



# Council

## Notice of Meeting

Date: Thursday January 14, 2016

Time: 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Place: RCH 308

### AGENDA

Time	Open Session	Page	Action
4:30	1. Agenda/Additional Agenda Items		Decision
4:35	2. Chair's Remarks		Information
	<b>Consent Agenda*</b>		
4:40	<b>BIRT Council approves and/or receives for information by consent items #3 and #4 of the agenda.</b> 3. Approval of the minutes from the previous meeting. 4. Executive Reports	3	Decision Decision Information
	<b>Regular Agenda</b>		
4:45	5. Appointments & Resignations <b>BIRT Council approves the appointments of new Councillors omnibus.</b>		Decision
4:50	6. Q&A to Executive Reports		Discuss
5:00	7. GOTV Update		Information
5:10	8. SLC/PAC Expansion Project Referendum		Discuss
6:20	9. Other Business		Info/Discuss
6:25	10. <b>Confidential Session</b> ( <i>if required</i> )		
6:30	11. Adjournment		Decision

\*To allow council to complete a number of matters quickly and to devote more of its attention to major items of business, the agenda has been divided between items that are to be approved and/or received for information by consent and those that are to be presented individually for discussion and decision and/or information. A consent agenda is not intended to prevent discussion of any matter by the council, but items listed under the consent sections will not be discussed at the meeting unless a councillor so requests. Councillors are supplied with the appropriate documentation for each item and all items will be approved by means of one omnibus motion. The Council will then move immediately to consideration of the items on the regular agenda.

Matthew Perrone,  
GSA Student Affairs Officer, Chair

January 7, 2016



**Council Meeting Minutes**  
**November 12, 2015**  
 RCH 306  
 4:30 pm– 6:30 pm

Present:

Position/Department	Name	Present	Regret	Absent
Council Speaker	MATTHEW PERRONE, CHAIR	X		
President	Maya D'Alessio	X		
Vice President	Rachel Mitchell	X		
External Affairs-C	Kristen Leal		X	
External Affairs-O	Michael Makahnouk	X		
Director (2016)	Robert Henderson		X	
Director (2016)	Adeboye Oyegunle	X		
Director (2016)	Michael Piazza	X		
Director (2017)	Savio D'Silva	X		
Director (2017)	Filip Budimir		X	
Director (2017)	Ghazal Memartoluie	X		
Director (2017)	Christopher Pugh	X		
Alumni Director (2017)	Marcel Humelnicu		X	
Kinesiology	Sara Scharoun	X		
Rec & Leisure	Julie Leeming		X	
SPHHS (+MPH)	<b>Kyle Rogers</b>	X		
Digital Exp. Inn	Andrea West/			
Economics	Mohammed Ghaziaskar			X
English Lang& Lit	Morteza Deghani		X	
Global Governance	Antulio Rosales Nieves			X
History	Russ Freure	X		
Peace & Conflict	Adam Moreash	X		
Philosophy	<b>Phil Beriault</b>	X		
Psychology	Navio Kwok	X		
Public Service	Michelle D'sa			X
Religious Studies	Zabeen Khamisa			X
Accounting & Finance	Zac Hogg			X
Sociology&Legal St	Angela Willmot	X		
CBET	<b>Jake Deutsch (Acting Councillor)</b>	X		
Chemical	Tim Leshuk			X
Civil & Env	Sina Varamini			X
Electrical & Computer	<b>Alireza Tari</b>			X
Mech & Mechatronics	Nicole Nagy			X
Systems Design Eng	<b>Jeremy Pinto</b>	X		
Architecture	Christina Chan			X
GEM	<b>Aaron Thompson</b>	X		
ERS	Jie Sie Ma			X
School of Planning	<b>Richard Buchan</b>	X		
Applied Mathematics	<b>Lindsey Daniels</b>	X		
Computer Science	John Doucette		X	
Pure Mathematics	Anton Mosunov	X		

Stats & Actuarial Sci	Nathalie Moon		X	
Biology	H. Bandukwala			X
Chemistry	Ryan Amos	X		
Earth & Env Sciences	Ryan Truong			X
Physics and Astronomy	<b>Jeff Salvail (Acting Councillor)</b>	X		
School of Pharmacy	Shannon Callender	X		
Samantha Shortall	At-Large	X		
Sepehr Mohaddes	At-Large	X		
Logan Koeth	At-Large			X
Justin Wan	Guest, Civil & Env. Eng.	X		
Jacob Terry	Guest, Civil & Env. Eng.	X		
Jackie Boychuck	Guest, Peace & Conflict Studies	X		
Olivia Fullerton,	Guest, Peace & Conflict Studies	X		
Scott Nicoll	Resource re: New Student Building	X		
Rose Vogt	General Manager, Minutes	X		

*(Note: Bolded names indicate new Councillors)*

Matthew Perrone, Chair, reports that quorum is achieved and calls the meeting to order at 4:35 pm. Vogt records the minutes.

