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ANNUAL REPORT



APUS YEAR IN REVIEW

The Association of Part-time Undergraduate Students at the University of Toronto (APUS) ensures that part-time undergraduate students have access to the full range of programs, services and resources at the University of Toronto in order to improve the quality of the part-time undergraduate educational experience. We endeavour to ensure that the rights of all part-time students are respected, provide cost-saving services, programs and events, and represent the voices of part-time undergraduate students across the University and to all levels of governance. We are fundamentally committed to the principle of access to education for all. We strive to ensure that the academic and social needs of part-time undergraduate students are met by building a more inclusive educational and campus life experience for all part-time students.

This annual report provides an overview of services, advocacy, programming and events offered by APUS in the 2017-2018 year through reports from members of the APUS Executive Committee.

The 2018 year also marks APUS' 50th anniversary of advocating for part-time students at the University of Toronto. APUS was founded in 1968 by part-time students who wanted to make part-time study an integral part of the University. We are proud of our history of creating space for part-time students on campus, and we invite you to join us this year as we continue to celebrate being part-time and proud!



**ASSOCIATION OF PART-TIME
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS**
LOCAL 97 OF THE CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS



APUS SERVICES

Health and Dental Plans

APUS continues to offer affordable health, dental and travel insurance coverage to our members through GreenShield Canada, the only not-for-profit insurance provider in Canada. Through our membership in the Canadian Federation of Students and the National Student Health Network, we also participate in discount networks for dental care, vision care, and the new prescription drug discount network. We continue to support our members' common health needs and shape the plan to support these needs.

Scholarship and Bursaries

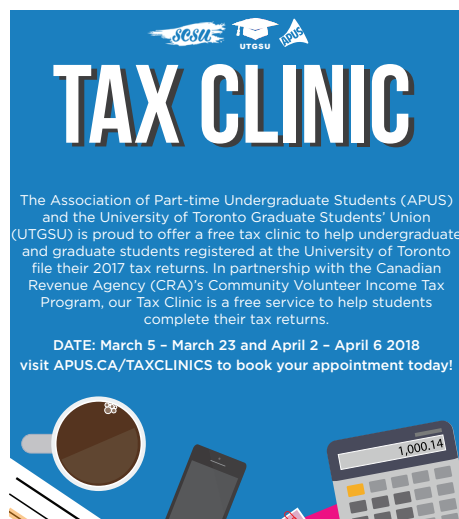
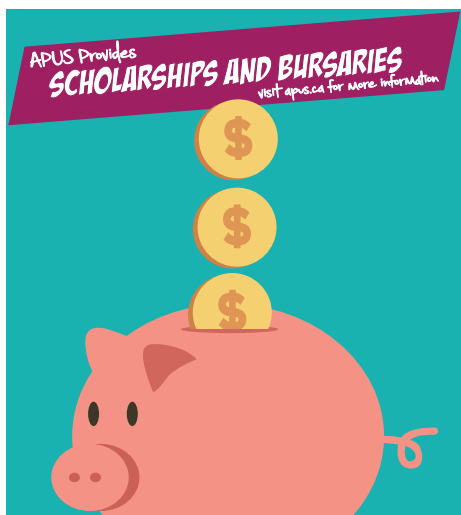
Recognizing that part-time students face particular barriers to accessing post-secondary education, and lack adequate sources of funding from government and institutional based systems, APUS offers our members a number of scholarships and bursaries. These scholarships and bursaries are available to students on all three campuses at U of T, and include the semesterly APUS Bursary, and the annual APUS Scholastic Award, the Marija Hutchison Scholastic Award, the Jovita Nagy Scholastic Award, and the APUS Award for the U of T Sesquicentennial. We encourage all part-time students to review the eligibility requirements and apply for these awards.

Tax Clinics

APUS is proud to offer a free tax clinic to help our members file their 2017 tax returns. This year, we partnered with the UTGSU (University of Toronto Graduate Students' Union) for our St. George Campus location and with SCSU (Scarborough Campus Students' Union) for their Scarborough campus location. In partnership with the Canada Revenue Agency's Community Volunteer Income Tax Program, our current tax clinic is a very popular free service for students. Membership in the Canadian Federation of Students also provides APUS members with free online tax filing via Ufile.ca.

APUS Study Space and Lounge

In our Sidney Smith office, APUS offers our members a space to study, hang out, enjoy free coffee and tea, and make use of our popular 5 cent printing service. We endeavour to create a community space for part-time and mature students on campus.



APUS PROGRAMMING AND EVENTS

APUS offers a series of workshops, programming and events throughout the year to support part-time students and build community. This past year, our programming has included:

- Annual Pride Picnic
- Annual Caribana Patio Line
- Mature and Part-Time Students' Orientation
- APUS x UTMSU Orientation
- Lunch & Learn Workshop: Social Media Edition
- Lunch & Learn Workshop: LinkedIn Edition
- Resisting Education: Stories of Defiance and Perseverance
- Exam De-Stressors
- Moonlight Film Screening

We collaborate with many student groups across all three campuses on programming and events as well. Please read on for more events and programming in our Executive reports.



APUS CAMPAIGNS AND ADVOCACY



APUS works with other student unions, student groups, community members and allies to advocate for accessible and quality post-secondary education for part-time students. This past year, our campaigns and advocacy have included:

- Provincial Day of Action with the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario (CFS-O)
- Fairness for Students Campaign with CFS-O
- CFS-O Provincial Lobby Week
- Meetings with the Office of the Vice-Provost Students
- Meetings with the Department of Student Life
- GTA Transit Coalition & Transit Survey
- Council on Student Services (COSS)
- Meetings with the Anti-Racism and Cultural Diversity Office

Please read on for more campaigns and advocacy in our Executive reports.

A WORD FROM THE APUS PRESIDENT



As President, my role is to oversee all aspects of APUS as an organization. This includes the wide range of services we offer, advocating for student rights with the University administration, and organizing events, outreach and education about the student movement. We seek to empower students to be self-determining when it comes to their post-secondary education experience. This past year has been a dynamic one and the issues facing students are rapidly changing. The need to be focused and impactful in our goals, as an organization, is increasingly important and our commitment to students is unwavering. The following are initiatives on our three campuses (St. George, UTM and UTSC) that impact part-time students which I have focused on this past year:

University-Mandated Leave of Absence Policy

In September 2017, the University introduced the University-Mandated Leave of Absence Policy to be approved through Governing Council's governance path. On January 30, 2018, APUS was informed that Governing Council was presented with a letter from the Ontario Human Rights Commission to put this Policy on hold. The Policy was subsequently withdrawn from the University's approval process. APUS continues to monitor the introduction of this Policy and protect students right to access to mental health services and accommodations.

Ontario Sexual Violence Climate Survey

The sexual violence climate survey can be found at: <https://www.info-sv-vs.ca/>. This is a survey that is required by the Ontario Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development for institutions to keep track of changes in student perceptions of the climate on our campuses when it comes to sexual violence. We were disappointed to learn that part-time undergraduate students were not included in this survey. We have been investigating this through the Office of the Vice Provost Students and the Canadian Federation of Students in order to advocate for the inclusion of part-time students in this survey.

University of Toronto's Employee Associations and Unions (UTEAU)

We continue to support campus-wide initiatives through this committee including workers' rights and campus health and safety for both students and workers. For example, we partnered with campus groups on the panel event Asbestos on Our Campus - One Year Later. Recognizing that many of those who work on campus are also part-time students, we continue to work in solidarity for fairness for workers and students.



A WORD FROM THE APUS PRESIDENT

Council of Athletics and Recreation (CAR) Equity Committee

The CAR Equity Committee has a mandate to address the needs of Indigenous and Racialized Students through the creation of a Task Force organized by the Kinesiology and Physical Education (KPE) Faculty. We continue to monitor the progress of this Task Force.

Council of Student Services (COSS)

The COSS cycle includes presentations from Hart House, Kinesiology and Physical Education and the Department of Students Life, as well as a vote on their requested fee increases. This year the fee increase vote ultimately failed and the budgets moved on through the governance path without student union support for student fee increases. APUS continues to advocate for equal access to services on campus for part-time students.

Meetings with Student Life and the Office of the Vice Provost Students

As an Executive team, we have access to meet with the Vice Provost Students throughout the year to raise issues around University policies and procedures. This year, the University-Mandated Leave of Absence Policy has been the primary area of focus in our advocacy with this office. We continue to access this space regularly to address ongoing student issues and concerns.

A WORD FROM THE APUS INTERNAL



The APUS VP Internal portfolio includes finances, record-keeping, human resources, internal operations and services. I will provide an overview of the past year in these areas:

Human Resources

Most of APUS' employees are unionized through the Canadian Union Of Public Employees (CUPE Local 1281). This year, APUS hired a new Member Services Coordinator, and entered into an MOU with CUPE 1281 such that our two part-time student contract Info-Clerk positions are also unionized. APUS also hired an Interim Executive Director, a non-unionized position, while our Executive Director is on leave. Incoming Executives also participated in an introductory session with CUPE 1281 during the summer with regards to duties and responsibilities in the workplace.

We value a strong and positive relationship with all our staff.

Internal Operations

This year, the Board of Directors adopted three operational policies: Executive Committee Responsibilities and Remuneration, Health and Safety, and Workplace Harassment and Violence. The Operational Policy on Executive Committee Responsibilities and Remuneration, adopted in June, sets the executive remuneration at a maximum of \$600 per month, and a maximum of \$25 for a monthly cell phone allowance. Executives are expected to work 8-10 hours per week, and meet all the commitments of their portfolio. Prior to the adoption of this policy, a decision to set expectations and remuneration had been adopted annually following the election of the new Executive by the Board. It is hoped that having this standing Operational Policy will contribute to greater consistency of performance and accountability going forward. In August, the Board adopted the Operational Policy on Health and Safety and the Operational Policy on Workplace Harassment and Violence to support APUS' commitment to the health, safety and well-being of all employees, members and visitors to APUS.

Bylaw Amendments

A Bylaw Review Committee was established by the Board of Directors in June and tasked with bringing forward by-law amendment proposals to the Board. The Bylaw Review Committee met over the summer and fall, and recommended Bylaw amendments were considered and approved by the Board at the August 1, 2017 and October 20, 2017 meetings. They were subsequently approved at the November 28, 2017 Assembly meeting.

Financial Statements

Our independent and external auditors, Yale & Partners LLP, prepared the APUS audited financial statements for 2016-2017. The audit process was smooth and the audit was unqualified. The audited financial statements have been approved by the Board, and are being recommended for approval to the membership at the Annual General Meeting.

A WORD FROM THE APUS INTERNAL

Other Executive Duties

In addition to the CFS Ontario Skills weekend in May 2017, I attended the CFS Ontario General Meetings in August 2017 and January 2018, and the CFS National General Meetings in June 2017 and November 2017. At all of these meetings, I served on the Organizational Services Development Committees, Women's Constituency Groups, and Students with Disabilities Constituency Groups. I also participated in the newly formed Part-Time Caucus at the January CFS Ontario General Meeting, and in the February 2018 CFS Ontario Provincial Lobby Week and Day of Action. Additionally, I represent APUS on the Community Liaison Committee, which addresses issues of concern to the St. George campus, city government and local neighbourhood associations. I also represent APUS on the University of Toronto Library Advisory Committee.



A WORD FROM THE APUS EXTERNAL



The APUS Vice-President External portfolio includes liaisons with community and student groups, including the Canadian Federation of Students. This year, highlights of this portfolio include working collaboratively on student transit initiatives and holding a Provincial Day of Action.

Transit and GTA UPass

This year, there has been significantly more demand from our membership, many of whom are commuters, to push for a GTA-wide UPass. We have collaborated with many student unions from the GTA as part of a GTA Transit Coalition to lobby the provincial transit companies and politicians on behalf of students.

Recently, TTCRiders held a Transit Summit at U of T, in which students were invited to participate in working towards better transit solutions for all.

Canadian Federation of Students

As the proud Local 97 of the Canadian Federation of Students, APUS sends enthusiastic delegates to National General Meetings and Ontario General Meeting to represent our members' interests. Some of the issues this year included lobbying for funding for part-time students with the provincial government, supporting other part time and mature student locals, and creating the new Part Time Caucus at Ontario General Meetings. APUS maintains strong connections with other members of the Part-Time Caucus, and continues to diligently represent APUS members on the provincial and national level.

Day of Action

Similar to the previous National Days of Action, there was a Provincial Day of Action on February 1 earlier this year. We had a booth in Sidney Smith, and spent the day outreaching to students about free education and fairness for students through interactive activities such as trivia and plinko. Petitions were also collected to continue to build momentum leading up to election season.



A WORD FROM THE APUS EVENTS & OUTREACH



The Vice-President Events and Outreach portfolio includes coordinating, events, outreach and membership development across all three campuses. Overall, I have worked to meet my goal of focusing on a tri-campus outreach plan, particularly on the Scarborough campus. Ranging from Exam De-Stressors to Sexual Violence Policy Review Student Consultation meetings, we have made a stronger commitment to being present for our part-time student members at UTSC and collaborating with the Scarborough Campus Students' Union. We also continued to collaborate with the University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union for Orientation events at the beginning of the year to support our members at the Mississauga Campus.

APUS has been able to work with a variety of collaborators including student clubs and other local student unions. I hope folks enjoyed the some of our events throughout the year. From our annual events like Pride Picnic and Caribana Patio Lime, members of the campus community were invited to celebrate their cultures and identities. We also held a film screening of Moonlight this past month to highlight Black LGBT identities and relationships. Other annual events include our Mature and Part Time Students' Orientation in September where we provide an introduction to APUS and campus services and resources for mature and part-time students. Annually, we are also present at the UTSU's (University of Toronto Students' Union) Street Fest, and Clubs Carnival. We have been to do a few community presentations across the three campuses, for example for campus club groups at UTM and at the First Nations House. We also collaborate with many local student unions through the Canadian Federation of Students-Ontario, including the new Part-Time Caucus.



I would also like to note that APUS has moved towards creating more visually accessible promotional materials for people with the three most commonly known forms of colour-blindness. APUS has also made investment in purchasing mats for people who attend our outdoor events with the aid of a mobility device.

A WORD FROM THE APUS EQUITY



The Vice-President Equity portfolio includes engaging in various activities to challenge inequality and to highlight the needs of part-time students. APUS continues to support and champion access for students with disabilities through the ROBAM (Reclaiming Our Bodies and Minds) annual conference for students and the broader community. APUS Executives continue to challenge systemic inequity in academia and post-secondary institutions by attending Lobby Week to outreach to Members of Provincial Parliament at Queen's Park. Students are able to meet face to face with provincial representatives to highlight the difficulties that students encounter in their academic pursuits and show the ways MPPs could support making our academic experiences better and more accessible. Some of the issues discussed were: accessible post secondary education, post-residency fees, and mental health services for students. To meet the needs to mature students, APUS continues to provide skill- based workshops for our membership through our "Lunch and Learn" workshops. We also worked in collaboration with Anti Racism and Cultural Diversity Office to look into how the University-Mandated Leave of Absence Policy affects the student membership, especially racialized and Indigenous students. It was eventually withdrawn by the University to the relief of APUS and other allies. We continue to collaborate with Centre for Indigenous Studies to increase the visibility of Indigenous Language on campus. There is a free Indigenous Language game on Thursdays at the Centre for Indigenous Studies; all students are welcome to attend.



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