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Agenda University Students' Council October 9, 2025 – 6:00 PM Roy Romanow Student Council Chamber

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Land Acknowledgement
- 3. Roll Call & Quorum
- 4. Adoption of an Agenda
- 5. Minutes and Reports for Information
 - 5.1. USC Minutes October 2, 2025
 - 5.2. Executive Committee Report
- 6. College/Constituency Report
 - 6.1. Agriculture and Bioresources
 - 6.2. Arts and Science
 - 6.3. Dentistry
 - 6.4. Education
 - 6.5. Edwards School of Business
 - 6.6. Engineering
 - 6.7. Indigenous Students
 - 6.8. International Students
 - 6.9. Kinesiology
 - 6.10. Law
 - 6.11. Medicine
 - 6.12. Nursing
 - 6.13. Pharmacy and Nutrition
 - 6.14. Prince Albert Campus
 - 6.15. St. Thomas More
 - 6.16. Western College of Veterinary Medicine
- 7. Business
- 8. New Business
- 9. Questions, Comments, and Announcements
- 10. Adjournment

Room 110, 1 Campus Drive University of Saskatchewan Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 5A3



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University Students' Council Minutes October 2, 2025 – 6:00 PM Roy Romanow Student Council Chamber

Present:

- Emma Wintermute, President
- Owen Deis, VP Operations and Finance
- Norah Jacob, VP Academic Affairs
- Emily Hubick, VP Student Affairs
- Quinten Albrecht, Agriculture and Bioresources
- Spencer Possberg, Agriculture and Bioresources
- Atharv Govardhan, Arts and Science
- Emma Gillingham, Arts and Science
- Chang Ge, Dentistry
- Melissa Fielding, Education
- Elmer Vincent, International Students
- Max Clark, Kinesiology
- Paras Sidhu, Law
- Caleb Hammond, Medicine
- Hanna De Peel, Prince Albert Campus
- Joel Bilyk, WCVM

Also Present:

- Ava Johnson, Chairperson
- Jason Ventnor, Communications & Marketing Manager

Absent:

- Avantika Sharma, Arts and Science
- Sakina Abedi, Edwards School of Business
- Kal Ledoux, Indigenous Students
- Johnny Tootoosis, Indigenous Students
- Mayank Jain, Nursing
- Nguyen Tran, Nursing
- Jordie Finnie, St. Thomas More

Guests:

- Dr. Peter Stoicheff, USask President and Vice-Chancellor
- Dr. Patti McDougall, USask Interim Provost and Vice-President Academic

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Chairperson Johnson stated the Land Acknowledgement.

3. Roll Call & Quorum

Roll call was completed, and the list of attendees is listed on the first page of these minutes. Quorum was present.

4. Adoption of an Agenda

Chairperson Johnson proposed an amendment to the agenda: add Prince Albert Campus to section 7, Constituency Report.

Motion to adopt the agenda as amended.

USC029	Chairperson Johnson / President Wintermute	Carried
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5. Council Address

5.1. President Peter Stoicheff and Interim Provost Patti McDougall

President Stoicheff articulated that universities have many critical functions, but perhaps the most fundamental is to help ensure democracies can continue to be built around the world. Democracy is decreasing around the world, and autocracy is increasing. Universities are often a target of autocracy because they represent freedom of speech, diversity of opinion, and informed speech. Democracy requires autonomous universities. The USask Board of Governors is composed of a minority of members selected by the provincial government, 5 of 11, which is not the case in all provinces. Some governments provide funding to support the specific programs that they want to prioritize, or they require universities to uphold government-sanctioned freedom of expression policies to receive funding.

Interim Provost McDougall shared that they have identified the top priorities for students as being the cost of education, financial uncertainty, mental health struggles, employment uncertainty, and confidence in their degree.

President Wintermute read a question submitted by the USC: what were the goals of the "Be What the World Needs" campaign, and how will its impact be felt?

 President Stoicheff explained that it was a comprehensive campaign intended to support a number of key initiatives, including student experience, scholarships and bursaries, mental health support, support for indigenous students, research, and visionary spaces. The campaign was like a test to see if people thought the University was going in the right direction. The campaign will benefit the community and support excellence. Chairperson Johnson read a question submitted by the USC: how does music relate to leadership?

