

UMGSA Council Meeting Minutes

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

1. Call to Order (5:32)

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.

Michayla/Puvithira

Carried

4. Approval of the Minutes

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

Michayla/Mary

Carried

5. Committee Reports

5.1. October Committee Reports (Appendix II)

- i. C will circulate October and November Executive Committee reports.
- ii. UMGSA continues to move forward with recruitment process for new staff. Once hiring is complete, information will be posted.
- iii. Meeting with UM President Michael Benarroch was held last week with a good opportunity to share the challenges that international students are facing due to choices and decisions made by the Federal government.
- iv. Timi shared that the Holiday Hamper Program applications are being reviewed and a decision will be made in collaboration with the Academic Affairs Committee with respect to recipients. Oyo confirmed that the Academic Affairs Committee will be meeting November 28th to make these determinations.
- v. Timi reported that free tax clinics are being planned for the new year and

- plans are to do this on both the Fort Garry and Bannatyne campuses.
- vi. Oyo reported that the Student Awards for Part-Time students closed on November 26th and the Committee will meet to select recipients.
- vii. C confirmed that grant applicants are notified that UMGSA has received their application. Timelines for decisions and the issuing of cheques vary. If there are concerns, applicants are encouraged to resend. Discussions are ongoing with the University to centralize the processing of some grants which will greatly reduce wait times.
- viii. Anh noted her primary focus has been working with the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations regarding advocacy.

6. HSGSA Report

6.1. October HSGSA Report (Appendix III)

- i. Sadhana reported that HSGSA continues to attend departmental orientations to introduce students to the role of HSGSA.
- ii. HSGSA Council members completed required documentation.
- iii. Sadhana is following up on Health Science Council reps who have not yet completed the required documentation for UMGSA Council.
- iv. A Clinical Trial workshop held at both the Bannatyne and St. Boniface campuses were well attended.
- v. A Dr. Patrick Choi Distinguished Lectureship event was well attended and successfully held. Graduate student merit awards were handed out during the event.
- vi. HSGSA met with the UM Strategic Planning Committee where they provided insights into improving graduate student recruitment, focussing primarily on the Bannatyne campus. The mental health services available to students on the Bannatyne and St. Boniface campuses was also discussed at the HSGA Council. Dr Kelley Main, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies, was in attendance.
- vii. Sadhana reported that the multicultural event held in November was incredibly successful. More will be shared at next Council meeting.

7. Senate Report

7.1. October Senate Reports (Appendix IV)

- i. Oyo highlighted election results.
- ii. Program changes to the Master of Nursing includes a proposal to increase admission targets.
- iii. A temporary increase in the admission target for Doctor of Pharmacy program was approved.
- iv. A review will be carried out to assess the effectiveness and limitations of online learning.
- v. Memorial tributes were paid to three individuals who all contributed to the University.

8. Executive Reports

8.1. October Reports (Appendix V)

9. Departmental Reports

No reports submitted

10. Unfinished Business

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

i. C presented 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.

Michayla/Paul

Carried

10.2. Bylaw Update

- i. C reported that Bylaw draft was circulated to Council and will be presented at the UMGSA Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Wednesday, December 11th, 2024.
- ii. UMGSA is expected to adhere to the Corporations Act therefore the organization will encode a Board of Directors that will be responsible for the legal and fiduciary requirements which offers new opportunities for leadership and involvement of graduate students.
- iii. There are changes to some titles of the Executive Committee.
- iv. Definitions of membership has changed to capture graduate and postdoctoral students as well as those who are not a fee-paying student.

11. New Business

11.1. Budget Amendment

- i. C asked Council to approve an amendment to the budget
- ii. 5008 – MAPSS Advocate honorarium funds of \$3750 will be transferred to budget line 6376.

MOTION: BIRT The UMGSA General Council approves the amendment to the 2024-2025 budget.

Michayla/Floriane

Carried

12. Announcements

13.1 Executive Review Committee

- i. If interested, please email Willow at gcc@umgsa.org

13.2 Share your Experience

- i. Strategic Marketing & Communications UM is looking for graduate students to share why they chose UM for their graduate study, any

challenges they faced, and any areas that can be improved.

ii. If interested, please email Willow at gcc@umgsa.org

13.3 Next Council Meeting:

i. Wednesday, January 29th, 2025 - 5:30 PM – Zoom.

13.2 December Newsletter:

i. On hold temporarily as the staff succession plan is being implemented.

