

August 27, 2014 Council Meeting Minutes
UMGSA Lounge



1. Call to Order 5:09pm

2. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: BIRT the agenda for the August 27, 2014 UMGSA Council meeting be approved.

Mehdi Rahimian (Education - PhD – Ad hoc)/ Vikram Banthia (Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering)

Carried.

2.1. Unanimous consent agenda

MOTION: BIRT all executive reports, and the senate report are accepted omnibus.

Sebastien Kerherve (Physics and Astronomy)/ Ji Zhou (Management PhD)

Carried.

3. Approval of Minutes from May 28, 2014 UMGSA Council Meeting

MOTION: BIRT the minutes from the May 28, 2014 UMGSA Council Meeting be approved.

Mario Solis Nepote (Biomedical engineering)/ Darcy McDougall (Environment and Geography)

Carried.

4. Special Project Presentations

4.1. International Centre for Students request \$500 for their annual Intercultural Retreat

Julia Osso, Program Assistant

Summary: Approximately 95 students (17 grad students) are transported to Lake Cedarwood where they can participate in discussions and activities to facilitate their integration into Canada and the U of M. The subsidized cost to students is \$37. Students always express that this is a highlight of their arrival package to U of M. This is the same amount that has been requested and granted in years past. The event is advertised to new graduate students through the faculty of Graduate Studies.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA approve \$500 to the International Centre for Students for their Intercultural Retreat for new students as a Special Project Grant.

UMGSA Executive/ Anu Lotay (Anthropology)

Carried.

4.2. School of Medical Rehabilitation Sciences Student Association's Welcome Back

BBQ request- \$415.65

Melissa Rabb spoke on behalf of Christine Lam- RT Senior Stick – School of Medical Rehabilitation Sciences Student Association

Summary: Requested sponsorship for orientation for students for food, drinks, decorations, cutlery, and propane tanks. This is to get approximately 80-100 students returning and new students out. UMSU is covering the rest of the cost.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA approve \$415.65 to the School of Medical Rehabilitation Sciences Student Association for their BBQ for new and returning students as a Special Project Grant.

Finance Committee/ Danna Slessor-Cobb (History)

Carried.

5. Executive-at-Large Nomination

5.1. Presentation from Rotimi Ojo providing background information on his participation in the UMGSA and qualifications for the position.

Motion from the Executive Committee:

Whereas Rotimi Ojo is an experienced member of the UMGSA Council and served as VP External and President of the UMGSA.

Whereas the Executive-at-Large acts as an advisor to the incoming executive.

Whereas this year's executive committee has only one returning member.

Whereas the Executive does not plan on hiring an Executive Assistant.

Whereas the Executive experiences meeting time conflicts that require UMGSA representation.

MOTION: BIRT the Council approve Rotimi Ojo as the Executive-at-Large for the period of September 1, 2014 until April 30, 2015.

UMGSA Executive / Nicholson Jeke (Soil Sciences)

Carried.

6. UMGSA Membership Fee Allocation 2014-15 (For your information)

UMGSA Operating Budget	\$53.88
Endowment Fund	\$15.00
Gradzette	\$3.00
UMFM	\$2.50
UMREG	\$1.25
WUSC	\$1.25
WorldWise	\$\$0.25
Engineers Without Borders	\$0.125
External Relations Fund	\$7.17
Total per semester	\$84.425

7. Universal Bus Pass (U-Pass)

Motion from Executive Committee:

MOTION: BIRT *that the council supports* the UMGSA *motion* to hold a referendum to determine student interest on implementing the U-Pass program at the rate of \$260 per academic year before November 1, 2014.

UMGSA Executive/ Mohammad Abdullah (Human Nutritional Sciences)

Abstention by Mehdi Rahimian (Education – PhD – Ad hoc) and Valery Agbor (VPI)

8. Committee Membership: UMGSA Internal Committee Membership Additions

Internal Development and Review Committee

Members			
Title	Name	E-mail	Phone Number
Humanities Designate	Susie Fisher (History)		
Graduate Student	Mehdi Rahimian (Education)		
Graduate Student	Anureet Lotay (Anthropology)		

Elections Committee

Chair			
Title	Name	E-mail	Phone Number
Chief Returning Officer	TBD		
Members			
Title	Name	E-mail	Phone Number
Graduate Student (Councillor)	Anureet Lotay (Anthropology)		
Graduate Student (Councillor)	Meaghan Pauls (Landscape Arch.)		
Graduate Student	Deepak E Velayudhan (Animal Sciences)		
Graduate Student	Paul Sarte (Chemistry)		
Graduate Student	Jennifer Keith (Native Studies)		
Graduate Student	Karalyn Dakurno (English, Film,		

	Theatre) or co-chair		
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8.1. Development of an Ad Hoc Committee- FGS Continuing Fee Working Group

This will be further defined at the executive committee level and brought back to Council at a future meeting.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council ratifies the updated list of Internal Committee members.

