



WGM.

2024

The SCSU's Winter General Meeting.
March 25th | 1265 Bistro | 4PM-8PM



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+ LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVES.

HEY MEMBERS!

Welcome to the Scarborough Campus Students' Union (SCSU) Annual General Meeting! Students have been resilient these last couple years, and we are so excited to be together again! We can't wait to inform you, our members, of all the hard work we've done for you so far.

The SCSU, over the years, has worked diligently to provide the best programming that engages our membership. Whether through our events, campaigns and advocacy work, or our members-only cost-saving services, we hope to meaningfully support our members both virtually and in-person; throughout your classrooms and community.

And guess what? Working together, works! We wouldn't be able to achieve all of our incredible victories to date – like Fall Reading Week, free menstrual products, Credit/No Credit policy improvements, Second Attempt for Credit Policy, Self-Diagnosed Sick notes, and more, without the united efforts of all of you, our 14,000+ student membership at UTSC. We are excited to continue to work together to achieve victories like the Second Chance Policy and greater mental health supports!

We know studying has its challenges. Your SCSU team has done our best to plan exciting programming to help keep you motivated through your studies. We hosted our largest Frosh in four years, which welcomed First-Year students and got them excited about joining the UTSC community. To combat the

difficult financial times, we joined the ALL OUT November 8th National Day of Action calling for increased public funding in working towards free and accessible education!

Throughout these past few years, one thing is always sure; collective action works, and when students work together, we see results! All of our accomplishments would not have been made possible without every one of you! Recognizing that Ontario students pay one of Canada's highest tuition fees, the SCSU takes collective action through the Canadian Federation of Students, alongside over 500,000 students across the country. Together, we are united in the fight for accessible and affordable Education For All! This movement requires everyone's support. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that all students have equitable access to a high-quality education.

A united voice can create amazing things. This is your student movement, and the possibilities become endless when we join together. Although we should take great pride and joy in our victories, we are reminded that the work does not end here. There is still much to do, so get involved with your Students' Union and let's get to work!!!

In Solidarity,

Your 2023-2024 SCSU Executive Team

+ ROBERT RULES OF ORDER.

TO DO THIS:	YOU SAY THIS:	MAY YOU INTERRUPT THE SPEAKER	MUST YOU BE SECONDED?	IS THE MOTION DEBATABLE?	IS THE MOTION AMENDABLE?	WHAT MAJORITY IS REQUIRED?
Object to incorrect procedure being used	Point of Order	Yes	No	No	No	No vote taken, chair rules
Seek clarification from the previous speaker	Request for information	Yes, if urgent	No	No	No	No vote taken, chair rules
Object to something which prevents your continued participation (eg. Excessive noise)	Point of personal privilege	Yes	No	No	No	No vote taken, chair rules
Object to a motion being considered	I object to consideration of this motion	Yes	No	No	No	2/3 Majority
Consider something out of its scheduled order	I move the agenda be amended in order to deal with the following item...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	2/3 Majority
Appeal the ruling of the chair	I appeal the ruling of the chair on...	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
Change a motion	I move that the motion be amended to read...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Have a motion studied before voting on it	I move that the motion be referred to...	No	Yes	Yes, advisability of referral only	Yes	Majority
Postpone further discussion on a motion until later in the meeting	I move that the motion be postponed until...	No	Yes	Only to time	Yes	Majority
Postpone further discussion on a motion until a future meeting	I move that the motion be postponed until...	No	Yes	Only to time	Yes	Majority
Defer consideration of a motion temporarily	I move that motion... be laid on the table	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
Raise a matter previously tabled	I move that motion... be taken from the table	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
Reconsider a motion already voted on earlier in the meeting	I move that the motion... be reconsidered	No	Yes	Yes (if original motion was)	No	Majority
End debate on a motion	I call the question	No	Yes	No	No	2/3 Majority
Ask that everyone's vote on a particular motion be recorded in the minutes	I call for a roll call vote	No	No	No	No	No vote taken, chair rules
Recess the meeting	I move that the meeting recess until...	No	Yes	Only to time	Yes	Majority
End the meeting	I move that the meeting adjourn	No	Yes	No	No	Majority

+ EQUITY STATEMENTS.

EQUITY STATEMENT & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND.

1. EQUITY STATEMENT

As members of the Scarborough Campus Students' Union, mutual respect, cooperation and understanding are our goals. We shall neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity or self-esteem of any individual or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment. It is our collective responsibility to create a space that is inclusive and welcomes discussion. Any form of discrimination and harassment will not be tolerated. Hate speech rooted in, but not limited to, anti-Muslim, anti-Semitic, sexist, racist, classist, ableist, homophobic, or transphobic sentiments and/or remarks will also not be tolerated. We all have an obligation to ensure that an open and inclusive space, free of hate is established. Any behaviour that does not demonstrate an understanding of these principles and/or creates an unsafe atmosphere will not be tolerated.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND

We do a land acknowledgement as a means of recognizing and centering the Indigenous land that the University of Toronto and, by association, SCSU occupies and operates on. For settlers, the act of performing a Land Acknowledgment is now a very familiar but still fundamental step towards highlighting the colonial context of the Indigenous ancestral lands where a gathering like this is taking place while also allowing space for our own individual reflections on our relationships between land and its peoples, realising that we all may be on different ancestral lands in this virtual context.

We'd like to acknowledge that we as a collective union operate from the traditional ancestral land of the treaty of the dish with one spoon, the Anishinaabe of which the Mississauga of Credit peoples are a part of, and the Haudenaasaanee, the people of this traditional ancestral land. Indigenous peoples have been here since time immemorial and this is still the home to many Indigenous peoples from across Turtle Island, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to coexist on this land. Settlers in Canada have directly benefited from the genocide and colonization of Indigenous peoples, including the robbing of their land and spiritual identification. In order to engage in resistance and solidarity against injustices inflicted on Indigenous peoples, it is imperative we constantly engage in acts of decolonization. In recognising the colonial violence still at work the SCSU commits towards the fight against systemic and institutional violence; with an end goal of complete liberation. This can only be achieved by including Indigenous people in our collective decision making for social justice and equity and working from an anti-colonial framework. I would also like to pay my respect to their elders past and present, and to any who may be here with us today, physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually.

Land Acknowledgements are just that, acknowledgements. Liberation has yet to come out of the hands of sole acknowledgements. We'd like to highlight some resources and initiatives currently active that folks can support in order to take their next steps in solidarity. Please visit scsu.ca/index#indigenous for a starting place to reflect on what resources (monetary or not), space and capacity you have to offer in order to more support Indigenous communities.

1. CALL TO ORDER.

2. EQUITY STATEMENT & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

3. APPROVAL OF THE CHAIR.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that _____ be approved as the Chair for the 2024 Winter General Meeting.

4. WELCOMING REMARKS & INTRODUCTIONS.

5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that the March 25th, 2024 Winter General Meeting agenda be approved as presented.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2023 Annual General Meeting minutes approved as presented.

7. TRANSFERRING OF INTERIM PRESIDENT RESPONSIBILITIES.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 2.8 under Responsibilities of Executive Committee Members "Shall be responsible for carrying out the duties of the President in the absence of the President." be removed from responsibilities of Vice-President Academics & University Affairs and added to the responsibilities of Vice-President Operations as Bylaw 5. F.

+ agenda.

8. RECEIPT OF THE 2023-2024 SCSU AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

MOTION:

MOVED: Palaparthi

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2023-2024 Audited Financial Statements be approved as received.

9. APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITORS FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR.

MOTION:

MOVED: Palaparthi

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that Yale and Partners be appointed as the external auditors for the Scarborough Campus Students' Union for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2025.

