



**University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union General Council/Board of Directors Meeting  
Zoom Meeting Tuesday September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
5:30pm to 8:30 pm**

**Directors must register by emailing [register@utgsu.ca](mailto:register@utgsu.ca) before the meeting.**

**1. Meeting Comes to Order**

The meeting is called to order at 5:41pm.

a. Chair Nomination

Sarah A (IC) announces the chair nomination for the 2021/2022 year, Mia-Milan Pellegrino. The Chair Nomination Committee has submitted a report of work outlined and have put forward Mia-Milan Pellegrino as the most suitable candidate, they are confident that her previous experience in law and conflict resolution will prove to be a viable resource in the Board of Directors Meetings.

Sarah A (IC) asks board members for patience as Mia-Milan Pellegrino transitions into this new role, as there was not a lot of time between the interviews for the Chair position and this first Board of Directors meeting.

**MOTION 21-09-01a: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors approve Mia-Milan Pellegrino as Chair for the General Council meetings for the 2021-2022 Academic Year. Moved by Danielle K (AFC  $\frac{3}{4}$ ), seconded by Adam B (Classics). MOTION CARRIES with abstentions.**

b. Equity Statement (Commitment) (*Page 3*)

The Chair requests for people to read out the Equity Statement.

c. Adoption of Agenda (Discussion & Decision) <sup>1b</sup>

Adam H (CTLSA) point of order: asks if we are being live streamed, Adam B (Classics) says that he also sees this notification.

Brie (ED) states that there are technical difficulties with the Otter translation service and that nothing is being recorded at the time due to the Otter translation not working.

The Chair asks for all those in favour of adopting the agenda as presented, Adam H (CTLSA) point of order: asks if there is an opportunity to discuss the agenda. The Chair says yes.

The Chair asks Adam H (CTLSA) if he would like to debate this, Adam H (CTLSA) clarifies that this is for anyone in the meeting to debate the agenda and not just himself.

Sarah A (IC) wants to add “CRO nominating committee” to Any Other Business.

The Chair says that this is noted on her end and that it was added into “Any Other Business.” Rowan (Ecology & Evolutionary) would like to propose an amendment to the agenda. They state it would be worthwhile to discuss any updates of the GSU restructuring process. They have some information from their course union that is relevant to the proposed restructuring that was first discussed at the last GSU meeting over the summer.

Sarah A (IC) says that this is already part of the agenda and will provide more information. The Chair indicates that this is Motion 7.

Adam H (CTLSA) would like to amend the agenda, stating that there were several documents included as additional reading materials for this meeting, he is not sure where we would discuss these documents in the meeting. He states that there is a Minority Report document, appeal documents in relation to the elections (as example). He is asking if this should be created under a different item or if there were plans to discuss these documents already in the meeting. If there is no plan to include these reports in the agenda, Adam H (CTLSA) states that he would like to move to amend the agenda to include the “Minority Report”.

The Chair asks if these are documents that Adam H (CTLSA) sent. Adam H (CTLSA) clarifies that he sent a part of them on behalf of several directors. Adam H (CTLSA) is asking if the Minority Report can be discussed in the meeting, he is suggesting that this can go after section D in the reports section, as the new item 2E.

The Chair is requesting more information from Adam (CTLSA) about the Minority Report and if it will provide any information pertaining to these meetings (now and in the future). Adam H (CTLSA) states that it has bearing on the future of the organization to a degree and that we are reporting issues that may have consequences in the future.

Adam B (Classics) states that if we discuss this [Minority Report] so early in the agenda we will not get through the entire agenda and does not recommend amending the agenda as there are much more important matters to be discussed first.

An-Noûra C (CEC) states that we should move this motion after other business to ensure that going through the agenda is a smooth process.

Mynt (Cinema) agrees with both An-Noûra (CEC) and Adam B (Classics).

Adam H (CTLSA) asks An-Noûra (CEC) to clarify when they think it would be a good idea to discuss the Minority Report.

An-Noûra C (CEC) responds, suggesting that we move to after the CRO Nomination. The Chair asks if An-Noûra is suggesting to move the Minority Report to section 8 of the agenda. An-Noûra says yes. Adam H (CTLSA) agrees, suggesting to make it 8B.

Danielle K (AFC 3&4) states that these items have been discussed before and rejected and that Danielle K (AFC 3&4) is against this motion.

The Chair has closed the debate for this motion and is moving to a vote, but wants to seek clarity around amending the agenda. Brie (ED) suggests focusing on each proposed item separately.

The Chair opens up the floor for any debate on moving this amendment.

