New Updates

Programming for the Fall Term
We’re refusing to take COVID lying down. Which is why work continues in terms of putting programming together for the Fall Term. The majority of our programming will be online, delivered through our social media @myumsu or through our (soon to be recently updated) website umsu.ca. I’m happy to report that spirits are high even though we haven’t been able to really be together. Campaigns are taking shape despite the ongoing situation.

Our first campaign will be the UMSU Get Involved! campaign which I’ve had the pleasure of putting together with UMSU VPSL Savannah Szocs. Look out for that starting the week of the 24th of August.

Orientation fall 2020
The university is planning a virtual orientation primarily targeted towards first year students through their platform that they have named UM Commons. It’s a centralised place for first years to find all the information they’ll need especially in their first few weeks of virtual university. UMSU has been involved in providing content for this platform. The content includes student group information so keep an eye out for eager first years that want to be involved. The university will be running an orientation “bootcamp” the last week of August so there will be eager students reaching out from different places.

Hampers 2020
This year our annual Holiday Hamper program will be taking on a different form in order to comply with public health orders. I’ve been in close consultation with the marketing team regarding how we can still give back and do so safely. We’ve come up with some really good ideas that I can’t wait to share once they are concrete.

UMSU1020
VPFO Brendan Scott and I (with tons of help from Jared at UMFM) started a podcast called UMSU 1020 which is basically just a course that teaches what they don’t teach you in class. So far we’ve produced 2 episodes with more on the way! This has been a very exciting project so far and we’re looking forward to having student group guests on the show. I’m very excited to be able to engage the student body in this way. You can listen on Spotify or iTunes.

uniSkedual
This program was created by U of M students to help students visualise their timetable and get their CRNs before registering. It’s such a wonderful tool that helps decrease the time you need to spend on Aurora registering for classes. It also provides an easy to use UI that Aurora lacks. Check it out at https://uniskedual.ca/

O365 Tenant Merge
The university has been merging the O365 suite that university members use in order to allow for greater collaboration among other things. Due to this, there will be an email outage starting the 21st of August. The outage should end before the following Monday. The university will also advertise this but please have messaging ready to let your students know.
Continuing Updates

Students for Black lives Campaign
The UM Black Students Union is one step closer to being created. We’re currently reviewing the constitution. So far it’s been a pleasure getting to meet all the members and creating an UMSU recognised structure for this community. This will go down as one of the greatest pleasures of my university experience. The group is still open to those who would like to join. Application are in the UMSU Instagram bio.

Students of UMSU
Always open to takeovers or features on this account. Only I monitor so it’s a very frictionless process to get yourself or your student group featured.

Umsu.ca Website
We’re on course to get the website polished before the new academic year. Huge thanks to everyone who has reached out with feedback. I’ve had the chance to view what our web developer (a student from the U of M) is working on and it looks really good so far.

External Events & Meetings Attended

Note: These dates exclude meetings internal to the organisation.

June 19th – Student Affairs re: Orientation
June 22nd – Laurie Schnarr Vice Provost Students U of M
June 24th – COCA Marketing Roundtable
June 25th – Ghislaine Alleyne re: O365 Tenant Merge
June 26th – UM Black Students Union
June 26th – Umsu.ca Web Developer
June 29th – UM Café/Career Services
July 2nd – UM Black Students Union
July 3rd – Student Affairs re: Orientation
July 6th – Meeting with Nimbus
July 8th – COCA regional meeting
July 14th – O365 Project Board Meeting
July 14th – Student Affairs
July 17th – Meeting with uniSkedual
July 20th – Arts Faculty LDC. Science student in an arts course.

Questions about any of these events and meetings can be directed to vpce@umsu.ca