



UWSA

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Open Session Package

February 27, 2025

Meeting of the UWSA Board of Directors

Diksha Bansal, General Manager

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University of Winnipeg Students' Association Board of Directors
OPEN Session Meeting Minutes, Jan 30, 2025 – 5:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting (Virtual Meeting/UWSA Board Room)

Board in Attendance:

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

Recreational and athletics Director- Lavmeet Singh

Science Director- Moh. Shehryar Mouzam

WTSC director- Harleen Kaur

Urban and Inner City Director- Aleecia Doyle

Bus and Eco Director- Oladayo Daniel Adeniji

2SLGBTQ Students Director- Muskan Vhora

Board Absent:

Chair of the Board: Jacob Cramer

Arts Director- Farwa Awan

Community Liason Director- Harleen K. Deol

International Students Director- Robinjeet Singh

Part-time / Mature Students Director- Harmandeep Ghataura

Emerging Leaders Director- Gabriel Iouer

Env. Ethics Director- Arshdeep S. Jassal

Racialized Students' Director- Tioluwalese Elizabeth Ajibola

Student Living Director- Aryan Sharma

Emerging Leaders Director- Karaninder S. Delow



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Staff in Attendance

General Manager- Diksha Bansal

Special Projects Manager- Ted Turner

General Office Assistant- Cynthia Nwachukwu

Chief Financial Officer- Olayemi Olaleye

Open Session

Whereas the Chair of the board has resigned, a new Chair is needed for the meeting, January 30, 2025.

Aleecia D. moves the motion to appoint Chhavi D. as Chair of today's meeting.

Motion Carries

1. Call to Order

The regular monthly meeting of the University of Winnipeg Students' Association Board of Directors was held on Thursday, January 30, 2025, via Hybrid. The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:16 pm. Following the confirmation of quorum, the house continued to the agenda.

2. Introduction Circle

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

3. Approval of the Order of Business

Lavmeet S. moves the motion to approve the order of business; seconded by Mohammed M.:

Motion Carries

4. Special Business

5. Consent Agenda

a. Minutes

i. SGM Minutes

Aleecia D. moves the motion to approve the SGM minutes; seconded by Mohammed M.



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Motion Carries

ii. BOD 241203 OPEN

Mohammed M. moves the motion to approve the BOD 241203 minutes.

Motion Carries

iii. Health and Safety Minutes January 2025

Lavmeet S. moves the motion to approve the Health and Safety minutes; seconded by Karaninder D.

Motion Carries

b. Reports

i) Executive reports

Tomiris K.-

- Tomiris attended meeting with the Dean of Arts.
- Tomiris attended the Annual General Meeting.
- Tomiris met with the Day Care staff.
- Tomiris invited to National Remembrance Day for Women.
- Tomiris was invited for an event by the Mayor's office.

Abrar A.-

- Abrar helped students with academic misconducts for the fall term.
- Abrar attended the Senate and Board of Regents meetings.
- Abrar attended the International Students' Services Welcome Day.

Chhavi D.-

- Chhavi submitted a brief for recommendation on international students' policies to the person in charge.
- Chhavi attended the Board of Regents meeting.
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- Chhavi is planning to have an awareness day for women healthcare on campus. She working with external stakeholders like CancerCare to come to the campus to educate students on women's early. She intends I create a panel to organize the program.
- Chhavi is raising awareness for Valentine's Day event.

ii) Director Reports

Aleecia D.-

- Aleecia met with students about Health Plan concerns.
- Aleecia introduced herself and her role to new students in all Merchants Corner classes.
- Aleecia advertised the SGM at Merchants Corner.
- Aleecia continued work on the UICSA guiding principles.
- Aleecia attended December Executive Committee meeting
- Aleecia submitted Student Group application
- Aleecia attend student association meeting. The student will be organizing a community food closet.
- Aleecia attended student interviews with the Dean of Arts candidates.

Lavmeet S.- Lavmeet has booked the Recplex field for the Sportsday events at no cost. He does need funding for other expenses.

Harleen K.- Harleen intends to organize a food and fun event on campus.

Mohammed M.-

- Mohammed met with all the students' groups to discuss the science fair. He also wanted to understand what they need to run their students' groups effectively. He mentioned that they raised the following concerns:
 - They are unable to reach executives in UWSA to request fundings for their programs. This issues have put a pause to some of their events.
 - They want to have an email domain when they get approved by the UWSA.
Diksha B.- they need to send an email requesting to have a domain. The UWSA is streamlining the people who will get the domain.
 - The UW blood team complained that their name was not listed on the website after being approved.
- Mohammed is still working on science fair. He intends to involve more external organizations. The students' groups want alumni to be part of the science fair.

Diksha- UW blood team are a returning group (they got approved for last academic year). They recently submitted their application on January 3, 2025.

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Abrar A.- There is no allocated funds for students' groups. The UWSA is working on having funds for students' groups in the next financial year.

Mohammed M.- Some students' groups mentioned that they have accounts with the UWSA. They would like the access the money in their accounts.

Diksha B.- they should email Disksha about it.

Mahavir S.- Mahavir has a meeting with access lounge director.

Oladayo A.- Oladayo has been in contact with BASA director. The director complained about lack of funding from the UWSA

Lavmeet S. moves the motion to approve the reports; seconded by Karaninder D.

Motion Carries

Muksan V. moves the motion to move to Communications; seconded by Harleen K.

Motion Carries

6. Communications

- i. Urban and Inner-City Director- Some students want better representation on the UWSA board. For example, the accessibility department want someone so understand their operations to represent them on the board.

