Federation of Students’ Council Minutes

ONLINE, MICROSOFT TEAMS

Chair: President Simpson  Secretary: Mike Cimetta

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present*:

- Simpson, Abbie (President)
- Cimetta, Michael (Recording Secretary)
- Fatima, Aiman
- Guevara, Alana (VP, Operations & Finance)
- Helka, Amanda Nicole
- Yates, Andrew
- Souza, Angela
- 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, Shannelle
- Ye-Mowe, Stephanie
- Macci, Sumayyah
- Shi, Victoria (President, ESS)
- Ghuwalewala, Vidyut
- Wang, Yuqian (Ina) (President, MathSoc)
The following members were absent:

- Singh, Jaineet*
- Suri, Manas*
- Azamm, M. Sikandar*
- Parmar, Mokhash
- Dosen, Nick
- Rehmanji, Taher (President, SoPhS)
- Ikeno, Vicky (President, RASC)

* regrets

The following members were present in the gallery and wished to be noted in the record:

- Small, Jason
- Macri, Vincent

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 07 June 2020 meeting.

The Speaker assumed a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councillor Wang proposed the addition of a discussion on University software used to proctor students for online assessments. The Speaker suggested this item to be added under General Orders (4.2). President Simpson assumed the motion to adopt the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of WUSA Winter General Meeting

Be it resolved that Council approves the minutes of March 24, 2020 Winter General meeting.

President Simpson and Deputy Speaker Hunte.

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 she attended the Board of Governors meeting the past Monday. A motion passed to approve our fees for the upcoming year. The President and VPOF are in discussions about what Fall 2020 fees will look like with Covid situation. There have been a number of WUSA statements released regarding support for the Black Lives Matter movement including an ask for feedback to guide upcoming proposals on internal changes and guide our advocacy to the University. Friday consultation collected great feedback and next step will be to have external consultant come in to help guide proposals. Councillor Yang asked if our proposals will be related to UW’s proposals coming out Friday. Vice President Abouelnaga will have a discussion with Diana Perry but our proposals will be focused on WUSA’s internal policies and plans first. Councillor Yang mentioned AVP Equity Victoria Rodney is mentioned in the University’s news release in response to the Change.org petition. Vice President Abouelnaga mentioned she and AVP Rodney will be in the Diana Perry meeting to bring some feedback collected thus far.

Councillor Dhillon asked about external consultant; President Simpson mentioned that details are being worked out to select who that consultant will be. Councillor Dragusin asked about the timeline for bringing this individual in. President Simpson mentioned that the hiring panel is to be set up in the next couple of weeks and external auditors will be coming into the organization to develop recommendations. The timeline for action on these recommendations to begin is before the end of the spring term with a clearer timeline coming as a working group is formed to closely guide the process. Transparency of actions will be communicated on social media channels going forward.

Councillor Wang asked about what WUSA’s progress is with the petition going around about the St. Jerome’s Prof BJ Rye. President Simpson explains that she met with Chris Read and that the decision is out of the university’s hands but instead rests with the administration of St. Jerome’s University.

Vice President, Education (Town)

Vice President Town shared a presentation about Tuition. She had a meeting with the Registrar who oversees Student Awards and Financial Aid. There is emergency funding available for International students which can be found by googling “Uwaterloo Emergency Bursary International Students”. The issue is that applicants must be in second year; this restriction exists because first year students may not come in the fall.
Another issue they have found a work-around for is the need for original signatures on documents. Vice President Town asked councillors to reach out with any further issues they or their constituents encounter. Councillor Hunte asked when this support was introduced since it seemed to not be well advertised in the past. Vice President Town responded that it seemed that this was a regular support which has existed in the past. Councillor Yang mentioned that in terms of this bursary, the blank cheque provision might be problematic; Councillor Hunte mentioned that these provisions might be relaxed as he applied and did not need it.

It was mentioned that there would be changes to EAC. Society presidents are being consulted and there will be more discussions during next meeting.

**Vice President, Student Life (Abouelnaga)**

Vice President Abouelnaga mentioned that the VPSL report is longer than usual as there are two extra summaries. Included is a report of Service operations as well as a report of service operations from spring 2019 to compare, contrast, and estimate where we might be for spring 2020. Obviously, there will be a large shock to operations because of Covid. Councillor Sharma asked for further explanation about plans for Orientation. Vice President Abouelnaga responded by stating that current plans are for a fully online orientation. Staff is working on making these changes and more information will develop throughout June with a clearer picture being made available by the end of the month. There are discussions about whether an in-person component is something that is feasible to host in the winter 2021 term; follow up by end of June. We are waiting on the university to make a decision on this as it would require funding and is not currently budgeted.

Councillor Sharma expressed his disappointment that the University is changing up plans and causing whiplash among student leaders to change things within two months when the normal process takes ten. He also asked how fees will be charged. Vice President Abouelnaga mentioned that the optional orientation fee would not be changing to a mandatory fee supporting orientation. Councillor Sharma followed up by asking if the University would step in to cover fixed costs in the event WUSA does not charge any fees. Vice President Abouelnaga will ask.

Councillor Ye-Mowe mentioned that many orientation groups rely on funding from Endowment funds; would there be problems assuming they continue to not be operational as they are in the spring 2020 term? President Simpson responded by saying orientation kits are the typical use for Endowment Funds and they are being rethought at this point. Councillor Wang expressed that societies want to also like to back the Black Lives Matter movement but might be lacking representation at this time; could they get guidance and input from AVP Equity Rodney? Vice President Abouelnaga said that societies will be included in the recommendations coming out of the consultation and said follow ups will help guide direction and action. President Simpson agreed that Committee of Presidents will be involved in further conversations.

Councillor Leo asked if the pivot to online orientation was public as spring hiring is still going on and there does not seem to be an official statement about the change. President Simpson answered by saying that there is an understanding that a final call has been made and that the Orientation Advisors have been notified and teams should be aware.
A follow up with WUSA Orientation and Member Transitions Manager Becky Wroe will be conducted to get a final answer. Councillor Surdi confirmed that there is a statement from the University on uwaterloo.ca.

Councillor Lindstrom-Humphries brought up concerns that front line leaders have been left out of the conversation as to any changes. Vice President Abouelnaga mentioned that Becky Wroe will make sure all are included as we don’t have an orientation without student leaders.

Councillor Yang mentioned the University started an initiative called “Waterloo Ready” and asked what input WUSA has with that. Vice President Abouelnaga said we have not been consulted and that attempts are being made to figure out how the program will affect orientation. Timelines seem to be ambiguous but we will ask Chris Read about more specifics.

Vice President, Operations & Finance (Guevara)

Vice President Guevara mentioned how a letter has been sent to the Committee of Presidents to make sure societies’ VPs Finance have a meeting with Accounting Manager Cheryl Pflug and Society Accountant Gurpreet Saini to talk about spring term and fall term budget expectations. Science, Environment, Engineering and Math have responded so far. The meeting seems to be scheduled for June 18th at 1pm. Brian Schwan and Kumar Patel are working on the CnD Working Group; Science and Environment expressed interest in being informed of decisions. Be sure to make contact if you would like to be involved.

The next 5-year GRT Upass agreement has been signed and will come into effect starting fall 2020. There is also a fall 2020 survey to gauge how many students will use the Upass service that term with the split on-campus/online approach. Students can now opt-in to spring 2020 Upass at the Turnkey Desk weekdays from 9am-4pm.

There is an upcoming Planning Student Spaces Working Committee and Vice President Guevara mentioned there would be a summary of decisions made at next council meeting. There should also be an IFC meeting this coming week but availability has not been clear enough to declare a time. Councillor Sharma asked for a written summary of the VPOF report; Vice President Guevara assured one would be sent out.

Board of Directors Report

Chairman Easton mentioned that board has met once and there is a 2nd meeting coming Tuesday. Transition Period has been completed. Board elected Director John Hunte to Audit Risk Management Committee and elected Director Alex Eyre to Exec Structure Review Committee.

