



UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' COUNCIL
2022-2023
EXECUTIVE ROADMAP



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INTRODUCTION

Each year, the USC Executive creates a Roadmap for their year in office. The USC Executive have been either elected or hired into their respective position to represent you, enhance student life on campus, and lead the USC for their term. The USC is a large organization with a pre-existing Charter, long-term strategic plan, policies, by-laws, and frameworks.

What makes the Roadmap unique is that it is designed and actioned by each year's Executive. These key priorities are based on their platforms, pitches, and student experience.

The 2022-2023 Roadmap is built around the five Areas of Focus outlined in the USC Charter: Student Support, Student Advocacy, Student Development & Opportunity, Student Engagement & Collaboration, and Student Life. These Areas of Focus inform the day-to-day activity and long-term goals of the Executive, and the organization as a whole.

This roadmap is not just for the USC – it is for you. Above all, we are here to support students, and believe earnestly in our Vision Statement: Students have the power to change the world.

2022-2023 USC Executive Team

Ethan Gardner, President

Lauren Jarman, Vice President University Affairs

Jessica Look, Vice President External Affairs

Cameron Cawston, Vice President Student Support & Programming

Ethan Biswurm, Vice President Governance & Finance

Keemia Abbaszadeh, Vice President Communications & Public Affairs



STUDENT SUPPORT

Student support is at the core of the betterment of the student experience. We cannot serve our mission to enhance the quality of life of students if we do not first ensure that all students feel welcomed, accepted, represented, and supported at this institution.

Nest Program Development & Nest Construction Completion

Executive Leads: Lauren Jarman & Cameron Cawston

Continue work on the USC Nest space in UCC 40. The construction in the space needs to be completed, and the programming must be developed. We will continue to plan how to best use this space and serve students' needs.

Full Length Mirrors in UCC Bathrooms

Executive Lead: Cameron Cawston

Install full length mirrors in the UCC bathrooms to support accessibility concerns in the space. We plan to include some student designs on the mirrors in collaboration with the Public Arts Coordinator.

Refrigerator Bags for Food Support Services

Executive Lead: Lauren Jarman

Provide refrigerator bags to Food Support Services to support their Community Pantry. With these bags, fresh produce and refrigerated items can be available to students. Overall, this increases the range of food items and healthier alternatives within the program for students.

International Students Health Insurance

Executive Lead: Lauren Jarman

Become a resource for international students who seek health insurance. The accessibility of health insurance for international students is a concern we have heard from the student body. As the providers of said insurance, we should also be a resource and a tool in getting them University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP).



Centralized Wellness Resource

Executive Lead: Lauren Jarman

Integrate USC Wellness Resources into the USC Now app as a centralized resource for students. These resources should also be available in other USC-owned spaces, such as the USC Nest and InfoSource.

Mini Fridge Rental & Furniture Buy Back

Executive Lead: Cameron Cawston

Buy back furniture and rent out mini fridges to avoid the strain of waste on the London community. This would help students repurpose their materials, and provide more options to international students.



STUDENT ADVOCACY

First and foremost, the USC exists to represent students and advocate for students. While the USC has the power to change things within our organization that affect students, a lot of student-facing issues are out of our direct control and need to be addressed through advocacy initiatives.

Academic Counseling Advocacy

Executive Lead: Laure Jarman

Once the Academic Counseling working group report is shared, work with John Doerksen, Vice-Provost (Students) to fulfill student facing recommendations, including writing letters of support.

Proctortrack Invasiveness Limit

Executive Lead: Lauren Jarman

Currently sitting on the Student Protection Committee which oversees student safety as it pertains to online learning/proctoring/identification. The long-term goal is to work with the Western administration to create best practices for online proctoring.

Western Library Academic Support and Resources

Executive Lead: Lauren Jarman

Create a working group made up of student leaders and students-at-large to collect feedback on the implementation of Western Libraries's recently released strategic plan. We will also look at library student support resources, collaborating on initiatives related to Open Education Resources (OERs) and creating Educational Campaigns relating to equity priorities.

Predictability in International Student Tuition

Executive Lead: Lauren Jarman

Raise awareness of potential tuition increases for international students, and advocate for transparency from the administration to international students regarding their tuition.



Provincial and Federal Financial Aid

Executive Lead: Jessica Look

Lobby the provincial and federal governments for increased financial support for students. This will be achieved by working with local MPs and MPPs, as well as through our provincial and federal groups, OUSA and UCRU, respectively.

Sufficient and Affordable Housing

Executive Lead: Jessica Look

Work with the City of London and other community partners to ensure safe and affordable housing for students. Student perspectives will be at the forefront of these discussions, as it remains a large stressor for many of our students.

Accessibility Disclosure

Executive Lead: Lauren Jarman

Look at the feasibility of having accessibility disclosures available on Student Center. Western's Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion office is on board to have students with visible disabilities, neurodivergent, etc. provide their self identification. We are also working on how best to inform faculty on accessibility needs based on those disclosures.

Neurodivergent Advocacy

Executive Lead: Lauren Jarman

Look into providing more long-term, ongoing supports for neurodivergent students. We hope to build a policy paper for the administration with student consultation.

