

## **UMGSA Council Meeting Minutes**

### **Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - 5:30 PM - UMGSA Lounge**

**1. Call to Order (5:30pm).**

**2. Traditional Territories Acknowledgement**

The University of Manitoba campuses are located on original lands of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

**Note: Agenda Items for Concurrence Without Debate**

Any item that has a  beside it denotes an item intended for Concurrence Without Debate. These items include reports and other routine matters, and are considered accepted or adopted by the UMGSA Council without debate or a vote. Any Council Member who wishes to remove any item so-noted from the list of items for Concurrence Without Debate may do so by contacting the Council Chairperson prior to the meeting, or by requesting that it be removed when the Chair asks if there is any opposition to accepting these items for Concurrence Without Debate, immediately prior to the motion to approve the agenda as presented or as amended.

**MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the amended agenda for the March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018, UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.**

*Mathematics/Biological Sciences (Carried).*

**4. Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes of the February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018, UMGSA Council Meeting are included as Appendix I to this council meeting agenda.

**MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the minutes from the February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018, UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.**

*Electrical & Computer Engineering/English, Theatre, Film & Media (Carried).*

**5. Approval of Special Project Grant for the Applied Health Sciences Research**

**Symposium:** The Finance Committee recommends the approval of \$425 for a Special Project Grant for the AHSGSA's Research Symposium, to be held on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The AHSGSA will recognize the UMGSA as a sponsor of the event.

**MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves \$425 for a Special Project Grant for the April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Applied Health Sciences Research Symposium.**

*Finance Committee/Human Nutritional Sciences (Carried).*

## **6. Committee Reports**

### **6.1. February Committee Reports (Appendix II)**

#### **Executive Committee**

- Considering taking a position on tuition fee increases.
- Discussed the referendum question included in the 2018 UMGSA General Election.
- Dealt with a request for advertising from a private company.

#### **Awards Committee**

- Met to discuss rubrics for the UMGSA Teaching Award; the committee decided to maintain the current procedure.
- Discussed updates to the UMGSA Award application forms.
- The amendments to the UMGSA Awards Policy and Procedure Manual Amendments passed by Council will not be passed by the University Senate in time for the coming awards application period, so the Committee will evaluate incoming award applications according to the Senate's current policies.

#### **Bylaws and Policy Committee**

- Worked on updates to the policies which were passed at the February Council meeting.
- Considered recommendation from the EdGSA to give part time and full time students equal department grants, which was passed at the February Council meeting.

#### **Campaigns Committee**

- Discussed advisor-student guidelines.
- The committee is currently considering whether to take a position on tuition hikes.

#### **Events Committee**

- The Committee has run into difficulty planning a second Alumni-Mentorship Event, as venue availability in April is limited and there have been communication issues with collaborators. They hope to host the event in the Fall instead.
- There will likely be a Hello-Goodbye event in April.

#### **Finance Committee**

- Processed Conference Grant and Special Project Grant applications.

## **7. HSGSA Report**

### **7.1. February HSGSA Report (Appendix III)**

- Hosted the first HSGSA Career Fair in conjunction with Career Services. They are hoping to have more presenters next year.
- Hosted a trip to Festival du Voyageur.
- Met with Wab Kinew in an initiative to increase communication between health scientists and politicians.

## **8. UMGSA Executive Review Report**

### **8.1. October 2017 - January 2018 UMGSA Executive Review Report (Appendix V)**

## **9. Executive Reports**

### **9.1. February Executive Reports (Appendix IV)**

## **10. Departmental Reports**

- Civil Engineering Graduate Students' Association have three students running in their election so far.

## 11. Unfinished Business

### 12. New Business

#### 12.1. Discussion of Provincial Health Care Coverage for International Students

The provincial government has announced that international students will not be covered by provincial healthcare as of September 1<sup>st</sup> 2018. Affected students will be required to purchase healthcare from private insurers. This was announced suddenly and the decision seems to have been made without consulting with affected parties, including student unions/associations or the University of Manitoba. This change will affect over 1100 graduate students at the University. The UMGSA Executive was only aware of rumors that the government was considering this, but did not expect it to move forward so quickly.

The UMGSA and UMSU will coordinate strategies, and intend to take action to pressure the government to repeal this decision. Skye, current Senator and Vice President External-elect, has been in contact with a reporter from CBC and will contact graduate students interested in sharing their perspective on the issue.

The University is currently investigating options for affordable health insurance options for international students.

#### 12.2. Ratification of the 2018 UMGSA General Election and Referendum Results:

The results of the UMGSA General Election and Referendum must be ratified by the UMGSA Council. The vote counts from the online vote for each Executive position and for the referendum question are included as Appendix VI to this council meeting agenda.

The following are the successful candidates from the 2018 UMGSA General Election:

- **Carl Neumann**, President
- **Silvia Araujo**, Vice President Academic
- **Cody Ross**, Vice President Internal
- **Skye Kushner**, Vice President External
- **Sakib Rahman**, Vice President Marketing and Events
- **Felix Nwaiwu**, Senator 1
- **Laura Forsythe**, Senator 2

The referendum question was answered with “No” by 382 votes, and “Yes” by 292.

Ahmed Elwali, a candidate running for Vice President External, earned more votes than his opponent, Skye Kushner. He was penalized by the Elections Committee for violations of the UMGSA Election Policy and Procedure Manual, and lost as a result. Ahmed requested that the Council hear a presentation regarding biases in the 2018 UMGSA General Election.

#### **MOTION: BIRT Ahmed Elwali be allowed to present his grievances against the UMGSA Elections Committee.**

*Senator 1/Human Nutritional Sciences (Carried, with 19 in favour, 5 opposed, and the representative from Geological Sciences abstaining).*

Ahmed Elwali gave a PowerPoint presentation claiming that he was the victim of unfair treatment, “cyber-bullying” and negative bias in the 2018 UMGSA General Election. He accused the CRO, DRO, Elections Committee, The Manitoban, and the UMGSA Office

Staff of unfair treatment. Ahmed Elwali has presented these grievances to the Elections Committee, which considered and dismissed his complaints as they found no evidence of unfair treatment.

**MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council ratifies the results of the 2018 UMGSA General Election and Referendum as presented.**

*Natural Resources Institute/Peace and Conflict Studies (Carried, with 17 in favour, 6 opposed, and 2 abstentions).*

**13. Announcements**

**13.1. Department Grants Due:** Applications for the April Department Grant Disbursement should be submitted to the UMGSA Office by Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 at 4pm. The Financial Report, including all financial activity from March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 to February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018, is required for this disbursement. Any applications received after 4pm on April 2<sup>nd</sup> will be subject to late penalties. Department Grant application forms are available from [www.umgsa.org/department-grant/](http://www.umgsa.org/department-grant/).

**13.2. Next Council Meeting:** Wednesday, April 18, 2018 - 5:30PM - UMGSA Lounge

**14. Adjournment (6:52pm).**

**UMGSA Council Meeting Attendance**

**March 28, 2018**

<b>Position/Department</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>
President	Carl Neumann	Present
VP Internal	<b>Vacant</b>	<b>Vacant</b>
VP Academic	Md Emrul Hasan	Present
VP External	Albert Boakye	<b>Regrets</b>
VP Marketing & Events	Obiajulu Nnaemeka	<b>Regrets</b>
VP Health Science	Andrew Plesniarski	Present
Senator1	Silvia Araujo	Present
Senator2	D Skye Kushner	Present
Senator3	Nour Eissa	<b>Will be Attending HSGSA Council Mtgs</b>
Exec at Large	<b>Vacant</b>	<b>Vacant</b>
Chairperson	Karalyn Dokurno	Present
Office Manager (No Vote)	Ruth Prokesch	Present
Office Assistant (No Vote)	Jayne Hammond (Minute Taker)	Present

