



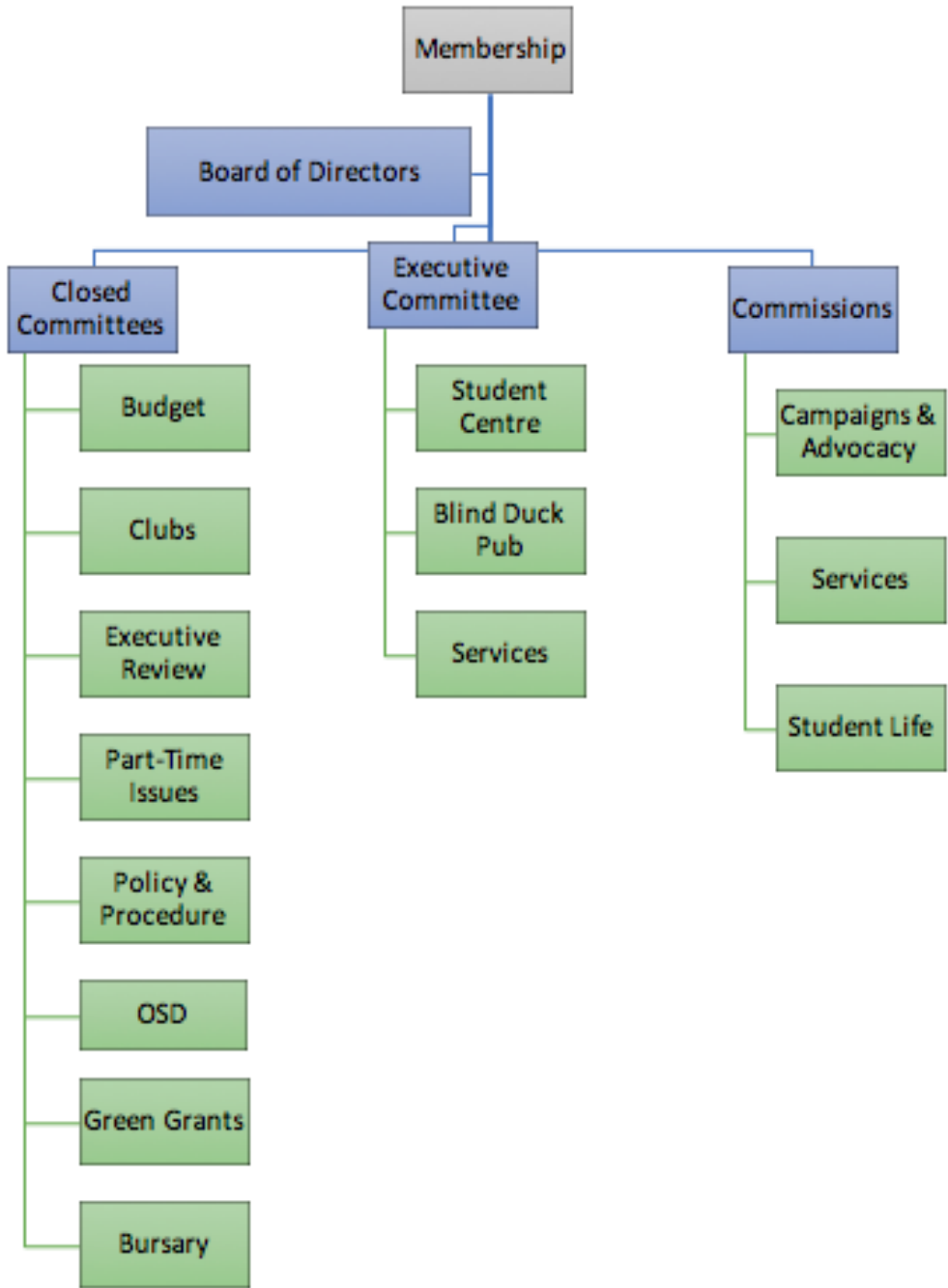
University Of Toronto Mississauga  
Students' Union

Local 109 of the Canadian Federation of Students

# What is the UTM Students' Union?

- Independently incorporated on August 2nd, 1983
- Union for the students by the students
- Full time and part time undergraduate students
- Hold events, campaigns and services to enhance the student experience
- Apart of the Canadian Federation of Students that is made up of over 500 000 students, more than 80 university and college students' unions

# UTMSU Structure



# UTMSU Executive Committee



# Campaigns

- Fight the Fees (tuition, parking, food, etc)
- United for Equity
- Student Centre Expansion
- No Means No
- Fairness for International Students
- Water is a Human Right
- Divest NOW!
- Multi-Faith Space
- Challenging Islamophobia

# Events

- Orientation Week
- U-Fest (Welcome Week)
- Multicultural Week
- Montreal Reading Week Trip
- Environment Week
- Club/Society Collaborations
- Exam Destressors
- Academic Advocacy Week

# Services

- Bursaries
- UTMSU Convenience Store - The Duck Stop
- The Blind Duck
- Tax Clinics
- Academic Advising
- U-pass program
- Health & Dental program
- Discounted tickets at the InfoBooth
- Multi-Faith Space

