TO: UMSU Board of Directors  
FROM: VP Finance & Operations, Mbuli Matshe  
DATE: July 25th, 2019  
RE: Report to the Board, July 2019

Conferences Reports
I’ve attended three conferences. Studentcare, {May 22nd – 26th} in Montreal, I attended with Jakob and Kyra. (Report provided last board meeting). CASA Foundations, {May 27th – June 1st} in Ottawa I attended with Jakob. (Jakob will provide CASA report). CFS June AGM, {June 7th -12th} all 5 executives went to this conference along with 3 of our board members, Alicia, Victoria & Brendan. (Report provided below).

Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) Federation canadienne des étudiants
In June, Jakob, Kyra, Jelynn, Sarah, Brendan, Alicia, Victoria and myself attended the Canadian Federations students 72nd June Annual General Meeting conference held yearly in Ottawa.

The Canadian Federation of Students is an external organization that UMSU is a part of, as local 103. The CFS’s can be broken down into three categories, CFS National, CFS Provincial and CFS Services; and every student pays a fee to each of these categories. Any Student Union which is a part of the CFS is designated a local number, which represents the students that are part of that union. The voting process at that the CFS employs is a one member local one vote. No student gets an individual vote. Each student that is a part of their union, is a part of the member local which has one collective vote per member local no matter how many students are a part of that local. For example, University of Manitoba Student Union which is approximately 24k students has the same voting power as Holland College Students Union which has approximately 2.5k students. The Provincial and National components of CFS deal with advocacy efforts, each in their respective designations. While CFS Services deals with the services they provide throughout the year.

Throughout the four day conference there was a wide array of sessions, workshops, caucuses and constituency meetings all leading up to closing plenary where decisions regarding actions, movement and the direction of the CFS take place. Jakob, Sarah and I had been to a CFS AGM before but this was the first time for everyone else and a good opportunity for them to learn and understand the workings of one of the external organizations UMSU is a part of. This was a very important AGM for a couple of reasons starting with, it was the first meeting since the Student Choice initiative was implemented in Ontario (the student choice initiative allows students to opt out of any fee imposed in addition to regular tuition fees, which a student pays for a service or product), and with Ontario schools making up 80% of the CFSs’ budget we wanted to monitor their financial situation and make sure they were making fiscally responsible decisions. Secondly, this is the meeting they present and approve their budget for the year. Thirdly, we had a couple of motions on the table that we wanted to be passed for the betterment of our students.

The first motion we presented read: Be it resolved that member locals may request the Canadian Federation of Students’ National and/or Provincial offices to supplement costs of delegates to the National General Meetings and that the Canadian Federation of Students update its governing bodies accordingly. We presented this motion because we had got a lot of request from our students
wanting to attend the CFS AGM but because of the financial burden sending delegates imposes, we requested that CFS supplement some of the costs. The motion Failed.

The second motion we presented read: **Be it resolved that a member local’s membership in the provincial component of the Canadian Federation of Students and Canadian Federation of Students - Services is recognized as an independent contract from its membership in the Canadian Federation of Students and the Canadian Federation of Students-Services;**

**Be it further resolved that a member local may opt to federate with or defederate from the Canadian Federation of Students and the Canadian Federation of Students – Services independent of its membership with a provincial component of the Canadian Federation of Students and the Canadian Federation of Students-Services;**

**Be it further resolved that all bylaws in the Canadian Federation of Students and Canadian Federation of Students-Services be updated accordingly.** We presented this motion because we recognize that some of our students have vocalized the benefits of exploring leaving CFS national without leaving the provincial component. The motion Failed.

The third motion we presented was an amendment, the original read:

**Be it resolved that Standing Resolution 39: Racialized & Indigenous Student Experience (“RISE”) Summit be amended to include:**

7. Finances

*Where sufficient funds are unavailable, the Committee shall be responsible for fundraising additional amounts required a minimum of three (3) months prior to summit. Where fundraising is required but unsuccessful or not pursued, the funds allocated to the summit from the Federation operating budget shall be allocated to anti-racism campaigning for that fiscal year in lieu of the summit.*

**Our amendment which read:** **Be it resolved that Standing Resolution 39: Racialized & Indigenous Student Experience (“RISE”) Summit be amended to include:**

7. Finances

*Where sufficient funds are unavailable, the Committee shall be responsible for fundraising additional amounts required a minimum of three (3) months prior to summit. Where fundraising is required but unsuccessful, the funds allocated to the summit from the Federation operating budget shall, after due consultation with National Circle of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Students Representative and National Racialized Student Representative, be allocated to anti-racism campaigning for that fiscal year or to a subsequent RISE summit.* The motion Passed.

