



NOTICE OF MEETING

There will be a meeting of the SENATE
Friday, March 13, 2026, at 2:30pm
LOCATION: Toldo Room 203 (2nd Floor)

AGENDA

Land Acknowledgement

1 Approval of Agenda (Unstarring agenda items)

2 Minutes of the meeting of February 13, 2026

Approval
S260213M

3 Business arising from the minutes

4 Outstanding Business/Action Items

5 Reports/New Business

5.1 Program Development Committee

*5.1.1 Program/Course Changes

Kyle Asquith-Approval
S260313-5.1.1a-k

- (a) Social Work – Minor Program Changes (Form C)
(b) Post-Graduate Certificate in Entrepreneurship and International Business – Minor Program Changes (Form C)
(c) Biomedical Sciences – Minor Program Changes (Form C)
(d) Concurrent General BA with Second Language Education/Bachelor of Education – Minor Program Changes (Form C)
(e) MFA in Film and Media Arts – Minor Program Changes (Form C)
(f) General Science (Concentration in Forensic Science) – Minor Program Changes (Form C)
(g) Economics – Minor Program Changes (Form C)
(h) English and Creative Writing – Minor Program Changes (Form C)
(i) Master of Applied Computing – Minor Program Changes (Form C)
(j) Chemistry and Biochemistry – New Course Proposal (Form D)
(k) Physics (Graduate) – New Course Proposal (Form D)

5.2 Academic Policy Committee

*5.2.1 Graduate Committee Membership – Revisions

Isabelle Barrette-Ng-Approval
S260313-5.2.1

*5.2.2 BFA in Film Production – Revision to Policy on Standing Required for Continuation in Programs and for Graduation

Isabelle Barrette-Ng-Approval
S260313-5.2.2

*5.2.3	Policy on Grading and Calculation of Averages – Graduate Revisions	Isabelle Barrette-Ng-Approval S260313-5.2.3
*5.2.4	Grading and Calculation of Averages for Thesis/Major Paper and Dissertation Courses – Revisions	Isabelle Barrette-Ng-Approval S260313-5.2.4
5.3	Senate Governance Committee	
*5.3.1	Integrative Biology Department Proposed Name Change	JJ McMurtry-Approval S260313-5.3.1
5.3.2	Delegating Authority for Approval of Graduands	JJ McMurtry-Approval S260313-5.3.2
5.3.3	Proposed Revisions to Bylaws 31, 54, 55 and Policy on Grading and Calculation of Averages	JJ McMurtry-Approval S260313-5.3.3
5.4	Senate Student Caucus	Michael Macdonald
5.5	Report from the Student Presidents	UWSA/GSS/OPUS S260313-5.5
5.6	Report of the Academic Colleague	Fazle Baki-Information S260313-5.6
5.7	Report of the President	JJ McMurtry-Information S260313-5.7
5.8	Report of the Provost	Cheryl Collier-Information S260313-5.8
5.9	Report of Vice-President, People, Equity, and Inclusion	Clinton Beckford-Information S260313-5.9
5.10	Report of Vice-President, Research and Innovation	Shanthi Johnson-Information S260313-5.10
6	Question Period/Other Business	
7	Adjournment	

Please carefully review the ‘starred’ (*) agenda items. As per the June 3, 2004 Senate meeting, ‘starred’ items will not be discussed during a scheduled meeting unless a member specifically requests that a ‘starred’ agenda item be ‘unstarred’, and therefore open for discussion/debate. This can be done any time before (by forwarding the request to the secretary) or during the meeting. By the end of the meeting, agenda items which remain ‘starred’ (*) will be deemed approved or received.

**University of Windsor
Senate**

*5.1.1a: **Social Work – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Program Development Committee**

MOTION: That the degree requirements for the Bachelor of Social Work be changed in accordance with the program/course change forms.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

Rationale/Approvals:

- The changes have been approved by the School of Social Work Council, the Faculty of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Council, and the Program Development Committee.
- Supporting documentation for the proposed changes can be accessed by contacting the University Secretariat at ext. 3325, or through the February 12, 2026 Combined Program Development Committee PDF posted on the PDC website at: [PDC Agendas and Minutes | University Secretariat](#). To access this item, go to item 5.1.

University of Windsor
Senate

*5.1.1b: **Post-Graduate Certificate in Entrepreneurship and International Business – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Program Development Committee**

MOTION: That the Post-Graduate Certificate in Entrepreneurship and International Business be approved.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

Rationale/Approvals:

- The changes have been approved by the Odette School of Business Council and the Program Development Committee.
- Supporting documentation for the proposed changes can be accessed by contacting the University Secretariat at ext. 3325, or through the February 12, 2026 Combined Program Development Committee PDF posted on the PDC website at: [PDC Agendas and Minutes | University Secretariat](#). To access this item, go to item 5.2.

**University of Windsor
Senate**

*5.1.1c: **Biomedical Sciences – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Program Development Committee**

MOTION: That the degree requirements for the Honours Biomedical Sciences and Honours Biomedical Sciences (Interdisciplinary Health Science (IHS) Stream) be changed in accordance with the program/course change forms.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

Rationale/Approvals:

- The changes have been approved by the Department of Biomedical Sciences Council, the Science Program Development Committee (SPDC) (as delegated by the Faculty of Science Coordinating Council), and the Program Development Committee.
- Supporting documentation for the proposed changes can be accessed by contacting the University Secretariat at ext. 3325, or through the February 12, 2026 Combined Program Development Committee PDF posted on the PDC website at: [PDC Agendas and Minutes | University Secretariat](#). To access this item, go to item 5.3.

**University of Windsor
Senate**

*5.1.1d: **Concurrent General BA with Second Language Education/Bachelor of Education – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Program Development Committee**

MOTION: That the degree requirements for the Concurrent General Bachelor of Arts with Second Language Education/Bachelor of Education be changed in accordance with the program/course change forms.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

Rationale/Approvals:

- The changes have been approved by the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Council, the Faculty of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Council, and the Program Development Committee.
- Supporting documentation for the proposed changes can be accessed by contacting the University Secretariat at ext. 3325, or through the February 12, 2026 Combined Program Development Committee PDF posted on the PDC website at: [PDC Agendas and Minutes | University Secretariat](#). To access this item, go to item 5.4.

**University of Windsor
Senate**

*5.1.1e: **MFA in Film and Media Arts – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Program Development Committee**

MOTION: That the MFA in Film and Media Arts be renamed *MFA in Film Production* and that the admission and degree requirements be changed in accordance with the program/course change forms.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

Rationale/Approvals:

- The changes have been approved by the Department of Communication, Media and Film Council, the Faculty of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Coordinating Council, the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council, and the Program Development Committee.
- Supporting documentation for the proposed changes can be accessed by contacting the University Secretariat at ext. 3325, or through the February 12, 2026 Combined Program Development Committee PDF posted on the PDC website at: [PDC Agendas and Minutes | University Secretariat](#). To access this item, go to item 5.5.

**University of Windsor
Senate**

*5.1.1f: **General Science (Concentration in Forensic Science) – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Program Development Committee**

MOTION: That the degree requirements for General Science program be changed in accordance with the program/course change forms.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

Rationale/Approvals:

- The changes have been approved by the the Science Program Development Committee (SPDC) (as delegated by the Faculty of Science Coordinating Council) and the Program Development Committee.
- A Forensic Science concentration is being added to the General Science program.
- Supporting documentation for the proposed changes can be accessed by contacting the University Secretariat at ext. 3325, or through the February 12, 2026 Combined Program Development Committee PDF posted on the PDC website at: [PDC Agendas and Minutes | University Secretariat](#). To access this item, go to item 5.7.

