

2015/2016 Board of Directors Reports

To the attention of the Trent Central Student Association's (TCSA) membership: below encompasses the Board of Directors Reports for the period of April 22nd 2015 through January 18th 2016.

Executive Reports

President Alaine Spiwak

OohLaLa Mobile App

- ❖ As a new service, the TCSA launched a mobile app searchable in the App Store as "TCSA". The app has been widely successful, being used to host the Orientation Week schedule, chat wall, transit schedule, clubs and groups list, campus map, and much more.

Student Outreach Initiatives

- ❖ December 1st from 9am-12pm and Thursday December 10th from 12pm-5pm I tabled outside of OC caf giving out study snacks while asking for student feedback/questions/concerns.
- ❖ I gathered over 3 pages of suggestions that I circulated to the board so they can take feedback back to various committees.
- ❖ Main areas of feedback: athletics, food services, orientation week, transit
- ❖ I plan to do more of this type of student outreach at least twice a month until the end of my term.

Tuition Rates & International Student Tuition Fee Increases

- ❖ Tuition rates and international student tuition fee increases are issues I have been lobbying about since my term began.
- ❖ I was on the agenda for Trent's Finance and Property committee to bring forward once again that international student tuition increases should be regulated to match domestic tuition increases. I originally brought this issue to Trent's Board of Governors in the summer but the motion was not considered because it had not gone through Finance and Property
- ❖ My presentation to the Finance Committee went really well, and the TCSA was commended for our "thoughtful approach" to this issue.
- ❖ Unfortunately, Finance and Property will not be bringing my recommendation forward to the Board of Governors as they say they need to see how the provincial funding will look like before committing to the financial changes we suggested. I am still looking to bring this to the Board of Governors myself, along with over all concerns about the cost of tuition, to keep these issues at the front of everyone's' minds.

TCSA 20th

- ❖ To celebrate the 20th year of the Trent Central Student Association, the Executive team organized the “TCSA 20th Kickoff Party” on September 18th in the Bata Library Parking lot.
- ❖ Along with this event we made a commitment to promotion of the Association through two different avenues this year: TCSA t-shirts and a “Meet the Board Video” that introduced our college representatives and equity commissioners.

Food Services

- ❖ With the launching of the Student Centre Coffee Vendor survey, many interesting suggestions from students have come forward in regards to food vendors on campus. Notably, many students have come forward asking for a full Tim Hortons to operate on campus. I have relayed all this feedback to head of Food Services, Mark Murdoch.
- ❖ For the rest of my term I want to be taking a serious look at Chartwells and the service they are providing for our campus, as many students are dissatisfied. Areas I would like to look at are cafeteria hours, quality of food, number of healthy food options, and price.

Student Centre

- ❖ The newly signed Student Centre Operating Agreement was approved by the TCSA board of directors on January 10th and was signed on January 15th by Pippa O’Brien and myself. This new operating agreement finalizes the arrangement that Trent University will now own the Student Centre.
- ❖ The floor plans are being finalized this week, so that we can begin the costing process and hire a construction company to take on the job. The project is still on schedule to begin construction at the end of April/beginning of May.
- ❖ On Thursday November 26th I participated in a video shoot for the Student Centre Alumni Challenge. This video will be used to promote more donations (specifically from alumni) to be made towards this project.
- ❖ I submitted a “Student Centre FAQ” article in the November 30th volume of the Arthur and plan to write further editions to the FAQ as more questions come in.
- ❖ I had floor plans and information available to students during my tabling outside of OC caf on December 10th 12pm-5pm.

Snow removal fee

- ❖ For years, Trent has been charging the TCSA for certain services under our Transit budget including one that I found quite problematic: snow removal (previously \$120,000 - dropped down to \$60,000 for the past few years).
- ❖ There are laws in place that state that the university cannot use student levy money to pay for university services. Right now, our Memorandum of

Understanding with Trent states that: “The Licensor will bill the Licensee for the administrative costs. The amount will be determined by both parties each fiscal year.”

- ❖ At this time we do not have documentation of administrative costs being agreed upon. Tracy Milne has suggested that Trent has just told us these numbers in past and began charging the Association, directly pulling the money out of our levy cheque before we even get it.
- ❖ It is my strong belief that students should not be paying for snow removal, and I have brought this issue forward to the VP of Finance Steven Pillar, who seems to agree with me. Upon a final look at numbers, it is my hope that Trent will no longer charge the TCSA \$60,000 a year for snow removal, and that this money can go towards mitigating any further transit cost increase.

Food Boxes with Trent Vegetable Gardens

- ❖ I met with Kaitlin from Seasoned Spoon/Trent Vegetable Gardens on December 3rd to continue our conversation about the rising demand for food aid for students.
- ❖ We discussed the idea of “Food boxes” where students could volunteer to help harvest produce from Trent’s own vegetable garden/the experimental farm and in return could get a free box of fresh veggies grown at Trent. Another way this program could work is students could just apply to receive a free box of produce harvested at Trent, but we are currently lacking the refrigeration that would be needed to keep the boxes fresh.
- ❖ Kaitlin and I are going to continue looking into ways we can help feed students in need with fresh produce grown at Trent

ATMs

- ❖ There was a press release about the current state of our ATM services on campus
- ❖ There was a break in of the OC ATM on December 25th. We do not know when it will be replaced, or if the ATM company will be willing to replace it without a camera being installed (as this is now the second time this ATM has been broken into this year, and the 3rd ATM break in this year in total)
- ❖ A conversation needs to be had surrounding having cameras in areas where there are ATMs, as these robberies are a huge safety hazard to students.
- ❖ When ATMs are broken into, the ATM company takes the loss, not the TCSA.

