



# URSU Board Meeting Minutes

U of R Students' Union

Jan 26, 2021 at 5:00 PM CST

## **Attendance**

### **Members Present (Remote):**

Alfred Adenuga, Imtiyaz Ahmed, Destinni Bentz, Emily Camposano, Carl Flis, Kiera Ghiglione, Md Abul Hossain, Amandeep Kaur, Komalpreet Kaur, Harmanpreet Kaur, Gurjinder Singh Lehal, Ziyang Li, Kiegan Lloyd, Tim Otitoju, Marmikkumar Patel, Katlyn Richardson, Amir Said, Gurkirat Singh, Mehar Singh, Ryan Tran

### **Members Absent:**

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### **Guests Present:**

Jonah Toth (passion2action), Nick Oleynick (Accounting Manager)

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Please indicate your attendance as "Remote"

Please respect the "camera on" policy

Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm

#### II. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

### **Motion:**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Consent Agenda is hereby approved.

Motion moved by Imtiyaz Ahmed and motion seconded by Kiegan Lloyd. CARRIED via chat vote

A. Approval of the Agenda for January 26, 2021.

B. Approval of the minutes of the January 12, 2021 board meeting.

Note. This will approve the full set of minutes which include executive session. There will no longer be a need to approve public minutes. Public minutes will be these official minutes less any content under Executive Session.

C. Adoption of the Executive and Director reports filed by the appropriate deadline.

D. Next meeting to be held on February 9, 2021

See Approval. CARRIED via chat vote.

III. CONFLICT OF INTEREST / CONFLICT OF COMMITMENT DECLARATION

See filed declaration from Amir Said with respect to passion2action presentation Agenda Item IV.A

IV. PRESENTATIONS

A. passion2action (Presenters: Jonah Toth)

a local non-profit youth empowerment organization that is working to partner with the URSU for development and facilitation of the proposed community service projects program as part of the community service month

B. Revised Budget update (Presenters: Nick Oleynick)

Review of changes to URSU budget resulting from pandemic impacts

Nick Oleynick presented revisions to the 2020/2021 operating budget which reflects impacts of the pandemic on revenues and expenses.

See Approval. CARRIED via chat vote.

V. OLD BUSINESS

None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. URSU Community Service Month

**Motion:**

WHEREAS URSU is planning on March being URSU Community Service Month;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** a budget not to exceed \$7,000 be approved to be distributed as micro-grants for students and student groups not to exceed \$1000, and;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that URSU partners with passion2action on the promotion of Community Service Month events and to assist students in their projects.

Motion moved by Gurjinder Singh Lehal and motion seconded by Kiegan Lloyd.  
CARRIED via chat vote (Amir Said - abstained)

B. Resignation of Director of the Faculty of Nursing

**Motion:**

WHEREAS Josee Pelletier has tendered her resignation as Director of the Faculty of Nursing due to personal circumstances that no longer permit her to continue to dedicate herself to the obligations of being a director;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the URSU Board of Directors hereby acknowledges the resignation of Josee Pelletier, and;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that URSU thanks Josee for her contributions and wishes her all the best in her new career.

Motion moved by Gurjinder Singh Lehal and motion seconded by Mehar Singh.  
CARRIED

C. URSU Board Meeting Policy update

**Motion:**

WHEREAS the URSU Board Meeting Policy (Policy) has not been reviewed since 2019, and;

WHEREAS much of the policy was written prior to the advent of enhancements in board management and online meeting platforms, and; WHEREAS the policy currently does not reflect today's digital environment in which we work and conduct meetings, and;

WHEREAS the policy does not reflect the investments made in platforms designed to improve board meeting efficiency and improvements in governance best practices;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the URSU Board of Directors ratifies the changes to the URSU Board Meeting Policy as presented.

Motion moved by Katlyn Richardson and motion seconded by Kiegan Lloyd. no vote - see following motion

**Motion:**

WHEREAS several directors have not reviewed the proposed changes to the policy in preparation for this meeting;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this motion be table to the next Board meeting on February 9, 2021

Motion moved by Amir Said and motion seconded by Gurjinder Singh Lehal.  
CARRIED via chat vote.

D. Voting method - amendment to previous resolution

**Motion:**

WHEREAS there has been some confusion regarding the motion passed on 01.12.2021 to use chat functions for voting purposes at board meeting whereby it does not explicitly specify what alternative methods besides Zoom polling are to be avoided in favour of chat voting, in spite of several lengthy discussions that did not solely encompass Zoom polling as an alternative;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the motion be amended to refer to "any and all alternative virtual voting methods" rather than "Zoom polling".

