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
- Couzens, Nathanial (President, AHSUM)
- DeSouza, Abigayl
- Abate, Lily
- Ghuwalewala, Vidyut
- Yanez, Jairo
- Dragusin, Rebecca
- Couzens, Nathanial (President, ASU)
- Yang, Eumin (Edward)
- Souza, Angela
- Hallen, Frances
- Ma, Joseph
- Yang, Edward
- Von Friedl, Kat (President, EngSoc A)
- Casale, Matthew (President, EngSoc B)
- Ye-Mowe, Stephanie
- Dhillon, Jaskaran
- Shi, Victoria (President, ESS)
• Schwarze, Matthew
• Tse, Jeffrey (President, MathSoc)
• Dong, Catherine
• Sharma, Kanan
• Ukrani, Mahaveer Jai
• Zhu, Karl
• Chau, Brian
• Azam, M. Sikandar
• Dosen, Nick
• Bruto, Mark
• Macci, Sumayyah

• Roxas, Nikka (Niks) Ysabella
• Benson, Carly (Designate, SciSoc)
• Chen, Jason
• Helka, Amanda Nicole
• Sedik, Marco (Designate, SoPhS)
• Ahmed, Mehida
• Ikeno, Victoria (Vicky) (Designate, RASC)
• Leo, Shanelle
• Hymers, Meaghan (Designate, SJUSU)
• Recchia, Jule
• Easton, Benjamin (Chair of the Board)
ORDER OF BUSINESS

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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 10:30 AM.

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, 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.

1.3 **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.

No minutes have been received for approval at this time.

3 **ITEMS FOR ADOPTION BY CONSENT**

In accordance with Council Procedure 9, items on the consent agenda will be considered in gross, without debate or amendment. Items will be moved from the consent agenda to the regular agenda upon the request of any member. The purpose of the consent agenda is not to suppress debate but to allow Council to quickly consider and approve uncontroversial items.

No items have been placed on the consent agenda.
4 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.

4.1 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)
2. Vice President of Operations and Finance (Alana Guevara)
3. Vice President of Education (Megan Town)
4. Vice President of Student Life (Nada Abouelnaga)

(a) Whereas the organization is currently undergoing a services review; and
Whereas the Students’ Council approved the services review In Fall 2020; then
Be it resolved that the Students’ Council extends the final services review report to December 2020

4.2 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.

Speaker’s Note: The following motion was referred to Council by the Board.
Pursuant to Bylaw 3(3)1a, this motion requires 2/3 vote to pass.

Whereas the Board of Directors has recommended to Students’ Council the consideration of former Vice President, Operations & Finance Seneca J. Velling for honorary membership,

Be it resolved that Students’ Council name Seneca J. Velling an honorary member of WUSA.

4.3 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

4.4 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. The individual whom typically fills a role shall give the report of that role.

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

4.5 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.

5 Special Orders
A special order is an item of business that will take precedence over all other business at the designated time for the special order. As it suspends the normal rule that each item must be disposed of before another can be brought up, setting or removing a special order requires a two-thirds majority vote unless originally included in the agenda.

5.1 Student Accessibility Commissioner Presentation
Speaker’s Note: This item is scheduled to commence at 11:30am.

Council gives leave for a presentation from Vicky Ikeno as Student Accessibility Commissioner.
6 **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

*Business arising from the minutes is business carried on to a meeting from a previous meeting.*

There is no business arising.

7 **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.*

There are no General Orders.

8 **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.*

9 **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 April 18th, starting at 10:30AM, on Microsoft Teams.

10 **ADJOURNMENT**

*Be it resolved that* the Chair adjourns the meeting no later than 4:30PM.
APPENDICES
APPENDIX A - EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Vice President, Operations & Finance
Council Report

Alana Guevara
March 21st, 2020
1.0 Monthly Summary

One more month y’all!

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

2.0 Health & Dental

I have been meeting with StudentCare about last year’s financials. We will be meeting in the coming month to calculate and discuss next year’s fee amounts for Matthew to send to the University’s Board of Governors in the Spring term.

3.0 SLC/PAC

I did a walkthrough of the expansion recently and it’s looking great! The new deadline for opening is May. Do with that what you will...

