

MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting # 2

June 15, 2022 – 6:00 pm

Microsoft Teams



Attendance – June 15, 2022

Board of Directors			
At-Large Representatives (Elected)		Present / Regrets	Arrived / Departed
Vacant	College of Arts		
Vacant	College of Arts		
Sanya Sareen	College of Biological Science	Present	D: 7:00 pm
Vacant	College of Biological Science		
Jake Levy	College of Engineering and Physical Sciences	Present	7:29 pm
Vacant	College of Engineering and Physical Sciences		
Vacant	College of Social and Applied Human Sciences		
Vacant	College of Social and Applied Human Sciences		
Mauricio Canedo Fernandez	Gordon S. Lang School of Business and Economics	Present	7:29 pm
Daniel Neiterman	Gordon S. Lang School of Business and Economics	Present	7:29 pm
Isha Maharaj	Ontario Agricultural College	Present	7:29 pm
Vacant	Ontario Agricultural College		
Vacant	Ontario Veterinary College		
Vacant	Ontario Veterinary College		
Member College Government Representatives (Appointed)		Present / Regrets	Arrived / Departed
Vacant	College of Arts Student Union		
Ana Maria Mercu	College of Biological Science Student Council	Regrets	
Vacant	College of Engineering and Physical Sciences Student Council		
Samantha Ogbeiwi	College of Social and Applied Human Sciences - Student Alliance	Regrets	
Vacant	Lang Students' Association		
Vacant	Student Federation of the Ontario Agricultural College		
Vacant	Central Veterinary Student Association (Ontario Veterinary College)		

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Student Organization Representatives (Appointed)		Present / Regrets	Arrived / Departed
Duncan McGuire	Indigenous Student Society (ISS)	Present	7:29 pm
Martha Yiridoe	Guelph Black Students Association (GBSA)	Present	7:29 pm
Tess Vardy	Guelph Queer Equality (GQE)	Present	7:29 pm
Vacant	Guelph Resource Centre for Gender Empowerment and Diversity		
Krishna Varnika Karavadi	International Student Organization (ISO)	Present	7:29 pm
Anthony Pereira	Interhall Council (IHC)	Present	7:29 pm
Vacant	Guelph Campus Co-op		
Vacant	Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG)		
Vacant	Student Senate Caucus		
Vacant	Board of Governors		
Executive (Ex-officio, non-voting)		Present / Regrets	Arrived / Departed
Nicole Walker	President	Present	7:29 pm
Vacant	Vice President Student Experience		
Mason Friebe	Vice President Academic	Present	7:29 pm
Jena-Lee Ashley	Vice President External	Present	7:29 pm

Staff	Position
Cameron Olesen	Chair
Earl Evans	Policy & Transition Manager - Interim
Sarah Kurtz	Scribe

Guest	Arrived / Departed
Ibrahim Hakim	7:29 pm

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Summary of Resolutions

2.2.1 Approve the Agenda as Amended

MOTION: That the agenda for the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 2 on June 15, 2022, be approved as amended so that Item 2.11.1 - **Report: “Ratification of Appointed Directors to the CSA Board”** be reordered as the first item of discussion.

Motion carried

MOTION: To extend speaking rights to all members up for ratification.

Motion carried

MOTION: To table items on the agenda.

Motion carried

2.11.1 Report: Ratification of Appointed Directors to the CSA Board

MOTION: That the report from the Policy & Transition Manager (Interim) dated June 15, 2022 re: “Ratification of Appointed Directors to the CSA Board” be received as information.

Motion carried

2.15 Adjournment

MOTION: That the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 2 on June 15, 2022 be adjourned at 7:29 pm.

