
UMGSA Council Meeting Documents Index Page

Wednesday, November 27th, 2024 – 5:30 PM – Zoom

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UMGSA Council Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, November 27th, 2024 – 5:30 PM – Zoom

1. Call to Order

2. Traditional Territories Acknowledgement

The University of Manitoba campuses are located on original lands of Anishinaabeg, Ininiwak, Anisininewuk, Dakota Oyate and Dene, and on the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. We acknowledge that our water comes from Shoal Lake 40 First Nation, and our hydro from the hydro dams located in Treaty 5. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past and present, 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 27th, 2024, UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.

4. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the October 23rd, 2024, UMGSA Council Meeting are included as Appendix I to this Council meeting agenda.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the minutes of the October 23rd, 2024, UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.

5. Committee Reports

5.1. October Committee Reports (Appendix II)

6. Senate Report

6.1. October Senate Report (Appendix IV)

7. Executive Reports

7.1. October Reports (Appendix V)

8. Departmental Reports

9. Unfinished Business

9.1. Ad-Hoc Graduate Student Gala Committee (GSGC)

- i. C Yendt will present this item.
- ii. Terms of reference: <https://www.umgsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/UMGSA-Ad-Hoc-Graduate-Student-Gala-Committee-GSG.pdf>

MOTION: BIRT The UMGSA General Council approves the Terms of Reference for the Graduate Student Gala Committee

9.2. Bylaw Update

- i. C Yendt will present this item.
- ii. Supporting document is attached via email.

10. New Business

10.1. Budget Amendment

- i. C Yendt will present this item.
- ii. 5008 · MAPSS Advocate - \$3,750.00 to be transferred to 6376 · ThinkGrad/CASA/memberships

MOTION: BIRT The UMGSA General Council approves the amendment to the 2024/25 UMGSA Budget as presented.

11. Announcements

11.1. Annual General Meeting:

- i. Wednesday, December 11th, 2024 – 5:30PM – Zoom

11.2. Next Council Meeting:

- i. Wednesday, January 22nd, 2025 - 5:30PM – Zoom

11.3. December Newsletter:

- i. Please note that the newsletter has been put on hold temporarily as the staff succession plan is being implemented.

14. Adjournment

Appendix II :

UMGSA Committee Reports October 1st- October 31st, 2024

Executive Committee

Chair: C Yendt (UMGSA President)

Meeting Dates: October 8th & 22nd, 2024

- Yet to be received.

Governance & Strategy Committee

Chair: C Yendt (UMGSA President)

Meeting Dates: N/A

- Yet to be received.

Services & Support Committee

Chair: Timilehin Oluwajuyitan (UMGSA VPSS)

Meeting Dates: October 25th, 2024

- Mental Health Workshop (Thursday 10th October 2024)
- Halloween Event/ Pumpkin Carving Competition (Thursday 24th October 2024)
- Holiday Hamper Program (December 2024)
- Free Tax Clinic (April 2025)

Finance Committee

Chair: Armin Aghajani (UMGSA VPFA)

Meeting Date: N/A

- No meetings were held in October 2024.

Academic Affairs Committee

Chair: Oyomikon Jakpa (UMGSA VPA)

Meeting Date: N/A

- No meetings were held in October 2024.

External Affairs Committee

Chair: Anh Pham (UMGSA VPE)

Meeting Date: N/A

- No meetings were held in October 2024.

Appendix III :

HSGSA Report October 1st – October 31st, 2024

HSGSA Executive Committee and Council

Chair: Sadhana R.N Sudhakar

In October, all members of the HSGSA council (departmental councilors and executives) completed the required documentation. This also extends to councilors from HSGSA representing the UMGSA council. VP St. Boniface organized a clinical trial workshop at the St. Boniface campus delivered by Dr. Bram Ramjiwan. Around 50 students attended the event and had an opportunity to connect with the Director of clinical trials and gain insights. HSGSA attended the last departmental orientation - Immunology in the orientation series and delivered a presentation on what the organization does. All executives (Led by VP-Academic) extensively worked for the planning and execution of Dr. Patrick Choy Distinguished Lectureship (PCL) series event. This includes taking care of the invited speaker, networking opportunities with executives, fellow UM professors, and the graduate student community and the main lecture as well. HSGSA distributed 8 Graduate student merit awards during the PCL event. October was also the month for completion of departmental grants and HSGSA (President) supported the completion of these grants by each councilor. HSGSA met with the UM Strategic Marketing team and discussed strategies to improve graduate student recruitment to UM. HSGSA began discussions for the Culturo-Fest (previously called the Multicultural event) event that will be happening in late November. HSGSA also provided a brief feedback on the UM mental health and wellbeing opportunities and possible improvement strategies to Dr. Main (UM taskforce) during HSGSA's council meeting.