Pedestrian Safety

Executive Lead: Jessica Look

Increase pedestrian safety in collaboration with the City of London. This includes advocating for specific recommendations, such as decreasing speed limits and implementing protected bike lanes around campus.



Campus Climate Survey

Executive Lead: Jessica Look

Lobby provincial partners to implement a Campus Climate Survey to assess student safety on campus. Students across the province are increasingly concerned about sexual and gender-based violence, and safety in general.

Blue Community

Executive Lead: Lauren Jarman

Eliminate single use plastic water bottles. If students support this initiative, then as many buildings as possible will need water fountains or refill stations.

Safe Transit Routes Between Regions

Executive Lead: Jessica Look

Find safe transportation options for students across regions. With the closure of Greyhound Canada, there are few safe and affordable options to travel to and from London. As students are returning in person, we need to have options available for them.

TerraCycle (or Canadian alternative) Boxes

Executive Lead: Lauren Jarman

Bring in TerraCycle boxes to USC spaces to promote recycling. The program is based out of the USA and provides boxes for personal or corporate use that help recycle hard to recycle materials. We are hoping to get a few boxes for USC spaces.

Support A-SGBV Advocacy

Executive Leads: Jessica Look & Lauren Jarman

Collaborate with university and community partners to further anti-sexual and gender-based violence advocacy.



Professor Training

Executive Lead: Jessica Look

Insure appropriate EDI and sexual-based violence training for professors. We are currently testing some anti-racism modules that the University is using. Our long-term goals include certificates for professors upon completion of training modules, so students can make informed decisions for course selections.



STUDENT DEVELOPMENT AND OPPORTUNITY

During their time at Western, students develop through their experiences in the classroom. However, the USC believes that there should also be student opportunities to grow as leaders, thinkers, and creators outside the classroom.

Financial Literacy Programming

Executive Lead: Ethan Biswurm

Provide a function similar to the Financial Literacy Week programming from last year, with the support of the AVP Finance. We are hoping to bring in some hands-on, in person workshops and improved activities based on feedback from previous years.

Students-At-Large Attendance at Advocacy Week

Executive Lead: Jessica Look

Open applications for students at-large to partake in advocacy week. Per USC's mission, this would provide professional development opportunities for undergraduate students.

Student Art/Performance Opportunities

Executive Lead: Cameron Cawston

Create opportunities for students to reconnect and involve themselves as talent on campus. Events like the Goose Patio will showcase Western talent and encourage students to get back on campus.

Improved Experiential Learning Opportunities

Executive Lead: Lauren Jarman

Create a centralized platform for experiential learning. The USC will help by surveying a diverse group of students.



STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND COLLABORATION

Students know how they like to be engaged with better than anyone. That is why putting students at the forefront on the visioning, creation, and strategy of all USC branding, public relations, and communications is essential to the success of the organization and the engagement of our student body.

Clubs 101 Informational Campaign

Executive Lead: Ethan Biswurm

Run a campaign to reintroduce students to what our Clubs system looks like without the COVID restrictions. We want to promote the new Club Space and make sure that clubs understand the EMS booking system. Working with the communications team, we want to ensure that students are aware of club programming across the board.

USC Now App

Executive Lead: Keemia Abbaszadeh

Create an app for all Western students on the happenings of the USC. The USC Now app will provide students with a live, up-to-date calendar of events on campus. It will showcase how to get involved and what to expect, all in one location. The app will become a portal to host USC information, and will easily link to other sources.

Informational Campaigns and Outreach

Executive Lead: Keemia Abbaszadeh

Create campaigns in partnership with Western, the City of London, external partners, etc. For example: we will collaborate with the City to get information on how to recycle properly, then present that information in an engaging way with students.



Website Renavigation

Executive Lead: Keemia Abbaszadeh

Update the navigation of the website to make information more easily accessible and comprehensible to students, in an organized structure.

Accessibility in Communications

Executive Lead: Keemia Abbaszadeh

Expand the accessibility of our communications by including accessible text, closed captioning, and image descriptions in our communication output. This will be accomplished through an evidence-based and student-centered approach.



STUDENT LIFE

One of the largest areas of the USC is programming and services to enhance the lives of Western students. An element of improving the student experience is ensuring that there are relevant services and programming that students can access.

Free the Dot

Executive Leads: Lauren Jarman & Cameron Cawston

Expand and entrench the Free the Dot program. The USC has resources to maintain the Free the Dot pick up program and supply the UCC building. The goal is to continue to get the program into other buildings around campus so that free menstrual products are accessible in many locations.

First Year USC Guide

Executive Lead: Keemia Abbaszadeh

Create an in-depth, organized description of USC supports, opportunities, and resources for incoming students. This will be easily accessible to first years and will be connected to the USC Now app.

Fall Goose Patio

Executive Lead: Cameron Cawston

Install a week of programming at the Goose Patio. The Spoke would host the patio, as well as feature food and drinks and programming for a few nights.

Pop-up Programing

Executive Lead: Cameron Cawston

Continue pop-up programs like Bagels on Broughdale.





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