
UMGSA Council Meeting Documents Index Page

Wednesday, April 28th, 2021 – 5:30 PM - Zoom

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UMGSA Council Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, April 28th, 2021 - 5:30 PM - Zoom

1. Call to Order

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 April 28, 2021 UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.

4. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the March 31st, 2021 UMGSA Council Meeting are included as Appendix I to this Council meeting agenda.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the minutes of the March 31, 2021 UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.

5. Committee Reports

5.1. March Committee Reports (Appendix II)

6. HSGSA Report

6.1. March HSGSA Report (Appendix III)

7. Senate Report

7.1. March Senate Report (Appendix IV)

8. Executive Reports

8.1. March Reports (Appendix V)

9. Departmental Reports

10. Unfinished Business

10.1. Sustainability Updates

11. New Business

11.1. Ratification of the e-mail vote to complete the Formation of an Ad-Hoc Selections Committee for the Selection of a Governance and Communications

Coordinator: The current Governance and Communications Coordinator Julia Minarik is leaving the UMGSA. A replacement Coordinator is needed. Since this is a permanent paid position, a Selections Committee must be formed. There was a vote to complete the committee via e-mail, the following motion must be ratified:

“MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the appointment of Saz Bhattarai to the Ad Hoc Selections Committee for the hiring of a new GCC Coordinator for the UMGSA.

UMGSA Bylaws and Policy Committee

24 yes votes, Carried.”

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council ratifies the above motion concerning the appointment of Saz Bhattarai to the UMGSA Selections Committee

12. Announcements

12.1. Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, May 26th, 2021 - 5:30PM – Zoom

12.2. CCR – Please log on to CareerConnect and log your councilor and committee commitments so that you receive CCR recognition.

13. Adjournment

Appendix II :

UMGSA Committee Reports March 1st - March 31st, 2021

Executive Committee

Chair: Silvia Sekander (UMGSA President)

Meeting Dates: March 9th, March 30th, 2021

- Executives discussed about ethical investment and UMGSA election.
- Executives discussed about MAPSS advocacy tool expenditure.
- HSGSA president introduced the U-pass donation program.
- Strategies regarding new GCC appointment were discussed.

Finance Committee

Chair: Nora Ampomah (UMGSA VPFA)

Meeting Date: March 4th, 2021

- The Committee reviewed Financial Reports of the UMGSA for the month of February.
- Discussed and reviewed recommendations for the Executive Committee on ethical investments/moving funds from National Bank Financial (NBF) to Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) or Assiniboine Credit Union (ACU)

Bylaws and Policy Committee

Chair: Nora Ampomah (UMGSA VPFA)

Meeting Date: March 11th, 2021

- The Committee reviewed the role description of the UMGSA Executive to ensure their responsibilities are reflective of the purpose of each position including a fairly distributed workload.
- Started conversations on the upcoming tasks for the 2021/2022 term

Events Committee

Chair: Etinosa Osemwota (UMGSA VPSS)

Meeting Dates: March 25th, 2021

- The committee finalized details about the National trivia championship and approved up to \$100.00 to be used for the event.

Services and Support Committee

Chair: Etinosa Osemwota (UMGSA VPSS)

Meeting Dates: no meeting

Awards and Academic Affairs Committee

Chair: Rubel Chandra Talukder (UMGSA VP Academic)

Meeting Dates: no meeting

Appendix III :

HSGSA Report March 1st - March 31st, 2021

HSGSA Executive Committee and Council

Chair: Akshi Malik

In March, HSGSA Elections were held. HSGSA CRO was overwhelmed with active and competitive campaigning period. Voting period was two days long and there were no appeals afterwards. Thus, HSGSA Council ratified the Elections results on March 26th, 2021.

Ad-hoc committee had been working on 'COVID-19 Pandemic Relief Fund' applications in teams. 17 students were shortlisted and were notified in the first week of April. HSGSA negotiated partial funding from RFHS Dean's office and they agreed to provide 500\$ each for 17 students who are in most need. Overall, 17 students will be given 1000\$ each and other 17 will be provided with 100\$ gift card.

