

**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Wednesday, May 25, 2022 – 6:00 – 6:35 pm**  
**Online Meeting**

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## **Welcome**

Sana Halwani, University of Toronto Alumni Association (UTAA) President, opened the meeting with the Land Acknowledgment and welcomed attendees to the 123<sup>rd</sup> UTAA Annual General Meeting (AGM). This is the UTAA's third virtual AGM, held as such due to the COVID-19 restrictions on large gatherings.

## **Business Meeting**

### **1. Call to order**

The Chair, Sana Halwani, called the business meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

### **2. Meeting Procedure**

Sana Halwani reviewed the following.

- Stated that the meeting would be conducted in accordance with the UTAA AGM Rules of Order as posted on the UTAA website which were established in accordance with Wainberg's Society Meetings Rules of Order.
- Confirmed that the Rules of Order along with all other materials for the meeting had been available on the UTAA website in the weeks leading up to the meeting and that a link to these materials was available on the UTAA website for alumni to read in advance of the AGM.
- Confirmed quorum, which in accordance with sub-section 6.07 (a) of the current UTAA By-Law, states that the presence of 100 members, either in person or via proxy, constitutes quorum for the transaction of business.
- Confirmed that notice of the UTAA AGM was communicated in accordance with UTAA By-Law, section 6.05. The meeting was advertised on the alumni website, via U of T social media, and via evite sent to all alumni worldwide for whom the Division of University Advancement has email addresses.

- Informed members that motions will be voted on by the membership via automated polling and will be carried by majority. She communicated the process for members to move and second motions, and the process for voting on all motions and on other items requiring a vote.

### 3. Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting

Sana Halwani informed members that the minutes for the meeting held on May 26, 2021, were posted on the alumni website in advance of today's meeting. She proposed that these minutes be taken as read and asked for a motion to approve them. Moved by Alexandra Bates-Toth (BA 2001, HBA 2006 Victoria College)/Seconded by Matthew Stodolak (MT 2018 OISE). Carried.

### 4. Reports, Elections and Appointments

#### Nominating Committee Report

Sana Halwani called on Corwin Cambray, Chair, UTAA Nominating Committee, to present the Proposed Slate of UTAA Directors.

Corwin Cambray stated that according to section 4.06 of the UTAA By-Law, the duty of the Nominating Committee is to recommend a slate of individuals it proposes as candidates for election as directors, to be voted upon at the annual general meeting of the members.

In accordance with section 4.06, the proposed slate of directors was provided to the UTAA Secretary 14 days prior to today's AGM and was posted on the alumni website along with other AGM materials. Corwin Cambray presented the proposed slate of the 2022-2023 Board of Directors as follows:

**The following Directors will be entering their second year of a two-year term and are continuing.**

Fariba Anderson	Rotman School of Management (EMBA 2004)
Gordon Beal	University of Toronto Scarborough (BA 1985)
Tye Farrow	Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design (BArch 1987)
Evelyn Foo	New College (BCom 1987)
Candice Jay	University of Toronto Mississauga (BA 2007)
Jemy Joseph	University of Toronto Scarborough (BSC 2008), School of Graduate Studies, Institute of Medical Science (MSC 2012), Temerty Faculty of Medicine (PGMT 2017)
Lennox Phillips	University of Toronto Mississauga (BA 2001)

**The following nominees are proposed for election for a two-year term:**

Sarah Armstrong	Faculty of Law (LLB 2002)
Corwin Cambray	School of Graduate Studies (MScPI 1999)
Sana Halwani	Faculty of Law (JD 2004)
Ashley Lawrence	Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering (BASC 2000)
Matthew Stodolak	OISE (MT 2018)
Joanne Thanos	Dalla Lana School of Public Health (MHSC 2005)

Corwin Cambray asked for a motion to approve the individuals nominated for election as directors, for a two-year term, as per the presented slate for 2022-2023. Moved by Mark Surchin (JD 1981 Faculty of Law)/ Seconded by Janet Dignem (BED 2000 OISE). Carried.

At the conclusion of his report, Corwin Cambray thanked the alumni members of the 2022 Nominating Committee – Francoise Ko (BSc 1997 SMC, MSc 2001, PhD 2006 Temerty Faculty of Medicine), Safdar Mahmood (BASC 2003 Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering) and Geeta Yadav (BSc 2003 UC).

**Treasurer's Report / Appointment of Auditors**

Sana Halwani called on Lennox Phillips, UTAA Treasurer, to present the audited financial statements, which were posted on the UTAA website as part of today's meeting package, and to address the appointment of auditors.

Lennox Phillips confirmed that the UTAA's finances for the fiscal year ended on April 30, 2022, were reviewed, and audited by Hilborn LLP, who issued their report dated May 16, 2022. Hilborn LLP indicated, without reservation, that the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the University of Toronto Alumni Association, and the results of its operations and cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

The UTAA ended the year with a net income of \$43.3K compared to the previous year income of \$166.8K the prior year.