Motion moved by Amir Said and motion seconded by Md Abul Hossain. CARRIED via chat vote

## VII. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

### A. EDI Committee - TOR update (Presenters: Executive Committee)

Amir presented first draft of the TOR. Much work and research needs to be done yet, Will update at next meeting

### B. RAF campaign update (Presenters: Executive Committee)

University Administration not open to any alternatives to implementing the fee as per past practice. Exec unsure of what next steps to take and have not finalized a campaign strategy.

### C. Stop Proctortrack campaign update (Presenters: Executive Committee)

Exec met with Provost and Executive Director, University Governance and University Secretary. No progress. Claim cheating is on the rise. Proctortrack here to stay. Exec to determine next steps of this campaign.

### D. Treaty 4 acknowledgment (Presenters: Amir Said)

Consensus by the Board was to include a Treaty Acknowledgment as a standing board meeting agenda item. Each meeting will begin with a Territory Acknowledgment recited by a different director as assigned in advance.

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### E. Minor Constitutional amendments (Presenters: Amir Said)

Amir has identified minor grammatical and language improvements to the current constitution

See Approval. CARRIED via chat vote.

### F. URSU Committee Vacancies

Calls for volunteers to fill several Standing Committee vacancies was issued, In some cases there were more than one interested director for a single vacancies. Board held survey votes to determine successful appointees.

Imtiyaz Ahmed was added to the HR committee and Amir Said was added to the Governance Committee.

**Motion:**

WHEREAS previous additions to certain committees were not formally ratified by the Board, and;

WHEREAS there were a few vacancies on some committees that needed to be filled;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the membership of each of the standing committees is hereby ratified as per the URSU Committee membership list dated January 26, 2021.

Motion moved by Amir Said and motion seconded by Imtiyaz Ahmed. CARRIED via chat vote.

G. Committee TOR (Presenters: Amir Said)

A concern was raised as to easy access to the various committee terms of reference. Carl is in the ongoing process of uploading historical board document. TORs will be available in centralized repository on InBoard.

H. LGBTQ(+) (Presenters: Amir Said)

**Motion:**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Constituency known as LGBTQ+ in the URSU Constitution be changed to LGBTQIA2S+, and;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this changed be presented for ratification to the membership at its next available Annual or Special Meeting.

Motion moved by Amir Said and motion seconded by Emily Camposano. CARRIED via chat vote.

I. President's Town Hall

Carl urged all directors and executives to take part in the upcoming President's Town Hall as well as all other subsequent town halls. This one in particular will provide a good forum for students and the board to express their dissatisfaction with the implementation of the RAF.

J. Director Reports

Carl reminded all directors that their reports must be filed in OnBoard using the proper template, in pdf form and using the naming convention established. Filing to google drive is no longer an option. Failure to file in the correct format and/or by the appropriate deadline will disqualify directors from receiving an honorarium.

K. SGM/Constitutional reform - next steps (Presenters: Carl Flis)

Carl presented two options for revisions to the current Constitution - changing it to a Bylaw

1. one option that simply dealt with basic revisions and corrections with no changes to the current governance structure
2. second option is the same as #1 but includes a revised proposed governance restructuring model that would be in line with achieving the goals of the strategic plan. This model is scalable depending on the number of executives decided upon. It addresses the concerns of some students wishing to continue to select leaders based on popular vote with the corporation's need to have committed, dedicated and qualified executives. Accountability of Executives to the Board is better defined. It also clearly separates elected officials from employees of URSU which URSU has struggled with.

If the Board has no interest in moving forward with governance restructuring their term then it is recommended that the Board proceeds with the first option at an upcoming SGM.

Carl also proposed a model for a town hall to debate the pros and cons of governance restructuring.

L. Henderson's

Carl update the Board on the status of it's tenant Henderson's. Owner is looking to sell the business. We are not comfortable with this arrangement and would prefer to take back the space and operate a dining outlet on our own. A survey poll was held and the majority of the board supported at looking at buyout options and take back this leased space.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no motions to move into Executive Session.

IX. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

A. President

Gurjinder gave a verbal update on his submitted report.

B. VP Operations and Finance

Gurkirat gave a verbal update on his submitted report.

C. VP Student Affairs

Zeo gave a verbal update on his submitted report.

D. VP External Affairs

Amir gave a verbal update on his submitted report.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND BUSINESS

No committee reports filed.

A. Finance and Audit Committee

B. Investment Committee

C. Governance Committee

D. Events Committee

E. Social Responsibility & Sustainability Committee

F. Human Resources Committee

G. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee

XI. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

XII. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

XIII. UPCOMING EVENTS

A. Mental and Sexual Health Awareness Week - January 25 - 29

B. President's Town Hall - January 29

XIV. ADJOURNMENT