 President Stoicheff explained that, like a music performance, leadership is authentic but also performative. That is, one must play a role that is bigger than themself. A chord is textured, with multiple notes at once; so too, leadership also requires attention to multiple things at once, such as tone, words, and showing empathy.

Chairperson Johnson read a question submitted by the USC: do you have a final message to share?

President Stoicheff encouraged students to tell the story of USask.

6. Minutes and Reports for Information

6.1. USC Minutes - September 25, 2025

No amendments were made to the minutes.

Move to adopt the USC Minutes of September 25, 2025, into the official record.

USC030 Chairperson Johnson / VP Jacob Carried

6.2. Executive Committee Minutes & Report – September 29, 2025

President Wintermute shared highlights from the week, including the following:

- She has formed a sexual violence coalition for prevention with SSAIC and is starting on community outreach.
- Meetings with the Provost senior leadership as they go through changes, including Dr. McDougall taking over as Interim Provost.
- Meeting with Ali Versi of Alum about an upcoming housing & human rights forum.
- University Council.
- Internal Truth and Reconciliation forum.

Deis shared highlights from the week, including ratifying campus groups and organizing the Campus Groups Committee.

VP Jacob shared highlights from the week, including the following:

- Undergraduate research.
- University Council committees.
- Saskatchewan Al cooperative.
- There are two new positions at the university: intake officer and policy navigation officer.
- Academic Integrity Forum.
- Teaching Excellence Awards will begin in mid-October.

VP Hubick shared highlights from the week, including the following:

- Last week was Sexual Violence Awareness Week.
- The USSU Childcare Centre board meeting and AGM.
- PEC conversation regarding EDI.

Move to adopt the Executive Committee minutes from September 29, 2025, into the official record.

USC031	Chairperson Johnson / Councillor Albrecht	Carried
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7. College/Constituency Report

7.1. Agriculture and Bioresources

Councillor Possberg reported the following:

- They are doing a breast cancer walk on Sunday.
- They are doing a bed push fundraiser for Telemiracle from February 28 to March 1.

7.2. Arts and Science

Councillor Gillingham reported the following:

- Their VP External has been elected.
- They are planning a Halloween event.
- They recently held a keychain and pizza event.
- There will be a 'Play It Forward' concert that is donating to charity.
- There is a curriculum renewal in the School of Art.

7.3. Dentistry

Councillor Ge reported the following:

- The College of Dentistry's renovations are gradually being completed, and 40 chairs will be available in November.
- Their fall formal event is on October 18.

7.4. Education

Councillor Fielding reported the following:

- They are dealing with accessibility issues in their college.
- They are partnering with Kinesiology for an event on November 18.
- Their purple party will be held on October 17 at Dino's.
- They are planning a pumpkin carving event.

7.5. Edwards

No Councillor present.

7.6. Engineering

No Councillor present.

7.7. Indigenous Students

No Councillor present.

7.8. International Students

Councillor Vincent reported that they will be holding an election soon.

7.9. Kinesiology

Councillor Clark reported the following:

• They are hosting a pancake breakfast on Tuesday.

7.10. Law

Councillor Sidhu reported the following:

- They are hosting a beach volleyball tournament on Saturday.
- They will be hosting peer wellness events.
- Their fall formal event is on October 18.

7.11. Medicine

Councillor Hammond reported the following:

- There is a white coat ceremony for first years on Saturday.
- Their fall formal event is on Saturday.
- SMSS groups have just formed and will host events soon.

7.12. Nursing

No Councillor present.

7.13. Pharmacy and Nutrition

No Councillor present.

7.14. St. Thomas More

No Councillor Present.

7.15. Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Councillor Bilyk reported that there is a banquet next Monday.

7.16. Prince Albert Campus

Councillor De Peel reported that she was recently elected to the position and will have an update next week.

8. Business

9. New Business

10. Questions, Comments, and Announcements

President Wintermute announced that after next week's USC meeting, there will be a social event at Filosophi. VP Jacob will distribute an order form.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM.