



UWSA

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Open Session Package

UWSA Board Meeting
December 03, 2024

Diksha Bansal, General Manager

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University of Winnipeg Students' Association Board of Directors

OPEN Session Meeting Minutes, Oct 29, 2024 ,Hybrid Meeting

(Virtual Meeting/UWSA Board Room)

Board in Attendance:

Chair of the Board: Jacob Cramer

Secretary of the Board: Emmanuel Oladele

President: Tomiris Kaliyeva

Vice-President Student Affairs: Abrar Abdelmahmoud

Vice-President External Affairs: Chhavi Dhir

Accessibility Director- Mahavir Partap Singh

Bus and Eco Director- Oladayo Daniel Adeniji

Community Liason Director- Harleen K. Deol

International Students Director- Robinjeet Singh

2SLGBTQ Students Director- Muskan Vhora

Part-time / Mature Students Director- Harmandeep Ghataura

Recreational and athletics Director- Lavmeet Singh

WTSC director- Harleen Kaur

Urban and Inner City Director- Aleecia

University of Winnipeg Students' Association Board of Directors
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Board Absent:

Arts Director- Farwa Awan

Emerging Leaders Director- Karaninder S. Delow

Racialized Students' Director- Tioluwalese Elizabeth Ajibola

Science Director- Moh. Shehryar Mouzam

Student Living Director- Aryan Sharma

Env. Ethics Director- Arshdeep S. Jassal

Emerging Leaders Director- Gabriel Iouer

Staff In Attendance

Tom Sidebottom- COO

Diksha Bansal- General Manager



1. Call to Order

The regular monthly meeting of the University of Winnipeg Students' Association Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, October 29, 2024, via Hybrid. The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:24 pm. Following the confirmation of quorum, the house continued to the agenda.

2. Introduction Circle

The Chair led an introductory circle with the directors in attendance.

3. Approval of the Order of Business

4. Consent Agenda

i) Executive reports

Tomiris K.- Tomiris attended BASA meeting to improve relationship between BASA and the UWSA.

Tomiris attended a meeting with the President's office to discuss international students' tuition fees, which are set to increase in the next academic year. Tomiris attended a meeting with post-secondary students meeting across the province. Tomiris attended the launch of CKUW first podcast. A statement was issued on Instagram

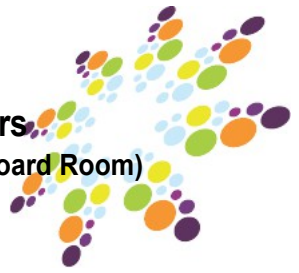
Abrar A.- Abrar attended board of regents and senate committee meetings. Abrar was involved in student advocacy. Abrar attended the launch of CKUW's podcast along with Chhavi and Tomiris. Abrar is working on the by-laws (especially the election by-laws)

Chhavi D.- Chhavi attended the board of regents and senate committee meetings. Chhavi organized haunted house and paint face activities for residents of school accommodations. Chhavi attended the launch CKUW podcast. This podcast focuses on life on campus.

ii) Director Reports

Muskan V.- Muskan mentioned that recent centre event is happening on November 2, 2024.

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Aleecia D: Aleecia attended faculty students' association meeting and a potluck.

Lavmeet S.- Lavmeet is still working on Sports Day event. Lavmeet contacted Recplex to know the date that would be feasible and the costs. Lavmeet hopes to have a response before the next board meeting

b) Minutes

- BOD 240926 OPEN
- ii. Student Life Committee Minutes
- iii. Executive Committee Minutes
- iv. Day Care Committee Minutes

Chhavi D. moves the motion to approve the consent agenda.

Motion Carries

5. Communications

Aleecia moves the motion to have the December board's meeting at Merchants Corner (541 Selkirk Avenue)

Motion Carries

6. New Business

7. Adjournment- Tomiris K. moves the motion to adjourn meeting at 6:23pm

Executive Committee – Open Session Minutes
November 26, 2024 at 2:30 pm
Hybrid Meeting UWSA Office & Virtual via
Teams



Members In Attendance:

President - Tomiris Kaliyeva
VPSA - Abrar Abdelmahmoud
Urban and Inner-city Director - Aleecia Doyle
Special Projects Manager - Ted Turner

Absent:

VPEA - Chhavi Dhir

Staff in Attendance:

General Office Assistance – Cynthia Nwachukwu

Open Session

1. Call to Order

The UWSA Executive Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, November 26, 2024, via Hybrid. The chair called the meeting to order at 2:42 PM. Following the confirmation of quorum, the house continued to the agenda.

