

Minutes of the Ontario Tech Alumni Association Council Meeting January 14, 2020 from 7 to 9 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT (IN-PERSON)

Shaikh Farhan Rashid (Chair), William Lee (Vice-Chair), Astrid DeSouza, Muhammad Mahad and Angelo Pineda

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT (PHONE), Reuben Gomes, Ijlal Gondal, Keegan Guidolin, Sean Kell

REGRETS

Alison Broadworth

ALUMNI OFFICE STAFF PRESENT

Jennifer Goldsmith

1. CALL TO ORDER

S. Farhan Rashid called to order at 7:10 p.m. Seconded by W. Lee.

S. Farhan Rashid welcomed new acclaimed member Astrid DeSouza to the Council.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve agenda. Moved by S. Farhan Rashid. All in favour.

Carried.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 13 MEETING

Motion to approve minutes. Moved by M. Mahad. Seconded by W. Lee.

Carried.

4. ALUMNI OFFICE UPDATES / INFORMATION SHARING

a. Johnson Insurance

J. Goldsmith shared that A. Broadworth had a meeting with our contact at Johnson Insurance about offering a webinar/'lunch and learn' style event in the coming months. A great way to test out a webinar-based platform and to engage a wider range of alumni. More information to come at the next meeting.

b. Pi Day Events and Council Involvement

J. Goldsmith reminded Council that Pi Day is coming on March 14. The 2020 event will include two community events: a free skate at the Campus Ice Centre on March 14 and the annual community movie event will be a matinee on March 15 at the Regent Theatre. Council is welcome to volunteer at either of these events, and more

information will be sent about how they can engage the alumni community to be part of these events and the campaign.

J. Goldsmith confirmed with W. Lee and M. Mahad that they will assist in a Pi Day party at OPG.

Action: *Alumni Office will send Pi Day information to Council to sign up for volunteering and so they can be campaign ambassadors.*

c. Other Upcoming Events

J. Goldsmith outlined a few upcoming events: Graduating Class Challenge Pub Night (date to be confirmed), Athletics Banquet and Alumni Reception (March 26), Alumni Speakers Series (May 5) and of course the Pi Day events.

d. Merchandise

J. Goldsmith shared with the Council that the Ridgebacks portal mentioned at the November meeting is no longer an option available to the university.

J. Goldsmith will reach out to a supplier to obtain quotes and options for merchandise for Convocation.

Action: *J. Goldsmith to bring inventory report to next meeting when discussion on revenue benefits can occur.*

5. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a. Strategic Plan Update

S. Farhan Rashid reported he finished reviewing the Strategic Plan and recommended the Council keep the goals similar to those set in previous years, with discussion surrounding:

- Creating a concrete fundraising goal for Alumni Hall. The purpose of the hall will be to provide Alumni with a space on campus. It was suggested that Council set a fundraising goal to name a lounge or room in an existing space/building.
- To increase revenue, Council to consider creating an endowment and requesting an ancillary fee from the student fees to support Alumni activities. Further research is required to develop a proposal for consideration by the university's senior leadership team. Council agreed to focus on fundraising for smaller goals.
- K. Guidolin proposed Council consider alumni membership fees be introduced as a potential revenue stream; membership benefits could include access to alumni resources in other cities, etc.

Action: *W. Lee suggested the Council consider three things to be discussed at the next meeting: short-term, 10 to 20 years from now and the function of the space.*

b. Committee Work Plan Development Follow Up

- > Engagement
- > Finance (Budget)
- > Governance

Work plans have been uploaded to the shared drive. Consensus that going forward, the committees will have work plans but no work back plans.

Action: S. Farhan Rashid to follow up with A. Broadworth for Q3 results.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

- M. Mahad and W. Lee reported on the OPG Reception held on November 25, 2019.
 - It was a good turnout, surprising how many of their colleagues went to the university. Attendees were happy to see faculty there.
 - It was a great pilot project and we should see if we could do it at any other companies, or OPG again. W. Lee recommended hosting an event in Toronto to lessen the focus on nuclear grads. M. Mahad recommended more visual aids in the speaking remarks so it could be an opportunity for recruitment and/or alumni giving.
 - M. Mahad recommended working toward the goal of having an alumni ambassador at companies where we have a larger number of alumni working to stay connected.
- W. Lee met with the Student Union to discuss collaborating on events. They discussed a partnered event wherein there would be mock interview nights between students and alumni. M. Mahad mentioned that this sounds similar to the mentorship lounge at the job fair on February 4, and recommended that the Council start with that format and evaluate.
- W. Lee shared that Dan Gazarek, an alumnus, is doing a Brilliant Catalyst event called Moonshot and seeking alumni advisors.
- S. Farhan Rashid informed Council members that he will be away from February 20 to March 2, 2020.
- S. Farhan Rashid asks that Council members send ideas for guest speakers to M. Mahad to consider, and then he will send top choices to Alumni Office.
- S. Farhan Rashid wants to use the Zoom platform for the next meeting. Says he will send an email to set that up, and invites Council members in the Toronto area to come to Sick Kids for the next meeting.

ACTIONS:

- *J. Goldsmith to send mentorship lounge information to Council.*
- *W. Lee to send Moonshot information to Council.*
- *J. Goldsmith to confirm alumni volunteers are still needed for Moonshot contest.*

- *Members to provide speaker suggestions to M. Mahad.*
- *S. Farhan Rashid to arrange for the meeting on February 12 to be via Zoom and send information to Council.*

7. ADJOURNMENT

S. Farhan Rashid motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m.

Seconded by S. Kell.

Carried.