
UMGSA Council Meeting Documents Index Page

Wednesday, March 1st, 2023 – 5:30 PM – Zoom

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UMGSA Council Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, March 1st, 2023 – 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 March 1st, 2023, UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.

4. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the January 25th, 2023, UMGSA Council Meeting are included as Appendix I to this Council meeting agenda.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the minutes of the January 25th, 2023, UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.

5. Committee Reports

5.1. January Committee Reports (Appendix II)

6. HSGSA Report

6.1. January HSGSA Report (Appendix III)

7. Senate Report

7.1. January Senate Report (Appendix IV)

8. Executive Reports

8.1. January Reports (Appendix V)

9. Departmental Reports

10. Unfinished Business

i. No unfinished business.

11. New Business

11.1 Financial Difficulties Survey

11.2 Department Grants

- i. Please submit via email to Ruth (gsa@umgsa.org) by **4:00pm on April 1st, 2023**.
- ii. Financial reports and activity reports are required. Please don't send receipts.
- iii. Find the forms here: <http://www.umgsa.org/department-grant/>

11.3 Strategic Plan Consultation Update

12. Announcements

12.1. UMGSA Executive Election

- i. Details can be found on our website. About – General Election

12.2. Faculty of Graduate Studies - Decanal Candidate Meetings with Faculty and Students

- i. View details here: <http://www.umgsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Poster-Public-Presentations.pdf>

12.3. Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, March 29th, 2023 - 5:30PM – Zoom

12.4. March Newsletter: If anyone has anything they want to share e-mail gcc@umgsa.org

13. Adjournment

Appendix II :

UMGSA Committee Reports January 1st- January 31st, 2023

Executive Committee

Chair: Silvia Sekander (UMGSA President)

Meeting Dates: January 17th & 31st, 2023

- Mental Health workshops for GSA Executives
- GSA Forestry/tree planting Initiative
- Awards Luncheon
- GNSA transfer to HSGSA
- Food Poverty Issue & Survey
- VP Academic Replacement
- Tax Filing Workshop
- HSGSA Representation in UMGSA Council

Finance Committee

Chair: Rubel Talukder (UMGSA VPFA)

Meeting Dates: January 12th, 2023

- The committee evaluated conference grant applications.

Bylaws and Policy Committee

Chair: Rubel Talukder (UMGSA VPFA)

Meeting Dates: January 19th, 2023

- Governance and Operations Manual – Discussed and reviewed HSGSA voting percentage on UMGSA Council
- Update: The committee will first evaluate the rules of UMGSA Bylaws regarding HSGSA and then move forward with the HSGSA voting percentage later.

Events Committee

Chair: Marzieh (Marianne) Hajiloo (UMGSA VPSS)

Meeting Dates:

- There were no Events Committee meetings in January.

Services and Support Committee

Chair: Marzieh (Marianne) Hajiloo (UMGSA VPSS)

Meeting Dates:

- There were no Services & Support meetings in January.

Awards and Academic Affairs Committee

Chair: AKM Monsurul Alam (UMGSA VP Academic)

Meeting Dates:

- There were no Awards Committee meetings in January.

Appendix III :

HSGSA Report January 1st – January 31st, 2023

HSGSA Executive Committee and Council

Chair: Jamie Sookhoo

HSGSA is organising the Winter Gala at Fort Garry Hotel with 3-course meal, open bar, DJ, 360 photo booth. HSGSA Council has moved the remaining money from events budget towards this event and HSGSA will be able to subsidise HSGSA members' tickets with that money. HSGSA members' ticket price is \$45 including everything mentioned above. Guest ticket is for \$80 and tickets for HSGSA councillors is \$20 to appreciate their time and effort on HSGSA Council. HSGSA has also extended the Gala invitation to GNSA and UMSU members located at Bannatyne campus. UMGSA members are welcome at the event as well at the guest ticket price.

HSGSA VP-St Boniface was in conversation with SBRC Director- Dr. Czubryt, to have a lounge space for SBRC students. Dr. Czubryt has agreed to put that request in the SBRC renovation plan to be submitted to the hospital foundation at the end of 2023.

The HSGSA By-laws committee is currently working on the revisions of all documents, particularly HSGSA finance policy and procedures manual.

HSGSA AGM 2022-23 was held on February 13th, 2023 in-person at Bannatyne campus.

Usual business including social media engagement and students' concerns.

