



Trent Durham Student Association

55 Thornton Rd. S
Oshawa, On L1J 5Y1
905-435-5102

Meeting: BOARD MEETING			
Date: January 28th, 2022.		Time: 10am	
Place: Zoom			
Members in attendance			
Phuong Nguyen President	Nathan R.G. Barnett VP of University Affairs	Viviana Pinheiro VP of Campus Life	Jeffrey Ross Chair of the Board
Riley Ambrose	Parastoo Sadeghein	Andrew Rose	Naya McRae Ntawiha
Lalbegim Boronieva	Carwyn Holland		
Members absent with regrets			
Members absent without regrets			
Jessie Assaf	Nicholos Nauth	Felicia Seucharan	

1.	Call to order – 9:06am
2.	Land Acknowledgement - Presented by Ross
3.	Roll Call
4.	Chair Remarks - None
5.	Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes - December board meeting Motioned by Nguyen, seconded by Ambrose - Passes unanimously
6.	Review of Action Items

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None
7.	<p>Call for New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nguyen to add “Proclamation for Int’l Decade of African Descent” to agenda <p>Motioned by Nguyen, seconded by Sadeghein</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Passes unanimously
8.	<p>Approval of Agenda</p> <p>Motioned by Ambrose, seconded by Sadeghein</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Passes unanimously
9.	<p>Declaration of Conflict of Interest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● None
10.	<p>Executive Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of exec updates (Attached in board drives) <p>The three executives gave an update of what they have been working on over the past month.</p>
11.	<p>Board Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ambrose: The ORD has met twice since the last board meeting.
12	<p>New Policy 12: Chairperson Hiring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Barnett went over the new policy. The policy was created to select those on the hiring committee for the chairperson (Holland enters the meeting at 9:15am) <p>Be it resolved that: The TDSA Board of Directors approve the creation of policy 20: Chairperson hiring</p> <p>Moved by Barnett, seconded by Ambrose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Motion passes unanimously
13	<p>Minor Policy Updates (10, 11, 13, 16, 17)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ambrose went over the minor policy changes that the ORD committee had been working on. <p>Be it resolved that: The TDSA Board of Directors approve the changes to policy 10, 11, 13, 16, 17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moved by Ambrose , seconded by Barnett - Motion passes unanimously

14	<p>Menstruation Product Stance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nguyen went over the Menstruation Product. This is to fortify why we run our menstruation station <p>Ambrose: The TDSA usually does not have a stance on issues it fixes, is this a one time thing? Barnett: I think it depends on the situation. It allows us to advocate to the university about doing more like this. Sadeghein: I think what the TDSA is offering is not something different from what other schools are. As a person, anytime I see a menstruation station, it puts a smile on my face. Nguyen: I don't expect this to be controversial in Trent Durham. But this is in case someone ever decides to run a referendum, it gives us a document to where we want the organization to start from</p> <p>Be it resolved that: The TDSA Board of Directors approve the Menstruation product stance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moved by Nguyen , seconded by Sadeghein - Motion passes unanimously
15	<p>Proclamation for Int'l Decade of African Descent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nguyen went over the proclamation summary that she had created. It goes hand in hand with the document that Holland created. <p>Barnett: Just to confirm, we will be passing this as a stance? Nguyen: Yes Ambrose: Will both the summary and original document be posted in the same document? Nguyen: My thought was that this stance will redirect to the original document. Holland: I am really looking forward to the month of February, and I do appreciate the TDSA taking this stance. And the black community appreciates it.</p> <p>Be it resolved that: The TDSA Board of Directors approve the stance in support of the Proclamation for the International Decade of African Descent</p>
15	<p>Covid-19 Check in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ambrose had some questions about Covid. He will like to hear from the executives about what is happening with COVID and students returning next week. <p>Nguyen: The general update that the TDSA has received from University. It is not that much different from students. One of the key concerns that students have is that professors are not mandated to send out notes/lectures/recordings. Professors have been strongly advised and encouraged to send these documents/information out. They have been given the tools to do so. But at the end of the day, it is up to the professors to make the final decision. If you are a student and your instructor is not being flexible and accommodating, please report them to the relevant authority. If students are nervous about reporting professors, please reach out to the TDSA and we can assist.</p>

Ambrose: Personally there are some questions that don't have answers officially. They will be answered eventually. My pressing question is that I don't know how the University is supporting immunocompromised students.

Nguyen: The University's response is that they have to isolate for 5 additional days if they get covid.

Ntawiha: What are the rules with the vaccine mandates? What will be happening to the testing clinic?

Nguyen: They (University) are switching to at home testing kits. There are very few students on campus who are not vaccinated, there is a 96% vaccinated rate on campus.

Holland: While I like being in person, I am worried about the trend of pushing to be back in person. This covid situation is close to those people who have lost someone due to Covid. I am more careful of catching it and passing it off to people. I disapprove of being in person, and of being forced to be in person. The University should have a more flexible plan and give people a choice of online learning. I just wish we could have a hybrid format.

Sadeghein: Last semester I had a seminar class (20 people), and I was sitting shoulder to shoulder with my classmate. There was no 6 ft apart rule. When we go back in person, there will be no 6 ft apart for large classes.

(At 9:547, Holland leaves)

Nguyen: Education spaces don't require social distancing of 6ft apart since the University has a vaccine mandate.

Boronieva: I personally am excited to go in person. We have been online for almost 2 years. It makes sense to start slowly reintegrating back in person. But I do agree that there should be a hybrid model for those that are not comfortable. For one of my classes, the professor has decided to turn on the zoom when classes are happening so people can attend from home. I am not sure if people can ask their professors to do so.

Nguyen: That is how it is supposed to go. The institution will not support hybrid learning but the faculty would. I have been told that a good amount of professors are planning to do something similar. My advice is that if you have any issues, you should speak to your professors first.

Ambrose: What is the university doing in terms of testing? Is there any way in which we can ask them to report them?

Nguyen: Yes, there is a way to ask but not much will change. Take home testing is available for students who cannot get vaccinated and those who live in residence. Once students arrive in residence, they will be giving two rapid tests - one to take immediately and another to take 48 hours later.

Ambrose: In the wake of the TCSA stance re: Covid, does the TDSA have one? What is the TDSA's stance on a return to campus?

Nguyen: A stance has to be created by the board of directors

Barnett: I will strongly recommend that the board tasks the executive committee to come up with a stance if that is the direction of the Board.

Ambrose: I understand that a formal stance takes a while to make. What is the board stance on a return to campus?

(Ambrose took a straw poll on this)

	<p>Nguyen: I am agreeable to saying something in support of the TCSA stance. I don't want to say that we are against being in person but rather opposed to the policy</p> <p>Rose: Online learning is expensive. I really doubt that the University will start paying for that now. I think we should focus on opposing the policy</p> <p>Ambrose: I think all that can be done has been done. I am not really sure a stance will make a difference.</p> <p>Barnett: I do agree. I think the benefit of doing a stance is to show support to students. Public statements can really do good or nothing.</p> <p>Nguyen: I don't think we need a stance for this. If we are trying to reassure students, I think a stance is a really hollow way of doing that</p> <p>Ambrose: Last time we did a survey, we did end up publishing a stance on vaccine mandates. I do think we should have something on professors being accommodating.</p> <p>Barnett: For me the main reason behind the stance is that it allows us to advocate to the University over multiple years.</p> <p>(Break - started 10:30am, ended 10:44am)</p> <p>Ambrose: What will a public statement of support look like?</p> <p>Barnett: We will take direction from the board. But it will focus on the University's lack of preparation. It will also call on students to send over their concerns to us.</p> <p>Nguyen: What I have been doing over the past few weeks is echoing student's concerns. We should offer students resources and a place to complain about any issues they have. I think that would help the most.</p> <p>Ambrose: I think that would be good, and adding a note of reassurance will help.</p> <p>Ambrose: So the TCSA can email students, but we can't?</p> <p>Nguyen: Yes, we can't</p> <p>Ambrose: What are the various methods that we shall use to communicate to students then?</p> <p>Nguyen: Instagram is our most followed platform. So maybe an Instagram video as that is more personable.</p> <p>Barnett: I would be most comfortable if there was a motion from the board to have us make a public stance.</p>
16	<p>Adjournment at 10:55am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Motioned by Ambrose, seconded by Barnett - Motion passes unanimously