Representative Reports

Increases to the Federation of Students’ Fee
Applied Health Sciences Caucus

Councillor Jolicoeur-Becotte has asked AHSUM President for ideas of how to better contact constituents at this time. Councillor Sharma remarked that AHSUM does not seem to currently have a president. Councillor Jolicoeur-Becotte responded that they have also reached out to other AHSUM leadership and are awaiting response.

Arts Caucus

Councillor Dragusin announced that councillors are working on a survey to gather Arts student feedback on how online course delivery is going. ASU has also had internal meetings and meetings with societies on how to better support the Black Lives Matter Movement. ASU is also in the process of setting up social media channels.

Engineering Caucus

Councillor Yang said feedback was collected about Int’l Students Bursary and news was spread about Waterloo Ready. Students have emailed about concerns over online proctoring software.

Environment Caucus

Councillor Shi mentioned ESS is having a meeting this week with UW African Students Association and UW Black Association for Student Expression (BASE). The meeting will be focused on how to address the Black Lives Matter Movement and how to offer support for Black students. Any info that comes out of this will be shared with the Committee of Presidents. Environment Resources and Sustainability Studies has 3 courses rolling out so ESS will be advertising that.

Councillor Ye-Mowe brought up that there seem to be changes to the academic schedule which result in the splitting-up of a cohort into remote and in-person sections. Research is being done to see how this was decided or if it was random.

Mathematics Caucus

MathSoc President Wang reported that MathSoc has restarted its Mental Health blog. Events team has worked hard to prepare weekly events. A budget meeting was held with program clubs and it was decided that they want to keep doing events through this term. The latest MathSoc council meeting featured a discussion around involvement in the Black Lives Matter Movement. Some academic advocacy issues around charging students for proctoring software called Mobius were brought up and MathSoc VP Academic Alan is looking into it further.

Deputy Speaker Hunte began a discussion about online proctoring and how there seemed to be understanding that UW was not going to do it; in addition, he mentioned his disappointment that UW had projected to move away from using tests to measure learning and how they seem to be going against that progress. Vice President Town asked for him to send information about this “move away from testing” in order to follow up. In
response, John mentioned Seneca Velling might be a good contact as he was involved in focus groups in his time as a councillor. EngSoc President Lindstrom-Humphries directly responded by mentioning that there are engineering student privacy concerns with proctoring software. Deputy Speaker Hunte invited Vincent Macri, a MathSoc Council member to talk about software concerns in a graph theory class (CO 342) which had restrictive system requirements and had not met the privacy and security requirements of the University. The Chair recognized Vice President Town to speak and then recommended moving the topic to new business.

Vice President Town had been pro-active on this issue and in a meeting with the Centre for Extended Learning about such software and why they had been planned to be used. From their perspective, this software aimed to make it easier for students abroad to avoid paying an institution, like a national embassy, to be a proctoring centre. Proctor U has passed privacy and security review while ProctorTrack has passed security review but not yet passed privacy. Waiting on CEL for more details on what these reviews involve. We have been informed that seven courses are using various software but we are waiting to hear back specifically which courses they are. If you hear of other courses it may be concerning as they may not be using approved software. Vice President Town finished off her report with a note on academic freedom. The University has recommended instructors use alternative testing methods: example assignments, open book exams, essays; things other than synchronous proctored exams. The decision of how an instructor formats and assesses their course is ultimately in the instructor’s hands. This is an ongoing discussion.

Vice President Town moved

Be it resolved that council moves this discussion to New Business item 5.1 with the current speaking list of Councillor Ye-Mowe, VINCENT, Councillor Zhu, and SciSoc President Surdi with a new point.

EngSoc President Lindstrom-Humphries and Deputy Speaker Hunte.

Motion carries

Councillor Sharma reported that he has been settling in as vice-Chair of Budget and Appropriations Committee and the main discussions have been around structure of mandatory and optional fees. In terms of advocacy, work has been done with well-being committee to collect feedback about how students are feeling about this online term. Any big issues coming out of that survey will be the focus for proposed changes for the fall term. Math Orientation team is trying to figure out how online delivery will work with so many international students.

Science Caucus

SciSoc President Surdi expressed that there are student concerns in how labs will be run since labs are an important part of learning in the Faculty of Science. He questions if alternatives will be available and hopes to get some answers from University administration. Some clubs under Science Society have been running events; the society wants to focus on mental health projects every week.
Vice President Town mentioned that her understanding is that students who do are not able to come to campus are required to be accommodated but communications have been unclear on that. The accommodation model is not decided yet. If it recommends taking a lab in a different term, it would aim to not delay the learning outcomes in an associated course. Vice President Abouelnaga brought up that some labs are following a so-called “hybrid model” but is unsure how that format will work. SciSoc President Surdi responded by saying that there may need to be big changes on the Course Selection end of things since removing a lab component is not something that is currently easy to do on Quest. Vice President Town said Chemical Engineering has been doing labs online by doing a video skit of what would happen in a lab and then providing students with the data to do the report itself. So far this seems like it is going well from their end.

Cambridge

Councillor Chen said WASA had their first meeting, he made it clear to the association that WUSA can be a resource for them. There are tuition concerns with hand-on learning resources that students will not be able to access if the term is online. Vice President Town recommended this be discussed more later in the meeting as the topic is already in General Orders.

Kitchener

Councillor Helka said students are settling in to online environment. There is a running group and Codenames tournament. There is a staff member making contact to listen to feedback and adjust academics accordingly. Exams have always been written on computers using a program called Examplify so there is no change there.

Stratford

Councillor Ahmed talked about student concerns related to resources that currently exist on campus. Same equipment access issues as WASA, this will be discussed further later.

St. Jerome’s University

Councillor Leo said that students are not okay with the situation revolving around BJ Rye. St. Jerome’s has started an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion working group in light of the issue; SJ students union is working with them. Two student representatives have been asked to be in this group; Union is asking for these students to be paid for their work. Vice President Abouelnaga and Councillor Leo will follow up offline about more details regarding this group.

Renison

No updates to report.
**Officers of Council Reports**

**Speaker**

President Simpson said that the “Council” page of wusa.ca has been updated and she would like to hear feedback if there are any issues. Marketing is helping to figure out how to increase council engagement; feedback given before June 17th would be appreciated. President Simpson asked councillors to submit written reports before the meeting; the template is found in the Teams files. If other items come up after report is submitted, be sure they are added as an oral report.

**Deputy Speaker**

There were no updates under the Deputy Speaker’s report.

**Secretary**

Vice President Guevara mentioned Michael Cimetta will be helping with minutes for the remainder of this term. Councillor Yang asked if this is the Corporate Secretary role being filled. Vice President Guevara responded by clarifying that this is merely just some roles being shifted in times of Covid. Corporate Secretary hiring will likely be on the agenda for the winter 2021 term. Michael’s title is Executive Assistant.

**Standing Committees, Commissions, or Services Reports**

Vice President Town asked council if they would like AVP reports in July or August. Councillor Ye-Mowe said it would be best for them to have as much time as possible so deadline could just be before the start of the fall 2020 term.

**Report of the Committee of Presidents**

President Simpson delivered the Committee of Presidents report. On background, ESS reached out to Counselling Services to provide resources for Black students facing systemic racism as well as other racially marginalized groups. Counselling Services advised to defer students to UW RAISE, a student volunteer-run group on campus to provide these resources. A Committee of Presidents co-signed email was sent on June 3rd calling for proactive action and a cessation of the reliance on UW RAISE for these resources. Included in this email were EngSoc A and B, ScieSoc, MathSoc, Arts Student Union, St. Jerome’s University, Conrad Grebel and President Simpson herself representing WUSA. The statement and response will be sent out to council following the meeting to be included in the minutes. We have also asked them to consider modifying their hiring practises to hire more BIPOC counsellors.

*Secretary’s Note:* A ten-minute recess was called at 12:20, and the assembly came back to order at 12:30.
BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes

GENERAL ORDERS

ONLINE TUITION AND FEES DISCUSSION

Councillor Chen said that there are general concerns among Architecture students; in talks with Vice President Town it was estimated that 70 percent of tuition goes to staff but students are interested in negotiating the other 30 percent with campus resources not being used.

