

## **UMGSA Council Meeting Minutes**

### **Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 - 5:30 PM – Zoom**

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

#### **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 November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022, UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.**

*Dustin / Michael*

*Carried*

#### **4. Approval of the Minutes**

**MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the minutes of the October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022, UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.**

*Sasha/ Mudra*

*Carried*

#### **5. Committee Reports**

##### **5.1. October Committee Reports (Appendix II)**

- i. Silvia met with Brandy Usick of Student Engagement and Success regarding creating more mental health workshops for the graduate students, as well as for our executive team.
- ii. UMGSA recognized student clubs are now able to receive monetary support (currently \$50.00 per term) upon filling out the [required documents](#).
- iii. Silvia shared that due to logistical issues, UMGSA will not be hosting an awards luncheon in fall semester but hope to hold the event in the new year.
- iv. The UMGSA executives have been discussing about creating a budget line to support the Multidisciplinary Health Research Experience (MHRE) Program.
- v. The Bylaws Committee is reviewing and discussing the roles & salaries of the Chief Returning Officer as well as Deputy Returning Officer. Any changes made will be applied to the positions next year.

- vi. The Services & Support Committee is busy organizing surveys to be distributed in the near future (multipurpose & University offered services).
- vii. Monsurul shared that the 2022 Holiday Hamper application opens tomorrow (November 24<sup>th</sup>).
- viii. Akshi (VP St. Boniface) suggested the Awards & Academic Affairs Committee think about creating some academic workshops that would be beneficial to the students.

## **6. HSGSA Report**

### **6.1. October HSGSA Report (Appendix III)**

- i. Jamie mentioned the Graduate Nursing Student's Association's request to transfer from being represented under UMGSA to HSGSA. The UMGSA & HSGSA are actively working on this case.

## **7. Senate Report**

### **7.1. October Senate Reports (Appendix IV)**

- i. Uche discussed the continuation of the campus mask mandate for winter term 2023.
- ii. The Office of Sustainability will be distributing a survey January 16<sup>th</sup> 2023, regarding transportation/ commuting to campus. The results of the Campus Commute Survey will inform strategic planning around transportation related infrastructure, education and peer-based programs in support of climate action, sustainability and wellness goals.
- iii. Uche shared plans regarding the campus forestry/ tree planting initiative he has been leading. To get involved, please email [senator1@umgsa.org](mailto:senator1@umgsa.org).

## **8. Executive Reports**

### **8.1. October Reports (Appendix V)**

## **9. Departmental Reports**

- i. Hanieh Rezasoltani (Chemistry) shared about the Iranian Students Association rally happening on November 30. Please share with your departments and support them.

## **10. Unfinished Business**

## **11. New Business**

### **11.1. 11.1 First Semi-Annual Executive Review Report**

- i. Christopher (ERC Co-Chair) gave a brief overview of the report.
- ii. Jamie pointed out an error. Christopher will update the document.

## 11.2. Approval of revisions to the Election & Referendum Manual

### Article XVII: Campaigning Standards and Prohibitions

5. For the duration of both Weeks 6 and 7, all current UMGSA Executives running for election must take a paid leave of absence and must surrender their UMGSA Office keys to the UMGSA Office Manager.

6. During a paid leave of absence Executives may be required to perform urgent or unanticipated components of their roles despite this leave. If a member of the Executive who is running in the election is required to take additional actions outside their leave of absence, they must do so under the following provisions:

- a. Signing of cheques, forms, contracts, or other organizational obligations if requested and initiated by the UMGSA Office Manager.
- b. Attending meetings on behalf of their role and the association, if approved in advance by the CRO and DRO.

Any such actions taken by members of the executive that fall under 6a and 6b shall be reported back to the council at the first meeting following the close of the election period. Additionally, any urgent or unanticipated components considered under 6a and 6b must be evaluated under the UMGSA's policies governing conflict of interest by either the UMGSA Office Manager or the CRO/DRO, as required by the specific subsection.

7. In the event of referenda being held during an Annual General Election, candidates and volunteers may speak to, volunteer for, and/or endorse a Side.

### **MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA General Council approves of the revisions to the Election & Referendum Manual**

*Bylaws Committee/ UMGSA General Council*

*Carried*

## 11.3 UMGSA Election and Referendum Ad-Hoc Committee for the 2023 UMGSA

**General Election:** The UMGSA Elections and Referendum Committee needs 5-7 graduate student representatives.

The following students have volunteered for appointment to the committee:

Chairperson:

- Damien Lopuck

Committee members:

- Catherine van Reenen
- Noor Breik
- Shenna Fauni
- Paige Collins
- Deborah Bennet
- Robert Amissah

**MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA General Council approves the appointment of the 2023 Election and Referendum committee**

*Sasha (Kinesiology & Recreation Mgmt.) / Christopher (Education - PhD)*

*Carried*

**11.4 Food Poverty by Graduate Students**

- i. Uche discussed the high prices at food vendors on campus as opposed to off-campus & other Universities. Uche would like to distribute a survey to the graduate students regarding this topic (similar to the one conducted by the Chemistry department).
- ii. Uche showed us his “MensaCard” which in Berlin, qualifies you to purchase food on campus at a discounted price. Uche will be advocating for this at our Manitoban Universities.

