

# MEETING MINUTES

THE STUDENT ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

BOARDROOM, CAMPUS CLUBS OFFICE, MAIN CAMPUS

FEBRUARY 13, 2014

6:00PM – 8:00PM

## PRESENT:

Baker Baha, Vice Chair  
Amar Bains  
Cherlene Cheung  
Mikki Decker  
Marco Del Giudice  
Melissa Farhat  
Jasleen Hora  
Savanah Watters

Peter Chinweuba, President  
Ashley Bennett, VP College Affairs  
Jeremy Baarbe, VP University Affairs

Dina Skvirsky, Executive Director  
Dino Erodoutou, Director of Operations

## REGRETS:

Abdullah Khan  
Siddhant Dave

## MINUTE TAKER:

Donna Judson, Executive Assistant and Health Plan Coordinator

## OPENING:

Baker Baha, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:07pm and reported that quorum was met with 11 voting members in attendance.

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEM/FOLLOW UP
ADDITIONS OR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA	There were no amendments to the agenda.	
APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA	Moved by Cherlene Cheung; seconded by Jasleen Hora;  <b>That The Student Association at Durham College and UOIT Board of Directors approve the agenda.</b>  <b>Motion Carried</b>	
DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST	No conflict of interest was declared.	



APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR TO THE ELECTION COMMITTEE	<p><b><u>Appointment of Durham College Director to the Election Committee</u></b></p> <p>Vice Chair reported that the Durham College Board of Director appointed to the Election Committee resigned from the position on February 11, 2014. Vice Chair requested any Durham College Director interested in filling the position should indicate to the Board they would let their name stand for nomination.</p> <p>Melissa Farhat indicated she is interested in sitting on the Election Committee.</p> <p>Moved by Cherlene Cheung; seconded by Amar Bains;</p> <p><b>That The Student Association at Durham College and UOIT Board of Directors appoint Melissa Farhat to the Election Committee with the term ending April 30, 2014.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Motion Carried</b></p>	
APPROVAL DISCIPLINARY ACTION AGAINST AN EXECUTIVE	<p><b><u>Disciplinary Action Against An Executive</u></b></p> <p>Moved by Cherlene Cheung; seconded by Jeremy Baarbe;</p> <p>Whereas members of the Student Association have complained that the President is frequently absent and unreachable;</p> <p>Whereas the President has taken vacation time in excess of what is permitted for Executive Officers;</p> <p>Whereas the President, as the Chair of the Executive Committee has failed to call any Executive Committee meetings;</p> <p>Whereas the President has been availing himself of Student Association resources beyond what is permitted for Executive Officers;</p> <p>Whereas the President has violated a number of Student Association Policies</p> <p><b>Be it resolved that the President check in with the Executive Committee upon commencing his daily work and upon leaving the office;</b></p> <p><b>Be it further resolved that the Student Association President be formally censured by the Board of Directors;</b></p> <p><b>Be it further resolved that a formal letter of censure be made available to Student Association members;</b></p> <p><b>Be it further resolved that all access to any</b></p>	



	<p><b>resources beyond what is outlined in the By-Laws and Student Association Employee Handbooks be stopped immediately and any financial transactions resulting from such benefits be assumed by the President;</b></p> <p><b>Be it further resolved that the Board of Directors remove the ability of the President to negotiate or enter into any contracts on behalf of the Student Association;</b></p> <p>VP of University Affairs presented documentation to the Board of Directors to support the allegations presented in the motion.</p> <p>Vice Chair presented three letters to the Board of Directors that he received from members regarding formal complaints against the President.</p> <p>Vice Chair opened the floor at 7:12pm for discussion and questions.</p> <p>Moved by Mikki Decker; seconded by Cherlene Cheung;</p> <p><b>That The Student Association at Durham College and UOIT Board of Directors approve observers at the meeting speaking privileges.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Motion Carried</b></p> <p>Several observers questioned the President about his recent Facebook posts and indicated that they found it disturbing and hurtful. The students feel that the President showed support of the homophobic comments when he forwarded the post. An observer pointed out the Student Association promotes safe space and this action does not align with safe space principles.</p> <p>An observer indicated she did not feel the President's apology was sincere and he was sorry he got caught not sorry about hurt he had caused. Observers suggested the President attend proper training.</p> <p>President requested permission to speak personally to the student and the student agreed. He indicated he was sorry and would do whatever he needs to do in order to show he is sorry for his actions.</p> <p>Board members apologized to the observers on behalf of the Student Association for the hurt that the actions of the President caused the LGBTQ community.</p> <p>A Director and observer questioned the President on his behavior in the meeting during the presentation</p>	
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	<p>of documents by the VP University Affairs; the observer noted the President was on Facebook and his phone during the entire presentation. The observer also saw the President writing notes on paper and passing it to observers/friends at the meeting.</p> <p>President presented his defense to the accusations presented to the Board. He admitted he has met with the institutions regarding the fee issue and did not request other Executive Committee members to attend a meeting with him.</p> <p>Vice Chair gave the President a warning at 8:06pm and requested he be respectful to the Board.</p> <p>An Observer noted that this is not the first time the President has made inappropriate comments on Facebook, at the start of his term he shared a post referring to "Call of Duty" and women belonging at home.</p> <p>An observer requested to hear from the Board member that "liked" the Presidents recent post on Facebook. The Board member apologized for his actions and apologized to the observers at the meeting stating his intent was not to hurt anyone. He agreed to attend any training sessions that are set up.</p> <p>Vice Chair stated he would like to take a different approach and ask the President questions and have the President respond to the questions. The President refused to answer the questions.</p> <p>The President further attempted to defend the allegations and his actions to the Board and observers. He finished at 8:58pm and left the Board meeting at the conclusion of his presentation.</p> <p>VP of University Affairs clarified to the observers the reasons for in-camera sessions. They are held to protect employees if the matters discussed are HR issues or legal matters. He also stated that the By-Laws do not allow the Board of Directors to fire a President. If Members want to remove a President they can call Special Meeting to pass a motion.</p> <p>It was suggested that mediation between the President and Outreach be arranged to allow the LGBTQ Centre the opportunity to voice their concerns regarding his actions. The Executive Director suggested the motion presented be amended to add the Executive Committee meet with the LGBTQ Centre to discuss next steps.</p>	
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	<p>Moved by Jasleen Hora; seconded by Jeremy Baarbe;</p> <p><b>That The Student Association at Durham College and UOIT amend the motion to add: Be it resolved that the Executive Committee, excluding the President, meet with the LGBTQ Centre to discuss appropriate courses of action.</b> <b>Motion Carried</b></p> <p>VP of University Affairs called the question.</p> <p>Board of Directors voted on the amended motion. <b>Motion Carried Unanimously</b></p>	
TERMINATION	<p><b><u>Termination of the Meeting</u></b></p> <p>Moved by Jeremy Baarbe; seconded by Mikki Decker;</p> <p><b>That The Student Association at Durham College and UOIT Board of Directors approve terminating the meeting at 9:17pm.</b> <b>Motion Carried</b></p>	

**TERMINATION**

The meeting was terminated at 9:17pm.