

UWSA Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 23, 2008

4:00 pm

Council Chambers

Voting Members Present: Ryan Osterberg, Taamjeed Rahmaan, Ayesha Raza, Tanuj Virani (Dannielle MacLagan), Parvati Dadwal (Malak Nassereddine), Reshma Kisnani (Basaam Lazar), Spencer Dingle (Kaitlyn Ellsworth), Nneka Egejuru, Colin Baldner, Bryan Pillon {Cassandra Sieler-Vanevery}

Ex-officio Members Present: Tosin Bello, Tiffany Gooch, Mohsin Khan, Shae Kavanaugh, Tamara Popovic, Stephanie Wilson (Marla Cronin), Omar Raza, Sabrina Spidalieri (Aaron Campbell), Viva Dadwal, Michelle Palmer

1.0 Call to order at 4:08 pm

2.0 Chair's business

Chair: I don't have any business. We can move to approving the agenda.

3.0 Approve the agenda

Be it resolved that the UWSA council approve the agenda.

MOVED: Osterberg

SECONDED: Baldner

Gooch: I would like to add 7.0 Lance oversight board for information.

Kavanaugh: I would like to add 8.0 Electoral monitoring committee

Vote (16/0/0)

Motion carries.

4.0 Approval of minutes

Be it resolved that the UWSA council approve the minutes of October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

MOVED: Kavanaugh

SECONDED: Khan

Vote(16/0/0)

Motion carries.

Motion to go camera.

Be it resolved that the UWSA council also approve the in camera minutes of October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

MOVED: Osterberg

SECONDED: Popovic

Vote (16/0/0) Motion carries.

Vote (16/0/0)

Motion carries.

Motion to go out of camera.

Kishnani (Lazar): Kishnani wasn't here for the last minutes. Will she be able to see them?

Kavanaugh: As her proxy, you are supposed to talk to them. But if she wants to see it, I can let her.

MOVED: Popovic SECONDED: Osterberg

Vote (16/0/0) Motion carries.

Chair: We can move on to 5.0 CRO elections report

SANGRAR: The election report is attached. You can go through it. Do you have any questions? I guess the most important thing is that you will see the original timeline and then actual timeline. It reflects the effects of the strike.

DRO: You will also see the results and the claimed positions. The highlighted are the ones who got selected. We do have the numbers.

Wilson (Cronin):: When did legal council approve this email?

SANGRAR: It was approved on September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

Osterberg: During the election you had said that you made notes of things you would do like to do differently next year?

SANGRAR: We have the list of things for the general elections. They are not recommendations for council but for us personally.

With the law representatives, there were two appeals. Luke was reclaimed. He was disqualified by us but he appealed to electoral monitoring committee. So he was reinstated. The reason why he was disqualified was because he didn't attend the candidate meeting. He was ten minutes late. After reviewing his statements and his reasonings, the EMC reversed our decision.

Kishnani (Lazar): There was another one who appealed to the EMC and was still disqualified.

SANGRAR: That was because he didn't attend the all-candidates' meeting.

Kishnani (Lazar): So there is leniency?

Raza, O: What was the advertising violation for Justin?

SANGRAR: I believe he had a facebook group 30 hrs into the voting period called Vote for Justin.

Palmer: To be clear, one candidate was late and thus disqualified. But he was reinstated for his tardiness; the other student was disqualified for nonattendance and his appeal didn't go through.

Dadwal, V: How many voted?

SANGRAR: 709 people voted.

Dadwal, V: I mean how many in particular at the polling stations?

SANGRAR: We don't know that.

Osterberg: How did the 709 votes compare to last year's?

Kavanaugh: Last year there was around 1000. But there was a three day voting period.

SANGRAR: You have to keep in mind that the strike affected the elections also.

Raza: From previous minutes, the scrutinizers didn't know what do for the elections. IT services print itemized log of all votes, an administration log. It was recommended before I believe. It shows more accountability and transparency in the system if we have who voted and when.

