



TMSU
TORONTO METROPOLITAN
STUDENTS' UNION

SEMI - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
REPORT

Reporting Period: May 2023 to November 2023

Dated: December 5, 2023

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Letter From The Executive:

Thank you for your participation in student governance over the past two academic terms. TMSU has weathered many challenges this reporting period ranging from online misinformation to in-person harassment of our members and staff. Despite all of the challenges faced, the TMSU today is not the TMSU it was two years ago.

The current executive team, through their honest work and commitment, has facilitated a powerful transformation, making TMSU more accountable than before. From its first clean audit, to creating policies that reflect the current practices and improve fairness within the TMSU, this team has been instrumental in shifting the reputation of the organization and continuing to rebuild with the institutional memory of experienced staff.

TMSU today operates under more cautious and extensive financial oversight with more transparent allocation of resources that reach students' whether it's accessing free groceries, or speaking with the free lawyer.

In the short term we have been entrusted with, this executive team has worked daily to address accountability and centre the systemic issues on campus while continuing to advocate for students in the areas of food insecurity, sexual violence support, and campus safety.

Through the Equity Service Centres we have ensured that our initiatives are community-based, staying authentic to the experience and needs of equity-seeking students that each centre represents. We recognize there are a host of issues affecting our members from affordable housing to food insecurity, students are faced with more obstacles than finishing their degree.

We have advocated for more services on campus to address these issues for members in our monthly meetings with the University administration, like the Office of the Vice-Provost Students and the Office of the President and through representation in committees across campus

It has been a very busy summer as we planned many successful events, including a contingent float in the Toronto Pride parade, a concert with internationally renowned artists, and Welcome Week packed with opportunities from free breakfast to having fun connecting with other students. We have also provided need-based grants for students, and heard feedback from members on improving our food bank operations.

This July and August months executives attended the Canadian Federation of Students' Skills Symposium held at York University campus, as well as the Canadian Federation of Students' Ontario meeting, our provincial student union. At those meetings, executives gained governance, event planning and finance knowledge to apply in their portfolio work.

In addition, they were able to represent and speak to specific TMU student issues and receive advice and feedback about areas like how to negotiate with university administration on behalf of students. The almost week-long conference also allowed the team to foster new connections with executives of other students' unions and discuss issues collectively affecting students across Ontario campuses.

This fall our student communities have been deeply impacted by war and conflict in the Middle East. We requested expedited academic accommodations, and held space to hear the concerns of students. TMSU's management staff investigated issues that were reported to us to ensure that students felt safe on campus and put the well-being of TMSU's members first.

Over the past six months, we continue to work to ensure our events and services are accessible in hybrid form where possible, to meet all our members' accessibility needs.

Recognizing that the majority of members are on campus, the TMSU offices remain open from 10 am to 6 pm. Our team has engaged in a series of meaningful outreach efforts on campus, including our latest exam destressor kits distribution to support students during exam time.

Now, with the rising costs of living, we need to be unapologetic in demanding affordable education for both domestic and international students. We encourage members to get involved with TMSU whether that is volunteering, running for an elected position or starting a campaign. The TMSU is here to amplify student voices and ignite change. We urge you to recognize the power we hold when we unite together for a greater purpose.

In Solidarity,

TMSU Executive Members

Marina Gerges

Ra'eesa Baksh

Nathan Sugunalan

Kishore Thavaneethan

Organizational Updates

Board of Directors

Thank you to our Interim Board of Directors serving from May 1, 2023 to December 10, 2023.

Marina Gerges, President

Nathan Sugunalan, Vice-President Operations

Vacant, Vice-President Education

Ra'eesa Baksh, Vice-President Equity

Kishore Thavaneethan, Vice-President Student Life

Maria Eula Faye Beltran, Faculty of Arts Director

Gus Cousins, Creative School Director

Jana Alnajjar, Faculty of Community Services Director

Joanna Eaton, Faculty of Community Services Director

Patricia Doan, Faculty of Engineering and Architectural Science Director

Makeen Syed, Faculty of Engineering and Architectural Science Director

Bahar Taghizadeh, Faculty of Science Director

Claire Barnes, Faculty of Science Director

Kabir Khanna, Ted Rogers School of Management Director

Fatima Sheikh, Lincoln School of Law Management

Victor Ola-Matthew, International Student Director

Fatima Salah, Course Union Director

Asy Kasam, Student Groups Director

Board of Directors

Below is the Board of Directors effective December 11, 2023 to April 30, 2024

Nikole Dan, President

Aleksander Strazisar, Vice-President Operations

Hetu Patel, Vice-President Education

Patricia Doan, Vice-President Equity

Nadir Janjua, Vice-President Student Life

Andrew Ciddio, Faculty of Arts Director

Jason Ramsay, Faculty of Arts Director

Hasan Tahir, Faculty of Engineering and Architectural Science Director

Ariana Zuniga, Faculty of Engineering and Architectural Science Director

Aneesha Katyara, Faculty of Science Director

Fatima Sheikh, Lincoln School of Law Management

Victor Ufot, Lincoln School of Law Management

Mohammad Khan, International Student Director

Fatima Salah, Course Union Director

Asy Kasam, Student Groups Director

Elections

The TMSU hosted the by-election from October 30 - November 22, 2023. As per the Addendum to the Special Decision of the Elections and Referenda Committee, the purpose of the Fall 2023 by-election was to re-elect the entire TMSU Board of Directors that were otherwise appointed after the General Election held in the Winter 2023 semester was canceled.

During the validation period of the by-election it was found that elections would only be held for Executive candidates, as all of the Faculty Director positions were acclaimed. There are still vacant positions for the following Faculty Director positions:

- Community Services (2 positions)
- Science (1 positions)
- Creative School (2 positions)
- Ted Rogers School of Management (2 positions)

This newly elected Executive Committee will post the vacant positions and interview candidates from them. The Board will then vote to elect which candidate they believe best suits the position as per TMSU by-law 4.17.

The ratification of the by-election results occurred on December 1, 2023, the ratification motion also included a start date of December 11, 2023 for the new team to officially take office.

Policy and Governance

The TMSU by-laws were completely rewritten and adopted by the membership at the December 1, 2022 Semi-Annual General Meeting.

The by-laws included a long-overdue re-working that ultimately reduced the size of the board, introduced External Directors, established new committees and archived or reworked existing committees, established membership rights and responsibilities and clarified procedures for General Meetings, Board Meetings and Committee Meetings, amongst other major changes.

The TMSU continues to implement the new by-laws and is currently reviewing and proposing operating policies to better enforce the new by-laws.

Human Resources

TMSU currently employs 14 permanent staff and approximately 30 contract student staff, mostly through the TMU Career Boost program. TMSU was able to provide student work opportunities during the spring and summer of 2023 through the Canada Summer Jobs program and has applied for funding for the upcoming 2024 spring and summer sessions. As TMSU's operational needs evolve with the membership needs, the management team will work to ensure that services like Student Grants, the Lost and Found, and reception desk coordination are a priority in the new year.

All of the student workers at the TMSU have expressed interest in staying on in the Winter 2024 term and management has proceeded with ensuring those roles are filled so that the services have continuation for the membership.

This fall, we bid farewell to TMSU's Programming Director Corey Scott, and congratulate them as they pursue their career goals. The TMSU is also in the process of filling the vacancy for the full-time Equity & Campaigns Organizer position.

Staff Appreciation

TMSU's services, campaigns, & events would not be possible without the help of our incredible staff members. We thank you all for your commitment to students and willingness to engage in all of the tasks necessary for a well-functioning students' union that stays true to the needs of students.

We are sending a very warm thank you to all of our part-time staff members, for their enthusiasm and commitment to TMSU's work. Thank you for creating a lively office culture at TMSU this year. Your presence is appreciated. Thank you to the Good Food Centre Team for your outstanding commitment to food security on campus, not just keeping the food bank operating but, doing so equitably, and taking on collaborations, seeking out donations, and planning events and activities beyond job expectations.

In the area of student services and health & dental benefits, we would like to thank Aqib Masood for their outstanding frontline work and commitment to creating a warm and approachable space for members. In addition, thank you to our in-house lawyer, Bill Reid, for aiding students in their legal concerns and making himself easily available to the members who need advice.

Thank you to Hector Flores for his knowledge and support in representing students who are in serious conflict with the University, and creating better outcomes that help students to succeed.

We would also like to thank Ranj Dheria for ensuring TMSU's graphics are creative, accessible, and timely, and for accepting our last minute projects!

Thank you to Ashlee Verma, our CopyRITE Coordinator for her invaluable knowledge of print and generous mentoring and guidance to the student staff with sharing her skills. Thank you to Danielle Beckford for your dedication to all our campus groups' operations, and for being such an important link between the groups and their access to funds and space. Thank you Rita Kandola for your dedication to the success of TMSU's events, for going above and beyond to ensure that all events are well supported and staffed, above traditional work hours.

Thank you to Sam DeFranco our Centre for Safer Sex and Sexual Violence Support Coordinator for leading with passion and empathy, and providing a space that is comforting for students and staff alike.

TMSU would also like to recognize the significant work of Corey Scott, who has transformed the efficiency of TMSU's governance, programming and communications.

Lastly, thank you to Priya Paul for her strong sense of ethics which have underscored TMSU's financial health recovery. Thank you for making your knowledge and expertise accessible to the organization, ensuring all our staff are paid on time for their work, and for supporting TMSU through yet another clean audit.

Thank you all for an amazing year!

Communications

Outreach

The TMSU has sought to conduct outreach as much as possible. This has proven easier said than done in a post-pandemic environment with increased regulation of university spaces. The TMSU is regularly conducting outreach outside the SCC and is attempting to recruit volunteers to assist with outreach in popular spaces around campus.

E-Newsletter

The TMSU relaunched the weekly e-newsletter in the Fall Term. This is an effective messaging tool to ensure that members are aware of the events, campaigns and services of the TMSU as well as important governance updates. The TMSU is now accepting campus groups and community groups content for the newsletter. Reminders for content are sent weekly with a Friday deadline.

