



SENATE STUDENT CAUCUS
Minutes of Meeting

Date: Friday, October 1, 2021

Time: 9:31-11:08am

Room: Virtual (MS Teams)

Committee Members: Laila Albalkhi, Dave Andrews (Chair), Youstina Asaad, Abeer Asif, Brent Furneaux, Alex Gayowsky, Shashi Jasra, Ofelia Jianu, Ruth Kuras, Phebe Lam, Sharon Munro, Kennedy Murray, Donna Patterson, Jody Ralph, Hussein Samhat (Co-Chair), Christine Vanderkooy, Gabrielle Walach.

Absent: Dave McEwen (regrets).

In Attendance: Danny Anger (Senate Governance Officer), Renée Wintermute (University Secretary).

Formal Business

1 Approval of Agenda

MOTION: That the agenda be approved.

Ralph/Vanderkooy
CARRIED

2 Minutes of the meeting of April 9, 2021

MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting of April 9, 2021, be approved.

Jasra/Lam
CARRIED

3 Business arising from the minutes

Nothing to report.

4 Outstanding business

- It was noted that the Faculty of Human Kinetics was working on a mini course for online code of conduct. An update will be provided at the next Senate Student Caucus meeting.

Items for Information

5 Reports/New Business

5.1 Senate Student Caucus Mandate and Meeting Schedule

(See document SC211001-5.1 for more details.)

NOTED:

- A brief overview of Senate Student Caucus membership, terms of reference, and duties of the Co-Chair was provided.
- The mandate of Senate Student Caucus is to bring issues of concern from students directly to the Senate when the items are the under purview of Senate.
- For matters not within the purview of Senate, the Associate Vice-President, Student Experience will refer the matters to, and liaise with, the appropriate persons or bodies.

- Depending on the nature of the item, Senate may refer matters to a Senate Standing Committee or other body for further consideration and/or policy development.
- Members were informed that Hussein Samhat was acclaimed to the position of Student Co-Chair.
- The 2021-2022 meeting schedule was discussed.
- The document was received for information.

5.2 Report of the Student Co-Chair

NOTED:

- The two main initiatives to be addressed this year will be: 1) on-going communication with students, and 2) dealing with student concerns.
- With the assistance of the Office of Student Experience, Senate Student Caucus will be increasing its reach by promoting itself and its mandate through social media (i.e., using the Office of Student Experience Instagram, Facebook, Student Experience website). It was noted that student members will be encouraged to communicate through these social media platforms to identify student issues.
- Senate Student Caucus will continue with two successful initiatives that launched last year: 'Senate Student Caucus Feedback Form' and the 'Video Awareness Campaign'.
- The Student Co-Chair will continue to schedule meetings with Faculty society presidents and leaders from all Faculties so all student voices and concerns will be considered.

5.3 Report on Student Affairs and Life on Campus

Student Experience

NOTED:

- The Office of Student Experience provided an in-depth report regarding student affairs and life on campus.
- Residence move-in day was a successful initiative seeing nearly 500 students move into Alumni, Cartier, and Laurier, which is about the maximum capacity under COVID-19 restrictions.
- The Student Success and Leadership Centre launched a successful Welcome Week which was well received by students.
- The Office of Student Experience will be providing an orientation session for 1st year students and a re-orientation for 2nd year students who were not on campus last year. The latter has been labelled Thrive.
- The International Student Centre has launched a program called 'Suitcase to Backpack' for incoming international students to help with transitioning to life in Windsor. The International Student Centre is yet to open, the space is waiting for COVID-19 scanners.
- The Student Counselling Centre has hired a black clinical therapist. The University will be hiring a racialized psychologist in the coming weeks.

Campus Services

(See document SC211001-5.3 for more details.)

NOTED:

- In response to a concern raised regarding the safety of students walking alone at night, it was noted that the University provides a walk-safe service at night. Additionally the walk-safe app (available through the Safe Lancer app) provides a service that notifies Campus Police that you are walking alone and tracks your progress.
- Students were also concerned about the number of vegetarian options on campus. The concern will be brought to the attention of Director of Campus Services for a response. .

Additional Business

6 Question period/Other Business

- A question was raised regarding soliciting feedback from students regarding the hyflex teaching method. It was noted that the Office of Open Learning is seeking feedback from students and faculty regarding hyflex teaching.

7 Adjournment

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

Ralph /Gayowsky
CARRIED