Council on Student Services

Minutes of the meeting held on
Wednesday September 19, 2018
5 pm – 7 pm in SL 232, Student Centre

Members: Desmond P., Sheila J., Varsha P., Nadia R., Aaheli M., Michelle V., Nicole B, Ayaan A, Chemi L, Hana S, Anthony L, Qusai H, Hassan A, James R, Arda E, Aaheli M, Urja N, Desmond C,

Non-Members: Larry W., Hassan M., Kevin T., Mohsin B., Francis P., Chris B., Shawna T., Tasneem N.(Secretary)

1. ## Welcome & Introductions - Desmond Pouyat

Nadia R. began with introductions and welcome. Desmond P. began by preliminary remarks, welcomed the group and recognized the students as they have had a positive impact on the campus and in passing it forward to the next set of students. He asked everyone to introduce themselves, and mentioned that 3 positions are still yet to be filled (part-time representative, undergraduate representative and President of Residence Council). Desmond spoke about CSS having business responsibilities, mainly relating to budgets and the vote. He discussed the different ways for students to engage e.g. advisory committees, which will allow members to drill down into particular program and service areas that may be of interest to them, and make suggestions and recommendations. Desmond P. mentioned that this year he will be speaking about the Family Care office (FCO). Several students have family issues, or challenges and UTSC students have been using the FCO. CSS could help to find solutions for students with responsibilities who have family care needs. Desmond said he is looking forward to a positive and productive year.

Nadia R. then began by explaining she is Chair until a Chair is elected. Also noted she acts as Chair when quorum is not met.

Nadia then began the meeting with the land acknowledgement.

2. ## Approval of Agenda

Moved: Aaheli M.
Seconded: Nicole B.
All in favour

3. ## Approval of Minutes

Chemi asked for a correction to the meeting minutes. Her name was spelt Chemi C instead of Chemi L.

Moved: Nicole B.
Seconded: Aaheli M.
All in favour

4. ## Overview of CSS – Desmond Pouyat and Nadia Rosemond

Nadia R. began with the CSS orientation. She spoke about the purpose and goals of CSS. She described the purpose of CSS as a forum for discussion and financial stewardship.
Desmond clarified about CPI: the Consumer Price Index. There is an index for Ontario, and an index for Canada, UofT uses the Canadian CPI not the Ontario CPI.
Nadia spoke about the protocol, framework for establishing increases, etc. Nadia also explained the unit process, how we

dig deeper into budgets, make recommendations, and then the governance process for increase in fees. Residence and accessability, are not funded by CSS, but they do attend and partake in CSS as they contribute to the student experience.

Qusai H. asked if there is anything outside of residence or AccessAbility in terms of budgets. Desmond said yes ,there are various lines on SSF Schedule, that don't have anything to do with students in particular, but contribute to the whole (clubs funding, partnership fund). Students have often also provided recommendations, or suggestions, which we have implemented via CSS .

Nadia R. explained the membership structure and meeting timelines – about completing quorum, CCR recognition, and the administrative members on the team. Desmond P. mentioned that the preliminary budget meeting in January is for voting students only, and there will be a detailed overview of the budget.

Nicole B. proposed the idea to have a pre-budget meeting like last year (in December), so that all can get accustomed to the budget and familiar with the terms. Desmond agreed to schedule a meeting in December.
Nadia welcomed everyone to come forward and ask questions at CSS and in the smaller advisory groups.
Chemi L. asked for a mini breakdown of what each SSF line is, and where it is used. Desmond said normally that is not the practice, as even at governance (campus affairs, campus council and UAB) , the members do not scrutinize what is on each line, and see what is spent where, before making a decision. Desmond said there is a lot of confidential and staff sensitive materials (salary, benefits etc) and that information cannot be shared. Chemi clarified she wants to know what programming is, not detailed information.

James R. enquired about the centennial fees, and why UTSC students pay, Desmond answered that it is due to having joint programs between Centennial and UTSC.

As part of the Accessability mandate, Aaheli M. requested if the presentation can be shared ahead of time and printed copies be brought to the CSS meetings, and Desmond and Nadia agreed to have it done.

Qusai H. asked about the equity and community fund. Nadia answered that the VP Equity meets with Student Life on a needs basis, for various equity, diversity and community initiatives and decides about the funding. Qusai asked if a grad student like himself could be a part of it. Chemi L. agreed and said there probably should be a committee for the Equity and Community Fund. She said we can strike a committee for an equity and community committee – Desmond suggested adding it as a business item, for the next CSS meeting, to facilitate discussion. Chemi said if possible it could be added to agenda item #7 , and then go ahead with forming a committee. Nadia said once a chair is appointed a motion could be passed to do this.

