Meeting called to order by Aanshi G. at 7:04 PM.

1. Meeting Comes to Order
   a. Appointment of Meeting Chair and Equity Officer (Discussion and Decision)

Aanshi G. asks to continue with appointing Jesse Velay Vitow as the Chair.

**MOTION:** BIRT the UTGSU Board of Directors appoints Jesse Velay Vitow as Chair for this meeting. Moved by Chris R. Seconded by Jady L. Motion passes with majority.

   b. Adoption of Agenda (Discussion and Decision)

The Chair, Jesse Velay-Vitow asks for any amendments to the agenda. Aanshi G. moves to finish unfinished business from the last special Board of Directors meeting.

**MOTION:** BIRT the UTGSU Board of Directors approve the meeting minutes for September 28, 2023 as presented or amended. Moved by Aanshi G. Seconded by Zoya T. Motion carries with abstentions.

   c. Adoption of Meeting Minutes (Discussion and Decision)

**MOTION:** BIRT the UTGSU Board of Directors approves the special meeting agenda for April 27th, and August 9th, 2023 as presented. Moved by Amir M. Seconded by Aanshi G. Motion carries with named abstention from Lynne.

   d. Guests and Media (Discussion and Decision)

The Chair asks for all guests to explain their affiliations and purpose for attending.

**MOTION:** BIRT the UTGSU Board of Directors moves to seat all guests with speaking rights. Moved by Chris R. Seconded by Jady L. Motion carries with majority.

2. Motion to Suspend President Without Pay

Since the discussion was in camera during the previous special meeting, the Chair asks if there is anyone who would like to be added to the speakers list. Seeing none, move straight into vote.
MOTION: WHEREAS the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors of the UTGSU have considered the various allegations and complaints made against Lynne Alexandrova, the President of the UTGSU (the President);

WHEREAS the President, further did not fulfill their responsibility and duty of providing a satisfactory written report about the allegations and complaints, which the executive committee requested, pursuant to Article 10 of the Bylaws;

AND WHEREAS it would be inappropriate for the President to continue in their role given the nature and seriousness of the allegations and complaints, until a final determination is made by the membership;

BIRT that as per 10.2.1 – discipline of an executive to be commenced by board of directors, the President, Lynne Alexandrova, be suspended without pay as per 10.3.2.2 effective immediately, until a Members’ meeting can be held in accordance with the UTGSU By-laws. Moved by Amir M. Seconded by Aanshi G. Motion passes unanimously through anonymous voting.

Motion to extend until 8:30 moved by Friedemann K. passes with majority.

3. Exec Committee Housekeeping (Discussion)
   a. CLR Role Distributions

Aanshi G. presents the appointments of the Executives to the different committees and caucuses, and mentions that with the recent suspension of the president and her resignation, the executives will have to re-assign both their roles.

b. Governance Committee Meeting

Aanshi G. says the meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 2 however, there are two members who have stepped down and would no longer be interested in serving. Will have to put out nominations again or appoint directors at the next board meeting. Committee meeting will also have to be postponed due to the President’s suspension. The motions are no longer valid.

MOTION: BIRT the UTGSU Board of Directors appoint two (2) more Divisional reps to the Governance Committee
SGS Division 1 Humanities: name and department
SGS Division 3 Physical Sciences: name and department

BIFRT additional non-voting members are given participation on the various committee projects and in decision-making discussions, other than casting a vote, until a voting position becomes available.

BIFRT the Committee
1) prepare ASAP a description of its mandate for inclusion in Policy G4
2) revisit the restriction of voting membership to non-Exec Vice-Chair and four (4) Divisional reps (Fall 2019) and subsequently to an Executive member as Vice-Chair and to BoD members as Divisional reps (Winter 2022)
3) revisit restrictions along the lines of #2) above introduced for other Committees as of Winter 2022

No mover so motion fails at the table.

c. Finance Committee Meeting

Zoya T. says the meeting was to be held on Friday, September 29 but due to the new suspension, a new vice-chair will first be appointed at the next Exec & Staff meeting and will be scheduled afterwards. She says the motions attached to this item are not valid because there are no more vacancies for the committee.

