

UMGSA Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 24th, 2022 - 5:30 PM – Zoom

It was believed at the time that quorum was unsuccessful. Instead of proceeding with the meeting it was decided to use the time as an information session (see notes below).

Notes

- i. Kavisha (Council Chair) read the traditional territories acknowledgement.
- ii. Silvia (President) shared that for the last year the UMGSA & Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) have partnered up to provide an English Language Centre (ELC) subsidy to the graduate students. After reviewing the feedback, it was determined to be highly beneficial to the students. Silvia is hoping to finalize a 5-year contract for this subsidy program later this month with the UM Administration.
- iii. Rubel (Vice-President Finance & Administration) mentioned the incline in conference grant applications we have received recently. To deal with this, the Finance Committee has been meeting twice per month rather than once. Rubel thanked his committee members as well as Ruth (Office Manager) for keeping up the pace.
- iv. Rubel announced that the University has accepted our offer to allow us use of their financial system for Holiday Hamper donation acceptance.
- v. Bill (Senator) discussed Senate's decision to continue to meet via Zoom for the Fall 2022 Term. Bill suggested that the UMGSA General Council parallel the Senate protocol. Silvia added that the Board of Governors have resumed meeting in-person.
- vi. Ruth announced that Bringing in The Bystander has provided us with fall workshop dates. It is imperative that councillors sign-up for this term due to the lack of winter term dates. It is mandatory for all UMGSA Council members to attend a current (May 2021-present) workshop in order to apply for a department grant. If you are leaving council this month, we ask that you please convey this message to your replacement. The registration link is provided in the "Announcements" section of this document.
- vii. Krista (Biological Sciences) brought up the issue that the Manitoba cost-of-living information provided by the University is incorrect and needs to be adjusted to inflation.
- viii. Uche (Senator) shared a campus tree planting initiative that has been in the works and in hopes that students will be interested in participating. Uche is also in contact with local outdoor fitness companies in hopes they will partner with us.
- ix. Bill co-chaired a meeting with Tina Chen (The Equity, Diversity & Inclusive executive lead) where safety on campus, transit & neighborhoods was discussed. A committee was created to investigate safety measures, especially for BIPOC & 2SLGBTQ+ communities. More updates to come soon.

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 August 24, 2022, UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.

4. Approval of the Minutes

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the minutes of the May 25, 2022, UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.

5. Committee Reports

5.1. May, June & July Committee Reports (Appendix II)

6. HSGSA Report

6.1. May, June & July HSGSA Report (Appendix III)

7. Senate Report

7.1. May, June & July Senate Reports (Appendix IV)

8. Executive Reports

8.1. May, June & July Reports (Appendix V)

9. Departmental Reports

10. Unfinished Business

11. New Business

11.1 Revision to Elections & 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.

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 revision made to the Elections & Referendum Manual.

11.2 Decision regarding Council Meetings, Fall 2022

11. Announcements

- 11.1. **Bringing In The Bystander:** Visit the link to sign up: [BITB for GSA \(1\).docx](#)
 - i. Attendance is required for new councillors as well as councillors who didn't participate last year.
- 11.2. **Next Council Meeting:** Wednesday, September 28th, 2022 - 5:30PM – Zoom
- 11.3. **September Newsletter:** If anyone has anything they want to share please e-mail gcc@umgsa.org

Adjournment

UMGSA Council Meeting Attendance
August 24, 2022

Position/Department	Name	Signature
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	Present
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>Agric & Food Science</i>		
Animal Science	Oluwakemi Omotosho	Absent <i>Sent regrets</i>
Biosystems Engineering	Shubham Sharma (Co-Councillors) Shivam Tesjaswi	Absent
Entomology	Joel Gardner	Absent
Food & Human Nutritional Science	Thilini Dissanayake (FS) (Co-Councillors) Breanne Semenko	Thilini Present
Plant Science	Jacob Kolody (Co-Councillors) Md. Ehsanul Haq	Md Present
Soil Science	Clemence Muitire (Co-Councillors) Curtis Cavers	Curtis Present
<i>Architecture</i>		
Architecture	Benita Kliewer	Absent
City Planning	Anna Mckinnon (Co-Councillors) Colt Maddock	Anna Present
Interior Design	Sean Hewlett	Absent
Landscape Architecture	Jeeth Reteesh	Absent
<i>Arts</i>		
Economics	Michael Apata (Co - Councillors) Shantanu Debbarmar	Shantanu Present
English, Theatre, Film & Media	Amy-Leigh Gray	Present
History	Cara Ginter	Present
Linguistics	Oluwakemi Kolapo	Absent
Political Studies & Public Administration	Jessica Drakul (Co-Councillors) Nabila De la Cruz Garcia	Jessica Present
Psychology	Jessa Hogarth (Co-Councillors) Reegan McCheyne	Kayla as proxy
Sociology & Criminology	Avery Hallberg	Absent <i>Sent regrets</i>
<i>Management</i>		

Management PhD & MSc	Jingnan Li (Co-Councillors) Zhe Shen	Jingnan Present
Management – MBA Interdisciplinary	Meenakshi Sharma	Garvit as proxy
Education		
Education - PhD	Christopher Yendt	Present
Education – AFP	Abiola Olowolagba	Absent
Education - CTL	Minhee Kim	Present
Engineering		
Biomedical Engineering	Farinaz Jonidi Shariatzadeh	Present
Civil Engineering	Kadir Yanac	Present
Electrical & Computer Engineering	Abolfazl Babaei (Co-Councillors) Amirmasoud Amirkabiri	Absent
Mechanical Engineering	Osamudiamen Olaye (Co-Councillors) Behzad Fakour	Absent
Environment, Earth & Resources		
Environment & Geography	Kiran Yendamuri (Co-Councillors) Zakhar Kazmiruk	Kiran Present
Geological Sciences	Adam Snyder	Absent
Natural Resources Institute	Brendan Middel (Co-Councillors) Sobiya Aziz Badat	Sobiya Present
Graduate Studies		
Applied Health Sciences	Brenda Tittlemier (Co-Councillors) Banke Oketola	Brenda Present
Peace & Conflict Studies	Maha Mehanna	Absent
Kinesiology & Recreation Mgmt.		
Kinesiology & Recreation Mgmt.	Ganesh Tailor (Co-Councillors) Olivia Tefft	Olivia Present
Law		
Master of Human Rights	Diana Ubokudom	Absent
Nursing		
Nursing	Suzaine Opena (Co-Councillors) Zi Zhang	Absent
Science		
Biological Sciences	Krista Shofstall	Present
Chemistry	Scott Legare	Absent
Mathematics	Ian Thompson	Present
Microbiology	Dustin Maydaniuk	Absent <i>Sent regrets</i>
Physics & Astronomy	Brydyn Mac Intyre	Present
CUPE3909		
CUPE3909 (No Vote)	Garett Williams	
Indigenous Engagement		

<i>Guests</i>		
Physiology and Pathophysiology	Akshi Malik	HSGSA VP St. Boniface