



Minutes– Board of Directors

**4th Meeting of 2021-2022
29 August 2021 | 3:00 PM EST**

Video Conference held via Zoom

IN ATTENDANCE

Present

Executive Committee

Alexa Ballis, President
Fiona Reuter, VP Operations
Reva Aggarwal, VP Equity
Ruoheng Wang, VP Professional Faculties

Division I Directors (Colleges, Academic Divisions,
and Transitional Year Programme)

Easha Khan, University College Director
Muskan Nagra, University College Director
Rayan Alim, St. Michael's College Director
David D'Aversa, St. Michael's College Director
Caroline Tolton, Trinity College Director
Halit Erdogan, Victoria College Director
Ramtin Taramsari, New College Director
Elad Dekel, Innis College Director
Victoria Liu, Social Sciences Director
Jessie Wu, Humanities Director

Division II Directors (Professional Faculties)

Sheral Kumar, Engineering Director
Catherine Tan, Music Director
Vicdan Okman, Architecture & Visual
Studies Director
Maria Ebeid, Professional Faculties-at-Large
Director
Sterling Mancuso Law Director
Dariya Darwin, Medicine Director

Visitors and Non-Voting

Cedric Jiang, The Varsity
Evan Kanter
Margaret De Leon

Executive Assistants, UTSU

Emmanuel Sackeyfio, Chief Operations Assistant
Rebecca Wan, EA Operations
Foti Vito, EA R & A (PUA)
Nicole Giebler, EA R & A (PUA)
Emiri Katakawa, EA R & A (Equity)
Maddie Kalda, EA R & A (Pro Fac)

Staff Team

Nicole Johnson, Executive Coordinator, UTSU
Yara Kodersshah, People & Culture Manager, UTSU
Arlene Williams, Learning & Development, UTSU

Absent

Catherine Lai, VP Public & University Affairs
Maria Lin, VP Student Life
Stuti Roy, Victoria College Director
Jenny Shen, Woodsworth College Director
Katherine Jung, Life Sciences Director
Roshawn Jamasi, Rotman Commerce Director
Nelson Lee, Engineering Director
Sydney Munro, KPE Director
Hailey Goldberg, Nursing Director
Oluwadamilola (Dami) Sogbesan
Pharmacy Director

Regrets

Neo Lou, Engineering Director



MINUTES

Open Session

1. Call to Order

This meeting is called to order at 3:11 PM.

2. Approval of Agenda

RESOLUTION

MOVED: BALLIS

SECONDED: WU

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3. Consent Agenda

3.1 Meetings of the Board of Directors and Committees

RESOLUTION

MOVED: REUTER

SECONDED: AGGARWAL

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following be approved as presented in the appendices:

1. **Meetings of the Board of Directors**
3rd Meeting of the 2021-2022 Board of Directors, 25 July 2021
2. **Meetings of Committees**
Student Aid Committee, 26 July 2021 (4th Meeting)
Clubs Committee, 27 July 2021 (2nd Meeting)
Campaigns & Outreach Committee, 30 July 2021 (2nd Meeting)
Finance Committee, 6 August 2021 (4th Meeting)
Student Aid Committee, 9 August 2021 (5th Meeting)
Executive Committee, 13 August 2021 (3rd Meeting)
Finance Committee, 13 August 2021 (5th Meeting)
Governance Committee, 15 August 2021 (3rd Meeting)
Campaigns & Outreach Committee, 17 August 2021 (3rd Meeting)
Services Committee, 18 August 2021 (2nd Meeting)
Elections & Referenda Committee, 20 August 2021 (1st Meeting)
3. **Meetings of the First Year Council**
12th Meeting of the FYC Summer Commission, 28 July 2021

CARRIED

3.2 Executive Reports

DISCUSSION ITEM

1. **Executive Reports**
August 2021 Report of the President



August 2021 Report of the Vice-President, Operations
August 2021 Report of the Vice-President, Equity
August 2021 Report of the Vice-President, Student Life
August 2021 Report of the Vice-President, Professional Faculties

Ballis delivered her report and highlighted the August Town Hall that detailed the Student Commons and the Fall semester, the meeting with Accessibility Services, and a Covid-19 plan for in-person Clubs Fair. She also went over a few details regarding UMLAP finalization. A report summarizing how the past CFS OGM's went will be released soon.

Reuter highlighted changes to the Health and Dental plan, specifically a switch in provider. She noted that the AGM is upcoming. She also briefly noted the quarterly report and the Orientation budget, as well as the approval of the amounts for Committee Initiatives, which will be beginning to be processed the following week.. Finally, she stated that the Student Commons is opening soon.