Respect Indigenous Space Campaign & TUNA social

- ❖ In collaboration with Brendan Campbell, Indigenous Students Commissioner, and Frist Peoples House of Learning, the TCSA has launched a poster campaign in October called “Respect Indigenous Space”. This campaign stems from the unfortunate vandalism of the East Bank Tipi and the hardship this causes to our Indigenous students, staff, and faculty.

- ❖ Posters can be seen around campus, and is only one of multiple ways we hope to be allies to the Indigenous community at Trent.
- ❖ Brendan Campbell and I also planned a Tipi Talk night where the TCSA Board and TUNA members had a pot luck in the Gathering Space, and then enjoyed a social fire and indigenous teachings together in the tipi.

BoG Student Caucus

- ❖ I met with Karen Spearing on Wednesday Dec. 16th to talk about the process in which students are elected for the student seats on the Trent Board of Governors.
- ❖ Right now there are two student seats on the Board of Governors (each have 2 year terms) that any undergraduate, graduate, or Trent Durham student can run for. Trent hosts their own elections each year for these seats (the seat terms are staggered so there is always one new and one experienced student in these seats) which always run at the same time as the TCSA elections.
- ❖ The issue with this process at the moment is that even though students can elect their representative on the board, the election is not well known. Also, the students that are elected are often disconnected with students and what students want because they are not accountable to students in the same way TCSA representatives are.
- ❖ To rectify these issues, I am working with Trent to better promote the student BoG election this year. Also, I am bringing a motion to the Nominating and Governance committee of the board to add to the student rep. position the responsibility of participating in a Board of Governors student caucus. This caucus would meet a week before each BoG meeting to discuss items on the agenda, and would comprise of the student BoG representatives, TDSA President, TCSA President, and TGSA President. I'm hoping these ideas will better increase student communication to our representatives on the Board of Governors.

Solidarity Event with the TMSA

- ❖ It has been big news in Peterborough that unfortunately there has been a suspicious fire at Peterborough's only mosque located on Parkhill Road. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/mosque-peterborough-fire-1.3320013>
- ❖ If this fire was a deliberate act of hate, it is important to let the Trent Muslim Student Association (TMSA), Trent Muslim students, Muslim Peterborough citizens, and everyone in our on and off campus community know that we condemn this act of violence. It is very important that all people, regardless of faith or ethnicity, feel safe and welcome on our campus.
- ❖ In this spirit, the TCSA and TMSA partnered up and arranged a solidarity event at St.Marks church where members of the Peterborough Mosque were having their first Friday prayer since the fire. We arranged a bus to take students to the church, and we stood at the back with signs that read: "In solidarity with the Peterborough Muslim community" and "TCSA supports our Muslim students". We were very well received, and had a fantastic experience with the Peterborough Muslim community.

Green Dish Program

- ❖ Ana Kaschenko (our Environment Commissioner) and I have been working with Chartwells and Mark Murdoc to discuss a “Green Dish Program” similar to the one run out of Sadlier House. The intent of this program is for students planning events to be able to rent reusable dishes. For example, for an event of 50 anticipated attendees, students would be able to rent the adequate amount of dishes, cups and cutlery from Chartwells and return them to be washed in the dishwashers in the cafeteria afterwards. Currently, students only have access to paper, plastic or Styrofoam plates for events.
- ❖ At present, Chartwells would like us to gather student data about how often a program like this would be used before moving forward. A program like this would also require some funding to buy the dishes and organize the system, so that is something else we will have to look at as well.

It has truly been a wonderful year thus far serving as President of the Trent Central Student Association. I could not be more proud to serve as a part of Trent’s student movement.

Vice President Campaigns & Equity Hilary Stafford

Campaigns

Trent Votes- Starting in September the TCSA partnered with the Trent University Politics Society to start the Trent Votes campaign. In September and October the focus of the campaign was the 2015 Canadian Federal Election. Several different events were held including a debate, a “Meet Your Party” party, a student discussion surrounding voting, and an Election Day party to watch the results. This campaign used materials from the Canadian Federation of Students *Its No Secret* campaign. *Trent Votes* has now progressed to events encouraging students’ involvement in politics, and in the upcoming semester it will be used to help and promote the TCSA spring elections.

Leave the Pack Behind- LTPB is a tobacco control program that offers young adults information and resources in regards to quitting smoking. Here at Trent three students were hired by Brock University in order to work at this campaign. They have had a number of booths throughout the year which will continue, as well as “walk abouts” around campus.

Tenant Rights- This campaign has been run on a smaller level in the sense that students who come forward with questions surrounding tenant rights are given the information. In the second semester we will be advertising this campaign more, mainly through social media, but it will still follow that students are given the information when asked for it.

The Hike Stops Here & Debt Sentence- This campaign will run in collaboration with materials from the Canadian Federation of students in order to address rising tuition costs for all students of Trent University. Aspects of this campaign will include tabling to provide students with information about why tuition costs what it does, a candy sale to show how rising tuition costs are different than the cost of inflation, a photo campaign to mail to Government Officials showing what true debt students have and a week of action starting February 22nd in solidarity with other member locals of the Canadian Federation of Students Ontario. I have also been organizing a budgeting workshop with BDO Canada where students can learn about creating a budget for themselves.