10. EXECUTIVE REPORT.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2024 Winter General Meeting Executive Report be accepted as presented.

11. ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2024 Winter General Meeting be adjourned.

+ MINUTES.

1. CALL TO ORDER.

@5:54PM

Quorum has not been reached

@6:10PM

Quorum has been reached

2. EQUITY STATEMENT & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

READ OUT LOUD BY

3. APPROVAL OF THE CHAIR.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

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4. WELCOMING REMARKS & INTRODUCTIONS.

Welcoming remarks were done and introduction of Executives.

5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that the March 25th, 2024 Winter General Meeting agenda be approved as presented.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2023 Annual General Meeting minutes be approved as presented.

7. TRANSFERRING OF INTERIM PRESIDENT RESPONSIBILITIES.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

The following motion has been recommended for inclusion in the 2024 Winter General Meeting agenda by the Policy & Bylaw Committee.

WHEREAS Vice-President Academics & University Affairs is currently responsible for serving as interim President in the incident that the President is not able to serve their responsibilities or the role is vacant; and

WHEREAS the Vice-President Operations and President are the signing officers for the organization; and

WHEREAS one of the primary responsibilities for Vice-President Academics & University Affairs includes advocating on behalf of students accused of academic offences which requires a great deal of time and support; and

WHEREAS there is greater capacity and overlap in responsibility for Vice-President Operations to temporarily fulfil the duties of President;

BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 2.8 under Responsibilities of Executive Committee Members "Shall be responsible for carrying out the duties of the President in the absence of the President." be removed from responsibilities of Vice-President Academics & University Affairs and added to the responsibilities of Vice-President Operations as Bylaw 5. F.

8. RECEIPT OF THE 2023-2024 SCSU AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

MOTION:

MOVED: Palaparthi

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2023-2024 Audited Financial Statements be approved as received.

8. APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITORS FOR 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that Yale and Partners be appointed as the external auditors for the Scarborough Campus Students' Union for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2025.

9. EXECUTIVE REPORT.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2024 Winter General Meeting Executive Report be accepted as presented.

10. ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION:

MOVED: David

SECONDED:

BE IT RESOLVED that the 2024 Winter General Meeting be adjourned.

VOTING

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNED @6:57PM

EXECUTIVE REPORT

+ CAMPAIGNS
& ADVOCACY.

Campaigns.

PUT EQUITY IN ACADEMICS.

POLICY INTRODUCTION

CR/NCR EXTENSION

Vice President Academics and University Affairs has been working on advocating for the credit / no credit deadline to be extended to ensure that students are able to make informed decisions about their grades. A petition has been released for students to be able to sign to show support for this petition which has garnered hundreds of signatures already. In spaces with University administration VP Academics has been campaigning for the extension of the CR/NCR deadline as well as working with tri campus partners to ensure that this is made a priority for the University.

COURSE RELIEF POLICY

Vice President Academics and University Affairs has also been working on advocating for the course relief policy which enables eligible students who have changed their area / major of study to exclude courses that were completed towards their previous area of study from their cumulative GPA for their new program. Students can show support by signing the Course Relief petition which has been released and can be found across campus on SCSU poster boards, in the SCSU office or available when the Academic Support Centre is tabling. In space with University administration VP Academics has been lobbying for this policy to be offered to students at UTSC.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS EXPERIENCING INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL CONFLICT

Vice President Equity and President have been working alongside the EDIO to implement an academic accommodations policy for students experiencing international political conflict. Considering the various conflicts occurring around the world and the large racialized student population on campus, many students have been experiencing prolonged periods of distress that have inhibited their ability to perform well academically. This policy would thus provide impacted students with extensions on assignments, as well as other mental health resources. In conjunction with this academic policy, the Vice President Equity and President hope to work with the Registrar to instate financial relief for students experiencing international political conflict.

WEB OPTION FOR ALL COURSES WITH AN ATTENDANCE OF GREATER THAN 100 STUDENTS

Vice President Academics and University Affairs has been advocating for an increase in the courses offered for web-option in meeting with University administrators.

MANDATORY ANTI-OPPRESSION TRAINING AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION TRAINING FOR ALL STUDENTS, FACULTY & STAFF

The SCSU team has been advocating for mandatory anti-oppression training and sexual violence prevention training for all students, faculty and staff in meeting with University administrators. As for now the Sexual Violence Prevent and Support centre is the main point of contact for any training for UTSC community. The SCSU team will to advocate for mandatory anti-oppression and sexual violence training for all community members but especially faculty, staff and students.

MULTI-FAITH SPACES

Vice President Equity and President have been having continued conversations with the Chief Administrative Office to include Multi-faith and Multi-Purpose rooms in the new buildings. The SCSU has received confirmation from the Chief Administrative Office that space conversations to include Multi-purpose/faith needs are being met and considered within the new projects coming up at UTSC.

INCREASE NUMBER OF BLACK STUDENT ADVISORS (CURRENTLY ONLY ONE)

Vice President Equity and President have been having conversations with UTSC Health & Wellness to hire and increase the number of Black Student Advisors on campus. UTSC Health & Wellness has confirmed a strategy to increase Black Student Advisors here at UTSC.

PUT EQUITY IN ACADEMICS PETITION

With over 500 signatures, the petition is demanding the university to extend the CR/NCR deadline, to pass the Second Attempt for Credit Policy at the University Affairs Board, to include a Ramadan Accommodation policy, to bring back hybrid options for learning and finally to take away exam deferral fees. The petition demands have been brought up to the Dean of Academics and the Registrar's Office. The fight will never stop and students united will never be defeated. For more information, please contact Afsana at academics@scsu.ca.

PETITION FOR PALESTINE

The Vice President Equity and President in collaboration with the Palestinian Cultural Club (PCC) and Muslim Students' Association (MSA), worked together to launch a petition in support of Palestine. Specifically, this petition demands the University to call for a ceasefire, recognize Palestinian genocide, and offer supports to students affected by the conflict. For more information, please contact Vyshnavi at equity@scsu.ca.

TRANSIT ADVOCACY.

UPASS AND POST-SECONDARY STUDENT FARES

On February 16th, the Vice President External released a U-Pass Petition to gather information and data on the percentage of student body that would benefit from a universal pass connecting them to all H-GTA transit systems via a subsidised fee. On March 8th, the SCSU executives met with the CAO and Student and Wellness Administrative team to discuss issues of transit within our campus and broader community. Alongside the Vice President Operations, we proposed short and long term goals to ameliorate the current transit conditions our students face. Upon receiving their support for our demands of increased 905 service, a shuttle bus connecting Kennedy Station to UTSC and the implementation of a Universal Pass, it was discussed that some of the data collection done via the Upass could serve to push for those initiatives once meetings with city councillors and other stakeholders are being conducted. For more information, please contact Khadidja at external@scsu.ca.

TRANSIT AT UTSC

Our short-term and long-term visions for transit improvements around UTSC showcase a thoughtful approach to enhancing the overall commuting experience for students and staff.

SHORT-TERM VISION:

- Heated Shed by the Bus Loop: The addition of a heated shed near the bus loop is a practical and student-centric initiative, particularly during colder seasons. This amenity provides a comfortable waiting area, promoting the well-being and convenience of those using public transportation.
- Updated Fare Vending Machines: Modernizing fare vending machines is a crucial step in streamlining the boarding process and ensuring efficient user-friendly and up-to-date machines contribute to a smoother and more convenient transit experience for everyone.
- Pedestrian Scramble at Ellesmere and Military Trail: Introducing a pedestrian scramble at a busy intersection like Ellesmere and Military Trail enhances safety and accessibility for students. This measure not only promotes a safer crossing experience but also contributes to the overall efficiency of the transportation network.

