



UTGSU Civics Committee Meeting Highlights

Date: Thurs., October 3, 2013

Location: GSU Executive Office

Time: 2:00 – 3:30 PM

Chair: Susanne Waldorf, Civics and Environment Commissioner

Vice-Chair: Derek Larson, General Council Member

This was our first committee meeting following the UTGSU General Council approval of our Legislative Program (areas of focus) for the year. At this meeting we discussed ways we can move forward with our work on a Post-Residency Fees campaign, student engagement in the GSU, and recruitment of students to the Civics Committee. There was also an agreement for support of an event sponsored by Scientists for the Right to Know.

Post-Residency Fees Campaign

The Civics Committee has decided to try to get the conversation about Post-Residency Fees started with students on campus through the creation of a short-video that can be posted to YouTube, which will provide a description of post-residency fees. . Post-residency fees are reduced fee amounts for graduate students who are no longer taking classes and therefore utilizing much fewer of the universities resources. Since the UTGSU Research, Education, and Governance (REG) Committee may also be interested in working on a post-residency fees campaign, we are also pursuing the possibility of a joint meeting with them to flesh out a full campaign.

Student Engagement in the GSU

Our discussion focused around getting GSU members out to the Annual General Meeting on November 25th. We would like to provide extra pizza at this meeting and to advertise the meeting through posters, sending out an email to members, and through social media. We are also looking into the possibility of having UTGSU standing and ad-hoc committees and caucuses give brief presentations at the annual general meeting to highlight the work of the Union.

Recruitment of Students to the Civics Committee

We will be distributing a poster about the Civics Committee's work around campus to generate more interest. Each member was also encouraged to bring friends out to future meetings.

Scientists for the Right to Know event

The UTGSU will be co-sponsoring this event:

Canada's Science Policy - A Needed Change of Direction, or a War on Science?
(a panel discussion)

Date: Oct. 18

Time: 5-7 pm

Place: Sanford Fleming Building, 10 King's College Road (watch for the signs)

For more information go to: <http://scientistsfortherighttoknow.wildapricot.org/>

The next Civics Committee meeting will take place in 3-4 weeks time and will be scheduled through doodle poll.

If you would like to join the Civics Committee, please contact civics@utgsu.ca.