Be it resolved that pending the resolution of appeals and the ratification of election results, the report of the CRO be approved by the UWSA council.

MOVED: Baldner

SECONDED: Popovic

Dadwal, V: This would officialise the results?

Chair: I know some of you are proxy who ran in the elections. Could you declare conflict of interest?

Baldner: I speak for this motion. If we don't do this then it is a waste of two weeks and we cannot train the newly elected.

Wilson (Cronin):: I declare conflict.

Osterberg: I declare conflict.

Baldner: I declare conflict.

Vote( 16/0/4)

Motion carries.

Dingle, Dadwal P, Dadwal V, and Raza O abstain.

Dadwal (Nassereddine) I am on the library committee. There seems to be someone stealing things in the library. We are thinking it might be the same person. A camera should be installed to catch them. We should have security cameras in the library. I think we are looking for endorsement from the council for that.

Spidalieri (Campbell) Isn't this a campus police issue?

Dadwal, P (Nassereddine): They want endorsement from us.

Wilson (Cronin):: Sorry why? Are they looking for the UWSA to put pressure on whoever that will be funding the money?

Dadwal, V: It is unclear what they are looking for. I don't know if they mean monetary support or what. Instead of making a motion, we can just make a motion to say that whether or not we support this idea.

Raza, O: I would have reservations with the standing motion. There is a lot of mixed sentiment in terms of privacy. I think we should leave this for the next meeting.

Baldner: I wouldn't agree to this motion till we have the costs on that. It depends on this factor.

Kishnani (Lazar): May be we can have a security guard. Only university students should be able to come in to the library. It is a big library. I think it is a huge financial issue if we have to install cameras everywhere.

Gooch: We should have someone come in to answer question about this issue. To remind you, it is a public library. Anyone can come in whenever unless it is after hours. It is open to the community. The understanding I have is that they want to have entrance cameras. I think it is best to go back o our constituents and come back with questions. We will have a speaker next time.

Wilson (Cronin):: I think it is a good idea to have a speaker. I t doesn't makes sense to have know who comes in and who goes out.

## 7.0 Lance oversight board

Gooch: I wanted to give you my perspective about the LOB. There was a referendum last year. It stated that they wanted to see an oversight board to review finances. The executives of UWSA, the editor in chief of the Lance, the finance manager, and 5 students will make up the board. The way it was approached in the beginning was to see what needed to happen, what changes, etc. We were really in the dark. It is a new body. How to make this happen is something we have to look into. The best way to make it happen is to keep it far from the UWSA as possible and make sure they can remain as independent as possible. It was decided that any student can run for the board in the elections. I think it was how it all came together. When the election took place, we were already in the process for bi-elections. It was stated that the positions for the LOB be contested in the next bi-elections. They used our system to elect these students even though they weren't UWSA positions and were independent of the UWSA. This was a separate body that we were doing the elections for. Now we are communicating to see how to ratify them. We are trying to see what to do with the body. How to keep the Lance separate and independent from student government? We were thinking along the lines of incorporation. The CGM and how it was when they were incorporated is what we want the Lance to be and have this oversight body to exist over them. I have been interviewed by the Lance today and I discussed what UWSA control over this body could mean for their policies. We haven't made any resolutions about this. We want to keep Lance independent. It is a media for the university. At this point, there has been an election and people have been elected to it. Because of how this happened, it wasn't created by UWSA. It was by students. We wouldn't be able to control policies but we should be involved in the writing of their policies, not impose them and give them independence.

Dadwal, V: I want to move into committee of the whole.

Motion to move into committee of the whole.

MOVED: Dadwal, V.

SECONDED: Spidalieri

Dadwal, V: There are a lot of things we need to talk about and I wouldn't be able to do this another time.

Chair: Do we have to move into committee of the whole? We can just give granting rights to guests.

Dadwal, V: It is more of a discussing matter. I want to be able to speak without restrictions.

