Federation of Students’ Council Minutes

ONLINE, MICROSOFT TEAMS

Chair: President Simpson  Secretary: Alana Guevara

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present*:

- Simpson, Abbie (President)
- 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
- Ukrami, Mahaveer Jai
- Jolicoeur-Becotte, Marie
- Schwarze, Matthew
- Town, Megan (VP, Education)
- Ahmed, Mehida
- Parmar, Mokhash
- Abouelnaga, Nada (VP, Student Life)
- Roxas, Niks
- Dragusin, Rebecca
- Leo, Shanelle
- Ye-Mowe, Stephanie
- Macci, Sumayyah
- Rehmanji, Taher (President, SoPhS)
- Ikeno, Vicky (Representative, RASC)
- Shi, Victoria (President, ESS)
- Ghuwalewala, Vidyut
- Wang, Yuqian (Ina) (President, MathSoc)
* remote | † late

The following members were absent:

- Fatima, Aiman*
- Singh, Jaineet
- Suri, Manas
- Azamm, M. Sikandar
- Couzens-Brown, Nathanial (President, ASU)*
- Dosen, Nick
- * regrets

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

- Small, Jason
- Gerrits, Matthew

**PRELIMINARIES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A quorum being present, President Simpson called the meeting to order at 12:44 PM.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Speaker:**

*Be it resolved that* Council elects President Simpson as Speaker.

*President Simpson and Deputy Speaker Hunte.*

Motion carries

**Secretary:**

President Simpson nominated Vice President Guevara and she accepted. Councillor Schwarze nominated Councillor Sharma and he declined.

*Be it resolved that* Council elects Vice President Guevara as Secretary.

*President Simpson and Deputy Speaker Hunte.*

Motion carries

**Deputy Speaker:**

Councillor Sharma nominated John Hunte, accepted; President Simpson nominated Councillor Schwarze, declined; Assistant Secretary Gondosiswanto nominated herself; as did Councillor Zhu and Councillor Ukrani.

*Be it resolved that* Council elects Councillor John Hunte as Deputy Speaker.

*Councillor Sharma and Vice President Guevara.*

Motion carries
Assistant Secretary:
Councillor Sharma nominated Councillor Yang, declined; Assistant Secretary Gondosiswanto nominated herself; Councillor Shi nominated Councillor Zhu, accepted.

**Be it resolved that** Council elects Assistant Secretary Gondosiswanto as Assistant Secretary.
*Councillor Ye-Mowe and Councillor Yang.*

**Motion carries**

**Ratification of Society & Pro Tem Designates**

Renison Academic Students Council
Outgoing chair of Council Jason Small mentioned that this is a routine motion of ratification and council shall not block.

**Be it resolved that** Council ratifies Victoria (Vicky) Ikeno as designate for the Renison Academic Students Council for the Spring 2020 term.
*MathSoc President Wang and Assistant Secretary Gondosiswanto.*

**Motion carries**

**Approval of the Agenda**

The Speaker suggested that approval of the minutes would be taken out of the agenda as there are no minutes to approve. President Simpson also wants to add an election of a councillor to the Chief Returning Officer hiring panel.

**Be it resolved that** Council amends the agenda to remove the approval of minutes and add election of a councillor to the CRO hiring panel (as part of item 7.1).

**Motion carries**

The speaker assumes the agenda as amended.

**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 said the team has just finished their first week and are finishing up transition. There is a Board of Directors meeting coming up and the execs focus will be on their annual plan preparation. This plan will be presented at the June Meeting of Council.

Vice President, Education (Town)

Vice President Town noted that she and former VPED Matt Gerrits have been invited to speak at the House of Commons Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development, and the Status of Persons with Disabilities. She has been preparing speaking notes and a brief; details on how this goes will be shared in the next council meeting. The topic will be the government’s response to Covid 19. CESB has not yet been implemented so that will be a highlight in the meeting. Deputy Speaker Hunte asked if it will be a priority to ask the government to open up CESB to all students, not just domestic. Vice President Town affirmed that the inclusion of international students is an important part of the brief.