**University of Windsor
Senate**

*5.1.1g: **Economics – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Program Development Committee**

MOTION: That the requirements for the Minor in Economics be changed in accordance with the program/course change forms.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

Rationale/Approvals:

- The changes have been approved by the Department of Economics Council, the Science Program Development Committee (SPDC) (as delegated by the Faculty of Science Coordinating Council), and the Program Development Committee.
- Supporting documentation for the proposed changes can be accessed by contacting the University Secretariat at ext. 3325, or through the February 12, 2026 Combined Program Development Committee PDF posted on the PDC website at: [PDC Agendas and Minutes | University Secretariat](#). To access this item, go to item 5.8.

**University of Windsor
Senate**

*5.1.1h: **English and Creative Writing – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Program Development Committee**

MOTION: That the degree requirements for the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Arts and Science (IAS) – English Major Concentration be changed in accordance with the program/course change forms.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

Rationale/Approvals:

- The changes have been approved by the Department English and Creative Writing Council, the Faculty of Arts, Humanities, the Social Sciences Coordinating Council, and the Program Development Committee.
- Supporting documentation for the proposed changes can be accessed by contacting the University Secretariat at ext. 3325, or through the February 12, 2026 Combined Program Development Committee PDF posted on the PDC website at: [PDC Agendas and Minutes | University Secretariat](#). To access this item, go to item 5.9.

**University of Windsor
Senate**

*5.1.1i: **Master of Applied Computing – Minor Program Changes (Form C)**

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Program Development Committee**

MOTION: That the degree requirements for the Master of Applied Computing be changed in accordance with the program/course change forms.^

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

Rationale/Approvals:

- The changes have been approved by the School of Computer Science Council, the Science Program Development Committee (SPDC) (as delegated by the Faculty of Science Coordinating Council), the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council, and the Program Development Committee.
- Supporting documentation for the proposed changes can be accessed by contacting the University Secretariat at ext. 3325, or through the February 12, 2026 Combined Program Development Committee PDF posted on the PDC website at: [PDC Agendas and Minutes | University Secretariat](#). To access this item, go to item 5.10.

**University of Windsor
Senate**

*5.1.1j: **Chemistry and Biochemistry – New Course Proposal (Form D)**

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Program Development Committee**

**MOTION: That the following course be approved:^
CHEM-3200. Environmental Forensics**

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

Rationale/Approvals:

- This new course proposal has been approved by the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry Council, the Science Program Development Committee (SPDC) (as delegated by the Faculty of Science Coordinating Council), and the Program Development Committee.
- Supporting documentation for the proposed changes can be accessed by contacting the University Secretariat at ext. 3325, or through the February 12, 2026 Combined Program Development Committee PDF posted on the PDC website at: [PDC Agendas and Minutes | University Secretariat](#). To access this item, go to item 5.11.

**University of Windsor
Senate**

*5.1.1k: **Physics (Graduate) – New Course Proposal (Form D)**

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Program Development Committee**

**MOTION: That the following course be approved:^
PHYS-9900. Directed Studies**

^Subject to approval of the expenditures required.

Rationale/Approvals:

- This new course proposal has been approved by the Department of Physics Council, the Science Program Development Committee (SPDC) (as delegated by the Faculty of Science Coordinating Council), the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council, and the Program Development Committee.
- Supporting documentation for the proposed changes can be accessed by contacting the University Secretariat at ext. 3325, or through the February 12, 2026 Combined Program Development Committee PDF posted on the PDC website at: [PDC Agendas and Minutes | University Secretariat](#). To access this item, go to item 5.12.

University of Windsor
Senate

*5.2.1: Graduate Committee Membership – Revisions

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Academic Policy Committee**

MOTION: That the proposed revisions to the membership for Doctoral and Masters graduate committees be approved.

Proposed Revisions

[revisions are in bold and strikethrough.]

Doctoral

The majority of committee members ~~of an advisory committee~~ must have full graduate faculty status, **including the Supervisor and one program reader** and the supervisor must have full graduate faculty status. In the case of co-supervision one of the co-supervisors must have full graduate faculty status, see Senate Policy on Graduate Faculty Designation.

Masters

Additional members may be added with the approval of the program and the Faculty of Graduate Studies. The majority of the **committee** members ~~of an advisory committee~~ must have full graduate faculty status, **including the Supervisor and one other reader**. See Senate Policy on Graduate Faculty Designation.

Rationale/Approval:

- There have been an increased number of committees being submitted where only one member holds “full graduate faculty status”, the rest hold affiliate or no-status.
- While the committee meets the standard as outlined in the Graduate Calendar, the committees do not appear to be structured for student success (e.g., members with few to no publications, outside the area of expertise, little experience supervising etc.).
- A committee structure where the majority of members hold full graduate faculty status preserves research integrity, committee expertise and experience, and most importantly supports student experience and development.
- A majority is 50% plus one. For Example: A Master’s committee has a minimum of three members, which means two members are required to have graduate faculty status. A doctoral committee has a minimum of four members (prior to the additional of the external examiner) so three members would be required to have graduate faculty status.
- The proposed revision was approved by the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council on January 23, 2026 and the Academic Policy Committee.

**University of Windsor
Senate**

*5.2.2: **BFA in Film Production – Revision to Policy on Standing Required for Continuation in Programs and for Graduation**

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Academic Policy Committee**

MOTION: That the proposed revisions to the Policy on Standing Required for Continuation in Programs and for Graduation (for the BFA in Film Production) be approved.

Proposed Revisions:

*[revisions are in **bold** and ~~strikethrough~~]*

Standing Required for Continuation in Programs

	Cumulative Average Requirement	Major Average Requirement
BFA in Film Production	70% 60%	70%

Standing Required for Graduation in Programs

	Cumulative Average Requirement	Major Average Requirement
BFA in Film Production	70% 60%	70%

Rationale/Approvals:

- The proposal was approved by the Department of Communication, Media and Film Council (November 7, 2025), the Faculty of Arts, Humanities, and Social Science Council (FAHSS) (December 2025) and the Academic Policy Committee.
- The proposed revisions align the BFA in Film Production’s academic standing requirement with other BFA programs on campus and the Communication, Media, and Film Honours program within the same AAU.
- Changing the cumulative average requirement from 70% to 60% ensures greater fairness and consistency with comparable programs.

University of Windsor
Senate

*5.2.3: **Policy on Grading and Calculation of Averages – Graduate Revisions**

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Academic Policy Committee**

MOTION: That the proposed revisions to the Policy on Grading and Calculation of Averages be approved.

Proposed Revisions

[revisions are in bold.]

[...]

The Faculty of Graduate Studies requires that students maintain, at minimum, a cumulative average of 70%. **Students whose averages fall below 70% will normally be placed on probation for one academic term. Failure to increase the average to 70% may result in the student being required to withdraw.**

[...]

Rationale:

- The policy on grading and calculation of averages, which applies to all graduate students, makes no mention of what happens if a student holds a cumulative average below 70%.
- There are two programs in the Graduate Calendar that indicate students in their program would be placed on probation for one term (MEng, MSc. Computer Science). In essence these programs have standards that are “more lenient” than the policy, as currently written.
- Placing students on academic probation for one term has become standard practice at academic standing, and it is important that the policy and practice align.
- The proposed changes were approved by Graduate Studies Council on March 24, 2025 and the Academic Policy Committee.

University of Windsor
Senate

*5.2.4: **Grading and Calculation of Averages for Thesis/Major Paper and Dissertation Courses – Revisions**

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Academic Policy Committee**

MOTION: That the proposed revisions to the Policy on Grading and Calculation of Averages, to the regulations for the Dissertation for the Degree of Doctor and Philosophy, and to the regulations for the Thesis or Major Paper for the Master’s degree be approved.

Proposed Revisions

[revisions are in bold and strikethrough.]

Policy on Grading and Calculation of Averages

[...]

