Monday, February 27, 2012 5:00PM – 6:00PM, Room SL-232 University of Toronto Scarborough Campus Students' Union Meeting of the Board of Directors Chair: Guled Arale

Emergency Board of Directors Meeting #3 of the University of Toronto Students' Union Monday, February 27, 2012 – 5:00pm – Room SL-232

#### A. Roll Call

Guled Arale - Chair of SCSU Board of Directors Halija Mazlomyar - Vice Chair-SCSU Board of Directors Pagalavan Thavarajah - President & CEO Carl Bagot - Vice President Academics Abdalla Al-Baalawy - Vice President External Zahra Murji - Vice President Students & Equity Ali Lalani – Vice President Operations & CFO Leah Robertson – Vice President Campus Life Rupom Rahman - Social Sciences Director Jessica Renzella - Vice President Human Resources Adil Kanji - Social Sciences Director Soumia Allalou - Social Sciences Director Daniel Tittil - Management Director Madhav Shah – Management Director Tamar Istanbul - Humanities Director Chantelle Bharat – Humanities Director Filippo Raso - Psychology Director Harindra Rajasekeran – Psychology Director Hally Mass Jobe - Environmental Science Director Shanaga Jeyakumar – Biological Science Director Tisha Tan – First Year Director Alyssa Moses – First Year Director

This meeting is called to order at 5:14PM.

# A. Report to the SCSU Board of Directors Pertaining to the SCSU Winter 2012 Executive Elections

MS – Please skip the nominations and ballots. I'd also like to thank JR of Human Resources, and several other SCSU Executives, Directors, and Assistants who helped the SCSU Elections Committee. At the close of the nomination period there were a total of nine submissions made for the four positions: one for President; three for Vice-President of External; three for Vice-President Students and Equity; and, two for Vice-President Academics. However, one candidate for Students and Equity resigned on February 9<sup>th</sup>. There was an All-Candidates meeting on January 23, 2012, and all candidates were given a hard copy of the elections policy. There were 237 names, mostly first-year students, whose names did not appear on the general list. Upon, finding the mistake, we alerted the Department of Student Life, and they gave us a full list on the second day of voting. Upon, finding this mistake, we alerted the DSL, and they gave us a list on the second day of voting. Though we couldn't use it because, it was granted on the first day, and the transferable of these names would have taken a long-time to do, which in the long run would not have been pragmatic. The videos and materials used for campaigning were to be pre-

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reviewed by the Elections Committee and the CRO/DRO before being posted. Materials could not be used in places that were off limits, such as: Residence, the new science wing, anywhere outside, stairwells, hall of excellence, student center, inside restaurants, classrooms, IC Building, AA-Building, the gym, and any other areas directly specified by the Elections committee.

PT – At current there are no established rules regarding the IC Building, and posting materials on the walls.

MS – If the materials are posted on cement, only masking tape is to be used. Social networking sites could be used, however the CRO/DRO had to be invited. T-shirts supporting a candidacy can be worn, however they must be supported within the apportioned campaign budget. Candidates had the right to have scrutinizers watch the count of the ballots, if they are unavailable to attend. If a slate was to occur, this must be stated within the application prior to submission. Each candidate was given a fair opportunity to participate in a slate.

There are several recommendations for the Appeals Committee. The elections committee must inform the defendant. The election committee would like to recommend, and e-mail account where only certain individuals can have access to it. There should be a separate e-mail created for the appeals committee where all members would have access, similar to the elections committee email. The elections committee gave warnings at the discretion of the CRO, as it remained that most candidates were unfamiliar with the rules at the beginning of the voting day. Hence it would be unfair, to give strikes right away, if a candidate wasn't sure what the exact rules were, especially if this is their first time running for an SCSU Executive position.

The Elections Committee issued the following strikes:

VP Academics:

Adrian De Leon – No strikes issued Isabelle Yeadon – No strikes issued

Filippo Raso- You have been issued 2 strikes for the following violations: Article 5. Section 3.

