

MINUTES

Special General Meeting of the University of Toronto Students' Union
Tuesday, February 5, 2013 | 18:00 | JJR Macleod Auditorium, MS 2158

VOTING MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Abdulai, Tawfiq
Abdulwahid, Hiba
Abrahams, Stephanie
Ackbarali, Fazia
Adesina, Zoe
Adi, Rita
Afify, Naurham
Agbeyegbe, Uranranebi
Agha, Sohail
Agwunobi, Obioma
Ahmed, Maged
Ahmed, Suhaib
Aho, Milan
Alul, Izzat
Amankwah, Nigel
Amos, David
Anand, Nahal
Anderison, Patrick
Andersson, Eric
Andison, Patrick
Annalingam, Roshan
Arif, Nabil
Armstrong, Madeline
Ascanio, Douglas
Ashraf, Areej
Assad, Chia
Ataullahjan, Shaanzeh
Athithan, Mayooran
Babich, Yaroslav
Baig, Noor
Barberousse, Nia-Imara
Barends-Ramirez, Gabriella
Baroni, Reem
Barrett, Daniel
Baruni, Reem
Bastan, Frishta
Bello, Ali Mustafa
Ben, Coteman
Berger, Sarah
Bhaftsy, Harkamal
Bhalla, Arjun
Bhardwaj, Anisha
Bharmal, Khadija
Bhatia, Auya
Bhatt, Kriti
Bhatt, Vickita
Blais-Jones, Gabrielle
Bogdanova, Paulina
Bollo-Kamara, Yolen
Boutillier, Misha
Boyjan, Sayf
Brar, Jaideep
Brian, Cullen

Brockman, Jake
Bronsveld, Joshua
Burns, Liam
Buttrey, Michael
Caseity, Levi
Ceho, Milan
Chakraborty, Abhinab
Chan, Zifin
Chandan, Rahul
Charney, Ariel
Chauvin-Smith, Dylan
Chen, He
Chen, Zijia
Chester, Laurel
Chin, Nicholas
Chin, Suyoung
chiou, Joel
Chohan, Amandeep
Choksi, Madiha
Clen, Kunsu
Cochrane, Grace
Cole, Jamie
Coleman, Ben
Conway, Lauren
Cowan, Michael
Crase, Benjamin
Crombie, Jonathan
Cudjoe, Abigail
Dallen, Scott
Defreertos, Lincoln
Deswal, Vaishali
DiCenzo, Daniel
Dimitri, Kyriakakis
Din, Neelam
Din, Nelom
Dionne, Benjamin
Djiwah, Olivia
Drissi-Smaili, Zineb
Edah Tally, Wazeer
Ekpunobi, Nzube
Elliott, Francesca
Emadi, Yasmeen
Fang, Dong
Farah, Farhia
Fishman, Aidan
Flynn, Aislin
Flynn, Peter
Fontana, Adam
Fraser, Caroline
Fulkerton, Leslie-An
Galang, Michael
Galary, Karl Oliver
Galvez, Maria Pilar
Gamponia, Stepanie

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Gerhasdt, David
Ghiassi, Arash
Ghide, Lauwan
Gobert, Shadrak
Gomes, Ryan
Gomes, Teresa
Gonsalves, Sara
Gourlay, Nichol
Gowani, Reema
Greene, Andrew
Greene, Samuel
Gretes, Nicole
Guo, Lei
Guo, Mangshan
Guo, Ruisi
Gupta, Gaurav
Haddadin, Tariq
Hamaimou, Fatima Zahra
Harfouche, Pierre
Hashim, Dalia
Hashiru, Baliqis
Hassan, Amir
Hassan, Mazin
Havili, Hassan
Haynh, Albert
He, Chen
Heckburn, Reina
Henry, Ella
Hersr, Abdi
Ho, Nancy
Homy, Dylan
Horton, Alanna
Huang, Isabella
Hunt, Aaron
Huynh, Albert
Idrees, Anoosh
Imran, Mashail
Jadidzadeh, Eric
Jennings, Emily
Johnson, Mellisha
Joshi, Supriya
Julien, Christian
Karew, Melodie
Kesesteciaghu, Damla
Keshavarz, Adel
Khan, Aymon
Khan, Khalid
Khan, Saba
Khan, Vere Marie
Kitai, David
Komal, Sameer
Korfmann, Andreas
Kumar, Nishi
Kurusamy, Gowthaman

