

We want to hear and understand more about your top three priorities.
Please list any specific concerns or suggestions you have.

- Everything is incredibly expensive now. The graduate student association should be ensuring that every graduate student has a job that allows them to pay the bills and live comfortably.
- Tuition and stipend concerns - stipends are barely even to survive on and you're expected to pay your tuition out of it as well. Not realistic.

Poor support for family leave and people with children

- PhD student should have a pathway for Permanent Resident Application
- Cost of my MPAS program and lack of available scholarships since it is a Masters that is not thesis-based, so I do not qualify for most scholarships. It is very expensive to attend school, and the program is so rigorous that we cannot real

- Student concerns generally aren't my priority and student organizations aren't who I need to advocate for me. Sorry to say.

- Help with employment pathways after graduation from MA programs, help with planning and financing housing during and after graduation, promoting or providing free and low cost resources for mental health support

- Making available more funding opportunities for international students

- 1. It will be really good if tuition fees are deducted from our stipend before they are given to us in bits since there is always a deadline to pay

- The university is about 20 years behind the times on food costs and employment opportunities. You pay full time grad students that mentor undergrads and masters students less than you pay your undergraduate summer students. In short, fuck this shit. You give your faculty a \$20k per year raise, and PhD students who do the actual research are make less than what is classified as poverty. Fuck that shit. Physical Plant charges 4000% (actual number) what local contractors charge for the same work AND it takes them LITERALLY 3 YEARS TO DO WHAT SHOULD TAKE ONE DAY. Fuck that shit.

A university LAW professor embezzles half a million dollars from student funds and the university doesn't press charges. FUCK THAT SHIT.

Profs get away with blatant sexual harassment and racism. FUCK THIS SHIT!

Advocacy at this university is a joke. It's a complaints box that feeds directly into a shredder.

- I want professors to be more understanding about International students and avoid discrimination
- The amount of funding is very low. Considering the cost of rent and basic needs, we are constantly concerned. I believe there is a huge need to increase the stipends or at least the hourly rate of TA positions.
- Housing cost, more hours of work, and tuition fee adjustment for international students
- Stop recycling Academic Elitism - better relationships, especially respect between faculty, including advisor(s) and graduate student (s). Graduate studies should not be creating or increasing mental health problems. The majority of the above concerns do not have anything to do with me.
- The top priorities include employment opportunities, tuition and fees, housing/rent, and other costs that are difficult for graduate students to manage when the U of M stipend pays

students far less than minimum wage and the time commitment of a full time graduate program does not allow time for additional jobs for additional income.

- Permanent residency for PhD students is very long process. The condition that their PhD should be completed before applying for permanent residency is making it very difficult for them to settle in Canada with their families within a short period. The Master's students although get the advantage over it. The most successful PhD usually takes 4 to 5 years. I believe that every PhD student should be given a chance to apply for permanent residency at provincial and provincial level after completing two years of their studies successfully so, that they can focus on their research stress free in the future time.
- The tuition fees is extremely high for international students and blue cross should also cover women health. The university also must work on the health services. We get appointments after 1 month.
- I think safety , mental health concerns are really important especially when you are an indigenous female... in addition, racism and ageism becomes factors and respect must be taught to student to be respectful to all
- 1) tuition is continually increasing across most institutions across the country. Students should know the break down of where every cent of their tuition goes to. The profitability of charging international students extra tuition is not acceptable and understanding where our tuition goes would also highlight why international students should not have to pay a big difference in tuition from domestic students. 2) Precarious housing is a growing concern for students studying in Canada. With the amount of students seeking housing via social media, students should be more aware of housing laws when they are applying for housing (e.g. being asked for your picture and paying for an application fee) and living in rental housing (e.g. landlords showing up unannounced). Students need safer points of contact to ask legal questions about unsafe housing conditions. 3) Everyone needs food but the level of food insecurity among university students is soaring. Food insecurity is broad term but in terms of affordability, students should have access to culturally nutritious food on campus for affordable prices. If I could wish for anything practical from the government, it would be to subsidize a program (similar to the SPC card for students) using our student IDs so we can have more deals in stores.
- Indigenous reconciliation and Indigenous student supports
- As the inflation keeps on rising it is difficult for us to pay for the tuition fee with the funding which we are getting. Housing cost and the food cost have seen a clear growth compared to last year.
Furthermore, it would be great if a year of Mitac internship could give us the 500 points when applying for Provincial Nomination Program. Mitac demands the intern to work at the designated working place half of the funding period. This in theory could be linked to the PNP work experience. So as soon as we finish the internship it is possible to apply for the PNP and not waiting until the degree is over.
- Cost of life intertwines with hours of work. If universities do not offer funding, it is necessary that they support students that need to care for a family
- how to use the health insurance ? What kind of vaccine can we have ? How much money about vaccine do we need to cost after health insurance ? How can I see in aurora that the tuition deposit has been deducted ?
- Being in a phd program makes permanent residence pathways feel like a difficult shot, I feel students dedicating time to academia should be offered a separate scheme like other provinces.
Healthcare costs are so high for international students with blue cross not providing good

