



Social Science Student Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 03/06/24

Time: 6:30 PM

Format: In-Person

Meeting 4: March Council Meeting

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Mover: Richard

Secunder: Peter

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: SHREYA MENON

- Written by Yashvi

SPEAKER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- N/A

MEMBER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- N/A

EXECUTIVE REPORT: PRESIDENT

Done:

- Honoraria submissions
- Gov portfolio video is out on Instagram
- New chairs in the council meeting
- New layout in the office
- Slideshow going in reading room highlighting SSSC
- Merch displayed in the glass case

Doing

- Gala preparation
- Next team hiring
- SDF finalization
- Booking FYR dinner

To-Do

-

EXECUTIVE REPORT: ACADEMICS

By Kathleena

- Three women in this portfolio got elected to positions in the USC

Done:

- Feb Dep Rep events
- Feb Senate meeting
- Feg Coordinator events

Doing:

- Finalizing some March event bookings
- Dep Rep office hours
- Dep Rep transition planning
- Planning final academics portfolio meeting

To-Do:

- Senate next Friday
- FYR Rotation meeting + ITR event planning
 - Will be seeking volunteers
- VP Academics elections story takeover
- Meeting with incoming Social science senator
- VP Academics transition meeting and report

EXECUTIVE REPORT: COMMS

By Abbie

Done:

- Got a new Banner from Canva
- Posted a ton of graphics

Doing:

- Merch advertising
- Slowly updating our LinkedIn
- End of the year “yearbook”

To Do:

- Merch advertising
- Slowly updating our LinkedIn
- Gala advertising

EXECUTIVE REPORT: GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE

By: Daniel Klapper

Done:

- Major grants
- End-of-year funding
- SDF funding transferred to the account

Doing:

- Budgeting for next year's council
- Finalizing funding for end of years events

-
- To-Do:
 - Same old RFPs

EXECUTIVE REPORT: EVENTS

By: Rhegan

Done

- Vday booth
- Del bar night
 - Sold out 150+
- Sex toy bingo
- Changed window in the reading room

Doing

- The basketball tournament is on Saturday
 - \$2 entry fee
 - Red bull sponsorship
- Womxn's Day Brunch this Friday
- Gala Planning
- St Patty safe drinking trivia
- SDF Funding for the Gala

To-Do

- Finalize Gala details
- Plan one last event
- Transition to next VP

EXECUTIVE REPORT: ADVOCACY

By: Shreya

Done:

- Accessibility resources post
- Financial aid event
- First gen careers and experience
- Black history month
- Sex toy bingo
- Got citron machines

Doing:

- What your tuition pay for tomorrow
- Working on Scholarships
 - Two scholarships for a demographic that has yet been determined
- Transforming careers and experience info into blog posts

To-do

- Exam wellness kits

- USC policy paper brief
- Transition incoming VP Advocacy

TEAM SHOUTOUTS

- **Stavros -> Michelle (Congrats)**
- **Jake -> Daniel**
- **Honoraria committee**
- **Sofia -> Peter**

SENATE REPORT: Chloe

Done

- WSS met with administration to discuss + Advocate for students' concerns with the reading week change before our all-senate meeting
- Reading week will only be different next year

Doing:

- Onboarding all our new incoming senators
- Internally electing chair and vice chair of 24/25

USC REPORT: Nathan

- Presentation from OUSA ED + President
- HBK Soph Presentation
- Presentations from Western Gazette, marching Band, and radio western
- VP UA and VP EA candidate Q&A
- Elected councilors to the student rental experience working group including Councillor Austin Wang
- Motion regarding council approval of USC Budget (Passed)

SOPH REPORT: COLE PURDELL-LEWIS

- N/A

FOR DISCUSSION

- N/A

FOR ACTION

Motion of 5mins break

- Passed

AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION: Peter

- Documents are outdated
- Suspending Robert's role
 - Mover: Peter
 - Seconder: Sofia
- No changes in definitions