Aggarwal noted that the previous month has been focused on training club leaders. Around 240 have been trained so far and there are 100 to go before the Club Fair. She is collaborating with Lin on these tasks. She also met with the Jewish Student Alliance to talk about what support they need and met with the Youth Policy Forum regarding their advocacy campaign. Help will be offered to them in promoting this event around the first week of October.

Wang noted that she is working on mental health related endeavours, including mental health inventory and the profac students returning to campus;

3.3 Question Period

DISCUSSION ITEM

Mancuso raised two questions, the first regarding ways to encourage students to vote given that Elections Canada isn't doing on campus voting this year. The second question is regarding whether a list of student issues will be compiled and sent out to the parties.

Ballis answered that campaigns that encourage students to vote are currently being planned, as well as a debate that would be focused on student-centered issues. The UTSU is also thinking of doing a roundtable U of T vote.

Mancuso posed a question to Reuter regarding the decision to switch healthcare providers to Greenshield. He wanted to know whether there will not be reductions in coverage as part of this plan, and the basis on which this is being guaranteed. Certain students have gone to pick up a recurring prescription and found that their coverage under the U of T plan had gone down to 80%. Mancuso wondered if this was what was supposed to happen.

Reuter responded that that was not supposed to happen because Greenshield offers the exact same benefits and coverage as the previous insurance provider, and that this



change wouldn't have been made if the benefits were going to be reduced. The students in question should make contact with Studentcare to have their issue resolved.

Erdogan asked if future BOD meetings will be in person or online. If in person, he wondered if all students will be able to attend.

Reuter explained that there has always been the option for students to attend online, so anyone can call in at any time. In person meetings will ideally be at the end of the year but it is conditional on safety, which is always a priority.

Ballis added that for now they will remain online because the university's regulations keep changing.

4. **Approval of Annual General Meeting Package**

RESOLUTION

MOVED: REUTER

SECONDED: ERDOGAN

WHEREAS Bylaw III(a) describes the items to be distributed at the UTSU's Annual General Meeting; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT that the Board of Directors call the 2021 Annual General Meeting to be held on October 8th, 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that the Board of Directors approve the Annual General Meeting Package as presented in Appendix A.

DISCUSSION

Reuter noted that this is a standard item required by bylaws. The team is attempting to have the AGM a bit earlier in October, which is typically at the mid-end of the month but that is when students have midterms so, in an effort to make it more accessible, it was moved up earlier. An internal working group is currently being formed to talk about preparations for the AGM and everything is on track. Notice for member submitted motions went out already, and a list of all deadlines was made to make sure everything will be on time. If there ends up being an in-person meeting, there will be an online option as well. October 8th seems like a good time because classes for the week will have finished by then. Changes are being made to a few bylaws that will offer more of a blank slate to restructure the People and Culture policies and Appellate Board. However, approval of the meeting date is required before the meeting can actually happen.

CARRIED



5. Striking of FYC Hiring Committee

RESOLUTION

MOVED: REUTER

SECONDED: DEKEL

WHEREAS the President and Vice-President Professional Faculties were appointed as the executive members of the First Year Council Hiring Committee at the 13 August 2021 meeting of the Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS the Outgoing Executive of the First Year Council are to be automatically appointed to the First Year Council Hiring Committee, as per the First Year Council Policy; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED that _____ and _____ be appointed to the First Year Council Hiring Committee as the Directors from Division I and II to fill the two remaining vacancies.

DISCUSSION

Reuter provided an overview of the committee. Applications have gone out and students are in the process of applying. These applications will be reviewed starting September 10th and a video interview component will follow. The final First Year Council will be finalized by the end of september.

Ballis asked for self nominations or nominations of others. One for Division I and one for Division II.

Wu nominated themselves for the Division I vacancy.

Alim nominated themselves for the Division I vacancy.

Erdogan nominated themselves for the Division I vacancy.

Tan nominated themselves for the Division II vacancy.

Wu stated that she was elected in the same period last year, serving as the events chair of FYC. Did her best to make sure that the FYC had an impact on all first year students, hosting online events, biweekly game nights, etc. to foster a positive online environment. She knows the impact the FYC can have on incoming first years so she feels very passionate about the FYC.

Alim promises to bring a different perspective to the committee in which more non-traditional extracurricular activities are considered whereas they are generally overlooked.

Erdogan stated that he has worked with non profits' hiring assistants and was actively involved in the recruitment process, so is familiar with the process. He is confident that he will be able to use his experience to better the team in a positive way.

The meeting entered recess at 3:44 PM and reconvened at 3:50 PM.