Kyriakakis, Dimitri
Langille, Patrick
Lau, Matthew
Lee, Daniel
Levy, Mark
Li, Hao
Li, Xiang
Liunt, Aaron
Lomax, Virginia
Lunianga, Kevin
Maairanas, Andrea
Maceda, Zene May
Magnuson, Elisse
Maharaj, Rishie
Mahmood, Muhammed
Mahmood, Saad
Malik-Noor, Ali
Mario, Zaber
Martyts, Anastasiya
Mateo, Angelo
Mather, Rochelle Alyssa
Medow, Zachary
Mehdi, Manizay
Mills, Aldans
Mishra, Siddhart
Mitchell, Calvin
Mohajir, Hiba
Mohamud, Aidan
Mohan, Matthew
Moore, Dylan
Moreira, Marina
Morgenstern, Z.
Moteo, Angelo
Moyeen, Sara
Mughal, Falak
Mujiyambere, Dennis
Mukherjee, Tuneer
Munawar, Ibrahim
Nankivell, Sarah
Nestico, Andrew
Norouba, Raymond
Nuh, Yerusha
Oisason, Rein
Osei-Akoto, Veronica
Padgett, Neil Leonard
Papgett, Neil
Parkinson, Shauntel
Pejovic, Chris
Pellow, David
Phan, Helen
Pinto, Daniel
Pramanick, T
Pulluk, Seray
Qadeer, Umair

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Qazi, Kainat
Qidwai, Sarah
Qin, Daisy
Qu, Kathleen
Quennesville, Jacqueline
Radebe, Lebo
Radhakrishnan, Arun
Rahmani, Rhona
Rainbow, Drullen
Raja, Aisha
Rankin, Brian
Rau, Aditya
Raval, Jelum
Raza, Aisha
Ritchie, Jacob
Robinson, Denys
Rokhasefett, Sana
Rosado Ferrari, Lissette
Ryan, Phillips
Saafan, Ro'a
Saeed, Mohammad Ali
Saeed, Mohammad Umer
Saeed, Yousaf
Sajjad, Munib
Sandeela, Muhammed Bilal
Santos, Filipe
Scott, Corey
Sedaghat, Matine
Sedaghat, Mattie
Sessa, Elisa
Seto, Seann
Shah, Shaishav
Shah, Syed Taha
Shahrukh, Alyha
Shen, Hanwen
Shepherd, Shaun
Shhipar, Abdullah
Shun, Eric
Singh, Ashvin
Sinopoli, Juliano
Siu, Kevin P.
Slobodian, Grace
Smalling, Danielle
Snow, Shannon
Sobers, Melissa
Sodade, Babafumi
Solala, Aidan
Sukhu, Chantelle
Sumra, Sabiha
Tally, Wazeer
Tang, Gordon

Tang, Qian
Tanoli, Rohail
Tasvoosi-M, Mashima
Tefferi, Beniam
Theodore, Melissa
Thompson, Chris
Tingling, Keriann
To, Pok Man
Trawer, Maxwell
Tsianos, Vasileos
Tsilivis, Louis
Ursel, Andrew
Valentine, Cherri-Ann
Vigneswaron, Vpuler
Vogan, Katrina
Wahaj, Muzhgan
Wainberg, Michael
Wang, Jinyi
Warnica, Will
Wathey, Cameron
Williams, Wesley
Wojnarski, Steven
Woodbury, Donald
Xing, Jiaming
Yang, Yan
Yorgiadis, Nikki
Young, Neell
Youssef, Yasmine
Zadidzadeh, Eric
Zang, Ming
Zhang, Junyan
Zhou, Yang
Zhu, Junyin
Zhuk, Khrystyna

MEDIA IN ATTENDANCE:

Dutcher-Walls, Wesley, The Varsity
Imran, Junaid, The Medium
Schwartz, Jain, The Varisty
Damon, Yukon, The Newspaper
Thornley, Isaac, The Newspaper
Gospic, Bernerda, The Varsity
Hammadi, Murad, The Varsity
Oliver, Joshua, The Varsity
Ho, Larissa, The Medium
Zane Schwartz, The Varsity

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting is called to order at 18:37.

