



Minutes – Board of Directors

**9 Meeting of 2021-2022
30 January 2022 | 2:00 PM EST**

Video Conference held via Zoom

ATTENDANCE

Present

Executive Committee

Alexa Ballis, President
Fiona Reuter, VP Operations
Omar Gharbiyeh, VP Public & University Affairs
Maria Lin, VP Student Life
Reva Aggarwal, VP Equity
Ruoheng Wang, VP Professional Faculties

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

Muskan Nagra, University College Director
Nicholas Merrithew, University College Director
Rayan Alim, St. Michael's College Director
David D'Aversa, St. Michael's College Director
Kati Gunnell, St. Michael's College Director
Caroline Tolton, Trinity College Director
Halit Erdogan, Victoria College Director
Janice Shum, Woodsworth College Director
Ramtin Taramsari, New College Director
Mandy Chiu, New College Director
Samantha Chow, New College Director
Elad Dekel, Innis College Director
Kathryn Cheng, Mathematical and Physical
Sciences Director
Katherine Jung, Life Sciences Director
Victoria Liu, Social Sciences Director
Jessie Wu, Humanities Director

Division II Directors (Professional Faculties)

Nelson Lee, Engineering Director
Neo Lou, Engineering Director
Sheral Kumar, Engineering Director
Sydney Munro, KPE Director
Catherine Tan, Music Director
Sterling Mancuso Law Director
Hailey Goldberg, Nursing Director
Oluwadamilola (Dami) Sogbesan, Pharmacy
Director
Dariya Darvin, Medicine Director
Maria Ebeid, Professional Faculties-at-Large
Director

Executive Assistants, UTSU

Emmanuel Sackeyfio, Chief Operations Assistant
Tran Thai, Chief Executive Assistant
Nicole Giebler, EA R & A (President)
Konrad Samsel, EA R & A (PUA)
Emiri Katakawa, EA R & A (Equity)
Maddie Kalda, EA R & A (Pro Fac)
Chelsea Song, EA Student Life

Staff Team

Branden Cave, Speaker
Ankit Sharma, Director of Operations, UTSU
Arlene Williams, Learning & Development, UTSU

Visitors and Other Non-Voting

Faiz Jan (FYC)
Hasna Hafidzah (FYC)
Latisha (The Varsity)
Lauren Alexander (The Varsity)
Rebecca Sy (FYC)

Absent

Easha Khan, University College Director
Vicdan Okman, Architecture & Visual
Studies Director

Regrets

Francyves Shanira, Woodsworth College Director
Jenny Shen, Woodsworth College Director



MINUTES

Open Session

1. Call to Order

This meeting is called to order at 2:15 PM.

2. Approval of Agenda

RESOLUTION

MOVED: REUTER

SECONDED: MUNROE

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: BALLIS

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

1. **Meeting of the Board of Directors**
8th Meeting of the 2021-2022 Board of Directors, 9 December 2021
2. **Meetings of Committees**
Student Aid Committee, 14 January 2022 (14th Meeting)
Elections & Referenda Committee, 17 January 2022 (5th Meeting)
Equity & Accessibility Committee, 20 January 2022 (4th Meeting)
3. **Meetings of the First Year Council**
First Year Council, 28 November 2021
First Year Council, 20 January 2022

CARRIED

4. Executive Reports

DISCUSSION ITEM

Executive Reports

January 2022 Report of the President
January 2022 Report of the Vice-President, Operations
January 2022 Report of the Vice-President, Public & University Affairs
January 2022 Report of the Vice-President, Student Life

DISCUSSION

Ballis stated that the majority of her work was in her report, but highlighted UCRU's lobby week. She stated that she met with two MPs to discuss student priorities, and that they seemed



receptive of most. She stated that some meetings had to be rescheduled into February, but that she will talk about them at the next Board meeting. She highlighted the Students For Survivors campaign, which she has worked on alongside The PEARS Project and members of the FMUA, including Catherine Tan. She stated that they had filmed a video which would release in February, highlighting some of the issues regarding sexual violence on-campus. She stated that the return to campus remained a large part of the UTSU's advocacy, and that the Student Commons would be reopening on February 7 in order to support students while classes return in-person. She stated that they had over 1000 signatures on the open letter released. She stated that they had discovered an agreement between the Faculty Association and the University administration which ensured that the University could not mandate professors to provide hybrid learning, and that the UTSU was figuring out how to navigate that.

