



ORGANIZATION OF PART-TIME UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
STUDENTS ADVOCATING FOR STUDENTS - OVER 40 YEARS OF EXCELLENT SERVICES!

OPUS NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2012
Volume 1, Issue 7

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Our Mission Statement:

OPUS collaborates with the University of Windsor community to identify and promote the collective interests of part-time undergraduate students.

What is OPUS at the University of Windsor?

OPUS is the Organization of Part-Time University students, a student group made up of volunteer part-time students who advocate on behalf of part-time students. OPUS was established in 1969 to provide a means for part-time students to have their voices heard on campus.

At OPUS, we believe that part-time students have different needs, concerns and problems distinct from those of the rest of the undergraduate student body. These students work hard to balance their many responsibilities of home, family, work, and education.

OPUS attempts to help students cope with the additional pressure of studies and the adjustment to an academic environment.

OPUS Board Members

The Current OPUS Executive/Staff consists of:

President	Dr. Edward King
Vice President	Anthony Meloche
Treasurer	Monsur Elahi
Director At Large	Berni Doctor
	Vajo Stajic
	Caroline Burr
	Elizabeth Long
	Hussein Ahmed
Executive Director	Maryan Amalow
Health Plan Administrator	Steve Jancev
Work Study Students 2011—2012	Annum Waseem Ala-Eldin Yosif Ranya Nassereddine Maryam Tahir

A Message from the President



On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Organization of Part-time University Students (OPUS), I would like to welcome all part-time students to the University of Windsor. We hope that your time at the University will be fruitful and fulfilling. OPUS represents part-time students, provides a number of services, and advocates for students. We host orientation events for new students in January and August. We also have a number of activities for part-time students including a barbecue, an awards dinner, some potluck lunches, and several meetings with speakers on topics such as financial awards, student rights and responsibilities, stress management, and academic help. We are also members of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and through this organization we lobby both the Federal and Provincial governments. We provide a health plan to our members with our CFS membership at a very competitive price.

We are primarily an advocacy organization. I am a voting member of the Board of Governors, which makes all financial decisions on behalf of the University. I also sit on committees of the Board of Governors. Along with three other OPUS members, I also sit on the Senate that makes the academic decisions for the University. Members of OPUS sit as voting members on all Senate Committees as well as many other committees at the University. In this way, we are able to represent the interests of part-time students on all issues both academic and financial. If you have a problem or think that any policies at the University should be changed, you can come to the OPUS office or email us at opus@uwindsor.ca, and we will see that the issue is taken to the appropriate committee.

We have an excellent "History of OPUS" written by Mary Schisler, a past president of OPUS. It is available online (www.uwindsor.ca/opus) or you can find a hard copy in the office.

We will also represent part-time distance education students who are taking distance education courses effective Sept. 1, 2011. I would recommend getting involved at the University outside of classes if your schedule allows. Going to the gym, being on an intramural team, joining a club or society, or getting involved with your students' union will make your university experience richer.

Respectfully yours,
Dr. Edward King

A Message from the Vice-President



Welcome OPUS members and congratulations on the decision to continue your educational journey.

My name is Anthony Meloche; I have been a part time University of Windsor student since the summer of 2003. As a father, full time employee and part-time student I have an understanding of the unique challenges students face in earning a degree on a part-time basis. We share many of the same concerns as full time students such as raising tuition costs and the quality of education and services. There are many demands part-time students face that are different then encountered by full time students. Our personal, vocational and university experiences present us with unique challenges. OPUS is your voice in advocating for you the part-time student.

I would like to thank OPUS staff and Board Members for their commitment and efforts to help create a positive educational experience for all part-time students. For the past year I have been on the Board of Directors of OPUS as your Vice President. This position has allowed me the opportunity to be your voice on committees and represent your concerns. The committees I continue to be directly involved in are the Student Committee, the Academic Policy Committee and the Judicial Panel. I would encourage you to find out more about these committees and the important work we are involved in by searching for them on the University website.

As your re-elected Vice President for the next 2 years I look forward to the challenges and opportunities to advocate for you. Let me know what you feel would engage you and make your university experience more meaningful and successful.

I look forward to personally seeing you at one of our OPUS events. We have many events throughout the year. Last year's part-time student reception/pub night was a new initiative and it turned out to be a lot of fun. We have 2 open part time social meetings per semester and there is always food. These gatherings give you a chance to meet and discuss issues with part-time students and the OPUS Board Members. Your day planner lists many of our events and they can also be found on our website opus@uwindsor.ca.

Good luck in your pursuit of your personal and professional goals

Anthony Meloche

A Message from the Executive Director



Dear Members,

Congratulations on your decision to attend the University of Windsor as a part-time student! On behalf of OPUS I'd like to welcome all part-time students to the University of Windsor and to the Organization of Part-time University Students (OPUS)! The start of a New Year signals renewed excitement, fresh ideas and new projects. It's a chance to reflect on the year that was and look forward to the promise of new possibilities in the year ahead. Looking back at our accomplishments in 2011, we're excited to see just what 2012 will hold for OPUS.