Vice President Town gave a presentation on Tuition breakdown. The presentation mentioned how some faculties are having more issues than others; the university of budgeting a 3.5 million dollar deficit as their best-case scenario not including Covid shock. Covid policy is to have a 15 percent hold-back on their budgets. Typically, tuition is 63 percent and operating grants cover the rest. Vice President Town said we are not advocating for tuition cuts as they are not realistic; there are advocacy initiatives in other areas. Research also shows learning outcomes can be achieved through online learning. Just because they CAN be achieved, does not mean they are. Our next steps are to survey students to make sure their needs are being met.

Point of Privilege: Ina asked for this presentation to be shared and Vice President Town ensured that it would be sent out to councillors following the meeting.

Vice President Town presented that instructors have rights for academic freedom but we can do our best to encourage. Most instructors have student’s best interest in mind. Some professors have been teaching in-person their entire careers and the best they will do is post slides. Research from USaskatchewan - attached in the minutes - after they implemented a tuition freeze said that students saved 18.00 dollars on fall tuition on average. The widespread cost savings seem to not exactly exist. As for custodial staff and food services there have been some layoffs but we are really not sure. Councillor Sharma mentioned UCRU’s lobbying for federal tax credits to be used for tuition grants and he was concerned that this might not be available for international students. Vice President Town responded that she will follow up with UCRU.

MathSoc President Wang asked for society VP Academics to be kept in the loop and Vice President Town mentioned that with respect to the teaching quality survey, Matthew Gerrits would be reaching out on a case-by-case basis. Vincent Macri asked if the University could release its spring 2019 financial to see changes in cost compared to spring 2020. This being a senate oversight matter, President Simpson said she will need to follow up once the issue can be taken to a caucus meeting in the next couple weeks.

EngSoc President Lindstrom-Humphries talked about previous ancillary fee reductions and asked for advocacy with respect to reduction of costs of course material and mandatory
software. Vice President Town mentioned that regarding the ancillary fees, outgoing exec worked with UW to ensure charged fees would only support available services for the spring 2020 term; a specific example is the Student Services Fee which goes to many different programs. As for added course costs, the University is reviewing 50.00 dollar ceiling; we also want to see how Covid effects this review. We would hope that instructors use more quizzes on learn rather than Tophat services. Councillor Zhu asked if there would be tuition differences taking a 1st year course later on and Karl also mentioned that this 50.00 dollar ceiling can be overridden by Dean approval; do the students get informed about this? Vice President Town said it’s best to reach out to instructors on a case-by-case basis if this is not being followed. SciSoc President Surdi asked for more information and in pulling up the University policy page, Vice President Town clarified that the guideline is mainly set up for field trips and digital materials that expire but not materials students could re-use throughout their degree like a lab coat. In terms of added software connected to a textbook, Feds Used Bookstore manager Afshin Hirani is working on other solutions. We have also seen instructors turn away from these online codes. Councillor Sharma mentioned that separate online code purchase must be an option. MathSoc President Wang said that the Math is using Mobius with varying degrees of functionality and faculties want students to pay an annual fee. Vice President Town recommended raising the issue to the Associate Dean of Undergraduates about this issue.

Councillor Ye-Mowe asked if, provincially, WUSA was setting up a stance on online tools and resources in the time of Covid since there is some wording around this in the new tuition framework from 2019 but nothing more recent. Vice President Town said it might be best to follow up over email.

**Online Proctoring Software**

_Vice President Town and President Simpson._ Councillor Ye-Mowe responded to Delainey’s point about privacy concerns going beyond spyware and that Policy 46 is robust in what information is shareable. Using third-party software may not be in line with this policy. There are concerns about data storage, if companies are acquired or go bankrupt. Vice President Town has added an actionable to ask more about these privacy and security reviews. Councillor Zhu asked if there is any power over Laurier courses for a double degree student and Vice President Town said there is no jurisdiction and that Laurier has been using their own for a while. There are some issues with students being required to buy webcams; students should bring these cases to WUSA. Vice President Town will be in touch with her Laurier counterpart Julia and MathSoc President Wang asked that concerns about double degree students also be brought to MathSoc.

Vincent Macri asked a question about academic freedom and if the university pays for proctoring software, he also asked why there are alternatives to TurnItIn but not this software. Vice President Town responded by saying the Faculty Association of the University of Waterloo back instructors making their own decisions but we don’t know what bounds that has from a University perspective; right now, they are paying. As for alternatives, they may come but this software just started being tested in December. There are hopes to get a policy similar to how TurnItIn is treated.
Councillor Sharma mentioned that UW recommended all students be in Canada for the fall 2020 term as they are worried about privacy laws. Should this be the same policy for academics? Proctor U is headquartered in the USA and the Patriot Act is concerning. Vice President Town echoed her comments that there will hopefully be an opt-out be made available as privacy issues are concerning. Councillor Sharma asked why the course list of the 7 classes using the software has not been made available. Vice President Town responded that it is not being hidden, but the list of specific courses has not been gathered; CEL is working on it. Deputy Speaker Hunte asked why academic freedom does not also apply to students as it does with instructors to which Vice President Town said she would have more conversations about policies around student accommodations. Following a question from SciSoc President Surdi regarding who has final approval for use of software, the Vice President, Education said the University cannot enforce but advise against it at best.

Councillor Yang disclosed a conflict of interest as he works for the Centre for Teaching Excellence and included some links in the chat to discuss.:  
https://uwaterloo.ca/keep-learning/strategies-remote-teaching/final-exams  
https://uwaterloo.ca/privacy/resources/information-risk-assessment

Vice President Town mentioned Secretariat policy that there should be alternatives to privacy infringement without penalty. In terms of the software a privacy assessment is done by a privacy officer; we could try to get more info about this through normal channels or a FOIA request.

Deputy Speaker Hunte asked if the proctoring software will allow students to go to the washroom curing exams. Vincent responded by saying that software would mark that as suspicious activity and would be flagged as a possible cheating violation, as would taking a drink of water. Councillor Sharma presented concerns that students might not have the resources as some students might not have perfect internet connectivity or might be studying off their phones. Vice President Town said the University is aware and repeated that they are pushing for asynchronous assessments in these times. She went on to say that they are looking into resource financial support through the Student Awards and Financial Aid office. Councillor Ye-Mowe asked if CAPS will be pushing for these changes and Vice President Town responded by saying that CAPS is typically reactionary and they would be good contacts to resolve any issues that arise once these programs start to be used. They have expertise in helping students file petitions and grievances around policy 70 and 71.

Deputy Speaker Hunte introduces the following motion:  
**Whereas** online proctoring software infringes on Student Privacy; and  
**Whereas** students might not have the financial means to buy the required equipment; and  
**Whereas** requiring students to buy compatible equipment would violate University guidelines; and  
**Whereas** the financial cost of providing all students with the required equipment would be prohibitive; and  
**Whereas** students with disabilities may have unique needs as to how they use their computers, and locking down the computer may interfere with accessibility software; and
Whereas students have a right to opt-out of using Turnitin if they have privacy objections; and

Whereas some students have unreliable internet connections; then

Be it resolved that the WUSA objects to the University’s consideration and use of online proctoring software; and

Be it further resolved that Council directs the VP Education to advocate against the use of any online proctoring software in the University; and

Be it further resolved that the University should continue to explore the alternative assessments currently being used.

Deputy Speaker Hunte and Councillor Sharma.

References:
https://web.respondus.com/privacy-policy/

Vice President Town did not object to the spirit of the motion but said there are concerns with the black and white nature of the motion since there are some cases where proctoring is helpful or required. Vincent read a statement about security and privacy concerns around the companies involved. The statement is attached in the appendix. Deputy Speaker Hunte mentioned that MathSoc has a similar position to this motion motion and MathSoc President Wang concurred though said WUSA may have different perspective and commitments to constituents.

An amendment is moved:

Be it resolved that the WUSA objects to the use of online proctoring software due to privacy and security concerns; and

Be it further resolved that Council directs the VP Education to advocate for a policy mandating students have the ability to opt-out of participating in online proctored exams using invigilation software such as ProctorTrack and ProctorU; and

Be it further resolved that the University should continue to strongly encourage instructors to use alternative, more effective assessments, such as open-book and asynchronous exams or final assignments

Vice President Town and Councillor Ye-Mowe.

Councillor Sharma asked if WUSA can ask the University to state the privacy concerns. Deputy Speaker Hunte said that he appreciated the amendment but it seems with this whole movement to introduce the software foreshadows the university taking a step back from their goals to move away from relying so heavily on proctored exams as modes of assessment. Councillor Yang expressed opposition because we cannot compromise on issues regarding student privacy concerns. He went on to say that this is different
from TurnItIn because that involves intellectual property, not privacy; Vincent agreed that Patriot Act access to essays is certainly different from keystrokes and bio metric scans. Vice President Town encouraged votes in favour of the amendment. Deputy Speaker Hunte stated previous thoughts of abstention but that he would vote against the amendment based on constituent feedback.

**Motion fails** with Councillor Yang, MathSoc President Wang, Councillor Sharma, and Councillor Schwarze, noted against; Vice President Abouelnaga in abstention; and Vice President Town in favour.

Back to John’s motion: MathSoc President Wang proposed amendment of agreeable wording from Megan’s amendment, Councillor Sharma seconded

Adopted by *friendly amendment* It reads:

**Be it resolved that** the WUSA objects to the University’s consideration and use of online proctoring software for privacy and security concerns, among others; and

**Be it further resolved that** that Council directs the VP Education to advocate against the use of any online proctoring software in the University; and

**Be it further resolved that** the University should continue to explore the alternative assessments currently being used.

**Motion carries** with Vice President Abouelnaga, Councillor Dong, MathSoc President Wang, Councillor Yang, Councillor Sharma, and Councillor Schwarze noted in favour; Vice President Town, and Councillor Ye-Mowe noted against. Vice President Town expanded upon opposition by saying “I believe students should be permitted to choose between online proctored exams or alternative assessment methods, without penalty so that the benefits of online proctored exams can be obtained and students can protect their privacy.”

**NEW BUSINESS**

**CONCERNS OVER WORKLOAD**

Vice President Town brought forward a discussion topic of concerns over workload, Councillor Sharma seconds the topic. Following a vote, consensus was reached.

Vice President Town mentioned that students are concerned they have more work; they are working all day but not able to complete recommended work. She asked people to keep comments brief and email vped@wusa.ca with longer thoughts. MathSoc President Wang shared sentiment and added that there are other issues with how support is being offered. Councillor Dragusin said that from the Arts, there has been a feeling that work has been longer to ultimately be getting less out of the course; many professors are not making any videos or recordings. Councillor Leo mentioned how there isn’t any direct teaching from profs, but more readings in some cases at St. Jerome’s. Vice President Town seemed to hear that there is higher workload with more content but lack of direction makes learning more difficult. Deputy Speaker Hunte mentioned how typically 3
one-hour lectures would be normal in a week but the exchange of discussion took up some of each hour; now there is less exchange and more content. Councillor Dong mentioned the growth in the number of assessment components to gauge learning outcomes and a disorganized discussion boards are making it harder to stay on track with things. The discussion shifted to some positive solutions instructors have come up with such as more available office hours, students allowed to skip one discussion without penalty, posting all lectures at the start of the week to allow students to move through at own pace, deadline extensions to the end of the academic term, keeping a midterm assessment open for 24 hours so students can choose time of day to start/stop. Councillor Yang asked that good actions be brought to the Centre for Teaching Excellence for recognition.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The next meeting of Students’ Council will be held on July 12th on Microsoft Teams.
- Councillor Sharma asked for a more realistic adjournment time in the agenda, not 11:59pm
- MathSoc President Wang asked that if societies donate to a charity, then do they get tax returns; Vice President Guevara will find more details.

ADJOURNMENT

Be it resolved that the chair adjourns the meeting at 2:25 PM.
Federation of Students’ Council Agenda

Regular 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)
- Guevara, Alana (VP Operations and Finance)
- Town, Megan (VP Education)
- Abouelnaga, Nada (VP Student Life)
- Jolicoeur-Becotte, Marie
- Fatima, Aiman
- Ghuwalewala, Vidyut
- Yanez, Jairo
- Narang, Aryan
- Dragusin, Rebecca
- Manas, Suri
- Couzens, Nathanial (President, ASU)
- Yang, Eumin (Edward)
- Souza, Angela
- Hallen, Frances
- Gondosiswanto, Evelyn
- Ma, Joseph
- Lindstrom-Humphries, Delainey (President, EngSoc A)
- McGee, Ellen (President, EngSoc B)
- Ye-Mowe, Stephanie
- Dhillon, Jaskaran
- Shi, Victoria (President, ESS)
- Schwarz, Matthew
- Dong, Catherine
- Hunte, John
- Sharma, Kanan
Federation of Students  
June 7, 2020

• Ukrani, Mahaveer Jai
• Yates, Andrew
• Zhu, Karl
• Wang, Yuqian (Ina) (President, MathSoc)
• Azam, M. Sikandar
• Dosen, Nick
• Macci, Sumayyah
• Parmar, Mokhash

Expected Absences:
• Singh, Jaineet*
excused*

• 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)
ORDER OF BUSINESS

1 Preliminaries 4
  1.1 Call to order (Attention) 4
  1.2 Territorial Acknowledgement (Information) 4
  1.3 Approval of the Agenda (Decision) 4

2 Approval of the Minutes (Decision) 4

3 Reports 4
  3.1 Executive Reports (Information) 5
  3.2 Board of Directors Report (Information) 5
  3.3 Representative Reports (Information) 5
  3.4 Officers of Council Reports (Information) 6
  3.5 Standing Committees or Commissioners Reports (Information) 6

4 General Orders 6
  4.1 Online Tuition & Fees (Discussion) 6

5 New Business 6

6 Announcements 6

7 Adjournment (11:59PM) 7

Appendices 8
  Appendix A - Executive Reports 9
  Appendix B - Chair of the Board of Directors Report 32
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.

Be it resolved that Council approves the minutes of the March 24, 2020 Winter General Meeting 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)**
2. **Vice President of Operations and Finance (Alana Guevara)**
3. **Vice President of Education (Megan Town)**
   (a) Financial supports for international students.
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.

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 Online Tuition & Fees

It is noted that that online teaching is not the same as in person or hands-on learning, and that for some programs, the hands-on experience is essential.

Submitted By: Jason Chen.

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 July 20th, starting at 10:30AM, 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

7 June 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 my team and I completed our transition. Our team is working hard to continue the work of the previous executive and start the annual planning process. Since the last meeting I have met with the executive and the General Manager to discuss our plans for the upcoming year. I am working diligently to create a draft of the plan for June 19th to be approved by the board before June 30th. I will come prepared to the next council meeting with a presentation.

On May 25th and 26th Megan and I attended the OUSA Welcome Conference. I had an opportunity to discuss spring and fall plans with student union presidents across Ontario. I will continue to connect with student union presidents across Ontario, and across Canada, in the coming weeks.

On May 22nd I worked with Megan and our communications team to launch an informal survey to undergraduate students asking for experiences and questions after the previous fall term announcements. We heard from many students and compiled their answers to use in discussions with University administration. Please continue to share your feedback from your constituents with us. We hope to continue to engage with students via Instagram, Reddit, and Facebook as more information on the fall term becomes available. For COVID-19 related updates, please review WUSA’s response to fall term announcement.

1.1 Senate
Training with the new Undergraduate Senators took place on May 16th. We are meeting regularly to discuss upcoming meetings to better serve undergraduate students. During the May 19th Senate meeting, we received updates on spring convocation, teaching assessments, and received further updates on the fall term. Our caucus asked questions related to fall term programming during the COVID-19 discussions and the Q&A Period with the President.

1.2 Board of Governors
The Board of Governors meeting will occur on June 2nd. I will provide an oral update at council.

1.3 Societies
Societies continue to run this term with the exception of AHSUM, which will resume in the fall term. Any society running events will run online events. I am currently in discussion with the societies about fall term activities. Please see my Committee of Presidents report for more information.