2. Consent Agenda

a. Reports

i. Election Bylaw and Policy Updates

The president commented on the revisions to the bylaws and policy. The notable changes. The bylaws revisions started since February and has been going on till now. It was in our bylaws that for us to revise our bylaws, we needed to bring it to committee either by law and policy or by law.

Ted T. – The idea of this work and revision is to make some major reforms and provide some better process that is procedurally fair, transparent and balanced. Took care of some other housekeeping. Notable changes:

- 4.2 (e) Term in office - If we are unable to appoint a director against the deadline, the director may continue in office until a successor can be elected.

Executive Committee – Open Session Minutes

November 26, 2024 at 2:30 pm

Hybrid Meeting UWSA Office & Virtual via Teams



- 4.3 (v) On filling vacancies - If the board of directors is at any time not in compliance with the Canadian residency requirements, the directors may appoint directors to fill the vacancies to bring us into compliance. Focused on what the act should follow.
- 4.7 (ii) qualifications for directors: If at any time the Board of Directors is noncompliant with the Canadian residency requirements. It goes into this process where the directors can in their absolute discretion, assess seniority and recall directors. We need 25% resident/citizen. (iv), No Executive director may be enrolled in more than nine credit hours in any fall and winter academic term. In the past, we had an exemption for students that may be on travel visa that they could essentially be full time students. We also looked at the fact that that no accommodations provided for indigenous students sponsored by their bands.

Aleecia – Spoke with Accessibility services and they expressed the need to have a representation on the board and same with Women in Gender Studies. They would like a representation on the board since we have positions for the accessibility Director.

Tomiris - we have discussed and looked at the possibilities of having people appointed and linked to those positions like business director and pace director

- 5.29 Election Period: we had to make distinction between election cycle and election period.
- 5.25 CEC: Revisions to have the Elections Commissioner, having more ability to resolve issues. They will hear concerns, complaints, work to resolve, escalate them to the EAB in accordance with the policy, bring any complaint they can't resolve to the EAB.
- 5.34 (x): candidates cannot campaign other than on social media during voting week. Vast majority of complaints stemmed from alleged events over voting period.
- Item 8: Candidates shall not post or distribute any photos or videos with the intended subject of content? Like, don't post a video of your running opponent.
- 5.44: If all active complaints have been resolved, the unofficial election results shall be announced on the Thursday of week 6. if all active complaints have not been resolved, the notice should be given that the unofficial results that don't have any unresolved complaints pending at that time are announced, and then the remaining results will be announced at once those are resolved.

Executive Committee – Open Session Minutes

November 26, 2024 at 2:30 pm

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- 5.48 violation consequences, disqualification: Given the CEC the ability and discretion to immediately suspend a campaign. This they did not possess before because we thought that would have been helpful last year.
- 9.6 item 4: Motion submitted at general meetings that are not addressed before adjournment shall be sent to subsequent meetings of the board. This act has been flagged and sent to the lawyers for review.
- 9.8 – Chairing the membership meeting. if the chair is absent, that the President would chair, and in the absence of the President, any person designated by resolution. With SGM coming up to this is to maintain structure.
- 9.16: 25 members is quorum at all general meetings.

Further reviewed the Anti-harassment policy, language around harassment that violates human rights based on experience from last election. With this, the election complaint policy and procedures come in. Considering the last election, the previous complaint was mainly sent by email, but we have decided to transition to an online form for easier resolution and access to these complaints.

The motion for the By-Law and Policy revisions below:

Whereas the Executive Committee has submitted proposed amendments to the UWSA's General By-laws and UWSA Policies which amend several areas of the By-laws and Policies for clarity and consistency and modernize the UWSA's election procedures.

Whereas the Executive Committee has determined that it is desirable to recommend that the Board of Directors adopts the proposed amendments to the By-Laws and Policies.

Be it resolved that:

- 1.** *The Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Directors adopts the proposed amendments to the UWSA's General By-laws and UWSA Policies, in the forms to be attached to the minutes of this meeting, respectively, as Schedule "A" (General By-laws) and Schedule "B" (UWSA Policies); and*
- 2.** *The Executive Committee recommends to the Board of Directors that the By-law revisions be submitted for approval to a Meeting of the Members held at UWinnipeg on January 13th, 2025.*

Executive Committee – Open Session Minutes
November 26, 2024 at 2:30 pm
Hybrid Meeting UWSA Office & Virtual via
Teams



Aleecia moves the motion, and everyone votes in favor. Motion passes.

ii. SLC Business

Tomiris gives the floor to Abrar to discuss SLC business. Abrar presents the UW Students Sports Club and the Society for Self-consciousness.

Abrar – presented on the previously left pending Society for Self-consciousness group. Suggests they should be approved since they have an application and realized that they have already created an e-mail account and social media with that name. Also, the sports club description was not sufficient.

Aleecia moves the motion to approve the Society for Self-consciousness student group and deny UW Students Sports Club.

Motion passes.

3. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 PM.

Executive Reports

President's Report:

University of Winnipeg

- Senate meeting
- Indigenous round table meeting
- Meetings with Travis Greene
- UW Strategic planning meeting
- Senate executive committee
- Regent's meeting
- Dean of arts search committee meetings

External

- Leah Gazan meeting
- Manitoba students advocacy network (MSAN) meetings

Internal

- VPIE consultations finished
- Daycare management committee meeting
- Culture day
- Exec committee
- Daycare event

Executive Reports

VPSA Report:

Thursday November 28, 2024

EVENTS

- CFS NGM conference
- TAKE BACK THE NIGHT PROTEST
- Writing center community event

COMMITTEES

SENATE APPEALS COMMITTEE

Have been appointed to...

- Senate Academic misconduct and standards committee
- Academic integrity standards working group
- Senate student services committee

ACADEMIC/NON-ACADEMIC MISCONDUCTS

- Have attended over 10 DRC and SASMS committee meetings - which is a total of 10 cases of academic misconduct
- Dealt with 2 campus living complaints
- 2 professor complaints

SENATE/REAGENT

- Have attended 2 reagent meetings and one senate meeting since the last time we have met
- Issues that we advocated for: tuition increase and its impact on student services like mental health, financial stress, security, campus living an

SPECIAL MEETINGS

Leah Gazan

Danielle Dunbar

Daniel Leonard

Pavlina

Travis

Andrea smith- athletics department

CURRENT PROJECTS

- Professional mentorship program X Alumni
- Grade Transcript Policy
- Student group workshop

CURRENT PRESSING ISSUES

- Tuition Increases
- Campus living Issues (RA's and tenants)



CFS Conference Report

There is a file attached named as “NE Report 2024” linked with the email. Please refer to that file.



NGM Report

Conference Report

Name of the conference (please attach a link to the conference webpage):

CFS NGM

Date of the conference:

November 9-12, 2024

Destination of the conference:

Kanata, Ottawa

Name of the people attended (Position):

Abrar (VPSA) and Chhavi (VPEA)

If more than one person is attending, please explain why one person cannot go and bring back the information:

The CFS NGM includes **four subcommittee spaces** (e.g., Policy, OSD, Campaigns and Budget committee) and over **four constituency groups** (e.g., Women's Caucus, Black Caucus, Indigenous Caucus, and International Students Caucus), all of which play a critical role in discussing and amending motions before the closing plenary. Having multiple executives present allows us to participate in these diverse spaces effectively, ensuring our campus and union concerns are well-represented.

If only one person attends, they are limited to engaging in one subcommittee and one constituency group, which significantly restricts our ability to advocate on behalf of our students. By sending two or more executives, we can amplify our voices and engage across multiple committees, maximizing our impact in decision-making processes.

Additionally, the NGM is an intense and high-pressure environment. Attending with more than one executive helps mitigate burnout and ensures mutual support and collaboration during demanding sessions.

Brief Overview of the Event (In a Sequential Manner):

Networking:

- Participated in key networking sessions with student leaders and national representatives.

Advocacy and Representation:



- Advocated for motions directly affecting our student body, such as:
 - **Defederation motions (Motions 10-12)** aimed at creating a fair and accessible process.
 - **National Day Strike Motion** and its potential impact on the University of Winnipeg.
 - Highlighted concerns about the government's chronic underfunding of the University of Winnipeg.
 - Addressed the CFS's lack of meaningful lobbying efforts in the past two years.
 - Opened dialogue on pressing issues such as the international student cap and the 20-hour work limit.
 - Proposed and supported numerous amendments to motions submitted by other locals.
-

How did the conference sessions align with the current goals and priorities of the student association?