Reuter stated that the majority of her work was in her report, but highlighted the second Finance 101 event, which had 40 students in attendance. She stated that the budget consultation is ongoing and closes March 1, and expressed excitement on the feedback received so far. She stated that she was working on setting up the budget submission system, and that the Special General Meeting package came out on January 26. She noted that the notice of the meeting had been sent out and that attendance was required for Board members. She stated that members unable to attend should send regrets and ensure they have proxied to a member, and stated that they had received a member-submitted motion as well. She stated that they would be providing incentives for students to attend and engage with the UTSU. She encouraged anyone with questions to email her, and encouraged members to spread the word to their constituencies.

Gharbiyeh stated that a lot of his advocacy had centred around the University's return to campus plan, and that he had organized a town hall and survey, which had been filled out by 400 people. He noted that the open letter published on the subject received over 1,100 signatures, and expressed gratitude for the support. He stated that he had met with University-Rosedale MPP Jessica Bell, who shared many of the same concerns. He stated that another focus was increasing the visibility of the VPPUA role, and that he planned on having frequent town halls (at least monthly) throughout the duration of his term. He added that he has been working on a Discord server for students to communicate and engage with the UTSU. He stated that his advocacy during UCRU has been well-received, and that some of the priorities have been student mental health, financial aid, and benefits for students with disabilities. He mentioned discussions with COSS and about capital management.

Lin stated that she had worked on Frost Week, which had been well-received considering that it was online. She stated that attendance had been approximately 50% of registration, with a standout being the clubs fair. She stated that they were hoping to have in-person activities when safe, and hoping to do a service group night when possible. She highlighted the recent Clubs Committee, during which they had approved several budget proposals. She stated that they had found a gap with regards to proper budgeting, and that they had several one-on-one meetings with clubs in this regard. She stated that they were working on resources to help with marketing events.

5. Question Period

DISCUSSION ITEM

Munroe asked Reuter when the SGM would be occurring.

Reuter answered that the SGM would be 16 February 2022 from 17:00-20:00, which was chosen because it was accommodative to everyone to the best of their knowledge. She stated that



directors who could not attend would be able to submit regrets, and that they are generally stricter with SGM attendance. She stated that the meeting would be online.

Alim asked Gharbiyeh if there would be work continuing on the Same Degree, Same Fee campaign, and stated that they found it very important due to its effect on racialized and low-income students.

Gharbiyeh stated that he was familiar with the program, and that he was looking forward to the upcoming meeting. He added that he intended on working on the campaign throughout his term, and considered it a priority.

6. **Amendment of Previously Adopted Minutes**

RESOLUTION

MOVED: REUTER

SECONDED: DARVIN

WHEREAS the minutes for the September Meeting of the Board of Directors incorrectly listed the attendance of a member; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED that the meeting minutes be amended as presented in Appendix A to rectify the mistake.

DISCUSSION

Reuter stated that the UTSU is unsure whether a member of the Board was in attendance at the September meeting, and did not want to list them as present or absent given the implications of deemed resignations and the legality of the minutes. She noted that they will be amending the minutes to reflect that records are not available. She stated that this partially inspired the new sign-in system, which involves a Google form.