coverage for prescription medicines. They take longer time frames to process claims which forms a burden on students.

- Supervisors incompetence and a lack of timely graduation
- Fees seem extremely high relative to the likelihood of receiving adequate funding, and cost of living.
- Employment Opportunities for Graduates, Permanent Residency Pathways, Community Safety and Security,
- N/A
- My top three are the major source of financial stress for all students and if policies were developed to drastically improve these areas, many of the other categories would see benefits (i.e. community safety and security, community mental health and wellness, anti-discrimination and inclusion). I also think these categories are areas that the University has a more realistic chance of improving through external advocacy and reviewing internal priorities (i.e. reduce tuition, plan for more student affordable housing, advocate reduced food prices for students throughout the city).

- IS were kicked off MB health insurance as a political act under the Pallister government. I don't believe the University did very much at all to prevent it and at the time, neither did the UMGSA show support for international student, citing outdated views that International students could afford to pay private insurance, so what did it matter? It was a xenophobic act and was not adequately responded to, as such rather, I felt like there was tacit agreement. Given that, I feel that repealing that and having IS on an equal footing to other students, when we are a low-risk demographic who were not proven to be a burden on the system, is about fairness and equality.

Fees and Tuition should be addressed externally at times, as my experience of being a graduate here, particular during the pandemic, involved very little in the way of actual tutoring and guidance from faculty, which has led to the extension of my program for which I continue to pay, term on term. I believe the University and all Canadian Universities should be subject to some external commercial review process so that we can appeal on the basis that we didn't receive what we paid for. The University is free to violate simple consumer law, which is bizarre to me and shows a lack of good faith in its dealings with its customer base, a large part of whom are international students paying above average prices. It's an embarrassment. Increasing community cohesion (see health insurance debacle) is also really important. It's important for Winnipeg, it's important for the communities around the campuses and it's important for Manitoba as a destination for skilled workers. The University should be advocating more strongly for our inclusion and the whole University community's inclusion in MB society more. Instead, we're an outpost on the south side of the city more concerned about not having enough parking spaces than it is that you can't catch a bus from the airport to the main campus. It's as if the University considers itself separate from the city, which is isn't. And that is ultimately damaging for the young people, of all backgrounds, who attend the University.

P.s. the first question with ranking is difficult to do on a cellphone, and I think some things are equally important. My ranking isn't very accurate as a result.

- There is no opportunity on or near campus to get cheap and affordable food
 - It is of utmost concern that graduates can get meaningful employment after finishing schooling, or at the very least, learn more about meaningful employment. Tuition and fees must be affordable and appropriate for students in order to complete graduate degrees without undue financial hardship. If campus security is inadequate, than students cannot physically attend classes or conduct research on campus.
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- There is a blatant rise in queer and trans hate (the upcoming 1 million march for children is evidence for this). UMSU and the student body should make a point in working towards EDIA and allyship. Allyship is consistent action and a great example of this is the poster I saw on the bathrooms in UC Centre today that stated "This is an accepting space. Please trust that everyone knows which bathroom is most appropriate for them." Oppression is connected and affects us all. This is connected to my 2nd and 3rd priority (2nd being community safety and security, 3rd being community mental health & wellness resource access).
 - The fees required for my program were quite expensive. Even before my program has started I've already paid close to \$1000 in registration fees, medical bills, and on various forms. Some assistance in these costs would be appreciated, especially for things like immunizations that some programs can get for free.
 - My main concerns are that the University of Manitoba positions its self as a professional and academic institution that is focused on furthering our country and the world beyond to a better place. Most universities have turned its main focuses into money making institutions only caring for its profits above all else. I do understand that U of M does need to make a profit to exist, but there can be an overemphasis on making money. Rather U of M should focus on helping deserved students to grow in their abilities to contribute to Canadian Society especially and also the world as a whole. By making education affordable to those that want to make a difference I believe UManitoba its self will make a greater mark and gain better recognition for putting out talent.