1.4 Committee on Student Mental Health (CoSMH)
The Committee met on May 22nd to discuss the remaining recommendations. I provided updates on WUSA services and answered questions from the committee about student experiences during COVID-19. The committee received presentations from Rob Hunsperger and Troy Glover to determine the completion of recommendation 13. The upcoming meeting will discuss the newly ranked recommendations and priorities for the year.
1.4.1 Recommendation 12
The recommendation 12 working group will move forward with discussions on the creation of an Ombudsman. I will be reviewing the research and reports completed by former executive. The next meeting will determine future research and next steps for the committee.

2.0 Initiatives and Objectives

2.1 Long Range Plan
The Long Range Plan timeline is complete. I am working with various staff to discuss plans and provide direction. The committee will be meeting next week to discuss the timeline and begin staff consultation. More updates to follow.

3.0 Committee Updates

3.1 Committee of Presidents (COPs)
The first meeting of COPS took place on May 27th. We reviewed the Societies Agreement and the Societies Fluctuation Reserve (SFR) to answer any questions from the incoming Presidents. We reviewed any outstanding items from the SFR which will be reviewed at the Committee at the next meeting. The Committee received updates on society activities this term and discussed plans for re-opening C&Ds in the fall. I will be working with the University and receiving updates from the re-opening task force and provide more updates on re-opening plans at the next meeting of council.

The Committee discussed an item from a recent MathSoc Council meeting and the April Council meeting. The Committee decided that we will not revisit the EngSoc A&B discussion as the committee believes that A-Soc and B-Soc represent distinct groups of students, and this was the consensus in the room.

3.2 Policies and Procedures Committee
The first meeting of PPC took place on May 26th. The Committee discussed priorities for the year and provided timelines for policy and procedures. We delegated policy and procedure to various committees and commissions including the AVP Equity, ARMC, BAC, CLAC, and EAC. Each committee was provided direction from the Committee.
Vice President, Education
Council Report

Megan Town
June 2020

wusa.ca
200 University Ave W, Student Life Centre, Room 1116, Waterloo, ON N2L 3G1
1.0 Monthly Summary

1.1 General
The last month has flown by! I’m settling into my role, continually communicating with our stakeholders and thinking about my goals for the year. On the up and coming, I’m working on some content for OUSA and continuing to focus on concerns surrounding spring/fall term.

As I’ve been telling absolutely everyone, I’m incredibly thrilled to be working with my team of AVPs this year. So far, they’ve blown me away with their initiative, creative ideas and hard work.

1.2 Actionables
- Promote our form for raising teaching and course quality concerns.
- Keep asking questions and giving feedback!!!

1.3 Communications
- My Instagram takeover was fun! (if you think that talking about CESB is fun)
- Article about what we’re doing to support international students

2.0 Projects & Goals
Stay tuned for upcoming plans! Some of the advocacy priorities I’m considering for the upcoming year are student workload, education affordability and teaching/course quality.

3.0 Key Meetings
I invite questions on details about any of these meetings.

3.1 WUSA
- Ongoing team meetings and one-on-ones with my AVPs and CAPS Coordinators
- Meeting with full-time staff about online town hall plans for the spring term and marketing plans for CAPS

3.2 University
- Initial meeting with Community Relations team
- Senate Undergrad Council
Discussed a more formal framework for delegating important decisions down to the faculty and department levels so they can respond to COVID-19

- Undergrad Operations Committee
- Dave DeVidi (Associate Vice President, Academic)
- Cathy Newell Kelly (Registrar)
  - Looking for any gaps that exist in financial supports for international students. Is there anything not covered by this bursary?
- Centre for Extended Learning
  - Very few professors are using online proctored exams – the university is encouraging professors to use alternative assessment methods such as assignments, open-book exams and essays
- Initial meeting with Feridun’s office

3.3 External

- Spoke at the House of Commons’ Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities for their study on the government’s response to COVID-19
  - Here’s a video of me answering some questions!
- OUSA Welcome Conference and first Steering Committee meeting
- First UCRU board meeting
- Little interview with CBC about co-op students
- Town and Gown outreach meeting

4.0 Committee Updates

4.1 Education Advisory Council

I met with EAC in the last week of May. We had some good chats about spring and fall term academic concerns and divided into working groups to start reviewing Policy 22, 26, 27, 33, 34 and 44.

4.2 Co-op Students’ Council

CSC met towards the end of May. I wasn’t able to be there the whole time but the meeting focused on the flexible pathways for the spring and fall.
Vice President Student Life
Council Report

June 2020

Prepared by: Nada Abouelnaga

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

1.1 Services

- MATES is hosting virtual group silent study sessions
- Bike Centre is getting ready for a modified opening of the center as of June 1st. The plan is to have up to 4 volunteers to help with appointments and bike rentals
- Glow, MATES, RAISE, Women’s Centre: Offering online peer support through appointments and opening the space for students to access the services through office hours
- Pride Month:
  - Glow is planning to host a virtual UW Pride Parade
  - 4 weekly events
    - Tea Time Talks
    - Movie Night Netflix Watch Party
    - Game Night
  - Drag Club will potentially partner with the Toronto Alumni chapter to host a virtual Drag Show
  - Possible collaboration with EngiQueers to do a speed meeting event
  - As requested by Councillor Sharma (rather last minute), a report of service operations thus far has been attached to my council report. See below: Section 4.
- OCC don training is live for incoming dons

1.2 Clubs

- Clubs and Societies Community launched mid-May. The idea of this was to substitute Clubs & Societies Days.
- Approximately 35 clubs have submitted their Term Acknowledgment Form and are active in our Clubs Admin System thus far
1.3 Special Events

- Month of May:
  - Trivia Tuesdays
  - WUSA’s Got Talent

- Coming up:
  - Trivia Tuesdays will continue through June and then student engagement will be evaluated
  - WUSA’s Quarantine Cook-off
  - Virtual Bingo
  - Financial Literacy Workshop
  - E-sports Tournament

1.4 Orientation

- Orientation Steering Committee put out direction for online programming in the Fall for incoming students

1.5 Additional Updates

- Trans and Racialized Survey closed as of Friday, May 22nd.
  - Next steps include examining the responses from the survey, creating a report to be used to aid in creating online focus groups where some respondents will be invited to participate in
  - RAISE and the AVP Equity are working to deliver statements pertaining to the incidents of anti-Black racism that have come to light in the past few weeks

2.0 Key Meetings

- Campus Organization for Campus Activities (COCA)
- Orientation Steering Committee – Resource member
- Orientation Leader Sustainability Training
3.0 Committee Updates

3.1 Internal Administration Committee
The committee has met and has been transitioned from the previous IAC. We also went over a few outstanding club applications and constitution amendments.

3.2 Campus Life Advisory Committee
The committee has met for training and goal setting.

4.0 Supporting Documents

4.1 Summary of Service Operations: Spring 2020

Summary of Spring 2020
Compiled by: Brendan Lowther, Services Manager, WUSA
May 29, 2020

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ICSN ...................................................................................10
WSP .....................................................................................11
OCC ......................................................................................11
Spring 2020 - Overview

This is a brief overview of the Student-Run Services for the Spring Term. With the current climate, our services are shifting rapidly to encourage online engagement and support through a variety of ways. The success of this term hinges on the adaptation of our coordinators and volunteers to find unique ways to connect with students. However, it is important to note the following:

- As of this report, we are at the end of Week 3 of the term. Most services were only able to get up and running fully by the end of the 2nd week.
- Peer support client needs build as the term goes on. Particularly with the current covid-19 situation, we expect more students to reach out as they work to find ways to cope and the awareness is increased of our services over time.
- Marketing is an important factor in bringing awareness to the services being available as there is a pervasive attitude that WUSA is closed since the campus is mostly closed and people are not recommended to be on campus.
- In many cases using the data from last year at this time to this year isn’t comparable, however it is provided here for your information.

