



4th MEETING OF COUNCIL 2020/2021

28 October 2020

Note: the meeting will recess for 5 minutes approx. every 90 minutes in order to mitigate some of the strain of long Zoom meetings.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/99460283159>

Meeting ID: 994 6028 3159

One tap mobile

+16475580588,,99460283159# Canada

7:00PM

1. **Call to Order (7:05)**
2. **Land Recognition**
3. **O Canada**
4. **Western Song**
5. **Roll Call**
6. **Comments from the Chair**
 - a. 2 minute voting period now for turning point to ensure time efficiency.
7. **Approval of Agenda (BISWURM/Reesor)**
 - a. **AMENDMENT:** Student bursary fund - update new version of appendix with small change. (REESOR/Mendes)
 - b. **AMENDMENT:** move UCRU presentation to the end of presentation set (REESOR/Alie)
8. **Approval of Minutes (MENDES/Folia)**

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9. **Presentations**
 - a. By-Law 2 and Elections Policy (14:04)-*M. St. Pierre, Vice-President Governance and Finance*

Q: (BELTRAN) 2.5.1 - ADDITION ABOUT SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS
A: (St. Pierre) Can't use existing social media accounts (that are not your personal one)
Q: (Amber) 2.8 - Pre-campaigning - What is the change here?
A: (St. Pierre) Issue about how to define "produce" so we have removed this so that candidates cannot distribute materials
 - b. Online Elections (24:55)-*M. St. Pierre, Vice-President Governance and Finance*

Q: (Alie) Accessibility and voter turnout - what is the plan for this?
A: (St. Pierre) working on comms tool kits to improve voter turnout
Q: (Fakirani) If we are moving to online elections can we look into ways in which to fund voters who are in unique positions (i.e. weak internet access)? Other ways to vote, extended voting periods?
A: (St. Pierre) Look into funded accessibility solutions for this.
 - c. UCRU Presentation (34:42)-*M. Metcalfe, Vice-President External Advocacy*

Q: *how much might the fee be?*



Motion 1 (34:42)

Election of Students at large to the Sustainability Working Group

Be it resolved that Council elect four (4) students at large to the Sustainability Working Group.

BARKHOUSE/Tom (100%)

Elected:

- Julia Martins
- Jordan Ramnarine
- Jasmine Wu
- Michael Wu

Motion 2 (1:10:26)

Election of Councillors to the Sustainability Working Group

Be it resolved that Council elect four (4) Councillors to the Sustainability Working Group.

BARKHOUSE/Alie (100%)

Nominations from the floor:

- Barkhouse nominates **Fakirani** (Accepted)
- Fakirani nominates **Mahakul** (Accepted)
- Mastronardi nominates **Mendes** (Accepted)
- Brown nominates **Aghababazadeh** (Accepted)
- Aghababazadeh nominates **Brown** (Accepted)

Elected:

- Zamir Fakirani
- Shanika Mahakul
- Augustine Mendes
- Katie Brown

Motion 3 (1:23:32)

Election of Students at large to Anti-Oppression Working Group



Be it resolved that Council elect four (4) students at large to the Anti-Oppression Working Group.

MAHAKUL/Alie (100%)

Elected:

Kristen Le

Razan Mohamed

Mohammad Omer

Samdarsh Saroya

Motion 4 (1:51:42)

Election of Councillors to Anti-Oppression Working Group

Be it resolved that Council elect four (4) Councillors to the Anti-Oppression Working Group.

MAHAKUL/Mendes (100%)

Nominations from the floor:

- **Barkhouse** nominated by Mahakul (accepted)
- **Mendes** nominated by Kitching (accepted)
- **Kotadia** nominated by Chazi (accepted)
- **Beltran** self-nominated
- **Fakirani** nominated by Alie (accepted)

Elected:

Kennedy Barkhouse

Antonio Beltran

Ziyana Kotada

Augustine Mendes

Motion 5 (2:06:10)

External Advocacy Standing Committee Chair Election



Whereas, USC Standing Committees of Council require a Chair to organize and facilitate the annual Standing Committee meeting process;

Be it resolved that, members of Council nominate themselves or another voting-member of Council;

Be it resolved that, each candidate receive (2) two minutes for a speech, and field (2) two questions from Council relating to their candidacy;

Be it resolved that, Council elect (1) one Standing Committee Chair for the External Advocacy Standing Committee of Council;

Be it further resolved that, ballots are destroyed following the election.

ALIE/Barkhouse (100%)

Nominations from the floor:

- Alie nominated by Barkhouse (accepted)

ADDED (2:12:34)

Be it resolved that Council elect (1) delegate to the OUSA conference.