Domestic students are also failing to find jobs even after getting degrees as the labour market is flooded. UManitoba can help Canadian students by focusing on hiring Canadian talent. But also focusing on not making money off of vulnerable international students by promising a false dream and letting them down. The university has a true capacity of supporting students until the quality of the support drops significantly. So if the university cant help its Canadian students I dont see how it can help international students.

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- Funding the graduate students - Permanent Residency Pathways - Employment Opportunities for Graduates
 - It's not fair that people who have been living here for less than a year are eligible to apply for permanent residency, while we, as international students qualified as specialists, have no opportunity to apply during our studies. This situation delays our future studies, as we have to take a gap between our master's and Ph.D. programs to find a job and apply for permanent residency.
 - Regarding anti-discrimination, I am mainly concerned about the woeful lack of support for pro Palestinian contingents and protests from the university as a whole. Universities and their student groups should be less beholden to the desires of their wealthy donors, ESPECIALLY when the issue at hand is supporting a genocide in the form of investments and ties to Israel, an occupying force that has been internationally recognized as committing crimes against humanity. How embarrassing for the University of Manitoba to be on the wrong side of history on this issue.
 - Tuition fees
Employment opportunities
Food affordability
 - I am concerned about the increasing living in Winnipeg and the student fees, but we do not see the same increasing in our stipend. It is very important for many students who are struggling to pay rent and fees.
Another topic is anti-discrimination. There has been a huge leap in this topic across Canada, Winnipeg, and even our university. You can keep claiming "freedom of speech," but the hate and lack of support from the university is concerning. My question is, what will be the limit? when will a student be attacked by another student because of a different opinion? I accept
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the power and demand of the GSA to increase safety. Making people safe is not "stopping people speak."

- I completed all my courses and working on the thesis. I work and don't use university facilities. Fees are killing me.
Employment opportunities outside academia is a very important reason why people study. I am very concerned about antisemitism in campus, in academia, and in society. Human rights are universal, not only interests align.
- Poor access to mental health supports
- Health insurance, employment, pathway to PR
- Cost of everything has gone up significantly, it is now harder than ever for students to afford to feed, shelter, and clothes themselves. Even with a bachelors degree finding a job take up to a year or more, a bachelors degree does not guarantee your future anymore.
- I don't have any specific concerns right now.
- Ensuring well being of students beyond the suggesting of numbers or emails to contact.
- living cost and stipen do not line up well, hiring staff to execute the same task will cost much more than what is offered with the stipen
- I used to be an undergraduate international student and I know how difficult is the life of such students. Meeting the requirements for every single course and the way instructors behave with them such that the undergrad students do not have any other life than being enrolled in their specific course... (study-life balance).
On the other hand when the PhD students have to work all their time and paid minimum amounts and most of them are old enough to have kids but they have hard time to just pass the permanent residency barriers (PR pathways)
Also, the level of unfairness among university organizations such as student advocacy which basically does not help with anything and it's just there for God knows what! Just waist of time (paying attention if university organizations are actually there for students or they just make the campus look pretty)
- The Tuition and fees is increasing every semester for students however, the stipend/awards are kept same such as UMGF. As the tri-agency have also increased the funding for awards after the federal budget, UMGF and other should increase the same way to help students focus on studies and afford food.
The graduate student tends to work part-time outside campus even if they have fundings, there should be Co-op options for graduate students also like in the US where students can work in proper and relevant jobs and not odd jobs. It will not only help Canada in qualified people in jobs but also allow to enhance the undergrad and lower level students work those odd job to pay for their expenses.
- Tuition is really high specially for me as an Iranian who has to exchange IRR to CAD
- There should be awareness campaigns, education sessions about mental illnesses such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and addictions. It seems all mental illness gets grouped together as one. There's a plethora of information about anxiety, depression and ptsd but not about schizophrenia or bipolar. Gambling addiction is important to be aware of because it is growing at an alarming rate.
- As a PhD student we spend on average 5 years in studying we no chance to work with almost low wages while if we spend that time in working we would gave a higher chance of getting pr have a better life. However, even after graduation, we need at least one more year to work to be eligible to become which itself will take almost two years! During this whole year which

could be around 7 to years we are under constant stress and anxiety and due to these, we cannot focus on our growth or the flourishing of the community

