**Colleges and Student Services Committee**

2023-24

Meeting date: Wednesday November 29

Location: Zoom and A.J.M. Smith Meeting Room

# Agenda

1. Chair’s Welcome
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of September 27th minutes
4. CASSC Budget Training
5. AVP Students Updates
6. Round Table Updates
7. Other Business
8. Adjournment

In attendance**:** Melanie Buddle (Chair), Lawrence Lam (AVP Students), Lesley Hulcoop (Secretary), Dante Pio (EC), Katie Lariviere (TUNA), Rovel Rehman (TCSA), Mark Murdoch (Foodservices), Emma Kaszecki (TGSA), Johanna Hart (Student Affairs), Jen Coulter (Student Housing), Ashley Lamothe (FPHL), Aidan Cooke (TC), Annalise Smart (OC), Shihab Islam (CC) and Emily Johnston (GC)

**Absent:** TISA

**1.** Chair’s Welcome **–** Melanie Buddle

Communications will be coming after the meeting to film this year’s holiday message. Everyone is welcome to join in the video.

**2.** Approval of Agenda

Motioned by Dante Pio. Seconded by Mark Murdoch. All in Favor.

**3**. Approval of September 27th minutes

Motioned by Dante Pio. Seconded by Emma Kaszecki. 6 in Favor, 3 Abstentions

**4.** CASSC Budget Training

\* Please see the budget-training handout.

* University budgets have different sources of funding. In Student Affairs our budgets are mainly funded by the University (operations), by government (grants), and by ancillary fees (non-tuition student fees).
* Ancillary budgets are the main concern of CASSC. Ancillary services have been significantly affected by the pandemic and subsequent high inflation rates.
* Cost of living increased a lot last year (6.9%) and this year (3.8%). It’s important to note that some sectors have gone up higher than this. For example, food costs have increased much higher than these rates and therefore have disproportionally affected the Food Services budget. Also, student wages have increased disproportionately higher than this year’s inflation rate and will affect budgets that hire students.
* Since the consumer price index rate is above the 3% increase threshold of the ancillary fee protocol, budgets asking for more than a 3% increase have to be approved at CASSC.
* There will be some budgets asking for CPI (3.8%), so it is important for student group representatives to attend meetings where a vote will take place.
1. **AVP Students Update** (Lawrence Lam)

The Ancillary Fee Protocol Review Subcommittee had their first meeting. The group identified 7 areas to consider:

* Need to have consistency between Durham & Peterborough process and caps.
* Eliminate the repetition in CASSC TOR and Protocol.
* Streamline voting/approval process.
* Review the 3% cap – perhaps mirror Levy Increase and leave it at CPI.
* Ensure adequate representation of students in membership.
* Remove student choice language.
* Consider collapsing non-compulsory and compulsory protocols to overarching document.

A blue-ribbon panel commissioned by the Ontario government to review and provide advice about the post-secondary sector has released its report. It provides recommendations for enhancing financial sustainability, accessibility, and the overall student experience. <https://www.ontario.ca/page/ensuring-financial-sustainability-ontarios-postsecondary-sector>

The gym has set aside lockers for those taking exams. If you would like to lock up your possessions before your exam, be sure to bring your own lock for the locker.

# RoundTable Updates

Send updates to Lesley Hulcoop prior to CASSC meetings. For roundtable updates, tell us what is upcoming – not what has already happened.

Please see the following updates:

**Lady Eaton Cabinet (Dante Pio)**

1. We are currently doing a Food Drive that has been occurring from November 19th and it goes until December 7th. Any non-perishable foods, canned goods, and unopened hygiene products will be donated to St. Vincent (for food donations) and One City (for hygiene donations). For any donations, people can be entered into a draw for a $25 gift card for the Boro. We are accepting donations at the LEC Cabinet Office (ECC 108) weekdays from 12pm-8pm when our office is open.
2. We are also hosting a Cocoa, Cram, and Destressor event on December 7th from 3pm-6pm in the PIT and LEC Junior Common Room. This is a partnered event with Academic Skills and the Psychology Undergraduate Society to help students get ready for the exam season, and to help students destress as well.

**Campus Safety (Melissa Martin):**

TUEFRT will be having tryouts Jan 19th to the 21st. Applications are now open. We will be reaching out to the colleges to help get the word out and see if they can add this to their communication emails and social media. Also, we are looking to arrange a subcommittee meeting in the new year.

**Convocation Subcommittee (Joanne Sokolowski & Taylor Stark)**

The CASSC Convocation Sub Committee met for the 2024 convocation. You can find the meeting minutes and updated convocation overview presentation on the CASSC website: <https://www.trentu.ca/currentstudents/cassc-committee-and-subcommittee-documents-and-minutes>

**Student Housing (Jen Coulter)**

* The residence satisfaction survey went out earlier so that Housing can act on the results for next semester if needed. Please encourage resident students to do the survey.
* The future new residence building will be named Gidigaa Migizi College, in celebration and memory of the late Gidigaa Migizi (Doug Williams).

# Other Business

# Active Minds will hold a celebration on November 30th in the Student Centre for the launch of the 9-8-8 Suicide Crisis Helpline. It is a new 3-digit helpline that provides urgent, live support by phone or text for people in Canada. For more information: <https://988.ca/>

**8. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Emma Kaszecki, seconded by Dante Pio.