Social Media

The TMSU primarily functions through Instagram but has attempted to have a presence on X, LinkedIn, Reddit, Tik Tok and Discord. The TMSU is launching weekly showcases for campus groups events and opportunities each week. Reminders for content are sent weekly with a Thursday deadline.

Website

The TMSU relaunched a home-made website in Fall 2023 with a new layout of content. The website is the primary location for updates on all TMSU programs and services.

Volunteers and Street Team

The TMSU is in the process of relaunching the Street Team which has historically been effective at promoting the work of the students' union and creating engaging and creative outreach tools for the members to get involved in.

The Street Team is composed of three appointed executive members who will oversee a team of thirty Street Team members who will help with everything from outreach to events to social media to marketing. The Street Team has started onboarding and training for a relaunch in January 2024.

The TMSU has a number of important volunteer teams related to Orientation & Week of Welcome, Good Food Centre and the Centre for Safer Sex and Sexual Violence Support.

We greatly appreciate all of the support that members lend to running these programs with their dedicated energy.

Finances

The TMSU has successfully completed the 2022-2023 fiscal year audit by the required October deadline. These financial statements will be presented by the TMSU's external auditors - BDO during the SAGM and available for members' reference on our website. The TMSU remains in good financial standing and provided a "clean" audit. We also rotate our auditors, to ensure the most impartial review possible of our operations.

TMSU remains in a healthy budget position. The complete return to in-person classes for full-time members has resulted in an increase in common expenses for in-person programming. The board of directors continues to approve major additional expenses and hold discussions about potential areas for growth, identifying revenue generating opportunities or the feasibility of new services for TMSU.

Our financial processes are focused on maintaining accountability within the organization which can sometimes mean longer wait times for reimbursement or payment, with several approval steps involved. TMSU is working on implementing new policies, which include a segregation of duties amongst TMSU staff members . This extra precaution protects the organization from financial fraud and keeps Management and Executives accountable as we have hundreds of transactions per week to track, with a high turnover of financial officers. We continue to encourage campus groups and our events' teams to submit their requests early, to ensure there is time to meet all the requirements of our financial policy.

Management staff are working on balancing our strict financial processes while shortening the turnaround time for payments.

Sponsorship

The TMSU focused on soliciting sponsorship over the Summer and Fall months to help off-set the cost of hosting large events and implementing large projects. The students' union was able to re-implement programs like the Handbook & Dayplanner with significant success. Sponsorship for Orientation and Week of Welcome also increased substantially with increased interest in Gould Street outreach. The students' union continues to seek out additional sponsors for the Winter Term.



Campaigns and Advocacy

Policy Advocacy

A priority of the TMSU is to advocate for improving all aspects of our education at the university. This ranges from advocating for free / affordable education to supporting students with issues in the classroom. The TMSU participates in a number of campus working groups including:

Sexual Violence Policy

Members of the TMSU Executive Committee and staff of the Centre for Safer Sex and Sexual Violence Support meet with the policy review managers of the TMU Sexual Violence Policy in October 2023.

The students' union provided feedback on a number of the review committee's areas of focus, with a specific focus on making alternative resolutions more accessible, ensuring continued resources are allocated to Consent Comes First and improving the long-term support for supporting survivors.

The students' union has also worked with the All-Union Coalition to share feedback and advocacy notes regarding the policy. The TMSU will be providing additional feedback on the policy during the second review in January.

Policy 60 Review

The Student Advocacy Coordinator has been actively participating in Policy 60: Academic Misconduct, and works closely with sister students' unions in putting forth recommendations.

Municipal Elections

The City of Toronto had a unique opportunity to host a by-election for the Mayor of Toronto in June 2023.

The TMSU hosted a Get Out the Vote campaign with information on advanced voting, municipal governance education and assisting in outreach at a mayoral debate on campus on May 31, 2023 with Democratic Engagement Exchange.

CUPE 233 Strike

In April and May 2023, CUPE 233 workers - representing custodians, grounds keepers and maintenance workers at Toronto Metropolitan University.

Workers held a historic strike action with daily pickets and regular actions to call the university back to the bargaining table.

The students' union was able to provide minor picket support and resources and worked with the All-Union Campus Coalition to release information and statements relating to the strike action.

READ MORE: <https://yourtmsu.ca/solidarity-with-cupe-233-members/>

All-Union Coalition

The TMSU has been working to rebuild relationships with the All-Union Coalition to achieve greater advocacy success for students and workers on campus. The Coalition is made up of students' union and labour union representatives where we meet to discuss ongoing issues, points of collaboration and information sharing. The Coalition has been active in conversations on health and safety issues, collective bargaining updates and sharing information and perspectives on university budget decision making.



Services

Members' Health and Dental Plan

Overview

All full-time members of the Toronto Metropolitan Students' Union are automatically enrolled in the TMSU's Health and Dental Plan (unless they opted out in the past), which offers coverage from September 1 to August 31 of each year. The Plan is designed to offer extended health & dental benefits coverage to students and to provide protection and security for eligible students to minimize the effects of injury or ailments.

The Plan supplements any individual health care expenses not covered by the provincial health care plan.

The Health and Dental Plan enhances the basic coverage students require to stay healthy and be well for their studies.

The insurance is provided by Green Shield Canada. Some of the most popular benefits used by our membership include:

- Prescription Drugs
- Counselling Services
- Chiropractic Care
- Registered Massage Therapy
- Dental Check-ups and Cleanings
- Wisdom teeth removal

Over the past few years we have greatly improved the way students opt-out and integrated it with the University systems, so that all full-time students that had successfully opted out, will be credited on their MyServiceHub account, and going forward, the student will not be charged the health and dental fee. If a student loses their alternate coverage they used to opt into the plan, they can opt back in within 30 days of losing coverage or in the upcoming fall, by visiting the benefits plan office or our website.

New Benefits and Services – Fall 2023

TMSU continues to improve the plans for our members and we are pleased to announce enhanced coverage specifically for the counselling and dental benefits:

- Inclusion of services provided by Registered Psychotherapists along with Social Worker (MSW) and Registered Psychologists upto a combined maximum of \$1000 per benefit year.
- Inclusion of 10% coverage for Orthodontics amongst other dental benefits upto an overall yearly maximum of \$750 per benefit year.
- All eligible students enrolled in the TMSU Health and dental plan now also have access to mylegal plan where they can get legal assistance and support through an online legal portal by creating an account

Members' Health and Dental Plan

New Benefits and Services – Fall 2023

It is notable that among the claims processed by Greenshield, 53% of the health claims are from the drug category and below are the top 10 prescription drugs:

Rank	Prescription Drug Name	Therapeutic Class
1	GARDASIL 9 VACCINE	Disease Prevention Vaccines
2	VYVANSE 40MG CAPSULE	Central Nervous System Agent
3	VYVANSE 30MG CAPSULE	Central Nervous System Agent
4	APO-EMTRICITABINE/TENOFOVIR 200/300MG TABLET	Antiretroviral
5	VYVANSE 10MG CAPSULE	Central Nervous System Agent
6	VYVANSE 20MG CAPSULE	Central Nervous System Agent
7	ALYSENA 28 TABLET	Birth Control
8	DUPIXENT 300MG/2ML PRE-FILLED SYRINGE	Skin Disorders
9	VYVANSE 50MG CAPSULE	Central Nervous System Agent
10	SYMBICORT 200 TURBUHALER	Allergies/Respiratory Diseases

Similarly, 53% of the drugs claimed are from the dental exam category.

Marketing and Awareness Campaigns

To ensure that students are well supported and well informed about the Plan's service, outreach was conducted via mass emails to the membership along with social media campaigns and successful tabling sessions during the orientation weeks. The marketing campaigns not only encouraged students to use the plan but also informed them of their ability to opt out if they have additional coverage by the deadline date. To encourage students to use the service, we also did a contest and gave away an apple watch to one lucky student at TMSU.



Mywellness – Mental Health Program

We continue to offer mywellness, which is a service focused on mental health and well-being resources, which started in 2015. The information and tools available through mywellness have been developed to assist students in increasing and/or sustaining optimal mental health, so they can maintain a productive and positive lifestyle while completing their studies.

The program guides students through their struggles with a self-advocating, self-empowering, and feelings to words methodology. It was designed and implemented for Canadian post-secondary students.

Mental Health Self-Assessment

The program provides students with anonymous and confidential access to a mental health assessment and takes them through a series of questions, which takes 5-10 minutes. The student's answers generate a personalized action plan, and where applicable, a treatment plan and a follow-up program. These can be shared with their on campus physician, counselor or family physician, simply by printing it out or sending by email, right from the responsive designed webpage. The questions have been set up to help students identify common issues like generalized anxiety and depression, but also focuses on student centered issues like adjustment disorder, eating disorders, and sleeping disorders. Students can also access the Toolbox items, barrier-free, and instantly have resources at their fingertips; such as tools for stress reduction and for managing your symptoms.

Financial Wellness

Everyone needs financial coaching and educational instruction. KOFE provides students with knowledge of financial education through various online and in-person supports that you need to take control of your finances and feel more empowered. KOFE webinars are occurred for this reason and students are given financial education as well as provided tools that can help them such as financial publications and budgeting calculators.

Online Video Counselling

Online counselling is also available directly through mywellness, which helps students to access certified counsellors at times that are convenient to students, such as evenings and weekends. It is much more affordable than traditional methods and we believe fits well with the schedule of many students.

From September 1st, 2022 – August 31st, 2023, 179 students registered for Online Video Counselling. For the same date range 544 Online Video Counselling sessions were completed through the mywellness platform with a satisfaction rate of 92.1%. Out of these sessions, 8.45% were on a weekend and 22.4% were completed between 5pm-Midnight. TMSU students can access 3-hours of free counselling through mywellness.

Please check out; mywellnessplan.ca/tmsu, to get your check-up from the neck-up and access supports based on each members unique needs.

Online Video Counselling

Please visit our website:

www.mystudentplan.ca/tmsu

for more information, details on coverage, and forms and resources.

If you need any assistance related to your plan, feel free to contact:

The Benefits Plan Office in the main lobby of the SCC building at 55 Gould Street.