- Pathways toward permanent residency for PhD students, like other provinces in Canada, will provide us stability and peace of mind needed to focus on research benefiting the Manitoba society. Specially for Iranian students for which visa renewal process some times can take up to one year, this pathways will reduce uncertainty letting us plan for long term and contribute towards Manitoba's interests. For my specific case, it is more than a year that I am waiting for my wife's Visa which is causing mental distress affecting my performance as a researcher.

- PR, Job, tuition fee

- 1. Permanent residency pathways, 2. Working hours 3. Employment opportunities

- 1- Permanent Residency Pathways: As an international PhD student in Canada, the pathway to permanent residency (PR) is a significant concern. Given that PhD programs often span 4 to 7 years, the prolonged timeline makes it challenging to secure PR through the regular pathways, especially when juggling academic responsibilities and job search pressures. In some provinces like BC and Ontario, students have easier and faster routes to PR. It would be highly beneficial if Manitoba offered a similar pathway, allowing PhD students to apply for PR during their studies, reducing the uncertainty and stress of waiting until after graduation.

2- Tuition and Fees: The financial burden of tuition and fees is another major concern. International students often face significantly higher tuition rates compared to domestic students. This, combined with the lengthy duration of PhD programs, leads to considerable financial strain. Finding ways to reduce or subsidize tuition fees for international students, especially those engaged in lengthy academic programs, would be a welcome change. Additionally, introducing more comprehensive funding options or scholarships tailored to international students could alleviate some of this financial pressure.

3- International Student Health Insurance: The current situation where international students have to pay around \$1,000 annually for health insurance is frustrating, especially since many students barely utilize these services. It seems unfair that students cannot access the Manitoba health card, which would significantly reduce these costs. Given the long duration of PhD programs, the cumulative cost of health insurance over the years becomes a significant financial burden. It would be more equitable if international students had access to the provincial health card, aligning their healthcare access with that of domestic students.

- As a PhD student, the extended duration of study, typically around 5 years, presents a significant challenge compared to the shorter timelines of master's and undergraduate programs. This extended period creates uncertainty and pressure, as the pathway to Permanent Residency (PR) after completion is longer and less predictable. To address this, Manitoba could implement measures similar to those in British Columbia and Ontario, where PhD students have a dedicated pathway to apply for PR. Such a program would not only alleviate the pressure on current PhD students but also serve as a strong incentive for future PhD candidates to choose Manitoba as their destination for study.

Regarding the second priority, the scholarships at the University of Manitoba (UM) are notably lower compared to other provinces like BC and Ontario. Additionally, the UM pays only \$22 per hour for Teaching Assistant (TA) positions, and the number of available hours has decreased this semester. In contrast, the University of Alberta, with tuition fees comparable to UM, offers around \$38 per hour for TAs. In light of this, either lowering tuition fees or increasing TA wages at UM would help address this disparity.