2. EXECUTIVE UPDATE

Shepherd welcomes attendees and introduces the executive committee. He provides an overview of the work of the UTSU over the past year, and encourages members to attend commission meetings. He provides an overview of the commissions and their priorities and work for the year. He states that services have expanded, and discusses the Winter Week of Welcome. He invites members to attend the XAO Speaker series and other events. He provides an overview of the Ancillary Fee Review and its purpose. He provides an overview of the Campus Food Services. He gives a brief overview of the Annual Report. Opens the floor to questions.

MOTION

Moved: G. Guo

Seconded: Sumra

Be it resolved that debate be limited to two speakers in favour and two speakers against, with two minutes for each speaker.

DEFEATED

MOTION

Moved: P. Bogdanova

Seconded: Lau

Be it resolved that motion 16 be moved to before motion one.

DEFEATED

3. OLD BUSINESS

2012 AGM – 01: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION

Moved: S. Shepherd

Seconded: C. Scott

DISCUSSION

CARRIED

2012 AGM – 02: RECEIPT OF THE 2011-2012 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MOTION

Moved: S. Shepherd

Seconded: C. Scott

DISCUSSION

The auditor provides an overview of the audited statements.

CARRIED

2012 AGM – 03: APPROVAL OF UTSU BYLAW CHANGES

MOTION

Moved: S. Shepherd

Seconded: C. Scott

DISCUSSION

C. Scott provides an overview of the changes within the Bylaw package.

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CARRIED

4. NEW BUSINESS – CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS DULY SERVED

2013 SGM – 01: MOTION TO OPPOSE UNPAID INTERNSHIPS & TRAINING PROGRAMS
10 minutes Moved: E. Henry Seconded: Shhipar

DISCUSSION

Henry states that her experience with internships drove her to write the motion. She states it is unfair that young workers are being asked to do work for free. She states that sometimes it is even illegal. She states that internships are not leading to paying jobs in our fields, but are contributing to youth unemployment.

Nautison states that while he agrees that it is unfair, it is an important part of building experience in the workforce. He states there are not enough paid internships, which will diminish the amount of. He states that it is a matter of student choice, and that it is not mandatory to do unpaid internships.

Barrett states he is in favour of the motion. Wage laws outline how people should be paid, and that it is really important to expose internships as exploitation that they are.

Sajjad states he is in favour. States that the corporatization and privatization of education has an effect on students, including a rise in unpaid internships. She states that the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities tried to enshrine this in universities through a white paper published this year.

Baig clarifies that the result of the motion being passed would be to allow the union to advocate and raise awareness.

Korfman states that he doesn't see the point in putting money towards advocacy against unpaid internships. He states that unpaid internships are learning experiences. He states that those who don't like it shouldn't apply.

Chauvin- Smith states that this is the first step to reducing the number of unpaid internships. We have to demand change in order for the business community to comply.

MOTION TO EXTEND THE SPEAKER'S LIST

Moved: Kendle Seconded: S. Qidway

DEFEATED

MAIN MOTION CARRIED

2013 SGM – 02: MOTION TO EXAMINE WINTER RESIDENCE FEES
10 minutes Moved: L. Annadavara Seconded: Sajjad

DISCUSSION

MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION

Moved: Robinson Seconded: Sajjad

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CARRIED

MAIN MOTION CARRIED

2013 SGM – 03:

10 minutes

MOTION TO INVESTIGATE ADDITIONAL MULTIFAITH SPACE

Moved: I. Cheema

Seconded: Hashim

DISCUSSION

Hashim states that there are no multi-faith spaces around King's College Circle nor in or around Gerstein library. He states that multi-faith spaces on campus are closed on weekends, and that it is a vital importance that there is space to pray, meditate and relax during studying. He states that additional space will help reduce students praying in stacks or looking for spaces on campus to pray.

MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION

Moved: Robinson

Seconded: Youssef

CARRIED

MAIN MOTION CARRIED

2013 SGM – 04:

10 minutes

MOTION TO CONDEMN AND TAKE ACTION AGAINST “A VOICE FOR MEN”

Moved: C. Scott

Seconded: A. Charney

DISCUSSION

Scott states that there has been harassment and violence experienced by students by the owners of the website 'avoiceformen.com'. He states that other students have been frightened away from speaking about this issue.

Quenneville states that she opposes misogyny but is opposed to the motion. She states that feminists should not block doors or call people scum or use profane language. She states that the men who ran the Men's Rights event on November 16 were likely misogynists and that the views spoken there were disgusting. She states that she is more afraid to be a feminist because of the way that the students' union is coming out against avoiceformen.com. She states that this motion will cause a backlash against feminists and that she speaks opposed to the motion.

Williams, W. states that he was at the Men's Rights event on November 16. He states that he must condemn avoiceformen.com. He states that actions taken by protesters were regrettable and unbecoming of students of this university. He states that the feminist movement was tainted by the protesters. He states that the website avoiceformen.com attacked specific students at the university. He states that the owners of the website sunk to the level of the protesters outside the event. He states that students have no choice but to condemn the website, its owners and to hold a townhall. He states that avoiceformen.com is not approaching this in a mature manner. He states that we should not “do nothing”.

MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION

Moved: Tanoli

Seconded: Mugal

DEFEATED

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Ostenson states that he understands why people are upset about avoiceformen.com. He states that campus police were not called to "repress" protesters of the event. He states that the campus police dealt with the situation very fairly. He states that the protesters were the ones repressing free speech. He states that Dr. Warren Farrell is well-respected by feminists and was once himself a feminist. He states that he is not a misogynist and does not hate women. He states that we should not condemn people based on a divergence of opinion. He states that everyone should vote against this motion.

Pardo, A. states that avoiceformen.com has been very violent. They have likened women to Nazi Germany and the Taliban. She states that she is afraid to speak about this publicly, but refuses to be silenced.

Gomes states that he condemns the event that took place. He states he watched a video of protesters at the event, and that the actions of the protesters were disturbing. He states that the protesters harassed attendees and the police, and that some of what they said sank to the level of the misogynistic speaker

MOTION TO EXTEND THE DISCUSSION BY FIVE MINUTES

Moved: Tavoosi

Seconded: Chiou

DEFEATED

MAIN MOTION CARRIED

2013 SGM – 05: MOTION TO HOST A CLUBS TOWN HALL AND TO CREATE A CLUBS BOX OFFICE

10 minutes

Moved: S. Parkinson

Seconded: D. Chauvin-Smith

DISCUSSION

Parkinson states that it is important for the UTSU Executive Committee to talk to club executive members. States that it is difficult to coordinate office hours to sell tickets. The UTSU is central, and it is important to help with ticket sales.

T. Prammanick states that she supports the idea. A clubs town hall could help to bring campus together. From a social perspective it is a great idea.

MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION

Moved: Burashi

Seconded: Burger

CARRIED

MAIN MOTION CARRIED

2013 SGM – 06: MOTION TO ELIMINATE THE USE OF STYROFOAM FOOD CONTAINERS ON CAMPUS

10 minutes

Moved: A. Raja

Seconded: Burger

DISCUSSION

Raja states that the intention is to raise awareness of sustainable environmental practices on campus.

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MOTION TO LIMIT DEBATE TO TWO MINUTES PER SPEAKER

Moved: Sajjad

Seconded: Guo

CARRIED

Moore states that there are alternatives to Styrofoam containers. States that it can cause health complications for workers. States that we should be aware of potential issues, and that it should be kept in mind.