Attending university on a part-time basis is an exciting, rewarding experience, and one that can lead you to face a variety of challenges. OPUS recognizes that the needs of part-time students differ from the traditional student, so our mandate is to promote the interests of part-time students, and to advocate for you in any way we can. OPUS will do its best to keep you informed through our newsletter, our web-site, and in-class announcements. OPUS is here to inform and support students, and to make a better world as well as to provide an exceptional and supportive undergraduate experience.

The Organization of Part-time University Students serves part-time students' on-campus, off-campus and distance education students. In 2011 OPUS focused on new ways to connect, communicate and improve our student's overall campus experience. Our members are kept informed of activities through regular monthly OPUS Associate meetings, Facebook, Newsletters and mass e-mails. We established partnerships with other organizations such as Alumni. We are working hard with the administration for a concerted effort to increase the number of evening courses and high-level courses that students wanted in order to complete a degree. This will be one of the most important projects that we'll focus on this year. By studying part-time, you may qualify for a part-time bursary/scholarship that our office funds. These bursaries/scholarship falls into several categories, to find out more about them you can contact Student Awards Office or apply through your SIS. OPUS has been proudly serving and supporting part-time students at University of Windsor over forty years.

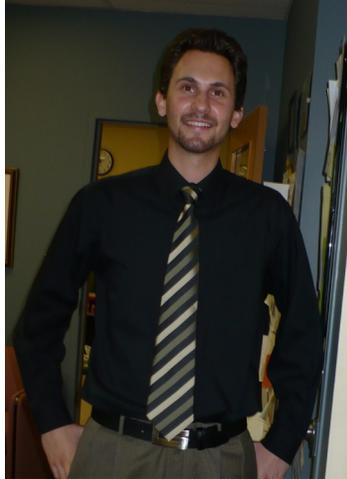
However, communication is a two-way exchange - we need to hear from you. It is the feedback we receive from our OPUS Associate students that sets our agenda. Part-time students are special people-people with goals and ambition and motivation to achieve them. I am pleased to represent and serve you as Executive Director of OPUS, and I wish you much success this year in your academic pursuits. I would like to say a special big thanks to Steve Jancev our Health Plan Administrator along with the OPUS President and Vice President. Your support has helped me greatly in insuring the smooth running of the Organization. Once again, welcome, and we wish you success and enjoyment in your time at the University of Windsor!.

Lastly, thanks to Board of Directors, OPUS Associates, and other volunteers who gave us feedback, and helped us communicate with part-time students. OPUS might not be successful without you!

Sincerely,

Maryan Amalow

A Message from the Health Plan Administrator



Dear Members,

The OPUS Drug and Dental Plan is now providing its fifth year of service to part-time undergraduate students for the 2011-12 academic year. The annual rate is affordable and accessible for students of all types. We have seen a greater volume of students becoming more aware of OPUS because of the growth of the OPUS Drug and Dental Plan along with the other services that we provide for our students. OPUS can only be as effective as the input it receives from its members. We believe that part-time undergraduate students have different needs from those of the student bodies on campus.

The benefits plan provided by OPUS is based on a pay direct financial model once the student has been officially active through the insurance carrier, which is Green Shield. The pay direct feature benefits members who require and utilize the plan because they are not required to pay up front for a drug or dental claim. For example, for dental services, students are only required to pay the difference which is 40%, since the plan covers 60% up to a maximum of \$500.00. In addition, students are also eligible to receive a 30% discount through the Student Dental Discount Network (SDDN).

Students have the option to opt out of the OPUS Drug and Dental Plan, provided that they have existing comparable coverage and complete the opt out form online or in the OPUS office during the opt-out period. Part-time students can also purchase family benefits for their spouse and/or dependent children. The primary benefits carrier for the OPUS Drug and Dental claims is Green Shield Canada. Detailed information regarding the plan can be found on the OPUS (www.uwindsor.ca/opus) or Green Shield Student Centre (<http://www.greenshield.ca/English/StudentCentre/>) websites or students can pick up information in the office.

Furthermore, we are pleased to inform that all part-time distance education students within the OPUS organization were reinstated as OPUS Members, which in turn will allow us to advocate on their behalf, provide OPUS services, and provide the OPUS Drug and Dental Plan as an opt-in option effective Fall 2011. We also look forward to adding more benefits in the near future, as some of our members have requested.

Steve Jancev

Health Plan Administrator

A Message from the Treasurer

Monsur Elahi



To the members of OPUS:

My name is Monsur Elahi, and I have held the position of financial treasurer since July 2010 with OPUS. Prior to that, I served as a director of large with OPUS. It is also my great honour and privileged to be a financial treasurer with OPUS. Through these times I have diligently worked and ensured to balance the financial position of the OPUS and provided proper accounting audit in order to meet generally accepted accounting principle standards. I also represent OPUS and part-time students on the Policy Management Board (PMB) and Program Development Committee (PDC).

I have carefully overseen residual funds towards low risk investment portfolio to safe hold all reserves required for future operation costs. For the past years OPUS has completed their fiscal year within budget that was set in the previous year by the Board. Currently, the financial position for OPUS is within the proposed budget and is financial healthy.