Academic Advocacy

The Academic Advocacy office works to represent and support students with their grade and standing appeals, academic misconduct accusations, fee appeals, other academic issues, and non-academic misconducts. Accusations can range from cheating on an exam, to plagiarism, to breaking the non-academic conduct rules (i.e. smoking indoors). Our Academic Advocates can provide advice, refer you to resources, and even accompany students to disciplinary hearings and advocate on your behalf.

Academic Advocacy

Below are the statistics of who accessed our academic advocacy resources from January 9 - March 30, 2023:

<u>Total number of students supported:</u>	<u>232+</u>
<u>Standing/Grade appeals:</u>	<u>49.2%</u>
<u>Misconduct appeals:</u>	<u>20.9%</u>
<u>Retroactive Withdrawal Requests:</u>	<u>2.2%</u>
<u>Fee Appeals:</u>	<u>1.3%</u>
<u>Other Academic Issues:</u>	<u>8.5%</u>
<u>Non-academic misconduct issue:</u>	<u>1.9%</u>

Below are the statistics of who accessed our academic advocacy resources from March 31 - November 30, 2023:

<u>Total number of students supported:</u>	<u>292+</u>
<u>Standing/Grade appeals:</u>	<u>39%</u>
<u>Misconduct appeals:</u>	<u>33.1%</u>
<u>Retroactive Withdrawal Requests:</u>	<u>2.0%</u>
<u>Fee Appeals:</u>	<u>2.8%</u>
<u>Other Academic Issues:</u>	<u>23.1%</u>
<u>Non-academic misconduct issue:</u>	<u>0%</u>

Academic Advocacy

The students' union will be re-implementing the advocacy intake form to better collect this information for a larger report.

The TMSU collaborated with the Toronto Metropolitan Association of Part-time Students, Toronto Metropolitan Graduate Students' Union, Fresh Start and Ombuds Office on appeals workshops on "How to Write Strong Appeal Letters" and "What are my Options?" In addition, TMSU has been actively participating in the discussions to update Policy 60.

Legal Clinic

The legal service is operated by Bill Reid, our in-house lawyer. Bill is accessible daily via email, and also meets virtually or in person when appropriate. Students are able to receive advice and assistance regarding a wide range of legal issues.

Over the past year, Bill has served approximately 400 TMSU members, most frequently with respect to the following areas of law.

Housing, approximately 25%: Students often find that their landlords don't maintain the premises as they should, or that they attempt to increase the rent or evict them unlawfully. Bill helps students to resolve such issues, including helping them to draft correspondence with their landlords and to properly complete Landlord and Tenant Board forms. To a lesser extent, students also experience conflicts with roommates and with neighbours, and sometimes they just need information so that they understand their own responsibilities more clearly.

Family law, approximately 15%: Many students are in relationships, and/or have children, and experience challenges such as separation or abuse. As a first step, they usually need information about their rights. However, Bill also helps them to communicate and negotiate with other parties, and if necessary to complete family court forms.

Employment law, approximately 15%: Because so many students work while attending school, they also experience violation of their workplace rights, and to a lesser extent workplace injuries. Bill also helps them to understand and negotiate employment agreements.

Other civil matters, approximately 10%: Students are sometimes injured in motor vehicle accidents, or in accidental falls, and the legal service helps them to understand their rights and to negotiate appropriate compensation. Students also sometimes lend money to others, or are lent money, and when such debts aren't repaid, Bill helps them to complete small claims court forms, to negotiate settlements whenever possible, and to navigate the various stages of the court system.

Ontario Student Assistance Program, approximately 15%: Students who qualify to receive OSAP grants or loans are often required to provide sworn affidavits to prove aspects of their personal situations for which they don't have other evidence. Bill drafts and notarizes a large number of such affidavits, and also assists students with other aspects of the OSAP system, such as appeals.

Other administrative matters, approximately 5%: Bill also drafts and notarizes documents for purposes other than OSAP, and assists students in dealing with government agencies, including helping them to complete applications to agencies such as the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario.

Criminal and Provincial Offences, approximately 5%: Students are sometimes charged with crimes, and also with provincial offenses such as Highway Traffic Act offenses. Bill helps them to understand their options, and depending on their respective situations, helps them to negotiate an appropriate resolution without the need for a trial, or to represent themselves at trial.

Immigration, approximately 5%: Bill cooperates with the University's International Student Support department to ensure that international students are aware of their rights and responsibilities, and where appropriate to assist them with the completion of documentation.

Corporate and Commercial Law, approximately 5%: To their credit, many students express an interest in starting a business, either while attending school or upon graduation. Bill helps them to understand the different forms that a business may take and to establish their businesses in whatever is the best way for each, and also helps them to create contracts and other documentation for use in their businesses.

Corporate and Commercial Law, approximately 5%: To their credit, many students express an interest in starting a business, either while attending school or upon graduation. Bill helps them to understand the different forms that a business may take and to establish their businesses in whatever is the best way for each, and also helps them to create contracts and other documentation for use in their businesses.

Emergency Bursary

The Emergency Bursary is the TMSU's main financial support for students who express and demonstrate financial need as a result of a loss of income, illness or other unexpected urgency. Each applicant is eligible for up to \$500 dollars per semester. For the first time ever, the Emergency Bursary was opened over the summer semester (May, June, July & August).

This was to better address the emergency financial needs of students who would come to us over the summer, as we understood that emergencies don't only happen over the academic year. For the summer semester the Emergency Bursary was allocated a budget of \$5,000 with the possibility for increase if deemed necessary. With the number of Emergency Bursary approvals for the summer semester being 11, no increase in bursary was needed at the payout accounted to \$4,250. The usage of this service was much lower compared to an academic semester. Last year's Winter Semester there were 42 recipients with an allocated budget of \$115,000 and a payout of \$24,050. As of this writing, the Fall 2023 semester has 27 recipients with an allocated budget of \$25,000 with a payout around \$8,375.

Front Desk Services

Lost & Found

The TMSU front desk on SCC's third floor is the center for Lost and Found on campus and is operational during office hours from Monday-Friday 10 am - 6 pm. Students, Faculty, Staff, Visitors and many other people that are on campus and have lost their valuables are able to find them through this service that TMSU offers.

Grad Photos

The TMSU facilitates graduate photo services with Lassman Studios to provide discounted photos and free class composites. The partnership runs year round with graduates able to book appointments through the Lassman Studios website. Composites are printed in the Spring Term and distributed at Spring Convocation or available at the TMSU Front Desk.

Tax Clinic

The Tax Clinic is a free tax filing service hosted by the TMSU as part of the Canada Revenue Agency's Community Volunteer Income Tax Program. All students are welcomed to volunteer at the tax clinic, and finance background is not necessary as the CRA trains all volunteers on U-file to support students. The tax clinic will run during tax season in the coming Winter semester by appointments only for all students on campus.

CopyRite Printing

CopyRITE is one of the main revenue generating services that the TMSU runs every year. After being closed for two years because of the pandemic and a full renovation, the shop opened in November of 2022 and successfully operated for the 2022-2023 year.

Despite the challenges that the shop ran into, we did manage to build strong connections with various departments throughout the university and were part of some incredible events; such as the School of Interior Design's End of Year Show and CERC Migration's Annual Conference. We have also played an integral part in helping numerous student groups and student unions in marketing themselves and getting their message out to the university.

Ultimately, the main goal at CopyRITE was to be the most affordable and convenient print shop for not only TMU students, but all customers in the area – and we have maintained that. Our most popular services continue to be wide format color printing which is especially popular during conferences held throughout the year, standard color printing and binding/finishing services. The shop is staffed by a group of TMU students that are well-versed in the world of print that keep the shop open from 10:00am-6:00pm from Monday to Friday. Being a 'Student Owned and Operated' print shop has set us apart, as we know exactly how to handle the individual needs of every and any with the utmost care and attention.

As we continue to drive positive results in the shop, CopyRITE will only continue to be able to offer more services that will help students and the TMSU as a whole service.

Centre for Safer Sex and Sexual Violence Support

c3ssvs@yourtmsu.ca | [@safersex.tmsu](https://www.instagram.com/safersex.tmsu) | c3ssvs.ca

Sexual Assault Survivor Support Line

The Sexual Assault Survivor Support Line (SASSL) is a free, anonymous, and confidential support line for survivors (or friends of survivors) of sexual or gender based violence that gives students access to our team of peer support volunteers trained in providing judgement free support and directing them to any on- or off-campus resources they may benefit from.

SASSL continues to be run by a team of 50+ peer support volunteers, all of whom have completed the 10 hour training program. So far this year we have run one training session and will run another one in the winter semester to maintain those numbers.

Hours: 10am - Midnight; 365 days a year

Additional Survivor Supports

C3SVS recognizes that our chat line service doesn't meet the needs of every survivor, and therefore offers several additional survivor supports beyond SASSL.

These include:

- Weekly Drop-In Office Hours (Tuesday and Thursday 12-3pm)
- One-on-One Support Meetings with the C3SVS Coordinator
- Long Term Counselling Support Through the Toronto Rape Crisis Centre
- A Resource Guide With 105 Pages of Easily Searchable Local Support Services
- 30+ Regularly Updated Pamphlets/Brochures Detailing Answers to Frequently Asked Questions About Survivor Experiences, Coping Strategies, and The Journey to Healing

Consent Education

The best way to reduce sexual violence is to increase consent education, so a large part of our work this year has focused on building a consent culture at TMU. This was done mainly through a Three-Pronged Approach to Education.

In-Person Outreach

C3SVS has worked hard to ensure as many students as possible are aware of our services and can access support if they need it.

The first three weeks of the semester we tabled regularly outside the SCC and on Gould St as part of various orientation community fairs in order to connect with students. C3SVS also attended all TMSU Pub Nights to talk to students about consent and give out safer sex supplies.