MOTION TO AMEND

Moved: Cudjoe

Seconded: Raja

Be it resolved that a clause be added that states:

“Be it further resolved that the UTSU investigate sustainable alternatives to Styrofoam and plastic containers used on campus”.

CARRIED

Warnica states that we should look into relabeling Styrofoam.

Tavoosi states she supports the motion. States that those on campus who are environmentally conscious are limited by the choices available to them. States that Robarts implemented a good system.

Huynh states that he agrees with the intent of the motion, but that alternatives can be harmful and that needs to be considered. States that we need to ensure we have infrastructure available if we eliminate Styrofoam containers on campus. States that Styrofoam can be recycled. States that the wording should be reconsidered.

Said states that Styrofoam containers make a lot of waste and that it is our collective responsibility to do something about this.

Shah states that we need to find sustainable alternatives to Styrofoam containers. States that recyclables need to be relabeled to include Styrofoam.

MAIN MOTION CARRIED

2013 SGM – 07: MOTION TO INCLUDE PRESIDENT’S ADDRESS AND MEMBERS’ FORUM AT AGM

10 minutes

Moved: J. Ding

Seconded: C. Scott

DISCUSSION

MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION

Moved: Robinson

Seconded: Julian

CARRIED

MAIN MOTION CARRIED

2013 SGM – 08: MOTION TO ENDORSE IDLE NO MORE

10 minutes

Moved: S. Gobert

Seconded: Bhatt

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DISCUSSION

Sajjad states that Gobert could not be there due to a death in the family. States that Idle No More is a huge movement in Canada. States that Bill C-45 made changes to many acts that affect indigenous people, but without the involvement of first nations communities. He states that treaties should be respected and that we are all treaty people.

Cowan states that he doesn't have issue with this being an important issue, but it has nothing to do with UofT, so it is not practical or relevant to students at UofT. He states that when a union endorses for or against federal issues, it divides the campus. He states that it is not necessary for the UTSU to take a stance on a federal issue.

Chauvin-Smith states the issue is relevant to people at UofT. states that the Post-Secondary Student Support Program that provides funds for status indigenous people to attend post-secondary education is underfunded. States that it is about respecting treaty rights, and that extends beyond land claims and navigable waters.

Korffman states that it is a politicized issue, and that a students' union should not go against a group of students who might take issue with this particular federal issue. States that it's the union's job to promote discussion through clubs funding. States that it is not the union's job to have these debates, and our money is best spent promoting groups which already do this work on campus.

Baig states that it is important that we take a principled stance. States that the UTSU's mandate states that our purpose isn't just limited to events, but extends to issues of equity and marginalization both on campus and in society. States that part of our mandate is to advocate for those who face marginalization. States it is part of our mandate to work towards a society who values the lives of all members.

MOTION TO EXTEND DEBATE FOR 7 MINUTES

Moved: Fullerton

Seconded: Burger

DEFEATED

MAIN MOTION CARRIED

2013 SGM – 09:
10 minutes

MOTION TO EXTEND AGM NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

Moved: J. Ding

Seconded: C. Scott

DISCUSSION

Coleman states that the new Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act, this will be a requirement. He states that it will increase turnout at AGM meetings.

MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION

Moved: Gomes

Seconded: Chauvin-Smith

CARRIED

MAIN MOTION CARRIED

2013 SGM – 10:
10 minutes

MOTION TO PROVIDE NOTICE AND SET DEADLINE FOR AGM ITEMS

Moved: J. Ding

Seconded: C. Scott

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DISCUSSION

Scott states that the motion would set forth guidelines in terms of when agenda items are due. This currently is not included within our bylaws.

CARRIED

2013 SGM – 11: MOTION TO LOBBY FOR INCREASED STUDENT REPRESENTATION IN UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE AND TO INCREASE TRI-CAMPUS COLLABORATION

10 minutes

Moved: A. Ursel

Seconded: Valentine

DISCUSSION

Ursel provides an overview of the tri-campus governance issue. States that student representation on Scarborough and University of Toronto Mississauga are being diminished. States that there is a review coming up in a year, and that we would like to continue to work with everyone to lobby for better representation.

