



SENATE STUDENT CAUCUS
Notes of Meeting

Date: Friday, April 13, 2018

Time: 9:30am-11:00am

Room: 209 Assumption Hall

Committee Members: Mr. Chris Baillargeon, Ms. Bernarda Doctor, Mr. Ryan Flannagan, Dr. Sean Horton, Ms. Anna Kirby, Ms. Zeina Merheb, Ms. Sharon Munro, Dr. Kathy Pfaff, Dr. Tina Pugliese (chair), Dr. Bill Wellington.

Absent: Ms. Yosra Elsayed (regrets), Dr. Scott Goodwin (regrets), Harleen Singh Sandhu, Dr. Jennifer Johrendt (regrets), Mr. Ahmed Khalifa, Mr. Meet Patel, Dr. Geri Salinitri, Mr. Harshjot Singh Lohat.

In Attendance: Ms. Renée Wintermute (University Secretary) and Ms. Alison Zilli (Senate Secretariat).

Formal Business

1 Approval of Agenda

MOTION: That the agenda be approved.

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

2 Minutes of the meeting of January 12, 2018

MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting of January 12, 2018 approved.

Mr. C. Baillargeon/Dr. S. Horton
CARRIED

3 Business arising from the minutes

Nothing to report.

4 Outstanding business

Nothing to report.

Items for Information/Discussion

5 Reports/New Business

5.1 Report of the Student Liaison Subcommittee and Co-Chair

NOTED:

- UWSA is in the process of reviewing ideas that would help make the University of Windsor a greener campus with one idea being to install additional water fountains in order encourage the campus community to their own water bottles.
- The Chair has organized and called 2 Liaison Subcommittee meeting, but attendance and interest was low and quorum was not met.

5.2 Senate Student Caucus – Review

(See document SC180413-5.2 for more details)

NOTED:

- The original mandate of the Senate Student Caucus is to bring forward matters of student concern to the regular meeting agenda, in consultation and agreement with the faculty co-chair

- However, based on lack of agenda items, it seems evident that Senate Student Caucus may not be the best avenue for bringing forward student concerns.
- Over the past few years the Student Co-chairs have struggled with even establishing a reliable Student Liaison Committee often due to lack of understanding about the role of Student Caucus.
- This year, the Student Co-chair has formed a Subcommittee, but getting quorum, and having students generate issues to bring to Student Caucus hasn't been as fruitful as anticipated.
- Students are extremely busy with school and work and many of them already belong to student groups and societies or committees that take up a lot of their time.
- Student Societies are setting up their own Student Experience committees and there is also a Student Advocate in GSS)
- Students seem to be expressing their concerns in other venues and or directly to the prevalent persons via email or phone call. For example, students who have concerns about student life or the campus have been contacting the VP Student Experience or Director of Campus Services directly rather than bringing them forward to a Committee. There is also a Drop-in Provost table.
- Due to the increase in technology over the past decade, students are working in a fast-past environment where communication is fluid and information can be transmitted quickly. With email and social media, students are able to express their concerns immediately and get their issues addressed.
- Prior to this, when the Committee was created in 1999, these options were not available as communication meant talking one-on-one in person rather than via email or at meetings.
- Faculty and students have invested their time to make accommodations to attend the Student Caucus meetings each month, so it would be beneficial to have agenda items to discuss as well as quorum. Unfortunately, both has been a bit weak.
- One forum that is helpful for student is the monthly Policy and Management Board (PMB) meeting where students and student leader get together to share information and discuss various issues.
- The following suggestions were provided by members: 1) Move the monthly meetings to quarterly meetings (4 times a year); 2) Have a rotating Caucus meeting at different locations and with a rotating focus (i.e., meet with different Student Societies across campus for feedback on student concerns); and/or; 3) Disband Senate Student Caucus completely as a Senate Standing Committee.

AGREED:

- That Senate Student Caucus remain active for the 2018-2019 academic year and that the meetings be changed from monthly to quarterly.

5.3 Report on Student Affairs and Life on Campus

Student Experience

NOTED:

- The refurbishment of the main floor of Dillion Hall and the Student Success and Leadership Services Centre has been completed. As a result, there has been a 30% increase in exam and isolation space.
- The updated Welcome Week program which was geared at increasing the level of student engagement was highly successful.
- The Residence Services review has been completed and an overall strategy to increase numbers in residence services is in progress.
- The Student Mental Health Strategy continues to be a focus as information has been gathered from a survey and recommendations are forthcoming.

Campus Services

NOTED:

- The next buyback dates at the Bookstore are in mid-April where students can bring their textbooks back to get up to 50% in funds applied to debit card or a Bookstore gift card.

- The Print Shop recently purchased equipment that allows them to make cloth posters that can be used for pop-up events.
- The parking garage opened up 100 additional spots for student parking and permits for Fall will go on sale in early June 2018.
- The old University Club which will be converted into a dedicated dining hall for residence students.
- With the forthcoming addition of the new Lancer Sport and Recreation Centre, preparations are being made to include a food outlet and juice bar at the Centre.
- Given that catering events to the downtown campus are becoming more frequent plans are being made to create a small server area downtown in the old bus depot.

Additional Business

6 Question period/Other business/Open Discussion

6.1 Paws for Stress

NOTED:

- The Windsor Chapter of Therapeutic Paws is lacking a chapter leader and as a result, the program could not be offered again this month. It is anticipated that staffing at Therapeutic Paws will be resolved soon so that events will continue in the future as therapeutic dogs offer much stress-relief for students.

Other Business

- Bernarda Doctor was thanked for her presentation of a song she wrote and sang aloud to members entitled "Beloved UWindsor" expressing gratitude of pride for the University of Windsor.

7 Adjournment

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

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