**Colleges and Student Services Committee**

2021-22

Meeting date: January 19

Location: Zoom

# Agenda

1. Chair’s Welcome (Melanie Buddle)
2. Approval of agenda
3. Approval of December 8th meeting minutes
4. Budget Training (Nona Robinson)
5. Consolidation of the Counselling, Health Services and Accessibility Services fees into one Wellness Services fee (Stewart Engelberg)
6. Budget Presentations for Food Services, the Ceilie and the Card Office (Mark Murdoch)
7. AVP Students Update (Nona Robinson)
8. Round Table Updates
9. Other business
10. Adjournment

In attendance**:** Melanie Buddle (Chair), Nona Robinson (AVP Students), Lesley Hulcoop (Secretary), Ally Speed (TCSA), Mark Murdoch (Foodservices), Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay (TGSA), Krista Kermer (OSA), Rashmi Thakur (TISA), Adyan Ehtesham (TISA), Miguel Capilla (TI), Fiona McKenna (TUNA) and Kevin Whitmore (Careerspace) and Stewart Engelberg (Wellness)

**Absent:** Cameron Ewing (Traill), Julia VanDerhorst (EC), Shay Surujnarain (OC), Jaden Gray (GC), Clara Sonnemann (CC)

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

[Land acknowledgement](https://www.trentu.ca/fphl/): “We respectfully acknowledge that we are on the treaty and traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig Anishinaabeg.  We offer our gratitude to the First Peoples for their care for, and teachings about, our earth and our relations.  May we honour those teachings.”

**2.** Approval of Agenda

Motioned by Fiona McKenna. Seconded by Mark Murdoch. All in Favour.

3. **Approval of December 8th meeting minutes**

Motioned by Stewart Engelberg. Seconded by Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay. One abstention, motion passed.

**4. Budget Training –** Nona Robinson

Please see the budget-training handout.

* Ancillary budgets are the main concern of CASSC. Ancillary services have been significantly affected by the pandemic – particularly housing and food services.
* Cost of living has gone up a lot this year (4.7%). This is above the 3% increase threshold of the ancillary fee protocol. Budgets asking for more than a 3% increase will have to be approved at CASSC. If the increase is more than 20%, it will need to go to a referendum. There will be some budgets asking for CPI, so it is important for student group representatives to attend meetings where a vote will take place.
* Hopeful that financial aid and OSAP will continue to increase by the Consumer Price Index (CPI).
* Some Ancillary fees were made [optional](https://www.trentu.ca/studentfinances/tuition-fees/student-choice-initiative) by the Provincial Conservative Government. The Canadian Federation of Students took them to the Ontario Divisional court and it was overturned.
* The Trent Central Student Association is looking at a larger number of referendum fees this year that will be going on the ballot for students to vote on.

**5. Consolidation of the Counselling, Health Services and Accessibility Services fees into one Wellness Services fee** (Stewart Engelberg)

* The Wellness Centre would like a consolidation of fees and will be putting this forward as a referendum question on the ballot.
* By consolidating the fees, it will be more effective to strategically budget and address the Wellness Centre needs.

**Referendum Question**

When the student fees for counselling, health services, and accessibility services were first established, these were all separate university departments. Over the past number of years, Trent has recognized that student needs, particularly with respect of mental health, are better met when these services are consolidated, so that students can be more seamlessly supported.

To help ensure that service levels are balanced across these departments, we would like to merge the three separate fees into a single Wellness Services fee. The current fees vary considerably between the different services, which can result in unequal resource allocation. Any future budgets and fee increases would continue to be determined in consultation and with the approval of the TCSA and other student associations.

Do you agree with consolidating the Counselling, Health Services and Accessibility Services fees into one Wellness Services fee?

**6. Budget Presentations for Food Services, the Ceilie and the Card Office (Mark Murdoch)**

**Food Services:**

* Due to the pandemic, we had losses up to 2 million dollars. The University covered it but it used up the reserve fund. The loss is significant this year but not as bad as last year.
* The fees for 2022/2023 were approved by the Food Services Advisory Committee on January 13. Traditional meal plans will be increased by 3.2% and Suite plans by 4.3%
* Will continue to include food options for people with dietary needs.
* Trent continues to have one of the lowest dining plans in the province and will allows students to carry-over any unspent funds while they are attending Trent.

**The Ceilie:**

* Was not open last year and students did not pay the ancillary fee.
* Student wages are the biggest cost.
* Budget will increase by 3%
* Project a modest loss, which is absorbed by the University.

**Card Office:**

* First fee increase in 20 years. 3% = $0.27
* Reflects increased cost for card material and operating expenses.
* There will be significant software costs for next year and replacement of hardware.

**7. AVP Students Update – Nona Robinson**

* The University is on track for resuming in-person classes on January 31.
* Mask requirements will still be in place.
* Students who live in residence will need to do two rapid tests: the first when they arrive and another 48 hours later.
* Isolation requirements will still be in place.
* Faculty members are aware that students may need to miss class due to health or personal reasons related to COVID-19 and have been encouraged to be flexible.
* When you get your booster, be sure to check off the box on your vaccine profile indicating that it is your booster.
* Check the [Trent Forward FAQ page](https://www.trentu.ca/coronavirus/faq) for information.
* Good News! There is in increase in Mental Health funding and we will be receiving, funding from the Ontario Postsecondary Access and Inclusion Program. This funding helps support targeted student support groups such as “Out on Campus” and “Black Student Support” groups.

# 8. Round table Updates

**Food Services –** Because of another round of closures, we have had to go back to disposables which is disappointing in terms of sustainability. We’re working hard to support students in isolation with our food delivery program. When the dining rooms open, we have to check QR codes and one piece of government issued I.D. We have hired 20 students to do this.

Patti Kidd, the Manager of the Campus Payment and Information Centre and the Campus Card Office, and Brendan Humphrey’s our new TrentU Card Program Administrator, will be updating our electronic e-commerce as well as student account invoices, etc. They will also be piloting a tuition payment plan in fall 2022 with international and residence students.

**Trent International:** Working on planning for Orientation and hiring facilitators.

**TUNA –** Gracie Crafts from TUNA is sitting on the [Champlain Committee](https://www.trentu.ca/communicationsenrolment/champlain-committee/) (considering and reflecting upon the Champlain legacy at Trent).A lot of our events our up in the air because of the pandemic. Engagement is low because we are back on Zoom.

**TCSA** – Elections are coming up. Doing staff planning.

**TISA –** Participating in Frost week. Will have a give away on Instagram. Hosting a show on Trent Radio called “Spill the Tisa”. Working on plans for Cultural Outreach.

**Student Affairs –** Received Ontario Postsecondary Access and Inclusion Program (OPAIP) funding for marginalized students. Applications are open for Orientation leaders. The [Rebound program](https://www.trentu.ca/currentstudents/academics/peer-support/rebound) is open for the second term for first and second year students. Rebound is a peer-support program that provides students with connections to resources, services and supports on campus.

**TGSA –** The Annual General Meeting is coming up.

**Wellness Centre:** Health services is in the process of replacing one of our clinic nurses. Dr. King (psychiatrist) will be increasing to 2 days a week in May. Counseling has hired four new counsellors since September. We are offering virtual short-term therapeutic support, as well as, specialized support (BIPOC, 2SLGBTQ+, & Single-Session Therapy) to current students who are residing in Ontario. Student Accessibility Services has seen an increase in students who are identifying as needing services.

**9. Other business –** No other business.

**10. Adjournment**

Motioned by Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay