



SENATE STUDENT CAUCUS
Minutes of Meeting

Date: Friday, February 4, 2022

Time: 2:32 – 3:59 pm

Room: Virtual (MS Teams)

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

Absent: Sharon Munro (regrets).

In Attendance: Danny Anger (Senate Governance Officer), Renée Wintermute (University Secretary); Student Science Society: Caroline Alionte, Renee Wulterkens, Nelly Bordignon, Victoria Iannetta, Anumita Jain, Aya El-Hashemi.

Formal Business

1 Approval of Agenda

MOTION: That the agenda be approved.

Ralph/Jasri
CARRIED

2 Minutes of the meeting of December 3, 2021

MOTION: That the minutes of the meeting of October 1, 2021, be approved.

Gayowsky/Lam
CARRIED

3 Business arising from the minutes

3.1 Hyflex Delivery Model

NOTED:

- In response to a question raised regarding members experiences with the hyflex delivery model, it was reported that students are struggling with moving between in-class and hyflex when courses are taught back-to-back. There is not enough time for students to finish their in-person class and get set up for hyflex or vis-versa. The Odette School of Business is in contact with students who are experiencing these issues and is attempting to resolve them.
- It was noted that the pressure and demands on instructors, to offer a virtual option when there are issues with inclement weather for students to arrive safely to an in-person lecture, are extremely high. The online/hyflex model allows students to join their lecture from home during inclement weather.

4 Outstanding business

Nothing to report.

Items for Information

5 Reports/New Business

5.1 Report of the Student Co-Chair

NOTED:

- Members were provided a comprehensive report from the Student Co-Chair regarding student concerns

for Fall 2021 Examination timeslots, the Student Society Town Hall, parking pass refunds, and concerns from the Science Society.

- It was noted that students will be receiving parking pass refunds for the month of January 2022 and the refund will be reflected on their student statements.

5.1.1 Science Society Concerns: Winter 2022 Course Delivery and Health/Safety Guidelines

(see document SC211203-5.1.1 for more details.)

NOTED:

- Members were provided a detailed report from the Science Society regarding their concerns for Winter 2022 course delivery and concerns regarding the University's ability to provide a safe return to campus.
- The Science Society expressed the following views and concerns:
 - High quality education was promised to the students, and they are dissatisfied that other universities are transitioning to on campus learning and UWindsor is not;
 - There are no unique health hazards specific to the University of Windsor to prevent a safe return to partial/complete in-person learning;
 - There is a lack of availability of alternative learning options (i.e. hyflex, in-person learning, rotating schedules etc.); and
 - Without clear indications of Winter 2022 course delivery plans, non-local students struggled to make accommodations in advance. The hyflex format (or online section) is essential in the inclusion of non-local students.
- The Science Society is requesting that the following be done:
 - All labs have an in-person option or in-person component; and
 - Students want more transparency and consultation prior to decisions being made by the University.

The floor was open for comments/questions:

- In response to a question raised regarding whether there was consultation with the Science Faculty prior to bringing the issues forward to Senate Student Caucus, it was noted that the Science Society did consult with the Office of the Dean, and they suggested the students bring these issues to Senate as these issues are outside of the Dean of Science's purview.
- It was noted that there is oversight by the University on issues of health and safety, but Deans and Faculties have control over the timing, scheduling, and course delivery mode. Other Faculties did increase the number of in-person courses significantly; though such offerings had to be consistent with classroom availability based on pandemic capacity limits and distancing requirements.
- Concern was raised regarding academic integrity issues in online courses and the impact on the validity of a University of Windsor degree. It was noted that there is limited monitoring or verification processes when writing an online exam and if an online model continues, the University and faculty must do a better job to safeguard against this issue.

5.3 Report on Student Affairs and Life on Campus

Student Experience

NOTED:

- Acting Associate Vice-President, Student Experience provided an in-depth report regarding student affairs and life on and off campus.
- The Windsor Wednesday Show had its last show for the academic year. The show hosted the author of the "African Sons", Michael Naicker. The recording of the show is available at the OSE website.
- The Belonging, Inclusivity, Diversity and Equity 'BIDE' Institute, which serves underrepresented and marginalized groups on campus, has developed a pocket guide to help students in their return to campus, as well as a mentorship program, and opened a 2SLGBTQ+ drop-in centre temporarily housed in CAW room 240 until its permanent location is prepared in Dillon Hall.

- Residence Services has welcomed 90 new students bringing residence to capacity with over 500 students living on Campus. The Black leadership excellence program, which helps Black residence students excel both inside and outside the classroom, has also been launched.
- The International Student Centre will reopen to students Monday – Friday and advising appointments will be in-person and virtual. The ISC’s next guest speaker series will focus on ‘dating, relationships, and consent’. ISC is launching an iWIL Go Global program shortly, which will provide students the opportunity for international work integrated learning opportunities.
- The Student Success & Leadership Centre has launched the Campus Compass to help students navigate mental health issues.
- Lancer Gaming eSports has continued to find success in recent games.
- On February 11th and 12th, Olympic Athlete, Noelle Montcolm will speak at the Lancer Leadership Conference.
- The Wellness Outreach Centre has developed a coping tool kit for mental health and launched a Wellness Livestream which is a student run wellness talk.
- The #UNITEUWIN campaign will launch mid-February and will include 30+30 days of kindness, a healing memorial, and a wall of courage.

Campus Services

NOTED:

- The credit for January parking passes will be put on students account effective February 4, 2022. An email will be sent to students who are parking pass holders to notify them of the reimbursement.
- Staff and Faculty will receive a ‘vacation pause’ for the month of February and will not be charged for their pass.
- The Bookstore and Student Card office (by appointment) is now open for walk-in business.
- Food Services has opened a few services on Campus.

Additional Business

6 Question period/Other Business

7 Adjournment

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

Jasra/Asif
CARRIED