Numeric grades ~~Numerical grades~~ **Grades** of Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) ~~may~~ **will** be assigned for theses, **dissertations**, and major papers, ~~depending on program policy.~~

~~Theses and major papers, for which a numeric grade is assigned, must be graded 70% or better to receive credit~~

Graduate Calendar

The Dissertation for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

[...]

The minimum basis for acceptance of a PhD dissertation shall be positive unanimity less one vote providing the dissenting vote is not by an external examiner who is present at the defence, and the chair of the defence determines that the examination by the external examiner has been fair to the candidate. Unless an examining committee is unanimously negative, a candidate may resubmit the dissertation once, after a minimum period of three months and before a maximum period of twelve months. The second decision shall be final. **Grades of Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory will be assigned for dissertations.**

Thesis or Major Paper for the Master’s Degree

[...]

The regulations of individual programs should also be consulted for details of their thesis or major paper/project requirements. ~~Numerical grades or~~ **A grade of** Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory ~~may~~ **will** be assigned for theses, and major papers/projects, ~~depending on program policy.~~

Rationale/Approvals

- It is difficult to objectively grade a comprehensive research document, as evidenced by instances where a designation of “pass with major changes” has still resulted in a grade exceeding 90%.
- Adopting a more inclusive equitable practice would help avoid the artificial increase or decrease of academic averages.
- The proposal was approved by Graduate Studies Council on January 23, 2026 and the Academic Policy Committee.

**University of Windsor
Senate**

*5.3.1: **Integrative Biology Department Proposed Name Change**

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Senate Governance Committee**

MOTION: That the Department of Integrative Biology be renamed the *Department of Biology*.

1. Background

In 2019, the life sciences programs within the Faculty of Science at the University of Windsor were restructured, generating the Department of Integrative Biology and the Department of Biomedical Sciences.

At the time, it was felt that the name “Integrative Biology” would best describe the breadth of the expertise, research strengths, and teaching excellence represented by the faculty and staff within the department in areas including aquatic and terrestrial biology, neuroscience, physiology, model systems, climate change biology, conservation biology, ecology, environmental science, evolution, genetics, microbial ecology, and systems biology.

The Department of Integrative Biology offers the following undergraduate programs:

- Honours in Biological Sciences program
- Honours Behaviour, Cognition, and Neuroscience (BCN) program, and
- Combined Honours program that includes Honours Biological Sciences.

In Fall 2025, 628 students were enrolled in departmental undergraduate programs, which is a 20% increase from the 524 students we saw in Fall 2021. In addition, the Department also participates in the concurrent B.Ed. program, with 19 students in Fall 2025 pursuing a biological sciences core.

The Department also offers thesis-based MSc and PhD programs, with 69 students enrolled in Fall 2025 (similar to Fall 2021 levels).

2. Objective and Rationale

The Department of Integrative Biology wishes to rebrand and adopt the following new name: *Department of Biology*.

This decision is based on the following three reasons:

- (a) Consultations with students (current and incoming) and guidance counsellors

The name *Integrative Biology* provides a good description of the diversity of contemporary approaches and techniques used to study how biological systems develop, function, interact and evolve in a complex and changing world. However, this name is not familiar to high school students. The term *integrative biology* is not used in the high school biology curriculum, which makes it challenging for incoming students and their guidance counsellors to understand what the department offers. The re-branding of Integrative Biology to the *Department of Biology* will ensure that our teaching, research, and outreach missions align to focus on providing undergraduate and graduate students with the type of broad and experiential training experience that is relevant and expands and promotes career opportunities available to these students.

(b) An analysis of biology-related departments and programs at comparator institutions

Table 1 provides a summary of our analysis of comparator institutions.

Table 1: Survey of comparator institutions

Comparator institution	Department name	Undergraduate programs offered
Western University	Department of Biology	Honours with specialization in: animal behaviour, biodiversity and conservation, biology, ecosystem health, genetics, genetics and biochemistry, synthetic biology, or interdisciplinary health.
University of Guelph	Department of Integrative Biology and the College of Biological Science	Honours in biodiversity (paused), biological science, ecology, marine and freshwater biology, wildlife and conservation, or zoology
Brock University	Department of Biological Sciences	Honours in biological sciences
York University	Department of Biology	Honours in biology
McMaster University	Department of Biology	Honours in biology (with different specializations available)

The University of Guelph is the only comparator institution with a Department of Integrative Biology. However, they operate within the College of Biological Sciences.

(c) Errors in marketing materials

Differences between the current name of the department and the name of our Honours BSc in Biological Sciences undergraduate program are causing confusion. On a few occasions, marketing materials for prospective students were created that erroneously advertised an Honours BSc in Integrative Biology, instead of an Honours BSc in Biological Sciences. This error also appeared on the OUAC system. Due to these errors, we have received several inquiries from prospective students worried that the University of Windsor no longer offers an undergraduate degree program in the biological sciences. Re-branding to the *Department of Biology* should simplify marketing and make it easier for prospective students to find the outstanding experiences that await them in the Honours BSc in Biological Sciences.

3. Resources

The re-branding of the *Department of Biology* will not alter current office, research, or teaching space needs. Other than the time required to make changes to the appropriate University of Windsor websites, no additional resources are needed to implement the name change.

4. Timeline

We wish to implement the re-branding of the department by May 2026, prior to the start of the recruiting period for the 2026-2027 academic year.

5. Growth and alignment with future plans

The purpose of the proposed re-branding of the *Department of Biology* is ultimately to better serve students, staff, and faculty associated with the discipline of biological sciences. The re-branding also aligns with planned changes to the Honours BSc in Biological Sciences, which are in the process of being submitted to the appropriate committees for approval. Once accomplished, the re-branded department and updated biological sciences degree program will grow through new recruitment of students in the region and through active campaigns to attract the highest achieving undergraduate and graduate students across Canada, and indeed, globally.

Approvals:

The proposal was approved by the Department of Integrative Biology Council (January 30, 2026), the Faculty of Science Coordinating Council (February 5, 2026) and the Senate Governance Committee.

**University of Windsor
Senate**

5.3.2: **Delegating Authority for Approval of List of Graduands**

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Senate Governance Committee**

MOTION: That Senate delegate authority to the Deans of the Faculties, in consultation with the Registrar's Office, to approve students for graduation, with a complete and accurate final list of graduates provided to Senate for information after convocation has concluded.

Background

Currently, the Registrar's Office is required to submit a list of graduating students to Senate for approval in advance of the June and October convocation ceremonies. Because this approval occurs prior to the ceremonies, the list is inherently provisional: students are routinely added or removed due to late academic outcomes or student requests. While the Registrar's Office and Faculties already exercise delegated authority to manage these changes, the final post-ceremony list is not returned to Senate for approval and instead enters the public record through the Secretariat.

This process results in unnecessary duplication of effort and administrative burden at a peak operational period, without adding meaningful academic or governance oversight.

Proposed Change

It is proposed that Senate formally delegate authority to the Registrar's Office and the Faculties to approve students for graduation in full, with a complete and final list of graduates provided after convocation has concluded. This would align formal approval with the point at which academic requirements are definitively met and accurately recorded.

Rationale:

- Improves accuracy and integrity of graduation records by approving only final outcomes
- Reduces redundant work and administrative risk during convocation preparation
- Clarifies accountability by aligning authority with existing practice
- Brings the University into alignment with other Ontario universities

This approach is consistent with practices at other Ontario universities surveyed, including Wilfrid Laurier, Ontario Tech, and Trent.

Implementation

If approved, this change would take effect beginning with the June 2026 convocation.

University of Windsor
Senate

5.3.3: **Proposed Revisions to Bylaws 31, 54, 55 and Policy on Grading and Calculation of Averages**

Item for: **Approval**

Forwarded by: **Senate Governance Committee**

MOTION 1: That the proposed revisions to Bylaw 54, Bylaw 55, and the Policy on Grading and the Calculation of Averages be approved.

