



General Member's Meeting
Wednesday March 15, 2017, 3:00 - 5:30pm
Room 525, 5th Floor
113 McCaul Street,
Toronto Ontario, M5V 1V3

Agenda:

01.	Welcome: Land Acknowledgement and Introductions - New Team! What is the Student Union?	3:00 - 3:20
02.	Approval of the Agenda & Introduction to Robert's Rules of Order	3:20 - 3:30
03.	Declaration of Conflicts of Interest	3:30 - 3:35
04.	Executive Report	3:40 - 3:55
05.	Xpace Cultural Centre Report	3:55 - 4:05
06.	OCAD Student Union Finance and Cafe Report	4:05 - 4:20
07.	Changes to SU Bylaws	4:20 - 4:30
08.	Changes to SU Election Policy	4:30 - 4:40
09.	Money Matters, updates and Next Steps	4:40 - 5:00
10.	Questions? Upcoming Services and Events!	5:00 - 5:30
11.	Adjournment	5:30

ATTENDEES:

#	VOTING/NON-VOTING	NAME	TITLE
1	Voting	Stanley Laforty Cirne	Design Representative
2	Voting	Pablo Munoz	Executive Director of Campaigns
3	Voting	Melih Yazici	International Student Representative
4	Voting	Veronika Ivanova	Executive Director of Graduate Studies
5	Voting	Leif Gifford	Liberal Studies Representative
6	Voting	Jaycee Tu	Administrative Assistant
7	Voting	Camila Manzano	First Year Representative
8	Voting	L-Fy	Student
9	Voting	Zoma Maduekwe	Student
10	Voting	Lizz Aston	Executive Director of Operations
11	Voting	Kaiatanoron Bush	Indigenous Student Representative
12	Voting	Justice Stacey	Accessibility Representative
13	Voting	Sofy Mesa	Student
14	Voting	Agata Mrozowski	Executive Director of Outreach
15	Voting	Hugo Voss	Student
16	Voting	Raul Altosaar	Student
17	Voting	Ivan Maychak	Student
18	Voting	James Okore	Student
19	Voting	Camille Lauren	Student
20	Voting	Khadija Aziz	Executive Director of Equity
21	Voting	Mar Kasper	Student
22	Non- Voting	Nicholas Smith	Director of Finance
23	Non-Voting	Emily Gove	Director of Xspace
24	Non-Voting	Katie Kotler	Xspace Programming Coordinator

24	Voting	Wesley Penalosa	Events Assistant
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Absent: Kelsey Egalite - Racialized Student Representative; Alison Serjeant - Sustainability Representative; Jade Reyes - Shops and Studies Representative; Geryl Cabrera - First Generation Representative

Regrets: Robin Fraser - Student Advocate; Tori Maas - Executive Director of Academic Affairs; Joanna Adamiak - General Manager

01. Welcome (Nicholas Smith - Finance Director & Pablo Munoz - Executive Director of Campaigns)

a. Land Acknowledgment:

We [I] would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Anishnaabe, Haudenosaunee, Huron-Wendat, the Métis and most recently, the territory of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation. The territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy and the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes.

These land acknowledgements are not just decorative, or about protocol, but remind us that all of the conversations taking place today, fit within the context of a process of truth and reconciliation with the original caretakers of this land, and the calls to action by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, in particular the calls to action relating to education and education for reconciliation, and to bring consciousness to all of us who are visitors in this land, about the space we occupy and our responsibility for solidarity.

b. Introduction of Current team, all rise and introduce yourselves

c. Introduction of new team as of May 1, 2017, all rise and introduce yourself

d. **What is the Student Union** The OCAD Student Union is an independent, democratically run student organization with approximately 5000 members, incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation. The OCAD Student Union operates a variety of programs and services on campus at OCAD University including access to: legal services, student advocate, campus food bank, coffee shop and snack bar, produce delivery program, community drop-in lunch, student grants, social events, and workshops.

