

December 11, 2020

5:06 p.m.

Arts Student Body Council Meeting Minutes



Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Acknowledgment of Treaty 1 Territory
- III. Reminder to vote in the federal election
- IV. Approval of the Agenda
- V. Reports
- VI. Final Considerations
- VII. Adjournment

Attendance of Voting Members

Name	Position	Attendance	Proxy
Efwah Opoku-Agyeman	President	Present	
Tabitha Clavecillas	Vice-President	Present	
Cleche Kokolo	Director of Academic Programming	Present	
Divjyot Grewal	Director of Social Programming	Present	
Lilja Best	Senator	Present	
Amy Spearman	Senator	Present	
Anika Khan	Senator	Present	
Camryn Anderson	UMSU Director	Present	
Iman Ano	UMSU Director	Present	
Abdul Ahad	UMSU Director	Present	
Victoria Stutsky	Womyn's Representative	Present	
Ishaanee Didwania	International Students' Representative	Regrets	Chloe
Raven Morrisseau	Indigenous Students' Representative	Present	
Maia Bacchus	Accessibility Representative	Present	
Emily Green	LGBTQTQ* Representative	Present	

Attendance of Non-Voting Members

Name	Position	Attendance
Stephen Gatphoh	Chairperson	Present
Alexa Mucyo Kayonga	Executive Assistant	Present
Elizabeth Young	Co-director of Communications	Present
Fardeen Zareef	Co-director of Communications	Regrets
Brook Rivard	Director of Finance	Regrets
Alyssa Adair	Director of Sustainability	Present
Dimitar Tomovski	Arts Tribune Editor-in-Chief	Present
Yashas Ravi Samtani	Academic Programmer	Present
Michelle Juju Ko	Social Programmer	Regrets
Chloe Dreilich-Girad	Assistant Indigenous Students' Representative	Present
Dario Giraldo	Racialized Students' Representative	Present
	Graduate Students' Representative	

Minutes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:06PM CST.

II. Acknowledgment of Treaty 1 Territory

III. Approval of the Agenda

I. Agenda passed by Raven/Lilja. **Motion passed**

IV. Approval of [previous minutes](#)

I. Approved by Maia/Div. **Motion passed**

V. Reports

I. President

- i. Informal learning space committee: Efwah received an email from Associate Dean Greg Smith who was looking for an ASBC member to join this committee. The committee will be looking to redevelop and create new study spaces to be used once in-person classes resume. Maia volunteered to participate.
- ii. Dean Taylor: Over the past few months, Efwah has brought up student-specific concerns related to remote learning and they plan to meet monthly during the next semester. If councillors have any concerns that they would like to be presented to the Dean, please message Efwah.
- iii. SIF (Student Initiative Fund): Last year ASBC was approached by the faculty to implement this fund, but it wasn't able to be launched due to coordination issues. Efwah will be figuring out details, so that SIF can be used next term. The selections committee will consist of the President, Vice President, and three additional councillors - who will be decided on in January. First, the council would agree (through an informal vote) to use the SIF. Then it would be advertised to Arts students to receive their input on how best to use that money. Further details will be available in January, please message Efwah if you would like more information. Note: The SIF consists of fees collected from Arts students and it can be used directly by ASBC, thus it doesn't require an application like the endowment fund. The SIF would allow the council to provide more initiatives and programming for students, such as events and providing funding to student groups by adding to the council's existing operating budget.
- iv. Thank you's and next semester: Efwah expressed her gratitude to all councillors for their hard work this semester, given the remote learning circumstances. For next semester, she hopes that we maintain a high engagement with students and find new initiatives to better represent them.

II. Vice-President

- i. ASBC Holiday Relief Program: The most reach to Arts students was achieved via email rather than social media. A total of 98 applications were received and 65 were selected to

receive \$50 gift cards. Three pickup locations have been established for recipients across the city and will take place from Dec 14-15. Recipients will also be required to sign a form for the Faculty of Arts Budgeting Office. Please see report for a full breakdown of stats about recipients. Note: Dependants were defined as people who are dependent on someone else's income or salary. In summary, international students were overrepresented in request forms - please note: students were not required to self-identify to complete the request form. Based on the results and food insecurity displayed through this program, Tabitha strongly recommended that this program continue to be implemented annually, even after the pandemic ends. Efwah also agreed that this relief program should continue as it is not common in other student councils and could help more students alongside the existing capacity of UMSU Holiday Hampers..