Some changes

- Added VP of Advocacy
- Name change: AVP Governance -> AVP Internal Affairs
- Members now with voting rights
 - VP Governance and Finance
- From one university student council councillor to eight university student council councillors
- No less than two finance coordinator
- Social Media coordinators -> Content coordinators
- Hiring panels
 - VP of Advocacy hiring panel shall include
 - Outgoing president
 - Incoming President
 - And VPs
 - Shall be hired based on
 - Application
 - Interview
- Roles and Responsibilities
 - Added 7.0 the Vice-President Advocacy responsibilities
 - Got rid of international student engagement coordinators
 - Updated FYR responsibilities

Questions:

- Richard: Grammar discussion
- Nathan: Clarify what brought the change for VP Governance and Finance and VP Comms to become voting members
 - Sofia: The Constitution is extremely old and outdated. With their responsibilities, it feels right to give them voting rights. However, open to debates

Constitution Debates:

- Amendments
 - Going against giving VP Governance and Finance and VP Comms voting rights
 - Mover: Stavros
 - Seconder: Nathan
 - Main argument: when people are hired, they are accountable to the people who hired them
 - Shreya: Agree, but it is interesting that FYRs get voting rights, but these VPs don't receive voting rights. And FYRs are hired.
 - Eva: For, but why VP advocacy who is looking over USC Councillors cannot be an elected role?

- Nathan: For, these three positions are hired and not voted in, so based on that principle it doesn't make sense to give them voting rights
- Richard: Against, should be consistent to logic, if FYRs can vote, VPs
- Sofia: Against, if FYRS have voting rights but 3 VPs don't, power imbalance. Members without voting rights are less likely to apply again, just
- Imbrahim: Against, majority of council positions are hired. Flaw logic because everyone else is accountable to someone else they hired
- Austin: For, I couldn't hear the room too well earlier - so I don't know if it's been said already. I wanted to respond to earlier talking points about first-year reps, because I think it's fair that FYR reps have a vote even if they're hired, as the only voices for first years on Council. With this perspective in mind, I don't really think there's a power imbalance. I think our hired VPs this year have done an incredible job, but this constitution has long-term implications and we need to be aware of that - who knows if a bad SSSC president might try to stack council votes
- Rhegan: Against, had hand in different positions. Love being VP of Events, but also been a FYR when I wasn't sure how SSSC works. So these transitions reflect how valuable Advocacy is, and should be able to vote.
- Nathan: For, five years down the line, might not be lucky to have an objective president like now. So against hiring VPs to have voting rights.
- Peter: Against, you can already argue that it's swayed towards FYR. 12 votes for FYR. Executives stacking votes would be 6 against 12. Year after year Dep Reps are mainly just FYR. Makes it hard to join SSSC unless you are hired. Stacking is not a concern in terms of number.
- Vote on amendment:
 - For: VP Advocacy, VP Governance and Finance, and VP Comms will not have voting rights
 - Against: VP advocacy will have voting rights, VP Governance and Finance and VP Comms will be considered for the future.
- FOR
 - 5
- AGAINST
 - >5
- ABSTAIN
 - 1

The amendment is not passed.

Motion to proceed with Robert's Rule

Mover: Peter

Secunder: Sofia

Suspending Roebert's Rule

Mover: Richard

Secunder: Allison

Amend those two lines to get rid of them.

Mover: Richard

Secunder: Kathleena

The amendment is passed.

Motion to proceed with Robert's Rule

Mover: Peter

Secunder: Simon

Motion is passed

Amend the constitution

- Need $\frac{2}{3}$ votes (24 votes) to approve
- Motion passed

Mariana Bautista VP UA-Elect of USC

- Welcome

Pay It Forward Event Presentation

- By Saanvi Kapoor
- Food banks operated by individuals like us
- Year-to-year increase in food insecurity and food demand
- Here to propose: Allow students to donate the remaining amounts on Meal Plan Top Up to food insecurities.
- Emilie is helping out, Sunday is also all over it
- Queen's has a comparable system
- Contact: skapoor.hba2025@ivey.ca, skapoo25@uwo.ca

ROLL CALL

- Done

ADJOURNMENT

Mover: Sofia

Secunder: Stavros