The OCAD Student Union is also a representative body, advocating for the best interests of the OCAD U Student body at large with OCAD U administration, governance bodies, and with all levels of government. The OCAD Student Union represents the OCAD University student population within the Canadian Federation of Students. Within the Toronto art and design community, the OCAD Student Union is represented by its subsidiary, Xpace Cultural Centre. Xpace Cultural Centre is a membership driven artist-run centre supported by the OCAD Student Union and dedicated to providing emerging and student artists with the opportunity to showcase their work in a professional setting.

The OCAD Student Union is committed to ensuring that the University campus and broader OCAD U community are inclusive spaces where all members are treated with respect and dignity. OCADSU encourages applications from everyone, including but not

limited to women, Aboriginal peoples, visible minorities, people with disabilities, and persons of all sexual orientations or gender identity.

02. Approval of the Agenda & Introduction to Robert's Rules of Order (Nicholas Smith - Finance Director)

Robert's Rules of Order is a system used for maintaining order at meetings. As students of OCAD University you are all automatically members of the OCAD Student Union. When we host General Members Meetings you each have one vote.

If an item is presented to the meeting for approval we need to have one member put forward a motion for discussion. A second member needs to endorse the motion. This will happen when the chair asks for a "mover" and a "second". Discussion can then take place. After a satisfactory presentation and discussion the question will be called. All members will then vote for, against, or abstain from the motion.

Generally, in Robert's Rules, there will be a maximum of three speakers "for" a motion, and three speakers "against". This keeps the conversation moving quickly. It's good practice to state whether you are speaking in favour of the motion or not when it's your turn to speak. If someone has already made the point that you were going to make, you can pass your turn. This avoids having many people "echo" or repeat points that have already been made. If you want to say something that has not yet been addressed, but there have already been three speakers, you may put another motion forward to extend speaking rights. It is also respectful not to clap, snap fingers, or shake heads in agreement or disagreement when someone is speaking.

To keep the peace, a speakers list will be taken throughout the meeting. If you wish to speak raise your hand to have your name added to the list. Please be aware of your privilege and the space you take. If you're the kind of person to speak up, consider if what you have to contribute is worthwhile. If you are the kind of person that usually does not, perhaps this is the opportunity to have your voice heard.

- Ivan: How much of the decisions made today will affect the next term?
- Nicholas: There are three big items that will affect the next term. (Addressing the room:) Any issues with the agenda?
- Veronika: Moves to remove her Exec report. (Item gets removed.)
- Nicholas: Anyone want to endorse the motion to approve the agenda?
- Stanley moves, Lizz seconds. All in favour; majority votes yes; motion passes.

03. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest (Nicholas Smith - Finance Director)

a situation in which a person is in a position to derive personal benefit from actions or decisions

- No conflicts of interest.

04. Executive Report (Pablo Munoz - Executive Director of Campaigns)

- ↳ Raul, Ivan, L-Fy: New Board members have tried to meet with CCC (Creative City Campus) to talk about the campus revitalization, but they don't seem to be willing to meet in a more private setting, only in public setting with rest of student body.
- ↳ Nicholas: We will talk to the new members at the end of the meeting to talk about next steps.

05. Xpace Cultural Centre Report (Emily Gove - Xpace Director)

- ↳ Veronika: What would be the best way for Graduate CRCP and CADN students to find out about the writing opportunities at Xpace?
- ↳ Emily: You can find all this on our website, but I could also circulate some info!

06. OCAD Student Union Finance and Cafe Report (Lizz Aston - Director of Operations)

- ↳ Xpace Staff: What about the Graduate Building? Will there be a cafe set up there?
- ↳ Nicholas: The problem is that there isn't any space. It needs to fulfill food regulation standards, and there really isn't an appropriate space in that particular building. It's something we'll be working on so the conversation isn't over, but the university hasn't been cooperating as of yet.