5.1 Motion to Amend

RESOLUTION

MOVED: REUTER

SECONDED: ADDARWAL

BE IT RESOLVED that Jessie Wu and Catherine Tan be appointed to the First Year Council Hiring Committee as the Directors from Division I and II to fill the two remaining vacancies.

CARRIED

CARRIED

6. First Quarter Quarterly Report - Appendix B

DISCUSSION ITEM

PRESENTED: REUTER

Reuter stated that everything is on track for the year. The first section of the quarterly report focuses on income streams, using a good amount of budget so far and making about 0.35% of total income for the year. She drew attention to other income sections which have started to be integrated, which can only be used for certain programs. She also noted that in general, not all the budgeted other income has been collected yet.

7. Approval of FYC Summer Commission Transition Report

RESOLUTION

MOVED: BALLIS

SECONDED: REUTER

WHEREAS the First Year Council Summer Commission was appointed to their seats by the previous council; and,

WHEREAS the First Year Council Reference Manual (FYC-008) stipulates that the approval of the FYC Summer Commission honorarium is “contingent upon the incoming Board of Directors’ assessment of their attendance and fulfillment of duties”; and,

WHEREAS the First Year Council Summer Commission has drafted a report detailing their work for the summer; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED that the First Year Council Transition Team Report for 2020, included in Appendix C, be approved as presented by the Board of Directors, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Directors approve the \$150.00 honorarium for all eligible First Year Council Summer Commission members.



CARRIED

8. UTSU Open Letter Regarding the Fall Semester

RESOLUTION

MOVED: DEKEL

SECONDED: WU

WHEREAS the UTSU Executive has written an Open Letter regarding the University's plans for the fall semester and re-opening of campus; and,

WHEREAS the Open Letter invites the signatures of other students in support; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED that the UTSU Board of Directors add their signature to the Open Letter as presented in Appendix D.

DISCUSSION

Dekel stated that the Executive wrote a very thought-out letter and is glad that the University has changed their proof of vaccination standards. He noted that the Board of Directors should back this letter.

Nagra stated that the University College Student Union met earlier that day, and that the letter was discussed there. She stated that
Concern that the beginning of the letter sounded like UTSU wanted the letter to be entirely online

Ballis thanked Nagra for their feedback, and stated that the UTSU was asking for online option. She stated that it was useful to know the letter's interpretation

Mancuso stated that he received an email at his UTSU account from a group of anti-vaxxers, and that it raises the spectre that there may be a group of students who may wish to target the UTSU. He stated that he fully supports the letter, but is worried about what may happen.

Ballis thanked Mancuso for the information, and stated that they will talk more if necessary. She noted that she believes they made the right decision for the safety of students, but that it is good to be aware of rising anti-vaccination sentiments on campus.

CARRIED

9. Other Business

DISCUSSION ITEM

PRESENTED: LIU



Liu asked about vaccination plans for international students.

Ballis stated that they are aware of some issues for international students, and that there will be vaccination clinics on campus. She stated that for those with a vaccine that is not Canada-approved, they may have only one dose of an approved vaccine.

Liu stated that the vaccination clinics would be very useful, and asked if the vaccine would be free for international students.

Ballis confirmed that they would be free, as well as the COVID tests.

Mancuso stated that the Vice-President Public & University Affairs was missing, and asked if this was an oversight.

Ballis stated that there was no report submitted for this time period.

Mancuso asked if there were any updates from the portfolio.

Ballis stated that Lai was not in attendance, and that she can't speak to the lack of report. She encouraged anyone with questions to email Lai.

D'Aversa asked how students and faculty will be submitting their proof of vaccination.

Ballis stated that it will be through UCheck, and that the portal will be open in early September.

10. **Adjournment**

RESOLUTION

MOVED: ALIM

SECONDED: DEKEL

BE IT RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourns at 4:06 PM.

Appendices Listed on Following Page



APPENDICES

- **Consent Agenda**

Link: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13y8JfObig_rwN4zLLAWN32aBd-ZY5kSM?usp=sharing

A Annual General Meeting Package

Link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1yGAm94b5c9nizgkmt0Sg6UivcSzLg8NrS?usp=sharing>

B First Quarterly Report (May-August)

Link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/13kcJPtGalShme3tx1tnbL3eiv_NZZG1j/view?usp=sharing

C FYC Summer Commission Transition Report

Link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ICGNDK3nFOOL0IYLe5D5LYx-qpyx_X9p/view?usp=sharing

D UTSU Open Letter regarding the Fall Semester

Link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iMrGkuwNFqJHWA0xaligJt-YBSkn3Xpa/view>