

FOR INFORMATION

PUBLIC

OPEN SESSION

TO: UTM Campus Affairs Committee

SPONSOR: Mark Overton, Assistant Principal, Student Services & Dean of Student
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PRESENTER: As above
CONTACT INFO:

DATE: April 30, 2024, for May 7, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: 4

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Annual Report: (2023-24): Recognized Student Groups, UTM

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

Section 5.9 of the Campus Affairs Committee Terms of Reference states that the Committee receives annually, from the appropriate administrators, reports on services within its areas of responsibility, including campus organizations.

Section 5.6 of the University Affairs Board Terms of Reference states that "The Board receives annually, from the appropriate administrators, reports on services within its areas of responsibility, including but not limited to multi-campus services and offices, Campus Police, Human Resources and Equity, crisis response, and campus organizations."

Section III(c) of the [Policy on the Recognition of Student Groups \(2020\)](#) states that "All administrative decisions to grant, deny, or withdraw recognition will be reported regularly to the University Affairs Board for information."

GOVERNANCE PATH:

1. **UTM Campus Affairs Committee [For Information] (May 7, 2024)**
2. University Affairs Board [for information] May 29, 2024

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

The annual report was provided for information to the UTM Campus Affairs Committee and the University Affairs Board on May 8, 2023, and May 31, 2023, respectively.

HIGHLIGHTS:

An organization seeking campus or university recognition must submit an annual application and constitution to the UTM Centre for Student Engagement (CSE). As of April 15, 2024, for the 2023-2024 academic year there were 140 groups recognized; none were denied.

In addition, UTM recognizes 17 academic societies associated with academic departments, and 10 affiliated organizations that offer services to students who subsidize them (such as student governments and student-run media, whose membership is automatic based on students' registration.)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial implications.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information

DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

University of Toronto Mississauga Recognized Student Groups, 2023-24



To: Members of the UTM Campus Affairs Committee

From: Mark Overton, Dean of Student Affairs & Assistant Principal, Student Services

Date: April 22, 2024

Subject: University of Toronto Mississauga Recognized Student Groups, 2023-24

The size and diversity of the student community on the University of Toronto Mississauga campus provides an extraordinary number of opportunities for students to participate in a vast array of activities undertaken by student organizations. Participation in these groups forms an integral part of the student experience. Student groups contribute, in a variety of ways, to the educational, intellectual, recreational, social, and cultural life of the University of Toronto community. For many students, involvement in voluntary student organizations is not only a traditional part of campus life; it forms a significant component of their learning while at the University.

Many recognized student organizations engage in co-curricular activities that enrich the participation of their members in their own academic programs. Involvement in a student organization can also provide significant learning opportunities for students with respect to leadership, civic and community engagement, and organizational capacity. Since many student organizations address the complex issues of the world around us, engagement in a student group can often provide important opportunities to be exposed to different ideas and perspectives. This helps the University provide meaningful opportunities for debate and dissent, and to foster the development of students' understanding of difference. Finally, participation in student groups provides one means by which students integrate and engage with small communities within the University of Toronto.

In 2022-23, the University of Toronto Mississauga saw a decrease of recognized student groups compared to the previous year, ending with 107 recognized groups. In 2023-24, student and group engagement has increased at a substantial rate. UTM saw a heavier than previously experienced and expected number of recognition applications from mid-September to mid-October. This was a result of many novel, smaller, grassroots groups seeking recognition, combining with our more established and historic groups. In addition to this heavy initial recognition application influx, we experienced routine questions from students looking for support on creating new groups, leading to consistent applications for groups throughout the year. These high levels of student engagement and resilience resulted in 140 recognized student groups, which is the highest number of recognized groups over the past three years.

A further reflection of the dedication of our students in supporting and creating a vibrant and active community, the number of funding applications to the Centre for Student Engagement has greatly increased as well. This year, the Centre for Student Engagement introduced a new BIPOC Student

Engagement Fund, alongside the regular Student Engagement Fund, and hoped these funds would serve as additional incentive towards student group recognition. The successful use of these funds and the high number of recognized student groups surpassed our expectations and is another indicator of the strength of the student community we have at the University of Toronto Mississauga.