LONG-TERM VISION:

- Increased Service on the 905 Bus Route: Advocating for increased service between UTSC and Kennedy Station through the 905 bus route reflects a commitment to meeting the growing transit needs of the community. This improvement ensures more frequent and reliable transportation options for students and staff.
- Direct Shuttle Bus from UTSC to Kennedy Station: The proposal for a direct shuttle bus from UTSC to Kennedy Station is a forward-thinking solution to reduce commute times to the downtown campus. This not only enhances the convenience for those travelling between campuses but also contributes to a more efficient transit network overall.

FIGHT THE FEES .

CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS - NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION

The VP External has been collaborating with the Canadian Federation of Students to advocate for free and accessible education for all students. She is well-informed about the current education and tuition fee landscape in Ontario and is mobilising UTSC students to participate in the National Day of Action protest on November 8th, where students nationwide will be uniting to demand free and accessible education from government officials. These demands centre around increased public funding for post-secondary institutions and legislation to protect students' right to organise. Together with the VP of Academics and University Affairs, the VP External has been promoting academic amnesty to ensure students face no penalties for participating in the protest. The VP External has hired a student team of marketing and outreach leaders to implement a comprehensive strategy for informing and engaging students about the upcoming protest. This includes events such as poster-making workshops, a banner drop, an event breakdown/rundown, and breakfast programming on the day of the protest. For more information, please contact Khadidja at external@scsu.ca.

EXECUTIVE REPORT

+ SOLIDARITY.

TRI-CAMPUS SOLIDARITY.

SCSU has met regularly as part of the tri-campus solidarity group, UTEAU that unites student and labour unions across the three UofT Campuses.

CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS.

NATIONAL GENERAL MEETING

The SCSU executives attended the National General Meeting held by the Canadian Federation of Students in November. Throughout the week, your SCSU executives attended constituency group meetings, Campaigns and Government Relations forums and panel discussions on racialized and 2SLGBTQ+ struggles. Your SCSU executives also participated in reviewing and voting on motions, as well as voting for upcoming Chairperson, Deputy Chair and Treasurer positions for the 2024 year.

CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS - LOBBY WEEK

During the Ontario Canadian Federation of Students Lobby Week, the Vice President External, the President, the Vice President Equity, and the Vice President Academics and University Affairs, collaborated to present six recommendations to both Members of Parliament and Provincial Members of Parliament. These recommendations served as a strategic blueprint aimed at gradually reducing fees for all Ontario students until complete elimination is achieved.

The six recommendations include: Reduce tuition fees by 25% annually for the next 4 years, increase targeted grants to Indigenous student services, regulate international student tuition as a provisional measure towards eliminating tuition fees for International students entirely, increase funding of Ontario Disability Support Program for all people, Increase provincial funding to graduate students and finally, Implement legislation to protect students' rights to organise.

TTC RIDERS.

TORONTO BUDGET MEETING

On January 22nd, your Vice President External alongside your President, attended and spoke at the Toronto Budget Meeting for the region of Scarborough. Your two executives took the initiative to speak and address the demands of better transit infrastructures for UTSC students, as well as better financial access to that transit, hinting for the implementation of a U-Pass. With the presence of the Jamaal Myers, City councillor and Chair of the TTC, the Vice President External took the opportunity to speak on the unkept promise held by the city of Toronto to UTSC students in 2014, of which, in exchange for the funding of the Pan Am Sports Centre through tuition fees, UTSC was promised an Eglinton East Rapid Light Train connecting the campus to Kennedy Station. These concerns have been kept in record by two city councillors, including Jamaal Myers.

MP MEETING

The Vice President External joined conversations of Scarborough transit infrastructures with Member of Parliament Salma Zahid alongside TTC Riders. Topic of discussion mostly surrounded the need for new trains on the subway Line 2 as well as more frequent service on Line 2. The Vice President External took the initiative to discuss the Eglinton East Light Rapid Train with the MP, encouraging discussions about it within her constituency groups. Salma Zahid agreed to bring these topics forward at the Scarborough constituency meeting. For more information, please contact Khadidja at external@scsu.ca.

EXECUTIVE REPORT
+ events.

NOVEMBER.

SHUT IT DOWN FOR PALESTINE

The SCSU organised a Shut IT DOWN! For Palestine protest on November 29th. The protest was organised on behalf of a University Wide Student Walkout. The demands of the protest was to call on the university to recognize the ongoing Genocide and occupation being conducted in Palestine. The SCSU is in solidarity with Palestinians at UTSC and across the UTSC community. For more information please reach out to Amrith at president@scsu.ca.

DECEMBER.

UTSC ON ICE

The SCSU executives collaborated with UTSC Athletics to host a trip to Nathan Phillips Square for UTSC students to enjoy before exam season. The trip included skate rentals, hot chocolate, and transportation to and from campus.

SCSU'S DESTRESSORS

The SCSU executive committee administered Destressor kits to the UTSC community for a span of a week. The packages included snacks, exam materials, food and other necessities to relieve stress and promote community at UTSC. For more information please contact Victoria at campuslife@scsu.ca.

JANUARY.

CONSENT ACTION WEEK

The Vice President Equity and the Equity Centres Services Coordinator in conjunction with the WGSSA, led the SCSU's involvement in Consent Action Week programming. Specifically, the Vice President Equity led a Consent Action & Calligraphy workshop, and coordinated the SCSU's contribution to the Consent Action Week Survivors Protest.

POETRY FOR THE RESISTANCE

SCSU's ASC and RSC hosted an annual book club. This year students read selected works from Palestinian poets and authors - Mahamoud Darwish. This book club was a 2-part series which occurred on January 23rd and January 30th. Poetry books were provided to all participants, which was a facilitated series. The event was open to all UTSC students. For more information please contact asc@scsu.ca and rsc@scsu.ca.

FROST FEST

Vice President Campus Life executed a series of programming to welcome students back to campus after the winter break. Programming was carried out January 8th to 11th 2024. Events that took place were as follows: a paint and sip that occurred in the 1265 bistro which included music, mocktails, canvases, paint and brushes. Tuesday the 4-player joust and photobooth occurred in the Meeting Place. Students were able to partake in the inflatable that was available, take pictures with our photo booth setup, eat some cotton candy, and learn more about your SCSU and the CFS. As part of our annual CoffeeHouse programming that occurs every first Wednesday of the month we had a Pottery Workshop where students were able to come to the 1265 bistro in the evening and work on a piece of clay while indulging in some refreshments. On Thursday, UTSC students were able to sign up for 2 free classes of Zumba with our very own TPASC instructor. Students were able to enjoy these classes right in the Student Centre and get a taste of what is offered from TPASC. Finally, to wrap up the week SCSU collaborated with SCRC to host a movie night in the 1265 Bistro with a movie picked by UTSC students through our Instagram page and refreshments. If you have any inquiries please contact VP Campus Life Victoria, at campuslife@scsu.ca.

BIOSA X SCSU PROFESSORS VS STUDENTS OLYMPICS

The SCSU collaborated with BIOSA for their annual Profs vs Students Olympics that happened on January 18th 2024. In TPASC students and professors faced off to compete and win through a series of different activities. Prizes were available for all participating and audience members.

UTSC CAMPUS GROUPS FAIR

The SCSU collaborated with the department of Student Life to create a Campus Group Fair including both DSAs and Clubs on campus on January 23rd and 24th, 2024. Similarly in the fall semester, groups were able to table and promote/ showcase their club to UTSC Students in the Meeting Place. Refreshments were also provided to students after they engaged with a club table. For any inquiries please contact VP Campus Life Victoria, at campuslife@scsu.ca.

TAMIL HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

The SCSU in collaboration with UTSC TSU organised a free tour of the Scarborough Museum to celebrate Tamil Heritage Month. The guided tour took place on January 27th from 11AM - 1PM. Free transportation was provided to the participants, where students were introduced to the various instalments surrounding Tamil Heritage and identity. For more information please reach out to Amrith at president@scsu.ca.

FEBRUARY.

BATTLE OF THE DSA'S

Vice President Academic executed the Battle of DSA's this February in collaboration with six DSA's: EPSA, PNDA, BIOSA, ACMSA, AMACCS, and MESA. The Battle of DSA's is an opportunity where departmental student organisations table to sell goods, or services with the aim to raise awareness and promote their group's upcoming events and initiatives within the broader student community. All costs incurred by the DSA's to purchase items or goods for the Battle of the DSA will be reimbursed by the Union. Beyond serving as a platform for student groups to showcase their work and interact directly with fellow students, the event fosters friendly competition among the DSAs to raise funds for a charitable organisation. All proceeds from the tabling activities are earmarked for donation to a charity chosen by each participating group. Moreover, the group that manages to raise the highest amount of money receives a token of recognition that can be used for the purposes of their DSA as acknowledgment for their efforts.

BHM LAUNCH - BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROGRAMMING

The Takeoff was the SCSU's Black history month launch ceremony, organised and hosted by the Vice President External. The ceremony consisted of dance performances, prize giveaways, Black owned food vendors and Black student clubs for students to engage with. The launch took place on February 1st, 2024, at the Meeting Place from 1PM - 5PM. All students were welcomed to attend the festivities and indulge in free food and drinks provided by our local Black owned vendors. Students were also encouraged to interact with student clubs present with the incentive of entering a draw for our giveaway prizes. The purpose of the launch ceremony was to have UTSC students actively engage with Black led initiatives that occur both on and off campus and to demonstrate the panoply and diversity of Black culture, whether that be through food, dance, fashion, academia and much more. The Takeoff was a celebration of Blackness and an opportunity to share its vibrance to individuals who might not otherwise be exposed to it. It was also a space for Black students to be proud of their heritage, to be proud of their community and all of the wonderful creations that stem from Black minds.

HAIR CARE WORKSHOP - BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROGRAMMING

On February 7th, the Vice President External held a hair care workshop for black, female identifying students. Our collaboration with three expert facilitators from Urban Curls Salon brought the students of UTSC into the world of braiding and the intricate beauty of protective hairstyles found in various African and Caribbean cultures. Exploring different protective hairstyles, while indulging in complimentary snacks and refreshments, elevating the atmosphere of this engaging event. This event took place in the TV Lounge to encourage students to see their hard work via the built in mirror wall.

BHM COFFEE SHOP DATE - BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROGRAMMING

On the afternoon of February 14th, the Vice President External alongside the Racialized Student Collective planned a valentine's day event for black students on campus. The event took place at the 1265 Bistro and consisted of encouraging friendships and relationships building through prompts while indulging in coffee and pastries provided by Edill's CoffeeShop. The speed friending was led by two students, one of which being the racialized student collective coordinator. The participants were expected to converse with different students throughout the event to potentially gain new friends and mates and encourage healthy communicating skills to bring into existing and/or new relationships. . To provide a coffee shop - like environment, we had two baristas set up at a bar to create fun coffee and tea concoctions and to provide pastries to our participants.

MONTREAL READING WEEK TRIP

SCSU executives hosted a reading week trip to Montreal from February 21st to 24th 2024. Touring downtown Montreal with Temple and Temple, students were able to interact with some of the touristic sites that the City has to offer. This included a trip to Old Montreal, St. Joseph's Oratory, Mont Royal, Montreal's outdoor market, Olympic Stadium, McGill University, the Bell Centre, La Grande Roue de Montréal, casino, pub nights, and a night club to end the trip. Students were also able to disperse on their own and bond with the other students from UTM and TMU that also attended the trip. Accommodations, transportation, and breakfast were also included in this package. If you have any inquiries please contact VP Campus Life Victoria, at campuslife@scsu.ca.

BORN IN GAZA SCREENING

On February 12th, the Vice President Equity and Equity Centres Services Coordinator collaborated with Students of English Literature and Film (SELF) and the Palestinian Cultural Club (PCC) to host a film screening of the movie 'Born in Gaza' in the 1265 Bistro. The event incurred an attendance of 50 students, and was held to raise awareness about the ongoing genocide in Palestine, particularly in regards to its detrimental effects on Palestinian children.

MARCH.

BHM TRI-CAMPUS GALA - BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROGRAMMING

On March 1st, the Vice President External worked alongside the Events and Membership coordinator to co-host a Black History Month gala in collaboration with student groups and unions from the two other UofT campuses, as well as from Trent University and Toronto Metropolitan University. This was the first ever Multi-University Black History Month Gala, an elegant and inspirational celebration that pays homage to the remarkable journey of Black elegance through time. This year's theme, "Elegance Through Time," invited attendees to embark on a captivating journey through the rich tapestry of Black history, highlighting the achievements, resilience, and contributions that have shaped the world. The event saw a turnout of over 200 students and is expected to take place the following year, with hopes this event becomes a tradition.

WOMEN OF GAZA FUNDRAISER

In honour of women's history month, the UofT Palestinian Cultural Club and SCSU collaborated to bring you another fundraiser, this time for women in Gaza. Women in Gaza are using tent scraps as menstrual products - we want to alleviate at least some of their discomfort in such a troubling time. The PCC and SCSU sold Knafeh rolls & Baklava in the student centre March 5th from 12:30 - 2:30PM. All proceeds were donated to PIOUS PROJECTS!!

MARCH. (CONT.)

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY EVENT: BRIDGING GENERATIONS: CELEBRATING MOTHER-DAUGHTER CONNECTIONS

On March 7th, the Vice President Equity hosted an event for International Women's Day celebrating mother-daughter connections, particularly those from immigrant families. Students had the opportunity to invite their mother or any other important female role model in their life to enjoy this event championing women, resulting in an attendance of 50. The event had a keynote address by Emma, the founder of Dear Mom, and fostered mother-daughter relations via vulnerable discussion, creating collaborative vision boards, painting, a photo booth, and more.

BUILDING SOLIDARITY MOVEMENTS: CONNECTING THE PALESTINIAN + TAMIL STRUGGLE

On March 14th, the Vice President Equity and President, in collaboration with the UofT Palestinian Cultural Club (PCC), UTSC Tamil Students' Union (TSU), the Palestinian Youth Movement (PYM), and the Tamil Freedom Coalition (TFC), hosted an event connecting the Tamil and Palestinian struggle for liberation. This event consisted of a keynote address from lawyer Fathima Cader, followed by a panel discussion with youth leaders from the UofT PCC, UTSC's TSU, the PYM, and the TFC. The 60+ attendees consisting of both UofT and external community members had the opportunity to have meaningful discussions on allyship and solidarity, share poetry, and enjoy Tamil and Palestinian food.

BLACK PROFESSIONALS NETWORKING EVENT - BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROGRAMMING

On March 11th, the Vice President External, Vice President Equity, and Events and Membership Engagement Coordinator hosted the SCSU's inaugural Black Professionals Networking Event. This event consisted of 30 Black students from UTSC and 30 Black professionals from various fields. Attendees had the opportunity to partake in various networking games, enjoy food, and build connections. Considering the diverse Black student population of UTSC, and the fact that networking events are often focused on the corporate sector, this event provided students attendees with the opportunity to meet professionals from interdisciplinary fields, positively influencing their professional development.

