



### 3rd MEETING OF COUNCIL 2021/2022

25 August 2021

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/98874487754>

Meeting ID: 988 7448 7754

Passcode: 592208

One tap mobile

+16475580588,,98874487754#,,,,\*592208# Canada

7:00 PM

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Land Recognition**
3. **O Canada**
4. **Western Song**
5. **Roll Call**
6. **Comments from the Chair**
7. **Approval of Agenda**
8. **Approval of Minutes**
  - ☰ 20210718\_(Minutes) Meeting of Council 2
9. **Presentations**
  - a. Office of the Ombudsperson (10 minutes)-*J. Meister, Office of the Ombudsperson*
10. **For Action**
  - I. Election of Councillors and Students at Large to the Transparency Working Group ([Motion 1](#), [Appendix A](#))
  - li. Election of Councillors to the Anti-Racism Working Group ([Motion 2](#), [Appendix B](#))-*M. Milanczak, Social Science Councillor*
  - lii. Election of Councillors to Mental Health Roundtable ([Motion 3](#), [Appendix C](#))-*Z. Fakirani, USC President*
  - iv. Election of Councillors to ASGBV Working Group ([Motion 4](#), [Appendix D](#))-*N. Bajaj, Social Science President*

#### **Executive Reports**

- i. Motion to Approve Executive Reports ([Motion 5](#), [Appendix E](#))-*Z. Fakirani, USC President*

#### **Governance and Finance Standing Committee:**

- I. Motion to Approve Changes to Bylaw 2 ([Motion 6](#), [Appendix F](#))-*Z. Fakirani, USC President*
- li. Motion to Approve Changes to Legislative Calendar ([Motion 7](#), [Appendix G](#))-*Z. Fakirani, USC President*
- lii. Motion to Approve Virtual Conferencing for Councillors with out of town work placements ([Motion 8](#), [Appendix H](#))-*Z. Fakirani, USC President*
- lv. OUSA Policy and Procedure ([Motion 9](#), [Appendix I](#))-*Z. Fakirani, USC President*



**University Affairs Standing Committee**

- li. Peer Programs Approvals ([Motion 10](#), [Appendix J](#))-Z. *Fakirani, USC President*
- li. Encouraging Vaccination Against COVID-19 ([Motion 11](#), [Appendix K](#))-E. Chen, Social Science Councillor

**External Affairs Standing Committee**

- i. Motion to Declare a Climate Emergency ([Motion 12](#), [Appendix L](#))-Z. *Fakirani, USC President*

**11. For Information**

- I. Board of Directors Chairperson Report
- II. Governance and Finance Standing Committee Report
- III. External Advocacy Standing Committee Report
- IV. University Affairs Standing Committee Report

**12. For Discussion**

- a. Academic Counselling ([Appendix M](#))-Z. *Kotadia, Vice-President University Affairs*

**13. New Business**

**14. Termination**



**Motion 1**

**Election of Councillors to Transparency Working Group**

**Whereas** the Council authorized the Transparency Working Group, its membership should be chosen

**Be it resolved that** the Council appoint 3 councillors and 4 students at large to sit on the Transparency Working Group

**CHEN/Dusick**



**Motion 2**

**Election of Councillors and Students at Large to Anti-Racism Working Group**

**Be it resolved** that Council elect Councillors \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_ as Students-at-Large to the Anti-Racism working group.

**MILANCZAK/Tu**



### Motion 3

#### **Motion to Elect Councillors to University Affairs Mental Health Roundtable**

**Whereas** the University Affairs Portfolio facilitates a Mental Health Roundtable each year to consolidate knowledge about the current state of mental health resources on campus and to identify gaps in service that should be addressed by the Vice President University Affairs;

**Whereas** the membership for the Mental Health Roundtable calls for two USC Councillors to be elected to this body;

**Be it resolved** that Council elect two (2) Councillors to the University Affairs Portfolio's Mental Health Roundtable.

**FAKIRANI/Seconder**



**Motion 4**

**Election of Councillors to Anti-Sexual and Gender Based Violence Working Group**

**Be it resolved** that Council elect \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, to the Anti-Sexual Gender Based Violence working group.

**BAJAJ/Thompson**



**Motion 5**

**Executive Reports**

**Be it resolved that** Council accept the executive reports for August 2021.

**FAKIRANI/Seconder**



## Motion 6

### By-law 2 Amendments

**Whereas** elections at the USC are one of the most important functions our democracy;

**Whereas** By-Law #2 is a highly complex and lengthy document;

**Whereas** the USC has received feedback that this makes By-Law #2, and thereby USC elections, inaccessible to many students-at-large;

**Be it resolved that** Council approve the recommended amendments to By-Law #2.

**FAKIRANI/Ghattas**





## Motion 7

### **Motion to Amend the Legislative Calendar**

**Whereas** Council meetings can often exceed a reasonable length of time for one sitting;

**Whereas** Councillors have expressed that the length of Council meetings materially reduces their ability to engage;

**Whereas** the current transition timeline of outgoing and incoming Executives leaves a gap of accountability;

**Be it resolved that** the Legislative Calendar is amended to reflect a two-reading model with two meetings of Council per month;

**Be it further resolved that** the AGM be moved to May in the Legislative Calendar.

**FAKIRANI/Chasmar**



## Motion 8

### Virtual Conferencing for Councillors on Placements

**Whereas** COVID-19 revealed accessibility issues precluding Councillors with out-of-city CEL opportunities and placements from attending Council meetings;

**Whereas** being on placement as an undergraduate student is a highly valuable experience;

**Whereas** the USC believes strongly in student development, inside and outside of the classroom as well as on and off campus;

**Whereas** the barrier of mandatory in person Council meetings should not be present for those students on such a placement;

**Be it resolved that** council allows Councillors with out-of-city CEL and placement opportunities the option to teleconference in to Council meetings;

**Be it further resolved that** councillors are required to provide notice of their physical absence to the Speaker of Council no less than forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting in question.