Fishman states he is in opposition. States that he is an undergrad on Governing Council. States that he is in favour of increased student representation on governance were it possible. States that the proposal doesn't simply argue for increased representation, but for ex-officio student seats on Governing Council. States that the motion is blatantly undemocratic. States that tri-campus governance is important to students unions, they should be more democratic in the process.

Sajjad states that the work done in the coalition has been to ask for ex-officio non-voting seats. States we represent students, and going from 64 to three or four seats is wrong, and we should be fighting for greater democracy at UofT. states that students are chief stakeholders in this issue.

Prammanick states that we need people serving on college councils who are aware of issues on campus, and that students' union representatives are well equipped to represent students on university governance.

Galvez states that she was on Governing Council when this motion was raised there. States that the motion wasn't approved because there was not enough consultation with parties involved. The composition of the University of Toronto Mississauga and University of Toronto Scarborough councils was not approved. There were not enough people representing stakeholders on campus, including students in this proposal the motion was approved in principle but not the composition.

MOTION TO EXTEND THE SPEAKERS' LIST

Moved: Harfouche

Seconded: Din

DEFEATED

MAIN MOTION CARRIED

2013 SGM – 12: MOTION TO CAMPAIGN FOR THE INCLUSION OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNING COUNCIL

10 minutes

Moved: M. Ali Saeed

Seconded: M. Umer Saeed

DISCUSSION

Saeed states that the policy is xenophobic and should be voted down.

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Flynn states that to sit on the Governing Council and to understand university governance, one must be a Canadian citizen.

Sajjad states that not including international students is xenophobic and we should be allowing international students to be representatives, especially as the university seeks international students. We need to open the act, as it is outdated and we should all look into why international students are not included as representatives.

Tavoosi states she is in favour of the motion. States that its not just international students who can't run, those who are domestic students do not have citizenship. States that it is discriminatory because the government is slow in processing citizenship applications.

Pramannick states that international students have a huge role to play in life at UofT. States that seeing as the motion was passed in 1971, it is outdated and encourages members to pass the motion.

CARRIED

2013 SGM – 13: MOTION TO REDUCE GM PROXIES TO A MAXIMUM OF FIVE

10 minutes

Moved: J. Ding

Seconded: C. Scott

DISCUSSION

Coleman states that the reason behind this is that the proxy system is not being used properly. States that the point of the proxy system is for accessibility, not for political reasons. States that the simplest solution was to cut the number in half, which reduces the ability to abuse the proxy system.

Gomes states that he values the thought behind the amendment, but that it makes the proxy system worse rather than better. States that there are many students who cannot attend, and by reducing the number of proxies it reduces the students who have voices in these meetings. States that voices should not be limited.

Kendall states that at the AGM and the agenda was voted down by 2000 votes, though only 237 people were in room. States that members should attend only to represent themselves, because members can't share same views.

Chauvin-Smith states that the impetus behind the motion is that there is an abuse of the proxy system at times. States he opposes the motion because it reduces the potential for representation. States there is no space to hold all of our members so that everyone can have a voice. He states that there is a need to balance the potential for abuse and the need for representation. He states that other means of limiting abuse should be considered and that he is against the motion.

MOTION TO EXTEND DEBATE BY FIVE MINUTES

Moved: Cowan

Seconded: Anderson

DEFEATED

MAIN MOTION DEFEATED

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2013 SGM – 14: MOTION TO REDUCE REQUIRED NOMINATIONS FOR CANDIDACY

10 minutes

Moved: J. Ding

Seconded: C. Scott

DISCUSSION

Greene states that he presented the motion to the Board of Directors, and that the Board of Directors supported it. States that the 200 nominations is a barrier to many students. The nomination process should be accessible. Other political campaigns require 100 nominations.

MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION

Moved: Robinson

Seconded: Saeed

DEFEATED

MAIN MOTION CARRIED

2013 SGM – 15: MOTION TO CREATE AN ANTI-WAR COALITION

10 minutes

Moved: K. Ball

Seconded: Sedaghat

DISCUSSION

Sajjad states that history shows that students are leaders of change internationally. States that government spending on military is much more than education, and that we should be telling our government to prioritize education over military interests.

Boutillier states there are problems with the motion. States that the criticism that Canada is spending too much on military is wrong. He states spending has been cut. States that Canada spends less than the United States and that the government has cancelled the F35 jets program. States that we need both military and education, and that he thinks the motion is very one-sided.

Smith states that the government only stopped pursuing the fighter jets after public outcry. States that students are at the forefront of the fight for political democracy in the Middle East, they were in the forefront of anti-war movements, and the civil rights movement.

Korffman states that students have a tremendous influence in politics. He states that taxes are like student society fees, and students shouldn't be engaged in this through their union. States that clubs funding should be allocated to clubs who deal with this issue.

Tavoosi states she is in favour of the motion. States that if there is a war, all of us will be involved. Personal is political, and that members need to remember that this issue involves all of us. States that government needs to prioritize education.

Lu states that students unions are not the best place for this voice to come from. He states that the best mechanism to advocate is through political action groups. States motion is ambiguous, and not based on empirical evidence. States that it doesn't connect to the mandate of the students union. He states that there is no tangible plan of action for this motion.

MOTION TO EXTEND DEBATE BY FOUR MINUTES

Moved: Atchison

Seconded: Morgenstern

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MOTION TO REVEAL THE VOTE COUNT OF MOTION 2013 SGM – 15

Moved: Korffman

Seconded: Langille

CARRIED

2013 SGM – 15 VOTE COUNT: 520 IN FAVOUR, 470 OPPOSED

2013 SGM – 16: MOTION TO IMPLEMENT ELECTORAL REFORM RECOMMENDATIONS

10 minutes

Moved: B. Dionne

Seconded: Greene

DISCUSSION

Dionne states that the declaration has been supported by many college societies, and lists the supporters. Provides an overview of the recommendations. States that he wants it to be passed before the next election period.

MOTION TO AMEND

Moved: Robinson

Seconded: Moore

Be it resolved that the special general meeting of feb 5, 2013 strongly recommends that the union adopt a system of online voting in time for the coming election.

Be it further resolved that that the other recommendations of the non-partisan be further studied by the union.

DISCUSSION

Robinson states that the evidence for online voting is not as strong as it could be, but not that strong against.

Scott states that the UTSU is conducting a study of common practices. He states that UofT doesn't have a great record of online voting. He states that there are lots of reasons for concern with online voting. He states that the system is less transparent, as individuals will require technical qualifications to adequately scrutinize the vote. He states that such a system is more open to tampering because it is accessible anywhere. He states that other students' unions, including student societies at UofT have experienced difficulty with online voting. He states that the consequences could be costly.

Gomes states that he is upset that the executive has been against looking into online voting. He states that our tuition is taken care of online, as is banking. He states that voting is the same thing. He states that it will help make elections more accessible, and taking away his right to vote is undemocratic.

MOTION TO CALL THE AMENDMENT TO QUESTION

Moved: Sharouf

Seconded: Sumra

CARRIED

MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED

MINUTES

Special General Meeting of the University of Toronto Students' Union
Tuesday, February 5, 2013 | 18:00 | JJR Macleod Auditorium, MS 2158

Tavoosi states that online voting may increase accessibility, but also raises security concerns, including interference from the university administration. She states that the provincial and federal governments are not yet ready to move to online voting so we cannot do so, either.

MOTION TO EXTEND DEBATE BY TEN MINUTES

Moved: Qidway

Seconded: Chauvin-Smith

CARRIED

Chair states that quorum has been lost.

