

Minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the 2015/2016 University Students' Council of the University of Western Ontario held on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in the UCC Community Room, Room 315, University Community Centre

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Note: This meeting can be viewed in full or in part via streaming video at <http://www.usc.uwo.ca/government/council/meetings/index.asp>.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Speaker called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

2. O CANADA

The Speaker led Council in the singing of O Canada.

3. WESTERN SCHOOL SONG

The Speaker led Council in the singing of the Western School Song.

4. ATTENDANCE

The Speaker confirmed that quorum was reached. [Insert Attendance Records]

Speaker: Alif Karmali

Recording Secretary: Council Clerk

5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Ms. Perkins requested to amend the Agenda to move the OUSA delegate election before the presentations.

CHEESEMANS/Catton/ Carried.

6. RATIFICATION OF MINUTES OF PAST MEETINGS

There were no minutes to be ratified.

7. SPEAKER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The new Speaker of Council, Alif Karmali, introduced himself to Council, upon presiding over his first meeting. He informed Council that he would remain the role of Council Speaker until the Annual General Meeting ("AGM"), at which time, the election for the new chair would take place.

The Speaker further reminded Council of the Legislative Calendar for the following few weeks, nothing four meetings that Councillors should be made aware of and are required to attend. He

noted that Council would transition at AGM II and that the Student Programs Officer would also be elected at this meeting.

The Speaker informed Council that the USC Student Awards Committee require two (2) Council members to assist in the student awards selection process, and that any Councillors wishing to assist should contact the Speaker or the Coordinator of Council Services for further information.

Lastly, the Speaker informed Council that in his role, he assists with Legislative questions or problem that Council may have. Councillors could send the Speaker an email with questions or concerns, as well as regrets for meeting attendance as well.

#### 8. OUSA ELECTIONS

Ms. Perkins advised Council that the OUSA delegates would each be making a 1 minute presentation, and that ballots would be handed out during the presentations. She further noted that all ten (10) names on the ballots needed to be filled out, and that the voting would be preferential, one (1) being most preferred and ten (10) being least preferred. Ms. Perkins noted that in the last OUSA delegate election, some ballots were spoiled.

All ten of the OUSA delegates addressed Council for a brief, one minute, presentation.

#### 9. PRESENTATIONS

##### i. Western University's Ancillary Fees – Alexander Benac, Vice-President Internal

Mr. Benac addressed Council, with respect to the university Ancillary fees. (Appendix 1)

##### ii. Federal Advocacy Initiatives – Sophia Helpard, President

Mr. Helpard addressed Council, relating to the work she and VP External, Lindsee Perkins have done with respect the Federal Advocacy reform, since leaving CASA in the previous Council year. Last year Council voted to leave CASA, which the USC had been a member of for a number of years. Ms. Helpard, informed Council that the USC paid membership fees to CASA (like OUSA) per student, in order to be a member of the organization.

The reform with respect the Advocacy comes out of leaving CASA, and a need to find ways to advocate student issue to the federal government. Ms. Helpard informed Council that many people believe that the most change can come from advocacy issues from the provincial government (i.e. sets tuition, OSAP, more influence over undergraduate students), but she noted that there were topics at the federal level that impact students as well.

Ms. Helpard noted that there are some areas where the federal government is able to be very influential, in the undergraduate student experience:

- Canada Student Loans Program: makes up a large portion of the student loans given out to undergraduate students.

- Advocating for the international student population at Western University. The federal government works on legislation that affects the lives of these students, considering the fact that this population of students is also growing.
- Undergraduate Research Scholars – the federal government has partnerships with Universities, which could fund undergraduate research and assist these students with funding.
- Youth unemployment – how do we support undergraduate students on their exit out of their post-secondary education, to assist them in entering the job market.

Ms. Helpard discussed the approach the USC has now taken with respect to these federal advocacy points. She informed Council that they have modeled their advocacy efforts after the group referred to as the U15 ( the fifteen largest Canadian research-intensive universities). These universities have structured their administration, in order to create a lobbying group to lobby the federal government on their behalf.

Ms. Helpard noted that, to lobby the federal government alone, scheduling meetings for these advocacy issues did not make as much sense as creating a coalition with other universities. She informed Council that these same U15 schools, seemed to be a natural group to work with. Ms. Helpard informed Council that over the past six (6) months, they had been in contact with the other fourteen (14) members of the U15 schools. Some are already in other coalitions (i.e. CFS, CASA) , but that the project has remained successful, and that they were able to sign on eight (8) other schools. They will be travelling with the executive team to Ottawa in March for a lobby week.

Ms. Helpard noted that part of the success of this project comes from the branding that exists in the U15 group. But, that this had also given the advocacy initiative team, the opportunity to work with other student unions across the country.

Nate Little: *From my understanding, most of the tuition (specifically tuition) is controlled through the province, if not all of the, because there are radically different tuitions across the country. What would be the advocacy points for this?*

[question retracted]

Ms. Helpard noted that this coalition was currently representing three-hundred thousand (300K) students (as many as CASA), but that the numbers did not accurately reflect the recent inclusion of McGill.

Courtney Hardy: *I wanted to know your vision for this? Do you see this group of schools forming an organization like CASA? Or as individual school going together to lobby?*

Ms. Helpard informed Council that, this year that there was already in informal governance structure in place, including discussion on how (logistically) this group would send students to Ottawa to lobby, as well as ensuring that their policies are aligned and they attend meetings with similar advocacy points. She noted that the advocacy group will change, and small teams will attend meetings to advocate of specific issues.

Ms. Helpard noted that currently, they wish to keep this coalition information. She informed Council that currently, student unions are in legal dealing with the Canadian Federation of Students (“CFS”), to leave their organization, but have been unsuccessful. She notes that student organizations that have left the CFS are hesitant to commit to another formalized organization, and for this reason, the coalition will remain informal for the time being.

*Alana Kitley: How will this informal organization ensure that student voices will be heard, if there is no formal structure like we have at the OUSA level now?*

Ms. Helpard informed Council that at the OUSA level, many advocacy issues are brought up via the steering committee, and that when the VP External attends OUSA meetings, they are representing all Western students. This year, this group is using the executive as representative of the students, as the student voice. As this expands and in the future, exploring the possibility of bringing students at large into the discussions, as well as surveys and feedback from each institution.

*Brandon Palin: At what cost do you think this will be derived from students, because a big factor leaving CASA was the cost to students and the value from the membership fees? What do you anticipate the cost being to students now, and in the future?*

Ms. Helpard informed Council, that currently, the funds are coming from the executive initiative money. In the future, it will not be a student fee, considering it is an informal coalition. There will not be a fee levied to students. Ms. Helpard noted that the Budget allocation for federal advocacy was ten-thousand (10K) dollars.

*Mauricio Dias: Do you plan on consulting with students, moving forward? I know there have been concerns with how racism has manifested on campus. I don't think we are doing anything on the external side? We are on the internal side, but not the external.*

Ms. Helpard noted that she was not sure how this could be addressed from a federal policy perspective.

*Health Science Councillor: Due to the informal nature of the group, what does succession planning look like? Seeing as this will turnover yearly?*

Ms. Helpard noted that due to the informal nature of the coalition, succession planning remains a challenge, but that this is an inherent problem, in that there is not requirement to be in this coalition in the future.

iii. The New By-law #1: Corporate By-law – Jonathan English, Secretary-Treasurer

Mr. English presented to Council the new By-law 1. (Appendix 2)

10. FOR ACTION

Senior Operations:

By-law #1: Corporate By-law (Annex 1, Motion 1, Appendix 1)

Motion #1 – New By-law

Whereas, as a part of Operation: Overhaul, a new by-law has been drafted;

Whereas, the new by-law seeks to improve principles of accessibility, and utility, while delegating more to policy and procedure;

Be it resolved, Council approve a new By-law #1: Corporate By-law to come into effect for 1 May 2016.

PILLON/ ~~Secunder~~ Manuel/ Carried. (unanimous)

Mr. Pillon was called to speak on behalf of the motion. Noted that Mr. Pillon did not have further comments on the motion.

The Speaker of Council (“Speaker”), looked to Council for a seconder for the motion. Ms. Manuel seconded the motion.

The Speaker opened the floor to debate.

Ms. Cheeseman, spoke in favour of the motion. Noting that the new By-law 1 was clear and concise.

Mr. Dodgson: *I just wanted to know if wither the mover or the seconder could comment on their favourite part of the new By-law 1?*

Ms. Manuel commented that she was pleased that there had been some external review via legal counsel. She further noted that she would like to call this motion to question.

The Speaker noted that this motion was in order, but opened the floor to any final speaking opportunities. No further questions or comments were noted.

Carried. (unanimous)

Motion #2 – Standing Resolutions of Council Amendments

Whereas, Standing Resolutions of Council were last reviewed in 2012;

Whereas, some Standing Resolutions of Council are still compliant (i.e., Q1 presentation) other resolutions are outdated or have been put into policy or by-law;

Be it resolved, Council approve the amendments to the Standing Resolutions to ensure they remain focused and up-to-date.

HARDY/ ~~Secunder~~-Hamadache/ Carried. (unanimous)

Ms. Hardy was called to speak on behalf of the motion. Ms. Hardy noted that irrelevant materials were removed, allowing for more relevant materials to be added to the document in the future.

The Speaker looked to Council for a seconder for the motion. Mr. Hamadache seconded the motion.

The Speaker opened the floor to debate.

Ms. Ketley addressed Council, noting that in the Senior Operations Committee noted that the Ally Western presentation had not been made, and that future Councils should be diligent in ensuring that the Standing orders are followed as written.

The Speaker called the motion to question.

Carried. (unanimous)

Motion #3 – USC Advocacy Paper on Ancillary Fees

Whereas, the purple paper on ancillary fees was due for review during this sitting of Council;

Be it resolved, that Council approve the amended Advocacy Paper on Ancillary Fees (formerly Purple Paper on Ancillary Fees) and enshrine it in USC standing policy, with revision due to be conducted by Council in its 2019-2020 sitting, as per the Advocacy Papers Policy.

PETERSON/Little/ Carried. (unanimous) (2 abstentions)

Ms. Peterson was called to speak on behalf of the motion. Ms. Peterson noted that this advocacy paper was the work of Mr. Benac, who reviewed the existing Purple Papers and distilled a position for Council to take when advocating on behalf of students to the university administration with respect to ancillary fees. She noted that the position taken in the papers, was that Council take more control over ancillary fees that they have preview over. She notes that the position taken, was one where services are not wholly funded by student funds, but that the university fund a portion through the central operating budget or matching the funds students pay in fees. Ms. Peterson noted that this remove the sole financial burden for these services from students alone.

Mr. Little, spoke in favour of the motion as the seconder. Mr. Little noted that, in the Purple Paper, that Western be tasked with spending more on student support services, in order to reduce dependence on ancillary fees. Second, Western University be tasked with creating a formula, wherein student ancillary fees are matched in operational contributions from the University. And lastly, that Western University and the Student Services Committee, cooperate in an accountability mechanism.

The Speaker opened the floor to debate.

Mr. Grainger: *Procedural question. The appendices' in this paper have graphs. One of which is mislabelled. How can we go about fixing this, so that the motion is not rejected?*

Mr. Benac spoke to the question, informing Council that he would promise to fix the mistake.

Mr. Farfan: *I would like to address a question to the executive regarding this advocacy paper, and all the others about to come up. Once or if these motions passed or renewed, who is taking an active role in actually advocating for these things?*

Mr. Benac notes that the USC executive would be accountable to lobbying on behalf of these outcomes.

The Speaker called the motion to question.

Carried. (unanimous)

Motion #4 – USC Purple Paper and Advocacy Paper on the Fall Reading Break

Whereas, the purple paper on the fall reading break was due for review during this sitting of Council;

Whereas, the institution of a Western-wide fall reading break makes the existing purple paper obsolete;

Be it resolved, that Council approve the archiving of the purple paper on the fall reading break and the removal of said paper from standing policy, and;

Be it further resolved, that Council approve the renewed purple paper (now referred to as advocacy papers) on the fall reading break and enshrine it in USC standing policy, with Council review in its 2019-2020 sitting, as per the Advocacy Papers Policy.

LITTLE/Manuel/ Carried. (unanimous)

Mr. Little was called to speak on behalf of the motion. Mr. Little noted that this motion has two parts, the original fall reading break was a success. This portion of the advocacy paper will not be renewing. The portion of the advocacy paper that will be renewing will be to add a fall

reading week, therefore adding more time to the current break. Mr. Little noted that currently, two-thirds (2/3) of Canadian universities have a full reading week in the fall.

Ms. Manuel spoke in favour of the motion.

The Speaker opened the floor to debate.

Mr. Afzal: *I assume that if days of the school year were removed, would this extend the academic year overall? Would this be detriment to students overall?*

Mr. Benac noted that when the fall reading break was instituted a couple of years ago, the instructional days were reduced from sixty-four (64) to sixty-two (62). This proposal would not decrease instructional days, only shift the break from the end of October, to Thanksgiving, in order to allow for a five (5) day break at Thanksgiving.

Ms. Keitley informed Council that this recommendation had come to the Local and Campus Affairs standing committee, and that the merits of this motion were thought to require the debate of Council as a whole. She noted to Council, that should they see any issues with moving this break to Thanksgiving, to note their concerns.

Mr. Hamadache, noted that he was strongly in favour of the motion.

Ms. Cheesemen: *What is the impact that this paper could have?*

Mr. Benac, noted that the intent is to state a position that the USC as an organization. The position in the Purple Paper is to be used as a tool in meetings with University stakeholders.

Mr. Hurren, spoke to some results of surveys that were taken in early January with respect to a fall reading break over the Thanksgiving week. He notes that:

(NO) 649

(YES) 1018

(EITHER IS FINE) 999

NO READING WEEK AT ALL) 35

Mr. Marin spoke in favour of the motion, specifically with respect to the benefits to first-year students.

Mr. Martin: *How are you going to track that this is adding value?*

Mr. Benac noted that this would be measured via polling students about stress levels before and after the break. Noting, that this break is currently being used at other universities to solve some issues surrounding mental health issues.

Mr. Martin: *Would this be quantitative research?*

Ms. Manuel called this motion to question.

Carried. (unanimous)

The Speaker looked to Council for a motion to recess for 10 minutes.

Carried. (unanimous)

Motion #5 – USC Purple Paper on Fair Trade Campus Designation

Whereas, the purple paper on fair trade designation was due for review during this sitting of Council;

Whereas, the Executive worked with the University to meet the paper's goal of a fair trade-certified campus by 2015, and was met with success in that endeavour;

Whereas, Western's fair trade certification makes the purple paper on designation obsolete;

Be it resolved, that Council approve the archiving of the purple paper on fair trade campus designation and the repeal of said paper from standing policy.

PETERSON/Manuel/ Carried. (unanimous)

Ms. Peterson was called to speak on behalf of the motion. Ms. Peterson noted Wester is already a fair-trade certified campus, and the purpose of this motion is to archive the paper last year. This motion is procedural in nature.

Ms. Manuel was called upon to speak on behalf of the motion. Ms. Manuel declined.

The Speaker opened the floor to debate.

Mr. Abbot: *I just had a question about an appendix; page 5 of 7, item number 3. In order to have a fair trade certified campus, a campus committee much be struck. I was wondering what the future of this committee is? Is this obsolete?*

Mr. Benac, spoke to the question, informing Council that the committee was formed and discussed the membership of the Fair Trade Coordinating Committee.

Ms. Helpard, spoke towards the motion.

Mr. Benac addressed a question to Mr. Dodgson about the format of the advocacy papers that were presented.

Mr. Dodgson, noted some grammatical errors with the papers submitted to Council.

The Speaker called the motion to question.

Carried. (unanimous)

Motion #6 – Clubs Hearings and Sanctions Procedure

Whereas, the procedures for hearings and sanctions in the clubs system were reviewed this year;

Whereas, the review of the procedures wanted to ensure an improved fairness and understanding for members of the clubs system;

Be it resolved, Council approve the new procedure for Clubs Hearings and Sanctions, to improve access and fairness in the clubs system.

KITELEY/ Minielly/ Carried. (unanimous)

Ms. Kiteley was called to speak on behalf of the motion. Ms. Kiteley informed Council that this motion was brought to the Local and Campus Affairs standing committee, namely from a procedure that few students were aware of. She further noted a small amendment that the standing committee level.

Mr. Minielly did not have anything further to add.

The Speaker opened the floor to debate. No members of Council wished to speak on behalf of the motion.

The Speaker called the motion to question.

Carried. (unanimous)

Motion #7 – Clubs Governance Committee Terms of Reference

Whereas, the terms of reference was reviewed this year;

Whereas, the document previously contained outdated and confusing information;

Be it resolved, Council approve the new Clubs Governance Committee Terms of Reference that ensures the committee is more compliant with actual practice.

KITELEY / Little/ Carried. (unanimous)

Ms. Kiteley was called to speak on behalf of the motion. Ms. Kiteley informed Council that this motion sought to ratify the Clubs Governance Committee Terms of Reference. Ms. Kiteley informed Council that this motion was brought to the Local and Campus Affairs standing committee, namely that there were additions to the section titled, Duties of the Officers.

Mr. Little was called upon to speak on behalf of the motion. Mr. Little did not have further comments to add.

The Speaker opened the floor to debate.

Mr. Farfan: *There is nothing in the Terms of Reference which states that the chair of this committee is required to be compliant with the USC HR and Volunteer Resources policies and procedures? Does this mean that only the vice-chair needs to comply?*

Mr. English addressed the concern, noting that this could be changed after the meeting.

Mr. Farfan asked whether he could make a motion on Council floor to amend the wording of the Terms of Reference to include the same wording for the Chair of the Committee with respect to the compliance of the HR and Volunteer Resources policies that is placed on the Vice-Chair.

(AMMENDMENT) Motion #7 – Clubs Governance Committee Terms of Reference

FARFAN/ Kiteley/ Carried. (unanimous)

The Speaker called the original motion to question.

Carried. (unanimous)

Posted Motion #8 - Ethnocultural Support Recommendations

Whereas, the Committee has thoroughly completed its review of Ethnocultural Support, including analysis of a student-at-large survey and cultural clubs roundtable (reaching approximately 300 students);

Whereas, the Committee has developed recommendations for Ethnocultural Support to be submitted to both the VP Internal (Alex Benac) and Ethnocultural Support Coordinator (Serwaah Phebih);

Be it resolved, the following recommendation be incorporated into the Ethnocultural Support program, with justifications outlined in the attached document:

- A. Restructuring of Executive Composition
- B. Increasing Brand Awareness of Ethnocultural Support
- C. Create Opportunities for Volunteerism
- D. Anti-Oppression Seminar
- E. Building Community Between Cultural Clubs

Be it further resolved, VP Internal and/or Ethnocultural Support Coordinator follow-up with the Committee if any recommendations cannot be incorporated into the program, and provide justification for this decision.

HARDY/Whelan/ Carried. (unanimous)

Ms. Hardy was called to speak on behalf of the motion. Ms. Hardy informed Council that this motion was a result of the PARC standing committee audit of the USC Ethnocultural Support Services. Ms. Hardy noted that this motion encompasses the recommendations of the standing committee to Council.

Mr. Whelan was called upon to speak on behalf of the motion. Mr. Whelan thanked the student organizations that assisted PARC during this audit process.

The Speaker opened the floor to debate.

Mr. Hamadache extended his praise to Ms. Hardy and the PARC committee for all of their hard work and standardizing the documents used in the review process to assist future audits of this committee.

*Ms. Kitley: One of the recommendations was to create a logo. I am looking at their page, and it appears that they already have a logo? Is that an informal logo?*

Ms. Hardy addresses the concern, noting that in meetings with the Coordinator, the question had been asked. She noted that the overall message was for the Ethnocultural Support Service to increase branding to assist with awareness.

Mr. Benac, clarifies that the logo noted by Ms. Kiteley was in fact the logo of Ethnocultural Support Services.

Ms. Cheeseman noted where the concerns with respect to the branding with Ethnocultural Support Service, and ensuring students are aware of the services they provide.

*Mr. Abbot: This question is with respect to the restructuring of the executive composition of the current CGC executive. My understanding is that the current executive felt that the group was too large? Could you speak to this?*

Ms. Hardy addressed the concern, noting that the executive was much smaller. This year the Coordinator decided that there was a need for a larger executive, but when meeting with these members, she noted that one of their primary concerns was the composition of the executive. The executives noted a difficulty with performance of duties, due to the number of members and that there was too little to work on.

Mr. Saddy, (speaking in favour of the motion) noted the various changes to the structure of the CGC executive composition over the past few years. He discussed that the composition of the executive structure had previously included two VP Finance positions. He further noted the challenges volunteers had in the past with community outreach participation, and how the restructure of this executive would address many of the concerns brought forward by members of Ethnocultural Support Service.

*Ms. Kitley: In terms of recommendation D, anti-oppression seminars. I was wondering if you were advocating for these seminars to be predominantly focused through social media? Is this a formal recommendation?*

Mr. Saddy noted that contained within the survey attached to the recommendations, that social media was surveyed the highest. He noted that this was not a formal recommendation. He noted that future coordinators could take these results and know what the general student population would be interested in seeing.

Ms. Kitley: *My concern is that we are straying too far from the intended medium of a seminar?*

Mr. Saddy addressed the concern, stating that these seminars would take place, and that the recommendation would be that Council monitor the success or failure of these seminars going forward. He noted that the question at hand is how best to get this information out to students. He notes the student preference for social media.

Ms. Hardy further addresses the question, stating that the Coordinator had expressed some ideas with respect to how this might be executed, noting that the wording allowed the Coordinator greater flexibility and creativity to produce campaigns with respect to these issues.

No further debate was noted. The Speaker called the motion to question.

Carried. (unanimous)

## 11. FOR INFORMATION

### Executive Reports

#### USC President

Ms. Helpard discussed the following topics in her report:

- Noted the Elections period. Wished all the candidates the best of luck
- Encourage Council get involved in Get Out and Vote Campaign
- President and executive team met with twenty-one (21) members of Western University Senior Administration for a meeting, as outlined in MOU. Discussing advocacy agenda for the year
- Published a review of this meeting on USC website
- Sitting Trustee on Campus Trust Board (Health and Dental)
- Bus pass negotiations have been completed. Commission agreed to contract Monday.
- Advocating for long-term rapid transit initiative
- Drew attention opinion piece via the Gazette, i.e. Female Leadership in USC/ Campus
- President/VP External – Queens Park meetings with provincial leadership to discuss improving undergraduate student experience
- Implementation of the smart card technology and fees for activation of the technology
- Federal advocacy initiative work
- Budget to come in a couple of weeks

Mr. Dodgson: *Could you speak to the current transit issues, including the frequent crowding of the busses? What have we heard back on that?*

#### VP External

Ms. Perkins discussed the following topics in her report:

- Noted the congestion problem
- Reason for the push for rapid transit and safe bike lanes
- OUSA update:
  - Attended Lobby-con
    - Discussed issues: work-integrated learning, tuition, and funding formula.
    - Met with 51 MPP's and 11 MP's
- Tuition Timeout Campaign: 200 letters signed, for tuition freeze
- Spring GA coming up: papers include topics on online learning, students with disabilities and student employment.
- Facilitated a student survey over 10K students
- Attended State of the City, including topics of light rail transit and downtown regeneration.
- VP External and VP Student Event planning "Pints and Politics" event to encourage student participation in these topics.
- Air show in September
- Town and Gown committee
- Signed a principles of collaboration with the City of London

Councillor: *How would rapid transit fit into pedestrian safety on campus?*

Ms. Perkins noted that the USC executive are advocating for light rail transit. This would include a route specifically for rapid transit, how the infrastructure for this transit would affect campus, and that currently this initiative is in the advocacy stage, seeking funding from other stakeholders.

