



**University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union General
Council/ Board of Directors Meeting Zoom Meeting
Tuesday, February 22, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**

Directors must register by emailing register@utgsu.ca before the meeting.

1. Meeting Comes to Order

- a. Approval of Chair
- b. Equity Statement (Commitment) (**Page 3**)
- c. Adoption of Agenda (Discussion & Decision) ^{1b}
- d. Seating Guests and Media ^{1c}
- e. Approval of Minutes from the November 23, 2021, Meeting ^{1d}

2. Reports

- a. Executive Committee Reports (Information & Decision)
- b. Course Unions (Information & Discussion)
 - c. Standing Committees, Ad-hoc Committees, and Caucuses (Information & Discussion)
 - d. Governing Council, Graduate Education Council, CUPE 3902, USW 1998 (Information & Discussion)
- e. Motion to Receive All Other Reports (Decision)

1a DRAFT MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors approve Hamish Russell as Chair for the February 22, 2022 General council meeting and until the remainder of the term (April 30th, 2022) .

1b DRAFT MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors adopt the February 22, 2022 meeting agenda as presented or amended.

1c DRAFT MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors move to seat all guests and media with speaking rights.

1d DRAFT MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors approve the minutes from the January 25, 2022 meeting.

2a DRAFT MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors accept the Executive Committee reports for February, 2022

3 DRAFT MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors appoint [Molly Simpson] as the Chief Returning Officer for the UTGSU 2022 Spring Elections.

4 DRAFT MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors remits \$7830. 90 to pay Invoice # 2816 from Arbique and Ahde from the UTGSU Legal Budget line

5 DRAFT MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors appoint [name,program] as the Executive at Large until April 30th, 2022.

6 DRAFT MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors appoint [name, program] to the Elections and Referenda Committee.

7 DRAFT MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors approve the creation of the "Graduate Students of the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) Caucus". BIFRT that the Graduate Students of the ROM Caucus be integrated into the UTGSU Bylaws and Policy. BIFRT the Graduate Students of the ROM Caucus receive an initial budget of \$500.

8 DRAFT MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU General Council/Board of Directors impeaches the Internal Commissioner.

3. CRO Nomination 3

4. Arbique and Ahde (Invoice approval) 4

5. EAL Elections 5

- Sophia Zhong - Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology
- Sierra Codeluppi - Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology.

6. Board of Appeals Update

7. Elections and Referenda Committee 6

8. ROM Caucus 7

9. Bylaw and Policy Updates

10. Executive Impeachment (In-Camera) 8

11. Any Other Business

12. Adjournment

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?

CRO Nominating Committee Report

To the UTGSU General Council/ Board of Directors,

On behalf of the CRO Nomination Committee, we are writing this letter to document the process by which we came to select Molly Simpson as our incoming Chief Returning Officer.

The committee, comprised of Rowan French (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Rep), Jordan Bryson (Anthropology Rep), An-Noûra Compaoré (Civics & Environment Commissioner), and Brie Berry Crossfield (Executive Director, exofficio), was formed at the November 23rd, 2021 Board of Directors meeting per item 4 on that meeting's agenda. We held our first preparatory meeting on November 30th, 2021. During that meeting we drafted our interview outline and discussed our expectations for the candidates.

We arranged to send out a call for applications to invite interested applicants to apply for the position of CRO for the March Spring Elections 2022. There were no applicants for the position by the initial deadline of January 10, 2022. The CRO Nominating Committee held another meeting on January 10 and decided to extend the deadline of the call for applications until January 21st, 2022. Due to technical issues, which were communicated at the January 25th Board Meeting, it was not possible to advertise in the January 17th Digest, by which time we had received 3 applications. Therefore, we extended the deadline once more to meet our 5-application threshold. This extended the deadline to February 4th, by which time we received 5 additional applications.

We met on February 7th to review the applications and extended four invitations to interviews on February 9th. We conducted all interviews via Zoom: 2 interviews on February 11th, and two on February 16th. We met on February 17th to deliberate and we unanimously decided to put forward Molly Simpson as our Nomination to the Board of Directors.

She is a student of Public Policy who has a history of increasing voter turnout under difficult circumstances, such as transitions to online elections. She has demonstrated an interest and ability in reviewing electoral policy making valuable recommendations and as such we believe that she is the ideal candidate to see us through the changing structure of our organization.

Given that the UTGSU is in the midst of transitioning to a new governance structure we felt that Molly was the most suitable candidate to seamlessly usher us through this transition period. She has new ideas and tremendous enthusiasm for the position, coupled with extensive student election experience, including two election cycles as CRO. Consequently, we enthusiastically recommend the appointment of Molly Simpson to the role of CRO with our full confidence.

Respectfully,

Note: Signatures of the nominating committee have been removed by the current Internal Commissioner, as a privacy and a safety precaution. They are part of UTGSU's internal records and audits.