

## APUS Assembly Minutes

January 18, 2016 (Adjourned: December 18, 2015) | 5:30 PM

APUS North Borden Office

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In attendance: Richie Pyne, Margaret Ebifegha, Mala Kashyap, Christine Cullen, Susan Froom, Susan Murray, George Gawronski

Staff: Danielle Sandhu

### 1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 5:55 pm.

### 2. Introductions

Each attendee introduced themselves in turn.

### 3. Approval of Minutes

Moved: Froom

Seconded: Ebifegha

*Be it resolved that the Assembly Meeting minutes from September 28, 2015 be approved as presented.*

### DISCUSSION

Pyne states that the minutes from our previous meeting are up for approval.

Cullen asks if this is the second meeting.

Pyne states yes.

*Vote carries.*

### 4. Role of APUS Assembly

Sandhu provides an overview of APUS including its history, decision-making structure, current services and campaigns, as well as an overview of membership in the Canadian Federation of Students. She also provides an overview of the role of the APUS Assembly and the Class Representatives as being an intermediary between part-time students in classes and the Board. She states Class Representatives and Board Members comprise the Assembly

### 5. Update from APUS Executive

Pyne states that each member of the Executive Committee can provide an update on current initiatives. Pyne states that we just returned from the CFS Ontario meeting, which he enjoyed thoroughly and where he enjoyed representing APUS. He states that we recently organized a trial UTSC shuttle bus service between the UTSC and UTSG campuses along with the Scarborough Campus Students' Union. He states that there is a real need for students to have access to the bus, given that many students need to complete their degree requirements through taking courses at UTSG. He states that we have a petition going and are advocating for the administration to implement this service permanently. He states that there is a shuttle running from UTM and UTSG and it would be great to see this implemented between the UTSC and UTSG campuses.

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Ebifegha asks if we know how the UTM bus is funded.

Sandhu states that the UPASS is a joint initiative between the UTMSU, UTM administration and Mississauga (MiWay) transit. She states that students are assessed a flat fee for the fall and winter period that is paid alongside their tuition and ancillary fees. She states there is also a summer rate. Sandhu provides an overview of the outreach day. She states that during peak traffic, the bus ride was about an hour and fifteen minutes, and under low traffic it was closer to thirty minutes. She states that the SCSU heard from Mayor John Tory about potential changes.

From states it would be good to lobby city councillors on this, perhaps through the Community Liaison Committee, which features Joe Cressy who is supportive of student initiatives. She states we could operate the shuttle through the TTC.

Cullen asks about the different transit passes for UTSC and UTM students.

Gawronski states TTC post-secondary metropasses are only available to full-time students.

Ebifegha states that we just returned from the CFS Ontario meeting, where elections took place for the At-Large executive. She states that we have a Lunch and Learn event happening this week on Thursday that will focus on social media use. She states that it would be great for everyone to promote.

Cullen states that she will be attending and wants to send an email out on Portal to her class members to invite them to the event.

Ebifegha states that we can do class talks and outreach to promote APUS events and initiatives.

Murray states that she is looking to host a meeting on outreach this month, so hopefully folks can attend so we can better connect with our members. She states that she is working with Kashyap to organize a mature reception or gala.

Cullen asks about the dress code for the event, highlighting concerns around formal dress code.

Murray states that we hosted a number of de-stressor events featuring yoga and a balloon twister, which are very well received, and she is looking forward to hosting more. She states we are also hosting an event with CESAR, collaborating to bring a high-profile speaker to campus.

Sandhu states that we had an opportunity to hear from Lerato Machaba from the University of Witwatersrand, where students organized a Fees Must Fall campaign. She states that students across South Africa demonstrated in the thousands and essentially shut down the government in their fight for accessible education. She states there is interest in bringing Machaba or other organizers to do talks in the GTA.

Cullen states that it sounds like a great talk.

From asks about Reclaiming Our Bodies and Minds (ROBAM).

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Sandhu provides a quick overview of ROBAM.

Froom states that she attended last year and the conference was awesome. She states that the discussions were invigorating and inspirational. She states that there were a great variety of workshops and talks presented, from theatrical to guest speakers, with a variety of perspectives. She asks for details around venue.

Sandhu states that the location is undecided and they are trying to find a place that is accessible to students at York, Ryerson and UofT.

Murray states she found a great under-utilized venue in Regent Park that we could consider for events. She states that we will be looking at on-campus venues for our events.

Ebifegha states that we have a blog where we can talk about student issues. She encourages members around the room to write about issues that affect them, including food, or shuttle bus initiative.

Sandhu states that we got a lot of personal comments about the need for the shuttle bus. She states we can think about having a student creating a blog entry.

Ebifegha states we should keep the campaign going.

Sandhu states we may be working on a lobby document.

Pyne suggests that we print posters featuring some of the quotes in the petition.

Gawronski asks what we can do around food justice.

Ebifegha states that she will send updates to Gawronski via email.

Murray states for the Shuttle Bus initiative to consider changes to Presto and also to King's College Circle.

### **6. Adjournment**

Moved: Ebifegha                      Seconded: Froom

Pyne states that the next meeting will be February 8, 2016 at 5:00 pm.

*Vote carried.*

The meeting adjourned at 7:14 pm.