



## **Minutes of OAAC 9<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly January 25, 2026 – 1:30-3:30 PM EST, Online Zoom Meeting**

The Chair of the Board, Nur Oztin Kurak, called the assembly to order. A quorum was present, with 26 members online and 8 proxies.

### **Chair of the General Assembly**

Asli Torun moved to nominate Demir Delen for **Chair of the General Assembly** (Chair), and Yalcin Suer seconded. The Assembly approved the motion unanimously, and Demir Delen was elected Chair of the General Assembly.

### **Secretaries of the General Assembly**

Yalcin Suer nominated Emre Insel and Burak Ilhan as **Secretaries of the General Assembly** (Secretaries) to take notes and prepare the minutes of the present General Assembly. Asli Torun seconded the motion. The Assembly unanimously approved the motion, and Emre Insel and Burak Ilhan were elected secretaries.

### **Approval of the Minutes of the previous General Assembly**

Asli Torun moved to approve the minutes of the previous General Assembly, and Yalcin Suer seconded the motion. The Assembly unanimously approved the minutes of the previous General Assembly.

### **Conducting the meeting in Turkish**

The Chair asked whether there were any objections to conducting the meeting in Turkish. No objections were raised. The meeting was conducted in Turkish, and the minutes were recorded in English.

### **Approval of the Agenda**

Yalcin Suer moved to approve the meeting agenda. Asli Torun seconded the motion. The Chair asked for comments on the agenda. The Chair of the Board noted that although the previous Board of Directors were elected for a two-year term, due to resignations of three directors, a new election was being held this year. With no comments from the Assembly, the Chair motioned to approve the meeting agenda. The Assembly unanimously approved the meeting agenda.

### **Board Presentation of the Activities of 2025**

The 2025 Board of OAAC presented the association's activities from the previous year. This presentation included information about the following topics:

**Objectives of OAAC:** The Chair of the Board reemphasized the objectives of OAAC: to create a platform of help and dialogue among ODTU graduates living in Canada, as well as help, organize, and support alumni in Canada.

**Membership:** Asli Torun explained the current number of active and inactive members and the number of new members in 2025. Currently, 166 active members (who paid membership dues). 47 new members joined the association in 2025. There are 256 inactive members who have not paid their fees. There are also 137 registered members in the database who never paid membership dues.

**Board Members:** The Chair of the Board presented and thanked the Board Members in 2025.

**Provincial Representatives:** The Chair of the Board presented and thanked the Provincial Representatives in 2025.

**Audit Committee:** The Chair of the Board presented and thanked the members of Audit Committee.

**Year in Review (2025):** The Board presented the progress summary.

- There were 19 “Kantin” events in the form of gatherings for members.
- “Share your Knowledge” events increased the knowledge of the members. The themes of this year's events were: Resume Writing 101, Pathway to Professional Engineering, Mentorship Program, and Standout with LinkedIn.
- Women’s Solidarity Group was established in March 2025 and continued its activities to support women.
- Alumni Day has been celebrated, with 14 commemorative medals awarded to the graduates celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, and 55<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of graduation.
- The 7th OAAC Fun(d)Run Event was organized in Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Vancouver, and Waterloo. On October 5, 2025, 80+ people attended the event. \$10,378 was raised for the bursary fund.

- The mentorship program continued with 12 mentors and 14 mentees. Mentorship is part of the award-winning EMCC-accredited ODTUMIST mentorship program. Mentors participated in an EMCC-accredited Training Program and received their certificates.
- Our member, Osman Baran, who passed away in 2025, was remembered. The Chair of the Board thanked Osman Baran's family for creating a bursary fund in his name.
- Donors who donated to the bursary fund were recognized. The Chair of the Board recognized and thanked these donors by name.
- The Chair of the Board recognized the volunteers by name and thanked them for their time and effort in support of OAAC.
- The Chair of the Board recognized and thanked the mentors of the Mentorship program.
- The Chair of the Board recognized and thanked the OAAC Committees for their time and efforts.
- The Chair of the Board presented the Strategic Plan for 2026.

The Chair asked if there were any questions related to the Board's presentation. There were no questions raised.

### **Financial Report (2025)**

The Treasurer, Asli Torun, presented the financial report, including the auditor's report prepared by the Audit Committee.

The total revenue in 2025 was \$21,955, with \$17,603 from bursary donations and \$4,057 from membership fees. Event fees cost \$295.

The total expense was \$3,170, broken down into \$1,243 for equipment & web costs, and \$84 for bank charges, postage, and government fees, and \$1,553 for meal and entertainment expenses.

A bursary payment of \$290 was made. The majority of the Bursary payments were made in January 19 and 20 of 2026, which were not included in the financial report of 2025. The balance was \$18,785 as of December 31, 2025.

The Chair of the General Assembly asked if there were any questions about the Financial Report. The financial report was unanimously approved.

### **Draft Budget (2026)**

Asli Torun moved to keep the membership dues the same as the previous year, 35 CAD for regular members, 10 CAD for student members. Yalcin Suer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **Strategic Plan for 2026**

The Chair of the Board presented the following as the focus of planned activities in 2026.

- Continuation of Canteen events
- Expansion of Share Your Knowledge events
- Growth of Mentorship Program capacity
- Promotion of METU graduates' success stories
- Establishment of Fund for Impact, including plans to register OAAC as a charitable organization

It was noted that professional certification support had been provided to one graduate in the previous year.

### **New Board of Directors (2026)**

The list of candidates for the Board of Directors was shared with the General Assembly. The General Assembly voted unanimously to approve the election of the new Board members.

#### **New Board of Directors:**

Asaf Kocak

Bugra Saglam

Emre Insel

Mustafa Kaplan

Nur Oztin Kurak

Yagmur Simsek

Yalcin Suer

#### **Alternate Members:**

Sule Demirel Sanli

Zeynep Lulec

Asli Torun

### **Audit Committee (2026)**

Yalcin Suer moved to nominate Nevzat Gurmen, Demir Delen and Hulya Demirdirek to be in the Audit Committee for the following year. Asli Torun seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

## **Meeting Adjournment**

Yalcin Suer moved to adjourn the meeting, Nur Oztin Kurak seconded. The meeting was unanimously adjourned.