



Council Meeting
Thursday, September 27th, 2012, 4:00 p.m.
in Room 203, Toldo.

Ca12-09-27

ITEM DESCRIPTION

1 Call to Order: 4:10pm M.Akbar

2 Chair's Business

3 Approval of Agenda

Dropping motion – no objectives
Grocery Store vs. Cafe

Drop Motion – Melissa Goslin

Add Petition Presentation
Add Presentation from OUSA
Add MPP Presentation Omar Raza

Approval of the Agenda 19/0/0

4 Approval of the Meeting Minutes from:

No meeting minutes

5 Reports

5.1 Report of the Executive

6 Presentations

6.1 Presidents Council

Discussion:

Mohamed Almoayad: Every faculty of the University has a society, concerns regarding the UWSA and societies and the relationship with the Presidents Council. A meeting was held with several of the societies including Science, Social Science, Nursing and Computer Science. It is not a formal body within the bylaws of the UWSA, it is informal in order to keep communication within the student representative bodies.

President of the Nursing society called to meeting to address the following issues:

Professionalism of following constitutions, bylaws and roles Roles of the councilors and executive are not being properly followed; expectations are not being met regarding their roles. Councilors are not speaking with students they represent and keeping them informed of council decisions.

It has been proposed a monthly paper circulating to inform FASS students about the roles of council and the decisions made. Students should be more informed of the on goings of representative. They want to provide information on their councilor's activities and about the councilors themselves.



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Societies are not happy with their relationship with the UWSA due to professionalism and are concerned this is an ongoing problem. Certain societies are not concerning themselves with the Presidents Council.

Councilors should be representing students properly not just the personal views of the councilors. When students are disconnected from the decision making process it creates problems. Making reports to students will create accountability.

Presidents' Council feels that the UWSA is unaware of these issues.

Andrew Rheume Student Representative – Social Sciences Society:

They would like to campaign for clubs to talk to students and find out their interests. Talk to students online and communicate to students and tell them the activities of their councilors and create a two way flow of information.

Omar Razaa explaining how the Presidents Council began: UWSA was created by societies joining together. After the creation of the UWSA they faced difficulties and created societies again within each faculty. The powers that societies once had were left with the UWSA.

6.2 OUSA Presentation

Alysha Li– President of OUSA

Rylan Kinnon – Executive Director of OUSA

Council was given a brief background of OUSA's beginnings and sharing which universities they represent, along with their vision and mission. Milestones of OUSA include shared including tuition freezes, textbook grant, distance grant, Reaching Higher Plan, Ontario Tuition Grant. Talked about the structure of OUSA

Students

General Assembly

Steering Committee (Mohammed Akbar being Windsor's representative)

Executive

Home Office.

They explained the roles and responsibilities of the forming bodies of OUSA.

They encouraged students to reach out and keep relations with OUSA so that they can better represent students with their various relations. Monies collected from students are used towards operation, research, communication and lobbying and conferences and events.

Current campaigns:

Hire Education. Is education doing what we hired it to do.

Mental Health on campus campaign

Current policies:

Tuition and related fees

System Transformation

Tax credits and financial aid



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Student involvement can include; focus groups, town hall meetings, mental health interviews, campus coordinator or research coordinator.

6.3 Presentation from Jordan Banko

Banko is concerned that the pub was closed and replaced with a bookstore and feels that students should have been consulted about this space before a decision was made. Students are upset they were not given a say in this decision. A petition was circulated supporting that there shouldn't be any construction going on until the students are consulted and given a say with the decisions being made to the space in the CAW.

Mustapha: Wanted to thank Jordon for bringing in student perspective.

Nadia T: Thanks to Jordan to bring the student perspective, even though she supports the bookstore.

Jordon: Wants to make known that the petition is not against bookstore

Razza: Students should be able to voice their opinion.

Shaun: Referendum may not be possible, but we need to find a way to let students have their say.

M.A.: Previously collaborated with Jordon on the petition and spoke with Wildeman and Clayton Smith, and said that it's too late to stop the deal with moving the bookstore. There has to be a large outcry from the student population and rally against the opening of the bookstore in the CAW centre.

Arty: Commend Jordon for his initiative, councilors have only had private discussion about the development and that it is still possible to make changes to the plans.

Akbar: Even if administration goes ahead with the bookstore, students have the option to undercut the bookstore and use other methods.

Omar: Next senate meeting should address this issue.

Scott: Confirmed from Jordon that the signatures collected are full time students.

Sammy: Also collected student signatures and said the consensus that students are not happy with the decision being made.

Brandon: Made clear that the basement pub brought on debt, creating accountability and letting students know why the decisions being made were made at all.

Eric: Pub wasn't creating debt with vendors, explained that it was a debt to the UWSA itself.

Shaun: The UWSA did not make strong decisions last year regarding the Pub. He stated that there will be legal implications to cancelling the bookstore contracts.



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Scott: Addressed Kim to find out the legal implications of cancelling the contract.

Kim: Speculated that if the contract was terminated, the UWSA may have to reimburse the university for sunk costs.

Akbar: Asks "Do we want to this issue to go to referendum?" He feels that if whether one or several hundred students speak up about an issue, it should be addressed.

Mohammed: Clayton Smith is concerned about how the decision was made and letting students know about it. He was concerned about the opinions of students. The only way university administration would back down if there was pressure place upon them from a significant portion of students. If the 700 that have signed the petition are for a referendum, then the chances of others coming forward during the by-elections would be greater. If the UWSA doesn't ask the students what they want with the CAW space, the image of the UWSA will be affected which should be a greater concern than the image of the University.

Sami: Feels that the UWSA is afraid of the university administration opinions. The students should have a strong voice against administration despite the repercussions of the administration.

Shaun: Response to Mohammed, only being able to pull out of the contract due to outcry. Even if there is a referendum, that does represent an outcry. Response to Sami: The problem is not being afraid of administration; it is the issue of the legality of the contracts already in place.

Kim: Read the by-law regarding the referendum.

Shaun: How do they address the referendum with the contracts already in place?

Arty: The issue should be addressed despite the repercussions of the administration. The concern should be disappointing the students, since that's who the UWSA represents.

Omar: States that the university will want to side with the students demands, referring the ancillary fees as an example. The council should go ahead with the referendum and see what they want to do with the Pub and what other options do they want? Present a survey do find this out. Establish that students are against the bookstore and revise the contract.

Orr: Informs that the UWin Board is the one who makes the decisions regarding the Pub, and that it is outside of the realm of the UWSA. Delegation of the space falls under the Policy Management Board that falls under by laws and constitutions the body of the UWSA. Is not concerned about fear of administration, UWSA does not own or lease the building. The dynamic is a collaboration with administration and should be stated. States the pub was creating paper debt and takes away from other services. States the administration is also there to enhance the student experience on campus and not opposing goals to the UWSA. She supports the decision of the bookstore being put in the CAW as it is an important aspect of student life. Understands that students will be upset if there is no referendum,

Yu: When will the bookstore be opening and when will it start receiving revenue?

Orr: June 1st is the projected date. Contracts make it unclear when the UWSA will receive revenue.



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6.4 Omar Raza – Theresa Piruza MPP Women’s Leadership Symposium Oct 11.

Raza: Extended an invitation to female students to and gain leadership skills for use in the public and private sector. The symposium is an opportunity to meet with other women that have similar goals. UWSA is a partner of the project and hopes students will support the VPA with her participation in the program. UWSA is contributing goodwill and free printing of posters.

6.3 Dr. Wildeman to gather student input on the University of Windsor’s Strategic Mandate Agreement.

Discussions regarding the report and provide a response to the report.
What do we think of 3 year degrees?

Orr: Depending on the structure of the 3 year degree it can be difficult financing a degree without the opportunity to work and pay for education over the summer. 4 year degrees allow the in depth learning compared to the first 2 years of broad education.

Pigeon: In favour of the 4 year degree because it is necessary to work and pay for education.

Razaa: 4 year degree enhances the student experience.

Omar: Allowing students to work in labs and apply the theory they have learned in class. How would this affect applying for graduate/professional schools?

Sami: Students will not be able to obtain the knowledge that can be obtained with a fourth year. Moving first year classes to online availability will help ease this transition.

Shaun: Working all throughout the year will allow for life skill development as a working adult in realistic in the workforce where there are no summer breaks. There is no feasible way to allow 3 year plan and allow student to earn money to pay for their education. Changes with overall structures will have to be addressed as a whole.

Wildeman: Agrees that university has become a job with the proposition of no breaks in a school year.

Atkins: Students are going into university at younger age, it creates the issues of changing programs since there is less time to make those decisions.

Pigeon: Does this create budget problems with shorter degrees, would it create higher tuition increases?

Wildeman: Unsure, but does not see why tuition hikes would occur.

Scott: It is already possible to complete a 4 year degree within a shorter time frame. But it creates financial issues, since the summer employment becomes a challenge. Bursaries and scholarships would have to be reassessed on how they are disbursed based on a 3 semester. A greater challenge is for international students not being able to return home for 3 full years.



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Orr: Even if you made university free, and let it mimic the work experience. When you leave university you won't have work experience because you will have gone to school for 3 full school years leaving it harder to be competitive in the workforce. How would Co-op fit into this program? Giving students more options on how to get their degree done is a good idea.

Arty: It is important that students have the full 4 years as a learning tool

Shaun: Having more options and allowing students to take a full course load over the summer would be ideal for students to have flexibility. Creating limits on students options isn't the way to move forward, it would be better to add this experience to student' choices.

Trevor: Students becoming burned out should be a larger concern, having the summer for students to take time away from their studies.

Wildeman: Mental health issues are then brought up concerning students since the proposal will take away the summer break.

Online degrees opinions?

Trevor: Post-secondary education isn't just about the class room, it also comes from the extracurricular activities. Being able to act in a social environment is an important skill that comes along with the university experience. It isn't worth doing an entire degree online.

Orr: A degree online wouldn't hold the same value as someone who interacted in the classroom. A science or engineering degree goes hand and hand with lab work. Discussion is not free in an online classroom. Technology is limited to create the same environment for discussion and interaction.

Akbar: Universities collaborating with other universities to provide online education, however, agrees that online education does not hold the same value as an in class environment.

Omar: Technology will improve over time and it will appeal to those who are not currently able to attend an in class environment.

Nadia: (SAL Ramsay) ?

Wildeman: There hasn't been discussion on how long the degree would take. There will still be restrictions on when you can take this course if there is a live person there teaching a course unless it is module base will allow people to stretch out their degrees to an even greater length.

Addressed other topics touched on in the document including more innovation and entrepreneurs. Asks for feedback on this subject:

Atkins: U Windsor allows students to collaborate and create innovation with the CEL. Putting more emphasis on programs like CEL and allow other students rather than just business students the opportunity to take business classes like new business venture.



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Shaun: You need classroom environment to learn how to be a leader and show them leadership skills. It becomes frustrating to hear that we need more innovation, there is no fostering of innovation in our economy. Our society needs to change in order to accept new innovation and entrepreneurship. The economy is no conducive to it.

Akbar: Promoting CEL and allowing all faculties with all ideas can work together. Allowing students from different backgrounds come together and foster growth.

Trevor: Pushing students in other disciplines rather than just the business faculty to learn how to start a business. You can't cut costs of education and create innovation.

Atkins: Entrepreneurship is not just business, it's about creating things that aren't already in place. Fostering brilliant ideas and giving them the edge that they didn't already have.

Atkin (SAL Jordon): Was not able to find support for his new business venture, and sees the lack of resources for new business. A lot of people have ideas and don't know where to start.

Orr: Discusses whether or not University education is conducive to entrepreneurship. Gave examples of successful entrepreneurs who did not finish university and became successful

Wilderman: Agrees not all entrepreneurs will benefit from the university experience.

Trevor: University can help kick start students with their ideas and teaching them the skills and giving them promotion. The university should stand behind students and promote their ventures.

Shaun: An entrepreneurship certificate would be something worthwhile without necessarily obtaining a degree.

Wildeman: Now addresses tuition framework, tuition in Ontario is the highest in the country. Our universities are set up that the government putting in a percentage and the rest paid by students.

Orr: 4.2% tuition increase puts communities at a disadvantage especially in Windsor since it's higher than the inflation rate in comparison to other cities.

Wildeman: Mentions Quebec putting a freeze on the tuition framework. Discussed the idea of free tuition

Orr: Paying tuition would be preferable rather than receiving a subpar education that is free.

Wildeman: Interest free student loans are an option to give students a chance to pay them back. Is this an attractive option?

Shaun: Agreed that this is a good idea.

Akbar: Agrees that this is a good idea. Suggests that students unions and university deal with the issues locally and not use the framework

Wildeman: Explains that it is difficult not to follow the provincial framework.



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Atkins: Students don't see the increasing value of their education with rising costs.

Shaun: Make a public presentation of accountability of the university's budget.

Wildeman: The budget documents can be difficult to understand. It needs to be understood it does not cut bursaries and scholarships. As the operating budget increases, expenditures are also rising which creates cuts.

He discusses the report that is being submitted touching on education and entrepreneurial advances that can be made with the university.

Opens a dialogue about the campus facilities and how to update the athletic facilities. How should the University go about raising the funds? Should they add fees to students and raise the money? Or consider taking out loans that make sense from a business standpoint.

Raza: Having the discussion should be open with other parties involved.

Wildeman: Wants to open the discussion to see if the UWSA would like to consider it.

Raza: Understands that the sporting facilities are behind, does this put the sports team at a disadvantage.

Wildeman: Not just supporting our teams, but allowing greater use to students and the community.

Arty: (SAL) Would the facility be torn down?

Wildeman: It would most likely be added to ie: adding new courts. It is still a useful place it just doesn't support the demand.

Atkins: It should be addressed by the students, to further develop what we have.

Akbar: The issues should be brought to students and find out what they want, using town halls at a medium.

Wildeman: Does not believe that town halls are effective.

Nadia: How much do students contribute to the athletic facilities?

Wildeman: Believes it to be \$25-\$30 fee. Talks about fees from other universities ranging from \$80-\$152

Shaun: Students aren't necessarily addressing the issues when they hear about new fees, they only hear the part about increases to their tuition.

(SAL-Kurt): Discusses that insurance doesn't want to cover sports related activities under the UWSA clubs. Sports and Rec don't have the resources to cover these activities that are being transferred to the current athletics departments.

Wildeman: These issues need to be addressed with all parties involved to come to a resolution.



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Omar: Expressed contentment that this issue was brought to light before any decisions were made.

Trevor: Is there a specific amount they want to increase the fee by?

Wildeman: There isn't a set plan in how to address the costs.

Pigeon: Addressed who presently uses the facilities and who uses gym facilities elsewhere. Asks if the management of the facilities would involve students? Employment opportunities?

Wildeman: Great points of discussion that need to be addressed. Employment opportunities move into the realm of collective bargains with the union.

Sami: (SAL Ahmed) What time frame are they looking at for the new facilities? Would students have input on how it would be improved?

Wildeman: Develop a timeframe over the fall would allow a referendum in the winter semester. Construction could then begin on 2014. There was student input in previous projects, so it would be key to have their input on this project as well.

Shaun: Is this something that can be paid for from regular funds?

Wildeman: It is not, other expansion projects like the Engineering building, were financed through other means like grants from the government and fundraising.

Orr: Is this fee going to be a one time until the project is complete? Or will they continue to collect fees and use those for future expansion projects? Are students expected to then pay further fees to run the new expansion programs?

Wildeman: Those ongoing costs have to be put into the overall budgeting costs.

Sami (SAL) Asked about capital expenditure budgets. Would students have more control over other resources if they give the money to expand those facilities?

Wildeman: There is a joint management agreement to run the CAW and it has been recently re-negotiated and those agreements need to be respected. Agreements cannot be changed from year to year since those agreements are put into place with long term goals in mind.

Sami: The CAW should be turned over the UWSA in order to collect fees for the athletic facilities.

Wildeman: States that this is not a feasible or realistic option.

Raza: Are there other way that the students can leverage power within the negotiations, such as student jobs?

