

Gateway Student Journalism Society
Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2025

Present:

Michael CHANG
Lee CRAIG
Teren HAZZARD
Leah HENNIG
Unees HUSSAIN
Ping Lam IP
Kathryn JOHNSON
Gabriella MENEZES
Katie TEELING
Nathan THIESSEN

Absent:

Areeha MAHAL

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by TEELING.

Approval of the Agenda

THIESSEN moved to approve the agenda. HENNIG seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes

THIESSEN moved to approve the minutes. MENEZES seconded. The motion passed.

Reports of Officers and Standing Committees

Editor-in-Chief:

HENNIG said the first print edition of the year went well. Clubs fair and open houses also went well. Isabella MacLean was hired as the Indigenous Reporter. The Gateway got a news stand in University Commons. The Gateway's social media has been going well. The first TikTok of the year was posted and The Gateway's Instagram account now has over 1,000 followers.

Executive Director:

MENEZES said she is changing who she is targeting for ads and starting to focus more on local businesses. MENEZES received her credit card. Week of Welcome and open houses were successful.

Finance Committee:

IP said that the Finance Committee met and did not find any issues with any budgetary documents. HENNIG said that there have been issues with accessing old BMO statements since the BMO account has closed. HENNIG is working to address this for the audit.

Human Resources Committee:

TEELING said that the Human Resources Committee has not met yet.

Governance Committee:

JOHNSON said that the Governance Committee met and agreed to meet as needed. Since then, there has been no need to meet again.

THIESSEN inquired about a drop in view counts for The Gateway's website. HENNIG said that August tends to be a slower month and she anticipates that September will be a busier month for the website.

For approval

Letter to Canadian University Press:

HENNIG wrote a letter to Canadian University Press (CUP) on behalf of The Gateway Student Journalism Society expressing concerns about how CUP has treated the paper. The Gateway did not receive proper notification of CUP's annual general meeting. Additionally, CUP has not displayed equal lobbying efforts in all provinces with student newspapers. If the concerns continue, The Gateway will not renew its membership.

HENNIG said that the majority of the concerns outlined in the letter have also been had by Gateway membership in previous years.

CHANG asked if it would be possible to negotiate a lower membership fee. HENNIG said that she does not think it would be possible considering a motion was passed at the annual general meeting to make the fee increase with inflation every year.

THIESSEN asked what The Gateway receives from its membership. HENNIG said the membership provides a discount for CUP's conference and an hour of free legal advice. TEELING added that although the issues with CUP have been persistent, The Gateway has largely stayed because it is a founding member of CUP.

CRAIG mentioned that The Gateway has left before and then rejoined.

HAZZARD asked how much it would cost to access a lawyer through another avenue. HENNIG said she was not sure. TEELING said she could not find a cheap defamation lawyer during The Gateway's issues with its DFU.

THIESSEN asked if other newspapers have expressed similar concerns with CUP. HENNIG and TEELING said that there are other papers with similar concerns.

HAZZARD moved to approve the letter with minor edits. IP seconded. The motion passed.

For discussion

Community Representative:

Stephanie Swensrude has had to resign from the Community Representative position. TEELING said she thinks the posting for the position should be extended because the only applicant is a former staff member and current student. TEELING said the applicant would be a great addition to the board, but not necessarily in this capacity.

HENNIG motioned to extend the application indefinitely. THIESSEN seconded. The motion passed.

Alumni event:

TEELING said that there will be an alumni event at Dewey's on November 22 to celebrate The Gateway's 115th birthday.

Adjournment

IP motioned to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m..

Minutes submitted by: Kathryn Johnson