Federation of Students’ Council Minutes

ONLINE, MICROSOFT TEAMS
Chair: President Simpson  Secretary: Mike Cimetta

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present*:

- Simpson, Abbie (President)
- Fatima, Aiman
- Guevara, Alana (VP, Operations & Finance)
- Helka, Amanda Nicole
- Yates, Andrew
- Souza, Angela
- Wang-Lin, Angela (pro tem)
- Narang, Aryan
- Easton, Benjamin (Chair of the Board)
- Dong, Catherine
- Lindstrom-Humphries, Delainey (President, EngSoc A)
- Yang, Edward
- McGee, Ellen (President, EngSoc B) †
- Gondosiswanto, Evelyn (Assistant Secretary)
- Hallen, Frances
- Yanez Vasquez, Jairo Josue
- Dhillon, Jaskaran
- Chen, Jason
- Hunte, John (Deputy Speaker)
- Ma, Joseph †
- Surdi, Julian (President, SciSoc)
- Sharma, Kanan
- Zhu, Karl †
- Ukrani, Mahaveer Jai
- Jolicoeur-Becotte, Marie
- Schwarze, Matthew
- Town, Megan (VP, Education)
- Ahmed, Mehida
- Abouelnaga, Nada (VP, Student Life)
- Couzens-Brown, Nathaniel (President, ASU)
- Roxas, Niks
- Dragusin, Rebecca
- Leo, Shanelle
- Ye-Mowe, Stephanie
- Macci, Sumayyah
• Ikeno, Vicky (Representative, RASC)
• Shi, Victoria (President, ESS)
* remote | † late
The following members were absent:
• Singh, Jaineet*
• Suri, Manas*
• Azamm, M. Sikandar*
* regrets
The following members were present in the gallery and wished to be noted in the record:
• Small, Jason
• Cimetta, Michael (Acting Secretary)

PRELIMINARIES

CALL TO ORDER
A quorum being present, President Simpson called the meeting to order at 10:34 AM.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
Be it resolved that Council adopts the agenda as presented for the 12 July 2020 meeting.

President Simpson assumed the motion to adopt the agenda as presented

Acceptance of Resignation
The following was received from Andrew Yates:

Hello WUSA Council,
I am Andrew Yates, Math Councillor. I don’t think that I am able to do my job and represent students and so I am resigning. I apologize for the trouble and hope that you guys keep up the good work.

- Andrew
Be it resolved that Council accepts the resignation of Andrew Yates as Mathematics Councillor effective immediately.

President Simpson and Deputy Speaker Hunte.

Motion carries unanimously

Be it resolved that Council ratifies Angela Wang-Lin as pro tem. designate for the Mathematics Constituency for the remainder of the spring 2020 term.

MathSoc President Wang and Councillor Shi.

Motion carries unanimously

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of June 9th WUSA Council Meeting

Be it resolved that Council approves the minutes of the June 9th WUSA Council meeting.

President Simpson and Councillor Sharma.

Motion carries

MathSoc President Wang asked for her official name to be used as well as asking for another clarification regarding an announcement made in the June meeting. Vice President Town clarified she moved New Business item to 5.1 rather than 4.3. She also clarified her presentation was about tuition – “international financial supports” were mentioned but they were not to main topic.

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Pursuant to Federation Policy 50, Indigenous Engagement and Inclusivity, the Federation’s Students’ Council acknowledges:

"The University of Waterloo is on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, land promised to the Six Nations, which includes six miles on each side of the Grand River."

REPORTS

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

President (Simpson)
President Simpson mentioned that there was a meeting with a group of students called EquityforWho who have 7 demands for advocacy. WUSA will be meeting with the Provost regarding these.
In a recent conversation of COPS we are working with AccessAbility Services for more support for BIPOC students.
The annual plan was approved by LRP; it is a guideline for the exec to outline all the work we plan to accomplish this year. We will create our operating plan to show how successes will be measured and it will be presented when it comes into being.

Vice President, Education (Town)

Vice President Town announced that UCRU is working on a letter to the government asking the government to extend CESB. We have nixed the advocacy point to change tax credits to grants and we are working on requests that will also benefit international students since taxes would not.
MathSoc President Wang mentioned that EAC reviewing Policy 33 and asked about progress: Will a new draft be approved in the next 2-3 months? Vice President Town answered by saying AVP Academic Matt Gerrits presented a draft and we are taking comments until July 16th. She added that Council can approve with a 2/3 majority rather than sending it back to PPC. MathSoc President Wang asked if due to recent events can the deadline be extended slightly longer so societies can extend? Vice President Town asked her to have a chat with Mathsoc VP Academic Alan to see what timeline is feasible.

Vice President, Student Life (Abouelnaga)

Vice President Abouelnaga mentioned there was no written report included but it will be sent following the meeting. She met with Diana Parry this month as part of an agreement to have monthly meetings to touch base. The trans and racialized student survey results have been put into a report. It is not quite ready for presentation, that will be in the next few weeks. Along with AVP Equity, phase 2 of focus groups have begun to gather more specific results and ask follow up questions.
Campus Life Advisory Committee is reviewing and evaluating services to make sure they are operating up to a level they are expected to be. Furthermore, service coordinators to be changed from volunteers to PTS and we will make sure that process goes smoothly. Councillor Sharma asked if the university will be able to step in and pay fixed costs about orientation; President Simpson responded by saying that next meeting of orientation steering committee will discuss funding.
Deputy Speaker Hunte asked if our support of Equity for Who has affected our relationship with HREI. Vice President Abouelnaga said it does not seem it has; we still have a working relationship and normal meetings. She extended by saying an upcoming meeting with the office of the provost will involve bringing forward the asks from Equity for Who. Councillor Sharma asked if CLAC is working on evaluating services core mandates or the ways that students are using those services. Vice President Abouelnaga said CLAC always does an annual review in some way. This one will be reviewing if they are meeting their mandates. More will also be discussed since we are in odd times of attempting
service delivery virtually in many cases.
Councillor Dosen asked about more context around the situation surrounding Diana Parry. Vice President Abouelnaga mentioned WUSA was approached by Equity for Who; we will not be revealing who individuals are as they wish to remain anonymous. They are asking for the removal of AVP HREI Diana Parry on the grounds of her not being able to adequately serve students; it seems that she is not doing an adequate job serving all types of students in need of Equity support.

**Vice President, Operations & Finance (Guevara)**

Vice President Guevara announced that though there seemed to be a chance students would be able to have Upass continue in the fall term, the GRT has denied it operating on an opt-out basis. We plan on suspending Upass instead of making all students pay the mandatory fee.

GRT will be putting an EasyGo Terminal at Turnkey so students can buy other passes. There are no updates on Bomber space right now. Vice President Guevara said she is working with GSA on the details of the SLC Expansion fee.

Councillor Sharma asked if any sort of pass will be available specifically for students. Vice President Guevara said no as other schools have completely suspended their Upass programs so we do not have much leverage in negotiating a special pass. The best unlimited option would be the normal 90/month adult pass. Councillor Sharma asked if WUSA could subsidize from Upass Reserve fund. Vice President Guevara will look into it though Vice President Town said this decision would be upto the Board. Councillor Ye-Mowe asked about this 90/month and if the Upass conditions could carry over if people meet the current conditions of the Upass. Vice President Town responded directly and said this might not be the best solution for all as people might not need unlimited rides. She expanded by saying it is not feasible to charge the mandatory fee as the GSA is because a majority of undergrads are outside the region. We do not have administrative capacity to refund them. Councillor Sharma said that students with part time jobs rely on the Upass. He asked exec and board to see if subsidies can be brought in.

**Board of Directors Report**

Chairman Easton mentioned that board has met twice in June: In our regular meeting we heard a recommendation from staff about WUSA Wellness Packages to students working off campus. Later in June we approved funding from reserve funds to pay for this proposal. We also discussed furniture costs in the SLC PAC expansion. In our July meeting, we discussed the annual plan as we will today. All directors were present in June and Deputy Speaker Hunte was excused from the June 19th meeting. Councillor Ye-Mowe asked about the report and the point around GSA having decision power over the expansion plans. Chairman Easton remarked that it was outside of board’s purview but deals with an agreement based around space that is delegated in the expansion. Vice President Guevara directly responded by saying that WUSA has main control but GSA offices will be in the expansion and they will also start paying the fee once the building opens.
REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Applied Health Sciences Caucus

Councillor Jolicoeur-Becotte mentioned that they are looking for new ways to reach constituents across social media. They want to disseminate items that happen at meetings to students in a better way than the typical reports. Our faculty is looking at a name change: Faculty of Health. Councillor Ye-Mowe asked what the society will be called. Councillor Jolicoeur-Becotte said the Faculty sent out a survey and many students were opposed over the fact that that would change. Councillor Ye-Mowe recommends keeping AHSUM as an artefact.

Arts Caucus

Councillor Dragusin reported that they are working on getting data from the survey about course delivery in the fall.

Engineering Caucus

Councillor Yang said they had a few EngSoc council meetings. They have discussed plans to update governing documents and looking to gather student feedback on online service delivery. EngSoc President Lindstrom-Humphries mentioned that B Soc elected new execs for winter 2021 and A Soc is getting excited to welcome first years. President Simpson congratulated EngSoc on Engineering Day 2020.

Environment Caucus

Councillor Shi said that Caucus met with Dean of Environment to talk about support for BIPOC students. They also met with some Black students who were gracious enough to let us know their experience and ideas of how the faculty can be more anti-racist. The call for AccessAbility Services to do more came up. There is an upcoming meeting with them and Gina Hickman from Equity to discuss that further. Some programs have started a student task force to make academic changes to those programs to better take racial justice and environmentalism into account.

In terms of events, the succulent workshop will send virtual kits out to students.

Mathematics Caucus

MathSoc President Wang reported that MathSOC will be having a GM in two weeks and details are being shared on social media.

MathSoc President Wang addressed that there are sexual assault allegations about a student. There have been talks with Amanda Cook but the faculty cannot do anything. MathSOC supports its constituents but does not tolerate racist or sexual violence from students.

Last Friday, MathSOC had a further discussion about online proctoring and passed the following motion:
Whereas the University has not released any of the assessments allegedly supporting the use of online proctoring; and

Whereas as of the July MathSoc council meeting, MathSoc is against the University’s lack of transparency regarding online proctoring calls for University to release mentioned assessments; and

Be it resolved that Student Council requests the Vice President of Education to call on the University to release all assessments of online proctoring software.

MathSoc President Wang and Councillor Sharma.

MathSoc President Wang yielded time to Vincent Macri to speak. Vincent Macri put forward this motion because asking CEL to release information has been met with no response. Understanding of Ontario Privacy Law: organizations need to work to ensure privacy. He is concerned that university is ignoring these and concerned that university did not consult the equity office. He wants students to make an informed decision. Vice President Town asked if this was focused on the privacy and security assessments. Vincent said he wanted to ask for privacy, security, risk, etc. It is meant to include any assessments and proposed an amendment. Vice President Town took this as friendly.

Councillor Yang mentioned that he emailed Assistant University Secretary Privacy Officer, Kathy Winter who mentioned their intention is to publish it once a decision is made. Vincent brought up that it seems the decision has already been made since software has been used for midterms. Cathy said a similar thing previously but it seems like there is merely an expectation CEL will publish information but there is a lack of action.

The motion to be voted is as follows:

Whereas the University of Waterloo has failed to be transparent with students and student Societies about their implementation of online proctoring; and

Whereas the University has not released any of the assessments, including privacy and security reviews, allegedly supporting the use of online proctoring; and

Whereas as of the July MathSOC council meeting, MathSOC is against the University’s lack of transparency regarding online proctoring calls for University to release mentioned assessments; and

Be it resolved that Student Council requests the Vice President of Education to call on the University to release all assessments, including privacy and security reviews, of online proctoring software.

Motion carries
MathSoc President Wang met up with the new Math Dean and they were able to discuss Fall 2020 and Math has 2800 incoming students. MathSOC acclaimed its new President for fall 2020: Councillor Schwarze! We will work on transitioning him.

Science Caucus

Councillor Macci said they have had a few board of director meetings so far but there is no new updates at the moment.

Cambridge

No Updates

Kitchener

Councillor Helka mentioned nothing needed to be added to the attached written report.

Stratford

Councillor Ahmed reported that they are trying to figure out how best to reach out to constituent and they are working with professors on best online course delivery. They are also working on how to facilitate the welcoming of new students to Stratford in September including connecting first years with upper-years.

St. Jerome’s University

Councillor Leo said that there will be 3 paid candidates on St. Jerome’s EDI working group. Their names are online.

Renison

RASC Representative Ikeno Mentioned that at the Board of Directors Meeting in June, it seemed to be they might not have residence open in the fall. They may delay such a plan until a future term.

OFFICERS OF COUNCIL REPORTS

Speaker

President Simpson said she met with the marketing team about the notes on increasing council engagement for upcoming terms. Emails will be sent out to collect feedback on how best to do this - please respond to those. If you submit an item for future meetings, you can write an article about that topic to increase excitement around what goes on at council. President Simpson was happy to see many email-submitted caucus reports and encouraged the submission of those in the future.
Deputy Speaker

Deputy Speaker Hunte warned that Councillor Dosen is eligible for removal though he is present at this meeting. Councillor Dosen said that he was not sure that his term started in the spring and there was confusion there. Deputy Speaker Hunte directly responded by saying that all other councilors have attended meetings or asked to be excused. Councillor Sharma asked if any committee seats became open with the removal of Andrew. President Simpson said that Andrew sat on PPC and ERC and that they will be filled at the August meeting.

Secretary

Vice President Guevara mentioned that May minutes are a priority and should be available for August meeting.

STANDING COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, OR SERVICES REPORTS

Report of the Education Advisory Committee

Vice President Town wanted to address something before bringing up her points. She mentioned how Policy 8: "Requesting of Minutes from University Bodies" has not been updated since 2014 and may be rescinded at a future meeting. It reads:

"Be it resolved that Students' Council request complete minutes, save business dealing with confidential matters, from each existing faculty council, the Senate, the Board of Governors, and any President's Advisory Councils which may be in place or created."

Vice President Town will bring this up in the August meeting of Council.

A) First reading of Policy 34 - Differential and Relative Grading (Appendix E)

Councillor Yang asked about point 2(b) and how assumptions are being made about the pedagogical reasoning instructors might be using. He said we should leave this up to the instructors in this case. Vice President Town said that this was discussed at EAC and it was worded this way to discourage grading structure changes during the semester. Councillor Ye-Mowe directly responded to provide context: the general idea to make things more concrete throughout the term is to clear up the unfairness around such a change like a midterm mark being able to be dropped which would not let students plan around that grading from the beginning and efficiently study for all midterms. Councillor Yang said he agreed with the principle though the example given is not as clear. Councillor Sharma asked Megan to confirm that there is already a university policy that if a syllabus is changed part way through the term, they need student approval. Vice President Town confirmed but also said it is rarely known by students and that listing it as a belief would be beneficial to raise awareness and use. Councillor Sharma asked if we could do a marketing campaign in the future. Councillor Ye-Mowe recommended that we state in this policy that we are aware the university policy exists (though difficult to
enforce) so that future councils will know we knew. Vice President Town agreed that this should be noted. Councillor Yang said that point 3(f) seems to conflict with 3(d). There seems to not be clear definition around the term 'marking scheme' and it would benefit from distinguishing between how assessments are done versus how assessments are weighted. Vice President Town pointed out clarifications.

**B) First reading of Policy 70 - Carbon-Neutral Investing (Appendix E)**

_Speaker’s Note: Citations on Policy 70 will be provided at a later date_

Councillor Ye-Mowe would like to suggest the definition of divestment to be changed to also reflect moral reasons. Vice President Town noted this. Councillor Yang brought up that this policy scope includes senators and we don’t have power over what senators say or do. Vice President Town responded by saying that Student Council is a representative body and Senate takes decisions of council as the wishes of students.