- Food Centre
- Women's Centre
- Sexual Education Center
- ECSpert
- Downtown Legal Services
- UTMSU Free Breakfast Wednesdays
- Farmer's Markets
- Peer to Peer support program



# UTMSU Victories

- Successfully lobbied for a Fall Reading Week (October 2016)
- Eliminated Access Copyright fees saving students over \$1.5 million per year
- Lobbied to split tuition fee payments starting 2014
- UTMSU bursaries raised from \$59k to \$64k
- Introduced an International Students' Bursary
- Increased club's funding to \$101,000
- Improved access to the food centre and hosted multiple Farmers' Markets
- Lobbied to provide free menstrual products on campus
- Successfully opened a Nap Room on campus
- Opened the first ever student run convenience store - THE DUCK STOP!
- Implemented a free weekly nutritional breakfast program - feeding over 400 students
- Lobbied to include the student rights and equity statement on the syllabus
- UPass partnership with the City of Mississauga continues

Introduced the Co-Curricular Record for UTMSU Clubs & Society Executives

And many, many more!!!

# **Student Recommendations**

# Co-Op Opportunities

- Co-Op programs at various institutions have become a major focus for students – source of competition
- More students prefer programs with CO-OP placements as part of their degree rather than finding little opportunities after they graduate for what they studied for
- UofT Scarborough has had a CO-OP program complementing their Management and various Humanities & Social Science programs to encourage students into experiential learning
- Students have begun to lead the charge in lobbying our central administration and wish to see this as a priority

# Equity Breadth Requirement

- In light of the threats made at UofT last year and with the growing trend of violence, it would be a great addition to have an equity course breadth
- Similar to the Sciences, Humanities, and Social Sciences, requirement for graduation
- To support the Truth and Reconciliation and to decolonize our institution
- Sociology, Women & Gender Studies, Diaspora studies, St. George Equity Studies Program
- The courses already exist, we just need to prioritize equity studies

# Summer School Course Expansion

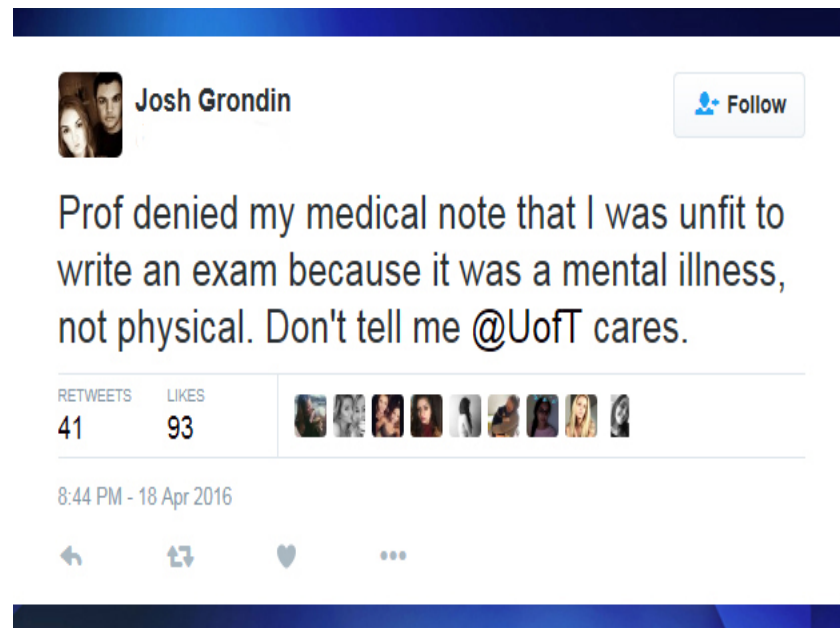
- Increased enrolment over the past 5 years
- Roughly 6,000 students attend summer school (just under 50% of our F/W population)
- Survey of 311 students
- 25% Biology, 18% Psychology, 17% Mathematical & Computational Sciences
- Mostly second year (36%) and third year (35%) students
- Top 2 reasons why students didn't enroll (1) courses were unavailable (2) the cost of summer school was too high
- Recommendations from students: more upper year courses (300 & 400 level), offer more language courses

# Grade Forgiveness Policy

- Research into UK & Ivy League Schools
- Focus on student success
- Different mechanisms (erasure of initial grade, average, etc.)
- In my capacity, looking to update the UTSU report on Grade Forgiveness

# Registrar Fees/Academic Accommodations

- Review of Academic Accommodations Procedures
- Review of Registrar Fees
- E.g. MSAAF at McMaster
- Submitting medical documentation, accessibility fees, exam review, exam deferral (\$70), etc.



# Divestment

- Need to further standards of ethics
- Look into divesting from unethical corporations and reinvest into organizations that further our priorities
- E.g. Fossil Fuel Divestment: Meric Gertler's "Beyond Divestment" announcement
- Northrop Grumman, Hewlett Packard
- Be the leaders in ethical investment





**Questions?**



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