OPUS has been serving and advocating for part-time students for the past 40 years with great pleasure. OPUS has given back to our part-time student members, in the means of bursaries, awards, and complimentary items and services available in the OPUS office. OPUS will continue to offer incentives with pleasure for part-time students to participate in the organization, and support our mission.

Thank you!

A Message from the Director at Large

Berni Doctor



My co-Part-timers at UWINDSOR, Welcome!

As in the past years, my guide motto in serving you this school year is: Called to help...called to PASS THEM ON...

Let me share. Each of us has a CALL, intuitive or divine, that guides us through our Life journey. By God's special Gifts, each is equipped with natural and acquired talents, in the Arts (Drama, Music, Writing) and Sciences (Health, Physics, Engineering). For me, music and dance are parts of my cultural heritage. By Philippine practice, a baby is sung to, and taught from the womb; kids at any school age do folkdance for play and physical education. I fondly remember singing while folk dancing at grade six graduation programs. By modeling, I've passed on this tradition to my children, and their children...giving and sharing joy to and with friends and folks in their communities.

With my heart's eyes sensitized in close association with you all, I found some members need Action-Results, not mere advocacy, representations in UWIN groups. Thus, I've been driven to initiate the following causes:

- UWIN International Students Basis Needs (UWISBN) Workshop
- Kidscare International Student Scholarship
- Kidscare Windsor-Essex High School Bursary Fund (K-WEHSB)

The effects that filter down to you may seem hidden, but huge. I invite you to meet with me as desired, to dialogue and know details.

We are encouraged to be Brothers and Sisters to one another as we journey Studentship at UWINDSOR. Educated, we are richly endowed with human resources...Isn't it our duty to share or support each other and to share out the goods entrusted to us for the good of Self, Family and Humanity globally.

Indeed, we are called to PASS THEM ON...Best wishes as always; to share with you all.

Regards.

A Message from the Director at Large

Vajo Stajic



Dear OPUS Members,

My name is Vajo Stajic and I am one of the OPUS Directors' at Large - Education & Advocacy Coordinator. I have spent most of my university career fighting for the rights of students and I will continue to do so, on the OPUS board. OPUS is a fantastic organization and I consider myself honoured to be able to represent students on it. I will also strive to represent part-time students on behalf of OPUS at meetings of the Canadian Federation of Students.

Prior to joining OPUS I worked with them on the Drop Fees Coalition's campaigns on campus. I am currently key coordinator of the Drop Fees Coalition and will continue to strive to bring affordable and accessible education to the students at the University of Windsor. In addition, I am a member of the University of Windsor's grassroots student newspaper, The Student Movement. I am also Vice President Internal of the Windsor Workers' Action Centre and have advocated for the rights of student workers.

As an OPUS Director at Large, I am advocating for the rights of part-time students in the committees I sit on. In addition, I will lobby for OPUS members at general meetings of the Canadian Federation of Students.

As a student union, OPUS is responsible for advocating and defending the rights of part-time students, as well as acting as a voice for part-time students. I have seen the tireless efforts of the OPUS board & staff in advocating for the rights of part-time students over the last three years, which I have worked with them. I hope to carry on this tradition of constant struggle for the rights of students as a Director at Large.

In constant solidarity,

Vajo Stajic

OPUS Teacher of the Year and Faculty Award

Recipients with U of W President along with OPUS Vice President and Executive Director during CTL Teaching Excellence event



UWINDSOR Participants at Laurier Retreat with Dean of Students

UWINDSOR Participants with Laurier Graduate Student Association



A Message from CFS



Dear OPUS members,

As a part-time student at the University of Windsor, you are a member of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS). The CFS unites more than one-half million students across Canada and more than 300,000 students in Ontario. Together, we can effectively advocate for an accessible high quality post-secondary education system and for students' rights to both the federal and provincial governments.

Students have accomplished much by working together. In 2009, students lobbied for and won, the first-ever national system of grants. In March 2010, after an intensive year of lobbying, students won many positive changes to the Ontario Student Assistant Program (OSAP) including the creation of a new part-time student grant. And, this past January, the government announced that it would create a province-wide system of credit transfer. Working through the CFS, students were instrumental in the creation of this new system.

Your membership in the CFS also comes with many benefits that I hope you take advantage of. For those of you who are taking three courses, or are a student with a disability and taking 40 per cent of a full course load, you are eligible for the International Student Identity Card (ISIC). If you are taking fewer courses, make sure to get a Studentsaver discount card to access savings at stores in Windsor and across Ontario. In addition, right in time for tax season, you can also file your taxes online for free through ufile.ca. Visit www.cfsontario.ca for more information about these and other services.

Grassroots campus organizing combined with cooperative student-owned services form the foundation of our collective work. As a member of the CFS, I invite you to take advantage of the cost-saving services available to you and to get involved in the campaigns for a fully accessible high quality public post secondary education system. For more information about the services and campaigns of the Federation, please talk to your representatives at OPUS or email federation@cfsontario.ca.