Motion carried

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Agenda – June 15, 2022

- 2.0 Call to Order**
- 2.1 Land Acknowledgement**
 - Mason Friebe, VP Academic
- 2.2 Adoption of the Agenda**
 - 2.2.1 Approve the Agenda
 - 2.2.2 Declarations of Conflicts
- 2.3 Ratifications and De-Ratifications**
 - 2.3.1 Ratify Appointed Directors
- 2.4 Comments from the Chair**
 - 2.4.1 Introductions and Pronouns
- 2.5 Approval of Past Minutes**
 - 2.5.1 Meeting # 17 – April 6, 2022
 - 2.5.2 Meeting # 18 – April 11, 2022
 - 2.5.3 Meeting # 1 – May 25, 2022
- 2.6 Executive Committee Minutes**
 - 2.6.1 Meeting # 27 – March 16, 2022
 - 2.6.2 Meeting # 28 – April 6, 2022
 - 2.6.3 Meeting # 29 – April 26, 2022
 - 2.6.4 Meeting # 1 – May 10, 2022
 - 2.6.5 Meeting # 2 – May 18, 2022
- 2.7 Executive Updates**
 - 2.7.1 President – May 25, 2022
 - 2.7.2 President – June 15, 2022
 - 2.7.3 VP Student Experience (vacant)
 - 2.7.4 VP Academic – May 25, 2022
 - 2.7.5 VP Academic – June 15, 2022
 - 2.7.6 VP External – May 25, 2022
 - 2.7.7 VP External – June 15, 2022
- 2.8 Director Reports**
- 2.9 CSA Service Update and Reports**
- 2.10 Committee Updates and Reports**
 - 2.10.1 Report Hiring Committee – Board Scribe
 - 2.10.2 Report Hiring Committee – Board Scribe
 - 2.10.3 Report Hiring Committee – Safewalk Volunteer & PR Coordinator

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- 2.10.4 Report Hiring Committee – Safewalk Volunteer & PR Coordinator
- 2.10.5 Report Hiring Committee – SHAC Coordinator and Ass Coordinator
- 2.10.6 Report Hiring Committee – Student Experience Coordinator (Interim)
- 2.10.7 Minutes: Finance Committee – Meeting # 4 – March 7, 2022

2.11 Business

- 2.11.1 Report: Ratification of Appointed Directors to the CSA Board
- 2.11.2 Report: Return to Campus & Post-Covid Pedagogy Undergraduate Student Task Force
- 2.11.3 Finance Committee Annual Report 2021-2022
- 2.11.4 Proposed Dates for PDR Meetings
- 2.11.5 Revised Board of Directors Meeting Schedule
- 2.11.6 Revised Date of 2023 Annual General Meeting

2.12 New Business

2.13 Announcements

2.14 In Camera

2.15 Adjournment

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Minutes – June 15, 2022

2.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

2.1 Land Acknowledgement

Hi everyone, I am acknowledging as we virtually gather here today as the CSA Board representing students at the University of Guelph, that the University being the place we work and learn is situated on the traditional lands of the Attawandaron People and the treaty lands and territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit. As we are online today, it should be noted that it is important to recognize the lands with which you are currently situated. Acknowledging this, our responsibility, and voicing our respect with these acknowledgements is an important act of reconciliation and effort in the collective strengthening of relationships with Indigenous Peoples. Thank you.

Mason Friebe, VP Academic

2.2 Adoption of the Agenda

2.2.1 Approve the Agenda

MOTION: That the agenda for the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 2 on June 15, 2022, be approved as printed and distributed.

Moved: Isha Maharaj

Seconded: Nicole Walker, President

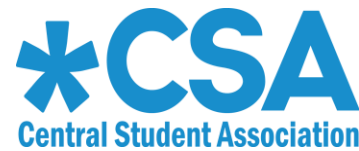
Member Jake Levy reported that new concerns had come to light and additional time was needed to address them. He stated that it was not in the students' best interests to speak on the issue at this time because he did not have all the facts. He suggested a meeting in one week.

Cameron Olesen, Chair, declared the motion for another meeting to be out of order. At this time, the Board was discussing approval of the agenda.

Nicole Walker, President, urged the Board to consider moving forward with ratifying the appointed members. Students with issues should contact the PTM prior to Board meetings to make sure the meetings meet operational needs. When matters are brought up during the meeting, it hinders the ability to move forward because information is not forthcoming in a proactive manner.

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The President suggested that it is possible to move forward with this meeting and continue the conversation afterwards. If the Board is not aware of issues, it cannot address these matters.

It was noted that a guest was “waiting in the lobby” to join the meeting.

Cameron Olesen, Chair, stated that he would admit the guest but remove them from the meeting if necessary.

Member Levy offered a motion to adjourn the meeting.

The Chair ruled the motion out of order since it was designed to delay the meeting, especially without the Board knowing the nature of the discussion.

Member Mauricio Canedo Fernandez offered to second the motion.

Cameron Olesen, Chair, encouraged the mover to speak to the nature of the concerns for the Board meeting. The Board meeting is the public meeting and is designed for discussion. If there were concerns with confidentiality, a motion to move in camera could be considered.

Jake Levy offered a broad overview of his concerns. He stated that many people heard about the previous meeting and were concerned that there are more appointed members than there are elected members on the Board. For that reason, he did not think it was right to continue with this meeting.

The Chair stated that appointed members are selected by their organizations and elected by those members and then appointed to the Board, similar to individual colleges. Any amendment to change the structure of the organization would require a vote by the entire student body.

Earl Evans, PTM, added that elected and appointed members on the Board have the same rights.

Member Isha Maharaj suggested that the Board consider the report on the ratification of appointed directors.

MOTION TO AMEND: That the agenda be reordered so that Item 2.11.1 - Report: “**Ratification of Appointed Directors to the CSA Board**” be reordered as the first item of discussion.

Moved: Isha Maharaj

Seconded: Nicole Walker, President

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Earl Evans, PTM, commented that the report examined the ratification of the appointed members. Therefore, it made sense to consider the report before the actual motion to ratify the members.

Motion carried

MOTION AS AMENDED

MOTION: That the agenda for the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 2 on June 15, 2022, be approved as amended so that Item 2.11.1 – **Report: “Ratification of Appointed Directors to the CSA Board”** be reordered as the first item of discussion.

Moved: Isha Maharaj

Seconded: Nicole Walker, President

Motion carried

2.2.2 Declarations of Conflicts

No declarations of conflict were made at this meeting.

2.3 Ratifications and De-Ratifications

2.3.1 Ratify Appointed Directors

MOTION: That the following appointed College Government Representatives be ratified as Members of the 2022-2023 CSA Board of Directors, effective immediately:

Ana-Maria Mercu	College of Biological Science - Student Council
Samantha Ogbeiwi	College of Social and Applied Human Sciences – Students Alliance

Moved: Isha Maharaj

Seconded: Mason Friebe, VP Academic

Jake Levy stated that it was not appropriate to approve the ratification of appointed members since students were concerned. His no-vote would be in the best interest of the students he represents.

Nicole Walker, President, emphasized that there are twice as many elected positions as appointed. Only a small number of individuals chose to run in the election and were elected, and they were present at this meeting. The appointed members represent a diverse range of voices on campus that may not be reflected in the elections.

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This includes the Indigenous Student Society and the Guelph Black Student Association, voices who are marginalized or under-represented but who provide a unique perspective to the CSA Board.

The President added that elected and appointed representatives on the Board all have the same vote. No one on the Board has more power than the other. She considers the Board to be strongest when the Executive and the Board of Directors, appointed or elected, work together for the good of the student body. Denying the appointment of the individuals who have put their names forward was not in the best interest of the organization. She discouraged voting against this motion especially when these people attended the meeting on May 25 when their appointment was denied and now, taking time out of their evening to attend this meeting. She wanted to be mindful and respectful of their time and their commitment to the students that they represent.

