

UW ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

DATE: September 24, 2025 7:00 -8:30 PM | LOCATION: SLC-1103 / Microsoft Teams

MEETING MINUTES

TO BE REVIEWED PRIOR TO MEETING.

Present: Rory Norris, Gurman Johal, Jessie Kuong, Billie Fitchett, Andrew Chang, Selena Wang

Absent:

Regrets: Micah Casinader,

1. Preliminary

1.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Nothing was noted for the passage of the minutes, and the agenda was taken on consent.

1.3 Territorial Acknowledgement

AFSA acknowledges that the University of Waterloo is on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishinaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples. Our organization operates on the Haldimand Tract, land promised to the Six Nations, which includes six miles on each side of the Grand River.

1.4 Conflict of Interest Declaration

No Conflicts of Interest were declared at this time.

2. Items for Adoption for Consent

2.1 Be it resolved by the executive approve the <u>minutes</u> of the prior meeting.

3. Presentation

4. New Business

4.1 - Motion: Changes to the Election Process



Purpose: Potential change of including an interview process alongside the current election format, more information regarding potential change outlined in this <u>document</u>. Submitted by Gurman Johal

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors have agreed to ____ the election process as

The discussion item was seconded by Jessie Kuong. Gurman spoke to the document, and what had happened in the past. He noted that the elections and interview process would complement both of them. It was noted that if this decision was made that is should not only be the president involved in the interview process, but to look at other people are involved as well such as the VP's of the Committees, as well as the possibility of having a staff from the university.

Billie agreed that a platform should be made public and to encourage people who may not know people by name, the ideas and things that people are running for, and noted the potential concerns on the democratic concerns that may arise.

Gurman noted that the filtering would be done first, by that their would still be an election.

Billie noted that if their was a bad candidate that it would ideally be identified by the students themselves, and that it would be up to them at the end of the day.

Andrew noted that other school have a president and other roles that are elected by students, and then other VP's who are hired through the interview process. Noting that the president should be fully elected and the other roles are up for discussion.

Rory Norris noted that this years elections were a little rushed given some problems. He also noted that in theory there could be a model very similar to that of a corporation, such as apple where the BoD selects the VP's.

It was brought up by Billie, that there could be a possibility of having candidates be given a post on the AFSA instagram during the elections, to both get the word out, as well to let people know what their platform is.

It was brought up by Selena, that it seems like the focus should be more on whether the transition for the incoming VPs is complete and that they are given enough knowledge and understanding to be able to run the role effectively.

Andrew noted that a big barrier to the election was the in-person campaigning rules in the by-laws.



<u>4.2 - Motion:</u> Constitution, By-laws, and Policies Review for Changes Purpose: To better reflect the operating AFSA currently undergoes within its governing documents. This will take more discussion and

See attached the Working Draft Constitution and By-laws.

Proposed Timeline: that all directors submit their proposed ideas and edits in the attached working draft document by **October 1st, 2025**. Following this, we will hold a meeting with WUSA Governance staff and/or SAF Governance staff to discuss the feasibility and impact of potential changes. A special meeting of the Board will then be held on **October 16th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.**, where proposed amendments will be reviewed and finalized for approval.

Submitted by Gurman Johal and Rory Norris

Notes from the Discussion were included in the document outline above. It was noted that the changes to the By-laws and Constitution, should be ready for spring 2026, in order to hold a referendum for the approval of the changes. Therefore all changes to the By-laws and constitution are not due by the special board meeting to be held on the 16th of October.

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors have approved the timeline for the Constitution, By-laws, and Policies Review.

<u>4.3 - Motion:</u> Annual General Meeting Format and Potential Agenda Items Purpose: To start planning out the AGM Submitted by Gurman Johal

Be it resolved that the Board have decided to follow the following in regards to the AGM, outlined in this <u>document</u>, with the complete document to be approved at a future special board meeting.

This motion was second by Billie, the discussion was head including what items should be included.

It was noted that for the budget process for this year, that the organisation, and year-to-actuals for the previous year are not available, and thus that in its place their will be another packet that will need to be put together with the budget information, and the letter from the auditor approving the financial statements.

Billie noted that the changes with regards to the constitution and by-laws, should not be a big part of the meeting given the potential time constraints of the meeting, and the potential



concern not to come off as a lack of transparency when it comes to changes that are being made.

Andrew brought up the potential of having a bigger meeting for inviting out students, including inviting out other groups, and making it a bigger event for all students of SAF.

Rory Norris motioned to have the extra meeting on the 15th of October, which was amended to be the 16th of October.

4.4 -Discussion: Whether BoD Should Visit Each Exec Committee
Purpose: To provide further transparency within the committee while providing information our BoD's roles
Submitted by Gurman Johal

It was noted that the Directors are free to go to any of the Committee meetings, or Executive Meetings, if they wish to do so, and reach out to the President or Chair of the board if they wish to do so.

<u>4.5 -Discussion:</u> Updates from the AFSA President on Previous Motions Purpose: To provide updates on Gradball, meeting with the GSA, and Capital Expenditures.

Submitted by Rory Norris

Rory Norris provided an update with regard to the Gradball committee starting up, and that the update for the budget would be coming to the special Board of Directors meeting on the 16th of October. It was also noted that he would have a better idea of the date and venue by that time.

The meeting with the GSA went well, and it was noted that they have been collecting fees on behalf of AFSA for the Graduate student members. It was also noted that these students for some reason are being charged a \$60 fee as compared to the \$35 that is being charged to the undergraduate students.

It was lastly noted that the president was working with the VP admin to get a full list of quotes for all capital items.

5. Unfinished Business

6. Announcements

Linkedin Headshot + Dinner:

The date was decided for October 25, 2025. With time for both the headshots and the board/executive diner, which will be booked and shared with the board when more information is available.



7. Adjournment