

TORONTO METROPOLITAN FACULTY ASSOCIATION

Meeting of Council of Department/School Representatives

November 28, 2022

4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Zoom Video Conference

MINUTES

Present

Peter Danziger (Chair)
Jesmen Mendoza
Ian Sakinofsky

Aida Haghighi
Aidan Brown
Daniela Cristini

Darko Jacksimovic
David MacKenzie
David Scofield
Yvonne Yuan

Diane Pirner
Emmanuel Kyeremeh
Housne Begum
Jacqui Gingras

Jamy Li
Janelle Brady
Jason Deska

Jennifer Burwell
Julia Jamrozik
Julie Kellershohn
Marsha Barber

Matthew Philp
Maureen Reed
Michael Baumtrog
Natalia Lumby
Niushan Gao
Sejal Patel

Seyed M. Hashemi
Tanya Evidente
Umberto Berardi
Vadim Geurkov

Regrets

Alexandra Mogyoros
Alison Skyrme
Andrea Migone
Aziz Guergachi
Brian Ceh
Caron Phinney
Charles Zamaria
Chil-Hung Cheng
Colleen Derkatch
Dawn Onishenko

Eliza Chandler
Elodie Lugez
Hossein Zolfagharinia
Izabella Pruska-Oldenhof
Josephine Wong
Joyal Miranda
Juan Marcelo Gomez
Julián Zapata
Kathleen Wilkie
Lev Kirischian

Neil Wolff
Opeyemi Akanbi
Owais Lightwala
Peter Fisher
Tammy Landau
Tisha Ornstein
Yanfei Sun

Staff

André Foucault

Agnes Paje

Minutes

1. Order/Establishment of Quorum
 - Meeting began at 4:10 p.m.
2. Approval of Agenda (Barber/Gingras) - Adopted.
3. Approval of minutes from October 25, 2022 (Gingras/Barber) - Adopted.
4. Election of Political Action Committee (PAC)
 - Peter reminded that 3 out of the 5 spots have been filled. The current committee members are Jacqui, Housne and Peter. Please let the TFA office know if you're interested in joining the committee. There are still two spots available.
5. Items from the Floor
 - A member asked about students who are unhappy (about grades and such) reporting to the chair. The Chair does have a role to play in the appeals process, but the interaction between the Chair and faculty member is collegial, the Chair is not a manager of faculty.
 - The Ukrainian Students support Group sent a letter to faculty members. They are asking the University to provide financial support to Ukrainian students displaced by the war. However, unlike other Universities, the administration has refused. The group has set up a website for donations:
<http://donate2torontomu.ca/ukraine>.
 - A member brought up the anomalies process and asked for some clarity about how decisions were made. It was explained that the method used was to do a linear regression based on years of service, years since the last degree, Faculty and rank. The full \$200,000 for gender anomalies allocated in this contract has now been paid out. There is \$100,000 of regular Anomalies still to be allocated for July 1, 2023. Those with more detailed and personal questions regarding anomalies should contact the TFA Office to discuss further.
6. Announcements and Updates
 - Ian reported that the Bargaining Committee has visited 50 departments and that they have 3 more departments to go. Ian mentioned that many Departments complained about the lack of support for core activities. Examples included the state of classrooms, the movie theatres not being suitable for teaching, many things are broken and at the same time class sizes are getting bigger and resources are getting smaller. All these need to be addressed. Ian added that the TFA is looking to establish a formal strategic group that will analyze these issues and the University's finances, with a view to formulating a strategy.
 - Clean campus is an ongoing issue considering the campus has gotten bigger over the years. The return to campus has exacerbated the situation.
 - Health and Safety continues to be an ongoing issue. The TFA has a grievance related to the sexual assault in Kerr hall, but It is not clear how this grievance is going to develop. The Joint Health and Safety Committee is also pushing on this front.

- The administration has increased the number of security guards and has blamed the safety challenges on the Bond Street Hotel becoming a shelter and the nearby safe injection site. It was noted that the safe injection site has been there for many years and predates the pandemic.
- The TFA believes that the university should increase safety by being better neighbours with the injection site and Covenant House. We have expertise in the Faculty of Community Services.
- Ian informed the committee that there will be a bargaining survey in January and that there will be a Mandate Meeting in March.
- Peter reminded the committee that the AGM will be held on December 6 from 12-2 pm via Zoom.

7. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm