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University Students' Council Minutes
September 10, 2026 – 6:00 PM
Roy Romanow Student Council Chamber

Present:

- **Abtin Safaein:** President
- **Elmer Vincent:** VP Operations and Finance
- **Ashley Mendez Rosales:** VP Academic Affairs
- **Azul Gonzalez Avila:** VP Student Affairs
- **Raelynne Boutin:** Agriculture and Bioresources
- **Cody Wilson:** Agriculture and Bioresources
- **Arbe Chumala:** Arts and Science
- **Sam Wardell:** Arts and Science
- **Chang Ge:** Dentistry
- **Gracie Radke:** Education
- **Parthi Shah:** Edwards School of Business
- **Sakina Abedi:** Edwards School of Business
- **Nyasha Alicia Munzara:** International Students
- **Shubham Jiaswal:** International Students
- **Max Clark:** Kinesiology
- **Melissa Vogler:** Law

Also Present:

- **Selim Bytyqi:** Chair
- **Jason Ventnor:** Communications & Marketing Manager
- **Atharv Govardhan:** Academic and Governance Assistant

Absent:

- **Ayodele Daniel Omotoso:** Engineering
- **Isfar Chowdhury:** Medicine
- **Samuel Janzen:** Nursing
- **Chinwe Udenze:** Pharmacy and Nutrition

Guests:

- **Ryley Cozart:** Marketing and Partnership Specialist, Huskie Athletics

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Chairperson Selim 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

Move to adopt the agenda as presented.

USC001	Councillor Abedi/ President Safaein	Carried
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Motion to enter informality.

USC002	Chairperson Bytyqi / President Safaein	Carried
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5. Council Address:

5.1 Presentation from Ryley Cozart from Huskies

Mr. Cozart presents the following:

- He is the point of contact for connecting with Huskies.
- List of student-focused events:
 - Tuition giveaway worth \$20,000 in the Huskie football and a bunch of smaller ones throughout the year.
- He is Open to looking at more college-focused events this year.
- Worked with the College of Agriculture and Bioresources for a Huskie hockey game.
- Huskies lead Canada West in student attendance.

5.2 Welcome to University Students' Council by Chair Bytyqi and Council Address

Chairperson Bytyqi presents the following:

Introduction of Robert's Rules of Order.

The President of the University will be coming to USC on September 17, 2026, and to present our best front, we will review Robert's Rules.

- Reasons to follow Robert's Rules of Order.
 - Fairness
 - Equal Voice
 - Efficiency
 - Protection
- Quorum is 50% of USC Members + 1.
- Reports presented by the USSU execs alongside the guests and the MSCs.
- Discuss the problems and how the USSU would help deal with that problem.
- Unfinished business is the time for people to bring up any other relevant topics.
- Steps on how a motion works:
 - A member of the council is recognized by the chair
 - Motion is seconded by another member of the council
 - Chair restates the motion
 - Debate and discussion on the motion
 - Chair calls for a vote

- Result is announced
- Different Kinds of motions described:
 - Main motion: Bringing new business to the floor
 - Privilege motion: Urgent matters unrelated to the main motion
 - Subsidiary Motion: Change the main motion a little
 - Incidental Motion: Addresses the procedure itself
- Different Kinds of Votes described:
 - Majority: More than 50%
 - Two-thirds: More than 66%
- Different kinds of voting Methods:
 - Open vote: Members would raise their hands in agreement or disagreement
 - Closed vote: Rarely done; confidential votes
 - Vote of anonymity: Vote will only be recorded if the councillor specifies it
- The role of different members in Council:
 - Chair:
 - Be neutral and not have personal biases
 - Recognizes speakers in fair order
 - Enforces the rules impartially
 - States and restates motions clearly
 - Steps down temporarily to debate a motion personally
 - Members of Student Council:
 - The right to make and second motions
 - The right to speak in debate, through the chair
 - The right to vote on every question
 - The right to raise a Point of Order at any time
 - Equal standing regardless of rank or tenure
 - The right to a fair, orderly hearing

Motion to enter formality.

USC003	Chairperson Bytyqi / Councillor Vogler	Carried
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6. Minutes and Reports for Information

6.1 Executive Committee Minutes & Report – May 11, 2026 to September 9, 2026

The USSU Executive presented sequentially on what they are working on.

President Safaein:

President Safaein starts by congratulating all the elected MSCs and reintroduces himself.

- Conducted a survey before he entered the position on the problems the students face. The biggest problem being financial issues, and using this as his platform when he ran for election.

- The first month of the presidency was onboarding and transferring documents and roles. On May 25th, he had two ideas on helping with student financial issues, on which he worked throughout the summer:
 - Textbook exchange: A bank where upper-year students can give their textbooks to juniors at an affordable price.
 - Helps in saving money
 - Helps in saving the environment
 - VP Mendes Rosales joined the program
 - The program launched on September 1st, and marketing will begin soon.
 - Discount Partnership: It's called Usave
 - Partnered with VP Vincent
 - Might not save a lot of money in a short span, but would allow for a lot of money being saved in a span of four years
 - More initiative present in the last USC package

VP Vincent:

VP Vincent starts off by congratulating everyone for being elected to their MSC positions. He mentions his previous experience as an International Students MSC. Encourages people to ask questions during and after the meeting.

The project VP Vincent worked on includes:

- Redesigning USSU Hub. Gives it a different look and makes it more accessible for the clubs.
- Change in campus Group policy 2, which makes it easier for the groups to be ratified.
- USave started alongside President Safaein. Discounts range from 10-15% depending on the location.

Chairperson Bytyqi asks about the location of USave

- VP Vincent talks about a website in progress for USave.
- Mentions existing posters present across campus talking about it.
- Currently, it's just present as a PDF list.

VP Gonzalez Avila:

VP Gonzalez Avila reported on:

- Exploring tuition payment plans with the university staff
- Meeting with student finance and awards regarding financial resources available to students
- Participated in provost advisory committee on accessibility and sexual diversity
- Completed all the introductory meetings with the wellness centre, library services, protective services, ISSAC, Gordon Oakes and Red Bear Centre.
- Attended an introductory meeting with AES.
- Organized events:
 - Colours of community: Pride and Two-Spirit celebration in collaboration with Gordon Oakes and Pride Centre

- Organised chalk campus and community project.
- Hosted a mahjong night
- Supported Welcome Week event.
 - Gordon Oakes indigenous student welcome
 - Residency Undergrad welcome
 - Prince Albert Campus Welcome
- Participated in Indigenous History Month
- Attended a summit on student health and benefits
- Completed the sexual violence and responder training
- Attended the USSU childcare centre board meeting as a student representative
- Attended USASK staff and faculty awards and convocation
- Helped coordinate events for welcome week

VP Mendes Rosales:

VP Mendes Rosales reported on:

- Many meetings with students over the summer
- All the main committees begin in the fall term
- Trying to get a meeting with the Teaching and Learning Centre to talk about AI usage in the classroom. There are no clear guidelines for professors using AI in the classroom.
- Planning academic awareness week, which ended on September 11.
 - ISAAC, Career Services and AES tabled at Academic Awareness Week too.
- Partnered with Abtin for the textbook exchange program

Motion to adopt the USC Executive Committee Minutes & Report – May 11, 2026 to September 9, 2026, into the official record.

USC004	VP Vincent / Councillor Clark	Carried
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7. College/Constituency Report

7.1 Agriculture and Bioresources:

Councillor Wilson Presented the following:

- Exec onboarding this month. Trying to plan big and small events for the whole year.
- Farm tour by ASA on September 12
- First year game night on September 14
- Casino night at the AG Lounge on September 15
- Career day planned on September 16
- Club day planned on September 17.

7.2 Arts and Science

Councillor Wardel presented the following:

- The first meeting happened on September 9, 2026
- AI use and affordability are big priorities ASSU will work on this year.

7.3 Dentistry

Councillor Chang Presented the following:

- Finished the dental clinic with 85 new chairs
- Appointments will be taken throughout the day
- A golf tournament within the College of Dentistry will be held soon

7.4 Education

Chancellor Radke presented the following:

- First meeting on September 7.
- By-election held in a couple of weeks

7.5 Edwards School of Business

Councillor Abedi presented the following:

- Welcome back barbecue held on September 9.
- Co-op workshop held on September 9 and 10
- Co-op open house held on September 11.

7.6 Engineering

No Councillor present.

7.7 Indigenous Students

No Councillor present.

7.8 International Students

Councillor Jaiswal had nothing to present

7.9 Kinesiology

Councillor Clark presented the following:

- First meeting on September 8
- Each Volleyball tournament on September 29 at 7 pm will also include a best-dressed prize
- Looking to get a year-long partnership with Kidsport for all the money made from charity events could go toward them.

Chairperson Bytyqi asks about the beach volleyball tournament

- Councillor Clark mentions that it is open to every college but is a 19+ event

7.10 Law

Councillor Vogler had nothing to present

7.11 Medicine

No Councillor present.

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

No Councillor present.

8. Business

9. New Business

10. Questions, Comments, and Announcements

Guest Desjarlais discusses the Usave program and offers praise. Follows up with a question regarding existing student discounts.

- VP Vincent answers by mentioning that most of the discounts are new, but they also have previous discounts
- President Safaein adds that there are 25 new discounts, with 5 of them already being there

Guest Desjarlais asks about any progress with transit:

- VP Vincent mentions that the committee needs to be set up before talking with transit

Councillor Abedi asks whether USSU was told about the construction and transit issues.

- VP Vincent says he has had no communication with the city so far, but will bring up this topic at their next meeting.

Guest Finnie inquires about the possibility of a shuttle

- VP Vincent mentions bringing it up to the city at the next meeting.

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting

USC005	Chairperson Btytqi / Councillor Boutin	Carried
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The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 pm.