Spidalieri (Campbell) I am against. If we move into the committee of the whole, we will get many people talking at the same time.

Kavanaugh: I would like to have everything in minutes. Being in the committee of the whole will make this longer.

Popovic: I am in favour. It would be easier to talk.

Wilson (Cronin):: I think moving into the committee of the whole will cause too much disorder. I am against.

Spidalieri (Campbell) How do you make a motion in committee of the whole?

Chair: You can't.

Vote ( 8/12/0)

Motion fails.

Raza, O: I appreciate Gooch's report. I think we should send a motion to ITC. We are in breach. That was outlined in the memos. We can amend the motions that are necessary. I want council to recognize that. I am not speaking to the policies. We do have an IPC that works a lot. This is the right time to use them.

Osterberg: As I understand it, the referendum triumphs everything. They are the reflected will of students. That referendum triumphs everything. At that point, it doesn't matter what bi-laws we have.

Raza, O: It is not a conflict of how policies are or how the referendum was created. But I am speaking about the governing documents. It falls into our mandate to govern and create our policies.

Wilson (Cronin):: Can I request Raza to give a brief summary of the issue? What breach are we talking about?

Raza: I can reiterate the memo.

Wilson (Cronin):: What policies and bi-laws were broken?

Dadwal, V: I won't stick to the memo. It should have been attached to the agenda. There are problems with the lance oversight board. It was created in a manner that wasn't in line with the constitution. It was created from a referendum but look at articles 2.1. 2.1.1. 2.1.2. 2.1.3 in the constitution as it is right now. The lance is in our bi-laws. It is a service we provide.

Khan: Point of information. Are you suggesting that societies aren't representing students?

Dadwal, V: If it came via people, we are still the official representative of the body in my perspective. It makes sense if the LOB is under the control of the council or under UWSA. But it cannot be created by randomly and someone cannot put a policy without talking to us.

Kavanaugh: The policy has been only proposed. The board will come up with their own policies.

Dadwal, V: I am curious as to how they will declare conflict of interest if the LOB is on the UWSA too. If we are talking about keeping media independent from the student government, how can that happen?

Kavanaugh: Point of information. Someone sitting on council and is an executive for a society. It is the same thing.

Raza: If you are an executive for a society, sponsorship comes to the UWSA board. Should you now not declare conflict of interest? But if Lance is requesting additional requesting funding, wouldn't the

executives do the same and declare conflict of interest. If we are creating policies and bi-laws we should legislate the best of scenarios. Not where conflict of interest arises. We can't take the right away from the students just because they are over involved.

Kishani: I don't know how referendum made the LOB. How does that referendum triumph rules and laws that you established? You have to abide by them. If you could be specific about what has been breached, it would be better. We need to be clear about what we are talking about. There is a person for two positions then there is obviously a conflict of interest. We need to deal with the issue.

Osterberg: We can pass bi-laws and policies but remember that we are not the highest governing body. The students are. If they make a decision to override us through referendum, then it is binding on us.

Kishnani (Lazar): You are assuming students know what breaches there are.

Dadwal, V: I don't know this but who makes the bi-laws and constitutions? How are they changed?

Kavanaugh: HGM.

Osterberg: Referendum triumphs any of it.

Wilson (Cronin):: The current issue at hand is that some people feel that there is conflict if a UWSA council member sits on the LOB. Why are we talking about this right now? If it is a council issue then the IPC deals with it.

Be it resolved that the UWSA council direct IPC to come forth with proposed bi-laws and amendments to explicitly protect the Lance from UWSA control.

MOVED: Gooch

SECONDED: Spidalieri

Gooch: There are some issues with our governing documents. We need a separation from the government and the lance oversight board. We would be controlling editorial content of paper if we wrote their policies and bi-laws. That is a problem. We shouldn't be trekking down that route. How do we make our separation from the Lance official? Let us make it official in our governing documents. If IPC can explicitly state that they are exempt from getting IPC to write it. There is nothing that says explicitly we don't have that control.