Best of luck for the remainder of the term

National Student Day of Action: FEB. 1, 2012

On Feb 1st students across the country mobilized and held demonstrations to demand affordable education. Students at the University of Windsor participated in this event with over 200 students gathering in front of Chrysler tower at the university and marching around the campus. OPUS took part and had a strong presence at the event. In addition to having Lauren Quinn, a part-time student give a speech during the rally, the event was co-organized by OPUS Education and Advocacy Coordinator Vajo Stajic in conjunction with members of the UWSA and GSS. The OPUS banner was a prominent feature during the march and was held proudly by several members of the OPUS including our Vice President Mr. Anthony Meloche. In the lead-up to the rally Vajo Stajic was quoted as saying "Universities have been under-funded since the 1990s, we need to pressure both the provincial and federal governments to make education a priority. Students can no longer stand by and let tuition fees rise and rise. Post-secondary education needs to be accessible for all." OPUS has always taken a firm stance on the issue of affordability in post-secondary education. As an organization we always fight hard for our members and make sure that their voices are heard. That is why we are proud to have participated in this important event. **OPUS Staff**

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

March 29, 2011



The AGM was held on Tuesday March 29 in the OPUS Office at the CAW Student Centre room 172. The event began at 5:30 in the evening. The OPUS Annual General Meeting (AGM) is usually held in the Winter semester. The AGM serves as closure for the previous year and as a first meeting for the New Year.

All part-time undergraduate students are more than encouraged to attend to see how OPUS has advocated on their behalf throughout the year. All members in attendance have the opportunity to ask questions and review with the OPUS Board of Directors the OPUS Constitution, By-laws, and Financial Statements.



OPUS Annual BBQ

September 20, 2011

Our first big event of the year was the annual OPUS Barbeque which was held on September 20, 2011. Everyone was welcome to the BBQ that was held outside the CAW centre. All OPUS members, part-time students, and friends of the University were invited to come and enjoy free hamburgers, hot dogs, vegetarian fare, chips, and beverages on the northwest corner of the lawn outside the CAW. Students were able to grab a quick bite to eat between their classes out in the open air on a beautiful day.

The event took place from 4:30pm until 6:00pm, allowing part-time students who work during the day and attend classes in the evening a chance to come and enjoy the event. The BBQ was a great way for students to get a head start at the University of Windsor, and was a great way for them to familiarize themselves with the campus. The Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) representatives also issued ISIC cards to students that day.

During the event, OPUS staff, directors, and volunteers were available to answer any questions students may have about OPUS or the life of a part-time student in general. Students were also treated to other OPUS related freebies including the part-time student planner and t-shirts.

Once again, this annual event was a huge success! Thanks to all of you who came out!



OPUS BBQ Experience

Caroline Burr, Director at Large



Every September, the Organization of Part Time students hosts a BBQ to welcome all new and returning part time and distance education students.

Our 2011 BBQ was a rousing success and had a fantastic turnout. It was held right outside of the OPUS office on the CAW Centre northwest corner. An information table was on display offering all kinds of OPUS paraphernalia ...mugs, water bottles, day planners and tee shirts... either to give away or to offer as prizes.

Steve Jancev, our Health Plan Administrator, acted as DJ for the event and had everyone, including myself, bopping to the beat! Myself and fellow Directors' at Large, Bernarda Doctor & Syed Naqvi, OPUS Vice President Anthony Meloche, Work Study student Ala-Eldin Yosif and the President of OPUS, Dr. Edward King served up the burgers and hotdogs to a long line of hungry students. We even offered veggie burgers for our vegetarian and vegan members! The meal was rounded out with bags of chips and a selection of soft drinks and water. And the best part was, it was all free!

A lot of OPUS volunteers came out to help as well as staff and faculty. With the help of Food Services and Mother Nature blessing us with sunshine, the whole event was a huge success.

Come take part in our next BBQ or participate in the many other events OPUS hosts throughout the year. We'd love to meet you!

Happy studying!

Caroline Burr

UWINDSOR Part-time Student Fall Orientation: Aug. 25, 2011

The University of Windsor offers several orientation programs throughout the year. By attending these programs, new part-time students are introduced to the university's campus and student services. Students are also provided with the opportunity to meet faculty, staff, OPUS members, and other incoming students. The goal of all of our orientation programs is to prepare you for a successful university experience!

The circumstances under which you are starting university will determine the orientation programs that are right for you. In many situations, you will benefit from attending more than one orientation program as the focus of the information varies.



OPUS Pub Night

October 12, 2011

The Organization of Part-time University Students along with the Alumni Association and university administrators welcomed part-time students to the **2nd Annual Part-time Students Pub Night**. Part-time Students were provided with an opportunity to win a bursary toward textbook purchases. One lucky part-time student was rewarded with an OPUS bursary of \$250. In addition, materials were handed out including the OPUS Handbook/Day planner, newsletter, and other pamphlets. The event was held at the Thirsty Scholar (Basement Pub) in CAW Student Centre Lower Level this past Tuesday. There was a tremendous turnout that included part-time students, administrators, and alumni friends of the University. Attendees were also fed with pizza, salad, chicken wings, and soft drinks during the two hours. Students also received important information about OPUS, the Alumni Association, and the Random Act of Kindness initiative.

Keynote speakers from the event were Krisna and Jeremy from the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), as well as Tanya and Bill from Engineers Without Borders. Special thanks to all those in attendance at this successful event.