Our service coordinators and volunteers are doing their best to change their course given the short turnaround time and vast uncertainty of their given task. I commend them on how they have taken on this challenge and are rising up to meet it with great confidence. I have no doubt that our services will continue to meet the needs of our students and flourish and exceed expectations.
Current Statistics:

Active Providing Supports:

- **Glow** – 2 Coordinators, 5 Execs, 8 Volunteers (Providing Peer Support and online engagement)
  - Available 20 hrs/week for peer support
- **Women’s Centre** – 1 Coordinator, 4 Execs, 10 Volunteers (Providing Peer Support and online engagement)
  - Available 30 hrs/week for peer support
- **MATES** – 2 Coordinators, 7 Execs, 29 Volunteers (Providing Peer Support and online engagement)
  - Peer Support available in 9 languages
  - Available 55 hrs/week, Monday to Friday and 15 hrs total Sat/Sun
- **RAISE** – 2 Coordinators, 4 Execs (Providing Peer Support and online engagement)
  - Available 16 hrs/week for peer support
- **Food Support Service** – 2 Coordinators, 5 Execs (Providing Hampers via Turnkey, working with housing partners, and Online Engagement)
  - Hampers available at Turnkey desk during SLC operating hours
- **Bike Centre** – 1 Coordinator, 5 Execs, 5 Volunteers (though only 4 total will be working in the centre at the moment)
  - Opening next week to provide rentals and appointment based service hours
- **Co-op Connection** – 1 Coordinator, 6 Regional Ambassadors (online engagement through regional sites, virtual games and events)

Active Internally and Externally

- **ICSN** – 1 Coordinator, 3 Execs (providing online engagement and planning for future including expansion of supports for International Students)
- **CRT** – 2 Coordinators, 3 Execs (providing some online engagement, planning for future shift to Wellness Services, implementation of Naloxone and Epi, online training)
- **WSP**
  - **Campus Compost** – 2 Managers (online engagement and internally meeting to discuss future plans with Sustainability office)

Active Internally

- **OCC** – 2 Coordinators, 34 Dons (Dons are going through online training at the moment)
- **WSP**
  - **Clothing Project** – 1 Manager (currently working to gather more information from residences about clothing, connecting with Sustainability office to re-proposal SAF funding for store items)
### Individual Services Overview

#### Women’s Centre

- **Online Engagements**
  - 4 new Facebook page likes
  - 15 Facebook post likes (across 3 posts); 3 Facebook post shares
  - 1 Facebook message (someone recommended resource for us to share)
  - 9 new Instagram followers
  - 1 Instagram comment; each post gets about 30-40 likes
  - 1 response to an Instagram story

- **Peer Support**
  - Provided peer support to 1 person

- **Inquiries about the service and offerings for spring term**
  - Provided details about what we’re offering this term to EngSoc
  - Attended a meeting with the Gender and Sexual Diversity Working Group (includes the Equity Office and other representatives from across campus) in early May, informed them of our plans for the term

- **Other engagements (requests to partner, outside organization connections etc.)**
  - SHORE Centre will be doing a presentation for us about sexual health, hopefully sometime in mid-June (waiting for a response about date/time)
  - Connected with Glow about co-hosting a Pride Event (maybe an online Zine making session, but details TBD)

- **Engagement Plans**
  - Early June (likely next week) – Volunteer social (internal event)
  - We’re planning a casual online social/study session; may repeat this as an external event if it goes well internally
  - Late June or Early July – Tea Talk on Zoom, discussing menstrual health and the documentary “Period. End of Sentence.” (free to watch on YouTube). Hoping to have date confirmed by the end of the week.
  - May do a second tea talk in July (theme ideas: body hair; self care in isolation/gendered narratives surrounding self care), if time permits
  - Sometime in June – co-hosting a pride event with Glow
  - Hopefully early July – info session/online workshop with SASC
  - Mid-July (tentatively Friday July 17th, 7-9pm) – Instagram live poetry slam
  - Other internal events/activities (things we’re doing to keep volunteers active, given the low demand for peer support so far):
    - Bi-weekly email to update volunteers about what the exec team is working on, what’s coming up, what they can get involved in, etc.
Volunteer project – Feminist Highlights for social media (volunteers are helping us with our Feminist Highlights social media posts, by suggesting people to highlight on social media)

- Number of volunteers and execs
  - 1 coordinator, 4 execs, 10 volunteers

MATES (Mentor Assistance Through Education and Support)

- MATES Team (Number of volunteers and executives for the Spring 2020 term)
  - 29 volunteers
  - 7 executives
- Number of Peer Support Sessions Provided: 2
- Number of followers: 2

**Engagements**

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<th>Winter 2020</th>
<th>May 2020</th>
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<tr>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>788 likes</td>
<td>794 likes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twitter</td>
<td>210 followers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Instagram</td>
<td>587 followers</td>
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**Inquiries**

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<tr>
<th>Type of Inquiries</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Social Media</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peer Support or an Appointment</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteering with MATES</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>MATES Spring service</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborations</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Collaborations – Potential Events (5):
- Warrior Recreation (conditioning coordinator) for de-stress yoga
- Move Your Mind
- ICSN
- Co-op Connection
- E-Sports

Services that reached out to MATES (3):
- Wellness Coordinator
- D’Nikhah Smith from Community XP
- Co-op connection

Services we reached out to (4)
- GLOW
- Women’s Center
- RAISE
- Residence

Glow Centre for Sexual and Gender Diversity

- Online Engagement:
  - Follower Gained:
    - Instagram: 10 followers (659 -> 669)
    - Facebook: (1612 -> 1615)
  - Engagement via post/social media
  - Followers gave us suggestions about Monday Funday (Quilling and scrapbooking)
  - People asking about what event we are having during Pride Month
  - Followers suggest us providing more resources to deal with homophobia/transphobia/dysphoria since people might be going back to places that are not supportive or safe
- Engagement through event:
  - Game Night: total of 6 people showed up to play Skribbl
  - Origami and Craft night: 5 people showed up
- Number of People accessed Peer Support: 0
- Inquiries for Spring Term:
- Support from Toronto Alumni Chapter that would like to help Glow promote Pride Event
• Relevant Engagement from Other Organizations
  o UW Library would like to collab with Glow to make several book recommendations for Pride Month and would like to help Glow promote Peer Support service
  o Enginqueers would like to collab with Glow to do a speed-dating(meeting) event with Glow
  o We would consider collab with Women’s Center for zine making
  o Drag Club would like to come up with Drag Show for Pride

• Engagement Plans:
  o Raising Flags for Pride Month in UW Campus
  o 4 weekly events planned:
    ▪ TTT: talking about Pride and LGBTQ-related issue
    ▪ Board Game Night: Playing online Video game and talk about Pride
    ▪ Movie night: Netflix Party, watch a LGBTQ related documentary
    ▪ Monday Funday: (Flexible, might be Tutorial for ASL signing for a Pride-related song)
    ▪ Comin up with IG ideas (meme Monday, what Pride means to people, articles about successful queer people that inspire us)
    ▪ Drag club would be willing to do something- we want a drag show but we want to pay them.
    ▪ Instagram takeover with math lesson- tiktok @onlinekyne / IG @onlinekyne- also needs to be paid
    ▪ Engiqueers is wanting to do a speed dating(meeting) event that we could collab on
    ▪ Would consider collab with women’s centre for zine making

• Number of Volunteers & Execs:
  o Volunteers: 8
  o Execs: 5
RAISE (Racial Advocacy for Inclusion, Solidarity and Equity)

Online Engagement:
- Facebook - 5 new
- Instagram – 0 new
- Inquiries via insta – 5
- Inquiries about service events - 10

Upcoming Engagement plans
- Quarantine stories
- East Asian discrimination due to COVID - online campaign
- Statement around George Floyd and other viral racially motivated deaths
- Pride campaign
- Social media contest (if money allows)
- Vibes Nights online events

Peer Support
- Hours Available: 16hrs/week
- Peer Support Prvided So far: 0 (we only just started officially promoting last week)

Number of Vols & Execs
- Volunteers: 8
- Execs: 5
Food Support Service (formerly Food Bank)

Hampers Provided since March 13th – 114

Number of online engagements
- Facebook followers: +4
- Instagram followers: +11
  (Twitter wasn’t active this term)

Number of inquiries
- Emails responded: 5
- Social media messages: 1

- Math Soc, Student Success Office, and Faculty of Environment reached out around the beginning of the term and asked if we need food donation.
- The Athletics and Rec Department has reached out to us regarding a food drive that they are planning to host in order to help raise some food donations for the Food Support System.