Proposed Revisions:

[revisions are in in bold and strikethrough]

Policy on Grading and the Calculation of Averages

[...]

Aegrotat ~~s~~Standing is the exceptional granting of credit for a course based on the successful completion of the majority of the assignments/evaluations, **or where the student has demonstrated achievement of sufficient learning outcomes for the course**, as defined under the appropriate Faculty policy **and provided that all accreditation and safety requirements have been met. Where the assessment of aegrotat standing results in a passing grade, an AEG will be assigned. Where the assessment of aegrotat standing does not result in the granting of credit, a non-pass aegrotat (NPA) may be assigned.** ~~following a positive review of a student's request for consideration based on health, bereavement, or extenuating circumstances. Aegrotat s~~Standing (AEG **and NPA**) notations are recorded on the transcript ~~but~~ **and** have no numeric grade equivalent.*

*[*where credit cannot be granted, an NP will be assigned]*

[...]

A grade of IP is recorded at the end of the first term of a two-term course. Pass/Non-Pass (P/NP) and Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) grades are recorded on the transcript but have no numeric grade equivalent.

[...]

For (i) and (ii) above, an "Incomplete" must be changed to a grade not later than six weeks **following the release of official final grades by the Office of the Registrar.** ~~after the last date of the examination period.~~ If no grade has been assigned by that date, a final grade of 0% (where numeric grades are assigned) or Non-Pass (where Pass/Non-Pass grades are assigned) is automatically entered in the student's record by the Office of the Registrar.

Bylaw 54:

[...]

2.18.3 In the cases outlined in 2.18.1-2.18.2 above, the Instructor may grant an "aegrotat **standing**" **of pass (AEG) or non-pass (NPA), as defined in the Policy on Grading and the Calculation of Averages,** ~~grade on the basis of term work or~~ assign an "incomplete" **(IN)** grade ~~indicating~~ **specifying** ~~what further work is required and the deadline by which such work must be completed.~~ **If further work is required, the instructor is responsible for notifying the student of both the work required and the deadline by which it is to be submitted.** The instructor's response will be forwarded to the **Office of the Registrar** using ~~the~~ **any approved** ~~procedure followed for submitting final grades.~~ **A final grade must be**

submitted no later than six weeks following the release of official final grades by the Office of the Registrar.

[...]

2.19.2 The average of a student who receives an "Incomplete" grade will not be calculated until the final mark is assigned. An "Incomplete" grade must be changed to a numeric grade no later than six weeks **following the release of official final grades by the Office of the Registrar**~~after the last date of the examination period~~, at which time, if no grade has been assigned, a final failing grade **of 0% (where numeric grades are assigned) or Non-Pass (where Pass/Non-Pass grades are assigned)** will automatically be entered in the student's record by the Office of the Registrar, except in exceptional circumstances in which case the Dean of the Faculty offering the course shall specify a period of time greater than six weeks.

Bylaw 55:

[...]

1.11.3 In the cases outlined in 1.11.1-1.11.2 above, the Instructor may grant an "aegrotat **standing**" **of pass (AEG) or non-pass (NPA), as defined in the Policy on Grading and the Calculation of Averages**, ~~grade on the basis of term work~~ or assign an "incomplete" **(IN)** grade indicating what further work is required ~~and the deadline by which such work must be completed~~. The instructor's response will be forwarded by the Head of the AAU offering the course to the Dean of Graduate Studies for final approval. The Dean of Graduate Studies shall inform the Office of the Registrar using the **any approved** procedure ~~followed for submitting final grades~~. **If further work is required, refer to the graduate section of the Policy on Grading and the Calculation of Averages.**

Rationale:

- The revisions provide greater clarity around the use of aegrotat, particularly where the review results in a failing grade. The new NPA designation acknowledges that there were external and extenuating factors that impacted the student's ability to succeed in the course.
- The revisions also provide flexibility to the instructor or Associate Dean by reframing the determination of determining whether to grant aegrotat standing based on an assessment of achievement of sufficient learning outcomes for the course, particularly where there is no Faculty policy relating to aegrotat standing. It also recognizes that aegrotat standing is granted to students based on compassionate grounds and so flexibility in assessing whether to grant aegrotat (AEG or NPA) is essential.
- Undergraduate Incompletes are converted to 0% six weeks after official grades are posted by the Office of the Registrar (not six weeks after the last day of the exam period). For graduate courses, where work is not completed, the Incomplete remains on the transcript indefinitely. The NPA does not negatively impact the student's academic average or standing.
- Graduate IN grades and processes associated with them are defined clearly in the Policy. It is unnecessary to repeat this in the bylaw.

MOTION 2: That the proposed revisions to Bylaw 54 and Bylaw 55 be approved.

Proposed Revisions:

[revisions are in bold and strikethrough]

Bylaw 54:

"Final examination(s)" shall mean any final testing procedure (written test, oral interview, essay, take home test, etc.) that takes place or falls due during the examination period.

1 The following regulations apply to first-entry undergraduate programs

~~1.1 All courses shall have some type of non-optional, meaningful, final examination during the examination period.~~

1.21 Two to three-hour examination slots will normally be scheduled in the formal final examination periods in each semester for all courses which terminate in that semester. All final examinations shall take place (or fall due, as the case may be) during the two to three-hour final examination slot so scheduled. Asynchronous online examinations must commence or end within the scheduled time slot. The actual duration of testing procedures during the scheduled final examination slot may be less than the scheduled time, at the discretion of the individual instructor.

If oral or other special types of examinations cannot be accommodated in the two to three-hour final examination slot, and satisfactory arrangements cannot be made with the course instructor, notice will be given to the Registrar by the AAU Head and special arrangements will be made.

1.2 The final examination period is reserved for the course's final testing procedure, which cannot exceed 40% of the final grade per 2.5.1 and 2.18.2. All in-term evaluations or assignments must take place or fall due prior to the last seven calendar days of classes.

[...]

2.2 Instructors may not alter the date of final examinations if scheduled and announced by the Registrar. All other final examinations may be scheduled only during the University's official examination period.

2.17.3 Stays

~~2.17.3.1 During the course of any appeal procedure described throughout~~ **under paragraph 2.17.2 or petition to the Procedural Irregularities Committee under Bylaw 32, a stay on all lower decisions affecting a student's standing in a program or eligibility to proceed with a course of study shall be stayed in effect until a final decision is has been reached, with the exception that students shall not continue in or enter placements involving vulnerable populations (eg, patients, minors, etc.). If the appeal or petition is decided in the student's favour, the Department or Faculty shall provide an equivalent alternative placement to avoid delaying the student's progression in the program.**

~~2.17.3.2 The stay shall also be in effect if the matter is being considered by the Procedural Irregularities Committee, under Bylaw 32.~~ In the event that a decision adverse to the student is reached by the Procedural Irregularities Committee, the student will receive the original grade assigned or the grade assigned on appeal, as the case may be.

[...]

2.19 Alternate evaluations must be equivalent in terms of type, format, and level of difficulty as the original evaluation and as outlined in the course syllabus (per 2.1.1, 2.5.2, 2.5.3, 2.17, 2.18).

[...]

2.23 Alternative Examinations due to Religious Observances

Bylaw 55:

1.12.2 Formal Grade Appeals

[...]

1.12.2.5 Stays

~~During the course of any appeal procedure described throughout~~ **under paragraph 1.12.2 or petition to the Procedural Irregularities Committee under Bylaw 32, a stay on all lower decisions affecting a student's standing in a program or eligibility to proceed with a course of study shall be stayed in effect until a final decision is has been reached, with the exception**

that students shall not continue in or enter placements involving vulnerable populations (eg, patients, minors, etc.). If the appeal or petition is decided in the student's favour, the Department or Faculty shall provide an equivalent alternative placement to avoid delaying the student's progression in the program.

