

**University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union  
Executive Council Reports  
January 22<sup>nd</sup> to February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**Christopher Ball**

**Academics and Funding Commissioner, Divisions 1&2**

**A) Executive Committee and General Council Meetings**

- I. I attended and participated in the weekly UTGSU Staff and Executive meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
- II. I attended and participated in the monthly UTGSU Council/Board-of-Directors meeting on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019.
- III. I attended and participated in the weekly UTGSU Staff and Executive meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
- IV. I attended and participated in the weekly UTGSU Staff and Executive meeting on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019.
- V. I attended and participated in the weekly UTGSU Staff and Executive meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019.  
I attended and participated in the weekly UTGSU Staff and Executive meeting on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**B) Other UTGSU Committee, Levy Group, and Caucus Meeting Highlights**

- I. No meetings took place during this time.

**C) University of Toronto Governing Body and Other Meeting Highlights**

- I. No meetings took place during this time.

**D) Other Meetings, Issues, Significant Events and information Highlights**

- I. I continued to address funding complaints brought forth to the UTGSU by U of T graduate students

**Sophie McGibbon-Gardner**

**Academics and Funding Commissioner, Divisions 3&4**

**A) Executive Committee, General Council, and Annual Meetings**

- I. I attended the General Council Meeting on January 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- II. I attended and Chaired the weekly Executive and Staff meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup>.
- III. I attended and participated in the weekly Executive and Staff meeting on January 31<sup>st</sup>.

- IV. I attended and participated in the weekly Executive and Staff meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>.
- V. I sent regrets to the weekly Executive and Staff meeting on February 14<sup>th</sup>, due to illness.
- VI. I called in to and participated in the weekly Executive and Staff meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### B) Other UTGSU Committee, Levy Group, and Caucus Meeting Highlights

- I. I attended a Policy and Operations Meeting on January 25<sup>th</sup>.
- II. I attended a Finance Committee meeting on January 30<sup>th</sup>.
- III. I attended a Policy and Operations Meeting on February 5<sup>th</sup>.
- IV. I attended a Building Management meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>.
- V. I chaired a Graduate Community Development Fund Awards Committee meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup>.
- VI. I attended a Finance Committee meeting on February 13<sup>th</sup>.
- VII. I called in to and participated in a Building Management meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### C) University of Toronto Governing Body and Other Meeting Highlights

- I. I attended a meeting with the Vice-Provost, Students on January 30<sup>th</sup>.
- II. I sent regrets to the UTGSU meeting with the School of Graduate Studies Dean's Office on January 29<sup>th</sup> due to academic commitments.
- III. I sent regrets to the UTGSU meeting with the School of Graduate Studies Dean's Office on February 14<sup>th</sup> due to academic commitments.
- IV. I attended a UTGSU meeting with the School of Graduate Studies Dean's Office on February 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### D) Other Meetings, Issues, Significant Events and Information Highlights

- I. I met with the Health and Dental Insurance Administrator and the Finance Commissioner regarding insurance premiums on January 31<sup>st</sup>.
- II. I attended a meeting with The Varsity Editorial team on February 12<sup>th</sup>.
- III. I corresponded with StudentCare to update our tagline relating to our health and dental insurance.
- IV. I helped to plan the Graduate Community Development Fund (GCDF) Awards Ceremony with the UTGSU Communications and Promotions Coordinator.
- V. I began to systematically categorize the UTGSU Bylaws by topic for Policy and Operations Committee to better address inconsistencies.
- VI. I attended a meeting with the Chair of a Division 3 department to discuss internal issues faced by several of their Graduate Students.

### **Leonardo José Uribe Castaño**

#### **Civics and Environment Commissioner**

#### **A) Executive Committee and General Council Meetings**

- I. I attended and participated in the Executive and Staff meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
- II. I attended and participated in the UTGSU General council meeting on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019.
- III. I attended and participated in the Executive and Staff meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
- IV. I attended and participated in the Executive and Staff meeting on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019.
- V. I attended and participated in the Executive and Staff meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
- VI. I attended and participated in the Executive and Staff meeting on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

### **B) Other UTGSU Committee, Levy Group, and Caucus Meeting Highlights**

- I. I chaired the UTGSU Civics committee meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
- II. I chaired the UTGSU EJSC meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
- III. I chaired the UTGSU Civics committee meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
- IV. I met with the BDS Committee and the UTGSU Internal Commissioner on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

### **C) University of Toronto Governing Body and Other Meeting Highlights**

- I. I attended and participated in a meeting between the UTGSU Executive and the SGS Dean on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
- II. I attended and participated in the 1296<sup>th</sup> Hart House Board of Stewards Meeting on February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

### **D) Other Meetings, Issues, Significant Events and information Highlights**

- I. Due to worsening weather conditions, the EJSC Movie & Dinner event scheduled for February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 was cancelled.
- II. I organized the UTGSU Zumba Class on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

## **Maryssa Barras**

### **Executive at Large**

#### **A) Executive Committee and General Council Meetings**

- VII. I attended and participated in the UTGSU Executive meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup>
- VIII. I attended and participated in the UTGSU Executive meeting on January 31<sup>st</sup>
- IX. I attended and participated in the UTGSU Executive meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>

- X. I attended and participated in the UTGSU Executive meeting on February 14<sup>th</sup>
- XI. I attended and participated in the UTGSU Executive meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup>

### **B) Other UTGSU Committee, Levy Group, and Caucus Meeting Highlights**

- I. I attended a building subcommittee meeting February 14<sup>th</sup>
- II. I attended a building subcommittee meeting February 7<sup>th</sup>
- III. I attended a building subcommittee meeting February 21<sup>st</sup>
- IV. I attended a policy and operations committee meeting as minute taker January 25<sup>th</sup>
- V. I attended a policy and operations committee meeting as minute taker February 22<sup>nd</sup>
- VI. I attended and participated in a meeting with representatives of the Varsity February 12<sup>th</sup>

### **C) University of Toronto Governing Body and Other Meeting Highlights**

- I. I attended and participated in a meeting with Dean Barker February 14<sup>th</sup>

### **D) Other Meetings, Issues, Significant Events and Information Highlights**

- I. I attended CFS Lobby Week February 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>
- II. I attended a CEASE meeting February 15<sup>th</sup>
- III. I organised and attended a meeting for February 22<sup>nd</sup> with First Nations House and SAGE

## **Cristina Jaimungal**

### **External Commissioner**

#### **A) Executive Committee and General Council Meetings**

- I. I attended and participated in the following Executive and Staff meetings:
  - I. January 17
  - II. January 22 – Council/Board of Directors
  - III. January 24
  - IV. January 31
  - V. February 7
  - VI. February 14 – absent due to illness

#### **B) Other UTGSU Committee, Levy Group, and Caucus Meeting Highlights**

- I. **Equity and Advocacy Committee (EAC): February 25**

I chaired, attended, and participated in the EAC Executive meeting. In 2018 the EAC established a commitment to work on rolling out an Equity and Advocacy Committee Award. This award was developed in collaboration with EAC members in previous years, and is near its final stage. The committee is working on a policy to implement this pilot award and will seek feedback from Policy and Operations, the Executive before bringing to Council.

**II. Canadian Federation of Students Ontario (CFS-O) Emergency Meeting: February 11**

I attended and participated in an emergency call for the CFS-O Executive regarding: (1) The upcoming week of action (February 19-22) and (2) provide feedback on the We the Students campaign demands and campaign materials. For details on how to get involved in the week of action, please visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/252997205592024/>.

**III. Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG) Toronto and Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students (APUS) and UTGSU – Banner-Making: January 24**

I participated, attended and helped organize the Banner-Making in preparation for the January 25<sup>th</sup> Rally at Yonge-Dundas.

**IV. Race and Ethnicity Caucus: January 30**

- a. I attended and participated in a meeting with REC via phone. Grad room booking established for February 28 4-7 PM. I have been supporting the creation of this workshop and social space in collaboration with REC since last year. Please connect with REC on social media for updates.

**V. Students for Barrier-Free Access (SBA): January 30 and February 5**

- a. I attended and participated in a planning meeting with SBA to discuss points of collaboration. I also participated in three other meetings with SBA on February 5 related to advocacy strategy.

**VI. Ontario Provincial Research Interest Group (OPIRG Toronto) and Centre for Women and Trans People (CWTP): February 7**

I attended and participated in a meeting with OPIRG and CWTP to discuss concerns about the provincial government's Student Choice Initiative.

**C) University of Toronto Governing Body and Other Meeting Highlights**

- a. No meetings took place during the course of this report.

## **D) Other Meetings, Issues, Significant Events and information Highlights**

### **a. Anti-Racism Strategy and Action Plan Working Group**

I've communicated to all interested members that the first meeting will be held on February 21, 2019 in Grad Room. Below is a recap of the phases for implementation, which was presented at the UTGSU AGM, for your reference:

#### **Phase 1 | January 2019**

Establish a working group

#### **Phase 2 | February 2019**

Identify key stakeholders & Research anti-racism strategies and documents

#### **Phase 3 | March 2019**

Create a draft and circulate to all key stakeholders

#### **Phase 4 | April 2019**

Review, revise, and incorporate feedback for final draft

### **b. Student Parents Pizza and Pub Night: January 17**

I attended and helped organize this event in collaboration with the Family Care Office and Hart House. We had over 20 registered attendees. FCO and HH would like to continue this collaboration and are looking to host a future event

### **c. UTGSU Social Media and Communications Strategy: January 23**

I attended and participated in a meeting with the Communications and Promotions Coordinator to discuss ways the UTGSU can improve and build a communication strategy.

