

Friday, October 21, 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 #2 of the University of Toronto Students' Union
Friday, October 21, 2011 – 5:00pm – Room SL-232

A. Roll Call

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

This meeting is called to order at 5:25PM.

B. Approval of Agenda

Amendment

Moved: HM

Seconded: FR

HM, to move VP HR's Report to the beginning.

Move F. New Business – Orientation Report (Julian Scheffer)

MOTION

Director Reinstatement Tamar Istanbul

VOTE

In Favour: 9

Abstention: 1

Opposed:

Spoil: 1

TI – I've been involved in many events on campus, and I should be voted back in. I've missed meetings, because I worked over the summer. The second meeting, I missed because my father was ill, and I was with him. The third Meeting I missed because it was an emergency meeting.

HJ - If we don't know what days she missed, I cannot make a proper decision.

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SA - June 27, September 26, October 16

PT - TI missed some days, but she was volunteering on campus, and was doing her job as a director.

AA - I also think she has been involved.

D. Minutes – BoD: Friday, Oct. 7th, Exec: Friday Oct 7th.

SM - Spelling Mistake: Rexes Den should be 'Rex's Den.'

DT - DT said, Quality Control Team, not Time.

GA - Minutes Approved

FR - GA, please keep things in order.

E. New Business VP Reports

F. Report – Vice President Human Resources (Jessica Renzella)

MOTION

Moved: SM

Seconded: AK

PT - The hiring reports were done by HM. There were minor issues with the reports. There needs to be more accountability towards the hiring program. With Rex's Den, there needs to be more done with backroom support. A few people quit, however, new hiring's will continue. In organizing the fair, CB booked a bus without the logo. With Health and Safety Committee, we are continuing forward in our obligations. JR wanted to get everyone's job portfolio together, and improve the efficiency of the department. Reach, Connect, Build was of great success, and there was much activity during the event.

PT – We are looking to hire 60 part-time employees.

HM - These students that are working, it is good for student's that want to work for the SCSU, but are not eligible for OSAP.

BK - The incoming restaurants will be open from 10:30AM – 8:00PM.

PT – We are looking at about three students per shift. We are looking for the right candidates.

PT - Hiring Reports - Minute-Taker – 6 people interviewed, 2 people hired.

FR - It is important to add how many people were called for the interview, and how many showed up.

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PT - This format is standard procedure, and something that we have had in place for the last 5 years. We will look to build something that is more effective. JR, has the competency to create a new procedure, but has been short on time. Who is doing minutes for Scofis and Cris?

GA - There is no budget.

AK – Directors should do it.

DT - Maybe, directors should not be doing that. Directors need to be a part of the meeting, in terms of giving input and ideas.

PT – I actually agree with you, I think this needs to be done as well, in order to ensure that the best ideas are being places forward.

F. New Business – Orientation Report (Julian Scheffer)

MOTION

Moved: AA

Seconded: HM

From September 6 to 9th, we hired SLs. Both LR and Emzhei Chen were extremely helpful during Orientation. We had roughly 1000 students register for orientation, which was better than last year. Last year, we had roughly 500 students, so this year we were glad that we were able to register as many as we had. Tania helped with a lot during the Orientation. Organizing the disbursement of lunches was hectic. However, registration was fine. Next year, we will recommend a one-color code system. We will also change our wristband system, as this method was chaotic.

Former UTSC student's organized the music. We had a great DJ, and security was also taken care of. Everything was professionally handled, and was a fun social event. We also supplied these students with T-shirts.

On September 7th, we held the carnival. This event was quite successful and was held in the parking lots. We wanted to make sure that we could accommodate for space to both hold the event and make sure there was enough space for parking, so that there were no liabilities. It is the first time we held all of the departments at the same place, at the same time.

Both Karaoke and the BBQ ran successfully. If first years are not present during the event, this does place a hole in the budget. In addition, there needs to be more DJs at these events.

Mini-Mosaic, which was on September 8th, placed a great opportunity for students to become involved and immersed in the UTSC atmosphere. Adding more promotional videos would be a great asset to these events.

The UofT parade held downtown took place on September 9th. Transportation was arranged and there were 27 buses that were used. For future reference, we need to coordinate the picking up

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and dropping off of students a little better. Everyone received free water, juice, and food, and the students were quite content. Security was provided by the venue, and was included in the rental package. There were some issues with the buses, as a few arrived late, however this was because many students decided to leave early.

For the Tri-Campus Parade, the budget that was used was enormous. There was also a conflict with the academic calendar, as some students had class during the day of the event. These issues should be taken care of in the future. There were 210 leaders. We need to take care of picking up garbage, and ensuring that there is a proper sanitation procedure in place. There needs to be a shorter process for admitting applicants into Orientation.

We need to coordinate better registration strategies, as there were discrepancies with students registering the day of. There were issues regarding disposable water bottles and UTSC water bottles.

D. New Business – President & CEO

A. Report – President & CEO (Pagalavan Thavarajah)

Motion

Moved: PT

Seconded: TI

PT - I've been in conversations regarding DSAs, and we want to see how they can become more prominent on campus. We have also worked on a new video that shows students how to do things on campus. We have also worked on the tally regarding the franchises.

Campus Student Safety is a huge responsibility for campus, as we need these issues to be taken care of during the administrative processes. With the help of CB, & LR we will work on bringing up the issues surrounding levies. In regards to space-booking, this is free to the students to decide how they would like to use the areas within the school. One of the issues is music; this had become a discrepancy during Wildfire. There are issues with how space has been restricted; we need to create a committee, in order to reconfigure the chain of command, as students are not getting access to what they want. The bigger issue is regarding the respect for the property being used.

With Outreach, PT is recommending that everyone spread the word. The Street Team is pushing forward for things that are happening.

'One Love UTSC,' helped to create a better community within UTSC. It was a poetic, artistic, and fun. It is interesting to see what the artistic side of this campus can do.

SCSU Swag has brought over 250 students to our Facebook page, and within an hour, we have had so many students come to our Facebook page. We have started to connect with students, and get our brand out there. We want to work in making this brand a fixture on campus.

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With Reach, Connect, Build, my Presidential Associate has been very helpful in organizing this. I want to thank the Directors for taking on roles that have been far beyond your capacity. It is great to see so many students at the offices. Students were very intent on getting to know the Vice Presidents. Build worked well, 8 people came to it.

I am continuing projects with other students within the UTSC campus. If you would like me to place this within the minutes, please let me know. I would like to create opportunities for students where they can feel good about themselves. I try my hardest to be open and accessible to all students.

HM – Who did the video for ‘One Love UTSC?’

PT – Lee did it. If you guys would like to be involved in the videos, please let me know. I know the Directors are busy, but there are so many ideas that I have for you guys. It is all on you guys to decide if you want to develop a video.

E. New Business VP Reports

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

Motion

Moved: AA

Seconded: SA

AA - Scarborough Action, a group of students are running with this idea. If you would like to join the group, and their advocacy work, please let me know we meet from 4-6 on Monday.

With Reach, Connect, Build, we got a lot of signatures for the petition regarding the shuttle bus as well as the ‘Day of Action.’ I also described my duties and students to students whom asked. We were able to connect so many people together. The Canadian Federation of Students’ Executive meeting began discussing the Day of Action, and the Annual Ontario General Meeting. Regarding the Day of Action, we are having a GTA Coalition meeting, and having met with the GTA locals and groups, we have discussed numerous items.

With the Scarborough Youth Cabinet (SYC), we have the momentum leading up to the Momentum. We will do sessions called ‘Get Involved,’ with high school students.

Regarding the City of Toronto, proposal of the TTC Shuttle Bus; I took a broad survey, so please disburse it and share it with other students.

HR – During the Advocacy Meeting’s are all students welcomed?

AA – This is a group for all issues, for all students. Once they are on the agenda, we can begin solving these problems. Anyone can join, and participate in the discussion. Scarborough Action will be used for ‘Day of Action.’

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B. Report – Vice President Students & Equity (Zahra Murji)

Motion

Moved: FR

Seconded: HR

To table Students & Equity Report.

VOTE:

In Favour: Unanimous

Abstention:

Opposed:

HJ – Is tabling of the reports or limiting the run-through of reports by VPs something that we are discussing?

PT – If you feel like there is a valid or non-valid reason for tabling VP Reports, please vote based off of your conscious.

BK – If you feel that the VP Reports do not explain enough, and more questions are needed, then please bring these issues forward, and look towards tabling off the agenda as necessary. However, if you feel that the report is proficient in explaining what is necessary, than this is adequate as well.