~~The stay shall also be in effect if the matter is being considered by the Procedural Irregularities Committee, under Bylaw 32.~~ In the event that a decision adverse to the student is reached by the Procedural Irregularities Committee, the student will receive the original grade assigned or the grade assigned on appeal, as the case may be.

1.12.2.6 In cases where the assigned grade prevents the student from achieving the requirements for promotion, the requirements as defined by the Faculty will be applied.

[...]

1.12.4 Petitions to the Procedural Irregularities Committee

Where a student alleges procedural irregularities with respect to academic instruction, academic evaluation, or academic grade appeals, a petition may be filed by the student in accordance with Senate Bylaw 32. In such cases, a stay ~~on all lower decisions affecting a student's standing in a program or eligibility to proceed with a course of study~~ **normally** shall be in effect **on all lower decisions** until a final decision has been reached ~~by the Procedural Irregularities Committee.~~ **as outlined under 1.12.2.5.**

1.13 Alternate evaluations must be equivalent in terms of type, format, and level of difficulty as the original evaluation (per 1.1.1, 1.4.1, 1.4.2, 1.11, 1.12)

1.14 Alternative Examinations **due to Religious Observance**

Rationale:

- It is not sound pedagogy to require that there be a final examination. This should be left to the instructor to determine how best to assess students. In practice, there are routinely several courses that do not have final examinations.
- Some instructors are using a loophole where they do not have anything due in the last seven calendar days of classes consistent with 1.3, but then they make the last in-class assignment due during the final exam period in addition to the final exam. Students then not only have to study for their final examinations, but must also focus on completing other assignments. This contravenes the principle in the bylaw which specifically sets out an additional period for the purposes of the final examination as well as the Senate policy defining the length of semester courses as 12 weeks.
- A stay on a lower decision ensures that a student's progression through their program is not negatively impacted where the original decision is overturned. Without a stay on lower decisions, students who later have their appeal upheld would nonetheless have been denied registration in required courses while the matter was under review, resulting in extra time and costs to complete their programs. This, however, needs to be balanced with health and safety considerations in situations where student placements involve vulnerable populations, and the matter under consideration relates to whether the student has adequately demonstrated achievement of the learning outcomes and professional standards to the level required to safely be placed in placements.
- Additional language regarding alternative evaluations refers to the Senate bylaw ruling that any alternative evaluation is to be equivalent in terms of type, format, and level of difficulty to be compliant with the various sections of the bylaw. In addition to there not being any changes permitted to the course syllabus (including types and formats of evaluations) after the first two weeks of classes, an appeal that has been granted signifies that the reasons for the student's appeal were justified. It is a procedural irregularity to then penalize the student with a harder evaluation or different format than those who did not experience legitimate issues or challenges. If the student's rationale for the appeal does not seem sufficient, the appeal simply should not be granted.

MOTION 3: That the proposed revisions to Bylaw 31 be approved.

Proposed Revisions:

[revisions are in bold and strikethrough]

Bylaw 31:

Head means head of the academic administrative unit or program offering the course in which the alleged misconduct occurred and includes Heads of Departments, **and** Directors of Schools **(or their designate as approved by the Dean)**, and Program Administrators as designated by the Dean. Where the instructor reporting the misconduct is also the Head that will be reviewing the matter, the Dean of the Faculty shall appoint a designate to act in their capacity under this bylaw on that particular matter. In the event of the temporary absence or inability to act of the Head, the faculty member appointed in a temporary acting capacity will act in the Head's place under this bylaw.

Rationale:

- This allows for delegation of authority as needed to ensure timely resolution of matters.

**University of Windsor
Senate**

5.5: Report from the Student Presidents

Item for: **Information**

Forwarded by: **UWSA/GSS/OPUS**

UWSA

- The UWSA 2026 General Election has concluded!!! Please see below the unofficial results for the incoming Executive Team:
 - President: Victorieuse Sambao
 - Vice-President Finance & Operations: Shafeen Aziz
 - Vice-President Student Advocacy: RJ D’Aguilar
 - Vice-President Student Life: Yara Abouzeeni
- Senators:
 - Maya Mikhael
 - Isabella Francis
 - Sophia Bohn
 - Luca Bieniasz
 - Helen Yousif (second term)
 - Matthew Najem (second term)
- The International Student Society (ISS) elections have also concluded, with a newly elected President and Vice-President Administration. Onboarding and full ratification will take place soon. The UWSA, GSS, International Student Centre, and ISS will work together to fill remaining positions and ensure a successful transition.
- Reminder that the UWSA Student Support Fund application deadline is March 17, 2026. The fund supports student initiatives that enhance the student experience during ongoing financial challenges.
 - Apply here: <https://www.uwsa.ca/student-support-fund>
- The UWSA referendum to reduce the Capital Fee from \$20 to \$17.50 and redirect \$2.50 towards student scholarships has passed, receiving 1,126 votes with a 94.7% approval rate. This change will not increase student fees, will double the scholarship program.
- The UWSA has partnered with the University to host the Second Annual Sustainability Competition, taking place this March. More information will be shared through the UWSA website and Instagram channels.
- The UWSA continues promoting financial literacy through two upcoming webinars through TD Bank:
 - Intro to Money Management: Wednesday, March 11 at 12:00 PM
 - <https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/5227695/B71663524BD11CAD3AD4014417ADEE3D>
 - How to Build Wealth: Thursday, March 12 at 12:00 PM
 - <https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/5227701/86F8F3716296356FE1D4F5C342F0999B>
- Following up on the previous Senate report regarding the U-Pass, the UWSA has met with GSS & OPUS to discuss next steps. While the current contract runs until 2029, discussions will continue with Transit Windsor before the end of the fiscal year to review the program and the upcoming launch of the digital U-Pass for next year.
- UWSA Afrofest hosted multiple events throughout February for Black History Month, including a Paint & Plant event, financial literacy and career development workshop with TD, a game night, and Black History trivia. The centre will also host a Black Business Expo on March 11, 2026 in the CAW Commons.
- The UWSA Service Centres, in collaboration with the Office of Sexual Violence Prevention, Resistance and Support will host a Sex Ed Trivia Night on March 21 in the Alumni Auditorium. Participants may bring Food Pantry donations to earn extra points.

- The Office of People, Equity and Inclusion and the UWSA Food Pantry have launched a campus-wide donation drive throughout March, encouraging faculty, staff, and students to donate items to support the Food Pantry.
- The UWSA continues supporting student groups and initiatives, with over \$10,000 in funding approved this past month. This includes an approximately \$8,500 contribution from the UWSA Accessibility Fund to support the renewal of assistive software Read & Write for the University of Windsor.
- Reminder that the UWSA Scholarship Program remains open, with a deadline of March 14, 2026 (please encourage students to apply!!!)
 - Apply here: <https://www.uwsa.ca/scholarships>
- The UWSA continues advocacy regarding the recent provincial announcements related to OSAP changes and the lifting of the domestic tuition freeze. The UWSA publicly opposed these changes through a statement released on February 13 and is continuing to work with CFS-Ontario, University partners, and students to raise awareness and advocate for students. Advocacy efforts to date include:
 - Distribution of informational pamphlets and student engagement initiatives to educate students on the policy changes and ways to get involved.
 - Hosting an educational Break & Learn event, providing over 150 free breakfasts while informing students about the issue and encouraging them to contact their local MPPs/sign the CFS-Ontario petition.
 - A banner drop outside the CAW Student Centre on March 4 in solidarity with demonstrations taking place at Queen’s Park.
 - Media engagement and interviews to raise awareness about the impact of these policy changes on students.
 - A scheduled meeting with MPP Andrew Dowie on March 6 to discuss student affordability, OSAP changes, and tuition policy.
 - Continued collaboration with CFS-Ontario and student unions across the province to coordinate future advocacy efforts.
- The UWSA met with President McMurtry to discuss student concerns regarding affordability, OSAP changes, and tuition policy. Discussions focused on ensuring transparency and identifying ways the university administration can support students during this period of uncertainty.
- The UWSA is collaborating with the Windsor Spitfires to host a Student Night on March 17, where a portion of ticket sales will be directed toward student scholarships. More information and tickets will be shared soon.
- The UWSA is also working with Lancer Athletics to promote upcoming volleyball games and encourage student support.
- The UWSA has begun collaborating with Campus Legal Aid to promote their services and explore joint events and initiatives to better support students navigating legal matters.
- UWSA Equity Collectives have launched for the semester, providing spaces for marginalized student communities to discuss concerns and propose initiatives. Upcoming meetings include:
 - Jewish Student Equity Collective – March 5 (10:30 AM – 11:30 AM)
 - 2SLGBTQIA+ Student Equity Collective – March 6 (4:00 PM – 5:00 PM)
 - Students with Disabilities Equity Collective – March 10 (1:00 PM – 2:00 PM)
 - Muslim Students Equity Collective – March 10 (4:00 PM – 5:00 PM)
 - Additional collectives planned include Palestinian Students, Black Students, and Middle Eastern Students.
- Nominations are now open for the UWSA Gala Awards. The nomination deadline is March 20, 2026. Available awards include:
 - President’s Award of Excellence – Student of the Year
 - recognizes a full-time undergraduate student who has demonstrated outstanding leadership, initiative, and service that has created meaningful and lasting impact within the University of Windsor community.
 - The “Golden W” Spirit Award recognizes a full-time undergraduate student who truly embodies Lancer pride through exceptional school spirit, dedication, and consistent engagement in campus life.
 - First Year Student Award of Excellence
 - recognizes a full-time undergraduate student who has made an outstanding contribution to student life during their first year at the University of Windsor.
- Nominations can be submitted here: [Gala Awards – UWSA](#)

GSS

GSS Executive Elections | Update

GSS Executive elections are underway with the nomination period ending on Friday the 6th. Executive positions run May 1st to April 30th. The GSS will be implementing new contracts for the Executives to ensure they attend, actively participate and effectively represent the GSS on all University and GSS committees.

Executives do receive an honorarium for their position. Part of the contract will address poor attendance, which may result in a suspension of their honorarium. Unannounced academic conflicts, such as failure to inform committee chairs of a conflict may be considered a violation of these contracts. These contracts will be reviewed by external GSS legal and approved by the GSS Board of Directors. Representation of our student membership is a top priority and if elected student executives are unable to meet this requirement, then steps to rectify this situation will be taken.

GSS Annual General Meeting

The GSS held their AGM on February 26th. A mass email invite was sent out to all GSS members, informing them of the online meeting. The GSS continues to hold our Board and AGM meetings online to accommodate our memberships academic responsibilities, as well to allow access to members who may not be on campus.

The following items were presented at the AGM:

- Membership enrollment declines
- Executive external committee reports
- Internal staff and program reports
 - Campus Community Garden
 - UPass
 - Supplemental Benefits Program
 - Clubs and Societies Program
 - Events and Student Experience programming
 - Capital Project updates - Leddy West Graduate Study Lounge

OPUS

On February 12th, 2026, we held our OPUS Winter Social with guest speakers Tracy Moore on Financial Literacy (TD), and Tony Leah, on Labour History (Author, CAW Retiree). Additionally, we announced our New Student Bursary for \$800 with many students in attendance to share in free food and various door prizes.

On February 12th, 2026, we met with UWSA and GSS over recent UPass developments and any challenges that may exist with delivery of the UPass program as it currently exists to further improve the service.

On February 12th and February 26th, 2026, our team continued to meet biweekly for the CAWSC BAS Modernization meeting scheduled jointly with UWSA and contractors over upgrades moving forward from Phase 1 completion to Phase 2. Progress is ongoing.

Also, in our OPUS lounge we have recently upgraded our space to include a small area for exercise equipment for students to utilize in between study breaks.

We have maintained our OPUS Health Benefit Plan at its current rate for the upcoming year of 2026-27. Ancillary fee meetings have commenced with discussion of fee changes to allow and include adjustments with the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Discussions are ongoing. Additionally, Greenshield, our insurance broker, will be sponsoring a Mental Health Bursary for students starting in Fall 2026. Stay tuned.

On March 5th, 2026, we contributed towards the Celebration of Nations event this year, as we have done for several years now, which hosts and acknowledges the diversity of the many cultures shared and experienced on campus on any given day as a celebration within our community.

Upcoming events:

On March 26th, 2026, our OPUS Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be scheduled for our part-time student membership to attend. Stay tuned for updates on time schedule.

University of Windsor
Senate

5.6: **Report of the Academic Colleague**

Item for: **Information**

Forwarded by: **Mohammed Fazle Baki**

Academic Colleagues met on February 10-11, 2026

Future of PSE: President Steve Orsini led a discussion and sought input on the outline of COU's draft paper on the Future of Postsecondary Education. He presented the draft paper, which focuses on developing a sector-led vision for the future of Ontario's universities in response to significant global and domestic pressures. The presentation emphasized that higher education is at a turning point shaped by artificial intelligence, geopolitical shifts, economic transformation, social change, and climate imperatives. Universities were positioned as central drivers of talent, research, civic engagement, and economic prosperity, with a need to accelerate transformation through lifelong learning pathways, micro-credentials, AI-enabled teaching, expanded work-integrated learning, strengthened university–industry research partnerships, and responsible innovation. The draft also highlighted the modernization of administrative operations, joint programming, labour-aligned talent pipelines, student success, and leadership in sustainability and democratic resilience as key priorities. A central theme of the discussion was financial sustainability as a prerequisite for meaningful transformation. The sector faces growing financial pressures amid rising demand, and long-term stability will require a balanced approach: increased government investment, greater revenue flexibility, operational efficiencies, and new sources of revenue. The path forward calls for strengthened collaboration among federal and provincial governments, industry, and communities to stabilize institutions and unlock their full potential, with universities continuing to evolve as lifelong learning ecosystems and innovation leaders.

Colleagues' Reports: During the colleagues' reports, almost all universities—except one or two—reported budgetary concerns. Some noted strategic cuts and operating deficits. Colleagues also shared best practices regarding the use of one-time funding and approaches to snow days. Generally, one-time increases in revenue are not used to make long-term financial commitments, such as creating tenure-stream faculty positions, although a few universities indicated some flexibility in this regard. Most institutions reported that greater financial stability would be required before making such commitments. With respect to snow days, practices vary: some universities shut down entirely, some allow meetings to proceed (preferably online), and some permit online teaching.

Province's Quality Assurance System: Christopher Evans (Executive Director) and Cindy Robinson (Director of Operations) of the Ontario Universities Council on Quality Assurance (Quality Council) presented an overview of the province's quality assurance (QA) system and its implications for institutional oversight.

The session outlined the purpose and structure of QA in Ontario, emphasizing that it is a self-regulating system designed by universities for universities, guided by the Quality Assurance Framework (QAF). Primary responsibility for quality rests with academic units and institutions, with independent oversight provided by the Quality Council, which operates at arm's length from both universities and government. The presentation reviewed the processes for new program approvals, expedited approvals, major modifications, and particularly the Cyclical Program Review (CPR), which is central to demonstrating sustained program quality and accountability.