Also, HSGSA is setting up terms of reference for Dr. Forough Khadem Memorial Award of 1000\$ each to one Masters and one Doctoral student who showed academic excellence and leadership qualities.

Akshi Malik
HSGSA President (2020-2021)

Appendix IV :

March Senate Report

Link to the Senate agendas:

Agenda March 3rd, 2021:

https://umanitoba.ca/governance/sites/governance/files/2021-02/2021_03_03_Senate_Agenda_0.pdf

President's task force on EDI, March 3rd, 2021:

https://umanitoba.ca/governance/sites/governance/files/2021-02/2021_03_03_President%27s%20Task%20Force%20on%20EDI%20Final%20Report.pdf

Please note that this report contains only relevant items discussed in Senate related to graduate studies and graduate students.

The report includes:

1. *Report of the senate committee on awards*
 - a. *New offers (pg. 4)*
 - b. *Amendments (pg. 9)*
2. *Report of the FGS on Curriculum and Course Changes report (pg.3)*
3. *Motions approved by Board of Governors (pg. 17)*
4. *President's Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (pg. 19)*

Report of the Senate Committee on University Research Re: Proposal to Establish a Professorship in Lab-on-Chip Technology (pg. 107)

1. Report of the senate committee on awards

(a) New Offers

- (i) Anne and Paul Mahon Rec and Read/Post-Secondary Club (PSC) Bursary
- (ii) CORS-SA Prize of Excellence
- (iii) Delaney Graduate Scholarship for Indigenous Students
- (iv) Judy and Gerry McDole Graduate Entrance Scholarship
- (v) Patricia Chapter No. 8 Order Of The Eastern Star Prize

(b) Amendment

- (i) Community Health Sciences Prize – Population Health Engagement
- (ii) Right Honourable Brian Dickson Graduate Fellowship
- (iii) School of Art Award
- (iv) Stewart Pugh External Study Scholarship

2. Report of the FGS on Curriculum and Course Changes report

The Dept. of Community Health Sciences proposes (1) course modification, CHSC 7730, to remove the course's pre- and co-requisites. The pre- and co-requisites listed for this course are the result of an error/oversight and were intended to be a requirement of the overall Manitoba Training Program in Health Services Research (MTP), and not the course, specifically. CHSC 7730 was originally created to help formalize MTP program content and is the main MTP seminar series.

The Executive Committee recommends THAT: the course change(s) from the unit listed below be approved by Senate.

Motion Carried

3. Motions approved by Board of Governors

THAT the Board of Governors approve the establishment of the Manitoba Crop Protection Chair in Weed Management [as recommended by Senate, January 6, 2021].

THAT the Board of Governors approve four new offers and six amended offers, as set out in Appendix A of the Report of the Senate Committee on Awards [dated October 22, 2020].

THAT the Board of Governors approve four new offers, six amended offers, and the withdrawal of one offer, as set out in Appendix A of the Report of the Senate Committee on Awards [dated November 12, 2020].

THAT the Board of Governors approve the establishment of the Earth Materials and Archaeometry Centre, for a five-year term, effective upon approval [as recommended by Senate, January 6, 2021].

4. President's Task Force on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Recommendation 1: Leadership

Create an administrative structure for advancing EDI that includes a senior EDI lead to oversee EDI across the institution as well as a network of leaders working at the unit level to engage the entire UM community in working towards change.

Recommendation 2: Planning and Policy

Ensure that advancing EDI is a key element of the University's strategic plan, is integrated into academic and administrative/support units' plans, and is supported by the policies and guidelines governing the University.

Recommendation 3: Monitoring, Measuring Progress, and Accountability

Develop plans, processes, and supports for evaluating and reporting progress on EDI goals to ensure accountability and to inform future action.

Recommendation 4: Increasing Diversity and Equity Across UM

Develop unit-level plans for increasing the diversity of students, staff, and faculty that include initiatives that address equity.

Recommendation 5: Accessibility

Ensure central planning and support for increasing accessibility at UM.

Recommendation 6: Building Awareness and Support for EDI

Develop and implement a plan for increasing awareness and support for EDI among all UM community members.

