



# MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** October 17, 2017

**Time:** 5:30 pm

**Location:** UCC 37

## Call to Order

Time: 5:35 pm

## Roll Call

### 1. Attendee Names:

*Executives:*

Mitchell Pratt, Owen Parker, Zach Johnson, Jillian Malcolm, Crystal Mak

*Associate Vice Presidents:*

Kate Holmes, Sommer Knight, Tamara Kljakic, Cassandra Bald

*Administrative Officers:*

Mikaela Harrison, Angus Lai, Chantal Francoeur, Meaghan Irons, Andreea Bejan

*Commissioners:*

Gabi Christie, Hannah Tobias-Murray, Daniel Sowinski, Kait Abma, Amira Gariba, Fran Coretti, Rachel Bidulka, Eliza Mehr

*Department Representatives:*

Elazar Ehrentru, Shawn Dhue, Christopher Harasym, Allison Coutinho, Mike Williams, Savanna Gao, Eric Potts, Jessica Ip, Matthew Sparling, Robyn Wood, Donika Stonefish

*USC Councillors:*

Mac Grenier, Keaton Olsen, Adam Khimji, Calvin Chao, Avnashi Dhillon, Jared Forman, Ayesha Zaman, Keegan Smart, Sophie Delombre, Tom Griffith

*Senators:*

Shaha Yousafzai, Lauren Kim

*First Year Representatives:*

Charles Ma, Nikol Kamenetsky, Anne Campbell, Anandita Heer, Drew Pertson, Zachary Bloch, Beenish Khan

*Soph Team Representative:*

Rav Datta for Allie Zohorsky

### 2. Attendees Not Present:

Rachel Bidulka, Francesca Coretti, Mikaela Harrison (proxy present), Daniel Sowinski, Donika Stonefish, Lauren Kim, Kate Holmes

## Adoption of the Agenda

- Keaton:
  - Amendment to add clause 9 to read “new business”

# MEETING MINUTES

## Ally Western Presentation

- Land acknowledgement
- Allyship is a new concept - it is ever changing and a lifelong learning process
- Safer Spaces
  - All students, staff and faculty are entitled to a safe space
  - Purpose is to foster an environment where nobody is fearful of expressing their ideas
- Allyship
  - Recognize that diversity, equity, social justice and anti-oppression work is ongoing
  - Take action when those principles are compromised and validate other people's experiences of oppression (listen as much as you speak)
  - Active in the process of calling in or calling out
    - How to address people when these situations arise so that it is not shaming
  - Understand your privilege and use it to stand beside, behind and in front of marginalized voices
  - USC Services
    - Create a more inclusive campus
    - Empower those who want to be allies
    - Promote diversity
    - Create a visible network of support
- Intersectionality
  - We are not one-dimensional people but rather based on multiple facets of our interacting identities
  - Race and class are biggest identities that intersect but many other factors can intersect as well
  - Can interplay in oppression or privilege
- Privilege
  - Having an identity and advantage that is from identity markers
  - Privilege is not an insult but something that should be considered on campus and when micro-aggressions arise
  - Use privilege to empower others where they are not able to
    - Understanding privilege – checking your privilege
    - Undermining privilege – calling in or calling out something that is wrong
- Oppression
  - Prejudice + Influence = Oppression
    - Prejudice = unconscious or conscious dislike about real or suspected differences
    - Influence = ability to decide what is best for others; capacity to exercise and control others
    - Oppression = combination of prejudice with power and privilege
  - Oppression types:
    - Sexism = gendered prejudice + influence
    - Racism = racial prejudice + influence
  - Levels of oppression:
    - 01. Interpersonal
      - Appear in private interactions
      - Attitudes, beliefs, behaviours
    - 02. Cultural
      - Standards of beauty, language, values, norms
    - 03. Institutional
      - Media, education, government, religion

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- Micro-Aggressions
  - Have an influence especially if in a position of power
  - Typically, not a malicious intent just what is said
  - Words carry power and influence, so small changes to words or phrases said can make a difference
  - Examples:
    - That's so gay
    - No, where are you really from?
    - You don't sound black?
    - Just take the stairs, don't be so lazy!
    - That's so ghetto!
    - How can I help you sir/ma'am?
- Calling in vs Calling out
  - Which you do depends on the situation and your level of comfort engaging in the discussion
  - Calling in = open discussion one on one on how their actions affect others
  - Calling out = public engagement with others on how their actions affect others
    - May provoke an aggressive and defensive response
    - Can be seen as shaming
    - Sometimes is needed
- Gender Identity
  - Sex = chromosome in your DNA that categorizes biological differences
  - Gender Identity = person's understanding of their own gender regardless of birth sex
  - Gender is socially constructed and not related to sex
  - Cisgender and Transgender
    - Cisgender = someone whose assigned sex at birth correlates with their gender identity
    - Transgender = people with diverse gender identities and gender expressions that do not conform to stereotypical ideas about what it means to be a man or woman in society
  - Transitioning = host of activities that some trans people may undergo to assume their gender identity
    - Not all trans people may undergo transitioning
  - Gender exists on a spectrum
    - Sexual identity is different from gender identity
- Ally Western
  - Email [allywestern@westernusc.ca](mailto:allywestern@westernusc.ca) for more information
- Discussion
  - Owen: does ally run events throughout the year?
    - Typically, just training events and supporting other peer support services
    - Email ally western to coordinate future events
  - Anne: For in residence how to create a more positive atmosphere?
    - If something occurs, let people know you are on their side and you are there to support them
    - Make it known that your floor is a safe space

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## Members' Announcements

### 1. Club or Department announcements

- Michael
  - WPA is having a career night a week tomorrow
  - Opportunity for psych kids to know more about opportunities in the future
- Matt
  - History society is having a meeting
- Eric
  - GPS having a pizza and prof event to meet professors
  - First open meeting of the year on Oct 30
- Anthro dep rep
  - Sociocultural lecture series coming up

### 2. USC Announcements

- Tom
  - Review of bylaws
  - Survey posted in Facebook group – please complete and share on your timeline

### 3. Executive Announcements

## Reports

### 1. Executive Report

#### Presidential Updates:

- Locker sales
  - Going very well
  - Still have 20 lockers for sale
  - Push to your friends
- Office hours
  - Make sure you attend your office hours and sign in
  - If you do not have access to the office send Mitch a message ASAP
  - General Members will have access to the office as well
- General member updates
  - If you attended 3 meetings you will have speaking rights
- Feedback forms
  - Anonymous feedback form on SSSC website
  - Suggestions about council and events etc...

#### Finance Updates:

- Finance committee
  - Received 3 requests for grants
  - There is room for more members so please contact Owen
  - Look on Facebook for Owen's updates
- SDF Committee
  - Requests from departments have come in
- Committee meetings will happen soon
  - Check Facebook groups for meeting times

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## Communications Updates:

- Council headshots and bios
  - Crystal will harass you until your photo is taken
  - Please fill in the social media bios ASAP
- Blood drive promo video
  - Short video where we get people to talk about why they donate
  - Tell your friends about the event
- Communications committee
  - Work in progress
  - Reach out to Crystal because she has lots going on in the next few weeks
- Follow SSSC on social media

## Events Updates:

- Promotions
  - Please change your cover photos
  - Anyone interested in being part of the promo video for giving blood
  - Please consider giving blood on October 30
- Upcoming events
  - LinkedIn Session
    - Early mid-November
    - Will focus on leveraging your professional social media to network
    - Run by Head of Customer Service Success Canada at Linked in
    - Think about what you want this session to include
- Merchandise
  - November 1<sup>st</sup> beginning sale of merchandise
  - Merchandise contest for all SS students to get involved
  - Spoke gift card for top designs
- Events committee meeting
  - If interested in sitting in contact Jill
  - Meeting on Friday
- Member recognition
  - Gabi, Tamara, Rachel and Effie all have been doing a great job
- Wellness
  - Want to take wellness in a new direction
  - Shorter day with more interactive sessions
  - Rundown of ideas:
    - Morning – 11 am
      - Breakfast
      - Nutritional info session
    - Midday - noon
      - Creativity session (buttons, colouring)
      - Therapy dogs
      - Tea and coffee
    - Afternoon
      - Alternative approaches to wellness
    - Night
      - Paint night
      - Mustang lounge and possibly partner with the Grad Club
    - All day
      - Massages (5-10 minutes)
      - Wellness kits

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## Academics Updates

- Educational Policy Committee meeting
  - This past Friday October 13
  - Contact Zach for DAPS information
    - MOS, History, Geo, Psych, and FNS all had motions pass
  - Discussed possibility of “freebie”
    - Would be for anything worth 10% or less
    - Wouldn't require a doctor's note to miss
  - Fall reading week review
    - Assignments due during reading week
    - Nothing in the policy that says that you can't have something due
    - Would consider setting it in stone that there shouldn't be anything due
- Dep rep meeting
  - Next Tuesday October 24
    - Room TBA
- Fall preview day
  - November 12
  - Help welcome visitors at entrance to SSC
    - Represent council and provide information
  - Volunteer sheet going out next week
    - Whole day is 9am-3pm
  - Dep Reps will help out at department booths

## 2. Senate Report

- Shaha:
  - Pass/ fail working group has gone to respective faculties
    - Idea is to bring in a 1.0 pass/ fail course
  - Syllabus database up and running on student centre
    - Go through the database so you are familiar with it
    - Complaints and suggestions to Shaha or Lauren
  - Released the final exam schedule
  - Like the Facebook page “Western Student Senators”

## 3. USC Report

- Keaton:
  - USC hasn't had a meeting recently
  - Upcoming agenda:
    - Gazette presentation
    - Governance and finance committee is amending the standing rules so that there can be a hiring process for the student experiences positions
    - Motion to create a review committee of the student experience committee looking into the bus pass and its feasibility
- Student experience committee meeting:
  - Motion to review purple bikes
  - Elected members for transgender support services
  - Starting their peer support centre review
- Advocacy meeting
  - Will be held tomorrow
  - Asking for feedback that will be discussed with city council

# MEETING MINUTES

## New Business

- Keaton: motion to amend the constitution
  - Zach seconds the motion

## Motions

- Motion to Amend the Constitution into Something Legible:
  - Mitch: amendment to the motion to change “mangled” to “outdated” (friendly)
  - Chris: amendment to remove the fact that previous constitution didn’t use grammar effectively (friendly)
  - Calvin: can be create an ad hoc committee to address the changes to the constitutions
  - Chair looks favourably upon creating a committee to review the changes
  - Adam: motion to enter debate; open debate (for and against)
    - 5 minutes open debate
- Debate on the motion:
  - Mitch: clarify that this is specifically formatting changes
  - Keaton:
    - Reformatted the constitution bulleting
    - Beyond going beyond spacing changes Keaton added proper grammar but didn’t change the meaning of the document
    - Biggest change was in the section of department representatives
      - Moved the transitional justice descriptor saying that the position wouldn’t have speaking rights down to the area defining who has speaking rights
  - Chris:
    - Have you changed or added any word regardless of your opinion of its substance?
    - Keaton: added in “and” at the end of clauses
    - Chris: as words were added to the constitution, I argue that the motion shouldn’t pass in the current form as the constitution was changed and is not the same
    - Andreea: present this as a separate motion for the ad hoc committee
  - Crystal:
    - Even one comma can change the meaning of a sentence
    - Should move this to internal review
    - Kate: seconds this
  - Jared:
    - Has been available for a while and people should’ve had time to read it
  - Cass:
    - Want to clarify the meaning of grammar changes
  - Mitch:
    - Speaking against the motion as the constitution is the binding document of council and should be reviewed by the internal review committee to have some checks and balances
- Motions:
  - Zach:
    - Motion for a motion to set the internal review committee to look over the constitution and bring back to council after review
    - Multiple people seconded the motion

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- Shaha:
  - Make the amendments by internal review committee in red and then share it with the group for review (friendly)
- Motion to table the previous motion and send the constitution to internal review to highlight any changes compared to the original document and bring back to the council floor:
  - Mitch: call the question
  - Keaton: speak against Zach's motion and enter debate procedure
  - Vote: call the question or enter debate?
    - Motion to enter debate fails
    - Motion to call the question passes
  - Vote: send constitution to internal review committee?
    - Motion to table Keaton's motion passes
    - Approves to send the original motion to internal review
- Mitch:
  - If you are unsure of Robert's Rules or Parliamentary procedure check the back of your name card

## Roll Call

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Rav Datta for Allie Zohorsky



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*General Members:*

Emily Boucher, David Firkins, Paige Preston, Michaela Wand, Effy Walsh, Kshitij Mathur, Fayez Khan, Eliza Simon, Robert Belanger-Polak, Andy Martell, Jack Stebbing, Jessica Orchin, Abi Ravibalan, Nathan Szierer, Matthew McIntosh, Nicolas Semenak

**2. Attendees Not Present:**

Rachel Bidulka, Francesca Coretti, Mikaela Harrison (proxy present), Donika Stonefish, Lauren Kim, Kate Holmes

**Adjournment**

Time: 6:55 pm