



**SENATE STUDENT CAUCUS**  
**Notes of Meeting**

**Date:** Friday, November 10, 2017

**Time:** 9:30am-10:35am

**Room:** 209 Assumption Hall

**Committee Members:** Mr. Chris Baillargeon, Ms. Amy Bui, Ms. Bernarda Doctor, Ms. Yosra Elsayed, Mr. Ryan Flannagan, Dr. Kathy Pfaff, Dr. Scott Goodwin, Dr. Sean Horton, Ms. Ann Kirby, Ms. Zeina Merheb (co-chair), Dr. Tina Pugliese (chair), Mr. Harleen Sandhu, Dr. Bill Wellington

**Absent:** Dr. Jennifer Johrendt, Mr. Ahmed Khalifa, Ms. Sharon Munro (regrets), Dr. Geri Salinitri, Mr. Harshjot Singh Lohat (regrets).

**In Attendance:** Amanda Skocic, Tony Vo, Dr. Phebe Lam; Ms. Renée Wintermute (University Secretary) and Ms. Alison Zilli (Senate Secretariat).

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**Formal Business**

**1 Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION:** That the agenda be approved.

Dr. K. Pfaff/Mr. C. Baillargeon  
**CARRIED**

**2 Minutes of the meeting of October 6, 2017**

**MOTION:** That the minutes of the meeting of October 6, 2017 be approved.

Mr. C. Baillargeon/Mr. H. Sandhu

Editorial corrections were made to the minutes.

**CARRIED, as amended**

**3 Business arising from the minutes**

Nothing to report.

**4 Outstanding business**

Nothing to report.

**5 Reports/New Business**

**5.1 Presenter Series**

**5.1.1 UWindsor FAHSS App**

NOTED:

- A new UWin FAHSS App has been developed for students to easily access information in FAHSS.
- There are three main features of the app which include: 1) being able to chat with the Learning Specialist using Blackboard Collaborate; 2) an Open Office Hour Video Series; and, 3) Humans of FAHSS.
- The Open Office Hour Video Series are weekly videos that address questions/issues that most students may encounter. Topics include time management, career planning, picking courses, etc.

- The Humans of FAHSS spotlights different students who share their inspiring stories which may include adjustment to the Canadian Culture, student exchange program experience, and school-life balance.
- Upcoming initiatives will focus on first-year students being asked to reflect on their first semester such as success and challenges.

### 5.1.2 Creating an Inclusive Student Counselling Centre for LGBTQ+<sup>1</sup> students on campus

NOTED:

- There is a clear connection between mental health and academic performance so the earlier problems are identified the better it is for the students.
- There is an increased need for student counselling services for LGBTQ+ students on campus as they are a high at-risk population.
- The pressure that LGBTQ+ students may feel about having to conceal their orientation by modifying their behaviour or appearance fearing homophobia and violence can lead to negative effects on mental and physical health.
- Many LGBTQ+ students experience isolation, alienation and stress leading to increased depression, anxiety and suicidal thoughts particularly if they have experienced family rejection.
- Since many are kicked out of their homes, their access to economic resources is limited and many have trouble finding stable housing or employment, as well as accessing needed health or social services.
- The term *Intersectionality*, which refers to the manner in which an individual's identity is shaped by other forms of marginalization, is particularly important within the context of LGBTQ+ focused mental health, as it emphasizes an approach by which intersecting experiences of discrimination and the needs of the whole person are considered.
- Finding a qualified mental health professional who has experience and familiarity with the challenges that members of the LGBTQ+ community face can be critical to successful therapy outcomes.
- The University of Windsor Student Counselling Centre can help by providing a counselling service that is specifically trained in LGBTQ+ issues.
- Some other ways include increasing awareness, becoming familiar with the degree to which internalized discrimination can impact health, developing an understanding of social determinants, and, providing appropriate equity training to ensure that crisis intervention staff approach LGBTQ+ clients without stereotypes or discrimination.
- Student Caucus members expressed strong support for this student initiative.

## 5.2 Report of the Student Liaison Subcommittee and Co-Chair

NOTED:

- The Student Liaison Subcommittee has been established and consists of a diverse group of students from various areas across campus.
- The first meeting generated discussion on issues such as creating an environmentally friendly campus, implementing LGBTQ+ student counselling, and improving counselling for co-op students.
- Concerns were raised regarding the safety of students on campus in relationship to the ongoing construction projects on campus (which can be unsafe with larger construction trucks), and the limited parking spaces for students on campus.
- In response to concerns raised, it was noted that construction issues would need to be directed to Facility Services and that there are enough parking spaces for people who have purchased permits, but the location may be a few blocks from campus.

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<sup>1</sup> LGBTQ+ is an acronym that stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bixsexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning

### 5.3 Report from the International Students' Society

NOTED:

- The International Students' Society is looking into how to educate international students about their rights as students and also having a Town Hall meeting geared to the International student population.

### 5.4 Report on Student Affairs and Life on Campus

#### Student Experience

NOTED:

- Training workshops in the area of sexual violence prevention have been implemented with 20 spots been filled for the Flip the Script program which is part of a national research project studying how sexual assault resistance programs work when implemented.
- The new Alternative Spring Break program will offer students a few new ways to engage with the community. The experiences will include taking a team of students to live on Walpole Island First Nations for the week; or working with the Downtown Mission. A silent auction will be held to help raise funds for the Alternative Spring Break program.
- The Safe Lancer mobile App has been popular with features such as Virtual Walk Home, which allows a friend or campus police to follow a walker online to their destination, one touch access to police, and access to support services, *etc.*
- A new *Keep Me Safe* Student Support Program provides connections 24 hours a day, in several different languages, to licensed and trained counsellors.

#### Campus Services

NOTED:

- Food services recently opened a new Starbucks coffee shop in the Toldo Building.
- Food services is reviewing whether to retain the Tim Hortons kiosk in Odette School of Business or perhaps look at different vendors.
- Once implemented in February, the new Enterprise Resource Planning UWin financial system will have a positive impact on operations of the bookstore and food services.

### Additional Business

### 6 Question period/Other Business

NOTED:

- A question was raised regarding what the University's responsibility is regarding intervention for students who are living in intolerable rental housing situations. In response, it was noted that from an educational standpoint the campus community may be able to direct students to the proper resources so that they are made aware of their rights and responsibilities as a renter. The instructor can also provide accommodation in the form of extensions on assignments, *etc.*

#### 6.1 Update from Working Group on Part Time Student Issues

Progress on the survey continues.

### 7 Adjournment

**MOTION:** That the meeting be adjourned.

Mr. C. Baillargeon/Dr. K. Pfaff

**CARRIED**