Wildeman: It is something to consider and bring into negotiations.

It is established that a special meeting will be held to further discussion. Date to be determined.



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7 Posted Motions

7.1 EMC Members at Large Call for Nominations

Kim Orr

Orr: Representing submissions for EMC nominations

Nishay – Would like to be involved to understand how the UWSA works

Nila White – Was previously involved in high school activities and would like to help with further EMC

No further nominations

7.2 Moving the Election Divisions Head Quarters

Alyssa Atkins

BIRT the Elections Office be moved to room B-105 for the final stretch of the by-elections

Akbar - Moved

Steven – Seconded

Vote: Carried

7.3 Council Attendance

Natalie Gosling

BIRT council attendance be enforced in a fair and consistent way for all councilors.

Natalie - Motioned

Raza – Seconded

Orr: Secretary will be taking attendance, and VPA will be double checking for accuracy.

Raza: Reaffirms that the attendance is cleared and started over in two weeks



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Shaun: Presents new idea on how to double check attendance.

Trevor-Moved
Akbar-Seconded

Vote: Carried

8 New Business

BIRT the UWSA recognized the petition of Jordan Benko on the question of the bookstore contract and hold a referendum on the issue in the 2012 by-election, such that the petition is verified to have at least 500 signatures.

Jordon – The students need to know what’s going and should have a say what’s going on with decisions and they should be heard.

BIFRT the question for this referendum be

”Do you the students feel that the UWSA should cancel the bookstore contract with the University Administration and retain control of the basement space?”

Orr: Decisions have to be made within the organization and previously elected officials have made a decision regarding the bookstore. If the UWSA suffers the consequence of cancelling the bookstore that does not mean the students will suffer, it will be the UWSA who will have to deal with the legality of it.

Sami: Points out that this is a referendum question.

Arty: Points out that 500 signatures have been collected and therefore needs to go to referendum.

Scott: (SAL Jordon) Addressing Orr that if the UWSA is suffering than the students are suffering. The UWSA should be a part of the students, not an obstacle to the students.

Trevor: The dollar cost will inevitably cost the UWSA not a direct cost of students.

Orr: States that the end goal is the betterment of students, and that each representative has different goals on how to make those improvements. States that those signatures collected may not necessarily best represent the students who have dedicated themselves to working towards a resolution for the space. Students who take a few minutes to sign a petition have not dedicated the hours the way a council member has because they have not been given all information to make a decision.

Omar: The final result should still address the students’ wants regardless of the outcome of those decisions.

Akbar: Students should be given the opportunity the voice their opinions. The by-election could be used as a time to properly inform students so they can make educated decisions regarding the bookstore.

Scott: Council should decide whether the petition will be adopted.



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Mohammed: States that the body can strike down the petition and bring about a less technical question to present. The body should vote

Arty: Talk about the needs of the university students and that a social aspect to the university.

Debate:

Arty: In favour, there is no choice, the students have presented their signature there should be a referendum.

Shaun: If they don't pass the motion, they don't have to have the referendum. There isn't a chance to pull out of the contract as is, and the referendum since the decision being made has been done.

Mohammed: Whether or not it can be stopped isn't the point, it's about hearing the student's voices.

Calling to question:

Scott/Shawn

Called

BIRTH we should have a referendum on the bookstore contract

10/7/1

Motion: Tabling the discussion to another time.

Seconded: Gibb

Arty: Against tabling the motion. Why is the discussion being tabled and being moved to a further point in time?

Shaun: We want to hold a special meeting to get it done.

Scott: Keep the discussion open and resolve it tonight

Atkins: This decision shouldn't be made tonight considering the duration of the current meeting.

Orr: Addressing this issue will not be properly resolved tonight and an emergency meeting can be called.

Sami (SAL Jordon) Agree that the way the question being formed is important and to continue discussion.

Mohammed: Addressed how an emergency meeting can be held.

Tabling the referendum discussion

15/4/0

Move grocery store discussion until the referendum issue is addressed



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Scott
Mustapha

Motion to table the grocery store discussion

Scott
Shaun

19/0/0

9 Question Period

10 Adjournment