

Friday, November 18, 2011 5:00PM – 9:00PM, Room SL-232  
University of Toronto Scarborough Campus Students' Union  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Chair: Guled Arale



## Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting #4 of the University of Toronto Students' Union  
Friday, November 18, 2011 – 5:00pm – Room SL-232

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**MOTION** Moved: TI Secoded: AM

November 4, 2011 – Executive Minutes

**MOTION** Moved: HR Secoded: TT

HJ: Why can't Executive meetings be opened?

GA: It's a closed committee.

HJ: Can we have open Executive Meetings, for more discussion?

GA: It is possible to have informal meetings held.

FR: Rather than have another meeting, we should be utilizing SCSU Board Meetings.

HJ: But, how would we be able to brainstorm ideas?

FR: We should use the SCSU Board Meeting as a forum to have the introduction of more meetings; we can have more diverse opinions.

PT: An idea that may be more productive, is to go over the board items, then have a forum to discuss various topics afterwards, where we can devote time to each item.

HJ: In order to implement new ideas, I

BIRT that 11B be adopted as presented.

PT: We had the meeting to have the ratification passed. We were glad to see that things were in good standing. You guys passing this make it official.

### **E. New Business – President & CEO**

#### a. Report – President & CEO (Pagalavan Thavarajah)

**MOTION** Moved: FR Secoded: SM

PT: It went into things very broadly. I actually wanted to have a discussion on where you guys think the direction has went over the past couple of weeks. There were times where conversations with individual students were lengthy, and I did my best to answer any and all questions. I did my best to bring up the operation side of things at the SCSU. The quorum was looking pressed, as people walked out during discussion. Many people that I spoke to afterwards stated that they did not find the meeting accessible. They felt that we only jumped into slating, and the debate.

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Many felt that they did not know what they were voting for. The way, in which we approached the vote, was not the most transparent, and we could have adopted a better procedure for informing students. The discussion topic is the AGM, and the work of the SCSU, and some of the expectations that students have for the organization.

FR: Can we get a report on the AGM? Just so we can have a rough idea about the weakness, and how the meetings can be improved.

PT: that is not a problem, and I will have a report provided.

HJ: I got the same feedback after the event. I also thought that the students were not as informed as they could be.

PT: I also wanted students to be more informed about the process. An AGM is discussing higher-level work, and not the simplicity of the work that we are doing. We need to find a balance between work and procedure. There are simpler things that we can do in order to have a more effective meeting.

HR: In regards to AGM, I think some of the main reasons that students were misinformed about the meeting, was because there were no reports available for them.

TT: We should have attempted to add more items to the agenda, to make it more interesting for students.

DT: Everything went well until we had quorum. In the future, we can look towards holding a 'Town Hall' meeting for these students.

CB: We should have a call to question, once everything is explained. 'Point of Information,' is used only to clarify a point that is needed, and not to ask a question.

RR: I would like to second the motion that DT brought forward. Many students wanted to discuss various topics pertaining to the SCSU, Campus Life, etc., but were not able to. Holding a 'Town Hall,' would've been very effective.

BK: We've made ourselves very accessible to the students, and that was the purpose of 'Reach.Connect.Build'

FR: Are we losing a connection because of the use of 'Robert's Rules of Order?'

PT: If we are to adopt a semi-'Robert's Rule's' structure, we may end up in a position where we are making up the rules as we are going along. We may be having another Reach.Connect.Build in January.

TT: It's all about bringing forth issues that student's care about.

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HM: Reconciling these issues is important for holding more AGMs in the future. Mentioning the ability to 'abstain,' from voting is very critical.

PT: Four years ago, when we held an AGM, students came because they wanted to view the financial reports. We need to be more conscientious about our rules within the organization. These meetings are needed, and help in building credibility within the organization.

AM: The AGM was very different from what I expected.

AA: Holding the AGM about is looking at and analyzing any and all operational issues.

Yusef H. Dualeh  
Speaking Rights FR

YD: The AMG was advertised as a place to obtain free food.

SM: I found it beneficial that we had the Auditor's Report at the AGM. If people really wanted to express their opinions, they could have went to the standing committees.