Campaigns

A huge part of our educational strategy was to have campaigns focused on engaging students and helping them unlearn concepts which contribute to rape culture. We did this through various major and minor campaigns:

Major Campaign: Better Bathrooms

Our Better Bathrooms campaign has focused on raising awareness, educating, and getting feedback on the state of the bathrooms at TMU. We are working on improving safety, accessibility, and cleanliness of the TMU bathrooms by calling for dedicated funding to improve current bathrooms and new policies to ensure future bathrooms are built with these priorities.

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Major Campaign: Five Senses of Consent

We partnered with Health Promotions and Residence to create a unique approach to consent education. Focusing on everyday consent through examples using the five senses, this campaign aimed to educate about consent without having to focus explicitly on sex.

Major Campaign: Trans Wellbeing

We partnered with the Trans Collective and Tri-Mentoring Program to create the Gender-Affirming Gear Grant to ensure trans students were able to access important gender affirming gear in an equitable and safe way. We also worked to educate about what gender affirming gear is and its importance for trans students, while learning from trans students how we could best support them and reduce transphobia at TMU.

Social Media Campaigns

Educating students using social media remains a very effective tool at TMU, and we ran several social media exclusive campaigns on topics we felt were important and timely.

- Art and Queer Resilience
- Rejection Resilience
- A Letter to Survivors
- I Am Not a Costume

Consent-Themed Events

One of our top strategies for building a consent culture on campus was to have consent and equity themed programming. Here is a list of some of the events we hosted this year.

Empowerment Self Defense

September 12th and 14th / 12-1:30 & 5-6:30

Empowerment Self Defense was a two-part series focusing on helping students feel and be safer within intimate relationships, familial relationships, and around strangers.

Set Your Boundaries

November 8th, 2022 | 6:30pm- 8:30pm

Set Your Boundaries was a night of games, education, and discussion on how to discover your boundaries and how to have discussions on setting boundaries. Participants left with a better understanding of their boundaries and how to have conversations about them, and this group was so engaged it spawned a group chat with follow up meetings.

Healthy Dating and Self Defence

Weekly on Tuesdays in the Fall Semester | 6pm- 7:30pm

This closed group allowed participants to meet weekly to discuss and build their relationship skills over time. The program focused on empowering participants to enforce their boundaries, and covered topics such as identifying red flags in relationships, safety in navigating breakups, and basic self defense tactics.

Queer Sex Ed

October 4th, 2023| 6-7:30pm

For this event, expert Eva Bloom helped students expand beyond the limited sex education they had been given in a pleasure-focused, queer and trans-inclusive, myth-busting workshop.

No Time to Wait Conference

October 20th & 21st, 2023 | All day

This two-day youth conference hosted by LetsStopAIDS is the largest Youth HIV Conference. We worked with LetsStopAIDS to host the conference at TMU so that as many TMU students as possible could attend.

The Stories We Tell Workshop

October 18th & 19th, 2023 | All day

This two-day workshop hosted by Nellies Shelter brought in an expert in the field to host a writing workshop for survivors as an alternative and addition to traditional therapy.

BDSM 101

November 1st, 2023 | 6-7:30pm

For this event experts from Come As You Are gave an introduction to BDSM and how to engage in BDSM practices safely and consensually. Our goal for this semester was to normalize all forms of sexual expression and give students the education they were asking for, and this event definitely did that. This was our best attended event of the semester.

Trauma-Informed Pole Dancing Lessons

November 21st, 2023 | 11am-5pm

On November 21st we brought in a professional pole dancer to lead individual, trauma-informed empowerment pole dancing lessons throughout the day.

Safer Sex & Menstrual Supplies

C3SVS offers all students access to safer sex supplies and menstrual health supplies. In order to ensure everyone can access these supplies in a safe and comfortable way, we offer a wide variety of products and pick-up options.

Product List:

- *External (Traditional) Condoms (20+ varieties including different sizes, brands, materials, and flavours)*
- *Insertive Condoms*
- *Dental Dams (Latex and Latex-Free)*
- *Lubricant (10+ varieties with different ingredients, possible allergens, and main uses)*
- *Menstrual Pads (4 different varieties, specific requests available)*
- *Tampons (3 different varieties, specific requests available)*
- *Menstrual Cups/ Disks/ Reusable Pads*
- *Pregnancy Tests*
- *Emergency Contraceptives*
- *HIV testing kits*

Pick-Up Options:

- Order Online, Pick Up Confidentially in Sealed, Unlabeled Paper Bag
- Drop By During Office Hours/ By Appointment
- Monthly Extended- Hour Menstrual Kit Pickups the First Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of the Month (No Registration Required)
- Cheque Reimbursements For Emergency Products (ie. Emergency Contraceptive, Pregnancy Tests)

Statistics:

We are seeing an across the board increase in students utilizing our safer sex and menstrual health supply services, likely related to both increased awareness of the Centre and cost of living increases.

- *Emergency Reimbursements: 29*
- *Online Safer Sex and Menstrual Health Supplies Orders: 300+*
- *Menstrual Kit Pick-Up: Average of 150 Every Month*

Good Food Centre

Operations

The Good Food Centre Fall and Winter 2024 opening hours are Tuesdays from 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm; Wednesdays from 1:00 pm to 6:30 pm, and Thursdays from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Every Tuesday, the Daily Bread Food Bank delivery arrives and our team of dedicated volunteers and student staff assist in transferring all the groceries to the centre, and unpacking and cleaning up all the packaging waste in time for opening. The Good Food Centre is open in the afternoons from Tuesday through Thursday every week.

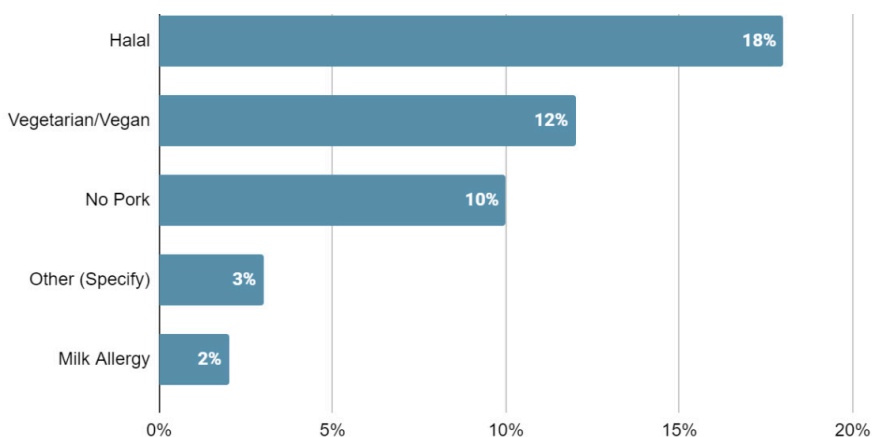
The TMSU uses Link2Feed in order to manage the database and enroll users for their membership cards at the Good Food Centre. Through barcodes on the membership cards, the staff are able to track the points that members have used so that users are able to stay within the weekly allowance. Every single user of the Good Food Centre must register with Link2Feed, and provide signed consent for their data to be collected and used.

This fall, the Good Food Centre engaged a number of journalism students on campus on the topic of food insecurity, doing at least one interview each week. The centre also hosted three volunteer training sessions to maintain the robust number of volunteers. The software Sling is used to manage and coordinate volunteer shifts. Currently, the Good Food Centre is running a Holiday Food Drive, and also giving away three special hampers to members in preparation for the winter holiday season.

In the period from May 2023 to now, the Good Food Centre saw 200 first time users to the service. During the summer months, the number of individual users per week ranges from approximately 70 to 95 per week. Including their dependents, the number of individuals benefiting from our services ranges from approximately 70 to 145 per week. From the start of the Fall term, the number of individual users per week increased to approximately 110 to 140 per week. Including their dependents, the number of individuals benefiting from our services ranges from approximately 170 to 200 per week.

Dietary & Food Needs

For unique users who have visited at least once during the period, the top 5 dietary considerations are:



Foods in High Demand with Low Supply

1. Frozen Halal Protein
2. Eggs
3. Milk
4. Bread
5. Yogurt
6. Fresh produce (e.g. melons, eggplants, tomatoes, grapes, oranges)
7. Frozen dinner/ convenience frozen foods
8. Instant or Rolled Oats
9. Canned tuna/salmon
10. Canned soup
11. Flour: all purpose and whole wheat
12. Legumes (dried or canned)

User Demographics

The following data is collected on Link2Feed, and does not indicate or identify a lack of need in any community. It is also significant to note that a significant number of International students rely on the Good Food Centre for their meals.

• Gender:

53% Women Identified

45% Men Identified

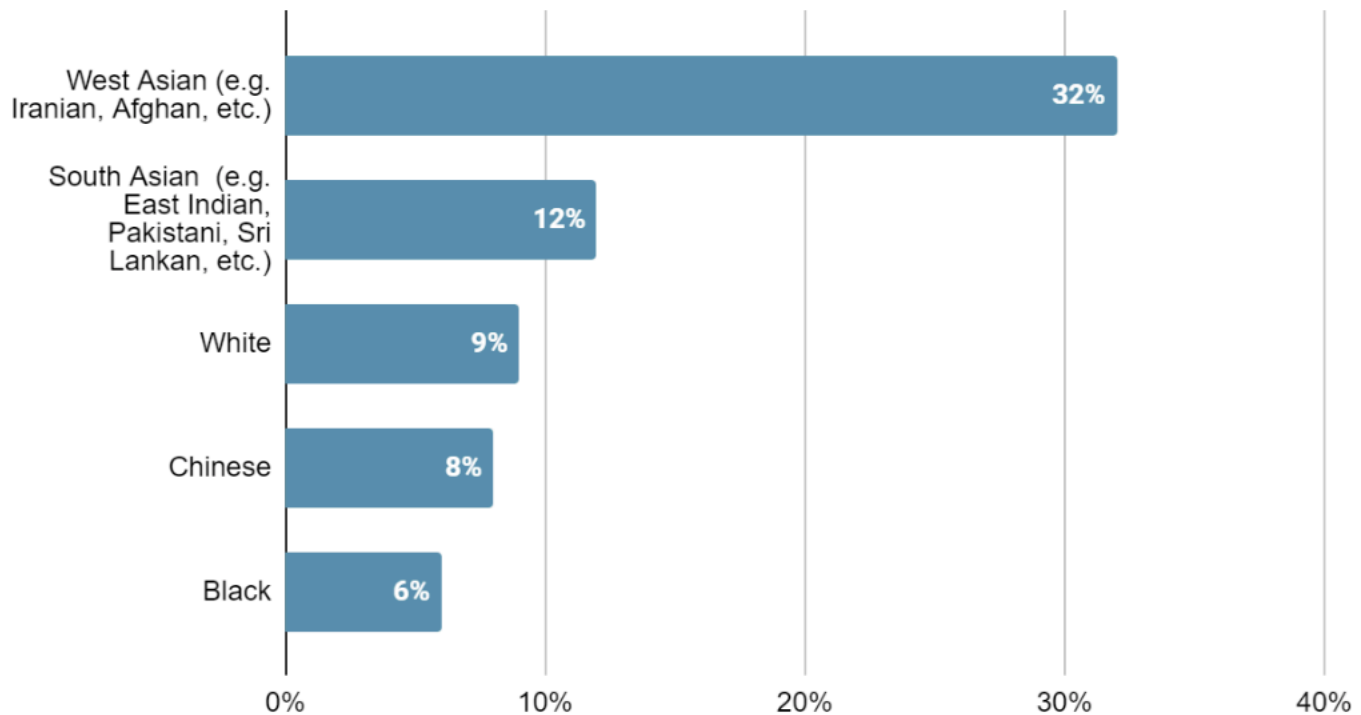
2% Preferred not to disclose

• Disability:

7% of the GFC users identify as experiencing a disability

- *Racial Identity:*

Top 5 Racial Identities



Fall 2023 Volunteer Program

Volunteers have contributed 239.5 hours to GFC, including delivery duties and operations. Average of around 20 hours per week.

We have 35 active volunteers, and a total of 45 students went through a volunteer training session.

We garnered attention from 100+ students interested in our volunteer program.

Equity Service Centres

The Equity Service Centres are student collectives that work on a variety of events, campaigns and services for their members. Each centre is equipped with part-time student staff, a drop-in space on the second floor of the Student Centre and an active social media presence.

BIPOC Students' Collective

bipoc@yourtmsu.ca / @bipoc.tmsu / SCC210

- 1. June 27th (1PM - 3PM): BIPOC Mock Mehndi at the Equity Centre Lounge including free food, drinks, henna, and DIY Eid cards provided*
- 2. September 19th (1PM - 4PM): BIPOC Mixer at the Equity Centre Lounge in collaboration with CWTP and the Faculty of Community Services including free food, drinks, games*
- 3. November 24th (1PM - 4PM): BIPOC Mixer at the Equity Centre Lounge including free food, drinks, games, ice breakers, introductory event*

Centre for Women & Trans People (CWTP)

cwtp@yourtmsu.ca / @cwtp.tmsu / SCC211

Worked in collaboration with Queer Space and Trans collective alongside BIPOC Collective.

Student Access Collective

access@yourtmsu.ca / @access.tmsu / SCC 209

This centre focused more on support programs' development rather than events. Working with Heather Willis to work on D2L course shell called Student Awareness Initiative with Equity Service Centres

The objective was to create an integrated education and awareness program aimed at students that addresses equity deserving groups represented in the TMSU equity services centres. Students can receive a certificate of completion.

The Queer Space

queerspace@yourtmsu.ca / @thequeerspace.tmsu / SCC213

- 1. TMSU takes on U of T Pride Pub, June 9*
- 2. Zine Workshop, June 15*
- 3. Pride BBQ: Drag Isn't Dangerous, June 20*
- 4. TMSU at the Trans March, June 23*
- 5. TMSU at then Dyke March, June 24*
- 6. TMSU at the Pride March, June 25*
- 7. Boba and Board Games, Sept. 18*
- 8. Queer Sex Ed with Expert Eva Bloom, Oct. 4*
- 9. Transgender Awareness Week Drop In: Bracelet Making, Nov. 15*
- 10. Business of Drag, Nov. 20*

Trans Collective

transcollective@yourtmsu.ca / @transcollective.tmu / SCC212

- 1. June 9 - TMSU takes on U of T Pride Pub*
- 2. June 15 - Zine Workshop (this one was hosted by us)*
- 3. June 20 - Pride BBQ: Drag Isn't Dangerous*
- 4. June 23 - TMSU at the Trans March*
- 5. June 24 - TMSU at the Dyke March*
- 6. June 15 - TMSU at the Pride March*
- 7. November 15 - Trans Awareness Week Drop-in (tabled at SLC-hosted event)*
- 8. November 24 - Make It Pop makeup workshop with TMP*

SHIFT

shiftcentre@yourtmsu.ca / @shiftcentretmu / 3rd Floor SCC

Fall 2023 Events

- 1.** Hot chocolate drop-in, November 13, 2023
- 2.** Mandala Day, November 20, 2023
- 3.** Drop-in Painting, November 27, 2023
- 4.** Mindful Harmon, December 1, 2023

Exam Kits

During the last week of November through December SHIFT is distributing Exam de-stress/self-care kits to students on campus to aid their studying and success in their exam preparations. The kits contain chocolate, a face mask, throat lozenge, an apple or orange, chewing gum, and a granola bar.

Events

Pre-Orientation Events

1.

First Year Engineering Welcome

July 6 | 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM - Better than a GPS

The TMSU had a blast partnering up with the First-Year Engineering Office (FYEO) to welcome incoming engineering students. Students had a chance to spend the day competing for the winning spot in a scavenger hunt put together by the FYEO. The TMSU provided a brunch afterwards that included a full buffet where executives spent time getting to know first-year engineering students. This was one of the President's favorite events as a recent engineering graduate. The TMSU hopes to continue hosting pre-orientation events and expanding partnerships with all faculties.

2.

TMSU x TMU Residence -

August 31 | 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM - Rainbow Connection

August 28 | 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM- Kiki in the Quad

The TMSU Equity Services worked with the TMU Residence to create queer programming and events intended to welcome Queer Students to campus in their first year. The TMSU worked to promote our safe drop-in spaces, promoted better bathrooms campaigns and rights for queer folks and facilitated activities to help students network amongst each other. The TMSU was also present at Kiki in the Quad and handed out TMSU merchandise and snacks for students.

3.

TMSU x TMU Orientation Team - Somewhere in the Rainbow: Drag Brunch Event

August 30 | 11:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Packed in the SLC with over 100+ students the TMSU Equity Centres- The Queer Space and TransCollective worked with TMU's Summer Orientation team to light up the beach with electrifying performances from Toronto's Finest Drag Queens and Kings. Connecting with students while promoting safety initiatives, community outreach and overall bringing the baked goods, the TMSU sold out on hand-books, equity stickers, baked treats, and TMSU Equity Programming. Overall a very successful event and we were able to reconnect with some of our Drag Queens and King from our Pride Month this year.

Orientation and Week of Welcome

The TMSU successfully held its Orientation and Week of Welcome events. This year our events ran over a series of two weeks from August 28 to 31 and September 05 to 07.

4.

Pancakes & Giveaways

August 28 to 31 and September 05 to 07 | 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

TMSU staff and volunteers had the pleasure of hosting a large pancake buffet for incoming students outside of the SCC during Orientation and Week of Welcome. During this time, the TMSU staff and volunteers also promoted other events through outreach and swag bag giveaways.

5.

Carnival in the Quad

August 29 | 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM

The TMSU with the help of volunteers hosted a Carnival inside of Kerr Hall Quad during Orientation Week. The Carnival included fun activities and inflatables, an ice cream truck and was held as a fun way for incoming students to interact with each other. The carnival ended with a dancing party while the DJ played music on stage. This event was in collaboration with the University's central O-team, SASSH and TRSM.

6.

SLC LIVE

August 31 | 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM

SLC Live is an event hosted by the central O-team where every floor of the Student Learning Centre will be activated with activities, games, music & food in collaboration with faculties and departments across campus! This Orientation, the TMSU collaborated with the central O-team and shared the 5th floor with a glow in the dark themed floor. During this event there was a DJ brought by the central O-team and a bunch of glow-themed activities and decor. The TMSU hosted a lot of activities hosted by our equity service centers with outreach giveaways such as sex toy giveaways from the C3SVS, fruit and vegetable giveaways from the Good Food Centre, and sheet face masks from our Academic Advocacy office. We also handed out our orientation kits and hosted a 360 photo booth activation for students.

7.

Shinerama

September 01 | 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

The TMSU funded the activation of a mechanical bull during the Shinerama carnival hosted by MUES during Orientation Week! All proceeds of this event went to charity in support of Cystic Fibrosis. During this carnival TMSU staff and volunteers handed out outreach materials and swag bag giveaways.

8.

Welcome Back Carnival

September 05 | 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM

The Welcome Back Carnival was held inside of the Kerr Hall Quad and parts of Gould Street. The TMSU staff held this carnival as a fun and interactive way to promote student life and involvement. This carnival also included giveaways for prizes, massive inflatables and other carnival games from Hart Entertainment. Funnel cakes, ice cream and sliders were also given to students.



9.

Red Carpet Event

September 06 | 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM

The Red Carpet Event was hosted by the TMSU and took place on Gould Street. This event featured a Hollywood style red carpet runway, so that students could walk the runway to express themselves freely. The winner of this event was chosen by the crowd's applause and was gifted a set of air pods pro while all other students who walked the carpet were gifted clothes from one of our sponsors DropSpot Vintage. The students were also interviewed by our VP Student Life and another content creator for TMU Student life. This event also featured a DJ, sliders and a bubble tea giveaway.

10.

Mature Student Wine & Cheese

September 08 | 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

The Mature Student Wine & Cheese event was hosted by the TMSU inside of Sears Atrium in the ENG building. This mature and classy event was geared towards older students to network and feel represented. During this event, students were treated to food from a charcuterie board, wine and a raffle prize of airpods pro.

11.

