



**Event:** AVSSU Meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, January 19th

**Time:** 1:00 – 2:00pm (EDT)

**Location:** Zoom

### **Lucinda - Mental Health Policies/Arguments**

- UMD AP Policy?
- <http://bit.ly/uoft-mh-NAUWU-final>
- <https://www.provost.utoronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/155/2018/03/Report-on-Student-Health-Well-Being.pdf>
- Concept in health equity work
  - Students are not encouraged to speak out
- Not all policies created by universities are legal
- Helped create survey and reports on mental health
- <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sg-rw0Rl2IziH9omU6ZdvSreXSNIUTYJ/view?ths=true>
- Report you need to request a copy of from the people that made it
  - Primary source of data is ACHA, NCHA
  - UofT partners with them to run this survey every 3 years
  - In UofT's data, cannot find any connection between socio-economic status and health/wellbeing
- UofT Mental Health Organization (SMART)
  - Attempts to unite big 5 student societies
  - Been a goal for people to get students on the same page
  - Collectively offer academic forgiveness policies
  - Reach of organization seems to be solid
  - Meeting every month
  - 10 working groups (between 5-10 members from each)
    - Mostly weekly meetings to get them started
    - Will meet less frequently after work is distributed
    - AVSSU member can pick one and join
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- AVSSU initiatives
  - A lot of work has been focused on anti-racism and equity
  - Student equity alliance

- Joint commission between AVSSU, FGSA, GALDSU
- Started compiling resources and make a handbook
- make things more accessible and clearly put out resources
- Push forward accessibility in Daniels
- Make statement about suicides after concrete steps have been planned
- Improving mental health
  - Verification of illness forms
  - Not have grades in first year
  - Course retake policies
  - Academic forgiveness policies
  - Student mental advocacy and resources
    - There are exceptions to the rules
    - Academics dedicated to things related to support
  - Night line
  - Mental health website at UofT is hard to navigate
    - Doesn't provide all the necessary information/resources
- <https://get-help-demo.herokuapp.com/>
  - Better designed for people suffering from mental health
  - Can create more features on website
  - Looking for concrete case studies and prove there are solutions
  - Collaboration with AVSSU
    - Donate resources
    - Trainings to deal with yourself/others in crisis
    - Can develop student led/created workshops
    - Help develop handbook
- <https://discord.com/invite/P64AfkNb96>
  - Join the SMART Discord server to keep updated and participate
- <https://fb.me/e/4RoBuA8tR>
  - SMART meeting, Sunday Jan 24th
- Funds
  - Can ask SMART members for funding and compensation systems of other student unions and groups so that we get a sense of how others do it
- Feel free to direct message or email Lucinda and SMART for questions and to follow-up and how to participate

### AGM + Town Hall

- Wednesday Feb. 3, 2021 @5pm
  - AGM will be 1.5h
  - Townhall will start at 6:30pm
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- Zargham will present finances and propose budget
  - Propose Honoraria for AVSSU Execs, starting this year and moving forward
- Voting Process
  - Proxy Vote
    - Done through a form, members on AVSSU find as many proxies as possible
  - In Person (In Call) is done through raising hands

- UTSU uses raise hand and a third party counting to explain how many people the exec represents as proxies
- Presentation Powerpoint (Rebecka)
  - Done by next week's meeting so we can go through it
  - Approximately 12 presentations (members of AVSSU)
  - Possible groupings so we can save time:
    - Rebecka: Communications
    - Rose + Rebs: Academic
    - Ashish + Mathilde + Athina: Student Life
    - Zargham: Finances
- Format
  - Faculty will only be present for Town Hall
  - Each speaking person will be approx 5 minutes