Councillor Yanez Vasquez asked about tuition deadline; it seems that it had not changed even though some international students who get help from their home governments have had support delayed because of the Covid response. He asked Megan to talk to the university about moving the deadline. Vice President Town said there have not been discussions about moving the deadline but they are looking to make a final decision about fall before June 1st. If international students cannot make the deadline, Vice President Guevara may be able to direct them to emergency bursaries and loans. Moving the deadline is not likely feasible as there are a lot of other cash flows relying on that deadline.

With respect to international students, Megan wants to increase the amount they may ask for from the Covid support fund now that domestic students can start CESB.

Councillor Ye-Mowe asked about municipal affairs commissioner and how there is not one listed. Megan said this is a budget decision as well as the view that there would be minimal work right now with so many aspects of the portfolio on shutdown. The duties are being absorbed by Vice President Town and AVP provincial/federal. This decision will be reviewed in the fall.

Councillor Sharma asked how much of the emergency fund has been used and how much is left. Vice President Town was unfamiliar with the totals and will get back to Kanan on this.

Vice President, Student Life (Abouelnaga)

Vice President Abouelnaga reported that the Food Bank has changed its name to the Food Support Service. Next, the Trans and Racialized Student survey will be extended
Councillor Sharma asked about how Nada’s report mentions orientation and co-op. He asked if the student working in the co-op position had been reduced to part-time hours. Nada says it referred to a potential collaboration with the department but they have not confirmed any details yet.

Vice President, Operations & Finance (Guevara)

Vice President Guevara mentioned how work is coming together on the draft budget. She is communicating with societies and GSA to see what Covid support they can apply for. Thus far it has been a lot of transition meetings. Councillor Yang asked about the Bombshelter space survey and what info was trying to be gathered with this second survey. Vice President Guevara said she would follow up with the marketing research team and mentioned that WUSA has ongoing meetings with plant ops to understand the timeline for the bomber project. MathSoc President Wang asked about possibly starting a special committee with the VP Finances of each society to gather everyone on the same page for budgets. Vice President Guevara said she would look into if it is feasible and that she would get back to MathSoc President Wang. Councillor Ye-Mowe asked about iNews being put on Uber Eats as “WUSA-mart”. Vice President Guevara said it is complex politics around HR. She will look into how it operates and judge whether it should continue.

Board of Directors Report

Chairman Easton reported that the first Meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday 14th May, 2020 and that he looks forward to submitting a report on that meeting at the June Council Meeting.

Representative Reports

Applied Health Sciences Caucus

There were no updates or questions under this report.

Arts Caucus

There were no updates or questions under this report.

Engineering Caucus

Councillor Yang reported that EngSoc has a new batch of councillors and that they are navigating the movement of their meetings to an online forum.

Environment Caucus

Councillor Ye-Mowe expressed that they were trying to figure out what the Spring term would look like as far as student involvement and advocacy efforts.
**Mathematics Caucus**

MathSoc President Wang reported that their first council meeting takes place on the evening of Monday, 11th of May. They have an upcoming by-election to fill certain seats and are in the planning process of online events for the Spring term. They are hoping to continue their Thursday Games Night. As they have a large international population, they are focusing on advocacy efforts for the upcoming term.

**Science Caucus**

Science Society executives are planning the Spring term and getting started on their Board of Directors. They are coordinating a meeting in the coming week.

**Cambridge**

There were no updates or questions under this report.

**Kitchener**

There were no updates or questions under this report.

**Stratford**

There were no updates or questions under this report.

**St. Jerome’s University**

Councillor Leo reported that they are scheduling their first meeting for this week.

**Renison**

There were no updates or questions under this report.

**Officers of Council Reports**

**Speaker**

Just elected, nothing to report at this time.

**Deputy Speaker**

Deputy Speaker Hunte informed everyone he was multitasking by paying attention to the meeting and eating lunch.

**Secretary**

Vice President Guevara had nothing to report.
STANDING COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, OR SERVICES REPORTS

Report of the Policies and Procedures Committee:
Amendments to Procedures 25 and 26

Councillor Chen spoke to this motion mentioning it was a routine motion after these were first brought forward for first reading at the April council meeting then later being reviewed by outgoing PPC. There were no further questions, a vote was held.

Be it resolved that Council amends Procedures 25 and 26, as recommended by the Policies and Procedures Committee in Appendix B.

President Simpson and Vice President Abouelnaga.

Motion carries with Deputy Speaker Hunte noted in abstention.

Ratification of Commissioners for FY2021

President Simpson noted that this is another routine motion and council should not unreasonably withhold approval unless there is serious opposition to a commissioner holding their position. Vice President Town said she and Vice President Abouelnaga are very excited to bring these AVPs on board.

Be it resolved that Council ratifies the commissioners selected for FY2021 as shown in Appendix C.

President Simpson and Vice President Town.

Motion carries

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

GENERAL ORDERS

ELECTIONS OF COMMITTEES

Secretary’s Note: In accordance with Procedure 10, any seats on these committees remaining vacant after the approval of this motion may be filled by that committee, subject by subsequent ratification by Council.

Standing Committees of Council
Councillor Sharma and EngSoc President Lindstrom-Humphries.

Be it resolved that Councillors ______ and ______ as well as members-at-large ______ and ______ be elected to the Policies and Procedures Committee (PPC).

Be it further resolved that Councillors ______ and ______ as well as members-at-large ______ and ______ be elected to the Campus Life Advisory Committee (CLAC).
Be it further resolved that Councillors _____ and _____ as well as members-at-large _____ and _____ be elected to the Internal Administration Committee (IAC).

Be it further resolved that Councillors _____ _____ and _____ as well as members-at-large _____ _____ and _____ be elected to the Education Advisory Committee (EAC).

Note: All councillors and at-large members on CSC must be enrolled in a co-operative education program.

Be it further resolved that Councillors _____ _____ and _____ as well as members-at-large _____ and _____ be elected to the Co-op Students Council (CSC).

Note: All councillors and at-large members on CSC must be enrolled in a co-operative education program.

Be it further resolved that Councillors _____ _____ and _____ as well as members-at-large _____ and _____ be elected to the Internal Funding Committee (IFC).

Note: Normally, at least two elected members of ERC should be at-large members. Under no circumstances shall any member of ERC be a candidate for an active election, or by-election; join a referendum committee, or endorse or campaign on behalf of candidate, team or referendum position.

Be it further resolved that Councillor _____ and member-at-large _____ be elected to the Budget and Appropriations Committee (BAC).

Be it further resolved that members _____ _____ _____ and _____ be elected to the Elections and Referenda Committee (ERC).

Note: Normally, at least two elected members of ERC should be at-large members. Under no circumstances shall any member of ERC be a candidate for an active election, or by-election, join a referendum committee, or endorse or campaign on behalf of candidate, team or referendum position.

Board Committees

Be it further resolved that Councillors _____ and _____ as well as member-at-large _____ be elected to the Long Range Planning Committee.

Be it further resolved that Councillor _____ as well as member-at-large _____ be elected to the Planning, Student Spaces, and Works Committee.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL:

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE (PPC)

Councillor Nominations:

• Edward Yang self-nominated

• Andrew Yates self-nominated

Edward Yang and Andrew Yates were acclaimed.
At-large Nominations:

- Abdullah Khalid nominated by Abbie Simpson
- Matthew Gerrits nominated by Abbie Simpson

Abdullah Khalid and Matthew Gerrits were acclaimed.

**Campus Life Advisory Committee (CLAC)**

Councillor Nominations:

- Mahaveer Jai Ukrani self-nominated
- Victoria Shi nominated by Stephanie Ye-Mowe

Mahaveer Jai Ukrani and Victoria Shi were acclaimed.

At-large Nominations:

- Mustapha Zaidi nominated by Victoria Shi
- Mehida Ahmed self-nominated
- Sumayyah Macci self-nominated

Mehida Ahmed and Mustapha Zaidi were elected after a run-off vote between Councillor Ahmed and Councillor Macci was held to fill the remaining at-large seat.

