

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
Wednesday, May 31, 2023 – 6:00 – 6:35 pm
Online Meeting

Note to Members

After the 2023 University of Toronto Alumni Association (UTAA) Annual Meeting, it was discovered that quorum was unknowingly lost at 6:15pm. Therefore, the meeting did not have proper quorum when the Election of the Directors and Appointment of the Auditor took place.

We consulted legal counsel about this irregularity. We determined that, despite losing quorum, the UTAA By-law allowed the work of the UTAA to continue. In particular, section 4.03 of the By-Law states that current Directors remain in office until their successor is elected. As such, all existing Directors who were put forward for re-election simply remained in their current positions, with the result that the individuals who were on the Board prior to the Annual Meeting remained on the Board after the Annual Meeting.

Subsequent to the Annual Meeting, Tye Farrow and Lennox Phillips, whose terms were set to expire, submitted their resignations to allow for their positions to be replaced. Section 3.04 of the By-Law allows for vacancies of the Board to be filled by resolution of the Board. Eugene Choi and Jennifer Dolman who had been proposed for election during the Annual Meeting were appointed by the Board to fill these vacancies, with the result that the Board has since the date of the last Annual Meeting been comprised of the full proposed slate of nominees presented at the 2023 Annual Meeting.

A second resolution to be passed at the 2023 Annual Meeting was to reappoint the existing Auditor. Again, section 15.01 of the By-Law indicates that the incumbent Auditor continues in office until a successor is appointed. Therefore, without a valid vote, the existing Auditor retained its position, which was the desired result.

Welcome

Sana Halwani, University of Toronto Alumni Association (UTAA) President, opened the meeting with the Land Acknowledgment and welcomed attendees to the 124th UTAA Annual Meeting. This is the UTAA's fourth virtual Annual Meeting.

Business Meeting

1. Call to order

The Chair, Sana Halwani, called the business meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

2. Meeting Procedure

Sana Halwani reviewed the following.

- Stated that the meeting would be conducted in accordance with the UTAA Annual Meeting 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 Annual Meeting.
- 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 Annual Meeting 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 25, 2022, 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 Janet Bates-Toth (BA 2001, HBA 2006 Victoria College)/Seconded by Candice Jay (HBA 2007 UTM). 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 Annual Meeting and was posted on the alumni website along with other Annual Meeting materials. Corwin Cambray presented the proposed slate of the 2023-2024 Board of Directors as follows:

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

Sarah Armstrong	LLB, Faculty of Law, 2002
Corwin Cambray	MSPL, Faculty of Arts & Science, 1999
Sana Halwani	JD, Faculty of Law, 2004
Ashley Lawrence	BASC, Faculty of Applied Science & Engineering, 2000
Matthew Stodolak	MT, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, 2018
Joanne Thanos	MHSC, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, 2005

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

Fariba Anderson	MBA, Rotman School of Management, 2004
Gordon Beal	BA, University of Toronto Scarborough, 1985
Eugene Choi	HBA, Woodsworth College, 2012; MBA, Rotman School of Management, 2019
Jennifer Dolman	BA, University College, 1986
Evelyn Foo	BCOM, New College, 1987
Candice Jay	HBA, University of Toronto Mississauga, 2007
Jemy Joseph	HBSC, University of Toronto Scarborough, 2008; MSC, Temerty Faculty of Medicine, 2012; PGMT, Temerty Faculty of Medicine, 2017

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 2023-2024. Moved by Christine Pickios (BA 1977 Faculty of Arts & Science)/ Seconded by Bryan Mirabelli (BCOM 2010 UTM). Carried.

At the conclusion of his report, Corwin Cambray thanked the alumni members of the 2023 Nominating Committee – Isi Caulder (BASC 1989 FASE, MASC 1991 FASE, LLB 1995 Faculty of Law), Scott MacKendrick (BASC 1982 FASE) and Derrick Raphael (GPLL 2016 Faculty of Law).

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, 2023, were reviewed, and audited by Hilborn LLP, who issued their report dated May 15, 2023. 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 \$25,698 compared to the previous year income of \$43, 297 the prior year.

The change in the fair value of investments as of April 30, 2023, reflects an unrealized capital gain of \$10,662 after a net unrealized capital loss of \$9,808 at the end of the prior year. Dividend income, interest and capital gain changed from \$48,507 in prior year to \$37,448 in this fiscal year ended.

The Association awarded \$31,990 in prizes and scholarships in the current year, including the \$10K National Scholarship.

With a cumulative Operating Fund Surplus of \$1,051,101 and portfolio Investments of \$1,131,050 against current liabilities of \$10,500, the Association is financially viable and has sustainable capital to chart future capacity building.

Lennox Phillips requested a motion to accept the UTAA audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended on April 30, 2023, as presented. Moved by Andria Allen (MSW 2005 Faculty of Social Work)/ Seconded by Michael Scott (HBA 2012 Trinity College; MA 2013 Faculty of Arts & Science). 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 Joanne Thanos (MHSC 2005 DLSPH)/ Seconded by Fariba Anderson (MBA 2004 Rotman School of Management). 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 was delighted to report that the UTAA Board of Directors supported the University's inaugural Giving Day on March 28, 2023. The Giving Day was a 24-hour University-wide fundraising campaign to foster support for our students and researchers. The Giving Day raised \$1.232 million. The initiatives support student programs, infrastructure, research, and student scholarships and awards and make a tangible difference in people's lives.

Contributions and participation in U of T Giving Day bring the University closer to its ambitious \$4 billion fundraising goal for the Defy Gravity campaign and support the objective of engaging 225,000 alumni a million times over the course of the campaign.

In 2017, the UTAA made the lead donation of \$1 million to the University's Landmark Project, to transform the St. George's front campus into a greener, more sustainable, accessible, and pedestrian-friendly space. Sana Halwani reported that the work in completing the project is in full swing, building on the tremendous progress over this past winter and spring. One of the biggest project milestones to date has been reached with the installation of all 2,500+ Landmark donor-inscribed pavers across Front Campus. Further updates are available in the Landmark [website](#).

Over the course of this year, the EDI Committee worked to revise and reimagine the Carl Mitchell Award for Community Engagement as the Carl Mitchell Community Impact Award. Developed in consultation with alumni representatives, the Carl Mitchell Community Impact Award recognizes one individual for their volunteer efforts that advance the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion within the community. The inaugural recipient is R. Douglas Elliott, and further information is available on the [website](#).

Sana thanked the 2022-2023 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 Tye Farrow and Lennox Phillips 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 – Tye Farrow and Lennox Phillips. He congratulated Sana Halwani on successfully completing her term as UTAA President and acknowledged her exemplary and dedicated service, and her leadership of the UTAA.

David Palmer congratulated R. Douglas Elliott for being the inaugural winner of the Carl Mitchell Impact Community Impact Award. This award from the UTAA echoes and complements the University of Toronto's commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion—including the commitment that we have made at the Division of University of Advancement. He congratulated the UTAA on relaunching the Carl Mitchell Community Impact Award and joining the broader U of T community in advancing this vital work.

David Palmer provided a brief report about the Defy Gravity campaign, he announced that the campaign has reached more than fifty percent of the engagement goal of 225,000 alumni and contributing and volunteering one million times with U of T, and forty percent of the fundraising goal of \$4 billion dollars.

7. Concluding Remarks

Sana Halwani informed members that the UTAA will be making a donation to support student mental health initiatives 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 Student Wellness Fund, which supports a wide range of mental health services—from 24/7 phone lines to confidential health centres on each campus. The second option presented was Inlight Student Mental Health Research initiatives, which supports research on the mental health and wellness needs of university students, filling a substantial gap in evidence on how best to support student mental health and wellness throughout their academic journey.

The poll outcome indicated the majority of respondents were in favour of the UTAA supporting The Student Wellness Fund. Sana Halwani thanked the membership for their engagement on this important issue. This support will be directed to the bursary fund to continue in supporting U of T students mental health.

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 Hanifa Mamujee (HBSC 1986 St. Michael's College)/ Seconded by Gerald Joe (BSC 11973 Victoria College). Carried.