Councillor: *Part time students currently do not get a bus pass, but need it. Addressed the question to you?*

Ms. Helpard addressed the question, noting that in a past referendum, part time students voted against a bus pass. She noted that a referendum could be brought forward again.

Motion to extend Ms. Perkins time by 5 minutes.

DODGSON/ Pillon/Carries.

Mr. Abbot: *Question with respect to rapid transit and bridge. There is a family of beavers under this bridge. Has wildlife been considered?*

Ms. Perkins noted the wildlife concern and will keep that in mind when construction potentially begins.

Ms. Kitley: *Question In regards to the OUSA survey. Is there a way to ensure that future surveys are not held back by the research ethics committee? So that future students could participate in the future.*

Ms. Perkins noted that the issue with respect to the survey stemmed from issues with distribution of the survey and timing.

Secretary Treasurer

Mr. English discussed the following topics in his report:

- Budget is due in a couple of weeks

VP Internal

Mr. Benac discussed the following topics in his report:

- Attended Pedestrian safety class
- Campus master plan
- Bell "Let's Talk" Day
- Mental Health programming and issues
- Art with Impact Event, Movies for Mental Health
- Medical Illness Policy changes - mental health added as valid reason for accommodation
- Advanced copy of Mental Health Resource Guide
- Teaching awards

Councillor: *Are affiliate teachers included in the teaching awards?*

Mr. Benac: Yes.

Councillor: *Will the Mental Health Resource Guide be available to residences?*

Mr. Benac noted that these would be available to residences. He further noted that the mental health resources (peer support) are being modeled after leading university best practices and have been the subject of tours from other groups interested in the work the USC is doing.

Vice-President Student Events

Ms. Scripnick discussed the following topics in her report:

- O-week events
- Charity Ball
- CGC up and running
- Past USC alumni meeting and mentorship

Communications Officer

Mr. Hurren discussed the following topics in his report:

- Wrapped up USC Student survey (3200 responses)
- Clubs feedback report and summit
- Increased feedback initiatives with tangible results and reports/

- Recruitment
- Platform review

#### Report of the Chair of the Board of Directors (10 mins)

Mr. Jacobi discussed the work that the USC Board of Directors has been focused on over the past month. He noted that applications for Board members for the coming year are open. He further informed Council of HR Policies which were passed by the Board and gave details of the Board of Directors Retreat on January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

#### Western Student Senators (WSS) Report (5 mins)

#### Standing Committee Reports

##### Local and Campus Affairs (A. Kitley)

- Noted that the Clubs and Advocacy Paper motions presented at the meeting were the result of the last meeting of LCA. Other issues that are currently going before the committee include the Pedestrian Safety Group.

##### Long Term Planning and Budget (A. Sussman)

- Mr. Abbot informed Council that LTPB had reviewed the draft USC Budget at their January 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

##### Portfolio Audit Review Committee (C. Hardy)

- Ms. Hardy informed Council that the committee is in the final review, namely, Charity Ball. She noted that the PARC survey would be released the day after the event.

##### Provincial and Federal Affairs (M. Farfan)

*inaudible*

##### Student Outreach and Communication (A. Pillon)

- Mr. Pilon informed Council that SOCC's work on the App continues.

##### Senior Operations (Speaker of Council)

- Noted the tabled Terms of Reference and other Speaker documents should be coming back to Council soon..

#### 11. FOR DISCUSSION

No report given.

12. TERMINATION

Motion to adjourn.

HAMADACHE/Manuel/Carried

The meeting adjourned at 10:48 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary

Approved on: \_\_\_\_\_

Sign In/Sign Out

<u>Name</u>	<u>Time In</u>	<u>Time Out</u>
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Attachments:

Appendix 1 - Western University's Ancillary Fees – Alex Benac, Vice-President Internal

Appendix 2 – By-law 1 – Jonathan English, Secretary Treasurer



# #BellLetsTalk about ANCILLARY FEES

COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2016

## What are we talking about?

We will be visiting the following topic areas over the next half hour:

- ▶ Ancillary fees vs. other categories of fee
- ▶ Types of ancillary fees
- ▶ Fee governance structures
- ▶ What do my fees cover?
- ▶ How are new fees created, and existing fees regulated?
- ▶ Differentiated payment (main campus vs. affiliates vs. part-time students)