### **d. SGS Meeting: January 28**

I attended and participated in a meeting with SGS where we discussed the International Experience Fund and updates on priorities such as the anti-racism strategy as well as possible support for the upcoming monthly REC event entitled Safe Space for Race.

### **e. Student Life Feedback Loop Project: January 29**

I attended and participated in a meeting with student life's two new Peer Community Builder and Equity Activators (PCBEA) and the Coordinator for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Training.

### **f. Rally: February 4**

I attended and participated in the rally at Queen's Park.

**g. Wellness Portal: On-going**

I continue to monitor and work on actions items for the portal in collaboration with the SGS Communications Officer, the UTGSU Communications and Promotions Coordinator, and AF Commissioner (3&4).

**h. Anti-Racism and Cultural Diversity Office (ARCDO): On-going**

The ARCDO has notified me that that they are currently in transition and will be in touch to follow up on our advisory meeting schedule.

**i. Student Meetings: On-going**

I continue to address and consult with students who require guidance and direction for mental health resources and advocacy avenues. I have had a significant increase in students asking for peer support and event consult

**Branden Rizzuto**

**Finance Commissioner**

**A) Executive Committee and General Council Meetings**

- I. I attended and participated in the UTGSU Executive and Staff Meeting on Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- II. I attended and participated in the UTGSU General Council/Board-of-Directors meeting on Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019
- III. I sent regrets to the UTGSU's Weekly Executive and Staff Meeting on Thursday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019 due to an academic conflict
- IV. I attended and participated in the UTGSU's Weekly Executive and Staff Meeting on Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019
- V. I attended and participated in the UTGSU's Weekly Executive and Staff Meeting on Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- VI. I attended and participated in the UTGSU's Weekly Executive and Staff Meeting on Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**B) Other UTGSU Committee, Levy Group, and Caucus Meeting Highlights**

- I. I attended, chaired, and participated in the UTGSU Finance Committee meeting on Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- II. I attended and participated in the UTGSU Policy and Operations Committee meeting on Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- III. I attended and participated in the UTGSU Policy and Operations Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019

- IV. I attended, co-chaired, and participated in the UTGSU Graduate Community Development Fund (GCDF) Awards Committee on Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- V. I attended, chaired, and participated in the UTGSU Finance Committee meeting on Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- VI. I attended and participated in the UTGSU meeting with the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) Office of the Dean on Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- VII. I attended and participated in the Council on Student Services (COSS) meeting on Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### **C) University of Toronto Governing Body and Other Meeting Highlights**

- I. I sent regrets to the UTGSU Meeting with the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) Dean's Office on Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019 due to illness
- II. I sent regrets to the UTGSU meeting with the Office of the Vice-Provost (Students) on Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 due to illness
- III. I attended and participated in the Hart House Finance Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- IV. I sent to regrets to the Council on Athletics and Recreation (CAR) meeting on Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 due to academic commitments
- V. I attended and participated in the Faculty of Arts and Science Council meeting on Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- VI. I attended and participated in a meeting with the Vice-Dean of Graduate Education and Program Reviews (Faculty of Arts and Science) on Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019
- VII. I attended and participated in a meeting between the UTGSU Executive Committee and *the Varsity's* editorial team on Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### **D) Other Meetings, Issues, Significant Events and information Highlights**

- I. I continued to adjudicate supporting documents submitted by successful applicants of the 2018 UTGSU Conference Bursary (Fall Cycle)
- II. I continued to organize adjudication meetings for the Graduate Community Development Fund (GCDF) Awards Committee
- III. I attended and participated in interview sessions for a potential UTGSU General Council/Board-of-Directors Chair
- IV. I contacted all applicants to the Graduate Community Development Fund (GCDF) Awards to inform them of the result of their application
- V. I sent out all invitations to the Graduate Community Development Fund (GCDF) Award Ceremony scheduled for March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Justin Patrick**  
Internal Commissioner

A) Executive Committee, General Council, and Annual Meetings



I. I attended and participated in the UTGSU General Council/Board-of-Directors meeting on Tuesday, January 22, 2019, during which I was elected Internal Commissioner

II. I attended and participated in the UTGSU Executive and Staff Meeting on Thursday, January 24, 2019

III. I attended and participated in the UTGSU Executive and Staff Meeting on Thursday, January 31, 2019

IV. I attended and participated in the UTGSU Executive and Staff Meeting on Thursday, February 7, 2019

V. I attended, chaired, and participated in the UTGSU Executive and Staff Meeting on Thursday, February 14, 2019

#### B) Other UTGSU Committee, Levy Group, and Caucus Meeting Highlights

I. I attended, chaired, and participated in the Policy and Operations Committee Meeting on January 25, 2019

II. I attended, chaired, and participated in the Policy and Operations Committee Meeting on Tuesday, February 5, 2019

III. I attended and participated in the Building Maintenance Committee meeting on February 7, 2019

IV. I attended and participated in the Building Maintenance Committee meeting on February 14, 2019

#### C) University of Toronto Governing Body and Other Meeting Highlights

I. I attended and participated in the meeting with the SGS Dean on Friday, January 28, 2019

II. I attended and participated in the UTGSU Executive's meeting with The Varsity on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 from 4pm – 5pm

III. I attended a meeting of the U of T coalition to oppose the Ford Government cuts to education on Thursday, February 14, 2019

#### D) Other Meetings, Issues, Significant Events and Information Highlights

I. I prepared agendas for the Executive and Staff Meetings for the following dates:

a. Thursday, February 7, 2019

- b. Thursday, February 14, 2019
- c. Thursday, February 21, 2019
- II. I contributed to the preparation of agendas and mail-outs for the Tuesday, February 26, 2019 council meeting and special meeting
- III. I ensured that the Policy and Operations Committee has regular bi-weekly meetings scheduled until April 30, 2019
- IV. I held office hours in the UTGSU office on Fridays from 12:30pm-2:30pm on the following dates:
  - a. Friday, January, 25, 2019
  - b. Friday, February 1, 2019
  - c. Friday, February 8, 2019
  - d. Friday, February 15, 2019

### **Samantha Stead**

#### **University Governance Commissioner**

#### **A) Executive Committee and General Council Meetings**

- VI. I attended and participated in the weekly UTGSU Staff and Executive meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup>.
- VII. I attended and participated in the weekly UTGSU Staff and Executive meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup>.
- VIII. I attended and participated in the weekly UTGSU Staff and Executive meeting on January 31<sup>st</sup>.
- IX. I attended and participated in the weekly UTGSU Staff and Executive meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>.
- X. I sent regrets to the weekly UTGSU Staff and Executive meeting on February 14<sup>th</sup> due to academic commitments.
- XI. I attended and participated in the monthly UTGSU Council/Board-of-Directors meeting on January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **B) Other UTGSU Committee, Levy Group, and Caucus Meeting Highlights**

- I. I attended and chaired the Research, Education and Governance meeting on February 13<sup>th</sup>.

#### **C) University of Toronto Governing Body and Other Meeting Highlights**

- I. I attended and participated in a meeting with the Office of the Vice-Provost, Students on January 30<sup>th</sup>.
- II. I attended a joint meeting with the Office of the Vice-Provost, Students and representatives from several other students' unions (Scarborough Campus

Students' Union (SCSU), University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union (UTMSU), Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students (APUS)) on February 13<sup>th</sup>. This meeting was set to discuss the changes to tuition structure that are now required by the provincial government (announced in January).

- III. I sent regrets to a meeting for the Arts and Sciences Council on February 13<sup>th</sup> due to academic commitments.
- IV. I attended and participated in a UTGSU meeting with the Dean of the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) on February 14<sup>th</sup>.
- V. I attended and participated in a Graduate Student Advisory Committee meeting with the Dean of SGS and the Director of the Graduate Conflict Resolution Centre on February 14<sup>th</sup>.
- VI. I attended and participated in a Council of Student Services (COSS) meeting on February 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **D) Other Meetings, Issues, Significant Events and information Highlights**

- I. I am coordinating (in partnership with APUS, UTSU, UTMSU, SCSU, and Graduate Students Association at Scarborough, GSAS) consultations for the Sexual Violence policy.
  - a. I attended and took notes at the consultation held at the UTM campus on February 7<sup>th</sup> from 3-5pm
  - b. I attended and took notes at the consultation held at the St. George campus on February 7<sup>th</sup> from 3-5pm
  - c. We had to cancel the consultations at the UTSC campus due to a safety concern and closure of the SCSU offices – this will be rescheduled in the coming weeks.
  - d. The next confirmed consultation will take place at the St. George campus on Wednesday February 27<sup>th</sup>. We will be screening *School of Secrets* by the Fifth Estate beforehand.
- II. I sent regrets to a meeting between the UTGSU Executive and the Varsity on February 12<sup>th</sup>, as it conflicted with other UTGSU business.

On January 31<sup>st</sup>, I attended a meeting of the Students for Equity and Access to Services (SEAS), a newly-formed coalition on campus that consists of representatives from various groups (i.e., Socialist Fightback U of T, Students for Barrier-Free Access, Sexual Education Centre, Equity Studies Students' Union, UTSU, UTMSU, APUS and other U of T community members). The conversation was centered around organizing against the 'Student Choice Initiative' and OSAP changes that were recently announced by the provincial government.