Trent Mental Well-Being- Through this campaign several different initiatives were able to happen, and will be continuing to happen. The Elephant in the Room is an anti-stigma campaign which helps to show when a space on campus was safe to discuss mental illness. Different stress management activities were offered such as dog de-stress days and colouring days, along with workshops regarding mental well-being such as Mental Health First Aid and Art with Impact. In the upcoming semester I am looking into holding more workshops and we will be holding the Post Secret Live event with Frank Warren, which will be addressing the topic of mental well-being. I am also planning a poster campaign called #MyDefinition which will launch this semester.

Draw the Line- This campaign was put forward by the Government of Ontario and the Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres to address sexual violence. Here at Trent the

TCSA has been running this campaign in collaboration with the Wellness Center at Trent University and with the Kawartha Sexual Assault Centre. This campaign has mainly been a poster campaign, but we have also offered a Consent Talk with Professor Terry Humphreys, and we have participated in events with the Kawartha Sexual Assault Center and the Wellness Center, such as poster bars downtown and holding tabling events to talk to students. In the upcoming semester Draw the Line will be a part of Self Love week.

Committees

Presidential Advisory Committee on Human Rights, Equity and Accessibility

- This committee meets a few times a year to discuss human rights, equity and accessibility at Trent University. I am the TCSA representative on this committee. I also sit on the executive board of this committee where I advise the president of Trent, along with other elected representatives if an emergency situation were to arise.

Equity Sub-committee of PACHREA

- This committee was responsible for releasing the Equity and Diversity Survey which was sent out to everyone in the Trent community. We are currently reviewing those results and will be moving towards what the results mean for Trent.

Breastfeeding Sub-committee of PACHREA

- This committee was formed in order to look into establishing a breastfeeding policy at Trent University, while also looking into creating breastfeeding friendly spaces on campus. We are currently in the research stages of both these tasks.

Wellness Committee

- This committee reviews the activities of the Wellness Center.

Mental Health Policy Review Committee

- This committee is responsible for reviewing the current mental health policy that is located in the policy section of the Residence Guidebook for students living in residence. We have been reviewing what the policies are at other schools and have been looking at ways to improve this policy and its practices at Trent University.

Grocery Assistance Committee of the TCSA

- I chair and do all the administrative work for the Grocery Assistance Committee of the TCSA, which makes decisions for the Grocery Assistance Program.

TCSA Executive Committee

- I sit on the executive committee of the TCSA with the Vice President University and College Affairs Pippa O'Brien and the President Alaine Spiwak. We discuss different things going on with the association and our plans for the upcoming weeks.

Executive Committee of the Canadian Federation of Students Ontario

- I am the TCSA's representative on the CFS-ON Executive committee. I attend meetings in Toronto every few months and I also attend phone meetings on a regular basis. These meetings are with representatives from schools all over the province where we discuss what is going on with our local student unions and schools, and we also plan campaigns and events that we will all be participating in as CFS-ON members. We also vote on matters concerning CFS-ON. I also organize for members of the TCSA's Board of Directors, and students within the membership to attend CFS meetings if they so choose.

In addition to my campaigns and committee work I also help the Equity Commissioners to run their campaigns and events if they require assistance. I also have the volunteer email list, where we email people when we need assistance with events, normally connected to campaigns. I have also worked with Pippa O'Brien, VPUC to plan the TCSA's involvement in Orientation Week, and we planned the events of Frost Week. Lastly, I have meetings with students in regards to any advocacy issues they may be experiencing, and in some instance I am an advocate and ally during these issues. If you ever have any questions, comments or concerns please feel free to contact me at vpcampaigns@trentcentral.ca or 705-748-1011 ext. 6275.

Vice President University & College Affairs Pippa O'Brien

It has been an honour to work as the Vice President University and College Affairs over the last year and continuing for the remainder of the semester. Below is a brief overview of my activities during the year, for further detail or if I did not elaborate fully on something, please always feel free to contact me at any time.

Clubs and Groups

There are currently 64 clubs registered under the TCSA, though applications are still open until April so this number continues to increase. To date we have given approximately \$15 000 in Clubs Funding, with about \$17 000 remaining. Funding will continue to be given out on a weekly basis to those who apply until April.

Both clubs and groups days were quite successful. In the fall we had more clubs than expected try and register or showing up the day of. Hopefully next year our capacity can increase to accommodate these groups. In the winter clubs and groups day was considerably quieter, though we still managed to fill half the Great Hall, which was all the space we were allowed. There have also been numerous successful clubs training events throughout the fall semester, which are ongoing on a case-by-case basis this semester by our Clubs and Groups Coordinator.

I have also been working with the University to update the Risk Management Policy, which primarily affects clubs when they run events. Though these meetings are not concluded, it appears that the policy will become more flexible to better meet the needs of students.

Orientation Related Activities

I was on of the TCSA co-chairs for Orientation Week in fall 2015. Our activities for the week were all fairly successful, with only a few notes on improvements for the great race for next year. The TCSA volunteer staff were also all wonderful to work with. However overall there was certainly room for the TCSA to focus our efforts during the week to make a more meaningful contribution to orientation.