Adjournment (6:11)

UMGSA Council Meeting Attendance

November 27th, 2024

<i>Position/Department</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Signature</i>
President & Senator	Christopher Yendt	Present
VP Finance & Administration	Armin Aghajani	Absent
VP Academic & Senator	Oyomikon Jakpa	Present
VP External & Senator	Anh Pham	Present
VP Services & Support	Timilehin Oluwajuyitan	Present
VP Health Sciences	Sadhana R.N Sudhakar	Present
Associate VP Postdoctoral Affairs	Amanda G. A. Sá	Present
Chairperson (No Vote)	Kavisha Manoj Mehta	Present
Office Manager (No Vote)	Ruth Prokesch	Present
Gov & Comm Coordinator (No Vote)	Willow Josephson	Present
Gov & Office Operations Coordinator & Minute Taker (No Vote)	Iris Kehler	Present
<i>Agric & Food Science</i>		
Animal Science	Janine Hansen	Present
Biosystems Engineering	Isanka Gimhani (Co-Councillors) Thirukumaran Ramesh	Isanka Present
Entomology	Madeleine Milne	Present
Food & Human Nutritional Science	Susane Trevisan (Co-Councillors) Foluke Oyekale	Foluke Present
Plant Science	Uthpala Ekanayake	Present
Soil Science	Kingsford Amoah (Co-Councillors) Sweekriti Subedi	Both Absent
<i>Architecture</i>		
City Planning	Barak Al Dabous (Co-Councillors) Joseph Westfall	Joseph Present
Interior Design	John Sorza	Present
<i>Arts</i>		
Economics	Mohammad Hasan (Co-Councillors) Oluwafemi Awopegba	Mohammad Present
English, Theatre, Film & Media	Sakshi Tyagi	Present

Linguistics	Mohadeseh Rostami Samak	Present
Political Studies	Michayla Carlson	Present
Psychology	Nisali Muthumuni (Co-Councillors) Reegan McCheyne	Reegan Present
Sociology & Criminology	Dorcas Frimpongmaah	Present
Management		
Management – MBA/Mfin/MSCM	Tapiwa Mushayakarara (3x Co-Councillors) Sam Paknia Dharsan Kishore Babu Kishore	Tapiwa Present Dharsan Present Sam Present
Education		
Education – PhD	Jeremy Roberts	Present
Education – Admin, Foundations & Psychology	Puvithira Balasubramaniam	Present
Engineering		
Biomedical Engineering	Rashmita Chatterjee (Co-Councillors) Maria Anabel Uehara	Maria Present
Civil Engineering	Homa Motavallian Naeini	Present
Electrical & Computer Engineering	Ali Nasr Esfahani (Co-Councillors) Bitra Esmaeili Jamakani	Bitra Present
Mechanical Engineering	Rasool Mokhtari Homami	Present
Environment, Earth & Resources		
Environment & Geography	Nicholas Decker Paulo Victor Marchetto Silva	Paulo Present
Earth Sciences	Jack Mulcahy	Present
Natural Resources Institute	Oluwatimilehin Sanni (Co-Councillors) Kaitlyn Plastino	Oluwatimilehin Present
Graduate Studies		
Applied Health Sciences	Andrea Mandzuk (Co-Councillors) Saba M. A. Kolahdouz	Both Absent
Peace & Conflict Studies	Diwan Oulai (Co-Councillors) Fardowsa Hassan	Diwan Present
Kinesiology & Recreation Mgmt.		
Kinesiology & Recreation Mgmt.	Amy Abegglen (Co-Councillors) Faith Olarinde	Both Sent Regrets
Science		
Biological Sciences	Sandamini Bandara	Present
Chemistry	Rajat Arora	Present
Mathematics	Homer Franz De Vera	Present
Microbiology	Zhong Ling Yap	Present
Physics & Astronomy	Charles Lee (Co-Councillors) Isabel Sander	Isabel Sent Regrets
Statistics	Sulalitha Bowala Mudiyansele (Co-Councillors) Funmilola (Mary) Taiwo	Sulalitha Present Mary Present
HSGSA Departments		
Oral Biology	Shuanghong (Echo) Li	Absent

Biochemistry & Medical Genetics	Paul Jerard Layug	Present
Community Health Sciences	Sepideh Yousefiasl	Present
Human Anatomy & Cell Science	Taylor Orchard	Present
Immunology	Sina Taefehshokr	Absent
Medical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases	Chibuzor P Emmanuel (Precious)	Present
Pathology	Akaljot (Ross) Grewal	Absent
Pharmacology & Therapeutics	Khushali Trivedi	Present
Physician Assistant Program	Kaitlyn Macgregor	Absent
Physiology & Pathophysiology	Samuel Ogunsola	Absent
Nursing	Olaide Fadare	Present
Pharmacy	Floriane Houenagnon	Present
Rehabilitation Sciences	Mary Osunlusi	Present
CUPE3909		
CUPE3909 (No Vote)		
Indigenous Engagement		
Guests		