HR – Conducting these things in such a way promotes a manner of efficiency.

PT – In the future, we can select a process, where you can all read the reports, and I can have discussion topics brought up as well. Whichever process makes it easier for you guys?

FR - I agree with BK, we can all read the reports and only ask questions as necessary.'

HR - Can we implement this as soon as possible?

AA - We should implement this process (or standardize it) at the next meeting?

PT - We are getting ourselves into a situation, where we do not understand what the VPs are doing. We could be in a position, where Directors are not aware of exactly what is going on. This may also lead to more bulky reports, as there is not enough room to maneuver for presenting the report.

ST - There needs to be a balance, if VPs want to highlight certain items, which are of concern than is very much feasible. However, we need to prevent redundancy with reports.

HJ - We need to have an effective order and system in place.

FR - Longer and detailed reports might be a good idea. Shorter reports might be too vague and lead to more questions being asked.

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C. Report – Vice President Academics (Carl Bagot)

MOTION

Moved: CB

Seconded: HR

CB - Looking to restructure the DSAs, and figure out a way for better relations between the department and the DSAs, so that there is better structure with the relationship. Regarding tuition fees, I have communicated with Kim McLean. The CAO and the special designate will be in attendance. I need to figure out the financial statements prior to attending the meeting.

DT - What is being done to increase study space for finals?

CB - For mid-terms, no additional study space has been added. The ISC building has not opened up to the idea of being open and available all of the time. However, for finals, classrooms will be open.

DT - Can we look further into this? Students are always looking for space.

CB - After 10PM, people are being directed towards the libraries, because there is more security.

AA - Can we push for the buildings to be open until 12AM?

CB - It will be looked in to.

D. Report – Vice President Campus Life (Leah Robertson)

MOTION

Moved: CB

Seconded: FR

LR - In talking to the Street Team, it was found that this team has been able to spread the word about what SCSU is. Many UTSC students have learned more about the SCSU through this process.

During the Racoons v. Maroons Basketball game, there was lots of coordination between student groups on campus in order to make this event a success.

Halloweek, has also started on the right track. Advertising for 'Taste of Terror,' has been a great success. If students volunteer for certain hours, they qualify for a discount.

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E. Report – Vice President Operations & CFO (Ali Lalani)

MOTION: Moved: AA Seconded: HM

DT: There was the idea for a Quality Control Team, you will be responsible for going to Rex's during random times, and interviewing customers, then relay this information to management. If you would like to join this team, contact AL.

HR: I will work with DT, regarding the Quality Control Team.

MOTION: Moved: FR Seconded: AA
Motion to table Franchise Investment Project Report.

PT: Franchise Investment Project Report, was supposed to be discussed by PT, and it was not to be printed and disbursed. Rather it was supposed to be explained thoroughly. It is critical to us moving forward that Directors understand what is being discussed. Next time, we will have this discussion again. Tabled agenda items, are normally for something that is being done under-the-table. Though, in this case, we are looking at something that is an already ongoing process. This process cannot be cancelled. This is a serious topic, as franchises are a very sensitive issue. This is a make-or-break situation for our organization. We have spent \$30,000, just on legal fees, etc.

BK: Speaking against tabling the item, because this item has already been consulted with the administration a year ago. It is the numbers that needs to be approved.

AA: We need to be aware of what we are doing, before the decision is being made.

VOTE

Against the tabling of the Agenda.

In Favour: Abstention: Opposed: 8

PT: Travel cuts did not apply for their sub-license, and therefore left campus. Subsequently, the space became A&W. The climax was last years when there were issues regarding payment, this was ongoing for six months prior to its closing. The past President had a vision for what we can do with the space. Both spaces were RFPd out. In the process of opening up the space to new franchises, we have found companies to work with. The past President had given signing rights in order to handle the paperwork. There was a huge issue regarding acquiring the franchise, as there were disputes in the relationship that were beyond our control. After signing the contracts, between Yums, Heroburgers, the SCSU, and administration, there was the issue of going in circles. Therefore, in order to place a solution in going forward, it was decided that it was necessary to separate the facility into two different spaces that needs to allocate its resources properly to both the individual franchises.

BK: The construction process has already begun. The completion of the project is scheduled for January 31, 2011.