VIGIL FOR CONGO & 'LET'S TALK ABOUT CONGO'

On March 12th, the Vice President Equity and Equity Centres Services Coordinator collaborated with the Congolese Students' Association (CSA) and African Students' Association (ASA) to conduct programming for raising awareness on the ongoing genocide in the Democratic Republic of Congo. A vigil for Congo was held in front of the student centre, as well as a panel discussion titled "Let's Talk About Congo". This event involved a panel discussion with Prof Ahmed Ilmi and members from the CSA, followed by poetry reading, and an open art forum for students to paint or write poetry in recognition of and solidarity with the people of Congo experiencing violence and genocide.

WORLD WATER DAY

On March 21st and 22nd, the Vice President Equity, President, and Equity Centres Services Coordinator collaborated with Indigenous Initiatives to conduct programming in celebration of World Water Day. On March 21st, student attendees had the privilege to attend a teach-in led by Elder John of the Thunderbird Clan, Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve, which included valuable teachings on the importance of water stewardship. On March 22nd, the Vice President Equity and President led a tabling event providing students the opportunity to create paintings and buttons for World Water Day.

CULTURE FEST

Throughout March 6th and March 18th to 22nd 2024 Vice President Campus Life and Vice President Operations executed Culture Fest. Culture Fest is SCSU's annual Multicultural Week Programming where UTSC Students and Groups can come together and display their culture through singing, dancing, a fashion walk, and of course, through food. This year we started our programming off with a Language Cafe which took place as part of our CoffeeHouse Programming. We hosted our traditional CoffeeHouse with prompts for students to engage in and teach one another about their language and how to say those prompts in their respective languages. Our event on March 18th is our Mr. World Wide Trivia Night, happening in the 1265 Bistro. Students will pair up into teams and compete against each other to see which team knows more about World Facts and the singer Pitbull. Executives will also have prizes awarded to the audience and team that wins. The next event will be happening March 20th in the Meeting Place in collaboration with the International Students Centre. This night will include the Night Market as well as a Culture Showdown where students and groups will display their culture through performances, a fashion show, and food. We will then close the evening off with a special performance by Yanchan, who is a Tamil Canadian producer and songwriter mostly known for mixing South Asian elements into his work. There will also be prizes available for students to win during this event. To finish the Fest off, we will end with a Futsal World Cup game in the Toronto Pan Am Courts. Here students can form teams to represent their country or cultural club and compete for the ultimate prize. If you have any inquiries please contact VP Campus Life Victoria, at campuslife@scsu.ca.

MULTICULTURAL WEEK

- Language Cafe (Coffeehouse): Embark on a linguistic journey at our in-person language exchange, where students can practise their desired languages with native speakers. This immersive experience offers the perfect opportunity to meet new people while enjoying free breakfast, coffee, and live music by a talented UTSC student.
- Mr. Worldwide Trivia: Join the SCSU executives for a thrilling game show night, testing your global knowledge and awareness of world affairs. Expect surprise questions about the iconic Pitbull himself, adding a fun twist to the evening.
- Culture Fest: In collaboration with the International Student Center, SCSU brings you a transformative multicultural evening featuring renowned music producer Yanchan. Born and raised in Scarborough, Yanchan blends traditional South Asian Carnatic music with hip-hop beats. Enjoy free food and immerse yourself in a celebration of cultural diversity.
- World Cup Soccer Tournament: Experience the excitement of a FIFA World Cup-themed soccer tournament at the Toronto Pan Am Sports Centre. Unleash your competitive spirit and showcase your skills in this thrilling eve.

APRIL.

SPRING FORMAL

Vice President Campus Life is executing SCSU's annual Spring Formal happening April 4th 2024 at Brighton Convention Centre. This year's theme will be enchanted forest with a twist; come enjoy Moonlight Masquerade! Bring your own mask or grab one from the SCSU booth on the day of. This evening will include a buffet style of food, live music, dancing, and unlimited drinks. There will also be prizes available for students to win throughout the event. For any inquiries please contact VP Campus Life Victoria, at campuslife@scsu.ca.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

VP Academics has been working to develop and execute this SCSU's Undergraduate Research Symposium (URS). The URS serves as an annual research competition highlighting the contributions of our undergraduate community to the field of research. It offers students a platform to exhibit their work, and further develop their communication skills. The symposium provides a distinctive opportunity for students to showcase their research endeavours and hone their presentation abilities within a setting that is both rigorous and competitive, yet supportive and familiar. This environment fosters a spirit of innovation, encouraging students to explore novel ideas and contribute to forward-thinking problem-solving and scholarship. Moreover, the URS is a student-led initiative, organised and executed by students for students, which enhances the sense of community on campus. This aspect adds a unique bonding dimension to the symposium experience. This academic year, the URS does not have a specific overarching theme, welcoming participation from students across various disciplines and years of study. This inclusive approach ensures a diverse range of research topics and perspectives are represented, enriching the symposium's intellectual landscape. For more information about the URS contact Afsana, academics@scsu.ca.

SCSU'S ACCOUNTABILITY FORUM

The Scarborough Campus Students Union is hosting an Accountability Forum throughout the month of April in which your executives and students apart of wider UTSC committees will be holding meetings with the upper administration of UTSC to demand for updates on their work and initiatives throughout the 2023-2024 term. The SCSU invites students to submit questions via a link in social media bio that will be asked on their behalf during the meetings with the upper administration.

Here is a list of the different departments the SCSU will be meeting:

- AA&CC (Academic Advising and Career Centre)
- SVPS (Sexual Violence Prevention & Support Centre)
- EDIO (Equity Diversity & Inclusion Office)
- Accessibility
- Residence Life & Housing
- Athletics/ Health and Wellness
- Student Life and International Student Centre

A report on the updates from upper administration will be provided to students. For more information feel free to reach out to Amrith at president@scsu.ca and/or Khadidja at external@scsu.ca

EXECUTIVE REPORT

+ SERVICES.

EQUITY SERVICE CENTRES.

FOOD CENTRE

Free, quality food access to all students, staff, and faculty at UTSC. This year, the Food Centre continued to serve students during weekly grocery pick-up on Friday and Monday. Keep up with all the amazing work they're doing by following them on Instagram: @scsu_foodcentre.

For more information, please contact foodcentre@scsu.ca and operations@scsu.ca.

GROWING DEMAND

We continue to support almost 400 students on a weekly basis. Since we've seen a 260% increase in weekly sign up, we continue to operate two grocery pickup days. We continue to face challenges to our operations such as food procurement, volunteer support, and infrastructure. Our food centre coordinators are working tirelessly to meet these demands.

HYGIENE PRODUCTS GIVEAWAY

The Food Centre has continued to distribute hygiene products to students on a monthly basis. In addition to our partnership with Global Medic, the Food Centre purchases hygiene products from local stores on an ongoing basis to meet the growing needs of students on our campus.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

This past semester, the FC hosted two sustainability based events around tote bag decorating and button making in collaboration with Hart House. Tote Bags were distributed to ensure a sustainable solution for those picking up their groceries. The FC also hosted a make your own mug cake event for Valentine's Day, teaching students a creative way to make an at-home dessert!

FOOD SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE

This semester, the FC attended meetings of the Food Security Subcommittee. The FC remains in talks with different departments on the topic of food security. One solution that arose from these meetings is a partnership with Harmony Commons Dining Hall who now donates hot meals, like soup, to the FC.

SOCIAL MEDIA

This past semester, the FC underwent a social media rebranding. Working with SCSU's Senior and Junior graphic designers, the new social media templates are now up and running on Instagram. Check them out!

ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTER

One of many extensions of the Scarborough Campus Students Union (SCSU), the Academic Support Center (ASC) is a service centre that is focused on holistically supporting students in access to education. Building on the success of ASC's previous programming, ASC has extended our pillars to better serve and support students. This year, the Academic Support Center will serve students through our revamped pillars: Services, Programming, and Resources. The ASC also recognizes the prevalence of important campaigns and goals such as Free Education for all, Fight the Fees and Put Equity in Academics. Thus, ASC strives to support the advocacy and promotion of various academic campaigns. For more information, please contact asc@scsu.ca.

SERVICES

The ASC continues to run cost-effective services that benefit students in achieving their academic aspirations. In the fall and winter semesters, six laptops were distributed out. The ASC also launched the free printing service which operates every Tuesday and Wednesday from 11-1pm on the second floor of the Student Centre. The printing services sees hundreds of students per week, a testament to the needs of the study body.

PROGRAMMING

The ASC continues to hold regular study sessions around exam and midterm seasons. The ASC also held a Career Mapping Workshop, led by an external facilitator. In partnership with the RSC, the ASC also held its annual book club focusing on the work of Mahmoud Darwish. This semester, the ASC is seeking to host more creative writing workshops and LinkedIn photoshoots.

RACIALIZED STUDENTS' COLLECTIVE

The Racialized Students' Collective is an SCSU Equity Service Centre which seeks to be a safer space for Black and Indigenous students, as well as racialized students. Proudly championing the diversity of our UTSC community; the RSC exists to oppose racism, colonialism and all forms of oppression on and off campus, directed at our Racialized, Black and Indigenous students. Through our creative work of advocacy, services and collective allyship, we aim to continually reshape our campus culture that celebrates and honours our Racialised students. The RSC will be an open physical space reflecting the importance of racialized students and their identities taking up space in their University!

The RSC's mandate is centred around intersectionality and bridging gaps between different cultural groups. The RSC seeks to increase solidarity between racialized groups and seeks to increase awareness about the importance of closed spaces. The RSC continues to educate students through events and programming. For more information, please contact rsc@scsu.ca.

OFFICE HOURS

This semester, the RSC launched its winter open hours. The lounge is open to all racialized students on Tuesdays to Thursdays from 11-3pm.

BSE LET'S TALK

Every Thursday, the RSC is used by BSE to host their Let's Talk series. This is a safe space for Black students to be themselves and have open conversations while building a community on our campus.

PROGRAMMING

This semester, the RSC hosted a myriad of events like Trauma Informed Yoga, Trivia Night with EDI BioSci, a trip to the Scarborough Museum for Tamil Heritage Month, a movie screening with SELF in support of Palestine, and its annual book club with ASC on the works of Mahmoud Darwish. The RSC also supported Black History Month programming with a haircare workshop, a speed friending event, and a gala. The RSC is looking forward to working on the Black Professionals Networking Event, in addition to a panel and vigil for Congo with the African Students' Association and the Congolese Students' Association.

VOLUNTEER NETWORK PROGRAM

With a look at more sustainable and forward thinking programs that the SCSU offers, we decided to revamp the VNP to create a volunteering structure with an internal shift. We will still have many of the traditional aspects of the program such as the ranking of the hours each volunteer puts in and having a day of appreciation for our volunteers. We believe the core tenets of volunteerism and SCSU would like to uphold this through greater reach and participation by our student body. In short, to get greater involvement with our student body we have shifted our focus inwardly.

BRONZE

- 9-19 hours
- Certificate of Recognition
- Volunteer Appreciation Night
- Chance to win a gift card

SILVER

- 20-59 hours
- Certificate of Recognition
- Volunteer Appreciation Night
- CCR Recognition
- General Reference Letter
- Eligible for the Community Scholarship (\$500)
- Silver Level Gift

GOLD

- 60 hours +
- Certificate of Recognition
- Volunteer Appreciation Night
- CCR Recognition
- Personalized Reference Letter
- Eligible for the Community Scholarship (\$500)
- Gold Level Gift

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

SCSU volunteers continue to support the services of all the equity centres, in addition to the Street Team who is hard at work promoting SCSU events. To thank all of our dedicated volunteers, the VNP hosted a fall appreciation night with food and karaoke. The VNP is looking forward to celebrating our volunteers at the Spring Volunteer Appreciation Night!

FINANCIAL SUPPORT.

ACADEMIC BURSARY

Now administered outside of the Financial Aid Office, the Academic Bursary was created by the Scarborough Campus Students' Union and is intended to support members that are dealing with financial hardship regarding their academic costs (e.g. textbooks, outstanding tuition fees, barriers to education). For other types of financial hardship (e.g. lost employment, need support accessing food or housing) the Emergency Grant form should be accessed. The move from the Financial Aid Office allows students to access their funds in a more accessible way, (e.g. via e-transfer) allowing for the bursary to be used for various costs as opposed to tuition on ACORN solely. For more information, please contact Vyshnavi at equity@scsu.ca.

EMERGENCY GRANT

Students who are eligible will be able to receive up to \$500 in emergency support. Application remains open until all available funds have been administered, or until the end of the Academic Year on April 30th when the Grant will reset. For more information, please contact Vyshnavi at equity@scsu.ca.

TRANSIT GRANT

With support from the Office of Student Experience and Wellbeing (OSEW), the SCSU launched the 2024 Transit Grant. The grant is intended to support members dealing with financial hardships in accessing transportation. Applications to this fund are considered on a rolling basis while limited funds are available. Members applying to the Transit Grant may receive UP To \$200, depending on the demonstration of the need. For more information, please contact Vyshnavi at equity@scsu.ca.

DOLLAR FOR DAYCARE

The Dollar for Daycare Bursary was created by the Scarborough Campus Students' Union. It is intended to support members with dependents that need support with affordable care. This grant relieves some of the financial burden on students while they're navigating their studies and have their dependents taken care of. For more information, please contact equity@scsu.ca.

GREEN SHIELD: HEALTH & DENTAL.

SCSU provides students' extended health care coverage through Green Shield Canada.

New this year, SCSU successfully lobbied our Health and Dental Insurance Provider for the following:

- We are also upgrading the dental plan from 30% to 20% copay for fillings, basic oral surgery, and comprehensive oral surgery.
- We are also adding bruxism appliance coverage.
- All this was achieved with no increase to your health and dental premium!

For any questions relating to the health plan, please email health@scsu.ca or internalcoordinator@scsu.ca.

GRADUATION PHOTOS.

The SCSU is now partnered with Lassman Studios to offer graduation photos for students that will be graduating from UTSC in June and November. This change has made graduation photos more affordable by reducing the sitting fee to FREE for basic sitting and \$20 for advanced sitting fee. Students should note, anyone who purchases a graduation package has access to a 25% discount for future photo needs - including wedding, baby showers, etc! In addition, SCSU has been able to offer complimentary Linked-In Photo Shoots. For more information, please contact Akaash at operations@scsu.ca.

PART-TIME STAFF.

The SCSU hired students for different part-time jobs such as the Administrative Associate through our Canada Summer Jobs grant. We also hired students for the following positions: Deputy Returning Officer (2), Polling Clerks (24), Tax Clinic Coordinator, Street Team Coordinator, and Videographers (2).

CLUBS/DSA TRAINING.

CLUBS TRAINING MAKE-UP DATE

In order to accommodate those clubs that could not attend our preliminary training, VP Campus Life held a make-up training for Clubs, to discuss funding, SCSU supports, room bookings, and recognition more generally. Over 30 students joined this training and participated actively.