**11. Announcements**

**11.1. Annual General Meeting:** Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – 5:30PM – Zoom

- i. Attendance is not mandatory by highly encouraged to meet quorum.
- ii. RSVP here: <http://www.umgsa.org/event/umgsa-annual-general-meeting/>

**11.2. Next Council Meeting:** Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 - 5:30PM – Zoom

**11.3. December Newsletter:** If anyone has anything they want to share please e-mail [gcc@umgsa.org](mailto:gcc@umgsa.org)

**Adjournment (6:22)**

**UMGSA Council Meeting Attendance**

**November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022**

<i><b>Position/Department</b></i>	<i><b>Name</b></i>	<i><b>Signature</b></i>
President	Silvia Sekander	Present
VP Finance & Administration	Rubel Chandra Talukder	Present
VP Academic	AKM Monsurul Alam	Present
VP Services & Support	Marianne (Marzieh) Hajiloo	Present
HSGSA President	Jamie Sookhoo	Present
Senator1	Uche Nwankwo	Present
Senator2	Bill Dowie	<b>Absent</b>
Chairperson (No Vote)	Kavisha Manoj Mehta	Present
Office Manager (No Vote)	Ruth Prokesch	Present
Gov & Comm Coordinator, Minute Taker (No Vote)	Willow Josephson	Present
<i><b>Agric &amp; Food Science</b></i>		
Animal Science	Breanna Zwick	Present
Entomology	Danie Wood	<b>Absent</b>
Food & Human Nutritional Science	Anashwar Mullankuzhiyil Valsalan (Co-Councillors)	Anashwar Present

	Breanne Semenko	
Plant Science	Laetitia Mukungu (Co-Councillors) Md. Ehsanul Haq	Both Present
Soil Science	Charitha Hansima (Co-Councilors) Jose Almodovar	Charitha Present
<b>Architecture</b>		
City Planning	Oluwasegun (Isaac) Omonaiye (Co-Councilors) Julian Loutsik	Julian Present
Interior Design	Juliana Anderson	Present
<b>Arts</b>		
Economics	Michael Apata (Co - Councillors) Shantanu Debbarman	Michael Present
English, Theatre, Film & Media	Sakshi Tyagi	Present
History	Cara Ginter	Present
Linguistics	Mohadeseh Rostami Samak (Co-Councillors) Ashkan Ghaemmaghami	Both Present
Political Studies & Public Administration	Jessica Drakul (Co-Councillors) Md. Azizul Hakim	Jessica Present
Psychology	Cici Guo (Co-Councillors) Reegan McCheyne	Cici Present
Sociology & Criminology	Mehraz Sarker	Present
<b>Management</b>		
Management – PhD & MSc	Jingnan Li (Co-Councillors) Zhe Shen	<b>Absent</b>
Management - MBA/MFin/MSCM	Kalyn Maskiw-Connelly (MBA) (3x Co-Councillors) Sheena Gee Tony Wu	Kalyn Present
<b>Education</b>		
Education - PhD	Christopher Yendt	Present
Education - CTL	Minhee Kim	Present
<b>Engineering</b>		
Biomedical Engineering	Farinaz Jonidi Shariatzadeh	Present
Civil Engineering	Kadir Yanac	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Environment, Earth &amp; Resources</b>		
Environment & Geography	Fowzia Ahmed (Co-Councillors) Nicole Loeb	Fowzia Present
Geological Sciences	Tekla Cunningham	Present
Natural Resources Institute	Alejandra Diabb Sanchez (Co-Councillors) Sobiya Aziz Badat	Both Present
<b>Graduate Studies</b>		
Applied Health Sciences	Brenda Tittlemier (Co-Councillors) Banke Oketola	Brenda Present
Peace & Conflict Studies	Maha Mehanna	Present
<b>Kinesiology &amp; Recreation Mgmt.</b>		

Kinesiology & Recreation Mgmt.	Mudra Dave (Co-Councillors) Sasha Kullman	Both Present
<b><i>Nursing</i></b>		
Nursing	Trinh Nguyen-Lu (Co-Councillors) Hannah Mohammed	Hannah Present
<b><i>Science</i></b>		
Biological Sciences	Krista Shofstall	Present
Chemistry	Hanieh Rezasoltani	Present
Mathematics	Ian Thompson	Present
Microbiology	Dustin Maydaniuk	Present
Physics & Astronomy	Brydyn Mac Intyre	<b>Sent regrets</b>
<b><i>CUPE3909</i></b>		
CUPE3909 (No Vote)	Garett Williams	
<b><i>Indigenous Engagement</i></b>		
<b><i>Guests</i></b>		
HSGSA VP St. Boniface	Akshi Malik	Present
Landscape Architecture	Jeeth Reteesh	Present
Electrical & Computer Engineering	Amirmasoud Amirkabiri	Present