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## **UMGSA Council Meeting Minutes**

### **Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 - 5:30 PM - Zoom**

**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**

**MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the agenda for the March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.**

*Political Studies & Public Administration / Kinesiology & Recreation Mgmt. (Carried).*

**4. Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes of the February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 UMGSA Council Meeting are included as Appendix I to the Council meeting agenda.

**MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the minutes of the February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.**

*Kinesiology & Recreation Mgmt. / Political Studies & Public Administration (Carried).*

**5. Committee Reports**

**5.1.** February Committee Reports (Appendix II - Council Meeting Documents)

**6. HSGSA Report**

**6.1.** February HSGSA Report (Appendix III - Council Meeting Documents)

**7. Senate Report**

**7.1.** February Senate Report (Appendix IV - Council Meeting Documents)

**8. Executive Reports**

**8.1.** February Executive Reports (Appendix V - Council Meeting Documents)

**9. Departmental Reports**

**Entomology:** The department raised concerns about the new U-Pass price. They asked about the summer pass and whether something could still be done. The chair moved the conversation to the referendum.

## 10. Unfinished Business

### 10.1. Ratification of the Email Vote to Confirm Julia Minarik as the UMGSA

**Governance and Communications Coordinator:** The Selection Committee received nine applications. The Selection Committee invited and interviewed six of the applicants.

After deliberations, the Selection Committee recommended Julia Minarik for the role of UMGSA Governance and Communications Coordinator (GCC).

Julia has very strong knowledge of the UMGSA and its operations, and her experience and skills match those needed for the role exceptionally well. She is completing her program of studies shortly and has excellent availability to serve in this role. The Committee firmly believes that Julia has lots of initiative and will be a proactive and energetic addition to the UMGSA's professional office staff.

The temporary contract for this position is ending right away, so in order to allow Julia to start in this role ASAP, we needed the Council to ratify the recommendation of the Selection Committee by email vote:

**BIRT the UMGSA Council ratifies Julia Minarik for the role of UMGSA Governance and Communications Coordinator.**

**The Council ratified Julia Minarik as Governance and Communications Coordinator with 14 votes of Yes, 1 vote of No and 2 Abstentions (Julia Minarik and Cody Ross).**

The results of all email votes must be ratified at the next regular meeting of the Council.

**MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council ratifies the results of the email vote to confirm Julia Minarik as the UMGSA Governance and Communications Coordinator**

There was a conversation about why we went to an e-mail vote. Carl noted that we had an e-mail vote because the old contract was up, and we needed a replacement in a timely fashion.

*Microbiology / Landscape Architecture (Carried).*

*Senator 1, VPFA (Abstained).*

## 11. New Business

**11.1. Ratification of the Results of the 2020 UMGSA General Election:** The results of the 2020 UMGSA General Election must be ratified by the UMGSA Council. The election results are included as Appendix VI to the council agenda.

This vote would ratify the following UMGSA Executive for the 2020-2021 term:

President, Silvia Sekander

Vice-President Academic, Rubel Chandra Talukder

Vice-President Services and Support, Etinosa Osemwota

Vice President Finance and Administration, Nora Ampomah

Senator 1, Akeem Azeez

Senator 2, William Dowie

**MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council ratifies the results of the 2020 UMGSA General Election as presented in the Final CRO Report - UMGSA General Election.**

*Education – PhD / Entomology (Carried).*

*Environment & Geography, VPFA (Abstained).*

**11.2. Bi-Annual UMGSA Executive Review Committee Report:** The UMGSA's Executive Review Committee (ERC) compiles two major reports to Council per executive term. This is the second report for this term's executive team, covering the months of November, 2019 to February, 2020. The ERC Report is included as Appendix VII to this council agenda.

It was noted by a councillor that Tanjit should be thanked for her hard work during the U-Pass campaign and that this was not adequately reflected in the Executive reviews. The reason this wasn't reflected was because the campaign work came after the reviews were already handed in.

**11.3. Annulment and Restart of the UMGSA U-PASS Referendum:** The U-PASS program was proposed for elimination in the City of Winnipeg's 2020 preliminary budget, without warning and contrary to discussions and negotiations about the program before that time. Since then, thanks to the efforts of many students and allies, the City's final budget for the year has maintained the U-PASS program, but at a higher rate than was previously proposed by the City during negotiations. The new rate for 2020 would be \$200.00 per semester (for the Fall and Winter terms only). Accordingly, the rate as noted in the Referendum which was approved at the February meeting of the UMGSA Council is no longer being offered. The UMGSA Executive has sought the advice of the Association's lawyer, and in accordance with his advice we recommend that the Referendum be restarted with the cost of enrolment in the program revised to \$200. In addition, we recommend that both the Nomination Period and Campaign Preparation Period be reduced to one week each.

**MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council annuls the referendum question that was passed at the Council's February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting. BIFRT the UMGSA Council approves the initiation of a new referendum, with "Week 1" starting on March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020, and with the following wording:**

The U-PASS (Universal Bus Pass) is a program offered by the City of Winnipeg in which all full-time students within the transit service area pay a subsidized bus pass fee and have unlimited access to transit in the months of September through April. It has been in existence since 2016 and the first contract expires at the end of this academic term. The new rate for 2020 would be \$200 per term. Please fill out the following ballot concerning the U-PASS program.

Q: Do you support continued enrollment in the U-PASS program?

- YES - Continued enrollment in the U-PASS program at a rate of \$200.00 per term (Fall and Winter Terms Only).
- NO - No further enrollment in the U-PASS program.

**BIFRT the UMGSA Council approves the reduction of both the Nomination Period and the Campaign Preparation Period to only one week each, with the Close of Nominations and the All Candidates Meeting taking place on the Friday of Week 1. Campaigning will begin on April 13<sup>th</sup>, and Voting will take place on April 20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>. BIFRT anything specified to be done in person may be conducted digitally.**

There was a question about the application / nomination period.  
The nomination period closes on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. There is a Yes side registered, they can stay registered if they would like. A No side also has the time to register.

*Executive Committee (Carried).*

*VPFA (Abstained).*

## **12. Announcements**

**12.1. Office Closure:** The UMGSA Office at 221 UC will be closed until further notice. All office staff are still working their regular hours and can be reached via e-mail.

**12.2. Department Grants are due April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020:** Given recent COVID-19 related events, department grants for this term can be submitted electronically to Ruth at:

[gsa@umgsa.org](mailto:gsa@umgsa.org)

**12.3. Closing UMGSA Facebook ‘Group’:** We also have a page and having both is redundant.

**12.4. Next Council Meeting:** Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 - 5:30PM - Zoom

**12.5. Help Next Door Manitoba** - About a new site the government put together called [www.helpnextdoormb.ca](http://www.helpnextdoormb.ca)