4.0 GRT

I met with GRT recently. We will be suspending the agreement for the Spring term and selling the term pass and EasyFare cards at Turnkey. We will be meeting again in early May to discuss the Fall term and possible solutions to allow the reinstatement of the agreement moving forward.

5.0 RAISE Conference Concerns

There was a recent Reddit post concerning the funding of the RAISE conference. This post contained some alarming information that I would like to address so you can all have some answers if asked.

   i. “it seems ridiculous to be paying someone 20K to speak at a virtual conference and I don’t think it’s follows WUSA’s value for money policy”
      a. Good speakers cost money. Angela Davis is a renowned political activist with years of experience to offer. I have not researched past speakers at the University, but I am sure there have been some who have charged this much if not more. Not to mention that this fits perfectly within RAISE’s mandate.
      b. $11,300 of their funding came from University Departments.
         ii. $3,500 came from RAISE’s budget, which they and the Services Manager have control over.
         iii. $6,000 came from the President’s, VPSL and AVP Equity’s budget lines for Special events which is at their discretion and was approved by the VPOF.
iv. $16,000 was contributed by Laurier.

v. Lastly, they were approved up to $10,000 from EOI. This is approved by the Internal Funding Committee and is not a part of WUSA’s budget. It should also be noted that the wording is “up to”. EOI and SLEF involve a reimbursement process where the applicants must submit receipts to receive any money. Therefore, RAISE will not receive any funding over the necessary amount to run this conference.

II. “In a time where the organization is probably struggling financially” – This is an assumption and grossly implies incompetence, not only on my part, but on the many staff members paid by students to manage the service, their conference and WUSA’s entire budget.

III. “No doubt students are frustrated by WUSA fees especially the talks about them going back to mandatory”

a. Are we struggling financially or charging fees we shouldn’t in order to cut students’ costs? We cannot have it both ways.

b. BAC is a confidential committee comprised of counsellors and directors. Conversations being had at these meetings are generally about what’s best for the continuation of the organization. I do not know how a student has information about this committee’s confidential conversations, but it is absolutely inappropriate.

c. Aside from the above, a change to mandatory would require both Board and Council approval. If that is the course of action WUSA ultimately takes, it will be after presentation and discussion at these bodies, which would then also have to be approved by the University. If that many people (with an in-depth understanding of how WUSA and the University works) agree that it is the best thing to do, then honestly, that is the best thing to do. There seems to be a perception that staff/executives can make big changes that affect students on their own, which is inaccurate.

These are my thoughts after reading that post and please feel free to tell anyone with questions to email me at vpof@wusa.ca and I would be happy to talk with them about this.
6.0 Committees

6.1 Internal Funding Committee

IFC met and approved funding for the following items:

- RAISE XChanges Conference
- Technology in Pharmacy Network’s HackRx 2021
- Waterloo Sustainability Project’s Used Clothing Store
- Science Society Grad Box Initiative
- NODA Conference for Orientation Personnel

In addition to those items, the creation of the Equity Fund in this year’s annual plan was discussed. The current plan is to modify the EOI procedure to encompass this equity element. I am currently working on this adjustment and will bring it forward at the April council meeting.
Vice President, Education
Council Report

Megan Town
March 2021
1.0 Monthly Summary

1.1 General

As we’re getting closer to the end of my term I’m continually feeling like there’s lots to do and not enough time to do it! Key projects that I’m wrapping up include UCRU and OUSA policy development as well as some agreements within the university. I’m also going to be dedicating lots of time to transitioning my successor within WUSA and UCRU.

On a personal note, I have an interview for a very exciting engineering job!

I would also like to highlight that my AVP Experiential and Co-op Affairs is working on an online form, hosted on WUSA’s website, that students can use to submit co-op-specific concerns. Please reach out to me if you’d like to learn more.

1.2 Communications

- Imprint interview questions on Knock Out Interest Campaign

2.0 Projects & Goals

2.1 Teaching and Course Quality in Response to COVID-19

No significant updates.

2.2 WUSA Town Halls

No significant updates.