OPUS Social

November 9, 2011

The OPUS social was held in the OPUS lounge room 172 in the CAW Student Centre and featured a keynote address from student academic advisor Marty Lowman. Jeri Baldwin from the registrar's office was also in attendance and answered some questions from students. Marty provided information to students on how to interpret, understand, and operate the Student Information System (SIS). He explained how students can make good academic decisions based on their skills, abilities, and interests.

One part-time student won a \$250 money prize toward their Holiday purchases from the Organization of Part-time University Students during this inaugural Evening Social. Overall, Marty and Jeri addressed the concerns that students raised.



OPUS Potluck

November 23, 2011

On November 23rd, the OPUS office opened its doors to part time students for their annual pot luck luncheon. OPUS staff and associates mingled with students over a wide variety of foods.

Every year, near the end of the fall semester, OPUS organizes this feast for any part time students to take some time out of their day and enjoy a friendly atmosphere. From time to time, we all come together to eat, drink, and have fun.

Our menu included a variety of ethnically diverse foods including Somali, Macedonian, Sudanese, Egyptian, Italian, and Pakistani dishes. OPUS staff and board members contributed to their part of the feast and were present to welcome students and spread the word about our organization.

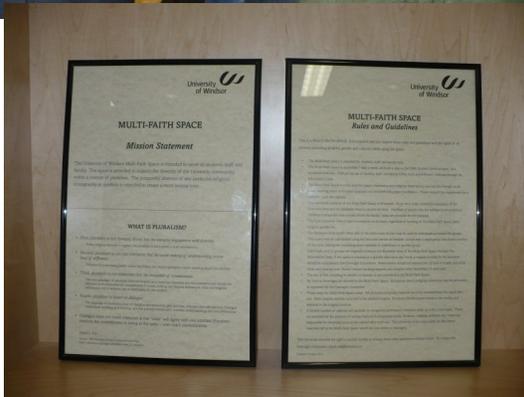


UWINDSOR Winter Orientation

January 4, 2012



Multi-Faith Space Opening Ceremony



The University of Windsor partnered along with the students at the University of Windsor to launch a new initiative that would enable individuals of all religious backgrounds to come together and practice their faith in one area. The new Multi-Faith Space had its official grand opening on October 18th, 2011. The space replaced the Used Bookstore in the basement of CAW. Several prominent figures showed up to celebrate the opening including the University of Student President, Alan Wildeman, Vice-Provost, Leo Groarke, UWSA president, Andre Capaldi, and Human Rights Director, Kaye Johnson. OPUS Executive Director, Maryan Amalow and OPUS Health Plan Administrator, Steve Jancev were also present to show support from their members.

The Multi-Faith Space allows students to come and take a break from school stress through spiritual and/or religious healing. As a Muslim student who is required to pray five times a day, this was especially beneficial for me because I now had a permanent and very convenient location to pray. I just needed my student card to gain entry into the MFS and I was able to go to the booked section of the room to pray. Overall, my experience with the MFS has been a great and it has done a great job of serving students.

OPUS Work Study Student, Annum Waseem

Memorandum of Understanding received from Alumni Association during Banquet in Nov. 2011



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Among the
UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR STUDENTS' ALLIANCE (UWSA)
ORGANIZATION OF PART-TIME UNIVERSITY STUDENTS (OPUS) and
GRADUATE STUDENT SOCIETY (GSS)

LINKING GRADS... PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

The University of Windsor Alumni Association (Alumni Association), the University of Windsor Students' Alliance (UWSA), the Organization of Part-time Students (OPUS) and the Graduate Student Society (GSS) share a common vision and commitment to the University of Windsor. We work together to enhance opportunities for students and alumni to participate in activities that will contribute to their personal growth and overall development – and to the development, prestige and advancement of the University of Windsor community.

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding is to articulate our ongoing partnership that provides value-added services, benefits and opportunities which inspire students and alumni to share their lifelong commitment and pride for the University of Windsor.

The Alumni Association, UWSA, OPUS and GSS undertake a number of initiatives to benefit its members.

Existing partnerships include:

- Representation on the Alumni Association Board of Directors
- Award, Scholarship & Bursary Programs recognizing outstanding leadership and/or academic achievement
- Social Events
- Alumni Association Sponsored Student Initiatives, Projects and Programs
- Walls of Achievement located on the 2nd Floor, CAW Student Centre recognizing excellence in teaching and mentoring and outstanding alumni achievements
- Services and Benefits for Students
- Mentoring and Networking Opportunities (UWindsor Online Community)
- Reciprocal Web Links

The partnership is intended to continue on a long-term basis and will be honoured by future representatives of these two organizations. To enhance existing partnership initiatives and identify new opportunities for collaboration, this partnership will be evaluated on an annual basis.