Recommendation 7: Addressing EDI in Academic Programs, Teaching, and Research

Encourage, support, and monitor the integration of EDI within academic programs and enhance the knowledge and skills of academic staff to address EDI in their teaching and research.

Recommendation 8: Promoting Inclusion and Safety

Develop and implement a plan for promoting a greater sense of inclusion and safety at UM that involves both university-wide and unit-specific activities that encourage engagement and participation of all students, staff, and faculty; that foster greater understanding, acceptance, and mutual respect among community members; and that celebrate diversity.

5. Report of the Senate Committee on University Research Re: Proposal to Establish a Professorship in Lab-on-Chip Technology

The purpose of the Professorship is to allow for the development of “an internationally competitive research program in innovative lab-on-chip technologies at the University of Manitoba”, enable interdisciplinary training opportunities, and facilitate academic-industrial collaborations.

3. The Chair will be funded through a philanthropic gift from BWL Investments for a period of five years with a contribution of \$250,000 (\$50,000 per year)

The Senate Committee on University Research recommends THAT: the Professorship in Lab-on-Chip Technology be approved by Senate.

Motion was Carried

Appendix V :

UMGSA Executive Reports March 1st - March 31st, 2021

President - Silvia Sekander

Executive Summary of Work:

- **Holiday Hamper 2:** We have discussed strategies for distributing the hampers to the recipients.
- **Provost Search:** Went through the record interviews and provided questions to the committee.

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
March 1 st , 2021	Provost Search Committee Meeting	2 Hours
March 1 st , 2021	Budget Advisory Committee Meeting	2 Hours
March 3 rd , 2021	COVID-19 Research Recovery Meeting	1 Hour
March 3 rd , 2021	Senate	0.5 Hours
March 4 th , 2021	Finance Meeting	1 Hour
March 9 th , 2021	UMGSA Executive Committee Meeting	2 Hours
March 10 th , 2021	Meeting with Laurie	1 Hour
March 11 th , 2021	Bylaws and Policy Committee Meeting	0.5 Hours
March 30 th , 2021	UMGSA Executive Committee Meeting	1.5 Hours
March 30 th , 2021	Intimate relationship meeting	1.5 Hours
March 30 th , 2021	Provost Search Committee Meeting	4 Hours
March 31 st , 2021	UMGSA Council Meeting	1 Hour

Time Spent in Meetings in March: 18 Hours

*Was on mandatory leave from March 15 till March 26 due to UMGSA elections 2021

Office Hours:

All Executive Office Hours were suspended due to COVID-19 effective March 17th, 2020.

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in March: 0 Hours

Working Events Attended: None

Time Spent at Working Events in March: 0 Hours

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

Activity	Hours
e-mail Correspondence & other activities	30 Hours
Provost Search Interviews	10 Hours

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in March, 2021: 58 Hours

Vice-President Finance and Administration - Nora Ampomah

Executive Summary of Work:

- **Review of UMGSA Financial Documents for Ethical Investments:** Reviewed investment documents, reports and proposals for ethical investments. Revised governing manuals and prepared reports for meetings.

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
March 4 th , 2021	UMGSA Finance Committee Meeting	0.5 Hours
March 9 th , 2021	UMGSA Executive Committee Meeting	1.5 Hours
March 11 th , 2021	UMGSA Bylaws and Policy Committee Meeting	0.5 Hours
March 30 th , 2021	UMGSA Executive Committee Meeting	1.5 Hours
March 30 th , 2021	Intimate Relationship Consultation	1 Hour
March 31 st , 2021	UMGSA Council Meeting	2 Hours

Meetings Missed: None

Time Spent in Meetings in March: 7 Hours

Office Hours:

**All Executive Office Hours were suspended due to COVID-19 effective March 17th, 2020. **

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in March: 0 Hours

Working Events Attended:

Time Spent at Working Events in March: 0 Hours

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

Activity	Hours
Preparing Documents for Meetings	18 Hours
e-mail Correspondence	4 Hours
Other	3 Hours

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in March, 2021: 32 Hours

Vice-President Services and Support - Etinosa Osemwota

- **Manitoba Alliance of Post Secondary Students (MAPSS) Campaigns**
- **Workshop Planning**
- **Consent Culture**
- **Hamper distribution**

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
March 8 th , 2021	Meeting with FGS Dean	2 Hours
March 9 th , 2021	UMGSA Executive Committee meeting	1 Hour
March 9 th , 2021	UMSU Member Services	1 Hour
March 12 th , 2021	MAPSS meeting	1 Hour
March 16 th , 2021	Graduate Student Experience Committee Meeting	1 Hour
March 18 th , 2021	SCUR Meeting	1.5 Hours
March 23 rd , 2021	UMSU Member Services	1 Hour
March 24 th , 2021	Sexual Violence Steering Committee	1.5 Hours
March 25 th , 2021	UMGSA Events Committee Meeting	0.5 Hours
March 25 th , 2021	R workshop prep	0.5 Hours
March 30 th , 2021	UMGSA Executive Committee meeting	1 Hour
March 30 th , 2021	Consultation about Intimate Relationship	1.5 Hours
March 31 st , 2021	UMGSA Council Meeting	1 Hour

Meetings Missed:

Date	Meeting
March 21 st , 2021	UMGSA Finance Committee Meeting
March 25 th , 2021	UMSU BOD Meeting

Time Spent in Meetings in March: 14.5 Hours

Office Hours:

All Executive Office Hours were suspended due to COVID-19 effective March 17th, 2020.

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in March: 0 Hours

Working Events Attended:

March 3 rd , 2021	BITB Workshop	3 Hours
March 30 th , 2021	R Workshop	1.5 Hours
Jan 27 th , 2021	GSA Healthy Sexuality Workshop	1 Hour

Time Spent at Working Events in March: 5.5 Hours

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

Activity	Hours
Preparing Documents for Committee Meetings	1 Hours
Preparing Council Reports	2 Hours

E-mail and Other Correspondence	53 Hours
MAPSS Campaign	8 Hours

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in March, 2021: 84 Hours

Vice-President Academic - Rubel Chandra Talukder

Executive Summary of Work:

- **Off-campus housing:** I am involved with UM Administration along with Silvia to explore the possibility of helping new grad students with guarantor forms for their off-campus housing. We found out that the ARC building near chancellor Matheson waives the requirement of guarantor form if students can show proof of income letter like scholarship letter.
- **UM COVID-19 Graduate Student Pandemic Relief Fund:** Introduced the idea of suspending the continuing fee in Summer-2021 until Summer-2022 and that push ultimately resulted in University Administration creating this new bursary for graduate students. This fund has provided eligible full-time students \$1000 and part-time students \$500 each. A total of around 680 students have been helped with this fund. We hope that this will help graduate students a lot during this uncertain time.

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
March 2 nd , 2021	COVID-19 Academic Steering committee	1 Hour
March 3 rd , 2021	Senate	1.5 Hour
March 9 th , 2021	UMGSA Executive	1 Hour
March 9 th , 2021	COVID-19 Academic Steering committee	1.5 Hour
March 30 th , 2021	UMGSA Executive	1 Hour
March 30 th , 2021	Intimate relationship consultation	1.5 Hour
March 31 st , 2021	UMGSA Council	1.25 Hour

Meetings Missed: Meetings missed during March 15 to March 26 due to mandatory leave because of UMGSA Election Campaign 2021.

Time Spent in Meetings in March: 8.75 Hours

Office Hours:

All Executive Office Hours were suspended due to COVID-19 effective March 17th, 2020.

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in March: 0 Hours

Working Events Attended: None

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

Activity	Hours
e-mail Correspondence & other activities (meeting preparation, signing signatures etc.)	20 Hours

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in March, 2021: 28.75 Hours

HSGSA President - Akshi Malik

Executive Summary of Work:

- **Chaired HSGSA Executive and council meetings**
- **Attended UMGSA Executive and council meetings**
- **Worked on COVID-19 Pandemic Relief Fund with other members**
- **Co-organized Cultural Event**

Meetings Attended:

March 8 th , 2021	Ad-hoc committee meeting (COVID-19 Relief)	1 Hour
March 9 th , 2021	Meeting with RFHS Dean	1 Hour
March 9 th , 2021	UMGSA Executive	2 Hours
March 10 th , 2021	COVID-19 support working group	1.5 Hours
March 24 th , 2021	HSGSA Executive	1.5 Hours
March 25 th , 2021	Ad-hoc committee meeting (COVID-19 Relief)	1 Hour
March 26 th , 2021	HSGSA Council	1.5 Hours
March 29 th , 2021	Ad-hoc committee meeting (COVID-19 Relief)	1 Hour
March 30 th , 2021	UMGSA Executive	1.5 Hours

Meetings missed: UMGSA Council - Chemical Spill Emergency In the lab.

Time Spent in Meetings in March: 12 Hours

Office Hours:

All Executive Office Hours were suspended due to COVID-19 effective March 17th, 2020.

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in March: 0 Hours

Working events attended:

March 28 th , 2021	HSGSA Cultural Event	5 Hours
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Time Spent in Working Events in March: 5 Hours

Approximate time spent on other activities:

HSGSA Meetings Prep	15 Hours
E-mail correspondence & housekeeping	10 Hours

Total hours spent on the UMGSA & HSGSA for March, 2021: 42 hours

Senator1 - Azeez Akeem Abiodun

Executive Summary of Work:

- **Meetings:** I participated in the meetings below; the necessary information gotten was disseminated to the right quarters.

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
March 9 th , 2021	UMGSA Executive	3 Hours
March 18 th , 2021	SCIE meeting	1 Hour
March 30 th , 2021	UMGSA Executive	1 Hour
March 31 st , 2021	UMGSA Council	2 Hours

Meetings Missed:

Date	Meeting
March 3 rd , 2021	Senate

Time Spent in Meetings in March: 7 Hours

Office Hours:

All Executive Office Hours were suspended due to COVID-19 effective March 17th, 2020.

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in March: 0 Hours

Working Events Attended: None

Time Spent at Working Events in March: 0 Hours

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

Activity	Hours
Preparing Documents for Meetings	2 Hours
e-mail Correspondence	3 Hours

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in March, 2021: 12 Hours

Senator 2 - William Dowie

Executive Summary of Work:

- **Senator Meetings:** Student Senate Caucus, Senate Executive, and Regular Senate
- **UMGSA portfolio – other committees:** attended various committees on Zoom sessions: Sustainability, Taxonomy of non-degree programs, COVID-19 Recovery Steering Committee (CRSC), Indigenous Outreach Committee + culture webinars; official meet & greets with new UM Prez and FGS Acting Dean, CRA benefits for students (new COVID-19 policies and programs).

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
March 3 rd , 2021	Meeting w/ Cary Miller, future Indigenous lead, Arts.	1.5 Hours
March 3 rd , 2021	Senate	1.5 Hours
March 4 th , 2021	CRSC	2 Hours
March 5 th , 2021	Sustainability Committee follow-up with UMSU	0.75 Hours
March 9 th , 2021	UMGSA Executive	2 Hours
March 11 th , 2021	CRSC	1.5 Hours
March 12 th , 2021	Meeting Shirley Thompson graduate micro-credentials	1 Hour
March 12 th , 2021	Sustainability Committee – awards debrief	0.5 Hours
March 30 th , 2021	UMGSA Executive	1.5 Hours
March 31 st , 2021	UMGSA Council	1.5 Hours

Meetings Missed:

*Was on mandatory leave from March 15 till March 26 due to UMGSA elections 2021

Time Spent in Meetings in March: 13.75 Hours

Office Hours:

All Executive Office Hours were suspended due to COVID-19 effective March 17th, 2020.

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in March: 0 Hours

Working Events Attended:

Time Spent at Working Events in March: 0 Hours

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

Activity	Hours
Preparing for Council – Review Tasks	2 Hours
Email / WhatsApp correspondence (one hour per week allotted)	4 Hours

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in March, 2021: 19.75 Hours

Tabled Activities: re-calibration of milestones for Indigenous Outreach; outreach project regarding ‘mature’ students (to promote graduate research opportunities); expansion of CCR categories for CV enhancement (esp. MITACS workshops)