The presenters highlighted that cyclical reviews involve self-studies, external arm's-length peer evaluations, institutional assessments, and the development of Final Assessment Reports and Implementation Plans, with clear

timelines and accountability for follow-up. In addition, universities undergo cyclical audits (on an eight-year cycle) to assess alignment between institutional practices (IQAP) and the provincial QAF. Audit outcomes may include commendations, mandatory recommendations, suggestions for improvement, and, in rare cases, identification of structural concerns. The overall message underscored that quality assurance is not merely compliance-driven but a continuous improvement process that safeguards academic standards, protects students' interests, and maintains public confidence in Ontario's university system.

COU Response on Long-Term Sustainability Funding: On February 12, 2026, the Government of Ontario announced a landmark \$6.4 billion investment in the postsecondary sector over four years, alongside a framework that caps tuition increases at two per cent annually following years of cuts and freezes. COU welcomed the announcement as a timely and sustainable funding commitment at a critical moment for the sector. President and CEO Steve Orsini emphasized that the \$4.4 billion in increased operating funding, together with targeted support for small, rural, Northern, and French-language institutions, represents an important step in stabilizing universities after years of financial strain, enrolment pressures, tuition reductions, and losses related to federal international student caps.

Over the next four years, the funding framework includes increased support for enrolment growth, adding 70,000 seats in in-demand programs; adjustments to base program weights to strengthen funding for high-priority fields; and a six per cent increase in base funding for all students enrolled, replacing the temporary sustainability funding that was set to expire next year. These measures were framed as recognition of the growing demand from Ontario high school students and the essential role universities play in preparing a highly skilled workforce and driving research, innovation, and long-term economic competitiveness.

COU noted that increased operating funding, combined with a modest tuition cap, will help sustain core academic programs and student services, including mental health supports, career counselling, and expanded co-op and work-integrated learning opportunities. The sector reaffirmed its commitment to access and affordability, highlighting that universities already invest more than \$1.4 billion annually in student financial assistance and will continue to reinvest 10 per cent of new domestic tuition revenue into student aid. At the same time, COU underscored that universities will continue pursuing efficiencies through shared services, digital transformation, and administrative streamlining to ensure responsible stewardship of public funds. Overall, the announcement was characterized as a strong signal of renewed provincial partnership with the university sector in supporting students and strengthening Ontario's economic future.

Changes in OSAP: While the COU statement did not specifically address this aspect, the government also announced changes aimed at ensuring the long-term sustainability of OSAP. Beginning in fall 2026, eligible Ontario students will receive a maximum of 25 per cent of their OSAP funding as grants and a minimum of 75 per cent as loans, bringing Ontario more in line with other Canadian jurisdictions. In addition, private career college students will no longer be eligible for OSAP grants and will receive loans only, consistent with recent federal changes. These adjustments are intended to address growing fiscal pressures on the provincial student assistance system while maintaining student access and strengthening the long-term viability of OSAP.

Continue to Pursue Efficiencies: At the same time, this renewed investment brings renewed responsibility. As emphasized by COU, universities will continue to do their part to drive greater efficiencies and control costs, building on years of collaboration through shared services, joint procurement, digital transformation, and administrative streamlining to ensure that public funding is used responsibly and delivers value to taxpayers. In this context, institutions must also reassess their evolving role in the economy and strengthen connections with industry, government, and community partners. By enhancing their contributions to talent development, research, civic engagement, and economic prosperity, universities can demonstrate sustained value and ensure that this new funding framework translates into long-term resilience and meaningful impact.

Advocacies that led to the Long-Term Sustainability Funding: It is important to acknowledge that this landmark announcement did not come easily. Frustration across the sector had reached a point where, at the University of Windsor's joint Board-Senate retreat, a presentation by Alex Usher suggested that universities might need to adapt to an era of continuously declining funding. Despite this sobering assessment, COU, university executive heads, and

OCUFA refused to accept a narrative of permanent contraction and instead sustained coordinated, strategic advocacy with government.

Public engagement also played a meaningful role. National and regional newspapers, along with university news outlets, reported extensively on the sector's financial crisis and its impact on job losses and program cuts. The Windsor Star featured coverage citing President McMurtry, and WUFA mobilized significant grassroots support – collecting the highest number of public petition signatures among faculty associations in Ontario. In addition, a lobby day has been organized at Queen's Park prior to the Fall Economic Statement to engage policymakers directly and reinforce the sector's message. These collective and sustained efforts contributed materially to advancing the case for long-term sustainability funding.

**University of Windsor
Senate**

5.7: **Report of the President**

Item for: **Information**

Forwarded by: **J.J. McMurtry**

1. Four Pillars Planning

Over the coming months, in collaboration with relevant unit leads, the Office of the President will continue advancing work on the four identified growth pillars: enrolment, government grants and research, advancement, and monetization. Initial meetings and drop-in sessions are currently being scheduled for March to engage key interest groups, gather input, and align priorities. These group-level discussions will focus on enrolment expansion, increased research funding, a new fundraising campaign, and diversified revenue streams. To support this effort, institutional communications will begin rolling out over the next several weeks to increase awareness and encourage participation. The Four Pillars Plan continues to align closely with the Aspire Strategic Plan, translating its priorities into measurable growth goals, KPIs, and operational actions across the institution.

2. MCURES Funding Announcement

In February, the Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security announced a \$6.4 billion investment to support the postsecondary sector, raising annual operating funding and expanding enrolment capacity in high-demand programs. The Government of Ontario says the plan will improve long-term sustainability, increase per-student funding, and provide targeted support for smaller and Northern institutions, alongside changes to student aid. From my view, this is welcomed news, particularly after years of fiscal pressure. However, it is still early to understand how the numbers will ultimately flow to individual institutions. Once we are able to fully examine the details of how the funding will apply to the University of Windsor, administration will report back to the campus community.

3. Meeting with WRH Presidents

In February, I met with outgoing President and CEO of Windsor Regional Hospital, Karen Riddell, and the incoming President and CEO, Kristin Kennedy. We had a productive meeting, and I look forward to collaborating more with WRH on shared priorities for the region in the future.

**University of Windsor
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5.8: **Report of the Provost and Vice-President, Academic**

Item for: **Information**

Forwarded by: **Cheryl Collier**

1. Integrated Resource Planning and ongoing 26/27 Budget discussions

The Finance office is working toward budget planning for the upcoming academic year. The Provost has been attending all budget meetings between Finance and Deans/Faculty finance managers for the past several months. This is the first time that the Provost has been involved in these meetings and is an early attempt to bring academic integration across faculty requests and to fully support the academic mission across areas. These meetings are ongoing with a plan to bring a more integrated version of the budget to the Board by May 2026.

Additionally, the Provost's Office is working to bring a more integrated budgetary planning model to the university overall. Following presentations by colleagues from Ontario Tech University to the Board on January 27th, 2026, and the Deans on January 28th, 2026, our office is working on aligning budgetary planning to an integrated model following the President's four pillars of growth. This Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) model has been successfully utilized in many university settings including Ontario Tech University and York University. The Provost's Office will be bringing this model to the Academic Support Leadership Team as part of ongoing team building and integrative support planning that should help the university transition to more fulsome institutional integrated budget planning for the 2027-28 academic year.

2. Academic Labour Relations

Shae Harasym, Acting Director of Academic Labour Relations, has accepted a position outside of the university and will formally leave her role as of March 20th, 2026. Our office is working to appoint an Interim Director and will announce this to Senate when we can. We wish to thank Shae for her service to the University of Windsor in this portfolio and elsewhere and wish her all the best in her new position.

3. Forum on Student Persistence Registration

[Registration](#) is now open for the Forum on Student Persistence on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, 08:30 AM – 04:00 PM in the Alumni Auditorium - CAW Centre. Sponsored by the University of Windsor Teaching Leadership Chair in Educational Leadership and supported and organized by the Community of Practice in Educational Leadership, the Forum on Student Persistence is a full-day event focused on how instructors and staff can support student persistence and retention. The day will include an opening keynote offered by Dr. Bryan Dewsbury, several inspirational stories of persistence from our students or recent graduates, and a summary of the findings of a large survey on student persistence and belonging at UWindsor. Small group discussions will help to inform instructors and the University on how we might enhance students' feelings of belonging and encourage them to continue in their academic development.

**University of Windsor
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5.9: **Report of the Vice-President, People, Equity, and Inclusion**

Item for: **Information**

Forwarded by: **Clinton Beckford**

University Diversity, Indigeneity, and Anti-Racism Professional Development Fund (Article U)

- This is a reminder that the application deadline for Article U funding is March 15, 2026. The fund provides targeted financial support for WUFA members to engage in scholarly, teaching or professional development work that strengthens professional growth and advances equity, diversity, Indigeneity and anti-racism.

Employee Engagement Survey Reminder – March 16 – 27, 2026

- On Monday **March 16, 2026**, faculty and staff will receive an email from TalentMap <survey@talentmap.com> – a Canadian survey provider – with a unique link to access the survey. The survey is confidential, voluntary and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. Visit the survey website at www.uwindsor.ca/engagementsurvey for more details.
- The University will not have access to individual responses. A minimum of five responses will be required for unit-level reports. By sharing your experiences, you are helping shape a workplace where people feel supported, respected, and able to thrive.
- Close to 40 faculty and staff have come forward to act as Employee Engagement Survey Champions. Thank you! Champions play a critical role to enhance awareness of the survey and boost participation within their respective areas.

EDID Training and Education Updates

- [March Sustainability and EDID Month 2026 Event Calendar](#) - the 3rd Annual Sustainability and EDID Month at the University of Windsor is in progress for the campus community to celebrate and promote sustainability, equity, indigeneity, diversity, accessibility, and inclusion. A variety of workshops, guest lectures, volunteer opportunities, and sustainability initiatives are aimed at fostering environmental consciousness and social responsibility. We encourage participation to foster a positive impact on campus and beyond as we address the UN Sustainable Development Goals and work towards a more sustainable future.
- EDI ID Summit – the registration link for the EDI ID Summit 2026 scheduled on March 26, 2026 is now open for EDID/Sustainability Planning Committee members. This is an opportunity for the campus community to network and share resources in the ongoing efforts to establish a community of practice.

Leadership Development

- The **Leadership and Culture Management Program**, grounded on the University of Windsor’s [Leadership Competency Framework](#) commenced on February 11, 2026, with 30 participants.
- The Leader Series continues to be offered. A two-part session “Leader as Coach” was offered in February. Upcoming sessions include Measure What Matters – The OKR Framework and Setting a Healthier Workplace Culture.

Goal Setting and Performance Development Program

- The Goal Setting Advisory Committee has been established. The focus over the next six months will include the development of resources to support program implementation and program roll-out to Directors and Managers to test resources and processes.

UWinside People (HRIS Platform)

- The Recruitment Module for the Academic hiring processes has been launched in UWinside People, effective March 1, 2026. The training and transition planning has been actioned with additional training and updates to online resources planned for April 2026. The integration promotes a collaborative working relationship between the Office of the Provost and Human Resources.
- The licenses required for implementation of the Learning Module in UWinside People have been secured. The functionality within the Learning Module is directly connected to the Goal Setting and Performance Development Program.

Food Security Action Plan

- During the month of March, 2026, the Office of the Vice-President of People, Equity, and Inclusion, on behalf of the Food Security Working Group, the Office of Sustainability, and the UWSA are partnering to host a campus-wide food drive in support of the UWSA Campus Food Pantry. We have invited faculty and staff to contribute non-perishable food items throughout March. Donations will be accepted at EDID Month and Sustainability Month events, or they can be dropped to the Campus Food Pantry in the CAW Student Centre.

**University of Windsor
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5.10: **Report of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation**

Item for: **Information**

Forwarded by: **Shanthi Johnson**

Research and innovation drive the University's academic mission enabling bold and impactful research, scholarship, creative activity and innovation fueling recruitment, student success and high-quality learning and reputation. The Office of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation (OVPRI) advances this work through inclusive research, collaboration, and engagement aligned with *Aspire: Together for Tomorrow* and the University's institutional growth agenda.

The Office of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation brings together teams focused on research and integrity services (RIS); research innovation, partnerships, and entrepreneurship (IPE); Senate-approved research centres and institutes (GLIER, BSI, CBI, and WE-SPARK); and strategic institutional research initiatives. OVPRI supports approximately 600 faculty members and Faculties across campus in advancing bold, impactful research, scholarship, creative activity, and innovation.

Research Innovation, Partnerships, and Entrepreneurship (IPE)

The Innovation, Partnerships and Entrepreneurship team's focus was on advancing research commercialization activities and engaging student entrepreneurs.

- The Hult Prize finale was hosted in CAW Auditorium where 6 teams pitched to advance to the national finals in Montreal. 100% Fish will represent the University of Windsor promoting its use of fish harvesting byproducts.
- The Research & Innovation Excellence Awards are Live! Nominations close on March 9th! Ceremony is April 15, 2026 at The Armouries.
- Intellectual Property Ontario (IPON) has awarded the UWindsor \$355,000 for 2026-2027 to continue the commercialization and entrepreneurial potential of our University.
 - \$155,000 awarded to launch an IPON Fellowship program – 10 Students will engage in an intensive IP & commercialization training where real intellectual property is validated in the market and built into an emerging business using local experts and mentors.
 - \$200,000 awarded to support capacity building for IP Commercialization including business-case development, marketing, IP consulting and decision-support technologies.
- Full reviews of existing processes and technologies are underway to identify opportunities to optimize service delivery to faculty, enhance transparency in support, and enable reinvestment.

Research and Integrity Services

Over the past year, our team has undertaken a review of the internal funding programs that we offer. We have redesigned our suite of programs based on our research ecosystem and the current funding landscape to better serve the needs of our campus research community. We plan to roll out our new suite of internal funding programs soon. Updated programs include:

Tri-Agency Funding Support:

- *UWindsor-SSHRC Explore Grants* – seed grants to support external grant development in the arts, humanities, and social sciences.

- *UWindsor-SSHRC Exchange Grants* – fund knowledge mobilization activities fostering interdisciplinary and inter-faculty collaboration and collaboration with community, industry and government partners in the arts, humanities, and social sciences.
- *Tri-Success Grants* – support researchers in improving Tri-Council grant applications that were judged by the agency to be of high quality but were not funded due to restrictions in the financial resources of the agency.

Career Stage and Inclusive Excellence Support:

- *VPRI Research Chairs* – recognize significant contributions and future promise of early career researchers at the University of Windsor.
- *Mid-Career Accelerate Grants* – support mid-career researchers to accelerate, redefine, or pivot their research program.

Partnerships, Innovation, and Scale Up Support:

- *Research Partnership Development Grants* – support the development of new partnership opportunities with community or industry partners resulting in pursuit of new external funding opportunities.
- *Major Research Program Support Grants* – accelerate the development of large and very large funding applications and research projects involving.
- *International Research Catalyst Grants* – support development of major international funding applications and opportunities, including Horizons Europe.
- *Inclusive Excellence Grants* – equity groups and communities research support; equity focussed research, scholarship, and creative activity; understanding identity-based violence and marginalization; and Indigenous scholarship.
- *Academic Innovator Catalyst Grants* – support lab2market, commercialization, and launching University-affiliated startups.

These opportunities will run over the next 3 years followed by review. A listing and information on new internal funding opportunities will be available on our website [under Internal Grants Programs](#) when the new suite is launched.

We will be launching new resources and information sessions to advance global research engagement and position UWindsor faculty to pursue international faculty exchanges (e.g., Fulbright, DAAD, and others) and pursue large-scale international funding opportunities, including Horizon Europe.