Appendix IV :

October Senate Report

Meeting Date: October 2nd, 2024

Meeting Link: https://umanitoba.ca/governance/sites/governance/files/2024-10/2024_10_02_senate_minutes.pdf

The following report was submitted by Oyo Jakpa (Vice-President Academic & Senator)

A. Graduate Student Representation

- Elections: Mr. Christopher Yendt (President UMGSA) was elected as the voting member on the Senate Executive Committee and as the graduate student representative on the Chancellor Search Committee.

B. Program Changes

- Master of Nursing, Nurse Practitioner Program: Proposal to increase admission targets from 25 to 50 seats annually, with an online program option introduced to enhance accessibility for nurses in rural areas. Students will complete theoretical courses online and practical courses closer to their residences.
- Doctor of Pharmacy: A temporary increase in the admission target was approved, indicating a growth in opportunities for graduate students in this program.

C. Technology in Teaching and Learning

- Summary Report of the Joint Committee on Technology in Teaching and Learning: Recommendations for developing new programs using technology. Discussion of barriers related to online learning technologies, including resource allocation and academic freedom. A review will also be carried to assess the effectiveness and limitations of online learning, which could impact how graduate programs are delivered.

D. International Study Permits

President Benarroch reported that the federal government will reduce international study permits by 10% next year and extend the requirement for a provincial attestation letter for applicants. This change may significantly affect international student enrollment at the university.

E. Memorial Tributes

Tributes were paid to three individuals who passed away:

- Professor Louis M. Lenz: Retired researcher in landscape horticulture.
- Dr. Walter Stephen Good: Long-serving faculty member in management, known for his contributions to marketing education.
- Dr. James D. House: Active faculty member and head of the Department of Food and Human Nutritional Sciences until his passing, recognized for his research and leadership.

Appendix V :

**UMGSA Executive Reports
October 1st – October 31st, 2024**

**UMGSA President – C. Yendt
Executive Summary of Work:**

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours

Meetings missed:

Date	Meeting

Time Spent in Meetings in October: Hours

Office Hours: Hours

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in October: Hours

Working events attended:

Approximate time spent on other activities:

Activity	Hours
In-Office / Other	Hours
Email / Correspondence / Online Activity	Hours

Total hours spent on the UMGSA for October 2024: Hours

Vice-President Services and Support – Timilehin Oluwajuyitan

Executive Summary of Work:

- Attended UMGSA Service and Support Committee Meeting
- Attended UMGSA Executive Committee Meeting
- Attended UMGSA Mental Health Workshop
- Attended UMGSA Halloween and Pumpkin Carving Competition
- Attended UMGSA Council Meeting

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
8 – October 2024	UMGSA Executive Committee Meeting	1.0
10 – October 2024	UMGSA Mental Health Workshop	2.0
22 – October 2024	UMGSA Executive Committee Meeting	1.0
23 – October 2024	UMGSA Council Meeting	1.0
24 – October 2024	UMGSA Halloween and Pumpkin Carving Competition	2.0
25 – October 2024	UMGSA Service and Support Committee Meeting	1.0

Meetings missed: 0

Date	Meeting

Time Spent in Meetings in October: 8 Hours

Office Hours:

Date	Hours
1 – October 2024	2.0
8 – October 2024	2.0
15 – October 2024	2.0
22 – October 2024	2.0
29 – October 2024	2.0

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in October: 10 Hours

Working events attended:

Approximate time spent on other activities:

Activity	Hours
Email corresponding	22 Hours

Total hours spent on the UMGSA for October 2024: 40 Hours

Vice-President Finance and Administration – Armin Aghajani

Executive Summary of Work:

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
October 1 st , 2024	Executive Meeting	1 Hour
October 15 th , 2024	Executive Meeting	1 Hour
October 22 nd , 2024	Executive Meeting	1 Hour
October 29 th , 2024	Executive Meeting	1 Hour
October 16 th , 2024	Meeting w/ StudentCare Agent	1 Hour

Meetings missed:

Time Spent in Meetings in October: 5 Hours

Office Hours:

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in October: 10 Hours

Working events attended:

Approximate time spent on other activities:

Activity	Hours
Documents and record keeping, answering the emails	20 Hours
Answering students' issues through email/phone/social media/in-person	3 Hours
Studying the agendas and minutes to get ready for the meetings	1 Hour

Total hours spent on the UMGSA for October 2024: 39 Hours

Vice-President Academic & Senator – Oyomikon Jakpa

Executive Summary of Work:

- Highlight was the opportunity to present the Teaching award to Dr Nandika Bandara during Fall 2024 Convocation.
- Also, the opportunity to have Christie Nairn as the speaker of the Sustainability Workshop which will hold in November.
- Support for student in need of advocacy.