The following week I was also involved in Dis-Orientation week in a smaller capacity, organizing with a number of other levy groups at Trent. Though attendance was low, there is a lot of value in providing alternative orientation programming and it provided a starting point for expansion next year. The involvement of the TCSA this year was unusual, since in the past we have not been involved. Moving forwards our involvement will vary on a year-to-year basis depending on the interest of our executive and the opinions of the other levy groups involved.

At the start of the winter term I was involved in coordinating the organizations Frost Week activities. These included but not limited to a Leafs Night at Champs downtown, a music night with TUMS, crafts day, and an off-campus meet up for new students. Attendance was lower at some of the events, but the response from the students who did attend was positive.

Senate

In September I helped the senate student caucus to create a motion with regards to the federal election that was occurring to make it easier for students to vote. This was the first student lead motion to make it though Senate in the last several years, which is a huge achievement for students on Senate. Following this success, I have been involved in the caucus though out the year. For the next initiative, we worked with the Indigenous Students Commissioner to develop a proposal for the introduction of a mandatory Indigenous Studies credit as a degree requirement for undergrads at Trent. The proposal was submitted to Senate and conversations are ongoing. Finally I have been working both with caucus and President Spiwak about student opinions and representation during the Trail College review that recently commenced.

I have attended the majority of Senate meeting so far during my term, and will continue to go. I also sit on three Senate committees. Namely the Undergraduate Academic Policy Committee, Special Appeals Committee, and Academic Planning and Budgeting.

Colleges and Student Services Committee (CASSC)

I have sat on CASSC since the beginning of the year. As of yet the budgets for next year have yet to be presented, so currently we have been hearing from a number of groups across campus such as Housing, the Human Rights Office, and TUNA about issues that we could help with or to generate ideas for. There was also an issue with the increase to the Colleges budget last year, however after many calculations the difference amounted to \$0.71 per student. The student representatives retroactively approved this amount, and next year a similar mistake will not occur.

I sit on a number of CASSC subcommittees including College, Food Services, Student Charter, and CASSC Terms of Reference. These subcommittees have been meeting throughout the year to address concerns and initiatives in each of these areas.

Equity Commissioners

Anti-Racism Commissioner Tintotenda Makosa

This year as the anti-racism commissioner started off as a challenging project and trying to understand how everything works in the TCSA. Despite the challenges, the role as anti-racism commissioner continues to be a role I am really excited and dedicated to having. During the first semester, I helped with the function on cultural diversity that was mainly led by a fellow colleague of mine Gordon Trent. This event ran during the month of November and was done weekly for 3 weeks. The event involved the general students of the university and we discussed about cultural diversity at Trent University and how our community become more culturally diversified. There was also a week with guest speakers Haroon Akram-Lodhi and Dr Monim Rahman on the topic on Islamophobia and the political divide. This event was highly successful although some of the events I could not attend because of clashes with my working schedule.

For the second semester of my campaign as anti-racism commissioner I plan on doing a campaign with the Indigenous Commissioner (Brendan Campbell), where will focus on common racial discrimination practices and prejudices that the indigenous peoples community and racialized minority groups face in their daily lives. This campaign will be carried through during the Self Love Week which will happen during February 7th to the 14th. I will also do another campaign with Asgiga Corriveau which will be a cultural day event. We plan on doing this at the beginning of March 2016 where different cultures from different clubs at Trent University can embrace their cultural dressing and expose to the greater community of Trent University the different cultures and the diverse community that is a part of this community. And lastly I plan on doing a video that creates awareness against racial discrimination against the racialized minorities at Trent University. The video is an ongoing process already and will be ready to go anytime soon. These are the campaigns that I have done and still plan to do throughout my position in power during the year of 2015-2016 as your Anti-Racism Commissioner.

Environment & Sustainability Commissioner Anastasia Kaschenko

Reflection

Since being elected into the TCSA this past semester, I have had the pleasure to meet and work with all the inspiring people who make up the staff, board of directors and affiliates. As well, it has been great to be in the loop about the initiatives happening in all the areas of interest at Trent, and this insight has helped me diversify my approach to environmentally focused initiatives. As well, it has been truly rewarding and humbling to be a part of a board of directors that is truly diplomatic in its approach, and considerate of the variety of differences that make us all unique. The presence of that awareness at our meetings and the employment of anti-oppression principles have made it a productive work space (for me) and a fine social setting.

What have I been doing?

A large portion of my time involves working with the amazing Trent University Green Team. I co-facilitate our weekly – and often multiple – meetings including drafting agendas and disseminating review notes with tasks outlined for members to follow up. These meetings are instrumental in our efforts to coordinate two major, and inaugural, events this academic year – the Green Your Campus competition and the Campus Sustainability Conference. I am grateful to be the creator and co-facilitator of Green Team, and as such a main aspect of my role is establishing partnerships with organizations, faculty, student groups and funding partners. This has included establishing collaborations with: First People’s House of Learning (FPHL), Gzowski College, Trent’s ADMN program, ERS department, Fleming college and more. As well, we have submitted for funding to over 10 sources including: Symons Trust, the Pan Colleges Fund, NIND, TCSA, Opirg, Oxfam and various faculties. We are excited about our prospective events and I will ensure to keep everyone at TCSA updated on our progress!