DT: There is a list of items that could be improved during the AGM:

- 1) GA could have been more explicit in what the structure of the meeting is.
- 2) We could have had a small training session about 'Roberts's Rules of Order' before the event takes place.
- 3) We should have a discussion amongst executives and directors before the AGM.

HR: There need to be more effective measures for marketing the AGM properly.

LR: Proxy forms are about talking to students about what we're doing, and about generating attention for AGM

PT: This organizational chart was designed because many people were interested about the SCSU.

## **F. New Business – VP Reports**

A. Report- Vice President External (Abdalla Al-Baalawy)

### **MOTION**

Moved: AA

Seconded: TT

AA: The CFS General Meeting. There were problems regarding funding. We cannot take the money from the Ontario line item, so we are going to take \$1200 from another CFS line item.

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We have a policy for CFS delegates, policy co30. It discusses whom can come, and states that a maximum of 4 SCSU members can attend. They CFSAGM, helps to inform students about what they're paying a levy for, and the different services that are being provided, and too create leaders, and disseminate information regarding the CFS. For clarification, we are bringing 5 individuals to the CFSAGM.

PT: Policies are provided to act as guidelines. We need to keep informing each other and have consistent information being provided.

HM: The reason PT, brought the executives to the meetings is because they truly wanted to know what issues were being discussed at the CFSAGM.

AA: I will begin planning for Momentum, in terms of room booking, and venues. Regarding the February 1<sup>st</sup>, Day of Action, we need 5,000 UTSC signatures by the second week of December. This is for the purposes of holding the Liberal Party accountable for the 30% tuition decreases that they promised. We have two options for these signatures: first, every board member takes a booklet; or second, on the last week of November, board member will have to canvass around campus and collect signatures. Each person is required to collect 500 signatures. They are all due by December 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will be holding a contest, and the top 3 people will get to choose what fun things people we're going to do at Mini-Continuity.

PT: The days of Mini-Continuity will literally be for rest and relaxation. Though there will be work dispersed, that needs to be done.

FR: As Directors, we need to begin telling students about this, and develop a strong marketing campaign. We need to begin placing this on intranet, and other mediums.

RR: I would like to collect signatures at Ryerson, York, and UTSG.

AA: This is about expanding the 30% tuition reduction to all students.

SM: It is important to tell people what they are signing, in order for them to raise awareness of the issues.

PT: I will provide a proposed plan for Mini-Continuity.

FR: Can we provide proof, that there signature matters. For example, the last time that this was done, the Government of Ontario actually disbursed the funds that were requested.

AA: By the next Board Meeting, I will provide a detailed plan about what the operation is.

HM: Can we create a video for the signature collections, for the February 1<sup>st</sup>, Day of Action?

AM: What transit survey should we be filling out?

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AA: My transit survey was provided through the e-brief. Which is an electronic newsletter that is sent to all students.

PT: I will be inviting one of the lead Project Managers to our next Board Meeting, to discuss the logistics of their decisions.

AA: I have information packages regarding the 'Drop Fees' campaign.

### **B. Report- Vice President Students and Equity (Zahra Murji)**

#### **MOTION**

Moved: ZM

Seconded: MS

ZM: I have listed the major meetings that I have attended in the past week. I attended the CSS meetings, where we had an informative discussion, and students were able to sit-down and discuss issues. One of the issues is that we do not have a diversity officer, whom can focus on student's needs. There are diversity officers downtown, whom look after various issues, though we feel that this is not enough.

I held a meeting with the, Food User Committee, about food in the IC building. There was another meeting with the, Pan-Am Committee, to discuss where student's money is going to. I also attended a few other Planning Pan-Am Committee meetings, which looks after other issues pertaining to the development of the Pan-Am facility.

The SCSU Bursary programs, the process is taking too long. We are trying to create a faster process of receiving bursaries. Microwaves, and we are supposed to look over the maintenance of the microwaves. I have raised these issues to administrators, and the necessary changes will be implemented. There is also the, launch of the 'I am Awesome,' campaign, which helps to promote a positive vibe for students as they undergo issues in life. I am also creating an XAO Committee. We bill discussing other initiatives at the next meeting.

The Campus Initiatives meeting, so that we can be on the same wavelengths regarding different projects. We are creating a timeline, as well as focus groups.