The change in the fair value of investments as of April 30, 2022, reflects an unrealized capital loss of \$9.8K after a net unrealized capital gain of \$105.3K at the end of the prior year. Dividend income, interest and capital gain changed from \$45.1K in prior year to \$48.5K in this fiscal year ended.

The Association awarded \$22K in prizes and scholarships in the current year, including the \$10K National Scholarship.

With a cumulative Operating Fund Surplus of \$1.03M and portfolio Investments of \$1.09M against current liabilities of \$10.3K, the Association is financially viable and has sustainable capital to chart future capacity building.

Lennox Phillips requested a motion to approve the UTAA audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended on April 30, 2022, as presented. Moved by Paul Cadario (Hon.LL. D 2013, BASC 1973 Faculty of Applied Science & Engineering)/ Seconded by Wendy Campbell (DPTOT 1958 Temerty Faculty of Medicine). Carried.

Lennox Phillips asked for a motion to reappoint Hilborn LLP as auditors for the UTAA for the 2022-2023 fiscal year and to authorize the Board of Directors to fix their remuneration. Moved by Beulah Paul (BSC 1978 UTM)/ Seconded by Bryan Mirabelli (BCOM 2010 UTM). Carried.

### **UTAA President's Report**

Sana Halwani advised members that the President's Report has been posted on the alumni website and encouraged members to review this at their leisure.

Sana Halwani elaborated on one of the items in her report that represents a new strategic priority for the UTAA. Last summer, the UTAA's EDI Committee was formed in response to the important finding and recommendations made in the U of T Anti-Black Racism Task Force in 2021. The committee's focus is aligned with the university's EDI priorities and efforts to address anti-Black racism and to ensuring an inclusive and welcoming university community. The EDI Committee conducted an environmental scan to determine the extent to which EDI principles are embedded as core components within UTAA initiatives. The findings will guide the UTAA's focus over the coming months.

The immediate focus is the Carl Mitchell Award for Community Engagement, which was originally created in 2015 to recognize a U of T alum for their outstanding volunteer contributions to their community. The EDI Committee is currently reviewing award criteria and parameters, in consultation with stakeholder groups, and will launch the revised award in the fall. The new Carl Mitchell Award will specifically honour volunteer contributions within the EDI sphere. Details on the new award will be posted on the UTAA website in the fall once the new award parameters have been finalized and approved.

Sana thanked the 2021-2022 UTAA Board of Directors for their commitment and support of the Association's activities over the past year. In particular, she acknowledged the contributions of retiring UTAA Directors Pedram Kaya, Rachel Megitt and Lesley Riedstra for their valuable contributions over the years.

### **5. David Palmer's Remarks**

Sana Halwani called on David Palmer, Vice-President, University Advancement to deliver his remarks.

David Palmer thanked the UTAA Board of Directors for their dedication, engagement, and service throughout the year, in particular outgoing Directors - Pedram Kaya, Rachel Megitt and Lesley Riedstra. He congratulated Sana Halwani on her first year as UTAA President and acknowledged her exemplary and dedicated service, and her leadership of the UTAA.

David Palmer reported that the University's new campaign was launched in December 2021. Defy Gravity: The Campaign for the University of Toronto is the most ambitious fundraising and alumni engagement campaign in Canadian history. For the first time in U of T history, the campaign will include a goal for alumni engagement: to inspire 225,000 alumni to get involved as volunteers, mentors, donors, participants, and leaders and encourage them to contribute their time and talent to the University one million times collectively. The campaign is seeking to raise \$4 billion for the University's highest priorities that will strengthen U of T's spirit of inclusive excellence in creating more opportunities and support for talented people from every financial circumstance to discover, learn, create, collaborate, and thrive together.

## **7. Concluding Remarks**

Sana Halwani informed members that the UTAA will be making a donation to support Indigenous students by way of one of the funds established by the university to provide assistance in this priority area. She noted that she would be calling on members to vote on one of two options under consideration. The first option presented was the *Indigenous Research Network* fund, an interconnected and collaborative network of researchers involved in the field of Indigenous research at the University. Its goal is to bridge the gap between the research ethics board and participatory Indigenous communities to foster an understanding of what community-based participatory Indigenous research looks like. The second option presented was the *First Nations House Bursary*, which is awarded annually to Indigenous undergraduate students with demonstrated financial need. After presenting both options, Sana Halwani asked members to cast their vote via automated polling.

The poll outcome indicated the majority of respondents were in favour of the UTAA supporting the *First Nations House Bursary*. Sana Halwani thanked the membership for their engagement on this important issue. This support will be directed to the bursary fund and will, in turn, help an Indigenous undergraduate student in financial need continue or complete their studies at U of T.

## **Meeting Conclusion**

Upon completion of the business portion of the meeting, Sana Halwani thanked guests for attending, and asked for a motion to terminate the meeting. Moved by Jennifer Shelton (HBA 1996 Trinity College, MBA 2001, MED 2003 School of Graduate Studies)/ Seconded by Meredith Muscat (BSCN 1999, MN 2004 Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing). Carried.