**MOTION:** BIRT the Board of Directors appoint one (1) more Divisional rep to the Finance Committee
SGS Division 1 Humanities: name and department

BIFRT additional non-voting members be given participation on the various committee projects and in decision-making discussions, other than casting a vote, until a voting position becomes available.

No mover so motion fails at the table.

d. Office Space Renovation and Development Budget Breakdown

Zoya T. shares an itemized budget list for the expected costs of the office space renovation including clean up and furniture. She explains that these purchases have not happened yet but are estimated to be broken down accordingly.

e. Grad Affairs Committee/Grad Minds Committee/Equity and Advocacy Committee

**MOTION:** BIRT (Be It Resolved That) the Board of Directors confirm/appoint the following Grad Affairs Committee roles:
Two (2) Exec Co-Chairs: names and positions
Four (4) Divisional voting members: names and departments
Div 1: Humanities:
Div 2: Social Sciences;
Div 3: Physical Sciences
Div 4: Life Sciences

BIFRT (Be It Further Resolved That) additional non-voting members be given participation on the various committee projects and in decision-making discussions, other than casting a vote, until a voting position becomes available.
BIRT (Be It Resolved That) the Board of Directors confirm/appoint the following Grad Minds Committee roles:
Two (2) General Member Co-Chairs: names and department
Two (2) and more General Member voting members: names and departments
One (1) UTGSU Executive liaison (non-voting): name and Exec position

BIFRT (Be It Further Resolved That) additional members acquire voting rights at the second meeting the attend.

BIRT (Be It Resolved That) the Board of Directors confirm/appoint the following Equity and Advocacy Committee roles:
One (1) Executive Chair (non-voting): name and department
??? One (1) General Member Vice-Chair (voting): name and department
Two (2) and more voting members: names and departments

BIFRT (Be It Further Resolved That) additional members acquire voting rights at the second meeting the attend.

BIFRT (Be It Further Resolved That) as a first order of business, the EAC collaborate with the Governance Committee and the Executive Committee to restore the EAC full terms of reference in the Policy Handbook

No mover so the motion fails at table.

4. Board of Directors Agenda Items (Discussion & Decision)
   a. UTGSU Assembly and BoD Meeting Format

**MOTION:** BIRT the all UTGSU assembly and Board of Directors meetings begin commencing in a hybrid format (in-person and Zoom/online attendance both being available options) as of October 2023.

BIFRT that a UTGSU board of directors meeting can be called at any time with a minimum of 25% of directors requesting said meeting.

Chair asked if directors refers to just the Board of Directors or executives and directors.

Chris R. says he is not sure what makes sense procedurally.

Chair says Directors is everyone who has a vote, asks for the minutes to reflect that (motion has been edited to reflect this).

Aanshi G. says Point of Order, this should also be directed to the Governance committee first since it is requiring an amendment to the bylaws. Can we please postpone this motion and ask for it to be resubmitted at the next board meeting
Chair says it is in order for the board to make the decision but we could have subsequent motion to send to committee.

Friedemann K. asks to split the motion into two separate motions. This passes with opposition

**MOTION:** BIRT the all UTGSU assembly and board of directors meetings begin commencing in a hybrid format (in-person and Zoom/online attendance both being available options) as of October 2023. Moved by Chris R. Seconded by Friedemann K. Motion passes with objections.

**MOTION:** BIRT that a UTGSU board of directors meeting can be called at any time with a minimum of 25% of directors requesting said meeting. Moved by Chris R. Seconded by Friedemann K. Motion passes.

b. Discipline of VP Finance  
**MOTION:** Whereas a $25,000 allocation was voted for in the previous BOD meeting for executive office furniture and renovations/”deep cleaning” without a detailed prepared budget (the only information provided was ~$15,000 for furniture and ~$10,000 for cleaning).