Sarah A (IC) notifies in the zoom chat that this will be 8C not 8B.

The Chair notes that the motion has failed due to the number of oppositions. The Chair is doing a recount.

The Chair states that the motion has been defeated.

Brie (ED) states that the motion that was on the floor for the amendment has been defeated and that we will go back to the motion to amend the agenda to include the CRO Nominating Committee under “Any Other Business”. Moved by Adam H (CTLSA), seconded by Courtney D (Information).

Devin BD (Economics) would like to call the question.

The chair states that the agenda is passed.

**MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors amends the agenda to include the CRO Nominating Committee in “Any Other Business”. Moved by Adam H (CTLSA), Seconded by Courtney D (Information). MOTION CARRIES with abstentions. Noted Abstentions: Adam H (CTLSA), Nidhi K (PharmTox), Esra B (French).**

**MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors amend the agenda to include the “Minority Report”. Moved by Adam H (CTLSA), seconded by Courtney D (Information). MOTION DEFEATED.**

**MOTION 21-09-01b: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors adopt the September 28, 2021 meeting agenda as presented or amended. Moved by Tristan P (Cell & Systems), seconded by Kristen Y (Chemistry).**

d. Seating Guests & Media <sup>1c</sup>

**MOTION 21-09-01c: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors move to seat all guests and media with speaking rights. Moved by Adam B (Classics), Seconded by Erin B (English). MOTION CARRIES.**

e. Approval of Minutes from the July 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting <sup>2</sup>

Lynne A (Guest/SJE) point of order: states that the guests were not listed by name in the meeting and that a step was skipped. The Chair clarifies with Brie (ED) if this is a procedural issue.

The Chair states that the guests have already been recorded, The Chair has noted that for next time so that everyone can see who is a guest.

**MOTION 21-09-02: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors approve the minutes from July 20 meeting. Moved by Rowan F (Ecology & Evolutionary), Seconded by Adam B (Classics). MOTION CARRIES with abstentions. Noted Abstentions: Irisa Z (Economics), Kristen Y (Chemistry).**

## **2. Reports**

a. Executive Committee Reports (Information & Decision)

Sarah A (IC) has been engaged in reviewing and updating the bylaws with the lawyer and Executive Director, this has been their main engagement. They have also been preparing for the Board of Directors meetings and preparing packages and reports. This has been Sarah A's (IC) major responsibility during the summer.

Justin P (EC) has focused on building capacity within the UTGSU's campaigns and coalitions, one notable victory is that the UTGSU was able to join the Civicus Coalition of Organizations and have received international activism opportunities on a global level.

Lwanga M (UGC) has done research on what can be done to support membership, advocacy was his primary focus this summer and representing issues and concerns as graduate students in front of the university's admin. Lwanga M (UGC) is part of a few campaigns such as the mental health and wellbeing campaign, anti-racism campaign, and the affordable housing campaign. Lwanga M (UGC) also will continue to provide support for other campaigns, which you can find on the website under campaigns. He has continued to participate in the finance committee meetings in the capacity of vice-chair and assisted in reviewing some of the awards. He also spent a part of the summer assisting the Executive Director with cleaning up and re-organizing the office and attending and participating in orientation and training.

Dhanela S (AFC 1&2) states she will be advocating for students in division 1 and 2, people can send appeal related matters and inquiries about their grad unit, mistreatment or supervisory issues to her and she will redirect those people to resources and supports. She has also been part of the COVID-19 tuition waiver and did a survey that was conducted last year, which is now transitioning into a base funding campaign within the UTGSU that she will be supporting alongside her executives. Dhanela S (AFC 1&2) is a liaison for multiple caucuses, and also sits and represents the GSU in many additional U of T administration and advisor committees. If anyone wishes to contact her for additional collaborations, please contact her at [academics1and2@utgsu.ca](mailto:academics1and2@utgsu.ca).

An-Noûra C (CEC) has been involved in the organization of some of the civic campaigns (such as the affordable housing campaign). Throughout the summer they have been planning the upcoming year, has been at the Hart House Board of Stewards, and will also be a member of the Student Initiative Fund, where they will also be on the judging panel. An-Noûra C (CEC) has been involved in student orientations and answering inquiries. If anyone has questions, An-Noûra C (CEC) states that the email is on the UTGSU website.

The Chair is now opening the floor to the course unions to hear feedback about reopening or any other concerns.

Adam H (CTLSA) point of order: states that accepting executive committee reports are a separate motion.

**MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors accepts all Executive Reports. Moved by Walter V (English), seconded by Devin D (Economics). MOTION CARRIES with abstentions.**

Adam H (CTLSA) saw in the PowerPoint presentation during the course orientation that the Communications Coordinator, Selah is not in their role anymore and is asking why it is not included in reports, asking why resignations are also not included in reports.

Sarah A (IC) - Selah has resigned and moved on as she was looking for permanent virtual work.

Lynne A (Guest, SJE) point of privilege: states that they would like to be explicitly listed as a guest, SJE/OISE, Access for Wellbeing and if they speak later on they would like to be reflected this way. They also express concern with someone in the meeting with the name "m", and that there are several people identified as "board of appeal" and that it would be good for them to present themselves as-

The Chair states that this does not have anything to do with executive reports.

Lynne A (Guest, SJE) is concerned with how they will appear in the minutes. Their question was a follow-up to a suggestion they had from the last meeting.

The Chair suggests that this is not on topic and that they deal with this matter at a different time. Lynne A (Guest, SJE) would like to ask a question that is directly related to the finance committee and finance commissioner - the question is if there is any update on relaxing head-grant requirements under COVID conditions.

The Chair asks Sarah A (IC) if she has anything to clarify this.

Sarah A (IC) states that the finance commissioner had to step away due to internet issues and will not be able to answer any finance questions at this time.

b. Course Unions (Information & Discussion)

Adam H (CTLSA) states that his question it's not in relation to the CTLSA, the question is about item 5 - was there supposed to be a constitution circulated?

The Chair states that we will speak to that during item 5 when we get there.

No reports given.

c. Standing Committees, Ad-hoc Committees, and Caucuses (Information & Discussion)

No reports given.

d. Governing Council, Graduate Education Council, CUPE 3902, USW 1998 (Information & Discussion)

No reports given.

e. Motion to Retrieve All Other Reports (Decision)

**MOTION 21-09-02b: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors receives all reports under Item 2. Moved by Walter V (English), seconded by Devin BD (Economics). MOTION CARRIES with abstentions. Noted Abstentions: Adam H (CTLSA), Joel M (SJE DSA).**

The Chair suggests that we take a 10-minute break. Meeting will continue at 6:55pm.

### 3. Financial Business

a. CRCSS/ Goldblatt Invoice <sup>3a</sup>

Lwanga (UGC) is speaking about 3A - in February 2021 two rulings were received from U of T's conflict resolution centre for student societies (CRCSS). One ruling was regarding the UTGSU elections, the second ruling was centered around the BDS caucus. The former Executive Director looked into legal options and decided to hire Goldblatt & Partners LLP. The views on these rulings were that they were an infringement of our autonomy and a threat to our organization as a whole. Lwanga (UGC) states that they were also having difficulties receiving their cheque from the university administration. In April, the invoice was brought forward by Goldblatt, and incorrectly assumed that this would be the last. It only

reflected the work undertaken up until the end of March, we received a follow-up invoice in August which reflected the work done in April. It was confirmed that this was the last invoice.

The Chair states that Brie (ED) has put up the invoice on the zoom call via screen share.

The Chair is opening up the floor on any debate regarding this matter.

Adam H (CTLSA) asks as to whether or not this would be the final expense toward fighting the CRCSS rulings. Should we expect any further legal funds to fight the CRCSS rulings in the future? He wants this recorded in the minutes as this was excluded in the minutes in July when he asked a similar question. As a representative of his association he cares about the legal expenses that are used towards these rulings and essentially a human rights violation.

Lwanga (UGC) states that they are not expecting any future invoices, and that they were incorrect in thinking that the first one was the last invoice. Lwanga (UGC) confirms that this is the last invoice.

**MOTION 21-09-03a: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors approve the payment of \$1652.00 for Goldblatt Invoice # 174189 from the Director's Liability budget line. Moved by Dominic P (Comp Lit), second by Adam B (Classics). MOTION CARRIES with abstentions. Noted Abstentions: Adam H (CTLSA), Iosifina F (Molecular Genetics).**

b. BSEGB Terms of Reference <sup>3b</sup>

The Chair notes that the chat function on zoom is for urgent comments and for discussions between The Chair and the Executor.

June L (Finance) BGSEB bursary is starting up soon. They have made some changes to their terms of reference, and this is included in the agenda package. One of the major changes has been the number of education committee members; before there were 68 members, this year there are 46 members.

June L (Finance) states that the next Finance committee meeting that is happening this coming Thursday, they will be nominating a chair from the Finance committee for the BGSEB, and will be putting a general call out for other committee members. At least one of the members will be from each of the divisions and priority is given to Black students.