1. The Agenda is approved with additional items for Maya D'Alessio and Ghazal Memartoluie. (Pugh/Beriault) Carried

Updates of the GOTV campaign will be made at the next meeting of Council. Waiting to receive some data from the government specifically about the youth vote.

2. Chair's Remarks, Matthew Perrone  
Since the last Council meeting, there have been specific Town Hall meetings with members of each faculty. A lot of issues were raised and the GSA Long Range Planning Committee will work to address them.

The Chair thanks and acknowledges Councillors and members that are attending this meetings.

#### Consent Agenda

**BIRT Council approves and/or receives for information by consent items #3 and #4 of the agenda.** (Makahnouk/Moreash) Carried

#### Regular Agenda

5. Appointments and Resignations

**BIRT Council approves the appointments of new Councillors omnibus.** (Moreash/Amos) Carried

Outgoing Councillors are thanked for their service to members.

Incoming Councillors

Phil Beriault, Alireza Tari, Nathan Pirie, Kyle Rogers, Danielle Lindamood, Mohammed

Danish, Jeremy Pinto, Lindsey Daniels, and Logan Koeth.

## 6. Q & A to Executive Reports

### Michael Makahnouk, External Affairs Officer-OGSA

*Ontario Graduate Students' Alliance (OGSA)* has gained recognition by government as a graduate student lobby group. OGSA is working on a private members bill, tabled in the legislature, having received second reading. The Bill was circulated with the agenda package. The scope of the amendments is to collect descriptive and tangible data for decision makers about choosing degrees and PSE in Ontario. The Funding Reform Consultation report with all responses has been submitted. More information should be available in the coming year.

Seven student groups are represented in OGSA: Current member schools include: Waterloo, Laurier, Guelph, McMaster, Athabasca, Trent, OUIT and OGSA is working with Brock. There are 22 universities in Ontario.

### Rachel Mitchell, Vice President

*-Faculty Town Halls:* Much of the last month was spent preparing and meeting with students in each faculty town halls and meetings with departmental societies. Attendance was subpar but feedback was great. The feedback is being considered at the GSA Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC).

*-Canadian Association of Graduate Studies (CAGS)* conference was held in Calgary at the end of October. The GSO supports attendance for one delegate and the GSA sends a second delegate (Matthew Perrone). The report will be presented for the December meeting

*-Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA)* - Policy and Strategy Conference will be held in Halifax mid-November and will be attending as a secondary delegate.

### Maya D'Alessio, President

*-New Student Building* will be discussed later in the agenda.

*-Student Services Advisory Committee (SSAC)* Began meeting to set the ancillary fee for next year. SSAC evaluates the services and allocates funding. Feedback is requested regarding any of the [services](#).

*-TA Policy:* All the inclusions have been drafted by the Committee and are sent to the University Secretariat to be written up as policy. Class Z policies are designated for graduate students.

The timeline for the TA policy depends on the approval from the Deans and Associate Deans, both graduate and undergraduate. The decentralized nature of our campus requires that each faculty be on board with the policy prior to its implementation.

*-FEDS/GSA cooperation.* Working on numerous projects with the FEDS.

*-Columbia Lake North (CLV)* residents. Rental units are assigned in two ways: family units and single-rental shared units. The law differentiates by the type of rental and this is causing differences in how rent is being charged. The singles are being charged higher rent than for families. CLV residents reached out to the GSA and we will continue to meet with them.

*-Offices in Wet Labs:* (Ryan Amos) Funding was made available for graduate student space. How the funding will be used is not specifically defined. There is a push to get graduate student offices out of wet labs. The Deans' Council was sent a memo and with some amendments they will be making these improvements. An announcement is expected to be made on November 30<sup>th</sup>.