## Why are we talking about this?

- ▶ Knowing where student money goes
- ▶ Clearing up misconceptions about ancillary fees
- ▶ It's important to know where our money is being spent, and on what
- ▶ Familiarizing ourselves with the process through which ancillary fees are created/increased (it's complex!)
- ▶ We're discussing a paper on ancillary fees later tonight



## WHAT AN ANCILLARY FEE ISN'T



## What ancillary fees are not:

- ▶ Tuition fees
- ▶ Supplementary fees
- ▶ Residence rates



## Tuition fees

- ▶ "Tuition fees are mandatory fees that are charged by the University for education and instruction." (the University of Ottawa)
- ▶ Quite simply, tuition fees are set aside to pay for your academic experience.
- ▶ At Western these fees are defined as supporting "instruction, libraries, examinations, diplomas, use of lab supplies, apparatus, basic materials, and articles of instruction." (Board of Governors policy 2.4)
- ▶ Can be increased by the University unilaterally up to 5% annually

### Who sets these fees?

The Board of Governors, after consultation with academic leadership at the University.

### Can I opt out of these fees?

No.



## Supplementary fees

- ▶ Supplementary fees are charges incurred by individual students as a result of a request for a specific service (procuring a transcript) or the result of other actions (deferring fees).
- ▶ Examples of these fees include: deferment charges, returned cheque charges, transcript fees, distance education fees, etc.
- ▶ Most of these fees are charged for services offered through the Office of the Registrar and support the technical functions of that office.

### Who sets these fees?

The President, as reported to the Property and Finance Committee of the Board of Governors.

### Can I opt out of these fees?

You can avoid incurring these fees in the first place, but once incurred, you cannot opt out of most.



## Residence rates

- ▶ Applied to students living in on-campus housing; include room charges and meal plan overheads.
- ▶ Charged on an individual basis after a student accepts offer to live in residence.

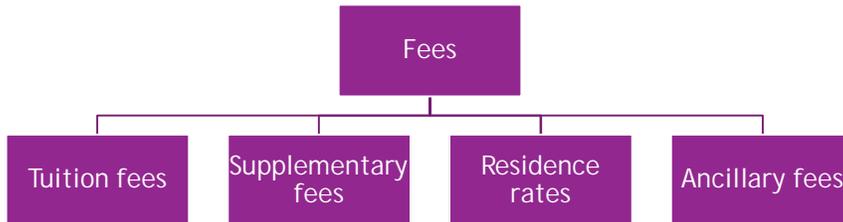
### Who sets these fees?

The Division of Housing and Ancillary Services, as approved by the Senate and Board of Governors.

### Can I opt out of these fees?

You can avoid incurring these fees by not living in residence, but once charged, you cannot opt out.





## WHAT AN ANCILLARY FEE IS

## Ancillary fees

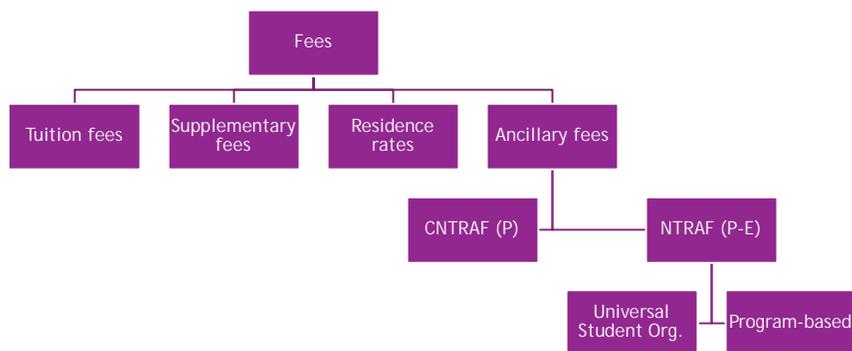
- ▶ Governed by the Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities (MTCU)
- ▶ Covers the cost of items and services not normally paid for out of the University's operating or capital revenue

Who sets these fees?

It varies.

Can I opt out of these fees?

Some.



## Universal compulsory non-tuition related ancillary fees that are NOT covered by the Protocol

- ▶ These correspond most closely with the Student Organization Fees at the top of the sheet I gave you.

Who sets these fees?

We do!

Can I opt out of these fees?

Health and dental, O-Week



## Universal compulsory non-tuition related ancillary fees that ARE covered by the Protocol

- ▶ These fees, also known as “student service fees,” are the ones itemized on the bottom half of the sheet I gave you.

Who sets these fees?

The Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Student Services Committee.

Can I opt out of these fees?

No.

