Federation of Students’ Board of Directors Special Meeting Minutes

SLC 1106, UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO
Chair: CHAIRMAN PLANTE  Secretary: SECRETARY EASTON

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present:

• President Beauchemin
• Director De Sousa
• Secretary Easton
• Director Eyre*
• Vice President Fitzpatrick

* remote

The following members were absent:

• General Manager Burdett*+
• Director Parmar*

* regrets  |  + Non-voting resource member

Regular Session

1.0 Preliminaries

1.1 Call to Order

A quorum being present, Chairman Plante called the meeting to order at 6:04p.

1.2 Approval of the Agenda

The Chair assumes the Agenda.
1.3 TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Pursuant to Federation Policy 50, Indigenous Engagement and Inclusivity, the Federation’s Board of Directors 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.”

1.4 ORAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

In accordance with Procedure 2 §II(6), Chairman Plante posed the following question:

“In relation to any of the items of business on the agenda for this meeting, does any Director had an actual, perceived, or potential conflict of interest?”

No conflicts of interest were declared.

2.0 GENERAL ORDERS

2.1 LONG RANGE PLAN CONSULTATION SESSION

The Chair turned the meeting over to President Beauchemin, who is the Chair of the Long Range Planning Committee, and Abbie Simpson, member At Large of the Committee. The Board heard a presentation from President Beauchemin and Ms. Simpson on the development of the 2020-2025 Long Range Plan and the Directors gave input in response to a number of consultation questions that were posed. The presentation is attached to these minutes.

3.0 ADJOURNMENT

Be it resolved that the Chair adjourn the meeting at 7:45p.

Chairman Plante and Vice President Gerrits.

Motion carries unanimously
The 2020-2025 WUSA Long Range Plan

Presented by: Michael Beauchemin
A fly-over of the LRP design process

• Empathize: seek to understand members and frame the nature of LRP
• Define: Articulate goals and questions, define problem(s)
• **Ideate** ← here for now: consultation and engagement with process
• Prototype: Consolidation of data, develop potential goals
• Test: Consultation round 2: feedback on potential directions
Sample Background Research Documents

- Old Long Range Plan
- Rebrand: Values, brand promise, target audiences and personas
- Board and Exec 2019 Plans: Prioritizing Advocacy, common benefit
- Strategic Planning in Higher Education; sample strat plans/LRPs
- Global Governance Advisors – Governance Review
- Bylaw, Policy, Procedure, and Letters Patent
- University Student Experience Review
- Business Plans, Bombshelter Review, and Department Strat Plans
What is the LRP?

• Audience Determination: Board, Management, Council & Socs, Members & Staff
• Scope Determination: Financial, Managerial, Service Delivery/Output
• Components: (2 DOCUMENTS)
  • Mission/Vision/Values
  • Background
  • Pillars
  • Commitments
  • Metrics
Process (Sep – Apr, one per month)

- Frame project
- Prepare survey and interviews
- Launch survey and interviews
- Analyze Data
- *Discuss Results and Develop Draft* here, but still doing 2 above as well
- Circulate Draft for Comments (soon)
- Formal Approval Process
- Beginning Implementation
Mid-term Update (Summary of Response)

• Demographics: Sample appears strong; 1700+; 62% female
• Perception of WUSA (58% positive)
• Knowledge Gap: weak understanding of individual relationship with WUSA, despite strong awareness of full-body representation
• Mission? Mostly positive but mixed, 60% “a little bit” or “somewhat”
• Purpose: Divided – Support in any way vs. limited role of Uni and SA
  • Is it the role of the SA to provide assistance adjusting to the realities of being an adult? (Like Skills, “Adulting”)
• Value: 62% best evaluated by general benefit (comments conflict this)
Mid-term Update continued

• Top Academic challenges:
  • Poor Time Management (or simple lack of time [5% added commentary, many to this effect] )
  • Lack of Mental Energy
  • Cost of Schooling; Co-op

• Top Extra-curricular challenges: (48% positive – some unclear on value 4 $)
  • Academic Demands
  • Time Management (see above)
  • Lack of Mental Energy
  • Co-op

• Comments shed light on clubs problems (poor clubs-management systems issue)
Continued

- Clubs, Services, and Social Programming: 45-50% high participation
- Societies: 31% | 37% never participated
- Business Operations: 54% | 21%
- UPASS: 78% | 11%
- Health & Dental: 33%
- Governance: 6% | 74% (30% unaware – knowledge but low desire)
- Elections: 30% | 47%
Continued (Societies Focus Group Responses)

• 5 Societies’ response
  • Societies do not understand WUSA’s role
  • Societies do not understand their relationship to WUSA
  • Societies suggest solutions to weak/misunderstood relationship
    • Damaged Relationships are real
  • Each Society is different
• Broadly identifiable themes for improvement (website, etc.)
Prompts, Thought-starters

• What is suggested by your experience with students?
  • Does the data presented so far jive with what you believe?
• LRP is for more than students: What are some staff-specific items?
• How do you envision the organization in 5 years?
  • How do we get there?
• What long-term projects are we not working on but should be?
• What key commitments do you/should we make to students?