



SENATE STUDENT CAUCUS
Minutes of Meeting

Date: Friday, February 8, 2019
Time: 9:30am-10:25am
Room: 209 Assumption Hall

Committee Members: Chris Baillargeon, Sean Horton, Bharat Maheshwari, Prof Ruth Kuras, Dave McEwen, Ms. Zeina Merheb (Co-Chair), Sharon Munro, Kathy Pfaff, Katherine Quinsey (Chair), Geri Salinitri.

Absent: Bernarda Doctor, Ryan Flannagan (regrets), Shashai Jasra (regrets), Jennifer Johrendt (regrets), Siddharth Patel (regrets), Amber Shaheen, Lena Sleiman.

In Attendance: Jerimiah Bowers; Renée Wintermute (University Secretary) and Alison Zilli (University Secretariat).

Formal Business

1 Approval of Agenda

MOTION: That the agenda be approved.

C. Baillargeon/B. Maheshwari
CARRIED

2 Minutes of the meeting of September 14, 2019

MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting of September 14, 2018 be approved.

C. Baillargeon/G. Salinitri
CARRIED

The notes of the meeting of November 9, 2018 were received for information.

3 Business arising from the minutes

Nothing to report.

4 Outstanding business

Nothing to report.

Items for Information

5.1 Report of the Student Liaison Subcommittee and Co-Chair

NOTED:

- The Co-Chair reported that she has been reaching out to other student bodies about how best to hear the student voice and looking into what other universities do.
- In reviewing the role of the Committee with external peers, there are other universities that have a similar committee.
- The structure and role of these committees will be further reviewed to determine next steps for the Student Caucus.
- There has been much discussion among and between students and student groups about the effects that the changes to the post-secondary education sector will have on students, particularly with the restructuring of OSAP.

- The restructuring of OSAP changes the grants-to-loans ratio in favour of more loans, the repayment terms so that interest begins to accrue during the 6-month grace period before loan re-payments must begin, and the OSAP eligibility by lowering the income threshold.
- Although adjusting to the new UWin site has been challenging for students, the larger issues with registration have been resolved and students are adjusting to learning the new system.
- It was reiterated that, in the future, consideration be given to the timing of launching a new system-wide product that affects students.

5.2 Report on Student Affairs and Life on Campus

NOTED:

- Parking Services recently had an amnesty week for parking fines where, for the first-time, students, faculty and staff could get 50% off outstanding parking tickets during the week of Jan 21-25th.
- Students who need to replace their student cards during the December 2018 examination period had to pay the \$25 replacement fee for the card but were given back \$20 on the card to be used towards food services.
- Students can now submit their photos online for their UWin card so that they can get their cards much quicker.
- The Print Shop has expanded to include a second location at the Campus Bookstore in the CAW Centre for convenience.
- The Club (located in Vanier Hall) is open for dining, serving a wide variety of homestyle dinner specials to students living in residence. Feedback from students has been positive.
- In an effort to increase environmental awareness, the University eliminated plastic straws and moved to testing a paper straw on campus. However, some issues arose as the straws did not hold up with thicker smoothies or juices so some companies such as Booster Juice and Tim Hortons had to go back to using their own plastic straws. Given this, Food Services has launched the sale of reusable straws and are encouraging their partners to find an environmental replacement for plastic.

Additional Business

5 Question period/Other business/Open Discussion

NOTED:

- If a student has forgotten their UWin Student Card for an examination, they can use government issued photo ID card upon entering the exam room for identification. This information can be found in the Senate Policy on Conduct of Exams and Tests.
- There was a successful Paws for Stress event where students could visit with a therapeutic dog or cat to help reduce stress just before exams.
- UWSA, OPUS and GSS have joined with student unions from across Canada to write a letter of complaint to the Ford Government regarding the changes that affect students (*i.e.*, ancillary fees, OSAP, *etc.*)
- Students with a U-Pass can have unlimited rides on the Transit Windsor city service during the school year. In order to opt-out students need to apply within a certain time frame and fall within eligible postal codes.
- A new app 'AyeWork' has been developed by students in Business in collaboration with members of the business community to help international students find part-time work. The goal is to help international students who do not have the funding available to pay for food expenses due to high tuition. In the future this app could be expanded and added to the UWin mySuccess portal.

6 Adjournment

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

C. Baillargeon/G. Salinitri
CARRIED