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PT: Concerns or questions?

DT: Is that date set?

PT: The construction process may be scheduled to change depending upon how the space is reconfigured.

BK: Base Building costs are involved in the ventilation, as they require release for exhaustion that was inadequate under A&W. We have built up financial reserves, and interest rates have been very low. This money is not coming from SCSU funds. The equipment is \$300,000. The support that these franchisors will receive is enormous. The Dentistry will pay back the \$103,000 after a period of 5 years. If we decide that we don't want these franchises, we can sell them back to the franchisor.

PT: This is a young organization, but if we get this started it will be a big business for us. The income for this at York Lanes is maybe \$30,000. That is a testament to BKs years of experience. In looking at Rex's Den, what we will see there will be some lost profits for the franchises, but they will be providing us with rents. This is not like Rex's Den, as these franchises are very successful in running once they are established, and a strong foundation is set. As good as this project is, if the VPs or Directors do not hold us accountable, we will not be as successful, that's why your voice is so important. With \$10,000 over 12 months, it will take us approximately 7 years to pay-off, and this is a long process. We need to have a presence within the school in order for this franchise to survive. This money is coming from our reserves.

BK: The money to be used for the investment is currently locked into investment vehicles that present a stable rate of return.

DT: This is not the proper format of discussing rate of returns, as some of these figures abnormally high. Normally, these percentages account for discounted flows, and other varied conditions.

FR: What are the risks?

PT: There are risks involved, these financial statements are provided in either to provide an idea about what could potentially happen.

BK: This is a benefit to students, as they will be given priority for job placement.

GA: These financial statements seem viable, but what if they don't generate revenue?

BK: They will still pay. This system will work because cheap food sells. If problems arise we will look into it, and begin consolidation. Treats & the Hotdog Guy, pay rents in a different way than normally conducted. I will present refuse of hand, if the franchise asks for operating funds.

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PT: These financial statements are to be used as a guide, there are different scenarios, and however the document presented issues a specific route.

GA: This doesn't seem concrete, it does not seem like there is a proper business plan.

BK: Joel's projections are based on the rents comparable to our other tenants, and our revenue projections are based on previous statements of A&W.

PT: These numbers have been agreed upon already, however we need to confirm it. The money needs to be transferred from one account to another, so that we can begin payout.

DT: Please have proper financial statements brought forward in the future.

HJ: We are wasting time discussing what-if scenarios.

FR: I agree with DT, it appears as though Joel deceived us with the financials, in order to sell it to us.

MOTION

Moved: PT

Seconded: FR

Be it resolved that SCSU commits funding of \$817,002 towards project DCM2009-24 Student Centre Retail Outlets Renovation.

VOTE

In Favour: 7

Abstention: 2

Opposed: 1

PT: By submitting this report without my consent, it has compromised and jeopardized the work that needs to be done.

H. Next Board of Directors Meeting – Friday, November 4th, 2011 in SL-232 from 5PM – 9PM

AA: November 4, 2011 – we will have representatives from the Canadian Federation of Students. We will have these representatives discuss the 30% tuition reductions, and what the Liberal agenda is. Please encourage people to come during the hour-long session.

HR: Regarding Scoia and the University of Toronto Scarborough Representative Council. We are discussing student representation and it's restructuring.

GA: We aimed for having a system that was a little more democratic.

PT: This meeting was about figuring out council representation. The idea is to be mobilizing and figuring out a conversation regarding these topics. I have had meetings with Dan Riggs, and how this documents need to reflect UTSCs vision for the future.

HR: These issues and discussions affect everyone.

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PT: We need to begin developing a strategy regarding referendum agreements, etc. We all need to create this, and decide how it will be presented to the school and administrators. We as the SCSU need to make a push in order to have people on board in the University of Toronto Scarborough Representative Council.

AA: When is the deadline for this?

GA: November 22, 2011

MOTION

Moved: HR

Seconded: FR

Be it resolves that the SCSU adopts a campaign to the student body about the issue of student governance within the UofT Student Representative Council.

HJ: Is there any reason that we cannot turn the library into a library?

PT: We need to figure out a way to have an informal campaign, so that people begin utilizing the space around school.

I. Adjournment

MOTION

Moved: FR

Seconded: AA

Meeting ended at 8:28PM.