**GENERAL ORDERS**

**Alternative Student Relief during Spring Terms Discussion**

Discussion on the potential for alternative more practical solutions for academic relief for students, given the prior discussion on advocating for a Spring Term Reading Week that was declined by WUSA for its lack of feasibility. What solutions exist for academic relief, such as the method implemented by some courses in the form of one week in the middle of the term, with regular classes and content modules but no assessments, which would allow students a chance to catch up on course content? Additionally, are any of these feasible alternatives worth pursuing as an advocacy goal university-wide? Submitted By: Matthew Schwarze and Catherine Dong.

Councillor Schwarze said that he has seen other solutions like a week where content continues but no deadlines are enforced. Councillor Dong said that situations like a week free of assignments may create some other denser and longer assignments in other weeks of the term. Councillor Sharma was concerned that this might shift an assignment and midterm together and things might also be out of our control since instructors have academic freedom. Vice President Town remarked that there may not be issues with academic freedom since there is university policy around making reading breaks free from assignments. Councillor Sharma and Councillor Dong said that there are cases where a professor was able to move weekly assessments and assignments. Councillor Zhu mentioned how the presence of a fall reading break tends to complicate the placement of assessments and assignments around the break; Councillor Dosen also agreed that the density increases in the week leading up and the week after.

Councillor Dragusin asked what makes spring terms different. EngSoc President Lindstrom-Humphries responded by saying the term is shorter and there are less students which means a shorter exam period. The 2-3 weeks off at the end of the term are typically used for faculty vacation and prep for the fall.
Vice President Town said she will talk to David DeVidi and President Simpson will talk to her contacts.

*Secretary’s Note:* A ten-minute recess was called at 12:36, and the assembly came back to order at 12:47.

**AMENDMENT TO PROCEDURE 10 DISCUSSION**

_Vice President Town and Councillor Sharma._

*Be it resolved that* Procedure 10, Committees of Students Council, is amended as attached (Appendix D).

Vice President Town said that through consultations with Committee of Presidents and undergraduate Senate caucus a decision has been reached to remove the seat for the president and add the seat for whichever satellite campus is missing. Presidents may sit for the remainder of the term in a nonvoting capacity but most have said they do not have the time and are happy to delegate. Councillor Sharma confirmed this my saying that there are always issues with quorum. Vice President Town said the quorum was changed to 6 members - 3 of which are the VPED and AVPs.

President Simpson called to a vote.

Motion carries with Councillor Schwarze noted as abstaining.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ELECTIONS OF COUNCILORS TO VACANT COMMITTEE SEATS**

Deputy Speaker Hunte brought forward the following motion:

*Whereas* 1 Councilor seat on each of the Elections Referenda Committee (ERC) and the Policies Procedures Committee (PPC) has been vacated during the course of this meeting; then

*Be it resolved that* [blank] is elected to fill the vacant at-large seat on the Elections Referenda Committee (ERC); and

*Be it further resolved that* [blank] is elected to fill the vacant Councilor seat on the Policies Procedures Committee (PPC);

*Deputy Speaker Hunte and President Simpson.*

*Secretary’s Note:* A vote was conducted to add this motion to the agenda, passed by 2/3 majority.

After the summaries of each committee were read, and short discussions were had, council was left with Vice President Town as the name under consideration for ERC and
pro tem Councillor Angela Wang-Lin was nominated for PPC, seconded by Councillor Dong. Vice President Town moved to amend the blanks to add the names. President Simpson Seconded.

Motion carries with Angela Wang-Lin in abstention.

**Clarification and Pre-Discussion of Policy 42 Review**

MathSoc President Wang asked if with "Policy 42: Prevention of and Response to Sexual Violence" up for review, we should have a discussion in light of recent events. She asked if Board could write up a code of conduct for volunteers. President Simpson responded by saying WUSA is looking into an org-wide code of conduct. Vice President Town clarified that this would not fall under Board and as for the review, that process is starting in the next year. Email the exec or Amanda Cook any feedback in the policy review process. MathSoc President Wang withdrew consideration to have this as a formal discussion and noted it could be a future discussion topic.

**Announcements**

MathSoc President Wang gave a shout-out to the newly elected future MathSOC president, Matthew Schwarze. She also noted that MathSOC GM was coming up.

**Announcements from the Speaker**

- The next meeting of Students' Council will be held on August 9th on Microsoft Teams.

**Adjournment**

Be it resolved that the chair adjourns the meeting at 1:18 PM.
Federation of Students’ Council Agenda

Regular Meeting

ONLINE MEETING

Chair: Abbie Simpson  Secretary: Alana Guevara

Until further notice, all meetings will be held fully online through the Microsoft Teams platform. All students are welcome to connect to the meeting in order to listen or participate; connection information to be distributed in advance through the Council mailing list or may be requested by contacting speaker@wusa.ca

ATTENDANCE

Please convey regrets to the Speaker of Students’ Council at speaker@wusa.ca.

Attendees:

- Simpson, Abigail (Abbie) (President)
- Hunte, John (Deputy Speaker)
- Gondosiswanto, Evelyn (Assistant Secretary)
- Guevara, Alana (VP Operations and Finance)
- Town, Megan (VP Education)
- Abouelnaga, Nada (VP Student Life)
- Jolicoeur-Becotte, Marie
- Fatima, Aiman
- Ghuwalewala, Vidyut
- Singh, Jaineet
- Yanez, Jairo
- Narang, Aryan
- Dragusin, Rebecca
- Manas, Suri
- Couzens, Nathanial (President, ASU)
- Yang, Eumin (Edward)
- Souza, Angela
- Hallen, Frances
- Ma, Joseph
- Lindstrom-Humphries, Delainey (President, EngSoc A)
- McGee, Ellen (President, EngSoc B)
- Yang, Edward
- Ye-Mowe, Stephanie
- Dhillon, Jaskaran
- Shi, Victoria (President, ESS)
- Schwarze, Matthew
- Dong, Catherine
• Sharma, Kanan
• Ukrani, Mahaveer Jai
• Zhu, Karl
• Wang, Yuqian (Ina) (President, MathSoc)
• Azam, M. Sikandar
• Dosen, Nick
• Macci, Sumayyah
• Parmar, Mokhash

• Roxas, Nikka (Niks) Ysabella
• Surdi, Julian (President, SciSoc)
• Chen, Jason
• Helka, Amanda Nicole
• Ahmed, Mehida
• Ikeno, Victoria (Vicky) (Designate, RASC)
• Leo, Shanelle
• Easton, Benjamin (Chair of the Board)
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1 PRELIMINARIES

Adding items to the agenda requires a two-thirds vote, although new items of business can still be raised without needing that vote once the entire agenda is complete.

1.1 CALL TO ORDER

Be it resolved that the Speaker calls the meeting to order at 12:30 PM.

1.2 TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Pursuant to Federation Policy 50, Indigenous Engagement and Inclusivity, the Federation of Students’ Council acknowledges:

The University of Waterloo is on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabe, and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, land promised to the Six Nations, which includes six miles on each side of the Grand River.

1.3 ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATIONS

The following was received from Andrew Yates:

Hello WUSA Council,

I am Andrew Yates, Math Councillor. I don’t think that I am able to do my job and represent students and so I am resigning. I apologize for the trouble and hope that you guys keep up the good work.

Andrew

Be it resolved that Council accepts the resignation of Andrew Yates as Mathematics Councilor effective immediately.

1.4 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Be it resolved that Council approve the Agenda, as presented.

The Speaker assumes the motion to adopt the Agenda, as presented or amended

2 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of a meeting are the official record of what happened at that meeting, and contain the authoritative versions of the actions taken at the meeting. If there are significant reservations about the minutes, the approval may be dispensed with, and the minutes will be returned at the subsequent meeting for approval.

Be it resolved that Council approves the minutes of the March 7, 20120 meeting, as presented.
3 **Reports**

*Motions arising directly out of a report, including to adopt recommendations in the report, may be considered immediately after the report without having to wait until later in the meeting. No action is required to receive a report. If Council decides to adopt or accept a report, then it is endorsing the entire report and not just the recommendations.*

### 3.1 Executive Reports

Each executive will highlight key aspects of their written reports in an oral report that lasts no longer than 2 minutes, to be followed immediately by a question period lasting no longer than 10 minutes per executive. The written reports can be found in Appendix A.