REESOR/Alie/passes

OUSA Run-off winner: Matthew Chasmar

Motion 6 (2:31:27)

Athletics Anti-Racism

Whereas students from underrepresented communities at Western have recently been subjected to a series of well-publicized acts of prejudice, harassment, and discrimination;

Whereas these acts are not isolated incidents, but rather are a part of a larger systematic problem on campus and in society; amplified through the lack of anti-racism training

Whereas currently Western Athletics does not provide student athletes with mandatory anti-racism training

Be it resolved Council task the executive with advocating for mandatory Anti-Racism training for all Western Athletics Members (including but not limited to, athletes, coaches and employees), in particular anti-black racism training



Be it further resolved that the USC Executive report back to Council on their advocacy and findings by November 28th, 2020.

MENDES/Paldino (97%/0/3%)

DEBATE: (Gabrielle Gregg & Mendes) should we amend the motion to look at WHY people aren't going? Instead of making it mandatory because it already is?

(Omorodion): consequences to not attend mandatory training?

(Feldman): dangerous to have it as mandatory but then have many students who have not taken it - accountability issue.

(Gregg): For exploring options on how to increase accountability. MASC doesn't have the resources to address this because the training sessions are run through Western Athletics.

Motion 7 (2:57:13)

Student Bursary Fund

Whereas the USC represents all undergraduate and professional students on campus.

Whereas Council passed a motion at the September meeting to release \$300,000 to fund bursaries for: (a) low income, (b) international, (c) BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, people of colour) students.

Whereas the creation of a USC Student Bursary Fund Committee will help enhance representation and feedback from community stakeholders.

Be it resolved that Council approve of the creation of USC Student Bursary Fund Committee 2020-2021, outlined in Appendix C, to allocate the release of funds through an application based process.

REESOR/Alie (100%)

Q: (Alie) We spoke of distribution of funds via cultural clubs and portals that represent BIPOC students on campus, as I understand this isn't something that will be going forward - can you clarify how this decision was made and how can BIPOC students feel comfortable applying for bursaries from a UNI that has not felt supported by in the past?

A: (Reesor) Want to ensure students are aware of these opportunities and take responsibility off marginalized students to find these themselves. Reaching out to leaders of ethnocultural clubs and other clubs to ensure they are aware of these.

Q: (Zhou) how will you verify the bursary recipient?

A: (St. Pierre) Part of the application process and still working with Western on how to verify financial need.

Q: (Zhou): What does hiring entail, how will you ensure no conflict of interest?

A: (Reesor): Volunteer base, no intention for pay.

Q: (Alie) Speak to decision to set bursary amount and limit number of bursaries.



A: (St. Pierre) Modelled structure after previous bursary structures. Balance of what materiality is for students

Q: (Alie) is there flexibility within committee itself to self-determine amount of bursary for each policy?

A: (St.Pierre) If committee were to decide if they want to make adjustments, it would come to council.

Q: (Feldman) clarify who is eligible for the bursary.

A: (Reesor) anyone who identifies with any or even just one of the named groups.

Q: (Feldman) Qualifier for low income students but preference to BIPOC students?

A: (St. P) Committee decision if we are mandating certain aspects of the application.

DEBATE

(Proulx) In favour: well-outlined, great detail. Glad the committee can make smaller changes within itself.

(Alie) In favour: support intent and reasoning behind motion as well as explanations to questions. Can we get updated on small structural changes that occur so I can communicate to my constituencies.

Motion 8 (3:25:00)

Election of Councillor to Student Refugee Fund

Be it resolved that Council elect one (1) Councillor to the Student Refugee Fund.

REESOR/Folia (100%)

Nominations from the floor:

- **Alie** nominated by Bennett (Accepted)
- **Marginean** nominated by Paldino (Accepted)

Elected:

Teodora Marginean

Motion 9 (3:35:04)

By-law #2 Updates

Whereas democratic elections are core to the legitimacy of the USC and constituent representation.



Whereas the current structure of By-law #2 does not represent good governance, creating situational challenges for those applying the By-Law.

Be it Resolved that council approve the creation of the Elections Governance Committee Violations Policy.

Be it further Resolved that council approve the report from ACOSC and the associated updates to By-Law #2.

BALDWIN/Folia (100%)

Motion 10 (3:38:38)

Executive Reports

Be it resolved that Council accept the executive reports for October 2020.

REESOR/Campbell (100%)

10. For Information

- I. Board of Directors Chairperson Report
- II. Governance and Finance Standing Committee Report
- III. Advocacy Standing Committee Report
- IV. Student Experience Standing Committee Report

11. For Discussion

12. New Business

13. Termination (Kotadia/Mahakul) (11:24)



Appendices

Appendix A

[Bylaw 2 2020 Review](#)

Appendix B

[Elections Governance Committee Violations Policy](#)

Appendix C

[Student Bursary Fund Committee TOR](#)