

2023 Winter General Meeting

Tuesday, March 21, 2023

Call to Order at 5:00 pm

SLC Great Hall

Chair: Stephanie Ye-Mowe

WUSA President, 2022-2023

AGENDA ITEMS

Topic

Action

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Call to Order & Opening Remarks from the Chair | Information |
| 2. Territorial Acknowledgement | Information |
| 3. Approval of the Agenda | Decision |
| 4. Approval of minutes from the 2022 General Meetings | Decision |

Governance and Administrative Items

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 5. Election of the Board of Directors | Decision |
| 6. Bylaw Amendments | |
| a. Affirming By-Law Changes re: Officer's Continued Membership while in Office | Decision |
| b. Addition of a new By-Law provision stipulating that WUSA is not allowed to join any external organizations whose By-Laws override its own | Information |
| c. Amendment of the By-Laws to empower the Board to remove a Director with a 2/3rd majority | Information |

Finance

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 7. Update on the Audited Financial Statement for 2021- 2022 Governing Year | Information |
| 8. Approval of Reappointment of Incumbent Auditor | Decision |

Update on Actions taken at the last General Meeting

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 9. Update on Motion for Goose Statue | Information |
| 10. Update on Process re: Governance Changes | Information |

Member-Submitted Items

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 11. Recommendation to Remove use of Archaic Language from Student Government (Quinn Myers) | Decision |
| 12. Recommendation to make Athletic Fees Optional (Quinn Myers) | Decision |
| 13. Recommendations regarding Use of Video Lectures (Quinn Myers) | Decision |
| 14. Recommendation regarding Class Times | Decision |
| 15. Recommendation to have an SLC Music Sound Studio (Charlie Dickson) | Decision |

Adjournment

1) Call to Order & Opening Remarks from the Chair

2) Territorial Acknowledgement

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

3) Approval of the Agenda

MOTION

Be it resolved that the Assembly approves the agenda as presented.

4) Approval of the Minutes from the 2022 General Meetings

[Minutes of March 29, 2022, General Meeting](#)

MOTION – Recommended for adoption¹

Be it resolved that the Assembly approves the minutes of the General Meeting held on the 29th of March 2022.

5) Election to the Board of Directors [2023 General Election Report](#)

MOTION – Recommended for Adoption

Be it resolved that the Assembly appoints Norris, Rory & Traynor, Katie as President and Vice President respectively.

Be it further resolved that the Assembly appoints the following students as Directors, as elected by the membership:

1. Adam, Amanda
2. Zhu, Jeff
3. Ye-Mowe, Stephanie
4. Chaban, Alexander
5. Athanasopoulos, Matthew
6. Lan, Jay
7. Sivakumaran, Tham
8. Jeon, Chevin
9. Ruhil, Anshul
10. Elmahi, Ahmed
11. Jalili, Ailin

¹ The WUSA Board of Directors has issued recommendations on most of the motions of the General Meeting.

“Recommended for adoption” means that the Board views an item as beneficial to the Corporation

“Recommended for rejection” means that the Board views an item as unnecessary or harmful to the Corporation

6) Bylaw Amendments

- a. **Affirming By-Law Changes re: Officer's Continued Membership while in Office** [Motion on Bylaw Amendment - Officers Membership after Graduation](#)

MOTION – Recommended for adoption

Be it resolved that the Assembly confirms the Board's approval of the amendment to the bylaw which introduces a clause 3.01 (d) to ensure undergraduate students holding officer positions can complete their term of office after graduating.

- b. **Addition of a new By-Law provision stipulating that WUSA is not allowed to join any external organization whose By-Laws override its own** [Motion on Bylaw Amendment - Membership of External Org](#)

MOTION – Recommended for adoption

Be it resolved that the Assembly authorizes board to instruct the lawyers to include a provision in the by-laws stipulating that WUSA is not allowed to join any external organization whose Bylaws override WUSA's Bylaws.

- c. **Amendment of the By-Laws to empower the Board to remove a Director with a 2/3rd majority** [Motion on Bylaw Amendment - Board Discipline](#)

MOTION – Recommended for adoption

Be it resolved that the Assembly authorizes Board to instruct the lawyers to include a provision in the bylaws which empowers the Board to remove a Director with a 2/3rd majority vote in favor of such removal.