2.3 Student Research Program Representative Survey Platform

No significant updates.

2.4 Expanding Research Capacity

No significant updates since my last report. I consider this goal to be complete.

2.6 External Advocacy

OUSA and UCRU's policy paper processes are ongoing and will be wrapping up soon. External advocacy has slowed down for the year as we begin to focus on planning and transition.

3.0 Key Meetings

I invite questions on details about any of these meetings.
3.1 WUSA

- Regular meetings
- Town hall prep
- Transition meetings
- Housing report meetings with GSA
- Glow’s 50th

3.2 University

- Undergrad Operations Committee
- Learning assessment guidelines final meeting

3.3 External

- Regular meetings
- International Women’s Day Video for Western’s USC
- Racial and Religious Equity authorship team meeting
- OUSA General Assembly and associated meetings
Services Review Progress Summary

Accomplishments to Date

Review of End of Term Reports – IAC

- Focused on Service Administration including: (1) Training for Coordinators; (2) Executive Structure; (3) Internal (and external) communications; (4) Service Oversight.
- These review documents have been shared with the WUSA Research Coordinator to be included in the final report.

Survey – WUSA Research Coordinator

- This survey focuses on the User Experience: its purpose is to determine how Waterloo students engage with the services and what changes can be made to meet their needs moving forward.
- The survey went live on March 4th and is scheduled to be open until March 31st.
- As of March 16th, at 11:30am there were 125 complete responses. The following is a breakdown of responses by services:
  - Co-op Connection (16 responses), Glow (10 responses), ICSN (5 responses), MATES (9 responses), RAISE (7 responses), Women’s Centre (10 responses), None (82 responses).
- The WUSA Communications team has organized a campaign schedule and will be posting consistently on our socials until the survey close date; they are working with the services themselves to promote the survey on each service’s socials as well.

Interviews with Service Coordinators – WUSA Research Coordinator

- The interviews focus mainly on Long-Term Planning goals for each individual service, internal (and external) communications as well as service oversight (based on Program Evaluation Guide Step 2-4). However, each interview is unique depending on the specific situation of each service.
- Co-op Connection, ICSN, MATES and Glow have all been completed and the Women’s Centre is scheduled for March 18th. We are still waiting on RAISE to schedule a meeting.

Estimated Extension Required

- In order to adequately analyze the survey data and incorporate it into the report following the closing of the survey on March 31st, an extension is required until the May Students’ Council meeting.
- It is also important to note that once the end of the survey is closer, we will need to evaluate if there has been enough engagement (minimum 500 complete responses). If this has not been achieved, additional survey promotion may be required before completing the Next Steps.

Next Steps

Review of Additional Internal Documents (March 22-April 23) – CLAC

- Focusing on (1) Mandate Review; and (2) Long-Term Planning
- To be shared with the WUSA Research Coordinator when complete

Analyze Interview and Survey Data (April 1-9) – WUSA Research Coordinator

Write Report (April 12-30) – WUSA Research Coordinator

- Combining all the information that has been compiled (i.e., from IAC and CLAC reviews, survey data and interview data) into a full report including recommendations

Review of Report (May 3-7) – VPSL, Director of Student Engagement, Services Manager, IAC and CLAC

- Providing feedback on the full report prior to it being brought to Students’ Council
Chair of the Board of Directors
Report to Students’ Council

Benjamin Easton

21 March 2021

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 Meetings of the Board

1 March 2021 Regular Meeting

The Board rescheduled the FY2021 General Meeting to 27 March 2021 at 1PM EDT.

The Board considered a proposal to rename the Capital Program Fund after former VPOF Seneca Velling. While the motion did not pass, the Board thought it appropriate to recommend to Council the consideration of Mr. Velling as an Honorary Lifetime Member under Bylaw 3(3).

15 March 2021 Special Meeting

This meeting has not occurred at the time of writing this report. The Board will consider member proposals, the report of the Auditors, and set the Agenda for the FY2021 Annual General Meeting.

2.0 Attendance at Board Meetings

All voting members of the Board were present at the 1 March 2021 Regular Meeting.

3.0 Closing

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns at any time at chair@wusa.ca.