Whereas the VP Finance is required as per 7.11.8 to ensure that the UTGSU’s financial documents are made available to the members in the UTGSU’s offices, and that the UTGSU’s audit report and budget are made available on the UTGSU’s website.

Whereas the budget for the 2023-2024 year and the individual detailed budget for the office furniture and cleaning/renovations has not been provided (website ends at 2019-2020) prior to voting to allocate the funds.

Whereas the VP Finance has failed to perform their duties as per 10.2.1.6 (failure to perform duties as specified in the UTGSU Bylaws).

BIRT as per 10.2.1 – discipline of an executive to be commenced by board of directors, the VP Finance, Zoya Tawhidi, be suspended without pay as per 10.3.2.2 until a Members’ meeting can be held in accordance with the UTGSU By-laws.

Amir M. says point of order, this motion is based on many incorrect statements and is malicious in nature since there is no grounds for these allegations.

Chris R. requests to amend the motion.

Chair rules he can only strike whereas clauses.

Chair asks for a mover, nobody moves. Motion dies on the floor.

c. Severance Package of ED
Aanshi G. says point of information, there is no no termination pay being contemplated by the UTGSU for the former ED, I don’t understand the context of this motion.

Chris R. motivates because even if there is nothing contemplated he wants to make sure funds are not being ‘wasted’ due to severance packages, has happened before wants to make sure it doesn’t happen again.

Neelofar A. says those cases were different in the past. Says we had received a request but we refused the request due to the lack of validity. Wants to ensure the directors know we are meticulous with the funds and are not going to make payments that are not approved.

Amir M. says the former ED did mention they may consider pursuing legal action.

Friedemann K. would appreciate it if directors were communicated with beforehand instead of bringing these motions to the BoD meetings.

**MOTION:** Whereas a previous Executive Director of the UTGSU was provided a large severance package (approximately $40,000/4months of pay) by the UTGSU beyond what was contractually stipulated when they resigned in May 2022 of their own volition after approximately one year in the role.

BIRT the most recent outgoing ED, Levi Clarkson, who resigned at the end of August 2023 only receive payment as per the legally contractually required amount and no additional severance pay beyond this amount. Moved by Chris R. Seconded by Friedemann K. Motion passes with opposition.

d. GSA Reinstation
Chair asks if there are any members in the OISA GSA in the UTGSU

Chris R. says he is not sure, it is just called OISE GSA

Chair rules there is not enough information to be voted in because if they are in CTLS - are they also in OISE GSA so would they get double funding?

Amir M. requests to table the motion

Chair rules the motion needs to be moved first

Chris R. moves the motion

Neelofar A. point of order, that this motion was brought forward and if deemed not appropriate to be voted upon, should we still discuss

Chair says he doesn’t think motion is out of order as it’s written.
Friedemann K. seconds the motion

Chris R. motivates this motion by proposing to reinstate with federal funding model - what the individual course union receives within them. Says that is what O.1.2. Is suggesting

Friedemann K. says he puts forward a motion to table until next Board meeting and for execs to gather more information and not vote on it today

Neelofar A. point of information wants to clarify that UTGSU and OISE GSA separated due to serious allegations. Also, the way OISE GSA submitted these requests were not appropriate. Also wants to share current OISE GSA president approached UTGSU for DSA and got the department registered from UTGSU and received funding and is now campaigning for reinstating OISE GSA

Chair interrupts saying this is not an appropriate way to say point of information but to be on speakers list

**MOTION:** Whereas the OISE GSA was disbanded from the list of UTGSU recognized and funded course unions in 2019.

Whereas there is considerable interest in restoring the OISE GSA as a funded course union of the UTGSU.

BIRT the OISE GSA return to the UTGSU as a recognized course union as per 5.1.2 “A Course Union shall be recognized by the Board of Directors when a motion proposing such recognition has been approved by a simple majority of Board of Directors members then present.” The OISE GSA shall receive funding according to policy O 1.12.1. Moved by Chris R. Seconded by Friedemann K. Motion tabled until a later date, passes unanimously.

e. SGS Summer Gym Bursary

Zoya T. says this motion should be discussed amongst finance committee.