TMSU X TMU Bold | Homecoming Kickoff

September 22 | 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM

The TMSU & TMU BOLD hosted a tailgate party to celebrate the return to campus, and promote the homecoming hockey game. Students were invited to this outdoor event in the Pitman Quad to enjoy music, mini-games and activities, take photos, eat food, and mingle with their peers. This was followed by a march up Church Street to the MAC, led by TMSU, the President and Vice Provost students. The carpet were gifted clothes from one of our sponsors DropSpot Vintage. The students were also interviewed by our VP Student Life and another content creator for TMU Student life. This event also featured a DJ, sliders and a bubble tea giveaway.

12.

TMSU Concert

September 27th | 6:00 pm - 11:00 pm

The TMSU hosted a concert with artist's Jahkoy, Libianca and headliner DVSN at the Phoenix Concert Theatre in collaboration with Side Stage Entertainment. This was a great event as students were able to party, sing and dance in a safe and controlled manner while listening to their favourite artists. A student DJ was also selected from the TMU community to entertain the crowd and set the vibe prior to the main acts.



13.

Halloween Street Festival

October 30th | 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM

The TMSU hosted a halloween street festival on Gould Street that was primarily outreach-based. During this street festival students were given halloween treat bags, cotton candy and were able to enjoy sliders from a food truck we had stationed outside of the SCC.

14.

Diwali & Deepavali Celebration

November 13th | 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

The TMSU hosted a Diwali & Deepavali in the SCC Lobby by giving out delicious samosas, pakora and Indian sweets as a gift to students while playing South Asian music.

TMSU X The Met Pub Nights

1.

Nightmare on Gould Street

October 27th 2023 | 9:00 pm - 1 am

TMSU presents Nightmare on Gould Street! A TMSU hosted Halloween Pub Night where students were invited to show up in their best spooky and most frightful costumes and outfits and dance the night away. The two best costumes were also gifted a \$50 Visa gift card.

2.

Neon Lights Glow Party

November 2, 2023 | 9:00 pm - 1 am

The TMSU hosted our annual Neon Lights Glow party pub night. Students were invited to wear some bright/neon colours and dance to 2000s, pop and EDM hits! The TMSU provided glow sticks, glow paint and other accessories to students.

3.

South Asian Night

November 16, 2023 | 9:00 pm - 1 am

TMSU hosted a pub night to celebrate Diwali/Deepavali and South Asian heritage. Students were encouraged to wear their most ethnic and diverse cultural attire while dancing to a fusion of Punjabi, Tamil and Hindi music.

PRIDE

1.

UofT Pride Party

June 9, 2023 | 9:00 PM - 1:00 AM

TMSU invited TMU students to the UOFT Pride Party tailgate to kick off Pride Month.

2.

ZINE n' DINE

June 13, 2023 | 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Zines are creative art pieces that represent counter cultural themes, popular in the queer community the TMSU hosted a crafternoon where students could create their own artistic meaningful zines. This event was taught by one of our TMU Students.

3.

Drag isn't Dangerous BBQ

June 20, 2023 | 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Centered around the misconceptions, the TMSU wanted to host a themed BBQ that would debunk the ideas that Drag is Dangerous for children, families, teens and everyone. Drag is an art form which is why we picked the perfect setting, a sunny day at Pitman Quad with good food and electric performances. The TMSU Invited an array of local but fiercely popular Drag Queens and Kings to come to the stage.



4.

Pride Marches

June 23, 2023 | Dyke March

June 24 2023 | Trans March

June 25 2023 | Pride March

The TMSU took to the streets this Pride Month, waving our banners. We Invited students to join us as we attend the Dyke, Trans and Pride March. On June 25th 2023, a number of our partners from TMAPS and TMGSU and our own TMSU Student Volunteers came together to build our Pride Float, embolden with the theme that Pride is Political and that we do not support political ideology that harm or violate the basic rights LGBTQ2IA+ people are entitled to as citizens. An unforgettable experience to be in the eyes of the city and to celebrate in the streets of Toronto. With everyone cheering and dancing, thousands of people taking up space and showing their pride, it was a truly memorable day.



DisOrientation

September 11- 15 | Agency and Urgency Week

Disorientation is the inner workings of your student union, digging and uplifting the voices of students concerns around equity and fairness on TMU Campus, disorientation allows students the opportunity to unlearn or relearn narratives that they may be new to when coming onto campus for the first time. It's a time for their inner sociopolitical warrior to shine.

For this year's theme we chose Agency and Urgency, Inspiring Actions for the issues you care about on campus. In our world of overwhelming options, choices, overconsumption and over stimuli of information we understand just how easy it is to fall into a rabbit hole of negativity and hopelessness in the world. We believe that despite the distractions thrown at our students from our everyday society, we stand strong in our belief that what we do now will determine the fates of our future, the rights of our students and people, the safety in our lives and the creativity that makes our innerworkings. We believe in autonomy and people being free agents of their own critical thinking and used this week to help students navigate where they want to prioritize their efforts, introduced them to useful resources, and launched campaigns about what students care about most.

Please see the list below for our Disorientation Week.

Better Bathrooms Campaign Launch

September 11 | 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Spearheaded by the TMSU's Centre for Safer Sex and Sexual Violence Centre, the TMSU Equity Centres worked in collaboration to create and develop the Better Bathrooms campaign. The plan is committed to improving existing washrooms on campus to make them safer and more accessible. After spending the summer walking on campus mapping out every washroom and what it needs, the TMSU came up with 4 tangible campaign goals. You can check out more here at <https://yourtmsu.ca/bathrooms/>

Disorientation week launched the Better Bathrooms campaign with TMSU Coordinators setting up around different places on campus hauling a toilet to signify the cause of the campaign and spending time with students to help them better understand the campaign. Due to its popularity of students tired of outdated and inaccessible washrooms, the better bathrooms campaign added many signatories to its petition

If you would like to sign the petition yourself please see here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe8OscrGj0lBvbZoyreAn7R0lfJv_wgl-S4nv4ezWhdLbdabjQ/viewform

At this SAGM the TMSU hopes to pass a commitment motion that allows this campaign's life cycle to continue.

Empowerment Self Defence Classes

with Centre for Safer Sex and Sexual Violence Support

September 12 | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

September 14 | 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Coordinated by the CSSVS, Empowerment Self Defense was a two-part series focusing on helping students feel and be safer within intimate relationships, familial relationships, and around strangers.

Crash the Market - Affordable Housing Panel

September 13 | 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Taking place on Gould Street and Filled with Students and partnering with other student organizers from HOUSE, we take a look at co-op housing and how it could be very beneficial when addressing the cost of living in the city.

Disorientation Street Fair

September 13 | 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

It took place on Gould Street and Filled with Students, it was filled. We invited community organizers who specialize in equity based services whether it be advocacy organization, environmentalportetcions, human rights lawyers, small businesses, TMU health and recreation partners. Students were able to purchased items to their liking and connect with resources that would be able to help them to their specialized need.

Culture Day

September 13 | 3:30 PM to 7:00 PM

This event was hosted on Gould Street. It featured a multicultural and inclusive show for students to become immersed and educated about the various campus groups that promote different cultures and/or faith. In addition, this event included a cultural fashion show and dance performances from various campus groups on a stage on Gould Street. All participating campus groups were also tabling and handing out traditional snacks and food items from their respective cultures. This event ended with a raffle prize set of air pods pro.

Girls, Theys, Gays Coffee House

September 15 | 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Ending off our Disorientation week with a partially new series for our LGBTQ2IA+ community, we invited students to catch some more performance and speak with different artists.

Collaborative Events

Holocaust Education Week

November 6 - 9

The TMSU sponsored Hillel's Holocaust Education Week where the TMSU's President was invited to Hillel's Holocaust Vigil candlelight ceremony. Sol Nayman, a Holocaust survivor came to speak and provided insight on their experience during one of the darkest times in human history. It is TMSU's duty as a students' union to recognize and honor the histories of our members which inform their current experiences as a student and beyond.

- Untold Stories Photo Exhibit
- Never again is now: Online hate and antisemitism in Canada today
- Memorial ceremony and survivor testimony: An evening with Sol Nayman



Panel for Palestine

November 10 | 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM

In light of the tragedies unfolding in Palestine, The TMSU and the BIPOC Equity Centre worked hand in hand with four student groups to organize an event for Palestine filled with education, awareness and Palestinian history. Palestinian voices were at the forefront and the speaker panel consisted of organizers from Toronto-4Palestine, Palestinian Youth Movement, Asala Dabke Group, and the United Jewish People's Order. Attendees were privileged to listen to students who are from Gaza speak on their personal experiences and their remembrance of their hometown before the destruction began. The Egyptian Students' Association, Middle Eastern Students' Association, Palestinian Cultural Club, Arab Students' Association all worked tirelessly to plan a successfully intentional event where over 500 attendees found comfort amongst each other. The TMSU will continue advocating for those who are oppressed and fighting the injustices wrecked by racism, imperialism and colonialism because we refuse to sit back as an organization forced to ask ourselves later "how did we get here" and where was our voice to echo the cries of men, women and children who are being erased and displaced in Palestine.

Model United Nations (MetMun)

November 17

The TMSU recognizes the importance of acknowledging student groups who are going above and beyond in representing TMU across Canada and the United States. The TMSU sponsored MetMun's conference on campus where over 150 students from different universities attended. Speakers at the MetMun 2023 Conference included Member of Parliament Ali Ehsassi who currently serves as the Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee. MetMun held space for attendees to build their debating and public speaking skills, and administered several awards to those who did exceptionally well. The TMSU hopes to continue uplifting student groups that are passionate about building their presence while representing TMU in the process.



CAMPUS GROUPS

The TMSU oversees 94 Student Groups and 53 Course Unions that revolve around a multitude of different faculties, interests, faiths/religions, cultures and more!

Grant Funding

Student Groups have received a total of \$18, 615.64 in grant funding.

Course Unions have received a total of \$6, 374.37 in grant funding.

Affiliate Groups have received a total of \$2, 634.04 in grant funding.

Student Group Activations

There has been a total of 5 new student groups that have been activated, they are:

- 1. Rise in Entertainment*
- 2. Maimonides*
- 3. Black Fashion Initiative*
- 4. Bollywood Dance*
- 5. Coding and Collaboration*

There has been a total of two student groups who were previously inactive that have been reactivated, they are:

1. *United Black Students Association*

2. *Students for Justice in Palestine*

Student Group Offices and Lockers

The student group committee consisting of the Campus Groups Coordinator, Vice President of Student Life, student group director and course union director has worked to ensure student group offices and lockers have been allocated fairly and equitably to ensure that those who need this space have been accounted for. The committee has made the decision to provide new student groups with offices and remove office spaces for some groups by determining which groups hold more supplies and a large presence on campus.

Student Group Fair

September 06 | 10:00 PM to 3:00 PM

The Student Groups Fair and Course Union/Service fair is a tabling event that is focused around ensuring students know about the various student groups, course unions, and services that are on campus so that they can sign-up and become involved in the ones that interest them and seek services they need. This event is essential for student groups and course unions under the TMSU to have the opportunity to increase membership and for students to find a safe space on campus.

In total, there were about 110 student groups that participated. The TMSU also held a competition during this event for the best decorated table to be given a prize of \$150 that will be added to their student group budget.

Tables were judged based on the following criteria:

Organization - (is your table neat and tidy, are things spaced out, is it too overcrowded?)

Eye Catching - (is your table colourful, is their decorations?)

Marketing (Do you have a poster board with your events and details, flyers for students to take?)

The best decorated table was chosen by our Campus Groups Director and Executive Director and the winner was The Organization of Latin American Students (OLAS).



Executive Reports

President

INTRODUCTION

The President of the TMSU sets the tone and direction for the organization. I decided to take on this role because I was set on creating transformative and long-lasting change. When I first ran for President, not knowing much about the TMSU except the problems it had faced, many were surprised to hear that I had no expectation that I would win. I knew that an independent presidential candidate had never been elected before. My goal was to draw the attention of students on the TMSU. I wanted students to be as enraged as I was towards the severe lack of care that was given to students and student groups which had become the norm after a period of 6 years. I wanted eyes on the TMSU and that is why I chose to focus my campaign videos on the disheartening facts of the union's past. *All in all, I wanted more students to know what the TMSU existed for and for more to take a chance like I did and run to be elected. I didn't choose to run because I believed I was the best person for the job, I chose to run because I was part of a vulnerable population of students that could use all the help they could get from an organization whose aim was to be student centered. I saw no end to the potential benefits students could gain from the TMSU, from financial assistance to their experience on campus, I knew that TMSU's resources needed to be redirected back to students.*

During the recent election period, I saw 5 students choose to run for President of the TMSU and I felt grateful. Although it took almost two years, I was ecstatic that I had achieved the goal of getting more buy-in from students which was reflected in seeing those who had no prior experience with student unions put their name forward in hopes of taking command of an organization. My goal was to raise awareness about the TMSU so that students know what they are paying for and how to access services. I hope to see more and more students run for an elected position within the TMSU, whether they are familiar with its processes or want to learn from the ground up, just like I did. I knew that a strong-minded individual was what was needed to create a culture centered on transparency, advocacy, and student voices. I wanted something greater for the TMSU, I wanted all of us to set our expectations higher for an organization that exists to serve students. The TMSU serves as the advocate for students on campus. It's a powerhouse with connections and resources, but of course it was a journey to get there. As President, I focused on addressing our internal structures and operations, changing the workplace environment by hiring more student staff, engaging with all board members, staff and management. I cannot stress enough how important it is to make the time to truly connect and form relationships with students and student groups. These connections were one of the highest rewards one can receive from taking on this role.

I loved going to campus group events and seeing the vast diversity in our community, but my favorite memories were those long conversations I had with students in my office, where we really got to know each other, and I was able to listen to their concerns and what they wanted to see on campus.

Having approached my role as President with determination and a thirst to learn, I am lucky to have absorbed so much, including how to conduct myself with University administration, carry out operational processes and understand equity issues and advocacy avenues. I have accepted that atypical problems may occur at the TMSU but being at the end of my last term taught me that it is more important to focus on matters that support the changes we started last year. Prior to taking office, it was clear to anyone exposed to the internals of this organization that there was a need for oversight, internal controls, transparency, and accountability, and the only way to address these issues was by adapting and changing our bylaws to reflect what students wanted to see. Passing a new and improved set of bylaws at our last SAGM in December 2022 was what was needed to bring to life the culture we wanted within the union. I wanted to create a system that held current and past executives accountable, where no executive would be able to take advantage of outdated bylaws and lack of oversight. This year and last, I made sure that faculty directors understood they were my boss.

I told them to speak freely and always ask questions. Even though directors are the managers of the executives, they are not involved in the daily operations that often have a financial component. The type of oversight I imagined for executives was in the form of reporting to various committees along with having external experts provide a consistent level of knowledge and accountability.

While I sit here in my final week as President, I now know that this is one of the most difficult roles to take on. The different factors that come into play with every decision made, while also maintaining one's fiduciary duty and simultaneously doing everything possible to be transparent and keep the interests of students at the forefront. I wish I could say it was easy but what I know for sure is that it was worth it. I understood from the beginning that the changes made now wouldn't be obvious to the average student until much later. These changes have slowly but surely given us the capacity to do the work that is tangible for students. We had to work from the ground up and it was confusing and disheartening at times but we made it here today with a new set of bylaws, tighter internal and financial controls, two accomplished teams of executives and faculty directors and a functional students' union that offers tangible discounts, large-scale events, and attentiveness to students.

At times in the face of adversity, I did question my ability to take it on, but I came out on the other side even stronger than before. I began to learn how to approach situations as they repeated themselves, I learned that I could only control so much and the things I could not were no longer in my focus. I wanted to achieve a better students' union. Not perfect, but most definitely better and I am so happy to sit here today and say that my team and I, both this year and last, were able to accomplish just that. The goals of the TMSU continue to be focused on regaining student trust. It is no secret that the TMSU still faces a lot of issues, especially in relation to the most recent byelection, but despite the challenges, I believe that the path of progression the TMSU is on will exponentially flourish for as long as there are dedicated executives, directors, management, and staff who are driven by the need to support students in every way.



MAJOR UPDATES

- *Increased transparency between the TMSU and its members through consistent communication with students*
- *Fostered a strong and ongoing relationship with University administration through regular meetings with the Vice-Provost Student Office and the President*
- *Created a relationship of openness with the campus news through regular communication with EyeOpener and On The Record*
- *Lead the appointment process for vacancies on the board and appointed the Vice-President Student Life, Student Groups Director and Course Union Director*
- *Created the TMSU Street Team, hired TMSU Street Team executives and selected general members*
- *Focused on ensuring that the new Board of Directors were onboarded by organizing a board retreat with trainings and social events while maintaining an open line of communication with directors to answer all questions and concerns*
- *Instructed counsel on an ongoing basis regarding TMSU's financial litigation case*
- *Sat on the following hiring committees and conducted over 50 interviews in the process: equity center hiring, volunteer leads, CRO and DRO.*
- *Attended several conferences including TMU's leadership conference, CFS conference, and Gallivan conference to build on TMSU stakeholder relations and partnerships*

- *Supervised management staff, Volunteer Leads, Street Team Executives and Special Projects role, as well as the duties of fellow executives to maintain order*
- *As the TMSU representative, attended and spoke at several engagements including TMSU convocations, Orientation week, Holocaust Vigil, and Panel for Palestine*
- *Chaired and scheduled every weekly executive meeting and monthly Board of Directors meeting*
- *Chaired the Elections and Referenda Committee for the byelection*
- *Chaired the By-laws and Policies Committee*
- *Fostered relationships across all faculty societies and had regular meetings in the summer to explore collaborations*
- *Set the tone and plan for Volunteer Leads in operating the TMSU volunteer program*
- *Took lead of the Student Grants Committee in the absence of the VP Operations to review and administer emergency grants to students*
- *Sat on the Palin Foundation and appointed the Vice-Chair, attended all board meetings and currently sitting on the Student Campus Center General Manager hiring committee*

- *Sat on the Met Radio Board and attended all board meetings*
- *Signing officer of the organization, signed hundreds of cheques issued by the organization*
- *Met with Grammarly to review usage and renew subscription*
- *Attended all Senate meetings as a voting member and the TMSU representative due to VP Education absence*
- *Met regularly with student groups and had a direct hand in planning MetMun 2023 Conference and the Panel for Palestine event*
- *Fostered relationships across all faculty societies and had regular meetings in the summer to explore collaborations*
- *Took lead on preparing statements to members during unprecedented current events in the Middle East and made it a priority for student voices to feel heard by the TMSU*
- *Made decisions with students in mind – focused on the impact and benefit of everything the TMSU chose to offer to students*

LOOKING FORWARD

As I am getting ready to end my chapter as the TMSU President, I believe so much more can be done to optimize the TMSU in the best way possible for students.

One of the areas the new team should focus on is improving campus groups processes and systems. This includes creating an improved way for cheque requisitions to be submitted such as through a form on the website rather than through emails. An improved communication system must be implemented for campus groups that would help shorten the response time for student group executives. Online banking should be explored while maintaining financial controls and oversight as I believe this would greatly optimize the financial process of the TMSU.

I am very excited to see Street Team grow into the marketing powerhouse I have envisioned for it. One of the issues I have heard from students is that the TMSU does not announce their events in a timely manner, causing many students to miss out on our great events. The role of Street Team is having on the ground outreach to promote TMSU events as well as Student Group events. Street Team serves as a way for students to get involved and learn more about how the TMSU operates internally. I hope for Street Team to grow into a community where students have a place on campus that they can call home. The effects of the pandemic and the impact it has had on students' ability to foster meaningful relationships is something I wanted to address through Street Team. I created the TMSU Street Team with the hopes of getting more students involved in the TMSU, without requiring intense commitment. I saw an opportunity for growth in allowing general members of Street Team to see the day-to-day operations of the TMSU while acquiring skills pertaining to social media and marketing, interpersonal skills, and sponsorship avenues.