Other collaborations and initiatives I have/am involved in include:

- A meet and greet hike with Gzowski’s Living Learning Community for students to get to know Sustainable Trent, Green Team and TCSA
- Haaseltons off-residence January start meet and greet (with Elora Tarlo)
- Green Dishes program with Chartwells/Trent (with Alaine Spiwak)
- Campus Food Strategy Board} a group comprised of faculty, administration and student groups aimed at creating and envisioning a long term strategy for Trent’s campus food system (with Anisah Madden)
- Initial collaboration assistance with ‘Paper reduction initiative’ for faculty (with Lacey Lanktree, Champlain Sustainability representative)
- Presenting at the event of Society for Ecological Restoration, Trent (SER-TU)
- Creation of Trent Radio material for Green Team promotion
- Ongoing collaboration with Self-Love Week and the creation of an event from Sustainable Trent

Meetings I have partaken in:

- Environmental Advisory Board (November and January)
- Sustainability and Fair trade working group (led by Mark Murdoch and Syerra student facilitator)
- Canadian Federation of Students – Ontario Semi-annual Conference
- Sustainable Trent, weekly
- Green Team, weekly

Thank you for an amazing fall semester! Clearly, collaborations are vitally important to ensure comprehensiveness in our campaigns; however they may differ from one another. So, please come and talk to me or email me, or hit me up on social media if you have an idea for one of the projects I am involved with, or you think we could work together on something. I look forward to an awesome winter semester!

Ethical Standards Commissioner Alexander McKee

This past semester the ethical standards commissioner has worked hard for its electorate. Through representation at Athletic committee meetings the ethical standards commissioner was able to push towards greater athletic services for students at the Athletic center. Sitting on the TCSA clubs funding committee the ethical standards commissioner was able to ensure that clubs followed TCSA protocol and practiced transparency in their budgets. The ethical standards commissioner has also worked at TCSA meetings through voting and discussion to keep internal TCSA administrative costs low and accountable as students bear the burden of any budget increases.

The ethical standards commissioner has worked with the Peterborough Farmer's market to continue the student discount that was previously created and is continuing to work on expanding the number of vendors that give the discount to students showing their Trent student card. The farmer's market is an ethical choice for food that is hosted at the Morrow Building, Lansdowne and George St. Saturdays 7am-1pm.

Lastly the ethical standards commissioner has created a partnership with the Department of Physical Resources and is looking to re-partner with Sustainable Trent to replace broken water fountains on campus and add additional water fountains where feasible. To date, 3 out of 4 new fountains have been installed, all students in ERS should check out the new and working fountains. Continuing forward the ethical standards commissioner will look at the implementation of additional water fountains, as we cannot continue to have a water bottle ban on campus when we do not have sufficient fountain/water access.

First-Year Off-Residence Commissioner Elora Tarlo

My events planned are to organize a bus to the Farmers Market (although hesitant because I have just recently been told that another person from Gzowski is organizing the trip, but hopefully I will either partner with Jocelyn Whalen or do it myself). I'm also partnering with sustainable Trent with their planned pub night at the end of the month. For self love week I was hoping to partner with Active Minds and run an event. Unfortunately all this information hasn't yet been 100% confirmed. What I do want however is to learn more about First Year Opinions and perhaps set up a table at least twice (is my goal) to interact with other first years on campus. It perhaps would be less based on opinions on Trent but rather a personal anonymous survey to better understand the difficulties of first years.

Indigenous Students Commissioner Brendan Campbell

Fall 2015 Semester Event:

1. Trent Indigenous-Ally Workshop Series; October 22nd

- **Planned Event:**
 - i. Treaty 20 Anishinaabeg Opening Prayer/Address
 - ii. Unveiling of TCSA-FPHL Tipi Awareness Campaign
 - iii. Panel of Indigenous Students of Diverse Backgrounds
 - iv. Dr. Lynn Davis to Speak on the Settler Perspective
 - v. FPHL Blanket Exercise
 - vi. Nogojiwanong Youth Solidarity Initiative to speak on the International-Indigenous Ally Perspective
- **Actual Event:**
 - i. Anishinaabeg Opening Prayer/Address by Elder Edna Manitowabi
 - ii. Unveiling of TCSA-FPHL Tipi Awareness Campaign
 - iii. Guest Speaker: Julia Lalonde spoke about the Unapologetic Ally Perspective
 - iv. Dr. Lynn Davis spoke about the Settler Perspective; she provided a few approaches in Indigenous and Ally interactions as well as a document entitled "Ally Bill of Responsibilities," which was written by Dr. Lynn Gehl, Algonquin / Anishinaabekwe
 - v. Story from Residential School from Edna Manitowabi
 - vi. Nogojiwanong Youth Solidarity Initiative and Citizenship Test
- **Successes:** The event was a great meeting of many different perspectives that enriched those in the circle; also, despite the heavier emotional content, it was a very safe space for attendees to listen, reflect and share
- **Logistical Lessons:** The event had a lower turn-out (which is why the Blanket Exercise was dropped) and this most likely due to the timing of the event, which was the week before Reading Break when everyone was trying to finish papers and prepare for exams.