Engagement Plans:
- This term, we plan to hopefully collaborate with others groups and services (ie GLOW, RAISE) online to promote the food support system. We will also be updating our social medias regularly to stay engaged with students. Hopefully, we can also host some competitions/giveaways on our social media as well.

We have 0 volunteers and 5 execs this term.
Co-op Connection

- Online Engagement
  - Chapters were rebranded on Facebook due to Covid-19 and students working from home. We created 3 regions that students could use to connect with others. An email from CEE was sent out on May 25th to encourage people to join the regions they identified with the most
  - +37 members joined Western Chapter Facebook Page
  - +80 joined Ontario Chapter Facebook Page
  - +15 joined Eastern Chapter Facebook Page
  - Increase of 69 followers since May 1st on Instagram
- Partnership requests from Alumni, CEE
- Promotional Strategies and Engagement:
  - Online Bingo Card
  - Jackbox Party
  - Trivia Night
  - Skibble
  - Movie Night
  - Online Cards
  - Other online engagements still to be determined
- Regional Ambassadors:
  - 3 for Ontario
  - 2 for Eastern Canada
  - 2 for Western Canada
- Online Events:
  - Each Region will be hosting the following
    - Beginning of Term
    - Middle of Term
    - End of Term
Bike Centre

Focus is currently on getting open and renting bikes. Opening will happen starting next week using appointment-based visits. Rental bikes are also up and running and we have had two people book already with more interest each day.

- online engagements
  - IG followers increase = 0
  - FB (no data from EOT report, FB says 679 for Apr 1) = 10
  - IG comment on post = 3 people
  - FB direct message = 11 people
  - FB engagement stat = 73

- Rental bike registered and paid for = 2
- Number of inquiries about your service and offerings
  - 10 (FB)
  - 6 (email)

- We had one Imprint report media request, and social media connection with UW sustainability office.
- Engagement plans
  - More planned social media connection with UW sustainability office during the bike month
  - Online engagement through potential contests

Team size: 5 execs + 5 volunteers (may increase if operation requires)
CRT (Campus Response Team)

Major projects this term include:

- providing some online engagement
- planning for future shift to Wellness Services
- implementation of Naloxone and Epi online training

Engagement Online

- 10 new Instagram followers since the beginning of spring term
- 4 new Facebook page followers
- Average of 35 likes on Instagram posts
- One new message on Facebook inquiring about volunteering

Upcoming engagements

- "Teammate Tuesdays" where different members of our team are invited to make an Instagram post about how they're keeping healthy while staying at home,
- "How-to" posts that will feature wellness related tutorials (the first of which was our DIY face mask tutorial),
- reminder posts about how to become first-aid certified to apply to our team in future terms.
- Additionally, we are hoping to work with WUSA marketing to create infographics about common injuries/illnesses that occur in summer time and how to treat them (eg. heat stroke, burns, etc.).
- We will also be trying to engage with incoming first year students through Facebook groups.

For volunteers, we have 32 active members and we have hired 3 executives for the term.

ICSN (International & Canadian Student Network)

- ICSN – 1 Coordinator, 3 Execs
- Major projects for this term include:
  - providing online engagement
  - planning for future including expansion of supports for International Students
WSP (WUSA Sustainability Project)
- Campus Compost – 2 Managers (online engagement and internally meeting to discuss future plans with Sustainability office)
- Clothing Project – 1 Manager (currently working to gather more information from residences about clothing, connecting with Sustainability office to re-propose SAF funding for store items)

OCC (Off-Campus Community)
- Not Active in Spring term other than online training of Dons

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4.2 Summary of Service Operations: Spring 2019
- Food Bank
  - Supplied to Students via Food Bank – 162 Visits (please note during Spring 2019 we were still set up as a pick your own items up to 10lbs per visit)
  - User Experiences – 660 (EOT Cupboard Cleanout, BBQ, Flower Sale, etc)
- Peer Support Summary
  - Hours Offered:
    - RAISE – 60 Hours
    - Glow – 93 Hours
    - Women’s Centre – 60 Hours
    - MATES – 660 Hours
  - Sessions Provided
    - RAISE – 20 formal (80 informal)
    - Glow – 43
    - Women’s Centre – 7
    - MATES – 56
  - Number of Peer Support Trained Volunteers
    - RAISE – 15
    - Glow – 11
    - Women’s Centre – 24
    - MATES – 28
- Bike Centre
  - Approximately 350 Visitors (no sales records available at the moment to provide specific number)
  - Sold 23 Auction Bikes
  - Rented 33 bikes
  - User Experiences – 153
- Glow
  - 420 Office Hours
  - User Experiences – 749
- Women’s Centre
  - 600 Office Hours
  - User Experiences – 872
- RAISE
  - 420 Office Hours
  - User Experiences – 630
- MATES
  - 660 Office Hours
  - User Experiences – 581
- Co-op Connection
  - 7 Cities Supported (Toronto, San Fran, Boston, NYC, London, KW, UW)
  - 321 Students Engaged in person
- ICSN
  - 253 User Experiences Provided (Niagara Falls, Babble Cafes, Cultural Connections, etc)
  - 13 Volunteers and Execs, 2 Coordinators
- CRT
  - 24 First Aid responses
  - 228 Service Hours
  - 128 User Experiences Provided (Cassim, Training, Support)

Not Supplied
- OCC (they are not active in Spring other than training incoming Dons)
- Volunteer Centre – No longer a Service in Spring 2020
- Sustainable Campus Initiative – Changed to WSP Spring 2020

End of Summary
APPENDIX B - CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

Council Report of the Chair of the Board

Benjamin Easton

7 June 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 Meetings of the Board and General Updates

Board held its first meeting on 14 May 2020 at which committee and officer appointments were ratified. The Board passed clerical amendments to its Committees Procedure and discussed the status of its governing documents more generally. Some Directors volunteered to revise Board Procedures which have passed their review date.

In the past month, many Board committees held their transition meetings where committee chairs were elected. Additionally, I met with President Simpson and outgoing Chairman Plante to hear his advice for my year as Chair of the Board.

The June Regular Meeting of Board is scheduled for 9 June 2020.

2.0 Attendance at Board Meetings

All Directors were present at the 14 May 2020 Regular Meeting of Board.

3.0 Closing

As always, feel free to reach out with questions or concerns at any time at chair@wusa.ca.
June 5th, 2020

COPs Report

1. Background
On June 2nd, the Environment Students’ Society reached out to Counselling Services inquiring about services designed to support black students affected by systemic anti-black racism, and otherwise racially marginalized students. Counselling services advised to defer students to UW RAISE, a student volunteer-run group on campus, to provide resources for students affected by marginalization. The Committee of Presidents co-signed an email sent to Counselling Services on June 3rd calling for proactive action, and a cessation to the reliance on UW RAISE to fight racism on campus.

2. Involvement

3. Statement
The following email was sent to Cheri Bilitz, Interim Director of UWaterloo Counselling Services on June 3rd:

Hello Cheri,

I called Counselling Services yesterday morning seeking resources to share with black and otherwise racially marginalized students on campus. I was told that Counselling Services had already reached out to UW RAISE and recommended that I direct students seeking specific anti-racism support to them. Otherwise, I was told that students may request to speak to a POC counsellor.

I have faith in the counsellors working for Campus Wellness, and have personally had many extremely rewarding and positive experiences with Counselling Services. I am deeply grateful for the level of service offered to students on our campus. With that said, however, I believe it to be a disservice both to UW RAISE and Counselling Services to defer black students seeking tailored support to UW RAISE at this time. UW RAISE is run entirely by unpaid students and while they do incredible work, it is not their responsibility, nor do they have the resources to be the main providers of support for racialized students. The volunteers in these supporting roles are themselves disproportionately affected by the current political climate and require support from their institution. Furthermore, I have faith that the team at Counselling Services is experienced and equipped to develop novel methods to provide support for students in need. I appreciate that you recognize the importance of diversity and can offer POC counsellors for students who may be more comfortable accessing support from them, but the pressures faced by our students demand a more significant response. I am certain that Counselling Services is providing quality care for our students, but students have called for a more multifaceted approach to begin addressing the systemic racism that surrounds us.