In accordance with the University's *Policy on the Recognition of Student Groups* (the [Policy](#)), this is a report on administrative decisions to grant, deny, or withdraw recognition for groups based on the University of Toronto campus in this academic year. The student groups listed below have been granted recognition until September 30, 2024.

All groups that have been granted recognition for the 2023-24 academic year are listed in this memorandum.

Recognition of student groups by the University provides several benefits and opportunities:

1. the right to use the name of the University in the name of the group and in conjunction with group activities;
2. eligibility to use University facilities and meeting spaces at no cost or at a lower cost compared to external organizations;
3. eligibility to apply for temporary office space;
4. listings in select University directories as a University-recognized student group;
5. verification letters confirming recognition status (sometimes required by banks and other external organizations); and
6. access to other University services and resources made available from time to time.

A student organization seeking recognition must submit an annual application to The Centre for Student Engagement along with a copy of group's constitution. The constitution outlines the group's purpose, objectives, and procedures. It addresses organizational structure, membership, meetings, the election or appointment of members in leadership positions, amendments to the constitution, and rules of conduct. A commitment to democracy and accountability to members should also be reflected.

Full membership in a recognized student group (including eligibility to vote and serve in a leadership position) must be open to any currently registered University of Toronto student from any division. While discriminatory membership practices are not allowed, it is acknowledged that certain groups could well be homogeneous in nature without being discriminatory. Status as non-voting members may be extended to other University community members or interested persons from outside the University.

Groups seeking recognition by the University must be genuine student organizations and generally non-profit in nature. A recognized student group cannot be controlled by any external body. However, many organizations are affiliated with provincial, national, or international bodies and other external groups.

Under the terms of the [Policy](#), the University will not attempt to censor, control or interfere with any group on the basis of its philosophy, beliefs, interests or opinions expressed unless and until these lead to activities which are illegal or which infringe the rights and freedoms of others within the community. By the same token, recognition as a student group implies neither endorsement of a group's beliefs or philosophy, nor the assumption of legal liability for the group's activities.

Please note that, pursuant to the [Policy](#), the recognition of student groups which draw their membership from only one academic division is delegated to the governance body of that division.

It is important to note that there are hundreds of additional clubs, many athletics and recreation activities, Hart House clubs and committees, as well as recognized student groups based on other campuses which, while not listed here, add significantly to the educational, intellectual, recreational, social, and cultural life of the U of T community. In addition, many students are involved in student governments, college and faculty student societies, course unions, and departmental student associations.

Recognition Granted

As of April 8, 2024, recognition has been granted by the Centre for Student Engagement to the following 140 student organizations for the 2023-24 academic year. More information about these organizations is available online at sop.utoronto.ca:

1. A Better Day Tomorrow (ABDT)
2. ACE UTM
3. African Students Association
4. Ahmadiyya Muslim Students' Association (AMSA)
5. Ahmadiyya Muslim Women Students Association (AMWSA)
6. Armenian Students Association
7. Aspiring Physicians of Tomorrow
8. Association of Palestinian Students (APS)
9. Avad Adventist Christian Fellowship
10. Baptist Student Ministries UTM
11. Believer's LoveWorld UTM (BLWUTM)
12. Black Future Lawyer's Club (BFL UTM)
13. Black Literature and Arts Club
14. Cancer Awareness Student Organization (CASO)
15. Caribbean Connections
16. Champions of Change UTM (COCUTM)
17. Channel6ix Film Studio
18. Chinese Students and Scholars Association at University of Toronto Mississauga (UTMCSSA)
19. Committee of Interdisciplinary Research on Human Behaviour CIRHB
20. Creatives For Change (C4C)
21. D&D Club
22. Digital Enterprise Management Association (DEMA)
23. Echo Elegance UTM
24. ENACTUS UTM
25. Erindale Gaming Organization
26. EXCELLENCE (X1)
27. Filipino Student Association
28. Fintech Association(FA)