07. Changes to SU Bylaws (Nicholas Smith - Finance Director)

From consultations with various reps of the Student Union it has been recommended that the General Members make the following changes to the SU Bylaws. :

~ Motion put forward by Lizz; seconded by Veronika.

- a. Remove old title of 'Director of Operations and Finance' to 'Director of Operations.'
Wording peppered throughout the document, was an oversight in the previous amendment.
- b. Remove mention of Student Union Council under section 26.b. *The SU removed Counselor positions and the Council in spring of 2016. This line was an oversight in the previous amendment.*
- c. Change of title of 'Racialized Student Rep' to 'BIPOC Student Rep.' *throughout the document.*
- d. Change section 37 xiv. Indigenous Student Representative, to include "They have the ability to form an Indigenous students council and act as representative for that group." as part of the position description.
- e. Change section 37 xv. International Student Representative to include the stipulation that they "must be an english language learner (ELL)" as part of the position description.
 - ↳ Justice: Asked for clarification about having to be an ELL.

- ↳ Nicholas: Yes, this is a motion to hire a representative that is an English Language Learner.
- ↳ Melih: Concerned that this will leave out students that are fluent in English, but is still an international student.
- ↳ Camila: Suggested to change to a student whose first language was not English.
- ↳ Pablo: There are issues that international students face such a xenophobia that some students from some English-speaking countries may not.
- ↳ Justice: There are still English-speaking students that face racialization, etc.
- ↳ Nicholas: The amount of international students we have is supposed to double in the next three years, so we want to make sure they are properly represented.
- ↳ Melih: Is concerned that it will be hard to find an ELL representative to fill the position every term.
- ↳ Khadija: Thinks it would be a more inviting position for international students if we look for a rep that is an ELL.
- ↳ Nicholas: Recommended striking this from the motion, to be tabled for a later time so folks can think about what's best.
- ↳ Pablo: Agrees with Melih, but still thinks creating a position for an ELL student is important.
- ↳ Nicholas: Maybe this can be addressed again at our next AGM/GMM.
- ↳ Pablo: Suggested instead of changing the current International Student Rep position, making a new position for ELL students.
- ↳ Veronika: Suggested changing the International Rep position to an Executive position.
- ↳ Nicholas: If so, that would not be able to be decided today because it would take some math/ budgeting.
- ↳ Khadija: Having the two separate positions is a good idea. The International student can focus on the political issues, and the ELL position can handle the issues around navigating the school as an ELL student.
- ↳ Veronika: Are you suggesting that someone who is ELL but not an international student could run for this position?
- ↳ Pablo: Yeah, there are domestic students that we have that are also ELL so this position would be great for these students.
- ↳ Nicholas: Going to take a straw poll to see where people stand, without moving forward with an official motion. Do you folks think that we should push this forward and address it again down the road?
- ↳ Majority votes to strike part e. from the motion, pushed to next AGM/GMM.

~ Motion to accept part a. b. c. d. Approved unanimously.

08. Changes to Election Policy (Nicholas Smith - Director of Finance)

A change to the Student Union Election policy is suggested to be reflective of the Student Union Bylaws. Currently under section **39. Vacancy in Office** it states:

If the office of any elected official of the Corporation shall be or become vacant, the board of directors may, by resolution, appoint a person to fill such vacancy. Any director or officer appointed to their office by the board of directors must win their seat in the next duly called general election of the corporation.

Currently under section **4. Appointment** of the OCAD SU Election Policy it states:

If a position becomes vacant after October 31st, or after the fall By-Elections, whichever is later, an appointment to fill the vacancy will be made by a 2/3 vote of the Student Union Board of Directors. The appointment will last until the next scheduled Election or By-Election.

The wording of the Election policy as it currently stands results in a vacancy of six months if a position is not filled during the general election in the spring.

Suggested motion to remove “*or after the fall By-Elections, whichever is later,*” under section 4 of the OCAD SU Election Policy.

