Cooper (Executive-At-Large). **MOTION P-06-17 CARRIES.**

**MOTION B-16-17:** BIRT the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors of the Union accepts a motion to be moved from the floor. Moved by Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner), seconded by Lynne Alexandrova (OISE). **MOTION B-16-17 CARRIES.**

**MOTION B-17-17:** BIRT that the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors allows the Chief Returning Officer to use online voting for the 2017 elections. Moved by Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner), seconded by Lynne Alexandrova (OISE).

**AMENDMENT B-18-17:** BIRT that the motion be amended to read "BIRT that the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors allows the Chief Returning Officer to use online voting for the 2017 elections, with the exception of the UElect system." Moved by Branden Rizzuto.

**MOTION B-19-17:** Motion to challenge the Chair on that ruling. Branden Rizzuto (Division 1&2 Commissioner): Seconded by Sarah Cooper (Executive-At-Large).

**MOTION B-20-17:** BIRT that the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors agrees with the ruling of the Chair that the proposed amendments to MOTION B-18-17 are out of order. Moved by Evan Rosevear (Chair). **MOTION B-20-17 CARRIES.**

**MOTION B-17-17:** BIRT that the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors allows the Chief Returning Officer to use online voting for the 2017 elections. Moved by Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner), seconded by Lynne Alexandrova (OISE). In favour 19, Opposed 23, 3 abstentions. **MOTION B-17-17 FAILS.**

**MOTION B-21-17: BIRT the UTGSU General Council / Board of Directors accepts a motion to be moved from the floor. Moved Julianne Baarbe (Medical Science), seconded by Emile Lavergne (Global Affairs). MOTION B-21-17 CARRIES.**

**MOTION B-22-17: BIRT the UTGSU that a committee is formed to create an infrastructure to allow for a UTGSU-owned online voting platform for future years. Moved by Julianne Baarbe (Medical Sciences), seconded by Emilie Lavergne (Global Affairs).**

**AMENDMENT B-23-17: BIRT that MOTION B-22-17 be amended to read "BIRT the Online Voting Systems Sub-committee...". Moved by Elizabeth Eng (Internal Commissioner), seconded by Victoria Fisher (HAPSAT). AMENDMENT B-23-17 CARRIES.**

**AMENDED MOTION B-22-17: BIRT the Online Voting Systems Sub-committee look into the possibility of establishing the infrastructure to allow a UTGSU-owned online voting platform for future years. Moved by Julianne Baarbe (Medical Sciences), seconded by inaudible. MOTION B-22-17 CARRIES as amended.**

**MOTION B-23-17: Move to table items 7 and 8 to the next meeting. Moved by Lynne Alexandrova (OISE), seconded by Mick Carberry (German). MOTION B-23-17 CARRIES.**

Adjournment at 8:40 pm