While motions are presented by member locals (except an emergency motion) each motion gets sent to a specific committee, who deliberate the motion and come back with a recommendation to defeat, recommend to pass or table. The four committees that motions are sent to are Finance Committee, Organizational and Services Development committee (OSD), Campaigns Committee and Policy review Committee. In order to be on three out of four of these committees (excluding Campaigns) you have to be voted on by a Constituency, a Caucus, or a Provincial Component. Four of us were voted onto budget. Kyra, Brendan and I were voted onto Budget through the Manitoba component, while Sarah was voted on through the Women’s Constituency. The other four were voted onto OSD. Jelynn and Alicia
were voted on through the Manitoba component, while Victoria was voted on through the International Student constituency and Jakob through Mature and Part-Time students.

While we voted in favor of our motions and a couple others, we aggressively voted against the budget that was approved at this meeting. It grossly over estimated their revenue with an excepted 30% retention as the goal for Ontario schools. The budget was more dreadfully passed with an expected ($764,200.00) loss of student’s money for the year. We voted against such in Finance committee and again at plenary.

My evaluation of the conference was mixed. We put motions forward, motivated and debated them but didn’t get the results we felt benefited our students. However this was the best run CFS AGM/NGM I’ve been to because of how efficiently it ran for the most part. It’s always important to have the leaders in our communities here at the U of M speaking and voting on behalf of our students but at a cost benefit analysis level I wouldn’t send as many people as we did this year.

**Participatory Budget**

The Participatory Budgeting working group was formed at the May 16th UMSU board of directors meeting, and will start working on the referendum proposals from the previous year 2018/19, as well as maintain the trajectory outlined to complete the process by April 30, 2020. The Bannatyne tabling will start in the last week of August, and the Fort Garry tabling will start in the beginning of November.

**Summary of process:**
- Presentation of Terms of Reference (completed)
- Formation of working group (all students at large have been appointed, board member to be appointed in the next week)
- Schedule for the PB process (TBD)
- Tabling throughout the year (Bannatyne – August 26th – 30th) (Fort Garry – Nov 4th – 8th) more dates pending

**GPA’s and UMSU Offices Renovations**

As most of you are aware the renovations to the UMSU offices as well as GPA’s are well underway. We are slightly behind schedule with the renovations starting on April 1st and running till mid-August for both GPA’s and the UMSU offices. Closer to the date we will announce the ribbon cutting ceremony.
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Events & Meetings Attended

Open Office Hours: Wednesdays at 2:30pm

- June 24th – General Manager Business Weekly Meetings
- June 24th – BOD Meeting
- June 25th – UM Black Alliance Meeting
- June 25th – OAC UMSU Office & GPA’s Meeting
- June 26th – Meeting w/ Chancellor
- June 26th – BOT Endowment Fund Meeting
- June 27th – Student Research Jobs meeting
- July 1st – Office Closed
- July 2nd – General Manager Business Weekly Meetings
- July 3rd – Menu Meeting w/The HUB
- July 3rd – Menu Meeting w/Degrees
- July 4th – UMISO Update Meeting
- July 4th – Studentcare Presentation
- July 4th – UMSU & UMGSA U-Pass Meeting
- July 9th – OAC UMSU Office & GPA’s Meeting
- July 9th – Research & Advocacy Meeting
- July 12th – General Manager Business Weekly Meetings
- July 16th – Indigenous Awareness Session
- July 17th – Making the Grade/Orientation Event
- July 17th – Your Students’ Union Session
- July 18th – Studentcare Materials Meeting
- July 18th – UMISO Update Meeting
- July 18th – BOT Endowment Fund Meeting
- July 22nd – General Manager Business Weekly Meetings
- July 22nd – Financial Awareness Strategy Meeting
- July 23rd – OAC UMSU Office & GPA’s Meeting
- July 24th – UMISO Update Meeting
- July 24th – Staff Appreciation Lunch
- July 25th – BOD Meeting