## **13. Adjournment (7:18pm).**

**UMGSA Council Meeting Attendance**
**March 25, 2020**

<i>Position/Department</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Signature</i>
President	Carl Neumann	Present
VP Finance & Administration	Cody Ross	Present
VP Academic	Tanjit Nagra	Present
VP Services & Support	Okechukwu Efobi	Present
HSGSA President	Mahder Teffera	Present
Senator1 / Gov & Comm Coordinator, Minute Taker	Julia Minarik	Present
Senator2	Ehsan Tahmasebian	<b>Regrets</b>
Chairperson (No Vote)	Kavisha Manoj Mehta	Present
Office Manager (No Vote)	Ruth Prokesch	Present
<b><i>Agric &amp; Food Science</i></b>		
Agribusiness & Agric Economics	Justin Daniels (Co-Councillors) Damla Oz	Damla Present
Animal Science	Daphne McKnight (Co-Councillors) Bingqi Dong	Daphne Present
Biosystems Engineering	Benitt Sharey Uthiria Raj Md Shadhin (Co-Councillors)	<b>Both Absent</b>
Entomology	Lavanya Ganesan	Present
Food Science	Yi Xie	<b>Absent</b>
Human Nutritional Sciences	Luis Codero-Monroy	Present
Plant Science	Nathaniel (Nate) Ort (Co-Councillors) Madison McCausland	Madison Present
Soil Science	Lanny Gardiner (Co-Councillors) Jess Nicksy	Jess Present
<b><i>Architecture</i></b>		
Architecture	Emily Jones (Co-Councillors) Jonathan Bailes	<b>Both Absent</b>
City Planning	Justin Grift (Co-Councillors) Dom Comps	<b>Both Absent</b>
Interior Design	Ethan Loewen	<b>Absent</b>
Landscape Architecture	Ian Laya	Present
<b><i>Arts</i></b>		
Economics	Francis Dzikpe (Co-Councillors) Siavash Taheri	<b>Both Absent</b>
English, Theatre, Film & Media	Amy-Leigh Gray	Present
French, Spanish & Italian	Semiyu Adegbite	<b>Absent</b>
Linguistics	Iuliia Rezvukhina (Co-Councillors) Tasheney Francis	Tash Present
Political Studies & Public Administration	Eric Gagnon (Co-Councillors) Meagan Greentree	Eric Present
Psychology	Nicolas Brais (Co-Councillors) Lauren Kaminski	Lauren Present
Sociology & Criminology	Labe Songose	Labe Present
<b><i>Management</i></b>		
Asper School - Master of Finance	Evelyn Zhang	Present
Management - MBA	Shakti Vyjayanthi	<b>Absent</b>

<b>Education</b>		
Education - PhD	Md. Shayeeh-Us Saleheen	Present
Educ - Admin, Foundations & Psych.	Rebecca Balakrishnan	Present
<b>Engineering</b>		
Biomedical Engineering	Farahnaz Hajipour (Co-Councillors) Muhammad Masud Rana	Farahnaz Present
Civil Engineering	Parvin Berenjkar	Present
Electrical & Computer Engineering	Nozhan Bayat	Present
<b>Environment, Earth &amp; Resources</b>		
Environment & Geography	Lisa Matthes (Co-Councillors) William Dowie	Bill Present
Geological Sciences	Claire Morrow	<b>Absent</b>
Natural Resources Institute	Kaitlyn Duthie-Kanikkatt Michael Bagamery (Co-Councillors)	Mike Present
<b>Graduate Studies</b>		
Applied Health Sciences	Kevin Boreskie (Co-Councillors) Zach Henderson	Kevin Present
Peace & Conflict Studies	Darryl Zuend	Present
<b>Kinesiology &amp; Recreation Mgmt.</b>		
Kinesiology & Recreation Mgmt.	C. Nolan Turnbull (Co-Councillors) Ganesh Tailor	Ganesh Present
<b>Law</b>		
<b>Nursing</b>		
Nursing	Kim Sefton (Co-Councillors) Stephanie Betker	Kim Present
<b>Science</b>		
Biological Sciences	Alexandra Schoen	<b>Regrets</b>
Chemistry	Scott Legare	Present
Computer Science	Kimia Shadkami	Present
Mathematics	YG Liang	<b>Absent</b>
Microbiology	Abdul-Rahman Adamu Bukari	Present
Physics & Astronomy	O. Jephthah Iyaro	Present
Statistics	Scott White	Present
<b>CUPE3909</b>		
CUPE3909 (No Vote)	Garett Williams	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Indigenous Engagement</b>		
<b>Guests</b>		
New Pres (invited)	Silvia Sekander	Present
New VPFA (invited)	Nora Ampomah	Present
New VPSS (invited)	Etinosa Osemwota	Present
New VPA (invited)	Rubel Chandra Talukder	Present

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**Minute-Taker**

**Date**

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**President**

**Date**

*The above is considered to be a true and accurate account of the proceedings of the committee. Please inform the Governance and Communications Coordinator of any errors and/or omissions.*