June L (Finance) explains that application requirements have been amended. Council will be updated as they move forward.

**MOTION 21-09-03b: BIRT that the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors approve the revised changes to the updated BGSEB criteria. Moved by Andre FFP (Rotman), seconded by Walter V (English). MOTION CARRIES with an abstention.**

#### 4. Appointments

- a. Board of Appeals Chair <sup>4a</sup>
  - Ian Hutson
  - Meera Abu Heljah

Ian H (Guest, BOA, Industrial Relations) has been a graduate student for a year and a mature student, with lots of professional experience and has participated in a lot of boards, therefore Ian is familiar with the structure. Ian was also an executive for CUPE 3261 in grievances and arbitration. Looks at this as an

opportunity to serve the board but recognizes that he has a lot to learn. Ian looks forward to the opportunity.

The Chair states that Meera H (Guest, BOA, UTM) had to leave and did not give her statement.

The Chair is consulting with Brie (ED). Brie (ED) explains that Meera (Guest, BOA, UTM) had to go to class and that they were not able to submit a statement, however, Brie (ED) has a reference letter in lieu of having a formal statement.

Brie (ED) reads the reference letter: Meera has worked as a receptionist at the King's University College for the past 2 years. Brie (ED) lists Meera's duties. The reference later states that Meera works quickly and is able to problem solve in an often fast paced work environment. Meera is able to work individually and as a team member. On a personal level, Meera is a pleasant and respectful individual and has an avid ability to pay attention to detail which is beneficial in a professional environment. Letter was signed by Jeni Somerton, Communication Equipment Operator at King's University College at Western University.

The Chair opens the floor to any questions directed to Ian (Guest, BOA, Industrial Relations), as Meera (Guest, BOA, UTM) is not here. Normally questions would be for both.

Adam H (CTLSA) asks if Ian (Guest, BOA, Industrial Relations) has any relationships with CUPE3261, CFS or any current UTGSU executives, and states this organization has a history of conflicts of interest.

Ian H (Guest - BOA, Industrial Relations) says no, and explains that he is not an executive any longer at CUPE 3261 and that the relationship ended 3-4 years ago.

The Chair holds a vote.

Results:

Ian – 47

Meera – 17

**MOTION 21-09-04a: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors appoint Ian Hudson, Industrial Relations as the Board of Appeal Chair for 2021/2022. Moved by Adam B (Classics), seconded by Joel M (OISE SJA DSA). MOTION CARRIES with abstentions.**

- b. Board of Appeals Vice Chair <sup>4b</sup>
  - Rizvan Desai
  - Anne-Katherine Dionne

The Chair has opened the floor for Rizvan D (Guest, BOA, CTL) to speak but they are having technical difficulties.

Rizvan D (Guest, BOA, CTL) is a first year masters student. Rizvan (Guest, BOA, CTL) has served on a board of academic appeals at Ryerson, where they served on a panel for academic misconduct. They have also worked as an Immigration Officer and a Customs Officer at the Canada Border Services Agency where they would read through federal policy and immigration policy to make judgments on different citizens and visitors that would come into the country.

The Chair states that second candidate Anne-Katherine D (Guest, BOA, Faculty of Music) is not here, Brie (ED) is reading their statement. Anne-Katherine (Guest, BOA, Faculty of Music) is a third year PHD

student in Music Education at the Faculty of Music, with a research interest in prison choirs as a vehicle to promote social justice. After a 10 year teaching career, they attended law school. They held many roles at the Law Society of Ontario which will serve them well. Anne-Katherine (Guest, BOA, Faculty of Music) has lots of experience in law. They are recognized as a team player who can work independently when necessary. They hope that council does not interpret their absence as lack of interest as they have class on Tuesdays.

The Chair is opening the floor for questions to Rizvan (Guest, BOA) as Anne-Katherine (Guest, BOA, Faculty of Music) is not here. No questions.

The Chair holds a vote.

Results:

Rizvan – 11

Anne-Katherine – 52

**MOTION 21-09-04b: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors appoint Anne-Katherine Dionne, Faculty of Music as the Board of Appeal Vice-Chair for 2021/2022. Moved by Walter V (English), seconded by Kirsten Y (Chemistry). MOTION CARRIES with abstentions. Noted Abstentions: Anna C (Religious Studies), Adam H (CTLSA).**

## 5. APHD

Diana B (OISE APHD) is speaking about APHD, has not had a course union for the past 2 years therefore they have been operating without one. A new council has been elected and they would like to rejoin. APHD has missed out on the opportunity for student support, hoping to rejoin to help with initiatives. APHD has put forward a motion in the minutes and invites any questions or feedback as they are new.