Executive Committee.

Carried.

9. Verbal Committee Reports

9.1. Executive Committee Report

- Executive meetings are held twice per month and also had a 1-day retreat to build teamwork skills, and conduct some strategic planning for the year.

9.2. Finance Committee Report

- Had 2-3 meetings and reviewed all of the conference grants up to date.

9.3. Bylaws and Policy Committee Report

Motions from the Bylaws and Policy Committee:

9.3.1. BIRT the UMGSA approve and adopt all the grammatical corrections, numbering and insertions that are in the spirit of the document spotted by the BPC in the Election Policy Manual.

This was deemed out of order by the Chair since the council members need to see the changes first before voting on these changes.

9.3.2. BIRT the UMGSA approved the modification of Article III, section 7, subsection C to; “Represent the interest of all UMGSA and HSGSA members at all Senate and Student Caucus meetings. Where possible, one of the three senators should be primarily located on Bannatyne campus. In the event that there is no candidate from the Bannatyne campus for senator position, all 3 senators may be elected from Fort Garry or other campuses.”

VP Internal provided a friendly amendment based on numbering in the document from 6 to 7.

Bylaws and Policy Committee/ Sebastien Kerherve (Physics and Astronomy)

Carried.

9.3.3. BIRT the UMGSA Council approve the modification of the election timeline in Article IV subsection 1 to read: “The election shall begin no earlier than two weeks after the December Holiday break and no later than two weeks before Reading Week. UMGSA elections should be scheduled as to avoid conflict with any other major campus events.”

Bylaws and Policy Committee / Joey Lussier (Chemistry)

Carried.

9.4. Awards Committee Report

- Members of the committee broke into two sub-committees to narrow down the nominations. VPA extended the application timeframe by one week and received 100 additional applications.

9.5. Campaigns Committee Report

- The committee began discussing orientation events but the bylaws identify the leadership on the event was the responsibility of VPME with the support of VPE and the campaigns committee.

9.6. Events Committee Report

- First meeting talked about orientation ideas and plan. Second meeting will ask members to volunteer at orientation events. Confirmed a number of components for orientation. Asking Councilors to pick up posters to advertise orientation in each of your faculties. Everyone is invited to come to the orientation Sept 9-11. Highlighted presenters and social activities such as the city tour and social.

9.7. Senate Meeting Verbal Report

- Regulation changes from FGS for some academic changes. An amendment to section 1.4.1 to regulate completion time of part-time students to 7 years.
- The Department of Human nutritional sciences will join the faculty of Agricultural and food Sciences as a department.

10. Executive Reports

- President
- Vice President Internal
- Vice President Academic
- Vice President Health Sciences
- Vice President External
- Vice President Marketing and Events
- Senator 1
- Senator 2
- Senator 3

11. GU15 Conference Verbal Report

Three members of the UMGSA went to Montreal to keep the momentum of conversations with the top 15 academic institutions across Canada. The purpose was information sharing, learn how we and others function as GSAs, compare skills, and issues so that we can advocate together. Priority areas were identified that could have local significance and also regional appeal. A written report will be provided at the September Council Meeting.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA reimburse Laura Rempel \$1,403.34 for expenses associated with travel to the GU15 conference August 6-8, 2014.

Stricken out since this has already been approved by the Executive Committees.

12. Department Reports

- Education: First research team Oct 15, call for research proposals
- History: Changed structure of conference, brought back to U of M, went super well
- Native Studies: Celebrating 40 years of existence
- Contact BeiBei at vpme@umgsa.org with events or activities you would like to have advertised in our weekly newsletter.

13. Other Business/Announcements

- Awards Luncheon- August 26, 11:30am-1:30pm
- Orientation Events- September 9-11, in the UMGSA Lounge. Executives will be coordinating with Councilors and your departments to try to attend your orientations for new students.
 - Any Councilors interested in ‘Sharing their Experiences’ with new students on accessing campus services, tips on their research process or have recommendations of students who might, please let us know.
- Please update Ruth whenever councilor changes occur in your departments

14. Adjournment

Motion: BIRT the UMGSA Council meeting be adjourned.