Raza, O: We should have the authority to make amendments to policies.

Gooch: We have the right to editorial and lance policy and let it sits under the umbrella of us. We shouldn't have that kind of a control and freedom over the Lance.

Dadwal, V: I am against: I don't feel that LOB should exist. Article 2 was violated. We are making LOB out of nothing.

Spidalieri (Campbell) IPC would suggest policies to the Lance and it has the potential of being passed.

Kavanaugh: IPC is reviewing our governing documents and tailoring to the motion.

Dadwal, P (Nassereddine): It seems like we are traveling in a negative way. It is back tracking.

Gooch: I would see this as a way to protect the Lance and their independence. We are not deciding today to change our bi-laws but discussing what we can do to change it. We have to make it work for future work.

Dadwal, V: I think this is coming a bit too late. Had this come before to council, we wouldn't be violating anything. To me it seems that this IPC business is too late. If it was done before the elections, it would have been better.

Osterberg: The LOB exists. There was an election, a referendum. You would be backsliding if you say that it doesn't exist. Why would no member of IPC bring this up in March if it were a problem? Weren't any member of IPC allowed to bring this up seven months ago?

Kavanaugh: It would have been impossible for them to even think of this at that time.

Wilson (Cronin):: 600 students signed a petition and it was brought to this table. This council voted 11 to 0 to 1. The decision for a referendum was voted in favour. 75% of our undergraduate students wanted this. I am not in favour of this motion.

Bello: Call to question.

Vote (15/0/5)

Motion carries.

Dadwal, P (Nassereddine): If this goes to IPC, we review it, and it comes back to council, doesn't it have to go to HGM?

Kavanaugh: It takes a month to change the bi-laws.

Vote(13/0/7)

Motion carries.

Popovic, Raza, O., Egejuru, Dingle, Dadwal, P., Dadwal, V., Virani abstain.

8.0 EMC

Kavanaugh: We need one counsellor to be on the EMC.

Dadwal: I want to resign from the EMC.

Kavanaugh: Okay, so we have two counsellor positions on the EMC now.

Osterberg: Can we nominate a Board of Director?

Chair: No

Gooch: I would like to nominate Nneka Egejuru.

Egejuru: I respectfully decline.

Osterberg: I nominate Popovic.

Popovic: I respectfully decline.

Palmer: Point of information. Would we be able to break down some of the responsibilities of an EMC member?

Dadwal, V: If we wait, some of the new members might be interested that may want to volunteer.

Chair: Okay, moving on to executive reports.

#### Executive reports

Gooch: In terms of WUFA donation, we did have a board meeting and your recommendations were noted. BOD decided to make it a fund for students who were affected by the strike. The money goes back to students which is important.

Dadwal, V. left at 5:22pm.

Dadwal, P. left at 5:22 pm.

Baldner: You mentioned the progress?

Gooch: We had a successful welcome week, a new menu at the Pub, and there is concern with a new sign-in policy. There was a significant drop during the strike time. We are looking at next step in terms of communication.

Raza: Can we start a campaign to promote academic advocate; it should be institutionalized here. It is an important role.

Palmer: In terms of training are the newly elected invited as well?

Chair: yes

Palmer: In terms of IT services and their timeline, would you be able to give us a report about the progress that are being made. We were told that the degree audit would be becoming part of the portal?

Bello: They said they would only put a link to it.

Gooch: No they said they would put it there completely.

Bello: The timelines are still tentative. I will sure to update you.

Raza, O: The other big thing is that they are opening the tunnel to go from the CAW to the computer center. They are going to try to make it a friendly place and conscious of security.

Palmer: Why didn't they do something to add space to the CAW. A lot of students feel that there needs to be more room.

Raza, O: The computer IT services has their own budget.

Motion to adjourn at 5:35 pm

MOVED: Osterberg

SECONDER: Baldner

Vote (20/0/0)

Motion carries.