Planned Events for the Winter 2016 Semester

1. Indigenizing Curriculum Event; Date Undetermined

- **Premise:** This event will speak to the effectiveness of implementing a mandatory indigenous credit (or content within existing courses) as it fits into all programs. As Indigenous Students Commissioner, I feel that this can be a positive step towards creating a space where indigenous students feel comfortable and see themselves respectfully reflected in their learning environment. Also, it can address Truth and Reconciliation Recommendations and provide non-indigenous students a more accurate understanding of Canada's colonial history, colonial present and the successes of non-indigenous and indigenous interactions. The goal would be for both future (not current) indigenous and non-indigenous students to graduate from Trent University with an understanding of their shared history and how they can work together for a positive future.
- **Planning:** My approach in planning for this event will include three main approaches
 - i. As a Board Member, I am concerned with including as much student voice in this discussion as possible. It is my goal to contact the departmental student groups, the Student Senators and the College Cabinets to include as much diverse academic perspective as possible. The challenge is to harmonize the various indigenous perspectives with the various student learning objectives.
 - ii. As an indigenous student, I am concerned with including as much local and Trent indigenous voice as possible. I have begun contacting the Treaty 20 First Nations to include the voice of any student, teacher, Elder and leader who would wish to speak to the event. As Treaty 20 First Nations share their land with us, it is important that we include their voice in this discussion.
 - iii. Lastly, one perspective I had almost neglected, mostly because I thought it was out of my scope, was the faculty perspective. In meeting with students from the University of Winnipeg Student Association and Lakehead University Student Union, both of whom belong to universities that have recently implemented mandatory indigenous content, I have learned that faculty perspective is incredibly important. As students and community members we may wish to have this passed as a motion in senate, but ultimately that action will be on faculty and therefore their perspective is also vital. I plan to research the perspectives of faculty at other universities as means to offer insight into this discussion (initial research), but I plan to contact the various departments to provide much-needed Trent context.

2. Self-Love Week

- **Premise:** Self-Love Week will be running from February 7th-14th in collaboration with the Centre of Gender and Social Justice, OPIRG, and

other Trent and community groups. A couple Equity Commissioners including myself plan to include programming that is within our school week (and takes Reading Break into consideration)

- **Planning:**
 - i. As the deadline for organizing our events is January 20th, 2016, it is likely that I will have to do a solo event. I have planned an event called “Truly Indigenous” which will speak to the various physical, cultural and social realities of indigenous students using a video and posters to depict the various intersectional identities of indigenous students at Trent University. This event will be to address indigenous stereotypes or misconceptions while also empowering Indigenous students in their diversity
 - ii. The Anti-Racism Commissioner, Tinotenda Makosa, and I have planned a Shadism Event that speaks to the appreciation of various phenotypes between Racialized and Indigenous Students. This event is tentative.

Queer Students Commissioner Andrew Clark

I held my office hours during the first half of the semester on Tuesdays. I have done an interview for the Arthur which helped in explaining some of the things that I had planned for the year. Next month most of the commissioners will be working together to make Self Love Week a success. We will be collaborating with the Center for Gender Justice on some events while also helping to promote their events. I also am planning to run an event that is called We’re Queer and We’re Here. I am still working out the last of the details but the goal is to bring different sexualities to light and give some explanations.

Students with Disabilities Commissioner Calla Durose-Moya

Last semester (the fall), I organized two events. First, I organized a workshop with the Centre for Human Rights called Know Your Rights 101 which was a workshop to address and inform students with disabilities at Trent University on what rights they are entitled to as disabled students, how to navigate resources and know what’s available to them. The workshop had zero attendance most likely because it was during reading week. We are going to try again for the winter semester, and gain attendance for that.

I also did a workshop with disability activist Leah Lakshmi, which entailed “In this interactive workshop, participants will learn, share and co-create our strategies at creating disability justice movement- movements for disability justice and liberation that center Black, Indigenous, People of Color, low income folks, prisoners, sex workers, queer and trans folks and others who are marginalized within mainstream disability rights movements. Leah will present clips of artwork and performance from Sins Invalid and other disabled performers of color, talk about art and performance as a means of

advancing disability justice, and share concrete tips for building accessible, liberatory events, movements and communities.”

I got the support of campus and community groups such as OPIRG, Community Race Relations, The Centre for Gender and Social Justice, and Trent Queer Collective to bring Leah to Peterborough. The event was hosted at Sadleir House. It was very successful in my opinion, it seemed like there was a lot of meaningful learning and sharing between the participants.

This semester, like I said, I’m working on putting on that workshop again in conjunction with the Trent Centre for Human Rights and Accessibility.

I’m also coordinating putting on a workshop this semester with another Toronto disability activist named A.J. Withers who wrote a marvellous book called *Disability Politics and Theory*. The workshop is meant to present different models of disability and run through a history of disability justice, and activism. I met with them in Toronto in October to go through what I wanted the workshop would look like.

Women’s Issues Commissioner Asgiga Corriveau

As the Women’s Issues Commissioner, I have majority of my committee meetings and Board of Director meetings. The committees which I sit on are the IT Review Committee and the Clubs and Groups Finance Sub Committee for the TCSA. In terms of my portfolio, I currently am focusing on helping to put together Self-Love Week with various other equity commissioners and other community resources such as the Center for Gender and Social Justice or Active Minds. On a more personal look at my portfolio, the Safety Kit, I have talked to various people at Trent, such as the co-ordinator of Walkhome, to see how the Safety Kit can be shaped. I hope to continue conversation and have something viable out in March. I am also looking into the possibility of a Safety Survey. In the essence I cannot accomplish the Safety Kit this year, I will leave information for the next commissioner and continue on it on my own.

Part-Time Students Commissioner Larissa Ngwe

I have recently joined the Clubs Funding committee and will be attending the meetings every Wednesday from 1-2pm. The date is however subject to a Thursday change. Also, I am currently working on a survey targeting students of the part-time community in order to learn more about them and learn which issues need to be addressed in order to maintain a qualitative level of educational success for them.