1. **President (Abbie Simpson)**
   
   (a) Presentation of Annual Plan

2. **Vice President of Operations and Finance (Alana Guevara)**

   (a) UPAss Survey Results

3. **Vice President of Education (Megan Town)**

4. **Vice President of Student Life (Nada Abouelnaga)**

### 3.2 Board of Directors Report

The Chair of the Board (Benjamin Easton) will highlight key aspects of their written report in an oral report that lasts no longer than 2 minutes, to be followed immediately by a question period lasting no longer than 10 minutes. Please see Appendix B for the written report.

### 3.3 Representative Reports

To be delivered orally or in writing by Councillors or the Constituency Caucus. Any questions relating to the report or any other matter may be asked following the oral report. Submitted reports can be found in Appendix C.

1. **Applied Health Sciences Caucus**

2. **Arts Caucus**

3. **Engineering Caucus**

4. **Environment Caucus**

5. **Mathematics Caucus**

6. **Science Caucus**

7. **Cambridge**
8. Kitchener
9. Stratford
10. St. Jerome’s
11. Renison

3.4 Officers of Council Reports
To be delivered orally. Any questions relating to the report or any other matter may be asked following the oral report.

1. Speaker (Abbie Simpson)
2. Deputy Speaker (John Hunte)
3. Secretary (Alana Guevara)

3.5 Standing Committees or Commissioners Reports
To be delivered orally or in writing by the Committee chair or Commissioner. Any questions relating to the report or any other matter may be asked following the oral report.

1. Education Advisory Committee
   (a) First reading of Policy 34 - Differential and Relative Grading (Appendix E)
   (b) First reading of Policy 70 - Carbon-Neutral Investing (Appendix E)

   Speaker’s Note: Citations on Policy 70 will be provided at a later date

4 General Orders
A general order is an item of business that is ordered to be taken up at a meeting. Time limits to discussions indicate the point at which the Speaker will end the discussion unless Council directs otherwise.

4.1 Alternative Student Relief during Spring Terms
Discussion on the potential for alternative more practical solutions for academic relief for students, given the prior discussion on advocating for a Spring Term Reading Week that was declined by WUSA for its lack of feasibility. What solutions exist for academic relief, such as the method implemented by some courses in the form of one week in the middle of the term, with regular classes and content modules but no assessments, which would allow students a chance to catch up on course content? Additionally, are any of these feasible alternatives worth pursuing as an advocacy goal university-wide?
Submitted By: Matthew Schwarze and Catherine Dong.
4.2 Amendment to Procedure 10

Be it resolved that Procedure 10, Committees of Students Council, is amended as attached (Appendix D).

Submitted By: Vice President, Education Town.

5 New Business

Any Councillor may raise any item of concern during new business by proposing a motion or topic of discussion. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote is required for consideration of the item to proceed.

6 Announcements

Any Councillor may make an announcement not exceeding 1 minute in duration, which may be followed by up to 2 minutes of follow-up questions. No motions may be introduced from an announcement.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of Council is scheduled for August 9th, starting at 10:30PM, on Microsoft Teams.

7 Adjournment

Be it resolved that the Chair adjourns the meeting no later than 11:59PM.
APPENDICES
APPENDIX A - EXECUTIVE REPORTS

President

Abbie Simpson

12 July 2020

Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association
Formerly known as Federation of Students, University of Waterloo

wusa.ca
200 University Ave W, Student Life Centre, Room 1116, Waterloo, ON N2L 3G1
1.0 Monthly Summary
This month was filled with many exciting meetings and opportunities to work with students. I started the month reviewing council engagement strategies with Marketing (stay tuned!) and ended the month on vacation (kind of). This month focused on the Annual Plan, Orientation planning, and our anti-Black racism strategy.

Special thank you to the Councillors who responded to my call for volunteers for a focus group. Please continue to read my emails throughout the month. I will continue to ask for Councillor support on various projects.

Some notable meetings this month include:
- I am still meeting regularly with the Undergraduate Senate caucus. We attended the Senate meeting on June 15th and asked questions about Fall term and the anti-Black racism taskforce,
- Orientation meetings to confirm fall scheduling and budget for virtual programming are ongoing,
- President’s Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability reviewed the current draft of the sustainability report.

1.1 June Meeting Follow-up

1.1.1 University Financial Statements Requests – Senator Khandakar and I sent an email to the Senate Finance Committee to review actuals for Spring 2019 and Spring 2020 terms, as requested by Council. We are still working to find answers. I will provide updates when we have more information.

1.1.2 Meeting with Counselling Services – I met with Counselling Services to discuss International Student supports and the letter COPS sent regarding anti-Black racism strategy. The following information was shared with me: (1) They are working to get more supports to students abroad, as there are many different road blocks when it comes to providing care outside of Ontario; (2) Right now there is no waitlist. If students need support, they are able to access phone and virtual counselling. Face-to-face will resume with the reopening plan.

1.2 Societies
Last week I confirmed with the society presidents that fees will be charged in Fall Term. The following societies will not charge fees for the Fall Term: Arts Students’ Union, Environment Student Society, and Science Society.

Societies will be working with Rose (MathSoc) and Mary (EngSoc) on the reopening strategy for Fall. There are no updates at this time.

1.3 Anti-Black Racism Response and Action
I am currently coordinating with the internal working group to solidify our actions moving forward. I am working with the AVP Equity to secure our external auditor and connect with University admin to bring forward student concerns identified in our consultation/ on social media.
The University recently announced PART, the President’s anti-racism task force. At Senate, I asked about student involvement in the Committee and encouraged Feridun to consider students who are currently doing anti-racism, specifically anti-Black racism, across our campus. We learned that one of the four taskforce Chairs would be a student. Unfortunately, WUSA was not originally involved with the selection of a Committee member. I encouraged University admin to allow WUSA to submit names for the taskforce. I am working with the GSA to put forward a name for the student Chair, which may be released by our meeting. No updates on additional committee membership but I will let Council know if there are opportunities for additional student engagement.

3.0 Committee Updates

3.1 Policy and Procedures Committee
The Committee is currently working through our spreadsheet of policies and procedures. Due to limitations of some committee members, we will present first readings in the Fall Term. With the recent loss of a committee member, we are looking to reorganize some assignments and timelines.

3.2 Strategic and Long Range Planning Committee
On June 16th, the SLRPC reviewed the timeline for the Long Range Plan. The Committee suggested allowing more time for staff consultation.

3.2.1 Annual Planning
On June 30th, the Committee approved the final draft of the Annual Plan. The Board will review the plan on July 6th at 5:30 PM at our Special Meeting. After the special board meeting, I will send a final copy of the document to Council for review before our meeting. Once you receive the document, please let me know if you have any questions via email.

3.3 Committee of Presidents
COPS met on June 29th to discuss goals for the year, the societies’ manual, and society finances. COPS decided to keep the Committee as an opportunity to collaborate and share ideas to take collective actions on issue points that effect the student body. The Committee decided to create a joint communications strategy for the Fall Term to keep COVID-19 messaging consistent across the societies and WUSA.
Your Executive are proud to present this year’s annual plan. We’ve developed six pillars to guide our work for the remainder of our term in office. It’s first important to note that while this plan showcases several of our key initiatives and focal points, we have many more goals we hope to accomplish, including more work on WUSA as an organization. Please reach out to us at exec@wusa.ca if you’d like to learn more!

In the coming months, we’ll be working hard, following up with you and communicating our progress. It’s important to us that we maintain transparency with you as we work toward accomplishing our goals. Working closely with our Associate Vice Presidents and supported by our full-time staff, we’re excited to create meaningful change that will improve your experience at the University of Waterloo.