29. Friends of Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors without Borders) – UTM Chapter (FoMSF-UTM)
30. Harmonix Music Club (HMC)
31. Health, Law and Business Association at UTM
32. Hearts to hearts student association (HTH)
33. iFutur
34. Indian Students Association
35. Indus Hospital UTM (IH UTM)
36. Islamic Relief at UTM (IR UTM)
37. Japanese Association at Mississauga
38. Jewish Student Association
39. KJH Dance Club (KJHDC)
40. Latin American Students' Association (LASA)
41. Lebanese Student Association
42. Lehra Ke
43. LIFT Church
44. Management and Psychology Association (MAPA)
45. Mandarin International Student Christian Fellowship (MICF)
46. Mending Minds UTM (MMUTM)
47. Middle Eastern Students' Association
48. Model United Nations (MUN)
49. Mood Psychology@UTM
50. Muslim Students' Association
51. NuMonic Dance Team
52. Pet the Pets (PTP)
53. RCHV Creative Collective
54. Ready Our Youth (ROY)
55. Regenesi UTM
56. Right to Play UTM
57. ROCSAUT
58. Sending Sunshine
59. South Asian Student Association (SASA)
60. Students for Health Humanities UTM (SHH UTM)
61. Studio X
62. Teaching & Education Studies Association (TESA)
63. Thaḡalayn Muslim Association UTM
64. The Bamboo Life (UTM BLife)
65. The Bhakti Yoga Club
66. The Energy Network
67. The Indonesian Student Association at the University of Toronto Mississauga (ISA UTM)
68. Turkish Students' Association at the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM TSA)
69. Ukrainian Association of UTM
70. Undergraduate Economics Council (UEC)
71. UNICEF UTM

72. University of Toronto 021 Chinese Entrepreneurs Group
73. University of Toronto Card Game Club (UTCGC)
74. University of Toronto Erindale Hong Kong Students' Association (UTEHKSA)
75. University of Toronto Erindale Table Tennis Club (UTETTC)
76. University of Toronto Mapping Club (UTMC)
77. University of Toronto Mississauga Advocacy and Litigation Team
78. University of Toronto Mississauga Black Students Association (UTM BSA or BSA)
79. University of Toronto Mississauga Chartered Financial Analyst Association (UTMCFA)
80. University of Toronto Mississauga Korean Students' Association (UTMKRSA)
81. University of Toronto Mississauga Mental Health Student Association (UTM MHSA)
82. University of Toronto Mississauga Mock Trial Club
83. University of Toronto Mississauga Physics Club
84. University of Toronto Mississauga Poker Club
85. University of Toronto Mississauga Policy Analysis Club (UTM PAC)
86. University of Toronto Mississauga Pre-Medical Club (UTMPMC)
87. University of Toronto Mississauga Sikh Student Association
88. University of Toronto Mississauga Young Liberals
89. University of Toronto Social Science Student Association
90. UofT Software Engineering Club
91. UofTea Party – Mississauga (UTeam)
92. Urbanism Club (UC)
93. UTM Archery
94. UTM Barbell (UTMBB)
95. UTM Body Beautiful
96. UTM Bollywood Club
97. UTM Book Discovery Club (UTMBD)
98. UTM Campus Christian Fellowship
99. UTM Capital (UTMCAP)
100. UTM Catholic Students Club
101. UTM Charity Fashion Show
102. UTM Chess Club
103. UTM Correctional Service Volunteers (UTMCSV)
104. UTM Crochet Club (UTMCC)
105. UTM Dance Team
106. UTM Debate Club
107. UTM Esports
108. UTM Fight for Hope (UTMFFH)
109. UTM Film Club (UTMFC)
110. UTM Gujarati Student Association (GSA)
111. UTM KPOP + SYNIX
112. UTM Latin Dance Club
113. UTM Martial Arts (UofT MMA)(UTMMA)
114. UTM Mature Students Society (UTM MSS)
115. UTM MedLife