EXECUTIVE REPORT

**+ UNIVERSITY
AFFAIRS.**

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE.

Members of the Executive team meet monthly with the Principal, Dean of Students and Vice-Principal Academic & Dean to discuss ongoing lobbying efforts. In addition, on September 19th the Executive Team met with the Upper Executives to share our campaign priorities for the year. We are hoping to see a lot of student victories and we are especially excited for the return of SCSU's Accountability Forum happening in April, where students will again get to join in lobbying UTSC's senior executive team.

KENNEDY STATION - UTSC SHUTTLE BUS PROPOSAL

The proposed shuttle bus initiative aims to address the pressing transit challenges faced by the University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC) community, particularly in light of campus expansions like the SAMIH facility and the retirement of Line 3. Currently, the existing transit routes connecting UTSC to subway lines result in long commute times, averaging between 1 hour 15 minutes and 1 hour 45 minutes for students travelling to the St. George campus. The impending need for transportation between UTSC and UTSC campuses due to new facilities further underscores the urgency of this initiative.

In the short term, the shuttle bus service will provide a much-needed solution to alleviate the burden of lengthy commutes for students. By offering direct transportation between UTSC and Kennedy Station, and potentially other strategic locations. The shuttle bus will significantly reduce travel times and enhance the overall commuting experience for the UTSC community. This immediate relief will improve accessibility and convenience for students, faculty, and staff.

Looking towards the long term, the shuttle bus proposal aligns with a broader vision of enhancing transit infrastructure in Scarborough. By prioritising safety, accessibility, and efficiency, the initiative seeks to create a seamless transit system tailored to the unique needs of UTSC. This includes exploring opportunities for route optimization, implementing advanced scheduling mechanisms, and integrating technological innovations to further streamline the commuting process. Ultimately, the shuttle bus service serves as a catalyst for fostering sustainable transportation solutions that benefit both the university community and the broader Scarborough region.

To realise this vision, the proposal seeks support and collaboration from the University of Toronto administration and TTC. Specifically, it calls for funding and logistical assistance to establish and maintain the shuttle bus service, as well as ongoing engagement with relevant stakeholders to ensure the initiative's success. By investing in improved transit options, the university demonstrates its commitment to fostering a vibrant and accessible campus environment, facilitating academic and professional opportunities for all members of the UTSC community.

For more information on this project contact VP Academics Afsana, academics@scsu.ca, VP External Khadidja, external@scsu.ca or VP Operations Akaash operations@scsu.ca.

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION.

BI-WEEKLY MEETINGS WITH EDIO

VP Equity continuously meets with the EDIO to discuss equity matters that students face and provide updates to the department so that better cohesion is maintained. Some of the matters that are brought up during these meetings are Ramadan Accommodations, Multi-faith prayer rooms, event planning and specific student issues.

MEETINGS WITH ANTI-BLACK RACISM- BLACK INCLUSION ADVISORY TASK FORCE

VP Equity and VP External meet with the Anti-Black Racism and Black Inclusion Advisory Committee in amplifying student voices and bring the issues of black students and clubs. The committee is an advisory body to the Vice President and Principal of the University of Toronto Scarborough with the aim of enhancing Black inclusion on campus. The task force is currently working on an issue brought up by the SCSU which is the increasing rate of Black student dropouts at UTSC. For more information, please contact equity@scsu.ca and Khadidja at external@scsu.ca.

MEETINGS WITH BLACK STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

VP Equity coordinates and meets with the Black Student Engagement Coordinator to discuss programming and initiatives to support our Black Students. These include the Black Student Orientation. VP equity and VP External partnered with BSE in outreaching to black clubs to engage with first years during black student orientation. For more information, please contact equity@scsu.ca and external@scsu.ca.

POSITIVE SPACE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

VP Equity submitted a report on the positive impact of coordinated communication during programming initiatives such as Pride and Queer Orientation. The verbal and written response explains how this Semester, the coordinated efforts of the SGDO office helped make many queer orientation events across campus successful through high attendance and a need to keep this coordination will better facilitate events for students. For more information, please contact equity@scsu.ca.

HEALTH & WELLNESS.

VP equity is in close collaboration with the Dean of Health and Wellness and Director of Health and Wellness in efforts to hire more counsellors for students. VP Equity also coordinates in getting and finding out about resources available to students and discusses ways of promotion to students. This semester, during the period of the on-going war in Palestine, communication went out about increased after hours counselling through a lister to all students and resources were included in SCSU's published statement provided by the Office of Student Experience and Wealth and Wellness. For more information, please contact equity@scsu.ca.

VICE-PRINCIPAL AND DEAN OF ACADEMICS.

UTSC SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR VICE PRINCIPAL AND DEAN OF ACADEMICS

Your President alongside UTSC higher administrators are currently in the process of hiring an individual to take on the role of Vice Principal and Dean of Academics here at UTSC. The process consults various departments here at UTSC and my role in the committee reflects the student perspective which is much needed in the hiring process. At the past meeting your VP AUA represented SCSU at the committee level and spoke on behalf of the membership to demand that we hire an individual who will advocate for the needs of students here at UTSC. For more information please reach out to Amrith at president@scsu.ca.

AA&CC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Your VP AUA has attended the AA&CC Advisory Committee meetings throughout the semester to discuss the growth of the AA&CC office including new updates to the office as recommendations proposed through a student lens. For more info please contact Afsana at academics@scsu.ca.

MEETINGS WITH THE OFFICE OF THE VICE-DEAN ACADEMICS AND THE DIRECTORS OF REGISTRAR

VP AUA meets with the Vice Dean Undergraduate Programs, Vice Dean Recruitment and Student Success, and the Directors of Registrar each month to discuss student concerns, recommendations and possible solutions. We have received updates on the Credit No Credit deadline extension, issues with academic integrity, concerns around mandatory training on sexual violence prevent and anti oppression as well additional student concerns brought up during these meetings. We have also received updates on the CR/NCR policy. The University has struck a tri-campus working group surrounding the CR/NCR policy, VP AUA is working to ensure that tri-campus unity is met and will continue to lobby for the policy until it is amended and implemented.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, APPEALS AND PETITIONS

VP AUA has worked to ensure that students are supported during any academic appeals process or academic integrity meetings. VP AUA has routinely met with students to discuss next steps in their academic integrity / petition process as well as provide information and resources for those that require external assistance. This is to ensure that students are fairly treated and are aware of their academic rights and freedoms. For more information on how students are supported or if you know a student in need of support please contact Afsana at academics@scsu.ca.

VICE-PROVOST STUDENTS.

The SCSU team met with the SVPS office to speak about Sexual Violence and Prevention Programming for Orientation. The teams also discussed future collaborations and the Consent is MANDATORY campaign with the opportunity to have all students, faculty and staff be trained with SVP. For more information please reach out to Amrith at president@scsu.ca.

OFFICE OF STUDENT EXPERIENCE & WELLBEING.

COUNCIL ON STUDENT SERVICES

The Executive team are voting members on Council on Student Services. The purpose of CSS is to convene a voting body to approve permanent fee increases as it is required for increases in excess of the "year-over-year rate of inflation" (CPI) or as determined by a calculation of the "UTI" according to the methodology outlined in the long-term protocol. They are responsible for reviewing annual operating plans of program and services, reports on services and programs funded by mandatory fees; and receive reports for inflation on programs supported by optional fees; advise on proposals for expansion or reduction of student services including recommendations for new services and for the elimination of services; to serve as a forum for discussion of student experiences at UTSC.

ENHANCEMENT FUND

With clubs working to create a vibrant community here at UTSC. Vice President External and Former President Sobowale discuss funding with the administration, granting over twenty applications. For more information, please contact Khadidja at external@scsu.ca.

COSS MEETING

With the rise of student fees. Vice President External sat on the Council of Student Services to discuss the increase in fees, where fees are going and what student fees are used for on the Downtown campus. Vice President External raised questions on the fee structure of COSS. Overall this was a productive discussion. For more information, please contact Khadidja at external@scsu.ca.

E&C FUND

VP Equity sits on the Equity and Community fund to approve and advocate for student groups that apply to the fund. This is a great fund in which student groups who are hosting equity-related events and initiatives receive funding from UTSC. Having a student voice on this committee is essential. For more information, please contact equity@scsu.ca.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE FORUM

The SCSU executives met with UTSC's Chief Administrative Officer to go over the operational aspects of UTSC. We went over topics including UPASS, Co-op Housing, Parking on campus, and a Fee Breakdown Budget Townhall. The meeting consisted of key takeaways that would overall benefit the student body. For more information please reach out to Amrith at president@scsu.ca.

TRI-CAMPUS.

BOARD OF STEWARDS

Vice President Academics & University Affairs, as the official SCSU designate, attended the Board of Stewards Meeting. The Board of Stewards Committee is the highest form of governance at Hart House. The VP AUA has attended and contributed to the Hart House presentations representing UTSC student voices and worked towards building a mutual relationship between UTSC and Hart House to ensure that UTSC students have access to and are represented in the governing and programming of Hart House because UTSC students pay fees that contribute to Hart House. Through the relationship between Hart House, SCSU took first year students on a trip to Hart House to familiarise them with the building and the resources they are able to access.

VP AUA and VP External in collaboration with Hart House and Student Life are working to create a video project that showcases how students can navigate the Hart House building and resources as well as the Hart House services available to students at the UTSC Campus. For more information on this project please connect with Afsana at academics@scsu.ca or Khadidja at external@scsu.ca

EXECUTIVE REPORT

+ OPERATIONS.

SPONSORSHIP & PARTNERSHIPS.

THE LAB

“The Lab” is an exciting and vibrant social entertainment space in the Bistro! Let’s explore the various features and elements that make it a standout destination for patrons:

- **LED Lights and Neon Signage:** The use of LED lights and neon signage creates a visually appealing and energetic atmosphere. It sets the mood for a lively and immersive experience, making “The Lab” an unmistakably modern and trendy space.
- **Lounge Furniture:**The inclusion of comfortable lounge furniture adds a touch of sophistication and relaxation. It provides patrons with a cozy and inviting environment, encouraging them to unwind and socialize.
- **Gaming Consoles (PS5, Nintendo Switch):** The availability of gaming consoles like PS5 and Nintendo Switch caters to a diverse audience, offering a wide range of gaming options. This can attract both casual and hardcore gamers, making “The Lab” a definitive go-to destination for gaming enthusiasts.
- **Karaoke System:** The karaoke system adds an interactive and social element to the space. Patrons can showcase their singing talents and enjoy a fun-filled time with friends. It enhances the overall entertainment experience and fosters a sense of community.
- **Smart TV with Retro Games:** The combination of a smart TV and retro games brings together the best of both worlds. Patrons can enjoy modern entertainment options on the smart TV while also indulging in a nostalgic gaming experience with retro games, establishing “The Lab” as a broad audience pleaser.
- **Sound System:** A high-quality sound system ensures an immersive audio experience, whether it’s for gaming, karaoke, or watching content on the smart TV. It enhances the overall ambiance and contributes to the lively atmosphere of “The Lab.”

Overall, “The Lab” is a well-rounded social entertainment space that caters to a diverse range of interests. From gaming enthusiasts to music lovers, and those seeking a comfortable space to relax with friends, the combination of features creates a dynamic and engaging environment in the Bistro. It’s destined to become a popular destination for socializing and enjoying various forms of entertainment.

1265 BISTRO UPDATES

“1265 Bistro” introduces an exciting array of features to elevate your experience at our student-run bar and restaurant:

ENHANCED AUDIO EXPERIENCE WITH A NEW SPEAKER SYSTEM

- Immerse yourself in the entertainment at “1265 Bistro” with our newly installed speaker system in the stage area. This upgrade not only ensures high-quality audio for performances but also supports UTSC clubs and DSA events, making our space a vibrant hub for student activities.

REVAMPED DRINKS MENU AND SUSTAINABLE DINING

- Savor the flavor with our revamped drinks menu, now featuring six affordably priced cocktails. Additionally, we’re proud to introduce vegan sustain-a-bowls, providing delicious and sustainable dining options for those with diverse preferences.

ONLINE PRESENCE AND BOOKING CONVENIENCE

- Stay connected and plan your visit effortlessly with our live website. Explore detailed information about the Bistro and utilize our user-friendly booking form.

DOORDASH AND UBEREATS DELIVERY:

- Can’t make it to “1265 Bistro” in person? No problem! We’re now available on DoorDash and UberEats, ensuring that the spirit of our student-run establishment reaches you wherever you are.

With these tailored additions, “1265 Bistro” stands out as more than just a student-run bar and restaurant – it’s a dynamic space that caters to the diverse needs and preferences of the student community, offering a well-rounded experience both on-site and through convenient delivery options.

STUDENT CENTER EXPANSION + BV LOCKER PROJECT

1. **Streamlined Services and Office Relocation:** As part of the Student Center Expansion and BV Locker Project, we’ll consolidate service centers for efficiency and move offices to upper floors, improving accessibility and space use.
2. **Dynamic Social Spaces:** Our vision includes creating lively social areas across the campus, fostering community and providing engaging spaces for both academic and recreational use.
3. **Second-Floor Bridge Transformation:** The second-floor bridge will undergo a makeover with a captivating mural, creating an inspiring walkway and enhancing the overall campus ambiance.
4. **Revamped BV Locker Space with SCSU Lounge:** The BV Locker Project will revamp the locker space for improved functionality. An integrated SCSU lounge will offer an additional area for student activities, combining practicality with social engagement.

TAX CLINIC

Running from March 18 to April 9, our tax assistance program spans nearly a month to accommodate the diverse needs of students. During this period, the goal is to provide free tax filing assistance to over 500 students, ensuring they navigate the tax season with ease and financial confidence. We are proud to announce that our initiative has received support from the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) in the form of a grant worth \$1790. This financial backing further strengthens our ability to offer free tax assistance and underscores the value our initiative brings to the community. The enthusiastic response to our call for volunteers has resulted in a robust team of 50 volunteer tax associates who will be trained by the CRA.

SPONSORSHIP & PARTNERSHIPS. (CONT.)

ELECTIONS & REFERENDUM COMMITTEE ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Record Number of Candidates: Experience the highest number of candidates in the 2024 spring elections in the past four years. This surge in candidate interest reflects a vibrant and engaged student body actively contributing to the democratic process.
2. All-Candidate Debate Success: Organized a highly successful all-candidate debate that attracted an impressive attendance of over 100 students. The event provided a dynamic platform for candidates to share their visions and engage with the student body, with the debate also being live-streamed on Instagram, broadening its reach and accessibility.
3. Anticipated Record Election Turnout: Building on the momentum generated by the increased number of candidates and the success of the all-candidate debate, anticipate achieving the highest election turnout in the past four years. This enthusiastic response from the student community underscores the effectiveness of our outreach efforts and the growing interest in campus governance.

BUDGET PRESENTATION

Transparently presented the breakdown of SCSU and SRI budgets to the university's upper administration for informed decision-making.

COFFEE HOUSE

Our Coffee House events, featuring live music and themed breakfasts, have successfully served meals to over 900 students each semester, fostering a sense of community and enjoyment.