- Abbie, Megan, Nada, Alana
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1. Institutional Racial Equity Reform

a. Equity supports and training
   - Ensure effective, meaningful equity trainings are delivered to all WUSA staff and volunteers, while holding participants' responsible for implementing their learnings
   - Advocate and hold UWaterloo Housing and the University Colleges accountable to implement mandatory equity training for Dons

b. Holding the University (and ourselves) accountable
   - Remove barriers that marginalized groups may experience when applying for employment and urge the University to follow equitable hiring practices
   - Consult with BIPOC students with lived experience on student matters and urge the University to do the same
   - Hold the university accountable to address implicit and explicit acts of racism that occur within the institution

c. Funding equity initiatives
   - Actively fund equity initiatives on and off-campus in consultation with students
   - Create dedicated funding for equity initiatives, using a more accessible application process
2. COVID-19

a. Fiscal responsibility

- Continue to manage and monitor our cash flow throughout the changing campus environment
- Collaborate with Societies to ensure their financial health beyond the pandemic
- Deliver responsible financial budgeting to ensure the ultimate benefit to students and our UW community

b. Mental health supports

- Continue to advocate for increased counselling supports, including BIPOC counsellors and increased access for International students
- Support our student-run services offering peer-to-peer support and provide seamless, online access

c. Your academics

- Monitor course and teaching concerns via an online form
- Recommend effective teaching and assessment methods to instructors
- Advocate for a manageable workload without compromising quality
3. Student Engagement

a. Volunteer retention and member loyalty
   - Create a volunteer experience system to ensure opportunities are more rewarding
   - Prioritize a member management system to improve our engagement strategies
   - Implement WUSA-wide training for all volunteers to ensure a basic and common level of WUSA as an advocacy organization and our related operations

b. New student transition
   - Work to increase WUSA’s involvement in Orientation to improve orientation strategies and programming
   - Continue to improve our Welcome Week and Campus Life Fair to showcase value and foster a sense of belonging for new and returning students

c. Initiation of town halls
   - Hold regular Town Halls, allowing students an open-forum platform to share their concerns with Exec
   - Work alongside relevant parties to implement changes, as approved by Students’ Council
4. Evidence-Based Advocacy

a. Student research program
   - Develop and implement program where students are compensated for providing primary research data to support and guide our advocacy initiatives

b. Expanding research capacity
   - Integrate more research within our advocacy to ensure effective and timely progress
   - Gradually expand our research capacity by hiring more students and full-time staff

c. Race-based data
   - Integrate race-based data WUSA-wide to guide our racial equity advocacy
   - Urge the university to collect race-based data to guide their equity advocacy
5. Student Support and Spaces

a. Effective club support
   - Ensure the implementation of a single ‘Clubs’ portal
   - Commit to improving locker space, availability and usage
   - Review and improve clubs’ executive training

b. Availability of student spaces
   - Follow through on council mandated review of the Fed Hall agreement
   - Investigate space agreements around campus to improve student use and value
   - Continue the implementation of the Bomber Space Lounge Plan

c. Rewarding student roles
   - Commit to training student staff to help them develop new and employable skills
   - Hire more students into rewarding roles, like student managers and our Associate Vice Presidents
6. Expanding our Network

a. Expanding WUSA services beyond the SLC
   - Extend presence of WUSA services to satellite campuses, housing and university colleges
   - Identify and address concerns from all corners of campus and satellite campuses
   - Extend and improve special events and peer support to satellite campuses

b. Alumni engagement
   - Collaborate with Alumni network to provide support to student clubs, services, and initiatives through our endowment funds

c. External advocacy
   - Continue to expand our government advocacy by building and strengthening partnerships with other student associations across Canada
Vice President, Operations & Finance
Council Report

Alana Guevara
July 12, 2020
1.0 Monthly Summary

Happy Summer everyone! The last month has mostly involved Covid related conversations and decisions related to Fall 2020. There are a number of projects in progress that I look forward to updating you on.

If anyone ever has any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate contact me via email (vpof@feds.ca), phone (ext. 33880), or Teams.

2.0 SLC/PAC Fee – Term Extension

The SLC/PAC Expansion has two items that require additional funding:

- **An overbudget of furniture**: The furniture chosen for the space is $216k overbudget. There were proposed cuts to accommodate the given budget, but WUSA and the GSA agreed that we were unwilling to sacrifice the quality of student spaces.

- **Skyfold Walls**: There is a multipurpose room and a multi-faith room included in the expansion. These rooms were designed to include Skyfold walls. These are “partitions” that would split the large spaces into 3 and 2 respectively so that student use could be maximized.

The referendum on the SLC/PAC Expansion fee contained the following information:

Do you support a fee of $18.00 per term for the construction of the SLC/PAC Expansion with the following conditions:

- part time students pay 30% of the fee,
- the fee will begin after completion of the project
- the fee will be indexed annually to inflation, thereafter
- any student contributions to on-going operating costs will be determined by a committee whose membership is comprised of a majority of students.

After discussion with our Board of Directors and GSA, we think it best to have the University extend the fee from the expected 23 years to 24 years to accommodate the extra funding needed. We are currently waiting for GSA to get their board approval on this option and then a motion will be brought to both Students’ Councils for a confirmation that this direction is what students are in favor of.
3.0 GRT – F2020 UPASS fee

With the uncertainty of the Fall 2020 term, the UPass Program has been an important topic for discussion. We emailed a survey to all registered students for Fall and out of 4844 responses, 48% of them plan to live in the region; 66% of whom will require the use of the UPass Program. After meeting with GRT (July 6th) and the University (July 13th), a decision on how we will be making this available to students must be made.

The likely direction will be an opt-out method on quest similar to all other fees that are currently optional. This will require that we communicate this to all students via multiple platforms to ensure those who do not need the UPass do so before paying their fees on quest. If anyone has any questions or concerns about this, I ask that you email me or speak up during my report at the next council meeting.

4.0 Bomber Space Update

On June 11th, 2020 the Planning Student Spaces and Works Committee unanimously approved the following motion for work on the architectural designs for the new Bombshelter Space Lounge.

Be it resolved that the Planning Student Spaces and Works Committee approves expenditure up to $51,000 from the Capital Program Fund for the Architectural Design of the Bombshelter Lounge Space.

We are very excited to be moving forward with this project and I will have more updates as the plans come in and next steps are taken.
WUSA UPass
Student Survey
Spring 2020
DEMOGRAFIC INFORMATION

Number of Complete student responses for this survey
4,710 out of 32,089 total (15%)

NOTE: Data was pulled on Tuesday, June 30th, and as of the publishing of this report on Friday, July 3rd, the total number of responses was at 6154. There may be another follow up report on this survey data once it closes.

Faculty Breakdown of Respondents

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1 https://bit.ly/2VJXgKT
Academic Year as of fall 2020

Do you plan to live in the Kitchener-Waterloo area for the fall term (September – December 2020)?

If yes to the above, would you plan to use the bus and/or Light Rail Transit (LRT)?
If yes to the above, how often might you use transit?

- **66%**
- **19%**
- **15%**
- **0%**
- **10%**
- **20%**
- **30%**
- **40%**
- **50%**
- **60%**
- **70%**

responses = 2318

If yes to the above, how often might you use transit?

- **66%**
- **19%**
- **15%**
- **0%**
- **10%**
- **20%**
- **30%**
- **40%**
- **50%**
- **60%**
- **70%**

responses = 2318
FREQUENCY ANALYSIS

NOTE: Due to the difficulty of coding thousands of responses, the following is a list of meaningful words and the number of times they occurred in response to the two long form questions. This should be used along with the “themes” to determine student sentiment.

Do you have any concerns about using the bus and LRT for transit during this time?

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Federation of Students Public 12 July 2020
Any other thoughts or feedback on the UPass?
THEMES | LONG RESPONSES

NOTE: The following is a list of representative quotes from students in response to the two long form questions in the survey.

**Do you have any concerns about using the bus and LRT for transit during this time?** [1035 responded, 23.72% of the total]

**THE SPREAD OF COVID-19**

“I would wonder if any safety precautions would be imposed for the protection of bus/LRT employees and passengers.”

“Have seen some drivers on ION not wearing masks”

“I hope social distancing rules and seat restrictions are applied in the public transit system to ensure passengers’ safety.”
COVID-19’s IMPACT ON TRANSIT

“It's designation as "for essential use only" continuing into the fall term. The crowding on the busses/LRT.”