Part eiii)

Illegal use of resources Date: February 25th

Issued by: Minhaj Showkat (CRO)

Executives or directors with decision making powers are not allowed to assist in campaigning of any candidate without an official endorsement on behalf of their respective organization towards the candidate.

**VP** External:

Guled Arale- You have been issued 2 strikes for the following violations: Article 5. Section 3.

Part eiii)

Illegal use of resources

Date: January 31st

Issued by: Minhaj Showkat (CRO)

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Candidates are not allowed to use other organizations resources without official endorsements for the purposes of their candidacy. The individual had campaign poster up on their profile within a SCSU social media webpage.

Adil Kanji- You have been issued 2 strikes for the following violations: Article 5. Section 3. Part eiii)

Illegal use of resources Date: January 30th

Issued by: Minhaj Showkat (CRO)

This is also in accordance to candidates not being able to use resources, position, or finances of any campus society, group, or club for the purposes of their candidacy. An executive of an organization had the candidates posters up on their profile picture which was seen as a position of endorsement without official endorsement notification.

#### President:

Abdalla Al-Baalawy – no strikes issued

VP Students & Equity:

Massih Bidhendi – no strikes issued Kavita Siewrattan – no strikes issued

Ballot security, at the end of the procedure we began the counting.

There are several recommendations and amendments that can be used to make the process easier such as:

- Create a new position: Chief Polling Clerk. Someone is needed to manage the polling clerks, allowing for this would allow for sustained accountability in the elections process.
- A SCSU seal is needed.
- A mandatory policy for discussing changes, in order to ensure the recommendations go through before the next elections procedure.

## Results of voting:

President:

Abdalla Al-Baalawy

Yes: 684 No: 117 Abstain: 127

**VP** Academics:

Adrian De Leon: 405 Filippo Raso: 369 Isabelle Yeadon: 57

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Abstain: 86

VP External: Guled Arale: 437 Adil Kanji: 423 Abstain: 68

VP Students & Equity: Massih Bidhendi: 153 Kavita Siewrattan: 655

Abstain: 143

Total Votes Counted: 3726

Total Ballots Spoiled: 52

Total: 3778

Be it resolved that the SCSU Board of Directors ratify Abdalla Al-Baalawy as the 2012-2013 SCSU President & CEO, Adrian De Leon as the 2012-2013 Vice-President Academics, Guled Arale as the 2012-2013 Vice-President External and Kavita Siewrattan as the 2012-2013 Vice-President Students & Equity.

AM – What was the reasoning for the appeals given to Kavita and Abdallah?

SA – That information can not be disclosed, though what I am at liberty to discuss, is that it is the right discussion.

### Adrian De Leon

- HJ granted speaking rights.

AD – On page 4, where was this candidates who dropped out and what position was s/he running for.

MS - That individual was running for VP Students and Equity and not VP academics.

PT - I think we can have a re-discussion over this at the next PBR meeting, where we can really look into this.

AM - What constituted a spoiled ballot?

MS - Some people voted, however did not put the ballots in the box themselves, which was a serious issue. Though, all attempts were made to pursue the individual and make sure they placed it in the box.

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DT - There were 237 individuals missing from the list, is this a recurring issue from elections prior?

MS – This has happened before, and the elections committee has notified them, however this has still not been done. We need to create a better system for collecting all of the names for the..

#### John Bastawrous

- HJ granted speaking rights.

JB: In the event that someone was not able to have his or her name there, we had a computer and we checked his or her ROSI account.

DT: Would you recommend an electronic copy for names?

Min – It would not be technically feasible, due to timing reasons. However, the process can be re-evaluated at a future date.

# Kavita Siewrattan

- AM granted speaking rights.

KS – There needs to be a better set up, in order for students to vote, is it possible that we can try another location?

MS – If this were to happen, it would be great, but there would have to be a discussion with the administration.

Ian

- TT granted speaking rights.

Ian − I'll just go to PBR.

See None

MOTION Moved: AM Seconded: TT

`VOTE

In Favour: 6 Abstention: 3 Opposed:

Absetntion:

AK

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# B. Motion to Adjourn

MOTION Moved: AM Seconded: SA

Time: 5:52