- Permanent residency, low fellowship
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- The concern has to begin with Hierarchy of needs: Tuition fees, food and shelter being feasible at a realistic comfortable budget.
- Program excellence, industry/academic-recognized professor recruitment, employment opportunities
- Appreciate when employment opportunities are sent out through the program to ensure we are building resumes that are competitive to careers. I also feel resources are important to support students with their diverse needs throughout their desired program.
- My top priority is related to permanent residency for doctoral students. I wish Manitoba had a pathway for supporting Ph.D. students to be eligible for PR sooner. With the existing pathways in Manitoba, I have to wait till I graduate and find a job. After that I will be eligible, when is too long. For Ph.D. this process will take about 4-5 more years, at least. While other provinces have supportive plans for Ph.D. students. I want to make my life more stable by having PR by the end of the Ph.D. so that I can find better job opportunities.
- I am in the last year of study and I am worried that after 6 years study can I get PR or not. There is not any PR pathway for PhD students and I am worry to force back home country. I paid tax 6 years and I lived like Canadians for 6 years why I have to back home with force of government. No fair!
- 1-Permanent residency streams for PhD students in Manitoba. Even after spending 6+years in the province studying and contributing to the provincial development, PhD students have to struggle to get a PR, which is not the same in out provinces. So would appreciate the student council to support PhD students on this matter. 2- Affordable housing across all campuses students so that they can concentrate on their studies and not worry about being abused by landlords, property managers, increased rental issues and cost of living in general. 3- The tuition fees for PhD students is high though it was announced it was reduced and so the entrance scholarship for PhD students was removed. However, the fees slowly increased and PhD students were not offered any scholarships
- My priority concerns are: safety, physical and mental health, affordable housing, and PR pathway.
- Anti-Discrimination, Anti-Oppression, and Equity, Diversity & Inclusion are fundamental to respecting human rights. I would like to see the U of M lead the creation of a free MWOC to provide the building blocks to greater knowledge and action to improve communities, workplaces and learning environments. For priorities 2 & 3, basic human rights to safe and affordable lodging and food need to be prioritized for the betterment of communities, workplaces and learning environments.
- No specific concerns. Just lower tuition and fees, employment opportunity and inclusiveness are important.
- Frontloading tuition without providing funding disbursement at the beginning of each semester makes tuition time very stressful for many students.
- This survey needs to be re-evaluated. The requirements "not being able to select the same column" in the priority section don't allow for a true representation on what is valuable to each individual student.
- Don't want to think about safety all the time; everything is expensive so universities should offer some relief.
- Tuition, housing, and access to health and wellness should be top priorities, as these are the key foundations for success of students. Without these, students have to prioritize things other than their education to a greater degree, potentially impacting their ability to succeed in their studies.

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- Anti-discrimination and inclusion tactics, community mental health, and community safety have the same priority for me as tuition rates, but I was forced to provide different ratings for each. My top 4 are interconnected, and one cannot be addressed without the other. Addressing each of these categories separately will not result in significant change for graduate students. I strongly encourage a collaborative approach with university administration if these areas are to be meaningfully prioritized.
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- First of all, The existing rule for obtaining Permanent Residency (PR) in Manitoba appears especially unfair to Ph.D. students. Given that full-time Ph.D. programs usually take 5 to 6 years, it seems unreasonable to make individuals with such advanced academic standing wait so long to qualify for PR. It would be fairer to grant PR eligibility to Ph.D. students upon reaching candidacy rather than requiring them to complete their entire program. Additionally, it is unfair that the candidacy in the mechanical engineering program is reached after 3 years, compared to the civil engineering program, where candidacy is reached after just 1 year.

Secondly, I am concerned about the employment opportunities available to graduate students. In my view, graduates from the University of Manitoba should be given preference for job opportunities within the province. For instance, as a University of Manitoba graduate, I would expect to be prioritized for employment in local factories and other workplaces over graduates from other institutions. Prioritizing local graduates would help retain talent within the province and benefit those who have invested in their education here.

Third issue I am concerned about is the financial problems caused by tuition fees on graduate students. Graduate student salaries have remained unchanged for at least a decade, even as the cost of living has surged due to inflation. Essentials like groceries, rent, and other necessities have become significantly more expensive, yet stipends for graduate students have not adjusted accordingly. Given these financial challenges, it seems unreasonable to expect students to afford the current tuition fees on such a limited income. I suggest that either graduate student salaries should be raised or tuition fees reduced to better align with the economic realities we are facing.

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- I believe that the current rule for obtaining Permanent Residency (PR) in Manitoba is particularly unfair to Ph.D. students. Ph.D. studies typically take about 4 to 5 years to complete, and it seems unreasonable to require individuals at such a high level of academic achievement to wait this long to become eligible for PR. It would be more equitable to allow Ph.D. students to become eligible for PR after achieving candidacy, rather than after the completion of their entire program.