*Ombudsman*: (Adam Moreash): A one pager has progressed through the administrative channels to the President and Vice Presidents. The FEDS/Grads want it to initiate an Office of the Ombudsman, Faculty and Staff have also expressed that they want it. More information is needed regarding the funding of the Office. The current review of policy 33 – Ethical Behaviour and the information collected from the Waterloo community members may further inform the administration about the need for an ombudsman.

Matthew Perrone, Student Affairs Officer

-*Role as Liaison* for the GSA and is the direct link to members through Council.

-*Town Hall Meetings* Served as the chair for the town halls.

-*Helping departments get organized*: Working with members from the Mathematics faculty to organize a faculty-wide GSA. Mosunov reports that the faculty Dean is very supportive of the idea.

-*Long Range Planning Committee* (LRPC) – Working with members on the long range plan for the GSA .

7. UW Brand Refinement Consultation.

Dawn Charlton, Christine Goucher, and Andrea Sweet (Marketing and Strategic Communications) updated Council on the Brand Refinement Project for the Waterloo. Looking for input of how Waterloo can differentiate itself from other universities, how do we define innovation, and what are our aspirations?

They propose to set up kiosks at the grad house and other key locations, to provide opportunities to engage with the community. They will also engage the community with visits to all campuses & satellite campuses, and a website. A communications campaign is underway and the plan is to have a brand guideline in place by September 2016. This project is underway to support the university's strategic plan and to be work toward having Waterloo identified as one of the leading innovation schools in the world.

Discussion:

- The focus is on the STEM programs and how will arts and humanities be promoted through the brand refinement project. Some research continues to show that Waterloo's strength is in the STEM programs. Considering how the definition of innovation will be inclusive of all programs. The Committee is working to include all areas of Waterloo.
- The City of Waterloo less attractive than some other big cities like Toronto and Vancouver. There is collaboration with the Kelly McManus University/Community Relations office to promote the relationship between the city and the university.
- Sharing stories of successful alumni.
- Students can study with faculty members that are world renown.

Updates and more information are available on the [marketing and strategic communications](#) website.

**8. New Student life Building: - Maya D'Alessio**

Scott Nicoll, Space Planning Manager, provides support as a resource to Council.

Two previous attempts to approve a new student building occurred in the recent past: In 2009 a proposal failed at the undergraduate level referendum (the graduate student did not hold a referendum as a result) and in 2012 the new building proposal was not a priority of the

incoming FEDS executive and so it did not make it to referendum.

Since 2009 the FEDS have gathered information from student feedback, and the idea of expanded student space keeps resurfacing. This is a need for student social space and for a place to building a sense of community.

The current Student Life Centre serves as a hub for student life, but is insufficient for student capacity.

Principles for the project:

- Create a facility for students-by students, increase space and opportunity for student community to grow.
- Increase dining options – provide more variety in the types of food available and more of a dining atmosphere. Currently there is a lack of tables for students buying food from the concessions.
- Unite the SLC and PAC into one common complex and promote a “student commons” and promote athletics for healthy community/lifestyle.
- The building will not include dedicated study space as study spaces are being improved through buildings already in construction and by opening classrooms. UW is providing more study space as a need identified from the previous two proposals, but students need more social space.
- Integrate the athletic experience, and open up the PAC.

Q&A

Is this in conjunction with the current PAC expansion/renovation?

Phase one is already planned with improvements to bleachers and other areas. The second phase of the project will be impacted by the decision for the new student building. There is an opportunity to grow the athletics and SLC into a student complex.

Why are there two athletic facilities?

The PAC was built 50 years ago, when there was a much smaller population, but now its too small. The CIF arena already existed when the expansion for the CIF was made. In an ideal world there would be one big complex. There is a lot of pressure to have an athletic complex within Ring Road - the current asset exists, the project plan is to make the best use of it now, and wants to maximize the space.

The Plan:

- Grew out of conversation with the FEDS and the UW Administration
- UW hired architects to create overall design building program
- A general building plan is presented to Council to facilitate student consultation
- Further define the general building plan after sifting feedback, now there is a general plan of space use, but not the details of the building.
- Architects prepare a package with building renderings and information to promote the concept to stakeholders
- Potential student referendum February 2016
- Building opens fall 2018

NOTE: The President is not trying to “sell” the plan or the building; she believes it has merit for all students and thinks it has good value. If Council feels that this project is not in the best

interests of graduate students, then let her know.