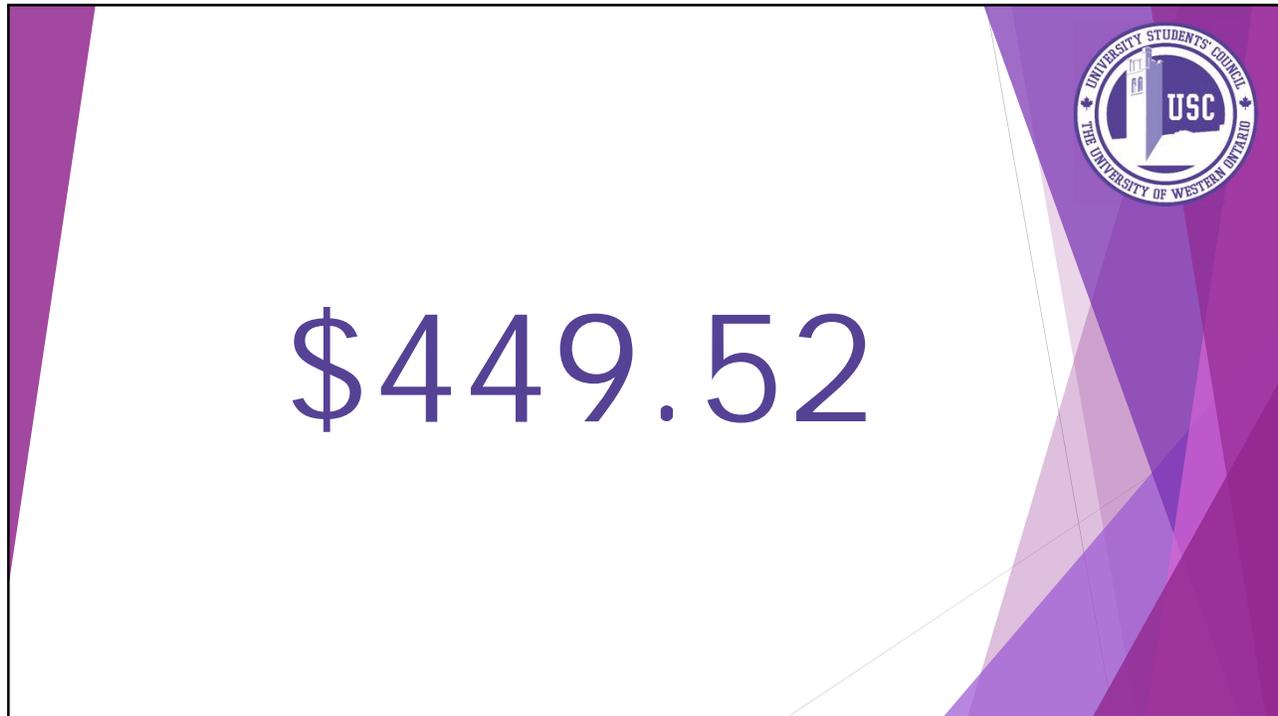




## WHAT AM I PAYING FOR?

FEE	\$ (MAIN)	\$ (AFFILIATES)
Campus Recreation	97.31	97.31
Intercollegiate Athletics	85.89	85.89
Thomson Recreation & Athletic Centre	18.82	18.82
Financial Aid Office	37.15	N/A
International Student Services	13.62	8.17
Indigenous Services	7.96	4.78
Services for Students with Disabilities	12.86	12.86
Student Development Centre	71.94	43.16
Student Success Centre	44.27	33.17
Student Health Services	46.48	46.48
Off-Campus Housing & Mediation	8.65	8.65
Foot Patrol	4.57	4.57
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>449.52</b>	<b>363.86</b>





## How are new fees created?

- ▶ Via referendum of the whole student body.
- ▶ By convention, all new fees must go to referendum.
- ▶ A referendum can be initiated by the University on behalf of the Board of Governors, by a student group through council, or by council itself.

## How are existing fees regulated?

- ▶ By the Student Services Committee on behalf of the Board of Governors.
- ▶ All non-inflationary increases to fees must be approved by this committee.
- ▶ As per an agreement between the University and student groups, as mandated by the government of Ontario, the University cannot raise ancillary fees unilaterally.



QUESTIONS?





# By-law 1: Corporate By-law

COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2016

## Origins

- ▶ As a part of the governance reform, By-law 1 was an essential part in ensuring the ongoing efforts from Government Services and the portfolio of the Secretary-Treasurer upheld basic principles of good governance,
  - ▶ Accessibility: clear language, crisp formatting, better organization and concise messaging.
  - ▶ Putting policy first: including only the most vital, and delegating to more amendable policies.

## How We Got Here



## The Next Steps

- ▶ The new By-law 1 will introduce a subsequent stage where some new policy will be introduced, and old policy will be updated, to provide added accuracy to the actual going-ons of the USC. These will be coming forward on 24 February 2015 for discussion and approval.
- ▶ The upcoming policies include: Definitions Policy, Council Composition Policy and Procedure, Operating and Capital Budget Approval Policy and Procedure, Councillor Accountability and Discipline Procedure, Executive Accountability and Discipline Procedure, and Board of Directors Accountability and Discipline Procedure.