Another concern I have relates to the cost of tuition fees and the financial burden on graduate students. The salaries for graduate students have remained stagnant for at least 10 years, despite the rising costs of living due to inflation. Expenses such as groceries, rent, and other essentials have increased significantly, yet graduate student stipends have not kept pace. Given these financial pressures, I believe it is unfair to expect students to pay the current tuition fees on such limited income. I recommend that either graduate student salaries should be increased, or tuition fees should be reduced to better reflect the economic realities we face.

Another concern I have is related to employment opportunities for graduate students. I believe that graduates from the University of Manitoba should be given priority for job opportunities within the province. For example, if I graduate from the University of Manitoba, I would hope to have the first opportunity for employment at factories and other workplaces in Manitoba, ahead of graduates from other universities. Prioritizing local graduates would help retain talent within the province and support those who have invested in their education here.

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- Implementing a PR pathway that allows PhD students to apply during their studies, rather than waiting until graduation, would offer greater security and stability. This would also make Manitoba a more attractive destination for international researchers.

Offering a streamlined PR process for PhD students who demonstrate strong academic performance, research contributions, or collaborations with local industries could facilitate smoother integration into the professional community, benefiting both the students and the province.

As researchers, we play a vital role in advancing innovation and driving Canada's growth through our contributions to critical areas of research. By implementing a pathway for permanent residence (PR) during our PhD studies, Canada can better attract and retain talented international researchers who are already committed to contributing to the country's academic and economic development.

Providing a PR pathway for PhD students would offer us the security and stability needed to focus on our research without the uncertainty of our immigration status. This would also position Canada as a global leader in higher education and research, helping to foster a strong, dynamic academic community that drives innovation and addresses key national challenges.

We seek your support in establishing a PR pathway for PhD students, recognizing the value we bring to Canada's research landscape and the long-term benefits of retaining top talent.

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- Permanent residency
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- There's been a visible rise in rhetoric against international students amid recent changes in immigration policy. I think supports are needed for international students to navigate these changes, especially regarding supports for applying for post-graduate work permits.
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- I think its very important to take care of international students who are coming here on the promise of better education to make a better life, this includes the top 3 I selected including tuition and fees, which is also a concern for domestic students. I think that international students deserve the better health coverage they are paying to be here and ultimately this would protect them better. and then housing and rent advocacy will also benefit everyone because it is very expensive to live here.
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- The tuition and fees increase every year, however the UMGF and other scholarships don't.
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- Housing is a huge issue for grad students as the living costs currently are completely inflated. Food costs are also a huge issue. This ties into tuition, as our tuition is paid out of our stipend which caused issues for most. I would also like to comment on mental health and awareness initiatives that are extremely important along with resources for abuse survivors to get proper help.
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- 1. Permanent Residency Pathways. In other provinces graduate students have direct path for PR path but in Manitoba there are other conditions and it is not fair. This is one the most stressful situation for students from Manitoba . 2. International Student Health Insurance: why in Manitoba only students don't have access to Manitoba health card and it is free for all others but we need to pay for insurance on top of our tuition too
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- TA salaries have not increased in at least 9 years. There is minimum level of funding for graduate students. Combined with increasing costs of living, these make financing education difficult and promote abusive behavior by advisors.
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- Student assistantship is way below minimum wage, how can we survive if we are just living on that stipend. And i am not allow to stay in student accommodation because i have pets, that's not fair, they are my family and my metal support as well, there should be some student accommodation that allow pets
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- Although all topics are important, I prioritized those I believe are more urgent and are, from my perspective, within UMGSA's capacity to have a more immediate impact.
 - I think the extra fees on tuition such as the gym and U-pass are unreasonable
 - Pr, job opportunity, and affordable rent and food.
 - Fees are expensive. hard to find job to help pay the fees.
 - Tuition fees for graduate students are too high
 - i feel like a lot of these are important to me. right now money is really tight for me due the federal minimums for staying in canada. as a phd student i don't know how long my study will actually last, and i have had to extend it multiple times.
 - As a PhD student, I expect to receive funds so that I can focus on my studies, but unfortunately, many PhD students in my department are not funded, and we have to work in several areas on or off campus to make the money needed for tuition and living. Also, the money we pay for insurance and the gym is not reasonable.
 - The fact is that working hours have been reduced for international students but the cost of living along with fees and tuitions are still on the rise. Most of the school's scholarships are geared towards citizens and PR holders leaving out most international students. I think we need to start advocating for all inclusive scholarship with the main eligibility being a current student of the school. I can understand our Indigenous communities need more attention but the other ones could be inclusive to all.
Additionally campus employments need to increase their minimum wages to offset the cost of living.
 - More help in finding local/canadian employment opportunities for graduate students in sciences. Want to avoid having to move to the US for industry jobs.
 - People shouldn't be struggling with basic necessities when they are trying to learn. Also, university is a very patriarchal and white supremacist environment. As such I have struggled with mental health due to sexist and racist content embedded in the curriculum
 - Finding a related job
 - Grocery store price gouging has impacted me personally in the past year, as my graduate fellowship leaves me with a very tight budget to live on. I have not been able to afford the same quality of healthy food as I was able to even when relying on part-time minimum wage income during my undergraduate studies. I think it is important to ensure that student funding at all levels tracks the cost of living so that students don't have to make tough decisions about how to cover their cost of living expenses, like rent, groceries, and bills.
- I would also like to see more done to recognize anti-Palestinian racism on campus. I feel that many University groups and systems have failed the Palestinian community by dragging their feet in addressing their issues or outright turning their backs.
- Campus food for students, especially graduate students, should be subsidized. The university and UMSU should not be profiting off of feeding students who perform majority of the research work done here.
 - fee and health care. i had a stipened till the second year and then due to advosir change food science dept failed to provide me a stipened. not even the umgsa have money either. i am becoming a self-funded student is the university's fault yet have no money to fund studnets. but they surely seem like having money to party/ party/ party. lol what a joke.
 - Anti-Discrimination & Inclusion Initiatives/ I am a Black man and the school hates Black men, we can be killed, sexually exploited, and harmed and school and their legal team will do