Chair says committees of board but board can still make decisions but it does make sense to delegate committees but board can still make decisions.

Chris R. says gym bursary only covers half, if feasible the UTGSU should be able to cover the costs

Amir M. asks if we vote in favour but find out for some reason that we are unable to act on this motion, is that okay?

Chair says there is nothing legally binding if something were to supersede this motion from taking place.

Friedemann K. asks how much would we need to pay in order for this to be in effect? How much money is this actually going to cost? Is concerned about the scale of this motion.
MOTION: Whereas the current SGS summer gym bursary only provides approximately 50% of the summer gym membership cost reimbursement for the UofT Athletic Centre and Goldring Centre.

BIRT the UTGSU create an additional bursary to cover the difference in summer gym membership cost for the Athletic Centre and Goldring Centre not covered by the existing SGS summer gym bursary.

Friedemann K. puts forward a motion to table until we know how much money this is going to cost and if this is feasible. Chris R. seconds. Motion to table this motion for a future meeting passes unanimously.

Motion to extend meeting until 9 pm. Motion fails.

f. Budget Update to Website

MOTION: Whereas the UTGSU website has many out of date portions, and the past council agenda and BOD meeting minutes from 2022-2023 are missing from the google drive archive.

Whereas the most recent budget currently available on the UTGSU website is from 2019-2020.

BIRT the assembly, Board of Directors, and Executive meeting agendas and meeting minutes are added in full to the google drive archive.

BIFRT all subsequent budgets (including both the entire proposed 2023-2024 fiscal year budget as well as the individual detailed budgets for large sums proposed to be allocated over $5,000), fees, headgrant amounts and financial audits be uploaded to the UTGSU website and/or google drive archive and be made publicly available.

Chair rules this is redundant because it is already in bylaws.

Friedemann K. argues that it is in bylaws but is not in practice.

Chair rules that this should be a reminder to the Execs, not a motion.

Friedemann K. withdraws motion.

g. BDS Repeal and Removal

Friedemann K. says we should be politically neutral and close down this caucus and have them form a normal students group.
Neelofar A. says she would like to provide context for this caucus. She clarifies that we are not funding these caucuses, they have applied to UTGSU and we grant membership based on the number of students we have.

Friedemann K. asks about the funding to the BDS because the financial reports showed 5, 000 to BDS. Also questioning whether they are active. THinks it would be better for union to move out of

Chris R. calls to question, wants to move to call to vote and clear speaking list.

**MOTION:** Whereas 17.1.1 allows directors to amend or repeal any bylaw not contrary to law or the articles of continuance of the UTGSU.

Whereas the UTGSU is currently funding permanent caucuses with partisan political stances.

BIRT 6.2.6, which establishes a permanent and funded Boycott, Divestment & Sanctions caucus, be repealed and the caucus removed from 6.2- Caucuses of the UTGSU. Moved by Friedemann K. Seconded by Amir M. Motion carries with opposition.

h. Increasing Course Union Funding

**MOTION:** Whereas UTGSU Policy G1.3 stipulates that “any proposed policy or amendments to the policy may nevertheless be moved at any meeting, while discussion and voting will occur at the following meeting, for which no notice of intention need be given.”

BIRT a discussion occur at the current board of directors meeting on increasing course union funding (as stipulated in O1.12) to a higher percentage of course union fees.

BIFRT a specific funding increase motion be prepared to be voted on in the next UTGSU Board of Directors meeting.

Chair asks if this is a notice for a motion but not a motion itself.

Friedemann K. says yes, would like to have a discussion.

Chair says this is a discussion item instead of a motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 PM.
The following items were not discussed and should be added to the agenda for next BoD meeting.

i. Caucus and Committee Updates to BoD and Executives  
j. Weekly Reports of Execs to BoD in Oct Business

4. Reports  
a. Summary of Exec and Staff meetings  
b. External Meetings

5. Other Business

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Interim Chairperson / Jesse Velay-Vitow

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Interim Secretary / Aanshi Gandhi