“The enforcement of mask wearing for passengers.”

“I am using this service primarily to get groceries and other necessities throughout the week. I am worried about coming in contact with people or being in an environment where the spread of the virus is increased, however with the proper planning and precautions I’m sure I will manage okay.”

“Will all routes be operational?”

“Delays due to passenger limitations during rush hour”
“Cancelling buses when they should just add more so less people get on each bus”

“The service levels in the fall being adequate enough to be convenient to get around time.”

THE CARD SYSTEM

“GRT cards are annoying, watcard tap is more convenient, but cost likely isn’t justified. Why can’t I load GRT pass value onto watcard?”

“I would like bus fare to be a part of my WatCard, this highly touted fact was a large part of why I felt comfortable coming to Waterloo for university: an all-inclusive and reliable way for me to get myself around my surrounding city.”
INABILITY TO ACCESS/BUY A UPASS

“I am concerned that if I actually do end up living in KW for the fall term that I will not be able to get a UPASS.”

“Right now we don’t have access to UPasses and it’s a little difficult for students on campus currently to go out of their way for passes when things are uncertain.”

“My only concern is that I may have to purchase a bus pass for myself if it is not part of the student tuition fees. It’s quite a bit more expensive if it’s a separate” cost.

PAYING FOR AN UNUSED SERVICE

“I am not using it so make the fee optional.”

“Many students have to pay this nonsense fee even though they never use this. I have paid it for 7 terms, and I have never been on any public transportation. It is useless for many students.”
Any other thoughts or feedback on the UPass? [709 responded, 16.25% of the total]

IT SHOULD BE AN OPTIONAL FEE

"Would there be able to be some sort of system to opt in / opt out of the UPass fee? So, people who are in aterloo (to complete their classes remotely or on campus OR who have co-op's in Waterloo/Kitchener) are able to choose to opt in to paying this fee."

"Please do not make students pay for the UPass for the fall 2020 term. I live in Kitchener (my family moved to the area before my 1A term) and have been WFH this term. I have not used public transit during the past 4 months and I doubt I will for the fall term. Even if I do, it will be a handful times during the entire 4 months. I can just pay in cash!"
UPASS IS A NECESSITY

“My part time job will be opening up again soon & I will need my UPass for the fall term and I’m confused if I have to go to campus to have UPass enabled on my WatCard again or not.”

“I think keeping the UPass is so essential. Personally, with the loss of summer employment, the UPass will be a necessity for me to work throughout the school terms to support myself and I feel that MANY students will be in the same shape.”

“I rely on the UPass as part of my tuition and without financial assistance directly to my tuition I won’t be able to afford a pass. I am really relying on it being part of my tuition, as I use the bus daily.”

“I am relying on the UPass as transportation to my coop. It should be an option to have the UPass or not during the fall semester, many students are relying on it.”
ALTERNATIVE IDEAS FOR UPASS

“If I had the option to opt into my bus pass on a monthly basis in the fall term that would be nice. Closer to winter I might be more tempted to use the GRT since it gets colder.”

“I never use the transit as I prefer to walk and bike. I think the UPass should always be optional, as it is a waste of students money if they don’t use it but are forced to pay for it.”

“Maybe introduce 10 passes that can be used anytime during the fall term for a discounted fee”

“A cheaper version of the UPass would be a good idea for some students who may only have one or two courses in person and does not go to campus every day, but still has to go to campus”
Vice President, Education
Council Report

Megan Town
July 2020
1.0 Monthly Summary

1.1 General
This month I’ve been working on some policy development in collaboration with EAC. I’m excited to announce that I have been selected to be UCRU’s Advocacy Committee Chair! This means I’ll be working with the UCRU Board Chair and Vice-Chair to develop UCRU’s advocacy materials. I’ve also hired our new Student Research and Policy Assistant who will work with us in the fall. By the time Council happens, our first WUSA Town Hall will have occurred so I’m sure it went well!

1.2 Actionables
- I’m looking for a student author for OUSA’s paper on A Comprehensive Access Strategy. Please let me know if you’re interested in collaborating with other schools on this.
- Stay tuned for consultation opportunities on OUSA’s next set of policy papers
- Keep asking questions and giving feedback!!!

1.3 Communications
- I participated in a panel about academic integrity

2.0 Projects & Goals

2.1 Teaching and Course Quality in Response to COVID-19
The teaching form is still live. I’ve also been working with the university on topics like workload, surveying how students are doing and addressing changes in the digital course material guidelines.

2.2 WUSA Town Halls
Our first town hall will be about feedback on the spring term. Follow that we’ll be discussing what these events might look like going forward.

2.3 Student Research Program
My AVP Academic, Matthew Gerrits is beginning to work on what a framework for compensating students who provide research data for us. More details to come!

2.4 Expanding Research Capacity
I’m working on hiring our first ever research student! They will start in the fall and we will hire another one each term going forward. This also ties into “Rewarding Student
Roles. Similar to my AVPs, each student will have the opportunity to work on a project they are passionate about which also aligns with WUSA’s current goals.

2.5 External Advocacy

I pursued leadership roles in our external advocacy organizations and I am continuing to be heavily involved. In addition to my position in UCRU, this year I will be an author on OUSA’s papers: A Comprehensive Access Strategy and Racial and Religious Equity. I’ll also be editing the Student Health and Wellness Paper.

2.6 Additional goals

In addition to my goals on the annual plan, I’m also going to be working on a number of other initiatives. Later this year, I hope to work with our full-time staff to improve our processes for advocacy planning, research and communications.

3.0 Key Meetings

I invite questions on details about any of these meetings.

3.1 WUSA

- Connect with GSA on housing concerns
- Meeting about racial equity concerns and co-op
- Ongoing team meetings and one-on-ones with my AVPs and CAPS Coordinators

3.2 University

- More intro meetings!
- Senate Undergrad Council
- Further discussions on online proctored exams
- Working group on Online Learning Resources
- Discussion about international recruitment
- Co-op Education Council
  - I couldn’t make it to this meeting but my AVP Experiential & Co-op Affairs, Laura Kwan, attended

3.3 External

- OUSA Strategic Conference and SC meeting
- Ongoing biweekly UCRU Board and Advocacy Committee meetings
4.0 Committee Updates

4.1 Education Advisory Council
EAC has approved drafts of the new divestment policy and policy 34. We also reviewed drafts of policy 27/44 and 33.

4.2 Co-op Students’ Council
CSC discussed changes allowing international students to get credit for work terms outside of Canada as well as an update on job development efforts.
APPENDIX B - CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

Chair of the Board of Directors
Report to Students’ Council

Benjamin Easton

12 July 2020

Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association
Formerly known as Federation of Students, University of Waterloo
1.0 Meetings of the Board and General Updates

9 June 2020 Regular Meeting
Board heard a proposal from management regarding WUSA wellness packages to be mailed to students in the Fall term and discussed an organizational social media policy. Board also scheduled its Regular Meetings for the remainder of Spring.

19 June 2020 Special Meeting
Board approved the reallocation of Reserve Fund Investment Accounts to fund the WUSA wellness package proposal. Board also discussed furniture costs in the SLC/PAC expansion.

6 July 2020 Special Meeting
At the time of writing, this meeting has not occurred. The Board will discuss the Annual Plan.

14 July 2020 Regular Meeting
The July Regular Meeting of Board is scheduled for 14 July 2020.

2.0 Attendance at Board Meetings
All Directors were present at both June meetings except Councilor-Director John Hunte who was excused from the 19 June 2020 Special Meeting.

3.0 Closing
As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns at any time at chair@wusa.ca.
APPENDIX C - REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Mathematics Caucus Report - [July 11th, 2020]
Yuqian (Ina) Wang [Society President],
Catherine Dong, John Hunte, Kanan Sharma
Matthew Schwarze, Mahaveer Ukrani, Andrew Yates, Karl Zhu

Recent Activities of Caucus Members

Kanan Sharma:
- Vice Chair, BAC: Working on creating the Budget report for WUSA 2020-2021 operating budget with the rest of the Committee
- First Year Math Student Transition: Working with the Faculty and SSO to run the Waterloo Ready for Math Faculty and also working on creating Faculty specific online orientation programming
- In my last report, I mentioned doing a survey about how the Spring term is going for students and how the profs are delivering content; I have put a pause on it as the University had sent a similar survey to all students and I am going to see if I can access the results of that Survey
- Was part of the WUSA Welcome Package Focus group

Society Updates - President Wang
The society president/designate can use this space to list stuff that them and their colleagues have been involved in. In particular, any cross-faculty stuff should be included here.

- We have completed the election and application process for the Fall 2020 MathSoc Execs and MathSoc Councillors (as of July 5th). The last step for the process is to acclaimed the elected exec roles (President and VPA) and councilors, and ratify the appointed roles (VPF, VPI, VPO).
- The upcoming council meeting will be on July 10th (2 days before this council meeting).
- I am currently preparing the final logistics for the MathSoc Spring General Meeting, which is happening online on July 25th:
  - More information can be found in related social media posts.
- We are at the final stages for our website. We hope to release the changes to students by August. This can guarantee its’ full function for Fall 2020 with the influx of prospective students and returning students.
Society Updates

Events
We have been working on our social media presence with events and interactive activities to engage science students. The big event that we have weekly is our Prof Instagram Takeovers to help students become more familiar with their profs and to introduce incoming first year students to their professors and instructors. Humans of Science is another weekly event that we have been doing to highlight students within our own science community.

Project Development
1. Orientation Programming: We are working with the science O Team to facilitate an event during orientation that will expose first years to the ways to get involved in the science community. This will include an opportunity to interact with club representatives in a live session.

2. Science Mentorship Program: SciSoc is developing a mentorship program that will pair upper year science students with first year students in their same program and with similar interests. The program will run throughout the Fall term to help students through their first term of university, especially with everything being online.

3. Departmental Club Elections: In preparation for an online Fall term, we are planning to have our executive members of our departmental clubs be elected at the end of Spring term to ensure a smooth transition into Fall.
Recent Activities of Caucus Members

Amanda:

- Several students I spoke with commented on this term feeling overwhelming and many speculated that a Spring reading week might have helped lessen the feeling.
- Throughout the month of June the inequities and systemic racism present in Canada were spoken about frequently. One area of significance was surrounding healthcare systems. Several professors at the campus addressed this and updated their lessons to include resources on how disease may present in a variety of different populations to try to lessen that gap. Many constituents were impressed with this response and I wonder if there are other areas within an academic framework at Waterloo that could also benefit from increased resources in regards to all populations.
- I reached out to constituents regarding the upcoming Fall term and any concerns they might have in regards to another online term. I received no feedback so my goal for the month of July is to find a more effective way to interact with more constituents.
APPENDIX D - EAC PROCEDURE 10 AMENDMENT

V. Education Advisory Council

a. Purpose

1. To advise the Vice-President, Education on matters relating to academic issues at the University of Waterloo, especially those being considered by the Senate and its related bodies.
2. To advise the Vice-President, Education on matters relating to the Federation’s municipal, regional, provincial and federal advocacy.
3. To advise and assist the Vice-President, Education in engaging with the membership on current issues, through means such as, but not limited to educational campaigns, membership surveys and external partnerships.

b. Responsibilities

1. To review and recommend updates of Students’ Council’s standing policies relating to the Education portfolio to the Students’ Council;
2. To develop new policies relating to the Education portfolio and recommend them to Students’ Council for consideration;
3. To propose policy stances, from time to time, to Students’ Council on issues of major and ongoing concern to students;
4. To make decisions, from time to time, as deemed appropriate by the Committee, on the Federation’s stance on urgent matters of concern to students;
5. To serve as the primary forum and focus groups for the Vice-President, Education and for campus partners who wish to gather student feedback on academic issues, and for the review of draft research papers presented by affiliate organizations including, but not limited to the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance.

The voting membership of the Committee shall be

1. The Vice-President, Education, who shall normally serve as Chair;
2. The President;
3. All Commissioners from the Vice-President, Education Portfolio Associate Vice Presidents (Commissioners);
4. Up to three (3) members of Students’ Council;
5. Up to three (3) at-large members appointed by Students’ Council;
6. The Vice-President Academic or Education of:
   a. Applied Health Studies Undergraduate Members
   b. Arts Student Union
   c. Engineering Society A
   d. Engineering Society B or equivalent A or B teams
   e. Environment Students’ Society
   f. Mathematics Society
   g. Science Society

The ex-officio, non-voting membership of the Council shall be

...
1. The Research and Policy Officer, who shall normally serve as the Secretary;
2. The Stakeholder Relations Manager, who shall serve as a resource member;
3. The Speaker of Students’ Council;
4. All undergraduate student Senators;
5. The Vice-President Academic of Engineering Society A or B, whichever is “off” term;
6. The Presidents of:
   a. Applied Health Studies Undergraduate Members
   b. Arts Student Union
   c. Engineering Society A
   d. Engineering Society B
   e. Environment Student Society
   f. Mathematics Society
   g. Science Society
7. A representative from each student society operating at a satellite or Affiliated and Federated Institution of Waterloo:
   a. Conrad Grebel Students’ Council
   b. Global Business and Digital Arts Society
   c. Renison Academic Student Council
   d. St. Jerome’s Students’ Union
   e. Society of Pharmacy Students
   f. University of Waterloo Optometry Student Society (UWOSS)
   g. Waterloo Architecture Student Association
8. Any others as may be deemed necessary by the Vice-President, Education, from time to time

D. Meetings

1. The Committee shall meet at least three (3) times per academic term.
2. Quorum shall be six (6) voting members, including at least three (3) members who are not the Vice-President Education or their commissioners.
3. Meetings of the Committee shall normally be open. Notwithstanding, the Chair may, from time to time, when topics discussed are of a sensitive nature, determine that a meeting or part thereof be conducted in confidence.
4. Speaking rights shall normally be reserved to voting and ex-officio members of the Committee. Notwithstanding, the Chair may, from time to time, grant limited speaking privileges to guests.
5. When the Vice-President, Education is unable to Chair, they will appoint a member of the Committee to serve as Chair.

E. Term of Office

1. The term of office for at-large and Councillor membership shall be one (1) academic year, ending April 30 of the year of service. All other members’ membership is contingent on retaining their position.

F. Other Notes

1. In general, issues related to Cooperative and Experiential Education will not be under the purview of this committee. These will be discussed at Coop Students’ Council. When
appropriate, updates will be provided by the Vice-President, Education and Experiential & Co-op Affairs to the Committee.
APPENDIX E - EAC POLICIES 34 & 70 FIRST READINGS

WATERLOO UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION
POLICIES

Policy Title: Differential and Relative Grading
Policy Number: 34
Policy Class: Advocacy
Policy Category: UA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effective Date: [DATE]</th>
<th>Approval Date: [DATE]</th>
<th>Last Revision Date: [DATE]</th>
<th>Review Year: [YEAR]</th>
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Effective Date: [DATE]
Approval Date: [DATE]
Last Revision Date: [DATE]
Review Year: [YEAR]

Sponsor: Education Advisory Council
Attachment: None
Responsible Bodies: PPC
Authority: Federation of Students Bylaw 8.7.(3).

Key Words: Grading Schemes, Academic Fairness, Marking

POLICY STATEMENT:
Differential Grading can have effects that affect different students to differing degrees, especially when applied part way through a term. This policy establishes the Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association’s stance on these schemes. Furthermore, this policy takes a stance against the practice of relative grading, which can be detrimental for mental health.

PURPOSE:
To address and mitigate detrimental effects of differential grading and relative grading.

DEFINITIONS:
Differential Grading- Where an assessment or a series of assessments may be graded by multiple marking weighting schemes to yield different marks.

Syllabus/Course Outline (interchangeable)- A document for mandatory distribution that outlines critical information about the course, that serves as a contract between an instructor and students as to administration of the course.

Marking Scheme- The determination and representation of which assessments in the course will contribute to the final grade, and in which proportion.