everything they can to protect a Dean than do the right thing. So this shouldn't even on the list. they are corrupt and racist

- Many graduate students want to work in academia but there's very little full time work as a professor. Sessional teaching salaries are not enough to live off of. It's wrong of the university to rely on so many sessional instructors rather than offering viable full time employment.
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- It is unaffordable to live on the base graduate student stipend in Winnipeg without financial dependance on others. Though there are many opportunities for grants/awards, these are not guaranteed and take a substantial time investment to submit a competitive application, often to only be unselected. External work opportunities are limited for international students but it is downright insulting and exploitative to be paid so little to TA/grade. The incredible stress of poverty takes a huge toll on the ability to perform academically. It is truly a wonder that anyone can graduate financially independent with their mental health intact.
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- Nothing to add
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- As for Student working hours, it would be great if students who have completed their courses be allowed to work full-time off campus.
As for tuition fee, it would be very help for students who do not have university funding but are working off campus and have paystub be eligible for tuition installment plan.
As for permanent residency pathway, there should be established some pathways for PhD students to get their PR in Manitoba sooner. For example, the years that PhD students are working on their thesis should be counted as working years so that after graduation, students be eligible to apply directly for their PR.
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- Stable tutiton rates. Enhanced safety later on campus.
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- Simple - unfortunately I am not a yet a post-human cyborg so I need to do inconvenient things like eat food and live in a shitty apartment and turns out there's not a lot left over to do that once my scholarships get eaten up by tuition. Hope this helps <3
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- i can't afford to live.
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- The tuition fees are outrageously high for international students, yet we are allowed just minimal hours to work to make up enough money for our tuition and cost of living. in addition, fewer graduate awards are open o international students.
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There need to be more permanent residency pathways for graduate students, that is, faster and more job opportunities.

- Employment opportunities and a pathway to residency are essential for graduate students, especially those with professional experience. The employment opportunities allow us to implement learnings from the program and work in an environment different from our culture. It helps us build international leverage, which can be transferred when leaving the country. On the other hand, some students will take the opportunity to improve their current cities and, therefore, will require a pathway to legal status. These two are essential, especially for mature students.
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- Additional fees racked up my 3rd year tuition. It would be nice to see those reduced where possible.
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- As a part time MBA student with a full-time job, the fees are important to me - I don't care about the student associations, I am 30 years old and already established in my career and life. I don't want to pay for all of the extras, including the gym, bus pass, student association, any of it. Why can't we opt out of the bus pass? Is there data on how many students actually need that? Or even just allow graduate students to opt out? The only thing that makes sense to me is the library fee. I am taking two courses per semester and it's costing me HUNDREDS of dollars extra every semester in these unnecessary fees. Also, parking: If there was an online

option, I would do that to avoid parking, because that situation is atrocious, especially for the 2:30 classes.

- Healthcare should always be a top priority, and tuitions are way too expensive and should be addressed. However, most important in my opinion is that everyone feel safe and heard on campus, which has not been the case lately (cf. students protesting against the genocide in Palestine, and the University's silence and complicity).
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- Access to better scholarship opportunities would help students with tuition fees
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One of the major reasons the school attracts international students is through the permanent resident pathways. With better focus on this and ensuring immigrants on their clear chance of getting permanent residency without hiccups from frequent changes in the immigration laws would invariably increase the number of students attracted to the province.

I think the school is not putting more effort on the benefits of the coop program. By leveraging on its network with various firms in the province and giving students the access required to seek these opportunities, the number of coop students would increase. Right now this is not presently done, students are left to seek out those opportunities and still pay the school for this program.

- Permanent Residency Pathways, Employment opportunities for graduates and working hours for graduate students are the most important for me and this will have mutual benefit to the students and the school/Province.
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- My top 3 priorities are (1) Free hospital Gym access for the students working at the St Boniface Hospital, 2) Removal of UPAS fee for the students staying at walking distance to the University or their place of study, 3) Removal of library fee for student not willing to use it or the ones who do not have library at their campus.
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- The process for PhD candidates to get permanent residency (PR) differs by province in Canada. In British Columbia, PhD candidates who successfully defend their candidacy exam prior to graduation are able to apply for PR. In Ontario, PhD graduates can apply to the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program (OINP) without a job offer. However, the situation in Manitoba varies significantly: PhD students must find work and work for six months before being eligible to apply for PR. This position is absolutely similar to a foreign worker who comes to Canada and can apply for permanent residency after 6 months of working. Looking back at previous policies, PhD candidates in Manitoba had more easy paths to PR. It appears contradictory that Manitoba, where job opportunities and living conditions are more difficult to obtain than in British Columbia, sets tighter criteria. This disparity may deter talented students from choosing Manitoba as a long-term domicile, affecting our province's economic growth; a province that is not only beautiful but also offers several prospects for growth and development. It is critical that we solve this issue in order to retain competent workers who are valuable to our economy and community. I strongly feel that PhD candidates, who devote five-six years of intensive study to their doctoral degrees, deserve a streamlined and encouraging path to permanent residency.
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- In Canada, the pathway to permanent residency (PR) for PhD candidates varies significantly by province. British Columbia offers a straightforward route, allowing candidates who pass their candidacy exams before graduation to apply for PR. Ontario provides a similar advantage, permitting PhD graduates to apply to the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program (OINP) without a job offer. However, Manitoba imposes a more challenging requirement: PhD candidates must secure employment and work for six months before they can apply for PR. This policy mirrors that of foreign workers, who also must work for six months to qualify for permanent residency. Historically, Manitoba had a more accessible route to PR for PhD candidates, making the current stringent criteria particularly perplexing. Given that Manitoba's job market and living conditions are tougher compared to British Columbia, the stricter requirements
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seem counterintuitive. This disparity risks deterring talented individuals from choosing Manitoba as their long-term home, potentially stunting the province's economic growth and development. To foster a more attractive environment for skilled professionals, it is crucial to address this issue. PhD candidates, having invested five to six years in rigorous academic work, merit a more supportive and streamlined pathway to permanent residency. Tuition fees are increasing each year which is extremely concerning!

- The financial burden of tuition for international students can be overwhelming. As a PhD student, I receive \$14,000 CAD per year, but this amount is far from sufficient to cover my tuition, let alone other living expenses. Even with the maximum allowable 20 hours of work per week, I find myself struggling to meet my financial obligations. The limited income, coupled with the high tuition fees for international students, has placed me in a very difficult situation.

I have been actively searching for scholarships, especially for engineering students, but I have not found any that I qualify for. The lack of available financial aid or scholarships makes this situation even more frustrating, and I feel increasingly overwhelmed by the financial pressures. More support in terms of scholarships or financial aid for international students like me would make a huge difference and help alleviate the stress and uncertainty surrounding my ability to continue my studies.