The sessions aligned closely with UWSA's goals by providing platforms to:

- Advocate for more equitable processes, such as an accessible defederation framework.
 - Engage in critical discussions regarding systemic underfunding and inadequate support for our institution.
 - Amplify student concerns at both provincial and federal levels, ensuring our union's voice is heard.
 - Address accountability concerns with CFS MB staff, pushing for transparency and improved lobbying efforts.
 - Advocate for marginalized communities, such as international students and Black students, by raising motions and initiating conversations about systemic barriers.
-

Were there any specific challenges or issues discussed at the conference that are relevant to the student association's activities?

The most significant challenge was advocating for a **more accessible and equitable defederation process**. We faced resistance from larger institutions, particularly from provinces like Ontario, whose campus realities differ significantly from ours. Despite opposition, we persistently advocated for motions 11-13, which aim to make the defederation process fair and transparent.

Specific examples included pushing for electoral voting as an option for referendums on defederation, a motion that was unfortunately dismissed by larger institutions. However, through persistence, we succeeded in amending the motion to create a working group that includes executive members from every local under the federation and CFS national executives. This group will work toward making the defederation process more accessible. Chhavi and I are committed to being pivotal voices in this group to bring meaningful change.

What were the most valuable sessions or workshops attended, and why?

1. **Anti-Oppression Workshop:**
 - Gained actionable frameworks for implementing anti-oppressive practices within our board, fostering a more inclusive and respectful environment.
2. **Operational Services Committee:**



- Participated in significant decision-making spaces that directly impacted our union, particularly in advocating for motions 11-13.

3. Black Caucus:

- Provided a safe space for me, as a Black student, to discuss how motions uniquely affect Black students.
- Connected with Black student leaders nationwide to exchange innovative ideas on mobilizing Black students effectively.

Did you encounter any innovative ideas or best practices that could be implemented within the student association?

Yes. The **anti-oppression frameworks** from the workshop can be implemented within UWSA to improve communication and foster inclusivity across all levels of leadership. Additionally, ideas shared during the Black Caucus provided strategies for better mobilizing Black students and creating spaces for their voices within the UWSA.

Annual Attendance Recommendation:

Should this conference be an annual commitment for the student association's executives?

Yes, absolutely. Manitoba students are severely underrepresented in CFS spaces, and the UWSA has historically been the most active union in the province within CFS. It is crucial for our executives to attend the NGM annually to:

- Hold the National Executives accountable.
- Advocate for pressing local, provincial, and federal issues impacting our students.
- Ensure Manitoban concerns are represented in key decision-making processes.
- Evaluate whether the CFS continues to align with our students' best interests and hold the organization accountable for the responsible use of student funds.

Date Completed:

November 23, 2024

Signature:

[Abrar Abdelmohmoud]



New Business

- i. **Approval of By-laws and Policies Amendments** – The attached files has all the informations,

The files are named as:

1. By-laws Revisions (Clean)-2024.
2. By-laws Revision (track changes)- 2024
3. Election Policy Revisions (Clean)
4. Election Policy Revisions (track changes)

- ii. **Calling of Special General Meeting**

iii. **Approval of Black- History Month Scholarship-**

Black History Month Scholarship Motion

Whereas under Bill 200, Manitoba law officially recognizes February as Black History Month, honoring the achievements and contributions of Black communities across the province.

Whereas the UWSA has a proud tradition of celebrating Black History Month through impactful events such as last year's Black Gala Night, Week of Celebration, Black Students in Business Panel, and Movie Night.

Whereas the UWSA has consistently played a pivotal role in uplifting and celebrating the excellence and accomplishments of Black students.

Whereas the UWSA recognizes the importance of acknowledging and rewarding Black students who demonstrate outstanding leadership, activism, and community engagement both on and off campus.

Whereas the UWSA strives to encourage and empower Black students to actively participate in shaping their communities, campus, and society at large.

Whereas systemic barriers continue to impact Black students, and the creation of scholarships is one way to promote equity and provide tangible support to students who contribute significantly to their communities.

Be it resolved that the Board allocates a scholarship for **two Black students** during Black History Month, each valued at **\$500**.

Be it further resolved that the criteria for the scholarship be developed and finalized by the Student Life Committee, with the addition of the Racialized Students' Director as a guest member of the committee.

Be it further resolved that the Finance and administration Committee identify and allocate the budget for this scholarship from an appropriate departmental budget.

Be it further resolved that the Executive Committee finalize the scholarship criteria, advertisement plan, and budget allocation by **January 9, 2025**.

Be it further resolved that the Events Department publish the scholarship announcement, including all graphics and finalized criteria, on UWSA social media platforms, the UWSA website, and via posters by **February 1, 2025**.