- ii. Communications: The council's reach grew significantly from 6,000 in October to 16,000 in November. Communications directors are always looking for suggestions and involvement from councillors on social media campaigns for next semester.
- iii. Academic programming: BASS (Board of Arts Senior Sticks) is being restructured this year. It is a group of presidents of Arts student groups, with the aim of having a central communication for all arts student groups. Nimbus tutor recruitment will start right after orientation. The plan for orientation is to have a zoom event and make breakout rooms based on field in faculty (humanities, languages, etc.). Comments: Efwah added that if any councillors would like to assist the planning committee for Winter term orientation, to please message her.
- iv. What do councillors want to do with claiming textbooks? Efwah added that this depends on which level of COVID restrictions because the university is cautious about allowing students to go on campus unless necessary; until then not much can be done on this matter.
- v. Discussion:
 1. Pre-election registration for ASBC general elections: Tabitha would like the council to emphasize the importance of service and joining the council, especially to first and second year students. Comments: Anika added that this would be a useful event to make it more accessible for students to be informed about the council and how they can participate. Several councillors expressed that people tend to be elected onto the council because they know a sitting councilor. Efwah added that a Director of First Year Engagement will be added as a by-law and recommended as a position to next year's president. She explained that due to this year's remote learning circumstances, they were unable to ensure a first year representative position.

III. [UMSU BOD](#)

- i. Meeting on Dec 10 with UMSU:
 1. A new motion was passed for UMSU to adopt the definition of anti-semitism which will be added, as a support to the Jewish population on campus. See report for full details.

2. U-Pass: The Winter term UPASS is still being arranged, due to loss of revenue from Winnipeg Transit and reduced operating hours mainly to universities.
3. Academic dishonesty: UMSU would like student groups to echo the importance of academic dishonesty. They are asking for students to share the UMSU social media posts as well. Comments: Iman clarified that it was the university who asked UMSU to make the academic dishonesty campaign, and UMSU is extending that request to student groups to also spread the message.
4. Comments: Yashas added that the UMSU Do's and Don'ts post came off as unfriendly. Camryn said she will consider providing this feedback to the UMSU executives.

IV. [International Students' Rep](#)

- i. Presented by Chloe.
- ii. No further details to add, please see report.

V. [Director of Accessibility](#)

- i. Acknowledgments - shared gratitude to all councillors.
- ii. Campaign promises - Maia's main goal was to create more resources to students which she achieved with the mental health campaign. For the next semester she would like to continue providing resources to the BIPOC and LGBTQ+ community, as well as reaching students directly through the accessibility server on Discord. She will also be planning more activities for the next term and hopefully more online workshops for students to interact and meet each other.
- iii. Comments: Libby added that the reach was very large for accessibility and mental health posts, with some posts reaching nearly 700-800 people. Tabitha also suggested that we reach out to the Student Counselling Centre to collaborate on an event or initiative for Arts students.

VI. [Director of Sustainability](#)

- i. For next term, she would like to make a sustainable cookbook as a community project for students to contribute to. Made up of vegetarian and vegan recipes. She would like to reach out to different student groups and campus restaurants. Please reach out to Alyssa if you'd like to help out with this project.
- ii. Comments: Tabitha explained that the deadline should be earlier (before April) so that it can be compiled and published by the end of the semester. She also suggested that recipes be inclusive of dietary and religious options - such as halal, kosher and gluten free. Maia added that due to food insecurity there should be tips for shopping on lower budget and for specific stores in Winnipeg. Anika suggested that there be a way to incentivize people who submit recipes - such as readers voting on recipes and the winner receiving a gift card. Yashas added that UMSU has previously gotten volunteers to submit cultural recipes and he suggested we reach out to them for ideas or recipes.

VII. Arts Tribune

- i. They will be posting on social media for students to request a copy, which will then be mailed out. Each participant in the Arts Tribune will receive 2 copies, which leaves approximately 90 for any students who would like a copy. Dimitar asked that councilors also show their support by requesting a copy and attending the book launch on January 8, 2021 via Zoom.

VI. Old Business

- I. None

VII. New Business

- I. None

VIII. Question Period

- I. Three people (non-councilors) attended this meeting and no questions were asked to the council.

IX. Final Considerations

- I. None

X. Gratitude Time

- I. Dario expressed gratitude for councillors who've been very welcoming to him and passionate about continuing to support Arts students.

XI. Adjournment

- I. Meeting adjourned at 6:35PM, approved by Efwah/Div. **Motion passed**

The next meeting is on January 22, 2021 at 5:30pm CST .

The above are considered to be a true and accurate recording of all items discussed. Please advise the recorder of any ambiguity, discrepancy, inconsistency, error or omission noted.

Minutes taken by,
ALEXA MUCYO KAYONGA
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Semper Floreat