**FAKIRANI/Ghattas**



**Motion 9**

**OUSA Policy and Procedure Amendments**

**Whereas** student authors deserve the opportunity to receive delegate status at the General Assembly in which the paper they author is being debated;

**Whereas** the USC's current Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance Policy and Procedure is not up to date with current practices;

**Be it resolved that** the USC adopt the proposed amendments to the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance Policy and Procedure

**FAKIRANI/Ghattas**



## Motion 10

### Peer Programs Mission Statements

**Whereas:** the Peer Programs updates all mission statements to improve transparency and accountability, and to better serve the needs of the marginalized student populations that they support across campus.

**Whereas:** the Peer Programs updates all vision statements to improve transparency and accountability, and to better serve the needs of marginalized student populations that they support across campus.

**Whereas:** the Peer Programs updates all Instagram biographies to improve transparency and accountability, and to better serve the needs of marginalized student populations that they support across campus.

**Be it resolved** that Council endorses the amended Peer Programs mission statements.

**Be it further resolved** that Council endorses the amended Peer Programs vision statements.

**Be it further resolved** that Council endorses the amended Peer Programs Instagram biographies.

**FAKIRANI/Secunder**



## Motion 11

### Encouraging COVID-19 Vaccination

**Whereas** safety should be the priority when returning to in-person study.

**Whereas** several outbreaks occurred in the student community in the past year [1].

**Whereas** returning to in person gatherings makes COVID-19 a growing concern in the coming academic year.

**Whereas** unvaccinated people are more likely to catch and spread COVID-19.

**Whereas** we are at risk of a “pandemic of the vaccinated”. Almost 90 % of covid-19 cases in Canada since December were among those who were unvaccinated. In the US, more than 99 % of Covid-19 deaths and 97 % of hospitalizations are among unvaccinated individuals [2].

**Whereas** vaccines protect all from COVID-19, especially those most at risk, particularly the elderly and immunocompromised people [3].

**Whereas** there is clear evidence that COVID-19 vaccines are safe, and one of the best ways to protect against COVID-19.

**Whereas** vaccine uptake remains relatively low among university age students (57.5 % for 18 - 29 year olds, the lowest among any adult age group) [4].

**Whereas** students are concerned about and seek assurance of their safety when returning to campus.

**Whereas** other educational institutions and community groups have recognized that COVID-19 vaccines are the best way to protect the community. The top 25 Universities in the US have instituted vaccine mandates [5].

**Whereas** the University of Western Ontario Faculty Association has advocated for vaccines to be mandatory to all incoming students [6].

**Whereas** the actions of Western students have an impact that extends to the broader community, which includes university professors, staff, TAs, and residents of London. The university has mandated vaccinations for all students

**Be it resolved that** the USC endorses Western’s plan to mandate vaccination for students, and its testing options.

**Be it further resolved that** the USC advocate for vaccine requirements inclusive of international students and students who have valid reasons for not being able to be vaccinated, including medical reasons.



**Be it further resolved that** the USC advocate for increased vaccine uptake and outreach for students and marginalized groups who may not be able to conveniently access vaccines

**Be it further resolved that** the USC advocate for outreach to get international students who have not been vaccinated in their home country, to get vaccinated at Western

**Be it further resolved that** the USC supports the on-campus vaccination program, testing site and supports easily accessible testing and vaccination for all students.

**CHEN/Adnan**



## Motion 12

### **Motion to declare a climate emergency**

**Whereas** undergraduate students have led a call to action for the USC and the university to take climate action;

**Whereas** the USC shares in the concerns of our student body about the past, present, and future implications of climate change on our communities;

**Whereas** the USC has a responsibility to advocate for and implement sustainable changes to our operations, services, and university;

**Be it resolved that** the USC declares a state of “Climate Emergency” that requires urgent action;

**Be it further resolved that** the USC commits to investigating and implementing the ways in which we, as an organization, can practice sustainability;

**Be it further resolved that** the President Fakirani and VP External Affairs Oladejo report back on changes made to promote sustainability to Council at the AGM;

**Be it further resolved that** the President Fakirani and VP External Affairs Oladejo produce a policy paper (with the support of Council and EnviroWestern) on environmental sustainability identifying the ways in which the university, provincial government, and federal government can support climate action on campus no later than the end of the fall term.

**Be it further resolved that** the USC advocate for the university and the University of Western Ontario Faculty Association to adopt likewise climate emergency declarations.

**FAKIRANI/Secunder**



## Appendices

### Appendix A

- ☰ Transparency Working Group Hiring Motion

### Appendix B

- ☰ Election of Councillors to Anti-racism working group

### Appendix C

- ☰ Motion Regarding the Election of Councillors to University Affairs Mental Health Roundtabl...

### Appendix D

- ☰ Election of Councillors to Gender Based Violence Working Group

### Appendix E

To be added on Friday, August 20th

### Appendix F

- ☰ Motion Regarding By-Law #2 Amendments [August 25, 2021]

### Appendix G

- ☰ Motion to Amend the Legislative Calendar

### Appendix H

- ☰ Motion to Allow Councillors with out-of-city CEL Opportunities to conference in permanently

### Appendix I

- ☰ OUSA Policy Motion

### Appendix J

- ☰ Motion Regarding the Approval of Peer Programs Mission Statements, Vision Statements,...

### Appendix K

- ☰ Motion Endorsing Increasing Access to COVID-19 Vaccines

### Appendix L

- ☰ Climate Emergency Motion

### Appendix M

- ☰ Council Brief- Academic Counselling