<b><i>Agric &amp; Food Science</i></b>		
Animal Science	Yue (Yvette) Shang (Co-Councilors) Dipana Maharjan	Dipana Present
Biosystems Engineering	Ikra Iftekhar Shuvo (Co-Councilors) Hrishekesh Banik	Both Present
Entomology	Thais F Silva Guimeraes	<b>Absent</b>
Food Science	Pamela Drawbridge	Present
Human Nutritional Sciences	Matt Granger (Co-Councilors) Roxie Koohgoli	Both Present
Plant Science	Kenny So (Co-Councilors) Win Jian (Daniel) Chan	<b>Both Absent</b>
Soil Science	Mauli Gamhewage (Co-Councilors) Lanny Gardiner	Mauli Present LE-6:20pm
<b><i>Architecture</i></b>		
Architecture	Steven Hung (Co-Councilors) Matthew Rajfur	Matthew Present
City Planning	Andrew Treger (Co-Councilors) Felipe Mogollon	<b>Both Sent Regrets</b>
Interior Design	Eugenia Amoako	<b>Absent</b>
Landscape Architecture	Alyssa Magas	Present
<b><i>Arts</i></b>		
Anthropology	Analucia Vucic	<b>Absent</b>
Economics	Francis Dzikpe (Co-Councilors) Siavash Taheri	<b>Both Absent</b>
English, Theatre, Film & Media	Shaylyn Maharaj-Poliah Kasey Morgan (Co-Councilors)	Shaylyn Present
Linguistics	Iuliia Rezvukhina (Co-Councilors) Tasheney Holness	Tasheney Present
Native Studies	Laura Forsythe (Co-Councilors) Timothy Maton	Timothy Present
Political Studies & Public Administration	Ryan Shibley	Qi An (Angie) - Proxy
Psychology	Michelle Ward (Co-Councilors) Brenna Henrikson	Brenna Present
Sociology & Criminology	Wanda Hounslow	Present
<b><i>Management</i></b>		
Asper - Master of Finance	Qing Qiu (Co-Councilors) Meer (Farhan) Shahriar	<b>Both Absent</b>

Management - PhD & MSc	Zulfiqer Ali Haider	Present
Management – MBA	Udit Khanna	Arun Antony - Proxy
<b>Education</b>		
Education – PhD	Kazutoshi (Koe) Yoshino	Md Shayeekh-Us Saleheen was Proxy
Educ - Admin, Fndtns & Psychology	Tyler Kelsch	Catherine Draper - Proxy
<b>Engineering</b>		
Biomedical Engineering	Ahmed Elwali (Co-Councilors) Mehrangiz Ashiri	Both Present
Civil Engineering	Alexander Afulberoh	Present
Electrical & Computer Engineering	Nozhan Bayat (Co-Councilors) Ehsan Tahmasabian	Ehsan Present LE-5:54pm
Mechanical & Manufacturing Eng.	Ako Bahari	Present
<b>Environment, Earth &amp; Resources</b>		
Environment & Geography	Tonya Burgers (Co-Councilors) Maddie Harasyn	Tonya Present LE-6:10pm
Geological Sciences	Cody Ross	Present
Natural Resources Institute	Anderson Assuah (Co-Councilors) Zachary Rempel	Zachary Present
<b>Graduate Studies</b>		
Applied Health Sciences	Caryne Torkia (Co-Councilors) Brittany Semenchuk (Streuber)	Caryne Present LE-6:40pm
Peace and Conflict Studies	Mathias Ateng	Present
<b>Kinesiology &amp; Recreation Mgmt.</b>		
Kinesiology & Recreation Mgmt.	Laura Ceccarelli (Co-Councilors) Yash Rawal	Yash Present
<b>Law</b>		
Law	Kelechi Okorafor	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Nursing</b>		
Nursing	Chloe Shindrak (Co-Councilors) Tanja Scharnagl	Tanja Present LE-6:10pm
<b>Science</b>		
Biological Sciences	Gwangseok Yoon	Present
Chemistry	Haben Gabir	Present

Computer Science	Md Momin Al Aziz (Co-Councilors) Md S. R. Mahdi	<b>Both Absent</b>
Mathematics	Jane Breen (Co-Councilors) Mohammad Shirazi	Mohammad Present
Microbiology	Mac Kohlmeier	Present
Physics & Astronomy	Darren Flynn	Present
Statistics	Kanika Grover (Co-Councilors) Shamsia Sobhan	Shamsia Present
<b>UMSU (Non-Voting)</b>		
President or Designate		<b>Absent</b>
<b>CUPE 3909 (Non-Voting)</b>		
President or Designate	Abdulrazaki Abu	<b>Absent</b>
<b>FGS Rep (Non-Voting)</b>		
Dean or Designate	Dr. Todd Mondor	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Student Life (Non-Voting)</b>		
Office of Student Life	Cora Dupuis	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Indigenous Student Centre</b>		
Indigenous Student Centre	Trevor Phillips	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Guests</b>		
Biosystems Eng. (Possibly interested)	Mahmudul Hasan	Present
IDRSC Co-Chair	Sakib Rahman	Present

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UMGSA President

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Date

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Office Assistant

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Date