I have also emailed Hilary to book an appointment with her regarding the discussion of the advertisement of the survey but I will also be doing a weekly check-in at the TCSA office early on this week to discuss the idea with her in person as well. In order to make the survey more resourceful and successful, I was also thinking about making it available within the activity I will be conducting for part-time students hopefully sometime in

between the middle of February to the middle of March (a specific date has not yet been set).

I am currently in the process of brainstorming all the ideas and the various discussion topics for the activity as well as trying to figure out how to improve the participation rate for the activity. During one of the board meetings, I will be open to any ideas or advice any execs or equity commissioners has and will also be looking for any volunteers willing to assist me in running the activity. Additionally, I will also like to ask the execs and equity commissioners during one of the board meetings to help spread the word of the availability of the survey to any part-time students they know because I believe they are more likely to partake in events when discussed with by word of mouth.

If I remember correctly, I recall during the last board meeting I sat in, Pippa needing volunteers for an event she was conducting so I emailed her to ask for more information regarding the event so that might be a potential association event I will be assisting in.

College Cabinet Representatives

Champlain College Cabinet President Keeley Moloney

Champlain College Cabinet had a great first semester and a great start to second semester! All of our events were well attended and we thank all of the Champlain students that made them great! We have been working on a number of projects this year, which have included renovating the Junior Common Room, as well as reviewing our constitution. We have greatly enjoyed working with TCSA again this year, and have found a few areas to collaborate, including once again hosting our Milk Run during Frost Week.

This semester we have lots going on. Friday January 29th - Saturday January 30th we will have our Bon Temps weekend! This will include a two-day broom ball tournament (sign-ups begin Monday January 25th in the College Cabinet Office) and a FREE dinner catered by a number of local eateries. Champlain students can get their tickets to Bon Temps dinner Monday January 25th in the Great Hall.

We will have our 2nd Floor Hockey tournament on Saturday February 27th, and our formal will be held on Friday March 18th. Our Graduate Dinner will be on Wednesday March 23rd. Please see our Facebook page (Champlain College Official) for more details.

We invite all of our Champlain students to our Annual General Meeting on Saturday February 27th, time to be decided. This will take place in the Great Hall.

Champlain College Senior Senator Alex Lawrie

As the senior senator for Champlain College, I have represented the TCSA and Champlain in numerous committees and helped run various university and college events. Besides the regular attendance of Senate, Cabinet and TCSA meetings, I have been a representative on several other committees, including but not limited to the transportation

committee, CASSC (Colleges and Student Services Committee), the student Caucus, and the Research Ethics Committee. I have also helped my fellow TCSA and College Cabinet members run their individual events, including but not limited to the Milk Run, The Champlain College Pig Bowl Weekend and the 20th Anniversary Kick-off party.

Otonabee College Cabinet President Rachel Arseneault

It has been a busy year over at Otonabee College. I have sat on Retention Committee, Colleges Sub-Committee, CASSC, Nature Areas, Grounds Committee, among others. I have tried to bring a student voice and student representation to issues such as the Emerald Ash Borer, and the concept of installing Access Cards across campus. To focus more on the upcoming events and activities: we have formal and East vs. West this month which are two of our main events. Additionally Trent Mudder will be taking place April 2nd this year. On a personal level I am currently working on creating a relationship between OC and a downtown business (to be decided on Sunday January 24). I am also looking at getting a mural in the OC Commons.

Otonabee College Commissioner Megan Sockett

For the past semester I have been the TCSA commissioner for Otonabee College. In this role I have acted as a liaison between the TCSA and Otonabee College and mainly delivered news about various events happening at Trent to the Otonabee College council to get feedback for committees and events. Working to promote and sell tickets for various events such as formal and the East vs. West game that are coming up this semester are also important parts of the position.

Otonabee College Senior Senator Tim Hance

Position(s): Senior Senator, Otonabee College; Chair, Student Senate Caucus
The student senators have been fairly busy this academic year. In September, we successfully passed a motion that gave all students at Trent the option to skip class to vote in the election. We recently have been discussing the possibility of starting a student-led review of Traill College, concurrent to the official review by Pres. Groarke and Chris Tindale.

As senators, in general, we are tasked with liaising between our college cabinets or respective associations (TGSA, TDSA), Senate, as well as the TCSA. It is a difficult, time-consuming job, but it is more than worth the effort.

Personally, I also sit on the Student Centre Design Committee, the TCSA Transit Subcommittee, Senate Executive, University Honours Subcommittee, OC Cabinet Executive, in addition to being Chief Designer and Head of Construction for Trent Mudder and Treasurer/Founder of the Society for Ecological Restoration.

Moving forward, I will be setting up the junior senators to take over the roles and responsibilities of the senior senators. I will also be meeting with each senator to see how they feel about their role and what I can do to help.

Lady Eaton College Cabinet Prime Minister Emily Stitt

Lady Eaton College Cabinet has been busy this year planning and hosting a variety of successful events including our traditional Fall College and Festive College Weekend, the Citiots Comedy Night during TCSA's Frost Week, Dodgebowl, the Mocking Jay Movie Night and many others. We are very excited for the many upcoming events we are planning including our Winter Alumni and Spring College Weekends, the LEC Formal and of course, one of the oldest traditions at Trent, Spring Event! For more information about our events, including dates, please visit our website www.ladyeatoncollege.com.

