



## 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	Late	
Divjyot Grewal	Director of Social Programming	Regrets	Alexa
Lilja Best	Senator	Late	
Amy Spearman	Senator	Present	
Anika Khan	Senator	Present	
Camryn Anderson	UMSU Director	Present	
Iman Ano	UMSU Director	Present	
Abdul Ahad	UMSU Director	Absent	
Victoria Stutsky	Womyn's Representative	Regrets	Alyssa
Ishaanee Didwania	International Students' Representative	Regrets	Zareef
Raven Morrisseau	Indigenous Students' Representative	Present	
Maia Bacchus	Accessibility Representative	Present	
Emily Green	LGBTQTQ* Representative	Regrets	Libby

## Attendance of Non-Voting Members

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Stephen Gatphoh	Chairperson	Present
Alexa Mucyo Kayonga	Executive Assistant	Present
Elizabeth Young	Co-director of Communications	Present
Fardeen Zareef	Co-director of Communications	Present
Brook Rivard	Director of Finance	Late
Alyssa Adair	Director of Sustainability	Present
Dimitar Tomovski	Arts Tribune Editor-in-Chief	Present
	Academic Programmer	
	Social Programmer	
Chloe Dreilich-Girad	Assistant Indigenous Students' Representative	Absent
Dario Giraldo	Racialized Students' Representative	Present
	Graduate Students' Representative	

## Minutes

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### I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:03PM CST.

### II. Acknowledgment of Treaty 1 Territory

### III. Approval of the Agenda

I. Agenda passed by Camryn/Amy. **Motion passed**

### IV. Approval of [previous minutes](#).

I. Approved by Efwah/Maya. **Motion passed**

### V. Reports

#### I. [President](#)

- i. Meeting with Dean Taylor: Efwah was unable to meet with Dean in September + October. She will post notes for their meeting if requested by any councillors.
  1. Strike: Please note - They met prior to the strike deadline. The provincial gov't had put out a 0% wage increase mandate for the University, so they were unable to increase salary at this time. Efwah brought up that students feel increased stress and lack of support/leniency from professors with online learning. As Dean he said it is up to department heads to shift resources as needed for their students. But Dean will ask them to consider redirecting travel grants for more TA's. Efwah suggested we put out a survey to Arts students. Dean mentioned that Heidi Marx (Associate Dean) will be hosting a town hall for all students in the faculty to provide feedback on how the first term fully online has been. Details to come and we will be promoting this on our social media and through emails.
- ii. Covid relief fund: This was offered earlier in the Fall term and the funds were quickly used up, so they're looking to get more funding.
- iii. Indigenous: The position of Associate Dean - Indigenous has been established, the faculty is now looking for potential candidates, hopefully by next term. Also the Indigenous content requirement course has now been approved and will be implemented likely during next school year 2021/2022. The faculty will be looking for 14-15 new professors. They are also in the early stages of developing a Black/African studies course.
- iv. Equity, Diversity, Inclusion: Efwah is glad that the faculty is looking to implement and expand this. They will be hiring a full time person to lead and establish the EDI initiative. Dean agrees that more education is needed re: anti-racist/hate speech incidents that occur on campus. Efwah suggested that EDI should be mentioned as a key resource to students.
- v. Selections committee appointment: Efwah thanked all councillors involved in the interview process, about 5-6 candidates were considered. The 2 chosen candidates showed great enthusiasm for their positions. Appointed councillors are Michelle Juju Ko for social programmer and Yashas Ravi Samtani for academic programmer. No

discussion requested by councillors. Efwah read out the [motion](#). Roll call vote; Yes: 15 No: 0 Abstentions: 1. **Motion approved.**

- vi. Blood drive: Efwah received an email from an Arts student who volunteers with the Canadian Blood Services. They would like to raise awareness for blood donation and promote it on our social media. They also want to host a challenge - we would be given one week to sponsor + encourage students from our faculty to donate; then we'd pick a rival faculty to compete for the number of blood donors to increase engagement among students.
- vii. Finance committee: Needs to be created for the purpose of transparency and to discuss finances for the council. Currently consists of Efwah, Tabitha and Brook - they need 2 additional councillors. Efwah asked if any councillors at the meeting were interested. Amy, Dario and Maia showed interest. No vote required. **Approved.**

## II. [Vice-President](#)

- i. Mental health month: Was very successful and we received a lot of feedback from the faculty.
- ii. Career and workforce development month. Has also been going very well. Career services were very impressed by our efforts. They'd like to extend they're relationship with us, by supporting us into the Winter term. Arts career roundtable was also successful in terms of attendance and benefit to students.
- iii. Holiday relief program: Will go live on Monday. We are distributing 65 gift cards for \$50 each to various retailers. Students can fill out a form and they will be given out on a need basis. The decision will be made by members of the relief team, except for Tabitha. All student information will be kept confidential, and forms will be deleted once cards have been distributed.
- iv. Revisiting campaign promises: Tabitha would like every elected member to recall their campaign promises, such as transparency and strong community groups - and brainstorm what initiatives we can fulfill during the next term. Appointed members should also think back to why they wanted to initially join ASBC - consider what else you can help out with next term if you haven't already.
- v. Next meeting: Will be the last meeting of Fall term. Tabitha would like it to be Q&A style, open to all faculty of arts members → Stephen agreed and no other comments from councillors. Zoom link will be made public and promoted on our social media soon. Meeting dates for next semester: Stephen agrees this should be decided on ASAP. Please start thinking about your schedules for next semester + DM Stephen your availability for next semester, then we'll have a doodle poll go up to consolidate a meeting date.

## III. [Senate](#)

- i. Friday Nov 20 emergency meeting: Petition had been distributed across campus. Several complaints were brought up regarding compassionate grading given circumstances of online learning. A proposal was created for Winter term, adding 2 other options as alternatives to a final grade. Kristin (UMSU VP) said that the proposal reached the academic committee too late in the current term and that there were several concerns; such as how it would impact international students. If interested in the full list of

concerns about the initial proposal, please ask Anika. UMSU academic committee countered with different options for a new proposal which will be sent to the COVID academic planning committee. Anika added that other universities in Canada have implemented the same grading options that are being proposed by students here at UofM. She also clarified that the COVID academic committee reviews the proposal first and it is also sent to the Senate to be voted on. Please note: all these are pending options and are confidential as no final decisions have been made yet.

- ii. Nov 4th meeting: No new comments, see report.
- iii. Questions: Tabitha asked if academic exemptions apply to graduate programs - senators responded that they're unsure. She also asked if they know what UofW is doing - no answer from senators. Camryn asked if this affects graduate school requirement that look at the last 60 credit hours - senators are unsure, but believe it might vary from each graduate program.

#### IV. UMSU BOD

- i. Please note: Tabitha was Camryn's proxy for that meeting.
- ii. CASA: A non-partisan group of students who represent post-secondary students' interests to the federal government.
- iii. UMSU BOD governance changes: Tabitha clarified that if the proposed governance structure is passed, the faculty of arts would not be guaranteed seats in the new 11-member BOD, as elections are open campus wide. ASBC will still have UMSU representatives, but they would only be allowed to join in discussions and have no voting rights. Please note: This was only an introductory motion, not yet approved. It will be sent to the governance committee and won't necessarily take effect next term.
- iv. Please see report for full details.
- v. Questions: Efwah asked about failed motion to reaffirm CFS, whether it was discussed that UMSU should break off from CFS? Response: UMSU is currently trying to separate because it is undemocratic and UMSU is the largest partner in terms of funding while receiving same share of votes as other partners. Tabitha asked if CASA can lobby for the UofM provincially? Response: Iman believes they can but was unsure.
- vi. Comments: Several councillors expressed concern about reducing BOD size and requiring it to be an elected position across campus - instead of within faculties. There is no guarantee that our faculty would have representation in UMSU BOD. All UofM students pay into UMSU and should have a fair chance of being represented in voting positions.

VI. Reports of Standing Committees

- I. None

VII. Old Business

- I. None

VIII. New Business

- I. None

IX. Final Considerations

- I. Paint night: Raven has put this on hold because she has not heard back with the student from SoA who agreed to collaborate on this event.
- II. Holiday hampers: Raven mentioned that the Indigenous student centre is also doing hampers and would like us to advertise it to give students more chances.
- III. Nimbus: Efwah explained that it has been launched on social media, we've received interest in tutoring. The endowment fund application for Nimbus was rejected, but our council has enough funding so it will be paid for within our existing budget.

X. Gratitude Time

- I. Tabitha and Efwah: Expressed gratitude to all councillors who've helped deliver numerous initiatives and provide resources to Arts students. We've received high engagement and have strengthened our presence.
- II. Stephen: Setting a deadline for scheduling next term's meeting - all councillors should message him with their availability for council meetings by Wednesday Dec 2nd.

XI. Adjournment

- I. Meeting adjourned at Efwah/Iman, approved by 6:26PM CST. **Motion passed**

**The next meeting is on December 11, 2020 at 5:00PM 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*