Diana B (OISE APHD) shares constitution in the chat.

Adam H (CTLSA) point of order: says that protocol is that everyone receives the constitution 2 weeks prior to the meeting to ensure everyone has time to read them, Adam H (CTLSA) is bringing this up to ensure fairness.

Diana B (OISE APHD) states that they weren't aware of protocol but want to respect them. Diana B (OISE APHD) says that it is generally the same constitution as when they were previously part of the UTGSU and that there were minor modifications.

The Chair is asking the council if they would like to table this for the next meeting in order to ensure that everyone has time to read the documents.

Dominic P (Comp Lit) point of order: asks if it is necessary to table this motion.

Sarah A (IC) point of order: the screening has been done internally of the APHD documents. The Chair states that since this is reviewed by executives, the motion will not be tabled. The Chair goes back to asking for a mover for this motion.

Dominic P (Comp Lit) point of order: states that there was already a mover for this motion. Brie (ED) noted that there are guests with their hands up who do not have voting rights and is suggesting to open the floor for questions, The Chair opens the floor for questions for Diana B (OISE APHD).

Lynne A (Guest, SJE) states that in the bylaws there is a provision for council to approve the constitutions of course unions and then proceed with the disbursement of head grants. Lynne A (Guest, SJE) would like to find a middle road for the council to have time to give a nod to the constitution at the earliest opportunity, say, October for the result. They state that the council can accept the course union today and then at the earliest opportunity council can also approve their constitution.

The Chair asks for clarification on if they are suggesting that we go through, accept or deny the approval of council, and if it is approved, then you would like us to have another motion in another meeting saying that council has approved their constitution?

Brie (ED) reminds participants not to use the chat function. Brie (ED) asks Walter V (English) to confirm as to whether or not they are calling the question to move straight to a vote.

Walter V (English) calls the question to move straight to a vote.

Brie (ED) states that when you call the question, all debates stop and we move straight to the motion.

The Chair states that we are moving straight into the vote.

Dominic P (Comp Lit) point of order: states that we are voting on whether or not to proceed to the vote, that's what the calling of the question is. We are not yet voting on the motion.

The Chair agrees and thanks Dominic P (Comp Lit).

The Chair holds a vote for those in favour or against calling the question. There is one abstention.

Brie (ED) states that because there is no opposition, it does pass and we can go back to the original motion.

Lynne A (Guest, SJE) asks if they can give a point of information.

The Chair says no as we are in the middle of a vote.

Lynne A (Guest, SJE) states that they already proposed to council to consider approving the constitution to be in compliance with the bylaws as soon as possible. They state that we should accept a new course union and then add its unproposed edits (as they already submitted the constitution), but, to approve the constitution as soon as possible.

The Chair states that Lynne A (Guest, SJE, Access and Wellbeing) is asking for an amendment and they are not able to do so because they are a guest, and goes back to the vote.

**MOTION 21-09-05: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors accepts “The Applied Psychology & Human Development (hereafter referred to as ‘APHD’) Student Association’s request to formally join the UTGSU as a course union”. Moved by Victoria D (IHPME), seconded by Joel M (OISE SJE DSA). MOTION CARRIES with abstentions. Noted Abstentions: Mynt M (Cinema Studies), Ezra B (Social Work).**

## **6. Standing Committees\* <sup>6a & 6b</sup>**

- a. Policy and Operations Committee
  - Vice-Chair (Executive Appointment)
  - Division 1

- Division 2
- Division 3
- Division 4

The Chair is asking for any representatives for the seats for Divisions 1, 2, 3 & 4.

Lynne A (Guest, SJE) point of information: They missed if Justin Patrick's executive appointment was moved, as this appointment does not need a mover if it was an executive motion. This is one technicality they wanted to mention.

Sarah A (IC) states that technically the motion is not an executive motion. According to the bylaws, an executive has to be the vice chair, this is in accordance with the bylaws.

The Chair is asking again for representatives for each division.

Brie (ED) is sharing the divisions with everyone.

Dominic P (Comp Lit) point of information: wants to know if a member of the executives can explain what being a member of each committee is.

The Chair is asking if this is in reference to the previous motion that was passed?

Dominic P (Comp Lit) clarifies that it may be helpful for new members to know what the policy and operations committee is and to have an executive explain.

Sarah A (IC) explains what the policy and operations committee is, what they do and what this entails.

### **Division 1 (Humanities): [remains vacant]**

Lynne A (Guest, SJE) requests to speak, The Chair says that they are not able to do so at this time as The Chair would like to get through all items in the agenda. Lynne A (Guest, SJE) explains that this is to help open up to general members as well for the policy committee. It is the council and general members. This will allow more people to jump in.

Brie (ED) clarifies that we are looking to fill four members elected by the general council, these members should be from each of the four divisions. If you are interested in being an open member to join the policy and operations committee you don't need to be within council as council rep to join. You would email Sarah (IC) who is internal. We need to have seats appointed from the board of directors.

### **Division 2 (Social Sciences): Adam H (CTLSA) has expressed interest in joining, states that it's his knowledge base and would be happy to continue to assist.**

The Chair states that we need to vote on this.

Adam H (CTLSA) point of order: vote can be for all of the reps.

Brie (ED) explains that if there is only one representative we can omnibus the motions to include everyone's name. If there are two people running under one division then we can call an election. Since division 1 is vacant and Adam H (CTLSA) has nominated himself for division 2, we can make the calls for division 3 and division 4 next. If there is only one person under each division then we can motion them all in one.

Joel M (OISE SJE DSA) states that the Social Justice Education Student Caucus has changed to the DSA.

Brie (ED) has made a note to ensure that this is updated accordingly.

### **Division 3 (Physical Sciences): [remains vacant]**

Adam H (CTLSA) notes that Lynne A (Guest, SJE) is trying to raise a point of privilege in the chat.

Lynne A (Guest, SJE) states that before Adam H nominated himself Lynne A (Guest, SJE) had their hand up, and Dominic P (Comp Lit) confirmed that reps on the policy and operations committee can be general and council members. This increases the pool of candidates. Since the change was made to restrict the term of reference of the committee (which they consider less democratic), each and every time they have gone to elections they have repeated the same statement, which is that they will continue as a general member until the committee returns to its proper democratic structure before October 2019, when it was a completely open committee. They invite council members with votes for accessibility for wellbeing reasons to consider restoring the committee to its open structure before Fall 2019. They are happy to continue as a general member until the committee returns to their prior democratic structure.

The Chair is having Brie (ED) read the bylaw and that this was an improper use of privilege. Lynne A (Guest, SJE) is asking if they are eligible to run for the position?

The Chair states that Brie (ED) will read the bylaw to receive clarification on this matter.

Brie (ED) reads the bylaw which is under the policy and operations committee. Brie (ED) states that these bylaws are up for interpretation by The Chair. Membership shall consist of the Internal Commissioner, who shall act as Chairperson, one other member of the executive committee appointed by the general council as Vice Chairperson, four members elected by general council who are not members of the executives, one member elected by the general council/board of directors from each of the 4 SGS divisions. For the policy and operations committee, we need 4 members who are elected by council who are not members of the executives spread between the four divisions. We have a member so far for division 2. From here, participants can disagree, but if you want to join as an open member, you would not need to be elected or appointed in this body to join as a general member.

The Chair is going to discuss with Brie (ED) on how to move forward so that we do not need to continue this same debate throughout the remainder of the meeting.

The Chair is going to continue to fill the division positions and then we will open it to members for B, C, D & E. At this time we are focusing on division representatives.

### **Division 4 (Life Sciences): [remains vacant]**

The Chair states that there will be a vote for the only position that was filled which was Division 2.

**MOTION 21-09-06a: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors appoints Justin Patrick, External Commissioner as Vice-Chair of the Policy and Operations Committee. Moved by Sarah A (IC), seconded by Andre FFP (Rotman). MOTION CARRIES with abstentions. Noted Abstentions: Justin P (EC).**

**MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors appoints Adam Hill, CTLSA as Division 2 Representative of the Policy and Operations Committee. Moved by Adriana C (IHPST), seconded by Jason T (Medical Research). MOTION CARRIES with abstentions. Noted Abstentions: Adam H (CTLSA), Hannah D (Music).**

b. Research, Education and Governance Committee

Victoria D (IHPME) is asking for a point of information for this committee.

Brie (ED) gives a summary of the committees (B-E).

The Chair expresses a reminder to participants to avoid using the zoom chat function.

Adam H (CTLSA) requests a motion to extend the meeting until 9:00pm. The Chair says yes.

Dominic P (Comp Lit) is asking if there is anything pressing that needs to be dealt with tonight?

Sarah A (IC) notes there is the appointment of the finance committee and two notices she wants to share but nothing pressing to extend for another half an hour.

Danny B (Institute of Medical Sciences) point of information: what time are we extending the meeting to?

The Chair clarifies that it will be 9:00pm.

**MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors extend the meeting until 9:00pm. Moved by Adam H (CTLSA), seconded by Mynt M (Cinema). MOTION CARRIES with oppositions and an abstention.**

The Chair asks if anyone is interested in joining the Research, Education and Governance Committee.

Joel M (OISE SJE DSA) has expressed interest in joining the Research, Education and Governance Committee.

c. Equity and Advocacy Committee

Victoria D (IHPME), Justin P (EC), Sarah A (IC) and Patricia R (Sociology) have expressed interest in joining.

Justin P (EC) point of information: There is an individual who is not here who is interested in joining if that is permissible.

The Chair states that they have this written down.

Due to Justin P (EC) providing a point of information, The Chair asks again if anyone has interest in joining the Equity and Advocacy Committee. The participants who have expressed interest are noted.

d. Environmental Justice and Sustainability Committee

Lindsey P (English) has expressed interest in joining.

e. Civics

No interested members in joining.

f. Finance Committee

· Division 1

## Division 2

June L (Finance) is explaining the role of the finance committee, their tasks, and what they oversee.

Brie (ED) is showing the divisions for the finance committee.

There are no interested members for Division 1 (Humanities).

There are no interested members for Division 2 (Social Sciences).

**MOTION 21-09-06b: BIRT the UTGSU General Council appoint (name, division) to Finance Committee. (Motion was not needed).**

### 7. CNCA Filing Update

Sarah A (IC) is discussing an update and follow-up from the July meeting. A review of nearly all of the bylaws has been completed and needs to be updated under the CNCA. Sarah (IC) explains that they are looking to hold a town hall on October 14th to present all of the new bylaw updates and the new restructuring model that they have developed and that needs to be approved by the board of directors. The purpose of the town hall is to address any of the concerns from the members that are there. Prior to this they will update all the changes proposed to the bylaws on the website, they will not be emailing this to members as it is a huge document and it is up to the discretion of the board of the directors to look at it as it is over 100 pages. If anyone has questions, they will be happy to answer. Their lawyer will also be present at the town hall, he will deliver the presentation along with Sarah (IC) and the Executive Director. Because they are under the CNCA and no longer the ONCA, bylaws are applicable to them and they need to move quickly as there are time constraints in filing the records to the CNCA.

Rowan F (Ecology) point of information: Sarah (IC), can you explain the acronym CNCA?

Sarah A (IC) states that the CNCA is the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, the ONCA stands for Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act. From the provincial level they have moved to the federal level and that is the difference between the two, and they therefore need to comply with the rules and regulations that are required from CNCA filing.

Adam H (CTLSA) point of clarification: did you say that we are no longer subject to the ONCA? Can you clarify what you meant about that statement?

Sarah A (IC) explains that in the January meeting they accepted to be under the CNCA, currently they are in the process of filing all of the documents in the CNCA. The ONCA is not applicable to us at this point in time and if she is wrong, she is asking Brie (ED) to correct her.

Brie (ED) states that in February the Board of Directors passed a motion to file for continuance under the CNCA. The continuance was approved during the summer, Brie (ED) believes it was around the July 20th meeting. From this point, we are under the CNCA and are pulling the bylaws into compliance. CNCA gives a grace period for our bylaws to come into compliance. Some changes are similar across both laws, some are different. We are working to create a more accessible format for students to understand what the different changes look like and how it impacts the organization.

Rowan F (Ecology) asks Sarah (IC): you indicated that the document was too large to send to members, can you send a link so that members can easily locate the document with the bylaw changes?

Sarah A (IC) responds, stating that they will be sending out information about the town hall meeting and will send a link of the updated documents available for the general members after the board of directors have a look at it. This will be before the town hall meeting. Do not forget the town hall date is October 14th.

Adam H (CTLSA) point of clarification: we have never filed under the ONCA, we have always been filed under the OCA. We have never filed under the ONCA, thereby, we are still subject to the OCA until we recontinue with another level of government. We did not agree to file for continuance under the CNCA. What we agreed to was - we received a report in July regarding a proposal of what the restructuring would look like - at that point, all that we have agreed to as a board, my understanding, is that we are going to entertain the proposed amendments that you are preparing, but we have not yet made a formal agreement to refile for continuance under the CNCA. We have only agreed to entertain a proposal.

Sarah A (IC) states that this proposal was proposed in July but the continuance under the CNCA was accepted in February. It was proposed and accepted by the Board of Directors that they are going to file the continuance under the CNCA. The minutes can be looked up for confirmation.

