



**TO:** UMSU Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Sarah Bonner-Proulx, VP Advocacy  
**DATE:** June 19, 2018  
**RE:** Work Activity Update, May/June 2018

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## **New Updates**

### **1. Board of Governors**

At the last Board of Governors meeting on May 22, the operating budget for the 2018-19 year was set which included a 6.6% tuition increase – the largest allowable given the amendment to provincial law last fall.

UMSU President, Jakob Sanderson, and I both voted against the tuition increase as well as the budget and proposed a more modest increase, respecting the need for increased funding the face of operating grant cuts by the provincial government, while balancing that with the need to keep our education affordable.

Also included in the budget were changes to the course fee structure which is now based on how many terms a student is registered in.

### **2. Senate/Student Senate Caucus**

Our first student senate caucus meeting of the new term was held on May 9, prior to the May 11 Senate meeting. Notable updates were the Introduction of a Co-op Program within the Faculty of Arts and introduction of the Co-op Program into the B.Sc. degree program in Human Nutritional Sciences. Subsequent Student Senate Caucus and Senate meetings held on June 18 and June 20, respectively. Notable updates being: the termination of Human Ecology program (pg.84); changes to the Medical School admissions weighting; request for increased scholarships for two-spirited and non-binary identifying students; and combination of Education and Music program to create joint degree program.

## **Ongoing/Continuing Work**

### **3. Re-Striking Behavioural and Academic Working Groups**

I have presented a motion for the June 21 Board of Directors meeting on behalf of the executive committee to formally re-strike an ad hoc 'University Policy Working Group: Behavioral' and 'University Policy Working Group: Academic' for the 2018-19 year. These groups were both successful in the past year and have garnered significant interest from students to continue these groups this upcoming year.

If you're interested in joining either of these working groups, please email me at [yva@umsu.ca](mailto:yva@umsu.ca)

### **4. Hardship Fund**

GM, Amanda Jonson, and VP External, Owen Black and I met with University External Relations in mid-May to discuss potential avenues to increase funding to UMSU's Hardship Fund. Currently \$15,000 of UMSU'S budget is allotted to the Fund; however in light of the recent tuition increase, we believe that



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it would be beneficial to increase this amount. An opportunity for crowd-funding was presented and respectively declined. However, External Relations is eager to assist UMSU in this project and we are continuing to explore other options to further increase funding.

#### 5. **Consent Culture/Bringing in the Bystander (BITB)**

Met with Justice for Women student group on June 8 to discuss implementing consent culture workshops this upcoming Fall. Workshops are set to begin late August until end of September.

Note: Justice for women is looking for facilitators to administer Consent Culture workshops and training to be held early August. If you're interested in becoming a consent culture facilitator or would like for information, please email myself at [vpa@umsu.ca](mailto:vpa@umsu.ca) or Justice for Women at [justiceforwomen.manitoba@gmail.com](mailto:justiceforwomen.manitoba@gmail.com)

#### **Events & Meetings Attended**

- May 22: Board of Governors Meeting
- May 28: Pride Flag Raising Ceremony
- May 30: Pride Week Drag show @ Bannatyne Campus
- June 2: Rise Above Scholarship gala dinner
- June 3: Winnipeg Pride Parade
- June 5: Meeting with Canadian Federation of Students - MB
- June 7: Convocation
- June 8: Consent Culture Meeting
- June 9-12: CFS-FCEE AGM
- June 13-16: Canadian organization of Campus Activities (COCA) Conference
- June 18: Ribbon Cutting for UMCycle Kiosk
- June 18: Student Senate Caucus Meeting
- June 19: Student Experience Committee
- June 19: Monthly Meeting with University Ancillary Services
- June 20: Senate Meeting
- June 21: National Indigenous Day Events @ Bannatyne Campus