LEC Cabinet has been working on strengthening our connections not only with the TCSA and the colleges at Trent, but also with various members of both the Trent and Peterborough community. This includes working with groups such as TISA, Active Minds, the Citiots, the Arts & Crafts Club, and others. We are also working on developing our connection with Blackhoney, our downtown college space, by organizing two events per month at the coffee shop, in collaboration with the LEC College Office. Don't forget, LEC students can pick up a 10% discount card for Blackhoney at our College Office!

Lady Eaton College 2016 Orientation Co-Chairs have now been hired! Congratulations to Scott MacDonald, Ty Gehrke and John Bruyea! Leader applications have now closed and interviews will be held in February.

We have recently struck our Constitutional Review Committee in preparation for our Annual General Meeting, Sunday, March 6 at 3:00pm in the LEC Pit. Come join us!

Clubs and Groups Funding applications are now available for the winter semester and can be picked up outside of our office. The deadline to submit applications is Friday, January 29th at 5pm.

Renovations to update the Magpie snack-bar to a common kitchen will soon be underway! These are expected to be finished by March. We are also having discussions surrounding ways to strengthen wayfinding in the college including additional signage and maps.

For more information or if you have any general concerns or questions please feel free to stop by our office or visit our website! We look forward to a wonderful second semester with you!

Lady Eaton College Commissioner Brandon Rimmelgas

The primary focus of this position is to act as a liaison between the TCSA and cabinet and as such, this is taken up the majority of my time in the position. I have had good

attendance at the TCSA meetings and prepare TCSA reports which I recite to cabinet at their bi-weekly meetings.

The purpose of these reports is to bring essential information from the discussions that occur amongst the Board of Directors, to the cabinet level, example talking points include:

- Information pertaining to the status and ownership of the Student Centre
- CASSC (and other) subcommittee updates
- Solidarity movements, as brought forward by CFS
- Information about changes, updates, and challenges to student services
- Events updates, and many more.

As LEC Cabinet Commissioner I have also sat on a variety of committees, such as the TCSA's Campaigns and University Affairs Committee, and the CASSC Housing subcommittee. I also have a seat on the Senate Special Appeals Committee, but as far as I know, the committee has yet to meet for the current academic year.

I hope to continue to liaise between LEC Cabinet and the TCSA Board of Governors in the Winter term and I look forward to doing what I can to support these bodies in the amazing services, supports, and events they provide their students.

Lady Eaton College Senior Senator Emily Beaudin

My name is Emily Rose Beaudin, and I have recently been appointed the Senior Senator of Lady Eaton College Cabinet. This is my first year on Cabinet, as well as on the TCSA, and I am eager to be taking on this role. With the amazing support and mentorship provide by various fellow member thus far, I have no worries that it will be a smooth transition.

Peter Gzowski College Cabinet President Kaitlin Crow

Last Semester

I have had the privilege of sitting on the Colleges Sub-Committee of CASSC. The largest impact of this committee on the Gzowski Community was the expansion of the College Office. After months of discussion with our cabinet, fellow colleges, and the members of the Trent Community, the expansion was approved and has already begun to benefit students.

During the Summer the College purchased a variety of furniture for the Gzowski Atrium. The aim of this expansion was to help create a comfortable atmosphere for students to hang out, study, highlighting interactions and community. So far the additions have posed both positives and negatives to the atrium. The furniture is frequently in use by the student body and more notably there has been an increase in study groups in the Atrium. The consequences that we are working on combating is the moving of furniture against the Donor Wall in the alcove beside the stairs.

Upcoming this year

Escape Room

On January 30th we will be hosting our first escape room style event. The event asks students to form a group to solve a series of clues to find the key that unlocks the locked door to escape the first floor of Gzowski.

First Annual Winter College Weekend

On the weekend of February 5th - 7th Gzowski College Cabinet will be hosting our first annual winter college weekend. Expect to see lacrosse, tobogganing, and Jibs on the Hill. More information will be posted to the TCSA app and to our Facebook page closer to the date.

Gzowski College cabinet has been working on strengthen connections with our Trent partners including TUNA, FPHL, Gzowski College Office and TISA. We will be looking at achieving a downtown Peterborough community partner for the upcoming year. With the help from the TMA Gzowski Cabinet has been able to secure a new method of receiving payments and we are pleased to announce we can now accept Credit for purchasing. We are looking into the feasibility of obtaining gift cards for purchase during the month of September for students to have an account for purchasing tickets.

The Gzowski College 2016 Orientation Co-Chairs have been hired and we are very pleased with the results. Congratulations Haddon Rabb and Shanice Coker. We are excited to see what you have in store!

For more information or if you have any general concerns or questions please feel free to stop by our office (FPHL 119) or visit our website gzowskicollege.com!

Peter Gzowski College Commissioner Caitanya Pandith

Through the summer semester I attended on the Summer Committee of the association. Where 1st draft budget and new logo of the association was confirmed. As a member of the association I attended the CFS-Semi Annual General meeting which took place Ottawa June 4-7, 2015. At the AGM I represented on the Budget Committee the Caucus Of Small University Associations. I was also elected into a Board Representative position on the Executive Committee, from the College representatives. As a member of the Executive Committee we discussed the budget, grocery assistance requests, student funding under A.P.P.L.E. and P.S.E Fund, and other day-to-day operations of the association. Currently as a Commissioner I represent the association on the following committees: CASSC • Housing • Convocation TCSA Committees • Executive Committee • Finance and Operations • Grocery Assistance Committee