The Toshiba Library Loan Program is currently at a standstill. The Electronic Boards, we have designed a mock-up of what these will look like, and they have been submitted to the IT Department.

The TV Longue project is headed into its next phase.

Many feel that the bottle water free campaign happened to early, as students were not informed about the reason for the ban. More information will be presented regarding the water fountains, such as how many are here, when new ones are coming, and hen they will be installed.

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DT: I would like to stress that the importance of time management, and ask why the Toshiba Loan Program is being stalled? Also, why is the water fountain installation stalled?

ZM: The water fountain information, I gave that a rough timeline. Regarding the TLP, we had issues formalizing this process with the library.

HJ: We need to have measures in place for VPs who don't hand in reports on time.

RR: Please keep providing lengthy reports to the Board of Directors.

CB: We've had discussions about lengthy reports already.

FR: It should be convention for all VPs to place dates on their reports.

BK: Regarding the formats of the report, it is not feasible to repeat information on the reports.

FR: Placing dates on the VP agenda's may lead to intra-competition amongst VPs, as to whom has the most meetings with students, clubs, or external groups.

PT: Regarding the critiquing of the reports, maybe we need a mechanism for enhancing communications between the Directors and the VPs.

5-Minute Recess

**MOTION**

Moved: AM

Seconded: TT

Start: 7:13

End: 7:18

### **C. Report- Vice President Academics (Carl Bagot)**

**MOTION**

Moved: CB

Seconded: TI

We covered lots of things during the Students Issues Forum, I got to serve as the Acting-President.

I am now the Chair of CSS, there will be a few things to weigh, whether we want to increase services, or decrease funds. These items can be discussed during SCOA. There has been an issue regarding attendance, and increasing attendance will be one of my goals going forward. Academic Committee is under College Council, which is governance. The academic committee discusses the introduction of new programs, or the cancellation of any program.

AM: Can regular students attend the Academic Committee.



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CB: Yes, they can.

HJ: One study stream was altered.

CB: These changes occur every year. There were 5 students enrolled in this particular program. Humanities stated that they would change it, and revamp it, and bring it back.

DT: You stated that you would look into having more study space options available.

CB: The reason is, during mid-term these classrooms are often allocated to classes already. I've asked administrators to begin once-again tabulating data.

CB: Regarding DSAs, I've met with John Sherk. I do want more integration between the DSAs and their departments. Some of them have not gotten back to me, which was regarded as a lack of information. My goal is to keep following up.

### **D. Report - Vice President Campus Life (Leah Robertson)**

#### **MOTION**

Moved: TI

Seconded: HM

Thank you for the Movember Mission, 'Like a Boy.' With all the effort that was involved in this project, I am very proud of everyone. Also, VNP is holding a coat drive until November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011

LR: Residence 'All Balls Out,' which is a sports thing.

### **E. Report - Vice President Operations & CFO (Ali Lalani)**

#### **MOTION**

Moved: HJ

Seconded: TT

DT: SCOFIS – informally looked through the report. We did not have a formal meeting because we did not have quorum.

PT: With the Quality Control Team, we need more students. This team is in place to have meals, conduct surveys, and speak to students about the overall quality of food at Rex's Den. The objective is to reconcile the issues regarding the service provided at Rex's Den.

GA: If you want to join, please e-mail [operations@scsu.ca](mailto:operations@scsu.ca).

HR: I did e-mail AL, however, I didn't hear a reply.

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**MOTION** Moved: PT Seconded: AA  
Full-time contract negotiations regarding Rex's Den to be stricken from the records.

**VOTE**  
In Favour: Unanimous Abstention: Opposed:

FR: Executive Director/Office manager – to be re-evaluated?

PT: The idea is to develop it, and see what direction things are headed towards in the creation of this position.

DT: AL sent an e-mail to all Directors, and stated that we have enough Directors on the Quality Control Team, but we are waiting on two students to join the team.

### **F. Report - Vice President Human Resources (Jessica Renzella)**

**MOTION** Moved: HJ Seconded: AA  
Tabled

G. New Business - Job hiring's

**MOTION** Moved: RR Seconded: TI

HJ: they all say graphic designer

FR: Is there a conflict of interest regarding the XAO Coordinator position?

LR: Does it matter if someone else is on the hiring committee?

RR: JR, what right does she have not to be on this hiring committee?