**Internal Administration Committee (IAC)**

Councillor Nominations:

- Evelyn Gondosiswanto self-nominated
- Marie Jolicoeur-Becotte self-nominated

Evelyn Gondosiswanto and Marie Jolicoeur-Becotte were acclaimed.

At-large Nominations:

- Catherine Dong self-nominated
- Vacant

Catherine Dong was acclaimed.
EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EAC)

Councillor Nominations:

- Stephanie Ye-Mowe self-nominated
- Mahaveer Jai Ukrani self-nominated
- Matthew Schwarze nominated by Kanan Sharma, declined
- Karl Zhu self-nominated
- Frances Hallen nominated by Edward Yang, accepted
- Jaskaran Dhillon self-nominated

Edward Yang declared conflict of interest and abstained from voting. Stephanie Ye-Mowe, Frances Hallen, and Jaskaran Dhillon were elected.

At-large Nominations:

- Jin Sia nominated by Megan Town, accepted
- Adrian Aliu nominated by Megan Town, accepted
- Mahaveer Jai Ukrani nominated by Kanan Sharma, declined
- Guy Brodski nominated by Stephanie Ye-Mowe

Jin Sia, Adrian Aliu, and Guy Brodski were acclaimed.

Deputy Speaker Hunte brought forth a motion:

**Be it resolved that** Council suspends the rules and increases councillor EAC membership to four seats.

*Deputy Speaker Hunte and Councillor Sharma.*

Deputy Speaker Hunte said that this was because there was a 3-way tie for 2 council seats and we want to try to be fair and accommodate. Vice President Town then recommended changing the committee membership to allow non-voting seats; an amendment was posed and taken as friendly.

The motion now reads:

**Be it resolved that** Council directs the VP Education to prepare procedure changes to allow the addition of non-voting members at EAC

**Motion carries** with no objection
Co-operative Students Council (CSC)

Councillor Nominations:
- Karl Zhu self-nominated
- Vidyut Ghuwalewala self-nominated
- Edward Yang self-nominated
- Yuqian (Ina) Wang nominated by Megan Town, declined

Karl Zhu, Vidyut Ghuwalewala, and Edward Yang were acclaimed.

At-large Nominations:
Vice President Town introduced a motion:

Whereas society presidents will not be councillors for the entire WUSA governing year 2020/2021,

Be it resolved that Council suspends the rules to allow the society presidents to run for the at-large seats.

Motion carries with abstentions noted from Vice President Town, EngSoc President Lindstrom-Humphries, and MathSoc President Wang.

- Clarissa Moreira nominated by Megan Town, accepted
- Hailey Reynolds nominated by Megan Town, accepted.
- Yuqian (Ina) Wang self-nominated
- Delainey Lindstrom-Humphries self-nominated

Yuqian (Ina) Wang, and Delainey Lindstrom-Humphries were elected.

Secretary’s Note: Councilor Ukrani left the meeting at 3:11pm.

Internal Funding Committee (IFC)

Point of Privilege: Councilor Sharma mentioned that if you want to sit on BAC, you cannot be a member of IFC.

Councillor Nominations:
- Stephanie Ye-Mowe self-nominated
- Angela Souza nominated by Frances Hallen
- Karl Zhu self-nominated
- Joseph Ma self-nominated

Stephanie Ye-Mowe, Angela Souza, and Karl Zhu were elected. Councilor Yang noted as abstention.
At-large Nominations:
- Joseph Ma self-nominated
- Mustapha Zaidi nominated by Stephanie Ye-Mowe

Joseph Ma and Mustapha Zaidi were acclaimed.

BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE (BAC)
Councillor Nominations:
- Shanelle Leo self-nominated
- Matthew Schwarze self-nominated
- Jairo Vasquez self-nominated

Matthew Schwarze was elected.

At-large Nominations:
- Abdullah Khalid nominated by Abbie Simpson
- Daveed Gittens nominated by John Hunte

Daveed Gittens was elected.

ELECTIONS AND REFERENDA COMMITTEE (ERC)
Member Nominations:
- Shanelle Leo self-nominated
- Evelyn Gondosiswanto self-nominated
- Mokhash Parmar self-nominated
- Andrew Yates nominated by Kanan Sharma

Shanelle Leo, Evelyn Gondosiswanto, Mokhash Parmar, and Andrew Yates were acclaimed.

CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER (CRO) HIRING PANEL
Nominations:
- Vicky Ikeno self-nominated
- Catherine Dong nominated by Kanan Sharma, accepted

Catherine Dong was elected.
BOARD COMMITTEES:

STRATEGIC AND LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE (SLRPC)

Councillor Nominations:
- Amanda Helka self-nominated
- Karl Zhu self-nominated

Amanda Helka and Karl Zhu were acclaimed.

At-large Nominations:
- Matthew Gerrits nominated by Abbie Simpson

Matthew Gerrits was elected.

PLANNING STUDENT SPACES WORKING COMMITTEE (PSSWC)

Councillor Nominations:
- Mahaveer Jai Ukrani self-nominated
- Jaskaran Dhillon self-nominated

Jaskaran Dhillon was acclaimed.

At-large Nominations:
- Mahaveer Jai Ukrani nominated by Kanan Sharma

Mahaveer Jai Ukrani was elected.

Motion to Amend
Motion to amend the Election of Committees motion by adding the names into the blank seats.
*President Simpson and Councillor Sharma.*

Motion carries; the amendment was taken as friendly

Motion to Approve
Motion to approve the Election of Committees motion as amended.
*Councillor Sharma and EngSoc President Lindstrom-Humphries.*

Motion carries
Motion to Destroy the Ballots

Motion to destroy the ballots.
President Simpson and Councillor Sharma.

Motion carries

Scheduling of Meetings

Be it resolved that the remaining regular meeting of Council for the Spring term be scheduled for June ______, July ______, and August ______, each starting at 10:30AM.
President Simpson and Vice President Abouelnaga.

An amendment was proposed:

Be it resolved that the dates be filled in as June 7th, July 12th and August 9th.
President Simpson and Councillor Sharma.

The amendment was adopted as friendly.

Motion carries

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The next meeting of Students’ Council will be held on June 7th on Microsoft Teams.
- MathSoc President Wang wished good luck to everyone starting online classes tomorrow.
- Vice President Town said that her report contained a few action items she will be working on. She expressed that reading executive reports is an important part of the meeting. If anyone has questions about what was reported, she asked that they email her.

ADJOURNMENT

Be it resolved that the chair adjourns the meeting at 4:36 PM.
Federation of Students’ Council Agenda

Regular Meeting

ONLINE MEETING

*Chair: Abbie Simpson  Secretary: Alana Guevara*

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

**ATTENDANCE**

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

**Attendees:**

- Simpson, Abigail (Abbie) (President)
- 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, Nathaniel (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)
- Schwarze, Matthew
- Dong, Catherine
- Hunte, John
- Sharma, Kanan
• 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*
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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.

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 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
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
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 Councilor 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

wusa.ca
200 University Ave W, Student Life Centre, Room 1116, Waterloo, ON N2L 3G1
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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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-propose 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
- Engagements

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<td>794 likes</td>
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- Inquiries

<table>
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<td>Volunteering with MATES</td>
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<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
- Inquires 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 Provided 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

WUSA

WATERLOO UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Federation of Students June 7, 2020
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 info-graphics about common injuries/illnesses that occur in summer time and how to treat them (e.g. 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

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 (COT 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
  o 420 Office Hours
  o User Experiences – 749
- Women’s Centre
  o 600 Office Hours
  o User Experiences – 872
- RAISE
  o 420 Office Hours
  o User Experiences – 630
- MATES
  o 660 Office Hours
  o User Experiences – 581
- Co-op Connection
  o 7 Cities Supported (Toronto, San Fran, Boston, NYC, London, KW, UW)
  o 321 Students Engaged in person
- ICSN
  o 253 User Experiences Provided (Niagara Falls, Babble Cafes, Cultural Connections, etc)
  o 13 Volunteers and Execs, 2 Coordinators
- CRT
  o 24 First Aid responses
  o 228 Service Hours
  o 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 UWWaterloo 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.