CARRIED



7. Creation of the Ad-Hoc SCMC Governance Pathways Committee

RESOLUTION

MOVED: REUTER

SECONDED: TOLTON

WHEREAS the Board of Directors and Student Commons Management Committee have identified a need for focussed, collaborative work to be done on the subject of Student Commons governance; and

WHEREAS Bylaw XI(4) states that “the Board may strike *Ad hoc* committees at its discretion, subject to the following restrictions:

- A. An *Ad hoc* committee must have a specific mandate.**
- B. The mandate of the *Ad hoc* Committee shall not conflict with the mandate of any other Committee of the UTSU, or with the mandate of any Executive.**
- C. The mandate of any *Ad hoc* Committee must expire at the end of the term in which it was struck”; and,**

WHEREAS the Ad-Hoc SCMC Governance Pathways Committee will be created to focus solely on creating a governance structure for the SCMC and Student Commons, and will not conflict with any Executive or Committee’s mandate; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT that the Ad-Hoc SCMC Governance Pathways Committee be struck and set to expire at the end of the 2021-2022 Board of Directors term; AND,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ad-Hoc SCMC Governance Pathways Committee consist of the President, Vice-President Operations, three members of the Board of Directors, and two members of the Student Commons Management Committee; AND,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Director of Operations and Executive Coordinator, Governance & Administration be appointed as non-voting members of the Committee; AND,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an election by secret ballot be held to fill the three Board of Directors seats.

DISCUSSION

Reuter noted that the motion is very lengthy as the process is intensive. She stated that the Board had previously spoken about the governance pathways being developed for the Student Commons and its Management Committee, and that they had settled on created the ad-hoc committee comprised of two appointed members of the SCMC, the President and VP Operations, and three members of the Board of Directors, as well as Ankit Sharma and Nicole Johnson as non-voting staff members. She stated that this committee will be investigating the SCMC’s connection to the Board of Directors, as well as day-to-day maintenance and other considerations. She stated that the SCMC has put their support behind the creation of this ad-hoc committee.

CARRIED



8. Election of Directors to the SCMC Governance Pathways Committee

RESOLUTION

MOVED: REUTER

SECONDED: LIU

BE IT RESOLVED THAT _____, _____, and _____ be elected to the Ad-Hoc SCMC Governance Pathways Committee.

DISCUSSION

Reuter emphasized the opportunity for any director interested in governance and accountability, as well as the importance of the Committee. She encouraged any director interested in joining, and stated that the commitment can vary based on availability. She noted that there would be many opportunities to be creative with governance, and noted that several directors are still required to nominate themselves for a committee in order to avoid Deemed Resignation. She expressed excitement for the striking of the Committee.

Alim asked if this Committee would be creating the structure that the Student Commons Appointment Committee would then follow.

Reuter stated that the Student Commons Appointment Committee is solely a hiring committee for those who wish to be on the SCMC, and that the SCMC Governance Pathways Committee would be focused on governance.

Alim clarified that they had been wondering whether the SCMC Governance Pathways Committee would create the seats for the Student Commons Appointment Committee.

Reuter stated that the seats on the SCMC had already been determined by the Student Commons Agreement. She stated that the Ad-Hoc Committee was intended to clarify questions that had arisen as the SCMC began its term.

Dekel nominated himself.

Liu nominated Alim. Alim accepted.

Munroe nominated herself.



8.1 Motion to Fill Blanks

RESOLUTION

MOVED: REUTER

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Elad Dekel, Rayan Alim, and Sydney Munroe be elected to the Ad-Hoc SCMC Governance Pathways Committee.

CARRIED

CARRIED

9. In-Camera Discussion

DISCUSSION

PRESENTED: BALLIS

DISCUSSION

10. Performance Review Committee Membership

RESOLUTION

MOVED: DEKEL

SECONDED: TAMASARI

WHEREAS the Executive Review Committee ceased to exist with the passing of governance changes at the sixth meeting of the Governance Committee; AND

WHEREAS the Performance Review Committee was created at the same meeting, which has a similar accountability purpose to the Executive Review Committee; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Board of Directors who were elected to the Executive Review Committee be automatically appointed to the Performance Review Committee for the remainder of the 2021-2022 term.

DISCUSSION

Dekel stated that the motion is fairly self-explanatory, and directed questions to Reuter.