AA: She is in HR, and this is her job to sit on committee's.

FR: Even if JR declared conflict of interest, she still influence within the committee. Therefore, we cannot state with absolute certainty that there was no bias.

Call to question  
Tabling of XAO Coordinator Position

**MOTION** Moved: RR Seconded: TI  
To Table

**VOTE**  
In Favour: 12 Abstention: 2 Opposed:

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RR: I am in favor of AK and JR being in the room, in order to discuss the nature of the hiring.

**MOTION**  
CRO/DRO

Moved: TT

Seconded: RR

FR: Why are we receiving these hiring reports now? Why was it brought to months after the fact? These are the reasons why we should table the report.

HJ: Why are we hiring people after they have already started working?

GA: The rationale for this is because this is the way in which the SCSU Board of Director's meeting's work.

PT: We can still ratify the hiring reports, and still ask JR questions at the next Board Meeting.

SM: I agree with PT.

HM: I want people to get paid as the SCSU, as there is possibility of defamation of.

BK: If we don't ratify this after ratification of the Election's Report then, 'boy do we look like idiots!'

MS: I will be holding a SCOHR meeting, I recognize a lot of the issues, and we can address these issues.

HJ: I am not questioning any individual; I am questioning the organization of the institution.

**MOTION**  
Amend Both Reports

Moved: HJ

Seconded: CB

**MOTION**  
Omnibus

Moved: HJ

Seconded: CB

**VOTE**

In Favour: 8

Abstention: 5

Opposed:

Abstain: FR

## **H. Other Business**

HR: Why haven't SCOA Minutes passed through the SCSU Board Meetings packages?

GA: I forgot to add it.

HJ: We should reform standing committees, so that they can have their meetings by December 2, 2011, which is the last board meeting before Mini-Continuity.

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CB: I would like a motion to reform them.

TT: I think we should reform them as soon as possible; I would like to get on a standing committee.

GA: I would like to wait until Mini-Continuity, until we reform the system, as assigning new people will not help. We need to outline the goals of each department, before it goes forward.

BK: The structure that we are using is a part of our by-laws, if we want to change it; we have to have an AGM.

DT: VPs were to make a year long plan, to have their goals stated for the Fall and Winter Semester.

**MOTION** Moved: TT Seconded: HR  
Motion to extend the meeting till 9:30

Vote  
In Favour: Unanimous Abstention: Opposed:

**MOTION** Moved: DT Seconded: HJ  
BIRT, that all VPs including president presents a progress report that states their year long plan, their progress on their year long plan, and project summaries of all projects completed thus far by December 2, 2011.

Vote  
In Favour: 14 Abstention: 1 Opposed:

SM: The VPs have been working very diligently on SCSU work, and having this done will slow things down.

AM: I think this is redundant.

HJ: There were yearlong plans; the board reports haven't including items that are a part of their year-long plan. This would help to keep the VPs accountable.

TT: It's all about keeping VPs accountable; I'm not even sure what the yearlong plan is.

CB: It's fine to present it.

GA: Obtaining, yearlong plans is a good idea. However, you have already been provided with detailed reports over the past few months. Though, it is more feasible to have VPs create future semester reports, especially if you want substantial information.

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### **MOTION**

Moved: AA

Seconded: TT

BIRT, that all VPs provide a progress report at the December 2, 2011 SCSU Board Meeting which includes the following: a year long plan; a summary of projects completed; a summary of reports not completed and why?; and a list and summary of projects would like to accomplish next semester.

Vote

In Favour:

Abstention: 2

Opposed: 13

GA: You wont get any valuable information from this.

RR: As a Director, we need to be as accountable as the VPs in determining the direction of the SCSU.

DT: This is about what VPs promise to the SCSU and the students.

SM: I am interested in the future, because we have seen the past.

SM: Amendment to Strike-out point 2 and 3

### **MOTION:**

BIRT, that all VPs provide a progress report at the December 2, 2011 SCSU Board Meeting, which includes the following: a yearlong plan; and a list and summary of projects would like to accomplish next semester.

VOTE

In Favour: 11

Abstention: 4

Opposed:

Abstain: FR, DT

## **H. Adjournment**

### **MOTION**

Moved: AA

Seconded: MS

9:46