Chhavi D.- It is good practice for all directors to reach out to the communities they represent.

Mohammed M. moves the motion to approve to move to New Business; seconded by Aleecia D.

Motion Carries

7. New Business

- i. Proposal to set the date for AGM on March 19, 2025



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Muksan V. moves the motion to approve New Business; seconded by Harleen K.

Motion Carries

Muksan V. moves the motion to move to Closed Session; seconded by Aleecia D.

Motion Carries

Report: President

UW Events

- Dean of arts search
- Travis meetings
- HRDO X UWSA women's day tabling
- Senior admin meeting
- Regents
- SASMC committee
- ERM- KPMG working group

External Events

- MHCC- CSMC post-secondary student mental health
- Leg black history month event
- Lobby week at the leg

Internal Events

- bylaw discussions
- Daycare consultations
- Exec committees
- Interim chair
- Staff and exec training discussions
- Lounge furniture

Report: VP Student Affairs

Thursday February 27, 2024.

VPSA Executive report

COMMITTEES

SENATE APPEALS COMMITTEE

- Have attended every weekly senate appeals committee meeting.
- Have approved multiple scholarship awards under the Senate Student Services Committee

ACADEMIC/NON-ACADEMIC MISCONDUCTS

- Have attended over 5 SASMS committee meetings
- Have supported over 6 students with academic misconduct cases
- Dealt with a faculty and professor complaint

SENATE/REAGENT

- Have attended the reagent meetings 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

SPECIAL MEETINGS

Danielle Dunbar

Kyla

Pavlina

Travis

CURRENT PROJECTS

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

Report: VP External Affairs

Internal:

1. **Board of Regents Meeting:** Attended the meeting to advocate for the Women's Soccer Team and the expansion of learning resources for students.
2. **Library English Program Initiative:** Initiating discussions with the university library to introduce an English language program to support students.
3. **Academic Planning Senate Meeting:** Participated in discussions regarding academic policies and student needs.
4. **Women, Non-Binary, and Trans Leadership Panel:** All planning and logistics are complete for the event, scheduled for March 19 at Convocation Hall, starting at 5:00 PM.
5. **Awareness Day (March 13, 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM):** Organized tabling at Riddell Hall and presentations at Hive featuring Huddle Broadway, Women's Health Clinic, Cancer Care Manitoba, Klinik, and Peer Wellness Educators.
6. **Valentine's Day Collaboration:** Worked with two social psychology professors to produce a Valentine's Day episode focusing on relevant social issues.
7. **Mentorship Program:** Attended a meeting with administration regarding the mentorship program, which will be launched soon. In this program an Alumini will be paired with the student on the basis of the field they would choose. Abrar is organizing the first event for this initiative.
8. **Strategic Planning Committee Consultation:** Provided input on university-wide strategic planning efforts.

External:

1. Lobby Week Activities:

- Met with Minister Rene Cable and scheduled meetings with other ministers.
- Advocated for:
 - Increased funding for the University of Winnipeg.
 - Funding for free-flow menstrual products.
 - Educational resources provided by Winnipeg Libraries.
 - Cap on international students' tuition fees.
 - Inclusion of international students in Manitoba healthcare.
 - Access to Access Centers and Blue Cross coverage for international students.
 - Anti-xenophobia programs and campaigns.

2. **Policy Advocacy:** Currently editing a brief on international student policies, which will be emailed to all MPs for further advocacy.

3. **Health Resource Awareness Partnership:** Collaborating with external agencies to enhance student awareness of available health resources.

This report outlines the key initiatives and advocacy efforts undertaken this month. Looking forward to continued progress in the coming weeks.

Prepared by:

Chhavi

VP External Affairs



Report: Urban and Inner City Director

January-February Directors Report

- UIC Student association meeting to plan fundraiser and meeting to plan department merchandise
- Craft/Fundraiser on February 14th-Raised \$90
- Executive Committee Meeting x2
- Meeting with Executives, and Daycare management committee x3
- Represented my department at the University's Strategic Planning Meeting
- Working with the City of Winnipeg to make a loading zone in front of Merchants Corner to increase the accessibility of students who need to use Transit Plus
- Had a meeting with a student about addressing accessibility concerns at main camp



Motion for Advocacy on Final Exam Percentage Policy

Whereas final exam weighting has a significant impact on student performance, academic equity, and mental health;

Whereas there is an ongoing need to review and establish a standardized policy regarding the maximum percentage weight of final exams to ensure fairness and consistency across all courses;

Whereas the advocacy for this policy is an ongoing effort beyond the current VP External Affairs' term;

Be it resolved that the University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA) Board formally acknowledges the importance of regulating final exam weighting and commits to reviewing and working towards a policy;

Be it further resolved that all materials, research, and advocacy efforts related to this policy shall be passed on to newly elected student leaders to ensure continuity of work and sustained advocacy.

This motion aims to ensure that student concerns regarding final exam weighting continue to be addressed beyond the current term and remain a priority for future leadership.



Motion to Advocate for the Grade Replacement Policy

Motion: Be it resolved that the UWSA advocates for the implementation and continuation of a Grade Replacement Policy for undergraduate students at the University of Winnipeg. This policy would allow students to replace an F grade with a Pass/No Credit (P/NC) option, ensuring that academic standing is not unduly impacted by a single failed course.

Be it further resolved that this advocacy effort continues beyond the current executive term and that all relevant materials and progress updates be passed on to incoming executives to ensure continuity in discussions with the Senate Committee.