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
02/10/2024	Senate Meeting	2
03/10/2024	Meeting with Charlotte – Career Workshop	1
08/10/2024	FGS Award Committee	1
14/10/2024	Student Advocacy	1.5
15/10/2024	Better Together Meet Up	1
17/10/2024	Sustainability Workshop Meeting with Christie Nairn	1
18/10/2024	Senate Committee on Appeal	1
21/10/2024	Executive Meeting	1
22/10/2024	Graduation Ceremony	7
23/10/2024	Council Meeting	1
24/10/2024	Senate Appeal Committee	1
24/10/2024	Halloween Pumpkin Event	3
28/10/2024	Executive Meeting	1
30/10/2024	FGS Council Meeting	2

Meetings missed: None

Time Spent in Meetings in October: 24.5 Hours

Office Hours:

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in October: 8 Hours

Working events attended:

Approximate time spent on other activities:

Activity	Hours
Student Advocacy, Documentation, Writing and Responding to Emails	30
Impromptu Chats with Grad Students	4

Total hours spent on the UMGSA in October 2024: 66.5 Hours

Vice-President External & Senator – Anh Pham

Executive Summary of Work:

- Yet to be received.

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours

Meetings missed: 0

Time Spent in Meetings in October: Hours

Office Hours:

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in October: Hours

Approximate time spent on other activities:

Activity	Hours
Documents and record keeping, answering the emails, review survey results	Hours
Studying the agendas and minutes to get ready for the meetings	Hours
Answering students' issues through email/ phone/ social media/ in-person	Hours

Total hours spent on the UMGSA for October 2024: Hours

Vice-President Health Sciences – Sadhana R.N. Sudhakar

Executive Summary of Work:

- Attending UMGSA executive and council meetings
- Chairing HSGSA executive and council meetings
- Meeting with presidents of occupational and physical therapy
- Delivered HSGSA presentation in Immunology orientation
- Clinical trial workshop execution of tasks - St. Boniface campus
- Review of September executive reports
- MHRE director monthly meeting
- Planning, discussions and execution for Dr. Patrick Choy Distinguished lectureship Series (PCL)
- Checklist for councilor documentation and departmental grant application
- Certificate preparation (GSMA and metabolomics) and appreciation letter (GSMA)
- Chairing IDRC sub-committee meeting
- Attended FGS Faculty council meeting

Meetings Attended:

Date	Meeting	Hours
October 8 th , 2024	UMGSA Executive Meeting	1 Hour
October 8 th , 2024	Meeting w/ Occupational & Physiotherapy Presidents	0.5 Hours
October 9 th , 2024	HSGSA Executive Meeting	1.5 Hours
October 10 th , 2024	Executive Reports Review	1 Hour
October 10 th , 2024	Office Hours	1 Hour
October 12 th , 2024	MHRE Director Monthly Meeting	0.5 Hours
October 13 th , 2024	Sexual Awareness Course	1.25 Hours
October 16 th , 2024	HSGSA Executive Meeting	1 Hour
October 17 th , 2024	Clinical Trial Workshop – St. Boniface Campus	5 Hours
October 18 th , 2024	Immunology Orientation	1 Hour
October 18 th , 2024	Meeting w/ Aramark Catering w/ VPA	0.75 Hours
October 19 th , 2024	Whatsapp call for PCL discussion	0.5 Hours
October 21 st , 2024	Office Hours	1 Hour
October 21 st , 2024	HSGSA Council Meeting	1.5 Hours
October 21 st , 2024	Pharmacy IdeaStart Meeting – Mira Safa, VPI, VPE	0.5 Hours
October 23 rd , 2024	UMGSA Council Meeting	1 Hour
October 23 rd , 2024	HSGSA Executive Meeting	1.75 Hours
October 25 th , 2024	Graduate student recruitment advise meeting - UM Strategic planning office	1 Hour
October 28 th , 2024	Appointment w/ Aramark Catering	0.5 Hours
October 28 th , 2024	Office Hours (included appointment w/ a grad student)	2 Hours
October 28 th , 2024	Dinner w/ PCL speaker and HSGSA team	3 Hours
October 29 th , 2024	Dinner w/ PCL speaker and UM professors	2 Hours

October 29 th , 2024	PCL Event	4.5 Hours
October 29 th , 2024	IDRC sub-committee meeting	0.75 Hours
October 30 th , 2024	FGS Faculty Council Meeting	1 Hour

Meetings missed: 1 Senate Meeting (sent regrets)

Time Spent in Meetings in October: 14 Hours

Office Hours:

Time Spent in Official Office Hours in October: Hours

Usual office hours: Every Monday 4 to 5 pm

Approximate time spent on other activities:

Activity	Hours
Email Correspondence	10 Hours
Documents and Record Keeping	15 Hours

Total hours spent on the UMGSA for October 2024: 60.5 Hours