Jamie Sookhoo
HSGSA President (2022-23)

Appendix IV :

January Senate Report

Meeting Date: January 11th, 2023

Meeting Link: http://umanitoba.ca/governance/sites/governance/files/2023-01/2023_01_11_Senate_minutes.pdf

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

Report Includes:

1. President's Report
2. Report of the Senate Executive Committee, Faculty and Councils
3. Report of the Senate Committee on Instruction and Evaluation

1. President's Report

The summary of President Benarroch report is presented thus:

- The University will still maintain the mask mandate at all campuses in the Winter Term. This decision is based on the reality that COVID-19 and other respiratory infections are still of huge concern and continued to circulate in the community. For safety and health of our students and staff, and the entire university community, it is important to still maintain high level of precaution. This, however, will continue indefinitely as the University will evaluate and start gradual easing of the mandate based on scientific evidence.
- The Strategic Planning Committee engagement process has commenced. Membership of the committee included representatives from across the University community. There are various opportunities that would be available for individuals to provide input into the strategic planning process. Such information and resources to fast track the mandate would be communicated shortly. The Strategic Planning Committee will be facilitated by the Higher Education Strategy Associates (HESA). HESA has been contracted as the consultant and will be headed by Mr. Usher, Chief Executive Officer, HESA. Mr. Usher and the staff of HESA will attend the next meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee as facilitators. The consulting organization are experienced in this area as they have worked

with other Canadian postsecondary institutions to develop their strategic plans. A draft plan will be shared with the Senate Committee in May or June 2023, for discussion and feedback. The final draft to be brought to Senate and the Board of Governors in the fall, for approval.

- The President reported that a consultation session with Senators would be scheduled in February outside of the regularly scheduled February 1st Senate meeting. There would also be various other opportunities for individuals, including staff, students, and members of the external community, to participate in the process and to provide feedback, including at a Town Hall to be scheduled in late January and at consultations sessions to be carried out with each of the Faculty and School Councils. President.
- According to the President, starting from the February 1st meeting and onward, Senate meetings would be held in person. This meeting signals the first in-person since March 2020. The meeting will be held in the Senate Chamber (Room E3-262 Engineering and Information Technology Complex). A video link to Room A106 Chown Building for Senators at the Bannatyne Campus will be made available so that Senators from the Bannatyne campus can participate without having to commute to the Fort Gary campus for the in-person meeting.
- The decision to allow Senators at the Bannatyne campus to participate via a video received commendation from Professor Lavoie because it saves commute time. She suggested that this hybrid meeting arrangement should also be extended to Senators who were travelling outside of the country for research to join the meetings online. The request would be raised with the Chair of Senate and with the Senate Executive Committee.

2. Reports of other Committees of Senate, Faculty and School Councils

a. Report of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Graduate Studies RE: Proposal for a Master of Art in Art

- Acting Dean Main provided a reviewed proposal from the School of Art for a Master of Art in Art and Architectural History degree. The proposed program would cover Western traditions of art and architecture, as well as Indigenous, Métis, and Inuit art and

architecture. It promises to be the only Master's program in art and architectural history offered in central Canada. The program would allow Manitoba students to remain in the province to pursue their graduate studies. The curriculum would require 18 credit hours of course work, including 9 credit hours of required courses, 9 credit hours of recommended electives, a language requirement, and a thesis.

- Senators were requested to review the letters of support provided by various stakeholders within and outside the province as evidence of the considerable enthusiasm for the proposal. An external review of the proposal was very positive, and the School of Art had made several adjustments in response to reviewers' recommendations based on articulation of the resources that exist within the School to offer the proposed degree.

Acting Dean Main therefore MOVED, seconded by Dean Jurkowski, THAT Senate recommended that the Board of Governors approve a proposal from the Faculty of Graduate Studies for a Master of Art in Art and Architectural History in the School of Art. The Motion was Carried by simple majority.

3. Reports of the Senate Committee on Instruction and Evaluation

a. RE: Proposed Policy on Learner Immune Status

Dr. Torchia said, at its meeting on November 17, 2022, the Senate Committee on Instruction and Evaluation (SCIE) had considered a proposal from the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences to introduce the *Learner Immune Status Requirements* policy.

i. Report of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Graduate Studies

- Acting Dean Main informed Senators that the proposed policy had been reviewed by the Programs and Guidelines Committee and endorsed by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Graduate Studies. The policy applies to students in pre-licensure graduate programs.

Dr. Torchia MOVED, on behalf of the Committee, THAT Senate approve the Report of the Senate Committee on Instruction and Evaluation concerning a policy on Learner Immune Status Requirements, Rady Faculty of Health Sciences, effective August 1, 2023. The Motion was carried by simple majority.