116. UTM Miscarriages of Justice (UTMMJ)
117. UTM New Democratic Party (UTM NDP)
118. UTM NextGen Lifeline
119. UTM Paleontology Club (UPC)
120. UTM PeerMinds
121. UTM Pre-Dental Club (utmpdc)
122. UTM Quantitative Trading Club (UTMQTC)
123. UTM Regenerative Medicine Club
124. UTM Robotics Club
125. UTM Society For Algorithmic Modelling
126. UTM Start Box
127. UTM Students for SickKids (SFS)
128. UTM Swim Club
129. UTM Tamil Students' Association (UTMTSA)
130. UTM Taylor Swift Society
131. UTM Undergraduate Research Students' Association
132. UTM Vietnamese Student Association
133. UTM Wildlife and Ornithology Club (UTWO)
134. UTM Women and Gender Equity Centre (WGEC)
135. UTM Women Student Association (UTM WSA)
136. UTM Women's Health & Wellness Hub
137. UTMHacks
138. We Run UTM
139. Women in Law Association
140. Women in Science and Computing

Recognition Denied

As of April 8, 2024, no student groups have been denied recognition.

Recognition Withdrawn

As of April 8, 2024, two student groups have withdrawn their recognition.

Recognition Statistics for UTM (as of April 8, 2024)

Summary of the applications for recognition received this year:

Total number of applications: 160

Recognition granted: 140

Recognition withdrawn: 2

Recognition denied: 0

Applications withdrawn by the student group: 2

Applications terminated by the University: 0

Applications under review¹: 18

Membership Data²:

Cumulative total number of members of all UTM recognized student groups: 8,673

Average number of members per UTM recognized student group: 62

Number of UTM groups with fewer than 20 members: 49

Number of UTM groups with 20 to 100 members: 68

Number of UTM groups with greater than 100 members: 23

¹ Applications under review are contacted twice regarding completion of the recognition process during their initial application period. After this, outstanding applications are again contacted once in early November and/or once in early January, and/or once in mid-March to complete the recognition process.

² Membership figures are provided by the groups at the time of application and are not verified. Membership numbers may include U of T students, staff, faculty, librarians, and alumni, as well as external community members. Student membership numbers are not reported separately.

Other Campus Student Organizations

UTM has additional student organizations that are not required to renew each year. The organizations are academic in nature, uniting students within a specific program or field of study. Though these groups do not fall within the purview of the *Policy on Recognition of Campus Groups*, they are student run with collaboration between the academic department and the elected student leaders.

All students are represented by each of the academic societies, depending on their program of study.

The list of all academic societies are as follows:

1. Department of Visual Studies and Student Society
2. English & Drama Students Society
3. Erindale Biology Society
4. Erindale Society of Chemical & Physical Sciences
5. Forensics Society
6. Historical Studies Society at UTM
7. ICCIT Council
8. Innovative Business Association (IBA)
9. Language Studies Academic Society
10. Mathematical and Computational Sciences Society (MCSS)
11. Philosophy Academic Society
12. Political Science & Pre-Law Association (PSLA)
13. Psychology Association of Undergrad Students at Erindale (PAUSE)
14. Sociology & Criminology Society (SCS)
15. Student Association of Geography and Environment (SAGE)
16. Undergraduate Economics Council (ECS)
17. UTM Anthropology Society (UTMAS)

Total number of academic societies: 17

Recognized UTM Affiliates

UTM affiliates are groups, subsidized by students, which offer a campus service. Many students participate actively or passively with many of the services during their studies at UTM. Though these groups do not fall within the purview of the *Policy on Recognition of Groups*, they do offer a vital service to students and the broader UTM community. Members, staff, and volunteers of these organizations are students (though some professional staff are hired within the organizations as well).

The list of UTM affiliates is as follows:

1. Erindale College Special Response Team (ECSpeRT)
2. CFRE Radio 91.9M
3. Medical Society
4. Sexual Education & Peer Support Centre
5. The Medium
6. UTM Athletic Council (UTMAC)
7. UTM Association of Graduate Students (UTMAGS)
8. UTM Residence Council (UTMRC)

9. UTM Students' Union (UTMSU)
10. Women and Gender Equity Centre

Total number of UTM Affiliates: 10