OPUS Drug & Dental Plan



DRUG & DENTAL PLAN BENEFITS SUMMARY

FOR DETAILED INFORMATION INCLUDING PLAN BOOKLET, ID CARD & MORE VISIT: <http://greenshield.ca/studentcentre>

Benefit Period: September 1 or January 1 - August 31

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS	Your plan pays:	Maximum plan pays:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diabetic testing agents, needles/syringes • All other prescription drugs 	80% per prescription or refill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$200 per benefit year, combined with blood glucose monitors and lancets, limited to the overall Prescription Drugs Maximum • \$2,000 per person per benefit year
MEDICAL ITEMS AND SERVICES		Maximum plan pays:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optometric Eye Exams Blood glucose monitors and lancets Braces and Crutches* Prosthesis* Other items and services listed below* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once every 2 years, up to a maximum of \$65, beginning on date of first paid claim \$200 per person per benefit year, combined with diabetic testing agents, needles/syringes \$500 per person per benefit year \$1,500 per benefit year Reasonable and customary charges 	
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES		Maximum plan pays:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech Therapist • Podiatrist • Registered Massage Therapist (medical referral required) • Homeopath • Acupuncturist • Naturopath • Chiropractor • Physiotherapist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$15 per visit up to a maximum of 20 visits per practitioner, per benefit year \$15 per visit up to a maximum of 20 visits for all practitioners combined, per benefit year \$15 per visit up to a maximum of 20 visits for all practitioners combined, per benefit year 	
DENTAL Basic & Comprehensive Basic Services		Maximum plan pays: 60% of eligible charges, up to a maximum of \$500 per covered person per benefit year

TRAVEL BENEFIT SUMMARY

Policy #:28556323
 Administrator:..... **etfs**
 Underwriter:.....Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance Company of Canada
 Coverage Maximum:\$5,000,000 per coverage period per insured person
 Coverage Period:60 days per trip



OPUS Awards

Lifetime Achievement Award

This award has been initiated in 2007 by the Organization of Part-Time University Students (OPUS) to recognize and applaud the efforts of OPUS members and executives who selflessly assist part-time students in their efforts to achieve academic excellence. The Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes efforts of individuals that have contributed over a number of years to keep the Organization running at full steam and advocating for part-time student issues at the University of Windsor.

Friend of Students' Award

This award was initiated in 2005 to give particular recognition, thanks, and encouragement to those who have not only sought out and solicited the participation of students, but have reinforced their value as respected participants in a team of council members seeking to make change for the good at the University of Windsor. Many changes have taken place at the University of Windsor - changes for the good of all students. Students and professors alike have been working throughout the years on behalf of students; these improvements have touched many areas. Whether it is in facilitating the full access of the physical environment here at the University or in the learning experience itself, giving effective feed-back to professors, or in ensuring capable visionaries in position of leadership

Faculty Awards

This annual award was initiated in 1992 to recognize and applaud "The efforts of University of Windsor faculty members who unselfishly assist part-time students in their efforts to achieve academic excellence." The 2002 Teaching and Learning Initiative at the University not only highlighted the importance of faculty recognition, but also recognized OPUS as a leader in acknowledging faculty for their support of student needs, desires, and aspirations. In keeping with this tradition, commencing 2003, a maximum of three faculty members may receive recognition for their teaching accomplishments. The range of recognized teaching accomplishment may include, but are not limited to, effectiveness in large-class teaching, effective implementation of teaching and learning innovations, or development of materials for flexible learning and delivery.

Support Staff Awards

These annual awards were initiated in 2002 to acknowledge the important contributions of staff in supporting teaching and learning at the University of Windsor. Outstanding support staff are all too often taken for granted, while few receive public acknowledgement. Their impact may be felt as, but not limited to, resource persons attending committee meetings, individuals maintaining a comfortable environment for students, faculty and staff providing timely advice or assistance with a professional demeanor, or persons assisting students with dietary needs.

Volunteer of the Year Award

This award has been initiated in 2007 by the Organization of Part-Time University Students (OPUS) to recognize and applaud the efforts and dedication of OPUS volunteers who selflessly assist OPUS in organizing events and fulfilling its mandate year after year. The OPUS Volunteer of the Year award recognizes outstanding volunteers that have brought enthusiasm and a renewed spirit of energy at OPUS events.

Disability Campus Community Recognition Award

This annual award was established in 2002 by the Organization of Part-Time University Students to recognize a University of Windsor faculty or staff member who has in the previous year demonstrated guidance and leadership in advancing accommodations and accessibility for students at the University of Windsor. The nominee either demonstrated innovative and responsive accommodations and/or provided support for a student with a disability. Nominations may be made by anyone associated with the University of Windsor campus community

Student With Disability Achievement Award

Value of \$500, this award is awarded annually towards tuition remission to a current part-time undergraduate student with a disability, as defined by the University of Windsor. The successful applicant must have completed a minimum of five (5) course credits at the University of Windsor at the time of nomination and have demonstrated leadership abilities within the University community by raising awareness and promoting accessibility.



Teacher of the Year Award

This annual award has been initiated in 2006 to recognize those professors at the University of Windsor who demonstrate outstanding dedication to part-time students, helping them achieve academic excellence and greater learning. The Professors nominated for OPUS Awards will be considered based on the letter submitted by the students, the OPUS Evaluation, and the Teacher Evaluation and ratings from the University of Windsor. All nomination forms are to be filled out and returned to Maryan Amalow in the OPUS office. Forms are available online or can be picked up in the OPUS office.