Appendix V :

UMGSA Executive Reports January 1st – January 31st, 2023

President - Silvia Sekander

Executive Summary of Work:

- Winter Orientation
- Advocacy for graduate students
- Networking with FGS & Admins

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
January 5 th , 2023	International Centre Orientation	3 Hours
January 5 th , 2023	Bylaws Committee Meeting	1 Hour
January 6 th , 2023	FGS & UMGSA Orientation	2 Hours
January 12 th , 2023	Finance Committee Meeting	1 Hour
January 13 th , 2023	Consultation Session	1 Hour
January 17 th , 2023	Grad Student Engagement Session	0.5 Hours
January 17 th , 2023	UMGSA Executive Meeting	1 Hour
January 18 th , 2023	Online Office Hour	1 Hour
January 25 th , 2023	Online Office Hour	1 Hour
January 25 th , 2023	UMGSA Council Meeting	1 Hour
January 30 th , 2023	Meeting with Science GSA	1 Hour
January 31 st , 2023	UMGSA Executive Meeting	1 Hour

Time Spent in Meetings in January: 14.5 Hours

Office Hours:

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in January: Hours

Working Events Attended: N/A

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

Activity	Hours
e-mail Correspondence & other activities	50 Hours

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in January 2023: 64.5 Hours

Vice-President Finance and Administration- Rubel Talukder.

Executive Summary of Work:

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
January 12 th , 2023	Finance Committee Meeting	1 Hour
January 17 th , 2023	Executive Meeting	2 Hours
January 19 th , 2023	Bylaws & Policy committee meeting	1.5 Hours
January 25 th , 2023	Council Meeting	1 Hour

Meetings Missed:

Time Spent in Meetings in January: 5.5 Hours

Office Hours:

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

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in January: 0 Hours

Working Events Attended: None

Time Spent at Working Events in January: 0 Hours

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

Activity	Hours
E-mail correspondence & work related to BDO audit, UMGSA conference grant and bylaws	35 Hours

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in January 2023: 40.5 Hours

Vice-President Services and Support – Marzieh (Marianne) Hajloo

Executive Summary of Work:

- Meeting regarding Financial difficulties of students

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
January 4 th , 2023	Senate Meeting	1 Hour

Meetings Missed: 3

Date	Meeting Missed	Reason for Missing
	Finance Committee Meeting	Work shift
January 17 th , 2023	Executive Meeting	Research
January 31 st , 2023	Executive Meeting	Proposal Defense

Time Spent in Meetings in January: 1 Hour

Office Hours:

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

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in January: Hours

Working Events Attended: Iranian Student Gathering

Time Spent at Working Events in January: Hours

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

Activity	Hours
Responding to emails	6 Hours
Communicating with other executives	1 Hours
Communicating with students for the next election	2 Hours

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in January 2023: 10 Hours

Vice-President Academic – AKM Monsurul Alam

Executive Summary of Work:

- Emergency Grant application Review
- Responding Students Inquiry and concerns
- Attending regular meetings
- Holiday Hamper Distribution

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
January 11 th , 2023	Senate Meeting	1.5 hours
January 13 th , 2023	HSGSA representation meeting	1.5 Hours
January 16 th , 2023	UMGSA Holiday Hamper Distribution	4 Hours
January 17 th , 2023	PAC meeting for FGS dean search	1.5 Hours
January 17 th , 2023	UMGSA Executive Meeting	2 Hours
January 17 th , 2023	SCOA Meeting	1 Hour
January 19 th , 2023	PAC meeting for FGS dean search	1 Hour
January 31 st , 2023	UMGSA Executive Meeting	1.5 Hours

Time Spent in Meetings: 14 Hours

Office Hours:

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

Time Spent in Official Office Hours: 0 Hours

Working Events Attended: None

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

Activity	Hours
Responding emails, reviewing meeting agendas and minutes, and workload of UMGSA Awards and other official matters.	20 Hours

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in January 2023: 34 Hours

HSGSA President – Jamie Sookhoo

Executive Summary of Work:

- Chaired HSGSA Execs and Council Meetings
- Helping in organizing HSGSA winter gala
- Attended UMGSA Exec and Council Meetings
- Attended HSGSA By-laws and Events committee meeting

Meetings Attended:

January 17 th , 2023	UMGSA Executive Meeting	2 Hours
January 19 th , 2023	HSGSA Events committee meeting	1 Hour
January 20 th , 2023	HSGSA Executive Meeting	2 Hours
January 23 rd , 2023	HSGSA By-laws meeting	1.5 Hours
January 24 th , 2023	UMGSA Council meeting	1 Hour
January 25 th , 2023	FGS Executive meeting	1.5 Hours
January 30 th , 2023	HSGSA Council meeting	2 Hours
January 31 st , 2023	UMGSA Executive Meeting	1 Hour
	Email correspondence and other administrative work	15 Hours

Time spent in meetings in January 2023: 27 Hours

Meetings missed: none

Office hours: 0 hours

All Executive hours were suspended due to COVID-19 effective March 17th, 2020

Total hours spent on HSGSA & UMGSA for January 2023: 27 Hours

Senator 1 – Uche Nwankwo

Executive Summary of Work:

- **Senator Meetings:** Student Senate Caucus (SSC), Senate Executive, and Regular Senate. General Senate meeting was held in January.
- Participation in Full Senate Meeting
- Participation in Senate Committee meetings and HSGSA meetings
- Attended in-person Strategic Planning Committee Meetings
- Held meetings in-person and zoom meetings bothering on student advocacy.
- Continued working on the GSA Forestry Initiative project.
- Graduate Students Food poverty and high cost of food at the University - consultation engagement and survey planning.

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
January 6 th , 2023	FGS & UMGSA Winter Semester Orientation	2.5 Hours
January 12 th , 2023	Strategic Planning Committee Meeting	1.5 Hours
January 13 th , 2023	Consultation Meeting	1.5 Hours
January 17 th , 2023	UMGSA Executive Meeting	1 Hour
January 17 th , 2023	GSA Engagement Session	1 Hour
January 17 th , 2023	Strategic Planning Committee	0.75 Hours
January 18 th , 2023	Strategic Planning Committee Meeting	1.5 Hours
January 25 th , 2023	UMGSA Council Meeting	2 Hours
January 30 th , 2023	Meeting with Science GSA	1 Hour
January 30 th , 2023	HSGSA Council Meeting	0.75 Hours
January 31 st , 2023	UMGSA Executive Meeting	1 Hour
January 31 st , 2023	UMGSA – Campus Forestry Initiative/ Tree planting	1.25 Hours

Time Spent in Meetings in January: 15.75 Hours

Meetings missed: 0

Office Hours:

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

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in January: 0 Hours

No regular office hours for now but students can schedule a meeting and it will be honoured.

Working Events Attended: None

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

Activity	Hours
Communications (Support duties as Senator 1), emails, phone calls, WhatsApp chat	7 Hours
Preparing and reviewing documents before for meetings and writing reports	5.5 Hours

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in January 2023: 28.25 Hours

Senator 2 - William Dowie

Executive Summary of Work:

- **Senator Meetings:** UMGSA Senate; Senate Executive; Student Senate Caucus;
- **UMGSA portfolio – other committees:** Manitoba Alliance for Post-Secondary Students (MAPSS); Library (open access); UM-FM Radio; Safety and Human Rights (Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion; EDI) ad hoc Committee

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
January 10, 2023	Senators' phone call – policy initiative review	0.5 Hours
January 11, 2023	Meeting with EDI Lead, Tina Chen (in-person)	1.5 Hours
January 11, 2023	Full Senate (zoom)	0.5 Hours
January 12, 2023	MAPSS meeting – government policy discussion	1 Hour
January 13, 2023	Governance meeting (re: HSGSA representation)	1.5 Hours
January 16 th , 2023	Libraries Committee (prep work only)	1 Hour
January 17 th , 2023	Entrepreneurship and grad students	0.5 Hours
January 17 th , 2023	UMGSA Executive	1 Hour
January 18 th , 2023	Senate Executive (in-person)	3 Hours
January 19 th , 2023	EDI and Community Practices	1.5 Hours
January 24 th , 2023	MAPSS	1 Hour
January 25 th , 2023	UMGSA General Council	1.5 Hours
January 26 th , 2023	UManitoba Town Hall (virtual) Strategic Planning	2 Hours
January 31 st , 2023	CCR application review committee	1.5 Hours
January 31 st , 2023	UMGSA Executive	1 Hour

Meetings Missed: None

Time Spent in Meetings in January: 19 Hours

Office Hours:

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

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in January: 0 Hours

Working Events Attended:

	Hour
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Time Spent at Working Events in January: 0 Hours

Approximate Time Spent on Other Activities:

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

Total Hours Spent on the UMGSA in January 2023: 25 Hours