Brie (ED) has pulled up the minutes which are also available on the website in the Archive section. On February 16th, 2021 - Brie (ED) is re-summarizing what has already been discussed. Adam H (CTLSA) is correct that we were part of the OCA which is being phased out of the law, the alternative being the ONCA. This act was first struck roughly 5-6 years ago and has not been very functional on the provincial level. We had a motion to file for continuance, it was passed. The timing of what the project would look like was explained - the entire project would take 20-30 days, as we need to notify the Ontario government that we are leaving, and receive authorization to leave, which has been completed. We also need to signal to the federal government that we want to be part of the federal law, which was also completed. We were approved to do the continuance, and what we brought forward alongside the continuance in July was a proposal to restructure as we do have to make changes to come into compliance. We realized that there have been a lot of structural issues within the organization of the UTGSU and thought that this would be a good opportunity since we are changing around our bylaws at this time to make much needed adjustments to the way the top end of our structure functions.

## **8. Any Other Business**

### **a. Notice of EAL Elections in October**

Sarah A (IC) explains that every year we have an executive position which is the executive member at large that the council appoints. This is a notice of appointment that there will be elections at the next council meeting (the October council meeting). This is to notify the board of directors that we will be moving forward with the elections.

### **b. CRO Nominating Committee**

Sarah A (IC) notes that it is the time of the year that the CRO Nominating Committee is formulated for the upcoming elections for the executive membership. We will be forming the CRO Nominating Committee and this will be part of the agenda for the upcoming council meeting for October.

## **9. Adjournment**

The Chair expresses that she is receiving direct messages sent to her by participants that should not be sending her direct messages. The Chair states that she does not want to remove participants from meetings, however if someone gets three strikes in the meeting, they will be removed. The Chair is not going to do this as we are going to adjourn the meeting.

The Chair calls for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Danny B (Institute of Medical Science) point of privilege: states that Lynne A (Guest, SJE) has had her hand up and apologizes if it is not their time to speak, however, we cannot ignore that their hand is up.

The Chair states that she is receiving direct messages from Lynne A (Guest, SJE) and that they have also been writing in the zoom chat, therefore this would have been a third strike and they would have otherwise been removed from the meeting. This is why The Chair is going to adjourn the meeting.

Danny B (Institute of Medical Science) is stating that as long as it is within past practices.

The Chair confirms that this is based on actions that are occurring in the zoom chat.

Danny B (Institute of Medical Science) is inquiring whether this is based on rules that are set in place that if someone speaks out three times, then they are removed? (Referring to the aforementioned three strike rule).

The Chair explains that there is an Equity Officer and keeps track of any infractions from participants (abuse of the chat is one of the infractions). The Chair has been made aware of the infractions being made.

Danny B (Institute of Medical Science) suggests that for the next meeting that these rules are made clear from the start so that everyone is on the same page.

The Chair will make this clear for the next meeting.

**MOTION: BIRT (Be It Resolved That) the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors adjourn the meeting. Moved by Andre FFP (Rotman), seconded by Sarah A (IC). Noted Abstentions: Dhanela S (AFC 1&2).**

Meeting adjourned at 8:47pm.



Mia-Milan Pellegrino  
UTGSU General Council Chair



Nicole Bucar  
GSU General Council Secretary

## G.9.2 Equity Statement

G.9.2.1 The following statement expresses the Union's commitments to equity and informs the way in which we conduct business of the Union. The statement will be read aloud during the opening address of meetings of the membership, the Board of Directors, and at UTGSU events:

As many of our members are settlers on Turtle Island, the Union directly benefits from the colonization and genocide of the indigenous peoples of this land. It is imperative that the Union acknowledge that it is on occupied land and that to engage in acts of decolonization is an important aspect of equity work in Canada.

Student Union solidarity is based on the principle that all members deserve to be equal, respected and should be understood. As members of the Union, mutual respect, cooperation and understanding are our goals. We do not condone or tolerate behavior that undermines the dignity of any individual. Expressions of hate such as intimidation, harassment, offensiveness or hostility will not be tolerated.

We will struggle against all forms of discrimination and harassment, including but not limited to: Islamophobic, anti-Semitic, xenophobic, sexist, racist, classist, ableist, homophobic, transphobic, ageist sentiments and/or remarks. We all have an obligation to ensure that an open and inclusive space, free of hate is established.

We support growth and understanding and believe in providing opportunities for individuals to acknowledge the impact of their remarks, with the understanding that the experiences of those impacted by discriminatory sentiments or remarks will be privileged.

If you are not here in an understanding of good faith or you have violated this understanding, you will be asked to leave. Do you agree?