Joey Lussier (Chemistry)/ Sebastien Kerherve (Physics and Astronomy)

Carried.

Next Meeting is on Wednesday, September 24, 2014 at 5pm in the UMGSA Lounge.

<i>Position/Department</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Signature</i>
President	Laura Rempel	Present
VP Internal	Valery Agbor	Present
VP Academic	Kristjan Mann	Present
VP External	Faizan Khan	Present
VP Marketing & Events	Beibei Lu	Present
VP Health Science	Melissa Rabb	Present
Exec-At-Large (Non-voting)	Currently Vacant	
Senator	Chido Uchime	Present
Senator	Diba Vafabakhsh	Present
Senator	Richard From	Present
Council Chairperson (Non-voting)	Laura Rempel/Timi Ojo	Present
Office Manager (Non-voting)	Ruth Prokesch	Present

<i>Agric & Food Science</i>		
Agribusiness & Agric. Economics	Jereme Keren Biney	Present
Animal Science	Kristine Blair Atta Kofi Ayekum	Present
Biosystems Engineering	Missed four meetings	No Rep
Entomology	Andres Fabian Herrera	Present
Food Science	Xinyang (Sheyna) Sun	Present
Plant Science	Chami Amarasinghe	Present LE 6:10pm
Soil Science	Nicholson Jeke	Present
<i>Architecture</i>		
Architecture	Gordon Yiu	Absent
City Planning	Krista Rogness Proxy: Gaelen Pierce	Regrets Present
Interior Design	Jaymie Borchardt	Present
Landscape Architecture	Britney Bell Proxy: Meaghan Pauls	Present
<i>Arts</i>		
Anthropology	Anu Lotay	Present
Economics	Musah Khalid Urnee Dasgupta	Absent
English, Film & Theatre	Karalyn Dokurno	Regrets
History	Nicole Courier Danielle Dubois	Proxy: Danna Slessor-Cobb
Linguistics	Anna Parenteau Kathleen Strader	Regrets
Native Studies	Ryan Duplassie Proxy: Jennifer Keith	Present
Political Studies and Public Administration	Missed three meetings	No Rep
Psychology	Yunqiao Wang Hayley Chartrand (co-councilors)	Present
Sociology	Daniel Levin Matthew Sanscartier	Absent
<i>Management</i>		
Management – PhD and MSc	Ji Zhou	Present

Management – MBA	Amanda Gebhardt	Present
Education		
Education – PhD – Ad hoc	Mehdi Rahimian	Present
Engineering		
Civil Engineering	Sam Esfandianpour	Present
Electrical & Computer Engineering	Ahmad Byagowi (co-councilors) Dan Lockery	Present
Mechanical & Manufacturing Eng.	Vikram Banthia	Present
Environment, Earth & Resources		
Environment & Geography	Darcy McDougall	Present
Geological Sciences	Halya Petzold Proxy: Amber Penner	Present
Natural Resources Institute	Bridget Antze	Absent
Graduate Studies		
Applied Health Sciences	Navjot Pachu Scott Kehler	Present
Biomedical Engineering	Mario Solis Nepote	Present
Peace and Conflict Studies	Julie Hyde Saad Khan	Absent
Kinesiology & Recreation Mgmt.		
Kinesiology & Recreation Mgmt.	Soyun Chapman Proxy: Travis Hrubeniuk	Present
Human Ecology		
Family Social Sciences	Morgan Stirling	Absent
Human Nutritional Sciences	Mohammad Abdullah	Present
Nursing		
Nursing	Jill Norminton	Absent
Science		
Biological Sciences	Michael Gaudry	Present
Chemistry	Joey Lussier	Present
Microbiology	Mac Kohlmeier	Regrets
Physics & Astronomy	Sebastien Kerherve	Present
Statistics	Monsur Ahmed Chowdry	Present
Social Work		

Social Work	Missed three meetings	No Rep
<i>UMSU (Non-Voting)</i>		
President or Designate	Christian Pierce	Absent
<i>CUPE 3909 (Non-Voting)</i>		
President or Designate	Ana Vialard Hart	Present
<i>FGS Rep (Non-Voting)</i>		
Dean or Designate	Jay Doering	Absent
<i>Student Life (Non-Voting)</i>		
	Cora Dupuis	Absent
<i>Guests</i>		
MBA (possibly new Councilor)	Mike DeLuca	Present
Prospective Exec-At-Large	E. Rotimi Ojo	Present
ICS for Donation Request	Julia Osso	Present

Laura Rempel

November 19/14

President

Date

[Signature]

November 19th, 2014

Senator 3

Date