Reuter stated that the Performance Review Committee and Executive Review Committee share essentially the same mandate, and so the members of the Executive Review Committee are being automatically appointed to the Performance Review Committee in order to avoid the stress of a new election.

CARRIED



11. Election of Vacant Services Committee Seat

RESOLUTION

MOVED: REUTER

SECONDED: DARVIN

WHEREAS the Board of Directors Committee elections in November 2021 left one seat vacant on the Services Committee; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT that an election by secret ballot be held to fill the Services Committee vacancy.

DISCUSSION

Reuter stated that any director who received an email in regards to running for a seat must do so now, as they will otherwise be deemed resigned. She stated that the Services Committee is currently redesigning their mandate and that more information can be found in her Executive Report. She stated that it would be an exciting time to join, and that it is open to those who have already fulfilled their nomination quota as well.

Nagra nominated herself.

Cheng nominated herself.

Merrithew nominated herself.

Sackeyfio noted that the election will be done by secret ballot, and that each candidate will be given time to speak about why they should be elected to the position.

Nagra stated that she was not yet on a Committee and believed that the Services Committee would be an exciting one to join.

Cheng stated that it is important to regularly review the provided services in order to meet the needs of the student body, and emphasized the importance of communication with the constituency.

Merrithew that he had not been a part of any committee and wanted to get more involved in the UTSU.

11.1 Motion to Fill Blank

RESOLUTION

MOVED: REUTER

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Kathryn Cheng be elected to the Services Committee.

CARRIED



CARRIED

12. Scheduling Future Board of Directors Meetings

RESOLUTION

MOVED: REUTER

SECONDED: TOLTON

BE IT RESOLVED that the February Board of Directors meeting take place on February 27th, 2022 and the March Board of Directors meeting take place on March 27th, 2022; AND,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the April Joint Board of Directors Meeting be scheduled at a later date to accommodate exam schedules and the availability of the incoming Board of Directors.

DISCUSSION

Reuter stated that it is standard in the first meetings of each term to set meetings for the remainder of the term. She noted that the meetings are scheduled on the final Sunday of each month and are placed at different times throughout the day to be as accommodative as possible to those who may work on the weekends. She noted that the April Board meeting is a joint meeting between the current and incoming Board of Directors, and can be difficult to schedule due to exams. She stated that the April meeting will be scheduled via when2meet.

CARRIED

13. Acknowledgement of the Automatic Removal of Stuti Roy

RESOLUTION

MOVED: REUTER

SECONDED: DEKEL

WHEREAS Victoria College Director Stuti Roy has graduated from the University of Toronto in August 2021 and thus ceased to be a member of the UTSU; AND,

WHEREAS Bylaw X(3)(a) states that a Director shall be cease to be eligible to be a Board Member if they fail to become a member of UTSU for the academic year in which they hold office by the first day of the Fall semester; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors acknowledge the automatic removal of Stuti Roy from the Board of Directors due to their ineligible status.

DISCUSSION

Reuter stated that she wanted this included in the agenda because there had been some misreporting regarding whether Roy had been Deemed Resigned or automatically removed. She stated that because Roy graduated early, they ceased to be a member of the UTSU. She noted that she had received a statement from Roy, officially resigning and expressing gratitude



for the Board and their time. Reuter stated that the Executive had not received notice of Roy's graduation until recently, and wished them the best.

CARRIED

14. Other Business

DISCUSSION ITEM

PRESENTED: EBEID

DISCUSSION

Ebeid asked if they could still nominate themselves for the vacant Services Committee seat.

Reuter stated that the vacancy had been filled.

Ballis noted that those interested in Committee affairs may attend any Committee regardless of whether or not they are a voting member.

15. Adjournment

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourns at 3:20 PM.

Appendices Listed on Following Page



APPENDICES

- **Consent Agenda**

Link:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1asZfOp0_BsrzpYmPNhehE1plj17-7V5M?usp=sharing

A **Amended Minutes**

Link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1JKLz14A1dKb1AKIMqV9w-Cw6hIKloAFA?usp=sharing>