

UMGSA Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 25th, 2023 - 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 September 27th, 2023, UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.

Brenda/ Tekla
Carried

4. Approval of the Minutes

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the minutes of the August 23rd, 2023, UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.

Sara/ Chidinma
Carried

5. Committee Reports

5.1. September Committee Reports (Appendix II)

- i. The bylaws & policy committee decided not to move forward with the finance committee's recommendation to lower the amount allotted for local conference grants. This is because although the student may not be paying registration fees, they might need to print posters which can be costly.
- ii. Julie mentioned the bylaws committee's plan to revise the executive evaluation process which will increase transparency and enhance performance.
- iii. Succession planning was also discussed during the bylaws meeting. This will require restructuring the staff & executive roles. More to come on this topic.
- iv. Timi shared details regarding events that were successfully executed in September-October and gave a brief overview of events that are in the process of being organized.
- v. In September Hanieh prepared the application form for the 2023 holiday hamper and shared it with the committee, inviting them to comment on revision.

suggestions. If councillors have feedback regarding the process or application form, they may email Hanieh at vpa@umgsa.org.

6. HSGSA Report

6.1. September HSGSA Report (Appendix III)

- i. Jamie (Akshi's proxy, VP External) detailed the HSGSA report on her behalf. In September HSGSA hosted an orientation event in collaboration with FGS (Faculty of Graduate Studies).
- ii. In September HSGSA oriented their new & continuing councilors and had them chose which internal committees they'd like to sit on.
- iii. They hosted various academic workshops including Troubleshooting Thursdays (an online Q&A session for students with lab technique questions).
- iv. HSGSA is looking forward to hosting the Patrick Choy Distinguished Lecture on October 31st and a multicultural night in November.

7. Senate Report

7.1. September Senate Reports (Appendix IV)

- i. Armin submitted the written report but was unable to attend. In his absence Uche took over for the senate report.
- ii. Uche spoke a bit about the issues graduate students face when maneuvering the appeals process. It is important to make students aware of the resources accessible to those in difficult situations such as the Student Advocacy Office.
- iii. Uche will get in touch with the Ad-Hoc Committee on Food Insecurity co-chairs to catch up on what was missed during his leave of absence.

8. Executive Reports

8.1. September Reports (Appendix V)

9. Departmental Reports

- i. Alejandra (*Natural Resources Institute*) promoted an upcoming event titled "Utopian Art Bash". Willow will promote this event in our newsletter & social media.
- ii. Sakshi (*English, Theatre & Film*) mentioned their department will be hosting their annual book sale on November 9th at the Fletcher Argue building.

10. Unfinished Business

- i. There was no unfinished business to be discussed.

11. New Business

11.1 Ratification of Selection Committee Membership

- i. The following UMGSA Councillor put their name forward to sit on the committee:
 - Ravinder Singh
- i. Willow (GCC) informed council of the roles & responsibilities of the Selection Committee. If interested in joining, please email gcc@umgsa.org.

MOTION: BIRT The UMGSA General Council approves of the 2023 Selections Committee membership as presented.

Hanieh/ Julie

Carried

12. Generative Discussion

- i. No topics were suggested.

13. Announcements

13.1 Department Grants:

- i. Ruth (Office Manager) reminded councillors that the deadline to submit department grant applications is November 1st, 2023. Late submissions will receive demerits. Ruth also reminded everyone to get their consent culture training completed if they haven't already. Participation is mandatory and counts towards the department grant.

13.1 Next Council Meeting:

- i. Wednesday, November 22nd, 2023 - 5:30PM – Zoom.

13.2 November Newsletter:

- i. If anyone has anything they want to share, please e-mail gcc@umgsa.org.

Adjournment (6:00)

UMGSA Council Meeting Attendance
October 25th, 2023

<i>Position/Department</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Signature</i>
President	Christopher Yendt	Sent Regrets
VP Finance & Administration	Julie Xue	Present
VP Academic	Hanieh Rezasoltani	Present
VP Services & Support	Timilehin Oluwajuyitan	Present
HSGSA President	Akshi Malik	Jamie Sookhoo as proxy
Senator1	Uche Nwankwo	Present
Senator2	Armin Aghajani	Sent Regrets
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	Breanna Zwick	Present
Biosystems Engineering	Sunday Olakanmi (Co-Councillors) Mahmuda Parvin	Both Present
Entomology	Sara LaValley	Present
Food & Human Nutritional Science	Ravinder Singh (Co-Councillors) Joanna Candas	Ravinder Present
Plant Science	Laetitia Mukungu (Co-Councillors) Rajbir Kaur	Rajbir Present
Soil Science	Sithabile (Star) Nyathi	Present
<i>Architecture</i>		
Architecture	Maryam Behzadmehr	Absent
City Planning	Jessica Miranda (Co-Councillors) Noah Penney	Noah Present
Interior Design	Tessa Horn	Lara Machum as proxy
<i>Arts</i>		
Economics	Michael Apata	Present <i>Arrived Late</i>
English, Theatre, Film & Media	Sakshi Tyagi	Present
Linguistics	Mohadeseh Rostami Samak	Present
Psychology	Cici Guo (Co-Councillors) Reegan McCheyne	Cici Present
Sociology & Criminology	Sara Fehr	Absent
<i>Management</i>		
Management - MBA/MFin/MSCM	Helena Goldman (3x Co-Councillors) Omeje Sabastine Nnaemeka Chidinma Onyedum	All Present
<i>Education</i>		
Education - PhD	Salma Quadri	Absent
Education - CTL	Minhee Kim	Absent
<i>Engineering</i>		

Biomedical Engineering	Farinaz Jonidi Shariatzadeh	Present
Civil Engineering	Homa Motavallian Naeini	Absent
Electrical & Computer Engineering	Ali Nasr Esfahani (Co-Councillors) Bita Esmaeili Jamakani	Ali Present
<i>Environment, Earth & Resources</i>		
Environment & Geography	Debangshu Banerjed (Co-Councillors) Tyler Langos	Tyler Present
Geological Sciences	Tekla Cunningham	Present
Natural Resources Institute	Alejandra Diabb Sanchez (Co-Councillors) Kaitlyn Plastino	Both Present
<i>Graduate Studies</i>		
Applied Health Sciences	Brenda Tittlemier (Co-Councillors) Banke Oketola	Brenda Present
Peace & Conflict Studies	Maha Mehanna	Present
<i>Kinesiology & Recreation Mgmt.</i>		
Kinesiology & Recreation Mgmt.	Mudra Dave (Co-Councillors) Sasha Kullman	Mudra Present
<i>Science</i>		
Biological Sciences	Reemana Fatema	Present
Chemistry	Bahareh Taghavi Shahraki	Absent
Mathematics	Ian Thompson	Present
Physics & Astronomy	Brydyn Mac Intyre	Present
<i>CUPE3909</i>		
CUPE3909 (No Vote)	Garett Williams	
<i>Indigenous Engagement</i>		
<i>Guests</i>		