



University  
of Manitoba  
**STUDENTS'**  
**UNION**

**TO:** UMSU Board of Directors  
**FROM:** VP Advocacy, Liam Pittman  
**DATE:** September 12, 2023  
**RE:** **Report to the Board, September 14, 2023**

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**Updates – Mental** health is an ongoing issue in our universities in Canada. Further, the U of M has seen an increase in students needing mental health services and supports. UMSU was able to meet with David Ness, the head of the Student Counselling Centre. During this meeting we were able to discuss some of the ongoing issues that UMSU is seeing, and how we can work collaboratively together to ensure that student mental health is taken care of on campus. We were also able to clarify some of the concerns students have relayed to UMSU regarding the SCC.

I was able to have an interview with the Manitoban regarding ongoing issues with Manitoba Student Aid. This is an ongoing issue that MSU consistently and frequently hears from students. There have been steps taken to begin the planning stage of addressing the issues with Manitoba Student Aid, and further how to bring these issues to the government to have them addressed.

UMSU was able to interview with the CBC in regard to the ongoing issue of academic misconduct and artificial intelligence. The article was also listed by Academica as a top 10 story to watch for. Further to this, UMSU recognizes the need to safeguard against potential inappropriate use of Artificial Intelligence. As such, the beginning stages for an awareness campaign to educate students on how, when, and where AI use is acceptable, as well as the potential repercussions for inappropriate use.

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

- David Ness, Student Counselling Centre Meeting – Aug 31
- Um Residence Orientation – Sept. 3
- First Year engineering orientation – Sept. 5



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- Welcome Day – Sept. 5
- Info-Fair tabling - Sept.5
- Bison Student Athlete Orientation - Sept. 5
- Senate Orientation – Sept. 7
- Interview with the Manitoban – Sept. 7
- CSA Tabling – Sept. 8
- Vice-Provost Meeting – Sept. 11
- Board of Governors Orientation – Sept. 11
- Finance & Infrastructure Committee meeting – Sept. 12