This topic will be continued in the next Council meeting.

### Questions

- PAC: Windows will be available in the fitness room-natural light, but sufficient modesty.
- PAC: Women's only space? Want it to be a place where everyone can come and be inclusive.
- Looking to have inclusive barrier free washrooms
- Do students think accessibility is an important quality? **YES**
- Control of the building? Is it an extension of the SLC footprint and if so why are we paying for it? It is not 100% determined who is managing the facility, or sharing or paying the operating costs of the building, but it is not on the table that the FEDS will have authority to manage the building.
- Link to the third floor of the SLC to the third floor of the MC building.
- Multi faith prayer space for approximately 100 people. However, it may be a multi-use space with compatible use. There is negative response to have the room as multi-use - keep it faith-based space.
- A GSA Office on the third floor. If graduate students fail the referendum, then the GSA Office will not be in the facility.
- If the grads do not support the building, will the facility still go on?
- Scott is asked if the 2012 proposal for GSA Office space in Needles Hall is still approved if the referendum fails? Council heard that the first two floors of Needles Hall were "earmarked" for student services, since the NH renovation is completed. In this case there would not be graduate lounge space in Needles Hall.
- COST: approximately \$30 million includes the fitness centre in the PAC. Still need to figure out how much the university will be willing to contribute. The fee range will be between \$15.00 - \$25.00 per term/student.
- Mohaddes asks whether part of the tuition is meant for community space? It is problematic that graduate students would have to pay additionally.
- Mohaddes expressed concern that the timeline for the plan is rushed. How can we come up with a plan and properly inform the student population in two months.
- Mohaddes asks about the management of this space, FEDS is using the space as a business (i.e. vendors alley). It is important in the facility management, what is the business model, and how does this support the principle of "for students by students".
- Piazza: Would graduate students be better served to ask for an increase to the GSA fee to deliver needed services for the greater grad community, rather than a \$25.00 termly fee for the next 20 years for only 2,000 square feet in the SLC? How is graduate student space defined?
- If graduate students do not support the building will they be restricted from using it? We don't know if this building will go ahead without the graduate students. That is, there is no information if it will go forward with only an undergraduate referendum pass.
- This is an investment into infrastructure for the benefit of students and future students. It is akin to the support for the Health Services Expansion, where students in the past committed support for the building.

Councillors and their constituents are asked to provide feedback as to whether graduate students are in favour or not in favour of moving forward with this building, whether there is



value for the fee for the new building? Contact the chair with comments.

### **9. Long Range Planning Committee**

Goal of the LRPC is to analyze the GSA as an organization: What's wrong, what needs improvement, and how will we improve it?

- The last GSA general meeting barely made quorum. There was difficulty getting a mere 1% of the students engaged, with a decision affecting their fees.
- At meetings with students at the faculty town halls, and faculty associations, the Exec heard about some internal deficiencies about the GSA. The task of analyzing and improving the GSA is brought forefront to the LRPC.
- A brief outline of the LRPC timeline was presented and an update will be presented at the December Council.
- Each student has a voice through Council and the GSA is looking for the direction. The Executive will work on the direction expressed by its members.
- The evaluation will begin with the Mission – why our association exists, and,
- Values: Accountability, inclusivity, transparency, professionalism, and advocacy.
- LRPC will continue meeting with different groups for consultations and exercises to get some feedback.

10. Other business:

- **Athletics, Ghazal Memartoluie**

Ghazal is a liaison for graduate students with UW Athletics. She continues to schedule a meeting with Councillors/departments to get feedback about athletics/students ideas and needs. The GSA Dodge-ball tournament was very successful, with approximately 50 participants. Ghazal will try to organize another graduate student event for December.

- **UW Committees –vacancies, President**

Graduate student positions are available for the following committees:

Teaching award Committees – two positions

Food Advisory Committee – one position

Graduate Student Relations Committee (GSRC)– one position

Senate Graduate and Research Committee (SGRC)- one position for Arts.

These positions are open to all graduate students, including Councillors, and Councillors can forward the information to any graduate student they feel might be interested.

- Where is the food? The Council meetings are scheduled over the dinner hour, and there is “Free Food Thursdays” at the Graduate House afterward. Should we continue to have the meetings catered? Send opinion to the chair, Matthew Perrone.

11. Meeting is adjourned at 6:29 pm

*MP:rv*