Appreciation Award

This award has been initiated in 2003 by the Organization of Part-Time University Students (OPUS) to recognize and applaud the efforts and dedication of OPUS Board of Director, Employee and Work Study who selflessly assist OPUS in contributing and fulfilling its mandate year after year. The OPUS Appreciation award recognizes outstanding members that have brought enthusiasm and a renewed spirit of energy at OPUS.

Alumni Association First Year Part-Time Undergraduate Student Award

Value of \$500, this award is awarded annually toward tuition remission, to a registered part-time student in their first year of study in any program at the University of Windsor. This award may not be combined with any other OPUS awards.

Alumni Association Academic Achievement Award

Value of \$500, this award is awarded annually toward tuition remission only to a registered part-time student who has a minimum cumulative GPA of 11.0. Must have successfully completed a minimum of 5 courses on a part-time basis as well as completing at least 30% of program at the University of Windsor. This award may not be combined with any other OPUS awards.

OPUS Scholarships/Bursaries

OPUS Academic Achievement Award

Value of \$500, this award is awarded annually toward tuition remission only to a registered part-time student who has a minimum cumulative GPA of 11.0. The successful applicant must have successfully completed a minimum of five courses on a part-time basis as well as completed at least 30% of their program at the University of Windsor. This award may not be combined with any other OPUS awards. To apply for this award, please go to the awards webpage at www.uwindsor.ca/opus.

Dr. Kathleen McCrone Award

A single tuition remission award of \$500 is awarded annually to a part-time student who has the highest cumulative average and who is enrolled in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. The one-time only recipient must be in Year 2 of studies with 80% of all courses completed as a part-time student while in attendance at the University of Windsor. This award was established in 2002 by the Organization of Part-Time University Students (OPUS) in recognition of Dr. Kathleen McCrone's dedicated service to the promotion of academic excellence and to the University of Windsor where she served as Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences for 12 years.

Mary C. Schisler Award in Dramatic Art

Value of \$500, this award is awarded annually towards tuition remission by the Organization of Part-Time University Students (OPUS) to a student enrolled in the School of Dramatic Art. Based on academic merit, preference will be given to a part-time student with a minimum cumulative average of 10.5. OPUS established this award in 2002 in recognition of Mary Schisler who, while President of the OPUS Board of Directors, supported the Arts and Humanities by establishing the "Alumni Evening with University Players."

Wayne Girard Leadership Memorial Award

Value of \$500, this award is applied towards tuition remission. Awarded annually by the Organization of Part-Time University Students (OPUS). Established in 2009 in memory of Wayne Girard, who, while serving as the Treasurer of the Organization of Part-time University Students (OPUS), exhibited the values and interests of all part-time students. Preference will be given to a part-time student who values physical fitness and has provided volunteer services to the University of Windsor and/or the Windsor-Essex County Community. The recipient must be registered as a part-time student in any field of study program at the University of Windsor. The successful applicant must have successfully completed a minimum of ten courses on a part-time basis at the University of Windsor. This award may not be combined with any other OPUS awards.

Organization of Part-time University Students (OPUS) Bursaries

Value of \$500 each. Six bursaries applied to tuition remission for a single undergraduate course are offered annually by OPUS. The number of bursaries varies from year to year, based on demand and financial resources as determined by the OPUS Board of Directors. Eligible applicants must be registered as part-time undergraduate students, and meet strict financial and academic standards as determined by the Student Awards and Financial Aid Office. Candidates must be Canadian citizens/Permanent Residents residing in Ontario.

Alumni Association Part-Time Undergraduate Student Bursary

Value of \$500 each. Two bursaries applied to tuition remission for a single undergraduate course are offered annually by University of Windsor Alumni Association. Eligible applicants must be registered as part-time undergraduate students, and meet strict financial and academic standards as determined by the Student Awards and Financial Aid Office. Candidates must be Canadian citizens/Permanent Residents residing in Ontario.

Part-time Undergraduate International Student Bursaries

Value of \$500 each. Two bursaries applied to tuition remission for a single undergraduate course are offered annually by the Organization of Part-time University Students (OPUS). The number of bursaries varies from year to year, based on demand and financial resources as determined by the OPUS Board of Directors. Eligible applicants must be registered as part-time undergraduate international students, and meet strict financial and academic standards as determined by the Student Awards and Financial Aid Office.

Part-Time Undergraduate Distance Education Student Bursary (OPUS)

Value of \$500, one bursary applied to tuition remission for a single undergraduate course are offered annually by the Organization of Part-time University Students (OPUS). The number of bursaries varies from year to year, based on demand and financial resources as determined by the OPUS Board of Directors. Eligible applicants must be registered as part-time undergraduate distance education students, and meet strict financial and academic standards as determined by the Student Awards and Financial Aid Office.



OPUS Awards Banquet 2011

The 19th Annual OPUS Awards Reception & Dinner on Thursday March 10, 2011 was a huge success with over 10 award recipients and 120 guests that came to support the winners. It was a real celebration of those outstanding individuals that make our university a better place and those students that lead the way to a brighter future. A special thank you goes out to OPUS President Dr. Edward King and OPUS Executive Director Ms. Maryan Amalow, for being splendid hosts during the evening and to the OPUS Health Plan Administrator Steve Jancev for performing an outstanding job as the master of ceremony for the evening.



OPUS Lifetime Achievement Award

- Marty Lowman, Advising Centre

Friend of Students Award

- Sean Moriarty, IT Services

Teacher of the Year Award

- Kristina Verner, Computer Science

Faculty Awards

- Prof. Duane Falconer (Philosophy)
- Dr. John Deukmedjian (Sociology & Anthropology)

Support Staff Award

- Kim Moore, International Student Centre

Alumni Association First Year Part-Time Undergraduate Student Award

- Tammy Lebel, Part-time Student

Ken Long Memorial (OPUS) Memorial Award

- Jean Ting Hung, Part-time Student

Academic Achievement Award

- Mike Binder, Part-time Student

Dr. Kathleen McCrone Award

- Corinne Shaw, Part-time Student

Wayne Girard Leadership Memorial Award

- Natalie Browning-Morgan, Part-time Student

OPUS Bursaries

OPUS bursaries 2010-11 academic year (valued at \$500 each) were given to TEN part-time undergraduate students based on financial need.



Who are we?

The Organization of Part-Time University Students (OPUS) is the student body at the University of Windsor, which represents the part-time undergraduate students. A part-time student is defined as anyone registered in 3 or less courses, during the Fall or Winter semesters. OPUS is led by a volunteer Executive Board of Directors who are all part-time students. The Executive, along with the volunteer Class Representatives, continue the OPUS Assembly of Representatives, which meet once a month during the regular school year.

What do we do?

The primary goal of OPUS is to ensure equal opportunity to quality education for all part-time undergraduate students. The greatest function that OPUS performs is that of advocacy, through its participation in the decision making process of university government. OPUS is concerned with both the academic and social well-being of their students and provides a number of services for them. OPUS offers 10 bursary awards in each of the Fall and Winter semesters, valued at \$500.00 each.

**Are you a
part-time
student?**

Benefits to you!

- Learn you are not alone
- Meet fellow part-time students
- Become better informed about issues that affect you on campus

What does OPUS have to offer?

- ◆ A chance to be part of the Board of Directors and serve on various committees advocating on behalf of Part-time students
- ◆ A lounge for part-time students to study or meet friends. It also includes a kitchen area, access to the Internet and telephone services
- ◆ Ability to learn about the many issues that affect all students by volunteering as an OPUS associate
- ◆ Several OPUS Awards and Bursaries awarded and Free Tuition Draw each year!
- ◆ Orientation for Part-Time Students, Annual BBQ and great chance to meet new people!
- ◆ Universal Health and Dental benefits for all Part-time students
- ◆ Essential Services including printing, photocopying, and faxing

OPUS Board of Directors, Staff & Work Study Students 2011-12



UWINDSOR Student Leaders UWSA, OPUS & GSS showing solidarity at Canadian Federation of Students Semi-Annual AGM Jan. 2012



ORGANIZATION OF PART-TIME UNIVERSITY STUDENTS



Students Advocating for Students

**ADVOCATE • VOLUNTEER • MEET NEW PEOPLE • HEALTH AND DENTAL BENEFITS
AWARDS • BURSARIES • ORIENTATION • BOARD OF DIRECTORS • AGM**

OPUS was established in 1970 to provide a means for part-time students to have their voices heard on campus.

Become part of our Board of Directors and serve on various committees advocating on behalf of part-time students. Enjoy our part-time student lounge with kitchen area, internet access, telephone services, and meeting opportunities. Essential services including printing, photocopying, and faxing. Volunteer as an OPUS Associate today or stop by our office or website and discover what OPUS has to offer you!

MISSION STATEMENT	HEATH & DENTAL BENEFITS	BENEFIT OPT-OUT
OPUS collaborates with the University Of Windsor community to identify and to promote the collective interests of the part-time undergraduate students.	Through our membership with the Canadian Federation of Students, the benefits carrier is Green Shield Canada, one of the best known non-profit benefits provider in the country.	All part-time undergraduate students are charged the same fee. You may Opt-Out of the plan if you are already covered by a comparable plan during the Opt-Out period.

Detailed information regarding your benefit plan, Opt-Out procedures, opting-in family member(s), and many more services and involvement opportunities are available on our website. Students can also pick up information in our office in the C.A.W. Student Centre.

C.A.W. Student Centre, 1st Floor, Room. 172
Telephone: 519-971-3603 opus@uwindsor.ca

www.uwindsor.ca/opus

Action Plan for OPUS membership

- Availability of Courses offered in evenings/online, etc.
- Addressing the concerns from distance education students by implementing a survey to identify their needs
- Part-Time based programs in Nursing, Education and Engineering
- Availability of more high-level classes during intersession/summer semesters
- Access to scholarships/bursaries through U of W
- Awareness of campus services and access including accessibility of the campus for students with disabilities
- After-hours Child Care Services
- Enhancement to the OPUS Health/Dental Plan coverage by providing additional benefits
- Finalize the implementation of a 5-year OPUS Strategic Plan

CONTACT US

**Organization of Part-time
University Students (OPUS)**

**CAW Student Centre,
Room 172
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**Newsletter Editor:
Annum Waseem**