For now, it may be beneficial to reach out to our WUSA President at pres@wusa.ca to speak about next steps for Counselling Services to offer special support to students on RAISE who are currently working to respond to the large volume of requests from all departments at the University. Perhaps Counselling Services could provide support by helping UW RAISE with the peer sessions they are currently offering for marginalized students. Offering trained counsellors to mediate those conversations could be a good starting point. The faculty societies are eager to help contribute in any
June 5th, 2020

way possible, and would be grateful to connect more about student needs and perspectives.

I appreciate that the counsellor I spoke to (I believe it was Sanam) was so open and offered to follow up with potential resources gathered from tomorrow’s protests, but I do believe that it would be extremely valuable to have student voices help direct the next steps in how to better support students.

Engineering Society A, Engineering Society B, Science Society, Mathematics Society, Arts Student Union, St. Jerome’s University, Conrad Grebel, and our WUSA president all share this sentiment and are eager for change.

Thank you for your continued efforts to support all students on our campus, and I look forward to hearing from you,

Victoria Shi

4. Next steps
On June 5th, Cheri Bilitz replied with the following:

Hi Victoria,

Thank you so much for your email. I am glad that you reached out to Counselling Services, seeking resources to share with Black and other racially marginalized students on campus. I am glad to hear you have had positive experiences with our service and that you reached out to us again.

As you mentioned in your email, it is important to have student voices included in conversations on how best to help students. It is clear how passionate you and many others are about this. Thank you for your important role in instituting change, and reaching out to me to see how we can do this together. We are also eager to hear the responses of Trans and Racialized Student Health Survey conducted by WUSA, to better meet the needs of students.

Thank you for including the email for Abbie Simpson, WUSA President. I will be reaching out to start this important conversation.

Talk soon,

Cheri
Tuition & Online Delivery
Background on UW’s budget

• University budgeting for $3.5 million deficit
  • Implemented a 15% holdback in response to COVID-19

• Tuition accounts for ~63% of revenue
  • The rest from operating grants – these have not increased substantially in recent years

• Paying salaries, wages and benefits accounts for ~71% of expenses
  • Most of the rest goes to supplies, enterprise software, maintenance, professional services, etc.

Why not advocate to lower tuition?

• We don’t think this is a feasible ask
• Affordability is a much bigger question that we are working on
  • Provincial – targeted free tuition, increasing operating grants
  • Federal – tuition grants
  • University – accountability in fees
• Research shows that learning outcomes can be achieved through online learning
  • [http://www.heqco.ca/SiteCollectionDocuments/How_Online_Learning_Affects_Productivity-ENG.pdf](http://www.heqco.ca/SiteCollectionDocuments/How_Online_Learning_Affects_Productivity-ENG.pdf)
Key concern: teaching quality

- Promoting this form to get feedback
  - Concerns with specific courses & instructors
- Getting feedback from council
  - Best practices for students

Talk to our constituents → Feedback on effective teaching → Communicate to UW admin & faculties → They direct instructors
Average U of S fees dropping $18 for undergrads in fall semester

Author of the article:
Saskatoon StarPhoenix

Publishing date:
May 29, 2020 • 2 minute read

An average undergraduate student at the University of Saskatchewan will see enough of a reduction on their fees this fall to pay for a movie and popcorn whenever theatres are reopened.

The university on Friday announced that a typical undergrad student enrolled in the fall semester will pay $18 less than in the 2019-20 school year — an average decrease of 0.2 per cent.

The average graduate student, meanwhile, will see an increase of 0.4 per cent — or $21.

The university said it has worked “with a variety of service providers” and made the changes “in combination with the previously announced tuition freeze for 2020-21.”
Earlier this month, the university addressed what it called “an unprecedented time for members of our campus community” by announcing the freeze for a majority of its programs in the 2020-21 academic year.

Student fees are used to maintain programs, services and supports for students at the U of S. According to the administration, the fees for the fall term “were determined following broad consultation between (the school) and all service providers, including the University of Saskatchewan Students’ Union (USSU) and Graduate Students’ Association, to ensure that services currently offered and services expected to show increased demand over the term are fully supported financially and readily accessible to students as needed.”

Article content continued
Undergrad students will pay 50 per cent less toward the students’ union (USSU) infrastructure fee, while the USSU student fee will stay the same as last school year. According to the U of S, all students will pay 25 per cent less in athletics and recreation fees. The student union fee for the fall will be $48.06, while the infrastructure fee will be $32.22.

“We are sensitive to the financial challenges students are experiencing during this extraordinary time and hope these measures will alleviate some pressure for students and their families,” U of S provost and vice-president academic Anthony Vannelli said in a statement.

The USSU, in a statement posted to its website, said it exists to serve and support students and also “to protect and maintain the integrity of quality, accessible public education.”

According to the USSU, the “reductions are made possible by financial reserves and investments that we are able to draw from for short term support.”

MORE ON THIS TOPIC
'An unprecedented time': U of S implements tuition freeze for 2020-21 school year
Complete coverage: COVID-19 pandemic
Students graduating university during the COVID-19 pandemic are being forced to adapt
According to ProctorU, if you vote for this motion, you are a security threat. Of course, that’s nonsense, yet that didn’t stop ProctorU from threatening the UC Santa Barbara Faculty Association after they criticized ProctorU’s lack of meaningful privacy protections. According to the law firm that represents ProctorU, using the word “ProctorU” without their permission, quoting from, and linking to their privacy policy amounts to copyright infringement. According to ProctorU’s law firm, the mere act of criticizing ProctorU during this pandemic is, and I quote, “directly impacting emergency efforts to mitigate civil disruption”. These claims are ridiculous, and have no legal basis. They are merely a bullying tactic from ProctorU to harass critics. However, since I didn’t opt-out of the WUSA Student Legal Protection Program, I am not scared of ProctorU’s lawyers.

What I am scared of, is the University’s use of ProctorU and similar software such as Proctortrack. Similarly to how ProctorU harasses and bullies critics, the use of such software is simply an effort to bully and harass students, infringe on their privacy rights, and make them feel unsafe in their own homes.

This software is trivial to bypass, and accomplishes nothing to ensure academic integrity. Quite frankly, I am sick of this University’s pattern of throwing around vague words to confuse critics. Whether it’s screaming “academic freedom” and “academic integrity” at students concerned their privacy rights are being violated, or “fiduciary responsibility” at students who are concerned about financial misconduct and environmental degradation, the University of Waterloo administration has demonstrated a continued pattern of ignoring student concerns by throwing around vague phrases that offer no justification of their reprehensible practices.

ProctorU stores student data in the United States of America, which puts student’s personal information within reach of the USA PATRIOT Act, an anti-privacy law that allows the United States government to compel companies to hand over data without notifying the person whose private information is being accessed. This alone should require the University to mandate that all instructors provide alternatives to ProctorU for any student who requests it, as is already done with Turnitin. Indeed, the University’s existing policy of requiring that students concerned about their privacy are able to use alternatives to Turnitin demonstrates that it is possible to ensure academic integrity without violating student privacy.

Proctortrack, the other privacy-invading application the University is considering using, fails to even list all the personal information that is collected from students in their privacy policy. The list of personal information collected by Proctortrack in their privacy policy is prefaced with the phrase, and I quote “may include, but is not limited to”.

That vague statement means absolutely nothing. ProctorU, Proctortrack, and all similar applications are merely pieces of spyware, which exist solely to surveil students and incite fear and division. It is completely immoral for the University to require, or indeed even allow, such spyware to be used at this school. I
expect my school to uphold human rights and dignity, not to oppress them. If the University of Waterloo does not immediately reverse their decision to allow the use of online proctoring spyware, I would like to see the Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association without hesitation, and along with the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance, proceed with a class action lawsuit against all Ontario universities who are using this pandemic as an excuse to push surveillance and privacy violations onto their students.

The use of this software is not something that is merely being considered for use in final exams this term. At present, the Faculty of Mathematics plans to proceed with privacy violations in CO 342 on June 24th. It is imperative that WUSA act immediately to defend students in this course, as well as the three biology and three engineering courses that are using online proctoring spyware this term.