Jena-Lee, Ashley, VP External, reiterated that the appointed directors were at this meeting to represent students and not allowing them to be ratified was not fair to them or to their time that they took to attend. She encouraged voting in favor of ratifying these members and not suppressing their vote.

Isha Maharaj echoed the sentiments of the President and VP External. She is a returning Board member and came on during a fall by-election, so there is opportunity for empty seats to be filled. As an elected Director for her College, the OAC, it was her choice to run for that position. If students do not choose to run for their colleges, then that is not something that the Board can control. The Board can only encourage students to run for elections. The mandate of the CSA is to be the voice for the students. She suggested that it was important to have their opinions and to have them ratified. There is overlap with colleges and special status groups but each has their own interests. She stated that directors are all here to look out for the University and for the CSA. She encouraged everyone to vote in favor of ratifying the appointed members.

Mason Friebe, VP Academic, stated that it is in the best interest of everyone to approve the ratifications. He asked for more details on the member concerns.

Jake Levy explained that the concern raised by the people of his College was based on the structure of the CSA. Even when the Board is at full capacity, there are more appointed positions than elected positions. It is unfair that there are more appointed positions to the CSA in which the full student body of a College does not have a say in appointing those positions. According to Bylaw 1, Section 4.10.1, directors are to act in the best interest of the CSA and act in the best interest of the constituency represented. By voting "no" to this motion, he felt that he was doing both, acting in the best interest of the CSA by making sure we are a democratic system.

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Daniel Neiterman asked, through the Chair, how delaying or postponing the ratification would help address the concern.

Jake Levy suggested a referendum as the best way to move forward and to find out what the students want.

Cameron Olesen, Chair, noted a request from one of the appointed members to be added to the speaker's list. He noted that those members do not currently have speaking rights. However, those speaking rights could be extended by a vote from the currently ratified members.

MOTION: To extend speaking rights to all members up for ratification.

Moved: Isha Maharaj

Seconded: Nicole Walker, President

In response to a question from Member Levy, the Chair confirmed that this motion would allow the non-ratified members to speak, but not to vote.

Anthony Pereira stated that as a non-ratified member listening to the conversation, he considered it disrespectful that he attended the meeting, spent all this time in this meeting and then was told he was not going to be ratified. He felt he was not being ratified again simply because something else was going on outside the meeting that not everyone was aware of. He stressed the importance for all students on campus that these marginalized groups have representation on the CSA Board. To prevent the Indigenous students from having their representatives on the Board was against having their voices heard. The four members who can vote were basically rejecting the right for these other members to be appointed as ratified members. Even though he knew something else was happening outside this meeting, in his mind it did not make sense and it felt like the Board was just going in a circle. He suggested coming to an agreement due to the importance of ensuring a voice for the marginalized organizations.

MOTION: To call the question.

Moved: Mauricio Canedo Fernandez

Seconded: Jake Levy

Motion carried

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At this point, the Chair called for the vote on Motion 2.3.1, as moved and seconded. (See Page 8).

That the following appointed College Government Representatives be ratified as Members of the 2022-2023 CSA Board of Directors, effective immediately:

Ana-Maria Mercu College of Biological Science – Student Council
Samantha Ogbeiwi College of Social and Applied Human Sciences – Students Alliance

Motion defeated

MOTION: That the following appointed Student Organization Representatives be ratified as Members of the 2022-2023 CSA Board of Directors, effective immediately:

Krishna Varnika Karavadi	International Student Organization (ISO)
Duncan McGuire	Indigenous Student Society (ISS)
Anthony Pereira	Interhall Council (IHC)
Tess Vardy	Guelph Queer Equality (GQE)
Martha Yiridoe	Guelph Black Students Association (GBSA)

Moved: Jena-Lee Ashley, VP External

Seconded: Isha Maharaj

Jena-Lee Ashley, VP External, reminded that the majority of the seats to be ratified represent marginalized and under-represented groups. These positions were created in the past because students believed these groups deserved a voice. As an Indigenous woman, she felt that her voice was often neglected and ignored. She was extremely grateful to be given the opportunity to sit on the CSA Board and not ratifying these seats was extremely unfair. If the Board was not going to ratify these members, then it should not continue this meeting. She stated that it was unfair to have four or five ratified people refuse to ratify these other people.