Desmond spoke about the finance committee, and that presidents of all student societies sit on the finance advisory committee to discuss budgets, from now until end of December. Aaheli M. asked that if a Residence Council President was not elected by then, how would residence be represented, and if she could represent Residence. Desmond said he would have no objection to Aaheli being on the finance advisory committee to represent Residence students until the new President begins.

5. **Election of CSS Chair**

Aaheli M nominated Nicole.

Moved: Aaheli
Seconded: Hana
All in favour. No objections.

Nicole B. is nominated as chair of CSS.

6. **Overview of COSS and nomination to COSS**

Desmond P. said that a representative from UTSC CSS is part of COSS at St.George and that a student needs to be nominated to represent CSS at COSS. He explained that UTSC students pay fees for services at St. George and facilities (such as Hart House). He explained that it is similar to CSS in terms of time, format and commitment and there is also flexibility to call in to meetings.

Qusai H. nominated himself as COSS representative. Seconded by Urja N.

Chemi L. also nominated herself. Arda E. also nominated himself.
Vote took place. Qusai obtained 5 votes, Chemi obtained 3 votes, Arda obtained 1 vote.

Qusai H. was voted COSS representative.

7. **Appointment to Advisory Committees**

There was a request to make an amendment of the agenda by Chemi L. Motion was created to overturn agenda and add amendment to the agenda. Because all had voted yes to approve agenda in Item #2.

Motion was seconded by Hassan A.
In Favour: 7
Not in favour: 3

Motion passed. Chemi asked to amend the agenda by addition to Item #7 to strike a committee for equity and community fund. Fund is inaccessible to students, and they are unclear who to approach to access these funds. Unsure of how the funds are being utilized. A motion was passed to strike a committee for an Equity and Community fund.

Whereas the Equity & Community fund has been approved since 2013 and is inaccessible as it still does not have a clear decision-making body.
Be It Resolved That the CSS strike a committee for the Equity and community fund.
Be It Further Resolved That representation of societies be included in the committee à GSAS, SCRC, SCAA, SCSU
Be It Further Resolved That at least one CSS voting member be included in the committee.

In Favour – 9.
Opposed – None.
Motion carries.

An Equity and Community Fund Committee has been created.

- CSS Finance Advisory Committee (4)
  Will consist of Presidents of all 4 societies

- Academic Advising & Career Centre (1)
  Ayaan A. nominated herself
  Urja N. nominated herself

- Athletics & Recreation (1)
  Chemi L. nominated herself

- Enhancement Fund Sub-Committee (3)

  Qusai H. asked what the Enhancement Fund is. Desmond P. and Nadia R. explained that the purpose of the Student Enhancement Fund is to assist/support projects that enhance the quality of student life at the University of Toronto at Scarborough. The sub-committee meets to make decisions on the applications received.

  Aaheli M. , Arda E., Hassan A. and James R. nominated themselves to be part of the committee.

- Bylaws Sub-Committee (2)
  Qusai H. and Aaheli M. nominated themselves.

- Department of Student Life (2)
  Chemi L. nominated Hana S. Hana accepted the nomination.
  Ayaan A. nominated herself.
  Arda E. nominated himself.

- Health & Wellness Centre (1)
  Hana is nominated by Chemi.
  James nominated himself.

- Equity and community fund (1)
  Hana S. nominated Chemi L.
  Qusai H. nominated himself.
  Aaheli M. asked if she can represent Residents Council until a President begins. Desmond P agreed.

Qusai H. brought up one outstanding item from the previous GSAS president. Graduate students pay into the orientation fees; however, they do not attend the SCSU orientation or frosh events. Qusai H. enquired how they could obtain the funding for their own GSAS orientation events. Desmond P. said we need to meet and discuss at our meetings as an agenda item. Nicole B. asked Qusai to bring it forward to the next CSS meeting.

A member of the audience, Liza, informed the chair that she would like to speak. Liza asked about the VP Operations position on CSS. VP Operations used to be a non-elected position on SCSU, but is now an elected position. Since VP Operations and VP Campus Life both do not have voting rights, is there a possibility to change this and make the VP Operations member a CSS voting member. Desmond said this can be discussed further at the bylaws committee.

8. **Adjournment**

Moved: Arda E.
Seconded: Chemi L.
All in favour. Meeting adjourned.