

MINUTES
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2016, 4:00 P.M.
STUDENT CENTRE PRESENTATION ROOM

Attendance:

Maria Iqbal (EIC), Leo Jiang (chair), Akshaya Sharma (copy editor & minute-taker), Natalia Ramnarine (director), Eric Hewitson (sports editor), Luke Sawczak (webmaster), Sarah Yassine (design editor), Mahmoud Sarouji (photo editor), Nicole Danesi (news editor), Farah Qaiser (features editor), Mayank Sharma (advertising manager), Kim Johnson (blog editor), Ashley Ng, Adelaide Attard, Ellie Lok Leung, Ward Surour, Jillian Segovia, Iqra Abid, Olivia Adamczyk, Meg Sharpley, Victoria Danesi, Cassandra Hangdaan, Samuel Kan, Farai Tiaere, Nour Alideeb, Anton Mykytenko, Fatima Zahra Hamaimou, Abdulla Omari, Jeanlouis Rebello, Bria Dopson, Amandip Dhindsa, Zartash Rizwan, Menna Elnaka, Edric Bala, Dagale Mohammed, Maryam Radwan, Hashim Yussuf, Zakk Dadoe, Ibrahim Bouteraa, Jennifer Park, Mumtaz Farhan, Philip Sameen, Raqshanda Khan*

1. Call to order

Meeting unofficially called to order at 4:30 p.m., without quorum being reached.

EIC, Chair, and Minute-taker introduced themselves. Chair reviewed agenda with members. Cannot vote on motions until quorum of 40 members is reached. (*Although over 40 members registered for the AGM, not all were present in the room at one time.)

2. Adoption of agenda

Agenda could not be formally adopted.

3. Presentation of audited financial statements

Motion: Be it resolved that the audited financial statements of Medium II Publications for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2015 be received as presented.

Sam Chou, auditor from Fruitman Kates LLP, presented The Medium's financial statements via Skype call. Chou began by introducing himself and his role as the auditor. Chou proceeded to present the financial statements, reporting a clean audit. Chou reported on the expenses and revenue; expenses were higher in 2014 due to the publication of The Medium's magazine, not repeated in 2015. The Medium's income is dependent on the student levy and ad revenue. Auditor concluded presentation of financial statements and received questions from students. EIC asked about the difference between a good audit and bad audit. Auditor explains that a bad audit includes missing invoices, finances that are not reasonable, not taking regular notes, or having updated financials. Overall, the audit of The Medium was very successful. No further questions from members. Skype call ended.

4. Appointment of auditor

Motion: Be it resolved that Medium II Publications appoint Fruitman Kates LLP as auditors for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2016.

Auditor could not be formally appointed.

5. Proposed amendments to the constitution

Motion: Be it resolved that the Constitution and By-laws of Medium II Publications be amended such that the contributions listed in **Appendix A** be counted towards the criteria for becoming Voting Staff as stipulated in **Section 4b.** of the Constitution.

Be it further resolved that the positions in **Appendix B** be considered Voting Staff by virtue of either position or contribution, as indicated, in addition to the positions already deemed Voting Staff in the Constitution.

Be it resolved that any position that remains "non-voting" in the Constitution after the above amendments, be eligible to become Voting Staff if they meet the

required criteria under **Section 4b.** of the Constitution and By-laws of Medium II Publications.

Motions to amend the constitution could not be called without quorum.

6. Announcement of Writing & Photo Contest winners

EIC announced the winners of The Medium's annual Writing & Photo Contest. The first-place winners will receive a \$75 cash prize and publication in The Medium, both in print and online. The runners-up will receive a \$25 cash prize and publication online.

The results were as follows:

Fiction: "Lucid" by Cameron Allan (winner), "Under Cover" by Shealyn Ivany (runner-up)

Non-fiction: "Crawly Things" by Amara Malik (winner), "Wave" by Lauren Macri (runner-up)

Poetry: "All of You" by Keena Al-Wahaidi (winner), "Ghosts" by Assia Messaoudi (runner-up)

Photojournalism: "Untitled" by Yannis Davy Guibinga (winner), "Untitled" by Arjun Yadav (runner-up)

Portrait: "Untitled" by Hannah Taylor (winner), "Untitled" by Ashley Ng (runner-up)

The winners and runners-up of the fiction, non-fiction, poetry, portrait, and photojournalism categories were presented with certificates.

7. Other business

Chair opened the floor to questions from members. One member requested to write for The Medium. EIC explained that any UTM student can be involved by writing and explained the different sections. Same member asked about the difference between The Varsity and The Medium. The Varsity is the tri-campus newspaper and The Medium primarily serves UTM. Another student asked what EIC considers the role of The Medium to be. EIC responded: giving news and information to students, representing student interests to other parties and asking questions on their behalf, and presenting answers to students through the paper, and documenting events on campus. Another member stated that profanity seemed

more common in earlier volumes of The Medium than the current one. EIC explained that it depends on the context of the article, and the leadership and the editorial staff from year to year. Another member asked about volunteer writers being reimbursed for expenses incurred while covering a story. EIC explained that most stories and events are on campus only, with the exception of some special events that The Medium will pay for.

EIC asked members for their suggestions for The Medium. Members' suggestions included having activities/puzzles, comics, horoscopes, and weather forecast in the paper. EIC noted these suggestions and said they will be considered based on feasibility.

EIC asked about how members read The Medium. Majority of the members present read the paper in print only, one member read online only, and about 3 members read both.

EIC asked for suggestions about things that can be covered or have been covered.

8. Adjournment

EIC thanked members for coming to the meeting and asking questions and making suggestions. Encouraged members to continue to contribute and ask questions.

Meeting unofficially adjourned at 5:03 p.m.