Drop-No-Penalty Period- the period at the beginning of each term where a student may disenroll from a course without financial penalty.

Relative Marking- The practice of assigning marks relative to the performance of other students within the class, capping the total amount that the class as a whole can get at below 100% per student.
WATERLOO UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION
POLICIES
Positive bell curving- The alteration by an instructor of all individuals' grades within a class to move the class from its average after an assessment to a higher desired average, moving most or all individual marks higher.

SCOPE & EXEMPTIONS:
This policy guides the advocacy of the Vice President, Education, to prioritize according to capacity, opportunity and discretion.

Differential grading in this policy does not cover bonus marks, extra credit assignments, positive bell-curving or otherwise beneficially changing the grades resulting from an assessment, changes to a mark on the basis of a Verification of Information Form, grievance, petition, or appeal, or any policy that could be reasonably interpreted to be outside of the instructors control.

POLICY COMMUNICATION:
This policy requires no communication plan, and shall be updated on various WUSA information storage systems and website in the usual fashion.

POLICY:
1. The Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association believes:
   a. That students are entitled to information about weighting at the beginning of a course through a course outline or syllabus;
   b. That alterations to a syllabus are a bilateral negotiation between students and an instructor after the first version of a syllabus has been completed by the instructor within the first two weeks of class;
   c. That grades should generally reflect performance accurately, and that marks should not be unreasonably withheld;
   d. That students should be able to reasonably expect that they will be graded in a fair and equitable manner;
   e. That competition at the University of Waterloo should be structured to lead to higher academic achievement and a sense of self-competition, rather than interpersonal competition

2. The Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association is concerned:
   a. That some instructors do not adequately inform students of marking schemes in their course outline.
   b. That differential grading, applied as a syllabus change during the term, can lead to adverse outcomes, such as preferencing a student with a smaller number of strong assessments over those with a more consistent but slightly lower performance on all assessments.
   c. That relative grading is not a sound practice for assessment of adequate mastery of material, or for demonstrating learning, and that relative grading can inspire competition where it is detrimental to mental health, with little benefit.
3. Therefore, the Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association recommends:
   a. That the University of Waterloo should obligate a preliminary marking scheme to be included in each course outline.
   b. That the University of Waterloo develop Academic Calendar text demonstrating that if multiple marking schemes are used, that the student shall be assessed using that which returns the highest mark.
   c. That the University of Waterloo develop guidelines respecting amendments to grading schemes after the drop-no-penalty period ends;
   d. That the University of Waterloo institute that such a guideline require that any change to a marking scheme that would conceivably lead to a student having a lower grade shall require unanimous consent of all students present in a class;
   e. That in the case of cumulative assessments, that ad-hoc marking schemes dropping earlier assessments be encouraged when a later good mark shows mastery of earlier material.
   f. That if a new marking scheme is agreed to without changes in which assessments are conducted, a student may always retain the right to be marked under the old marking scheme as one of multiple potential marking schemes.
   g. That the University of Waterloo ban relative grading through a guideline, or language in the Academic Calendar text.

HISTORY:
Developed by EAC, Winter 2014
Passed by Students' Council, 4 April, 2014
Expired, 4 April, 2017
Redeveloped by EAC, Spring & Fall 2019

COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT:
This policy has no compliance and enforcement plan, as is typical fashion with regard to advocacy policies.

APPENDICES:
Cipher.
POLICY STATEMENT:
In light of social and environmental responsibility as well as economic benefits, the University of Waterloo should strive for a carbon-neutral investment portfolio by 2030. Board of Governors’ should communicate openly about progress towards carbon neutrality while soliciting stakeholder feedback.

PURPOSE:
The intention of this policy is to document the student opinion and develop advocacy objectives for responsible investing. Applicable representatives will advocate for the objectives herein laid out. This policy was written as a result of constituent feedback on the Board of Governors’ actions.

DEFINITIONS:
ESG - Environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria are a set of standards for a company’s operations that socially conscious investors use to screen potential investments.
Divestment - The process of selling subsidiary assets, investments or divisions in order to maximize the value of the parent company.
WATERLOO UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION
POLICIES

SCOPE & EXEMPTIONS:
This policy applies to anyone who is representing student opinion on University of Waterloo investments on behalf of the undergraduate student body as a whole. This includes executives, commissioners/associate vice presidents, and at-large undergraduate senators.

POLICY COMMUNICATION:
The Vice President, Education shall be responsible for informing student senators and other relevant advocates about this policy.

POLICY:
The Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association believes:

The University of Waterloo should strive for a carbon-neutral investment portfolio by divesting from fossil fuels and other carbon-intensive industries by 2030.

The Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association recommends:

1. The University of Waterloo’s investments should continue to uphold ESG principles.
2. The Board of Governor’s should strive to minimize carbon intensive investments.
   a. Therefore, the Board of Governors shall consult with their fund managers on reduction in carbon-intensive investments.
   b. In line with minimizing carbon-intensive investments, the Board of Governors shall divest completely from fossil fuels by 2023.
3. The University of Waterloo should investigate and report on the performance of their portfolios following incorporation of ESG principles.
4. The Board of Governors should regularly update students and other stakeholders on ESG investment progress including technical and plain-language reports.
5. The Board of Governors should provide opportunity for student input via open consultation or submission opportunities.
   a. Furthermore, student membership should be included on future investment working groups and committees.
6. The University of Waterloo should develop distinct investment portfolios to allow key stakeholders greater input in where the money is invested.

Further to these beliefs and recommendations, the following background information is provided:

University of Waterloo has committed to ESG principles through United Nations’ Principles for Responsible Investing. However, ESG investing does not guarantee divestment from fossil fuels and other carbon intensive industries. In addition, the Board of Governors has not been regularly updating students on progress towards responsible investments. As of June 2020, the latest detailed communication was released in 2018.

Most recently, the university has signed the Responsible Investment Charter for Canadian Universities. This includes commitment to,
1. Adopting a responsible investing framework to guide decision-making, in line with recognized standards such as the UN-supported Principles of Responsible Investment (UN-PRI)

2. Regularly measure the carbon intensity of our investment portfolios and set meaningful targets for their reduction over time;

3. Evaluate progress towards these objectives on a regular basis and share the results of such assessments publicly;

4. Ensure that the performance evaluation of our investment managers takes into account their success in achieving such objectives, alongside the other criteria for assessing their performance.

An analysis of investment performance with and without fossil fuel stocks from 1927-2016 showed that divestment would not have reduced portfolio performance. Although there has been mixed support for the efficacy of divestment, some studies have shown that stock boycotts can be effective in influencing company behaviors.

Failure to divest from fossil fuels has been shown to have risks which adversely affect investments’ success. As the world shifts away from fossil fuels, oil and gas companies continue to hold significant reserves. Use of these reserves along with current production would exceed IPCC targets for CO2 emissions. This means that the valuation of these companies relies on assets which are not able to be realized. In addition to public shifts in perception, regulatory frameworks and government perceptions are changing. For example, Prime Minister Trudeau announced that companies seeking a federal loan as a result of COVID-19 will need to “demonstrate that they are disclosing their climate footprint, and the challenges that they might face in that regard.” This follows Canada’s commitment to 2030 emission reduction goals. The European Union has also set a climate & energy framework which includes greenhouse gas emission reductions.

Other universities have committed to divestment principles including Université Laval, Université du Québec à Montréal, University of Guelph, Concordia University, University of British Columbia, Queen’s University and University of Guelph.

At time of writing, the world is amidst a global pandemic due to COVID-19. The oil and gas industry was already in a downturn prior to a global crisis causing significant losses. The current situation demonstrates further concerns surrounding investment in carbon-intensive industries.

HISTORY:
Policy developed in consultation with EAC and members of Fossil Free UW in Spring 2020.

COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT:
This policy has no compliance and enforcement plan, as is typical fashion with regard to advocacy policies.

APPENDICES: N/A
WATERLOO UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION
POLICIES

4 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2017.11.036
6 https://www.eia.gov/international/data/world
7 https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/chapter/spm/
10 https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/strategies/2030_en
18 https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/oilpatch-q1-earnings-billions-1.5549867