



**2020-2021 COUNCIL ACTION PLAN**

**ARTS STUDENT BODY COUNCIL**

**EWURAFUA OPOKU-AGYEMAN**

**TABITHA CLAVECILLAS**

**MAY 15, 2020 COUNCIL EMERGENCY MEETING**

## **Agenda**

- I. Introduction
- II. Acknowledgment of Treaty 1 Territory
- III. 2020-2021 Council Action Plan
- IV. Proposed amendments
- V. Approval of the Action Plan
- VI. Adjournment

### **Introduction:**

Following on the heels of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the University of Manitoba's announcement of fall semester classes moving online, the Arts Student Body Council will propose a Council Action Plan that will serve as the framework of the council's activities for the 2020-2021 academic term, primarily for the fall semester. The President, Ewurafua Opoku-Agyeman, and the Vice President, Tabitha Clavecillas, will be initiating the motion to approve the Council Action Plan as soon as possible, with the considerations of elected council members that can be proposed as amendments with second/third votes from other council members.

With the 2020-2021 Council Action Plan in motion, the Arts Student Body Council will continue to serve as the bridge between the Faculty of Arts and Arts students and support Arts students in programming and resources.

### **Acknowledgement of Treaty 1 Territory**

The University of Manitoba campuses are located on original lands of Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of

the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration

## **2020-2021 Council Action Plan**

### **Partnering with the faculty**

- I will be establishing contact with the Dean to see if there are ways in which we can partner up with the faculty to ensure that the needs of students are met during this time.

### **Selections of appointed councilors**

- We are still going to move forward in selecting appointed councilors and welcoming them into our 2020-2021 council.

### **Lockers and textbooks from last year's council**

- Due to the University closing down all buildings on campus, no one has the ability to retrieve locker contents from the lockers we manage in the Arts complex. Once the University announces the opening of buildings on campus, we will initiate a concrete plan on how Arts students can retrieve their items safely.
- Options
  - Schedule locker pickups during certain days and group lockers by block. E.g. Arts-Asper tunnel connection locker block on Monday, tier lockers on Tuesday, and Isbister/greenhouse café tunnels on Wednesdays. Allow for accessibility for students who are unable to come during those days by cutting their locks and storing their items in 205 Fletcher Argue
  - Set a span of dates for students to retrieve items from lockers, no blocks required
- Textbooks from the previous council's textbook sale are stored in 205 Fletcher Argue. Textbook pickups must be scheduled as soon as the University announces building openings and must be regulated by council members in-person.
- Suggestions from the past and current Directors of Academic Programming will be considered

## **Orientation/ Welcome week**

- We will wait to see what the university and our faculty specifically intends to do with orientation and then we will most likely piggy-back off of that.
- With our situation, orientation will most likely happen online and not in-person. This is a great departure from previous orientations, and we will have to be creative on how to deliver programming for welcome week.
- The Programming committee must be in correspondence with each other for the next couple months in Slack on how to deliver programming for welcome week.
- I advise the Director of Academic Programming to contact the Language Lab, Career Services, Academic Learning Centre, and the Faculty of Arts if they have any planned programs for orientation that we can easily jump aboard in. Propose a partnership that will promote both parties.
- We advise the Director of Social Programming to partner with RSAC, UCRA, and faculty student groups such as UMSU, Science Students Association, Engineering Society and the Blackhole Theatre Company among many others to deliver a strong online program for welcome week while showcasing the different communities on campus. Collaborations between student groups are beneficial as it saves costs, time, and increases visibility.
  - Connect with the Blackhole Theatre if they would like to do something for Orientation week, such as an online LUNCHBAGG that we can broadcast on the ASBC Instagram.
  - Getting councilors to do a take-over on the ASBC Instagram account during the back-to-school week to showcase how they're getting ready to take on the fall term remotely (fresh idea and very open to suggestions).
- We advise both the Directors of Social and Academic Programming to reach out to partners in and outside the university to provide prizes for giveaways during Orientation week if this is something that either Directors would like to do.
- We advise the Community Representatives to come up with ways to support communities on campus amidst the COVID-19 pandemic while still creating presence both in real-life and online. Partner up with organizations in Winnipeg to deliver solid programming in close contact with communities on campus.

- While we mention specific groups of councilors, by no means these activities are restricted to them. We welcome collaboration and ideas, and we encourage everyone to come up with something they would like to host or take part in during Orientation week.
- These events should also be stretched out in the month of September, but we will primarily put most of our efforts in the first and second week of the term.

## ASBC projects

- As without current situation, all in-person events are likely to be either cancelled or restricted to a set number of people. I encourage the councilors to be creative as they can in delivering programming and work closely with student groups, the Faculty, and the University while promoting the spirit of the Faculty of Arts.

I, Tabitha Clavecillas, propose to set an appropriate amount of a minimum \$6,000 from the ASBC budget to initiate back to school hampers that will relieve Arts Students from food security amidst rising tuition fees and stress in the upcoming school year. This will be in the form of hampers, with 1-5 council members buying non-perishable food items worth \$6,000 in Costco or Walmart and packed in reusable tote bags for Arts students who are struggling with food security. Food items will be bought in the first week of August, packed in the following week, and will be announced to the public for sign-up during the last week of August. Hamper pickups will be scheduled during the first and second week of September.

- Once we have a director of finance who will draft a budget we will present this motion to the finance committee and then present it again to council.

The German Students Association have 500+ tote bags that we can use for the food hampers. If approved, I will ask my fellow executives for approval.

## Meetings

- Council meetings will be held monthly during the summer. Smaller sub-committees such as the Programming Committee, Selections Committee, Policies and Procedures, etc. will be held at the discretion of the committee chairperson.
- In our last meeting for the summer, we will pick a meeting date for the year (Sept.-April).

## **Offices**

- We will still have our offices once the University buildings are open. However, social distancing and appropriate sanitation will be in effect in offices occupied by several people. This can mean reshuffling furniture in order to accommodate social distancing.

### **June 8, 2020 Amendment:**

**Anti-Racism work is to be implemented atleast once per semester in the forms of programming, communications, or other area deemed appropriate by the Arts Student Body Council. In addition to this, ASBC will exclusively support BIPOC-owned businesses until the end of the academic year in order to support and uplift BIPOC-businesses in Winnipeg.**

### **Original motion and excerpt from the June 8<sup>th</sup> ASBC council meeting:**

a) Amending the ASBC strategic plan 2020-2021: Tabitha expressed that anti-racism work is important to continue to make sure that black voices are heard and celebrated on campus and as such, suggests that anti-racist programming, minimum of 1 event per semester should be created and led by the racialized representative and an ad hoc committee Supporting BIPOC businesses in any way we can.

### **Motion:**

Be it resolved that the ASBC strategic plan 2020-2021 be amended to include a minimum of 1 anti-racism programming per semester to be led by the racialized representative and to be assisted by an ad hoc committee as well an initiative to support BIPOC-owned local businesses when able.

**Motion passed.**