7) Update on the Audited Financial Statement for 2021- 2022 Governing Year**8) Approval of Reappointment of Incumbent Auditor**

Whereas Section 68 of the Ontario Not Profit for Corporation Act (ONCA) provides that at each general meeting, members of a corporation shall appoint an auditor to hold office until the close of the next annual meeting.

Whereas section 55(7) of the ONCA lists reappointment of the incumbent auditor as an ordinary business to be transacted at an annual meeting of the members.

MOTION – Recommended for adoption

Be it resolved that the Assembly approves the reappointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) as auditors to hold office until the close of the next annual general meeting.

9) Update on Motion for Goose Statue

10) Update on Process re: Governance Changes

**Member-Submitted
Motions**

11) Items for Decision

a. Recommendation to Remove use of Archaic Language from Student Government (Quinn Myers)

Whereas in February 2023, it is proposed that archaic and unnecessarily formal language and formatting be removed from use in student government; and
Whereas it is understood that this requirement hinders the ability of the student government to engage with the population

MOTION – Recommended for rejection

Be it resolved that the general assembly will review all areas of operation, especially in those areas that interface directly with members of the student body outside of the student government, to remove as many requirements for archaic and formal language as possible without significantly hindering the clarity or efficacy of the student government.

b. Recommendation to make Athletic Fees Optional (Quinn Myers)

Whereas it is understood that many students are not currently making use of athletics facilities despite them being a mandatory fee; and
Whereas it is understood that on a campus so highly dedicated to STEM courses, many students do not desire their tuition to be spent on athletics they themselves will not use.

MOTION – Recommended for Amendment

Be it resolved that fees related to athletics facilities be made optional on tuition along with other similar fees to accommodate students with different levels of engagement with the athletics services.

Be it further resolved that a system to only allow access to those paying for services may be easily implemented through existing turnstile infrastructure and cameras.

c. Recommendations regarding Use of Video Lectures (Quinn Myers)

Whereas it is observed that many professors are now using videos as the primary method of teaching their courses; and

Whereas students have observed noticeably lower student attendance, averages, and engagement in classes taught thusly; and

Whereas many students find the prospect of paying several thousand dollars for budget Khan Academy a ludicrous concept

MOTION – Recommended for rejection

Be it resolved that The General Assembly tasks the Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association to work with the faculties on campus to study the effects of video-first lecturing on student outcomes.

Be it further resolved that this could be achieved quite simply by asking students to dictate whether their classes were taught primarily through video lectures.

Be it further resolved that if a corollary effect to student performance is found, guidance is dispensed directly through faculties to direct professors to more effective modes of teaching.

d. Recommendation regarding Class Times (Quinn Myers)

Whereas it is recognized that especially in younger students of first and second years, a consistent suite of morning classes can be detrimental to sleep patterns; and

Whereas it is recognized that the above recognition also provides for the negative effects to mental health and to performance in said morning classes that stem from lack of sleep.

MOTION – Recommended for rejection

Be it resolved that the General Assembly tasks the Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association to work with the registrar's office to reduce the impact of morning classes by primarily attempting to avoid scheduling a cohorted program with a large majority of classes in the first

daily time slot. Failing this, not allowing for a single class to be placed in the first daily time slot multiple times in a week, in order to avoid the effects of half-aware minds and broken alarms.

Be it further resolved that the computer science department should be engaged to provide support to the registrar's office in order to upgrade their systems to accommodate this change, with the obvious caveat that this be one of the least important variables at play in the operation of the computer system.

e. Recommendation to have an SLC Music Sound Studio (Charlie Dickson)

Whereas there is a great need at the University of Waterloo to make available the resources needed for students to artistically express themselves.

Whereas there are now zero spaces on campus for a non-music undergraduate student to record music professionally.

Whereas building a music sound studio would be mutually beneficial for students and the university.

Whereas there are hundreds, potentially thousands of students that would benefit and be interested in using such a space.

Whereas WUSA could run the space as a service operating out of turnkey desk.

MOTION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the board approves the motion to invest capital and space into a music sound studio in the SLC, the details of which will be planned and presented by Jam Network to WUSA as soon as the latter wishes to begin the process of making it a reality.

Attachment: [SLC Music Studio](#)

[Board's Review of Member Submitted Motions](#)