MOTION TO RECESS FOR 20 MINUTES

Moved: Maharaj

Seconded Giovanni

DEFEATED

MOTION TO RECESS FOR 10 MINUTES

Moved: Harfouche

Seconded Cole

CARRIED

The meeting is recessed at 22:06.

The meeting is called to order at 22:21.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved: Baig

Seconded: Farah

DEFEATED

MOTION TO ADJOURN TO RECOVENE ON FEBRUARY 12, 2013 AT 18:30.

Moved: Dionne

Seconded: Cole

MOTION TO AMEND

Moved: Korffman

Seconded: Cowan

Be it resolved that the room to which the general meeting reconvenes is a room that is the same size or larger.

MOTION TO CALL THE AMENDMENT TO QUESTION

Moved: Harfouche

Seconded: Cowan.

CALL TO QUESTION CARRIED

AMENDMENT CARRIED

MAIN MOTION CARRIED

The meeting is adjourned at 22:39.

MINUTES

Special General Meeting of the University of Toronto Students' Union
Tuesday, February 12, 2013 | 18:00 | Earth Sciences Auditorium, ES 1050

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting is called to order at 18:09.

2013 SGM – 16: MOTION TO IMPLEMENT ELECTORAL REFORM RECOMMENDATIONS

10 minutes

DISCUSSION (CONTINUED)

Buttrey states that the Election's process will be improved. He states that last Saturday was the last day to propose any changes to election. He states that the Elections and Referenda Committee has rewritten the election procedures and explains the new amendments to the election process. He states that the Elections and Referenda Committee has discussed the rights of the CRO and and states that the Committee will continue to work hard to improve the election process and wishes to receive feedback.

Greene states that he is glad that changes have been made. He also states that he wants to look at online voting. He states that voting.utoronto.ca is available. He states that those opposed to him claim is that the university will rig the election. He states that this is to hide corruption and lies from his opposition.

The Chair requests that speakers refrain from accusatory language.

Henry states that other students' unions have experienced costly difficulties with online elections. She states that the University of British Columbia, Alberta, London Metropolitan University of Essex and others that have faced problems with an online voting system. She states that aside concerns of fairness and transparency, there has been no evidence of corruption in the current system used by the UTSU.

Maharaj states that this is an issue of security. He states that the question is about whether or not it is possible to build a secure an online voting system. He estimates that over 50 per cent of Canadians use online banking. He states that this proves that the electorate will trust online voting.

Scott states that the online banking technology are inherently meant to track user activity. This means that all activity is necessarily tracked, whether problematic or legitimate, so that any activity can be traced to its source. He states that voting is meant to be a secret system. Votes are not to be tracked to allow for a secret ballot. Any attempt to track votes is problematic. He also states that Elections Canada provides the UTSU with the balloting materials and that scrutineers can observe each part of the process. He states that there are not technical requirements needed to ensure that a fair vote has taken place with a paper ballot, unlike an online system.

Su states the concern of traceability is a hypothetical problem. He states that the University of Toronto's online system cannot trace votes. He states that if students trust the University of Toronto with their tuition fees, they should trust the university's online voting system.

Andrew R from UTM states a point of personal privilege – can't hear due to technical difficulties

Chair states that the current debate at hand has passed the 10 minute threshold.

MOTION TO EXTEND DEBATE BY TEN MINUTES

MINUTES

Special General Meeting of the University of Toronto Students' Union
Tuesday, February 12, 2013 | 18:00 | Earth Sciences Auditorium, ES 1050

Moved: Brown

Seconded: Lunianga

DEFEATED

IN FAVOUR: 575

OPPOSED: 567

MAIN MOTION CARRIED

MOTION TO ADJOURN TO RECONVENE ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2013.

Moved: Korffman

Seconded: Langille

DISCUSSION

M. Tavoosi asks for clarification on what would happen if the meeting was to adjourn without a resolution to reconvene.

The Chair explains that if adjourned the motions are renewable at commission or board meetings.

N. Baig states that these motions can be brought up at commission meetings.

DEFEATED

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved: A. Saeed

Seconded: Robinson

CARRIED

The meeting adjourns at 19:23.