Member Levy offered a motion to call the question but the Chair ruled it out of order at that time since there was another member on the speaker's list.

Daniel Neiterman suggested that it was not in the best interest for the CSA Board to continue to deny the ratifications. If members continue to vote "no" to these ratifications, he suggested postponing this vote to a future meeting, perhaps in one week. This would allow the Board to discuss these concerns

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more thoroughly. As a result of the “disconnect” that has occurred, he did not want to see valued members who are appointed by their organizations to be turned down repeatedly.

Krishna Varnika Karavadi expressed her confusion since the Board discussion to ratify members had been going on for more than 20 days. She observed that marginalized members had taken almost four hours of their day to attend this meeting and should be respected. A decision not to ratify them would not benefit any of the marginalized groups. Echoing the comments of the VP External, she stated that being represented on the CSA Board meant a lot to her.

Krishna Varnika Karavadi continued by stating that she is an international student and she has many issues to bring forward. She noted that she is participating in this meeting at 3:30 am, her local time. She expressed frustration in not being able to discuss important issues on campus in terms of international students or Queer rights or the Indigenous Student Society. She feared that the appointed members would have to wait for months as this discussion would keep going in circles with no outcome.

Jena-Lee Ashley, VP External, expressed confusion regarding another meeting to discuss concerns when a clear answer had not been provided regarding the concerns. She commented that it is not fair that the voting members are suppressing the votes of other students who deserve to be on the Board.

Anthony Pereira noted the importance of this motion for those who want democracy and for people to have their voices heard. He urged the motion to be approved.

MOTION: To call the question.

Moved: Jake Levy

Seconded: Mauricio Canedo Fernandez

Motion carried

At this point, the Chair called for the vote on Motion 2.3.1, as moved and seconded. (See Page 11).

That the following appointed Student Organization Representatives be ratified as Members of the 2022-2023 CSA Board of Directors, effective immediately:

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Krishna Varnika Karavadi	International Student Organization (ISO)
Duncan McGuire	Indigenous Student Society (ISS)
Anthony Pereira	Interhall Council (IHC)
Tess Vardy	Guelph Queer Equality (GQE)
Martha Yiridoe	Guelph Black Students Association (GBSA)

Motion defeated

MOTION: To table items on the agenda.

Moved: Nicole Walker, President

Seconded: Isha Maharaj

Nicole Walker, President, expressed disappointment in the decisions at this meeting. She acknowledged hearing from several members who were directly impacted by these decisions and the outcome of the vote. She regarded it as “exceptionally harmful” to suppress the voices of a diverse group of student leaders on this campus who have put their names forward to act in the best interests of their organization. At this meeting, it was demonstrated that not all voting members have the same rights. She concluded that it would be in the best interest to table this agenda and revisit the remaining items at a future meeting.

Jake Levy apologized to the people who felt their time had been wasted. He believed that this was the proper way to address the issues of the CSA. He had wanted to adjourn at the beginning of the meeting to avoid the “chaos” of this meeting.

Jena-Lee Ashley, VP External, expressed disappointment that no one was ratified and stated that a few members had “basically hijacked” the meeting.

Cameron Olesen, Chair, reminded members to direct comments to him and not to other members.

Isha Maharaj expressed disappointment in the decisions that were made by her fellow Board members. She recommended that speakers consider their words and tone during the meetings because people will be affected. As a returning Board member, she had experienced things at this Board meeting that she thought she would never experience. She acknowledged how difficult the meeting would have been for the appointed directors.

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MOTION: To call the question.