Motion put forward by Veronika; seconded by Camila.

- ↳ Camila: What is the pro of having someone fill the position?
- ↳ Nicholas: If the position stays empty for 6-8 months, the pro would be that someone would be there to fill the position/ assume the duties, rather than leaving it empty.
- ↳ Leif: What’s the selection process for people to be appointed?
- ↳ Nicholas: There are many ways for this to happen. It can happen from suggestion, or just from students coming forward to the Board. They would then be voted on by the board.
- ↳ Raul: Do the reps participate in this decision-making?
- ↳ Nicholas: The execs and the reps vote for who fills these positions at a SU Board Meeting.
- ↳ Veronika: I think it’s a good idea.
- ↳ All in favour of making these changes; majority votes yes; motion carries.

09. Money Matters (Pablo Munoz - Executive Director of Campaigns)

The full report can be viewed at ocadsu.org/moneymatters

The money matters campaign moved beyond its data collection and analysis, report and onto advocacy and calls to action.

Feb 17 we met with president dimond, vice provost of students Deanne Fisher and Vice president of Finance Alan Sims to introduce our concerns.

On Feb 23rd we presented to the Audit Finance and Risk Committee to present our findings and specifically to request the cap of the late fee at \$50, increased funding to scholarships, and funding for career development to come from the university and not ancillary fees. President Dimon pushed against the career development ask and expressed commitment towards scholarships. Alan Sims said he would take the fee into consideration as it is coming up for review. ‘

Feb 27th Tori presented the report and recommendations to the senate where we received positive review for our process and faculty expressed that their experience on the ground was in line with our findings. -This solidified our data as President Diamond was trying to discredit us. Faculty also endorsed career development happening outside of the classroom.

March 6th: about 20 students came to the Student Union to prepare for the Board of Governors meeting. Our incoming board representatives were for the most part all there.

The Chairman of the Board Dr. John Semple, Sarah Diamond and Deanne Fisher came to meet with Lizz, Nicholas and I before the BoG meeting. The meeting seemed initiated by the Chairman of the board.

I spoke at the board of governors meeting presenting our recommendations and framing them as calls to action. Students spoke about their personal experience. There was an overall feeling of shame on the side of the board. Deanne Fisher, Sara Diamond and Alan Sims made loose commitments on some of our recommendations but then backtracked.

Follow up:

- The Student Union has proven to have done its due diligence when it comes to understanding the full scope of issues of the university.
 - We collected data and student support for our demands which were mostly brushed off.
 - It is time for the Student Union to build a more aggressive campaign revealing salaries, raises and bonuses compared to crumbling infrastructure, hiring freezes and failing departments.
 - The student union needs to not provide any more leeway on human rights issues relating to students and move forward to the Ontario Human Rights tribunal when issues arise.
 - We need to build student engagement outlining the entire process up until now of this campaign.
 - We have requested times and places where the compound fee interest will be reviewed. If they do not put forward an initiative that meets our demands we must block the meeting from happening.
 - We need to build our own media pieces, write our own articles using avenues like Huffington Post and Now Magazine, as well as our own videos.
- ☞ Agata: As a response to all this work, Sara Diamond is now getting students and faculty to fill out postcards to ask for more funding. It's her responsibility to get funding for our school, while her pay keeps rising. She said she's interested in putting together a taskforce to make better student experiences... It's lip service. Like Pablo said, there's clearly money in the school. It's just a matter of where it's being directed.
- ☞ Pablo: And we need to continue sharing this knowledge.
- ☞ Melih: Apparently there are new bursaries for International Students, but no one knew about it. They didn't even try to inform students about this.
- ☞ Nicholas: That bursary came last year. 1% was taken off international student fees and then given back through this bursary.
- ☞ Justice: I can't believe students are paying for their own bursaries...
- ☞ Raul: What are the next steps?

- ↳ Pablo: We need to be more aggressive and target upper administration. These are human rights, so there needs to be accountability. The new team will need to be more aggressive and gain momentum.
- ↳ Nicholas: The SU doesn't need to follow the same rules that OCADU does. We also have more reach in terms of the student body, so we attack from this angle. We also want to get rid of the compound interest fee.
- ↳ Pablo: Sara Diamond makes \$400,000 a year to advocate for students. It's her responsibility to go to the province, not ours. It's our job to put pressure on Sara Diamond and the administration and keep them accountable. (Clarification: According to the Ontario Sunshine List, Diamond makes \$283,250/year as of 2015. The 2016 figure is not currently published.)
- ↳ Nicholas: We as a SU are telling admin that they have money but are misusing it. Sara keeps deflecting us, calling the school "poor" to throw us off.
- ↳ Agata: The default response from us should be, "do your job."

10. Questions? Upcoming Services and Events!

- a. OCAD U Town Hall Wed March 22nd, 10-11:30am in rm 668. 100 McCaul St.
<https://www2.ocadu.ca/event/student-town-hall> Sara Diamond and other admin will be there. Will be a good opportunity to hold the administration accountable.
- ↳ Sofy: How do we get OCADU staff/faculty/admin to care? Sara Diamond/ profs have been so dismissive of us, even when we explain to them honestly about our lived experiences.
 - ↳ Nicholas: We've seen with the Money Matters report, that they have been responsive to this kind of outreach. It takes a lot of time/ emotional labour, but we'll be there to support.
 - ↳ Melih: I've also reached out to staff and was dismissed/ not acknowledged. This isn't good for mental health/ the school doesn't consider students' lived experiences.
 - ↳ Agata: I was part of a group called Ontario Coalition against Poverty; we would have direct action. We go to a school full of creative people and people that are willing to take risks. We should step it up, make demands. There are creative ways of amping it up.
 - ↳ L-Fy: The university's a mess!!! This is a time to do something, like a call to the news. Sara Diamond thinks she can do whatever she wants. I sent her an email and she never responded. We need to strike.
 - ↳ Raul: We've held a strike to get 24 hr access. If we can strike for that well... this is a much bigger issue.
 - ↳ Pablo: Something to keep in mind is yes we should strike, but it needs to be a strike towards something sustainable and not reactionary. Do you have enough confidence in your members in order for this to be sustainable? A strike is our biggest bargaining power. The work needs to happen on the ground. We need to activate students, especially first years and not just students that aren't going to be around in a year. There are other things we can also do that are aggressive that can build up to that movement. We can shame Sara Diamond, for one. We did this in regards to the Prayer Space. This way, if we do strike we can tell administration/ Sara Diamond that we tried to reach out in numerous different ways, with no response.
 - ↳ Nicholas: Back in '64 there was a student strike and they forced the president of the school to resign. And it only took 2 weeks. I have a stack of old letters/ newspapers that follow what happened. You're welcome to come see it.
 - ↳ Ivan: Is Sara Diamond forced to leave after a certain amount of years?

- ↳ Nicholas: Usually presidents work for one term. Diamond got a 2nd which is unheard of and she's now on her 3rd.
- ↳ Ivan: To leave on good terms is probably important to her, so maybe we can use this to our advantage.
- ↳ Pablo: Will circulate a sign up list for students who are interested in helping further this campaign!

- b. Student Union Annual Beaux Art Costume Ball. Friday April 7th, 9pm-1am. 206 Beverley Street, Toronto. <https://www.facebook.com/events/497808040607313/>
- c. Training for new team will be taking place during the last week of April and first week of May. This will include some sort of retreat in the sun, visioning, training exc.
- d. Xpace: Two calls for submissions are out now! One is for a PRIDE installation! And the other is for a performance art exhibit. These opportunities include artist fees. Our open call will also be out soon. Information for these is on the Xpace website.

11. Adjournments

~ Motion by Lizz to adjourn meeting; seconded by Agata. Motion passes.