I am very excited for the new team to take office, and to see what plans they have in mind for the organization. The TMSU remains close to my heart because it became my sole mission to transform the TMSU into the student-centered organization it is meant to be. I hope that students continue to form relationships with TMSU executives and board members, create intentional events that serve a purpose, offer more subscription-based discounts to assist students with their work, and continue the relations that have been formed with TMSU's various stakeholders and partners. I wish nothing but the best for the new team next semester and I hope they never lose focus as to why the TMSU exists in the first place – and that is for students.

Vice-President Operations

INTRODUCTION

The Vice-President Operations is the Treasurer of the TMSU. They are the elected student representative that jointly oversees the finances of the union alongside management staff. I was interested in taking on this role because I wanted to help the organization's internal controls develop, investigate new avenues of revenue, and allocate resources for professional development. Through my research of the union's history, time as Vice-President, Education as well as my own work and volunteer experience in university as a student senator; I noticed that professional development was never a large or seemingly integral part of the union's portfolio. In the instances where they were incorporated they seemed to either end once a campaign was achieved, or were never fulfilled due a mismatch in responsibilities and resources.

As a students' union, I believe we need to balance protecting and providing for students socially and professionally. As VP Operations, it is especially important to understand how and when to balance funding between social and professional needs. The students' union, like many opportunities, is what you make of it. I encourage fellow students to be active in your union by voting for the change that you want to see, joining a committee, or get involved when you can to be the change that you want to see within the organization.

MAJOR UPDATES

Trans-Affirmation Reimbursement

The Trans-Affirming Reimbursement is designed to help trans-identifying students purchase gender affirming gear to help them better showcase their gender expression.

360 Photo Booth Event Production

The 360 Photo Booth is a novelty attraction that we wanted to include at TMSU hosted or affiliated events to help be interactive.

New Freezer Acquisition

A new freezer was acquired in order to help have more storage capacity for frozen goods. Currently placed in TMSU's storage room, once renovations of the Good Food Center are finalized the freezer will be able to be moved in to help hold more produce.

Cotton Candy Machine Refurbishment

Wanting to keep a variety of snack options for students we were also able to refurbish our cotton candy machine. This is also another item we are working on offering out to student groups as well.

Simply Voting System Acquisition

Taking recommendations to use a different voting system from last year's election report; we were able to secure a deal with Simply Voting. They are a reputable full-service provider for online elections, with particular experience in post-secondary elections. Using this new system has increased TMSU's independence as we now no longer have to rely on the university's system and preferred timing.

LOOKING FORWARD

Annual Budget

The Annual Budget is the guiding financial document for the fiscal year. It helps to guide both "real-time" spending and needed financial reallocations. Final Draft in work to allow for new time to finalize and account for their own ideas.

Tax Clinic

The Annual Tax Clinic is the TMSU's free option to help students file their taxes. This is Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA) certified through the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) program. After last year's tax clinic coordination with the other student unions on campus (TMAPS & TMGSU), we've decided to organize our sessions together once again to better service the wider student community.

Grammarly

Grammarly has been a great service to the TMSU community in helping students complete their work concisely. As such we are working to have another annual purchase of the service at the same rate as last year.

Adobe

Adobe is a very useful service to provide, but numbers have not been as high as grammarly. This is especially notable considering the price point of nearly \$70. It has been a great service to the few that have used it, but future plans will lie with the next team on its offering.

Budget Projection Timelines & Policies

The TMSU usually creates their annual budget after a fiscal year already starts. By developing budget projections throughout the previous years, a more reliable estimate can be created earlier. This can then be given to the new team during their on-boarding months, to better account for overall planning earlier in the summer of their terms.

Vice-President Student Life and Events

INTRODUCTION

The role of the Vice-President Student Life is to coordinate the major programming for major student entertainment events and student life initiatives. The VP Student life is responsible for creating a fun and interactive space on campus for students to enjoy. They are also responsible for overlooking Student groups, course unions and affiliates and to be the point of contact between these groups and the executive committee.

My interest in this role derived from witnessing the detrimental impact of the pandemic on campus life. Navigating most of my school career online, and a deserted campus, I felt like my university experience was slipping away. I wanted to make the most of the time I had left. I wanted to be an active participant at the forefront of student affairs and activities here at TMU. Being an extroverted and social person, my goal was to use my community building skills to foster a more enjoyable campus life, where students would be able to access more fun in-person events and make meaningful connections with other like-minded students. During my short term, I have put in a lot of time and energy towards succeeding in this goal. Not only have I sparked new ideas authentic to students' current needs, I also planned and attended the major events that were informed by these ideas. I worked alongside many staff, campus groups, University partners, organizations and sponsors to create programming inclusive of all varying student experiences and needs. I was able to share meaningful connections, smiles and laughs with students that made my TMU experience outstanding, as both VP Student Life and Events and as a regular commuter student.

MAJOR UPDATES

- *Orientation and Week of Welcome - planned and led every event held and collaborated with University organizations and central O-team for these events.*
- *Created the TMSU Sponsorship package with other execs to be given to external organizations and companies looking to collaborate with the TMSU.*
- *Collaborated with TMU bold to help host the Homecoming Tailgate party.*
- *Worked with the President in the planning and execution of the TMSU Concert.*
- *Sat on the hiring committee for the Student Group and Course Union Director as well for the Events Lead part-time position*
- *Sat on the Student Group Committee to vote on and approve grant funding and the activation of new student groups*
- *Oversaw the allocation for student group offices and lockers and assisted in their moving*

LOOKING FORWARD

I am looking forward to seeing how the events during Winter Week of Welcome will be carried out and the success of annual events such as the student group fair. I am also eager to see how relations between the Events team and TMU campus and community and engagement will further improve to implement many more collaborations. As well as how many more student groups join the TMSU and activate status and for them to undergo training to help expand their reach on campus under the proper channels and policies.

Vice-President Equity

INTRODUCTION

The Vice-President of Equity is the TMSU's representative for the TMU Community on equity issues that affects members, the Vice President of Equity is responsible for testing campus temperature and working with different external partners to provide programming, events and campaigns for students regarding their most pressing issues. The Vice President of Equity is responsible for the equity centers on the second floor of the SCC. The Equity Centres serve as a safe community oriented environment run by students from their respected equity diverse groups and create an invitation for students to be involved and participate in their explored interests and empowered by their identities.

This year as the Vice-President of Equity I chose to focus my efforts on promotion of our centers by increasing our outreach and community partnerships. When I first met the Summer Equity Team I told them that this was a great opportunity to experiment and network and to use their most creative idea, this was a successful endeavor because now I can proudly say to the Fall Team and to the New VP Equity that we are in the ongoing development stage, from rebranding the centers, connecting with various community partners to now having an increase in regular programming and launching a motion to our new campaign, this is an exciting time in the TMSU Equity Centres.

Becoming the Vice President of Equity was a big step for me, before I worked as the SHIFT Wellness Coordinator for 6 months before stepping into the appointment process. I chose this role because I see the value of Equity Coordinators and understood that the TMSU was in its redevelopment phase, this was something I wanted to be apart of and be an advocate for continuing equitable practices and fostering safe spaces for our students, I believed that in this position that holds fiduciary duty to a greater cause this was something that I could really pour my passions into and I base this passion from when I first worked in the Equity Centres myself.

Safety and protections of others have always been values that I stand on and in terms of equity I believe that it is an ongoing effort in fairness to help others feel comfortable in their situation and identities.

Equity to me has been about fighting barriers invisible and visible and making our world a better place one person at a time.

MAJOR UPDATES

Back in June the TMSU Residence Team created joint efforts with the TMSU in creating curated first year queer programming that was a hit, in August we worked with TMU Recreation to promote women's programming and throughout the summer we have been in contact with the Equity and Inclusion Office at the University in assembling a student awareness initiative.

Apart from University Partners, during our Disorientation Street Fair, many Toronto Community organizations and Student groups based in social justice and equity came together to hand out resources and speak and inspire students.

I am very happy to announce that these partnerships will continue into the New Year. This is an exciting time as the Equity Centres continue to plan programming with our partners and we work to maintain our relationships.

In the Summer we successfully rebranded the centers and more graphics, stickers and promotion are underway and will need to continue into the new year. Happy to announce that our biggest projects Pride Month in June and Disorientation in September were in alignment with our original budget and we did not overspend.

Pride Month was allocated around 10k, we had various successful events that brought out many students and allowed us to connect with artists and Disorientation was allocated 8k in which we hosted Self Defence Workshops, our Disorientation Street Fair, an Affordable Housing Panel and a fun coffee house.

We successfully held continuous Social Justice Committee meetings once every month in this interim period and updated our past ideas with fresh campaigns and now have a better plan for the next oncoming team.

The biggest project was the Launch of our Better Bathrooms Campaign, safety has always been an issue on campus but it is also an issue with many different questions and answers. We chose to focus on places which needed more safety and in coordination with the Centre for Safer Sex and Sexual Violence who took lead and guided our Equity Centres we mapped out all Bathrooms on campus and determined the most pressing needed changes. In this SAGM we put forth a motion of commitment to continue our efforts and to start prompting the University and the Ontario Government to now help us in our aid.

This Summer I also went to the CFS Ontario General Assembly meeting along with another executive as representative for our Local #24. We learned about many different campaigns and connected with student unions across the GTA and in Ontario. It is our ambitious plan to try and connect more with other student unions to bring about better programming, joint strategy for campaigns and overall more student power when it comes to the issues you care about most.

LOOKING FORWARD

Looking forward I hope and encourage the new Vice-President of Equity and Equity Service Centre coordinators to keep developing our spaces and maintaining our partnerships with the university, with our community and our student groups.

I look forward to seeing more development and action on our Better Bathrooms campaign and the overall vitality of what this new term will bring.

I think it is important to continue practicing governance and practice writing, learning and reading policy. It is important to continue to be creative and develop programming for students on our campus.

I'd like to see the TMSU work with the Centre for Safer Sex and Sexual Violence on updating our sexual violence policy and Equity service centre policy and lastly to continue seeing students be happy, safe and comfortable in our spaces.