Moved: Mauricio Canedo Fernandez

Seconded: Nicole Walker, President

Motion carried

At this point, the Chair called for the vote on the motion to table the items on the agenda, as moved and seconded. (See Page 13).

To table items on the agenda.

Motion carried

Nicole Walker, President, asked that a time limit not be placed on the follow-up actions when it is not known what kind of discussions are needed before the next meeting. She advised against having an emergency Board meeting but if needed, one could be called after this meeting was adjourned.

Krishna Varnika Karavardi asked how the situation would be dealt with differently in the future so that appointed directors do not attend for two hours and then not be ratified. She observed that the Board is technically not dealing with any important issues and voices are not being heard.

Jena-Lee Ashely, VP External, stated that the report had addressed the concerns that were previously raised and asked how to address the concerns if the report was not enough.

Member Isha Maharaj suggested that the report was sufficient in outlining the issues and actions.

In response to a question from Jena-Lee Ashley, VP External, the Chair indicated that a working group could be formed to discuss the issues and bring recommendations to the Board.

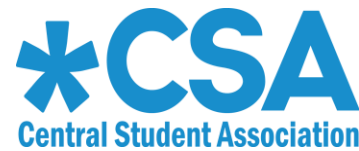
2.11 Business

2.11.1 Report: Ratification of Appointed Directors to the CSA Board

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting, based on a reordering amendment to the agenda.

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MOTION: That the report from the Policy & Transition Manager (Interim) dated June 15, 2022 re: "Ratification of Appointed Directors to the CSA Board" be received as information.

Moved: Jena-Lee Ashley, VP External

Seconded: Nicole Walker, President

Earl Evans, PTM, summarized the report and noted how the bylaws outline the qualifications of the CSA directors. If an individual is finished classes and has paid a graduation fee, that person is not a paying CSA member. This is different than students not in classes in the summer but returning in the fall. As PTM, he stated the difficulty experienced every year to bring the Board to full complement. He noted that at the last meeting, the Board was at five ratified members out of 31. The motion at that meeting would have ratified five more members. At this meeting, there is the opportunity to increase the Board by seven members to 12.

The PTM explained that as of May 1, the Board is in a new term, so directors appointed last term are no longer Board members. These different appointment dates have caused some confusion and CSA Executive and staff will address the confusion. If there was an error made in the past, he asked that people work together to correct it, clarify it, and achieve the best practices.

The report showed the actions that staff have taken or will take to address concerns brought up in the previous meeting. The PTM respectfully asked the Board to ratify the members at this meeting to start toward a full Board and have a positive year.

Daniel Neiterman acknowledged that at the last meeting, he made a comment that was considered hostile and he apologized for that statement. Regarding this report, he stated that it did a good job and answered some concerns of last meeting. He questioned why co-op students were not eligible to vote in the last CSA election. He also suggested that coop students should be able to run for election as well.

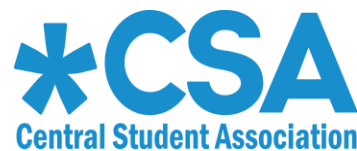
Nicole Walker, President, reported that in the last election, there were some voting issues with co-op students and other members of the student body. She stated that she would address and resolve this issue.

Jena-Lee Ashely, VP External, reported that she had a few peers in co-op who received a vote in their email. She thanked the PTM for presenting the report.

At this point, the Chair called for the vote on Motion 2.11.1, as moved and seconded. (See Page 15).

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That the report from the Policy & Transition Manager (Interim) dated June 15, 2022 re: "Ratification of Appointed Directors to the CSA Board" be received as information.

Motion carried

2.15 Adjournment

MOTION: That the CSA Board of Directors Meeting # 2 on June 15, 2022 be adjourned at 7:29 pm.

Moved: Nicole Walker, President

Seconded: Isha Maharaj

Motion carried

Approved by the Board of Directors

Date: July 13, 2022

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Cameron Olesen
Board Chair

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Earl Evans
Policy & Transition Manager (Interim)