

UMGPS Council Meeting Documents Index Page

Wednesday, March 25th, 2026, – 5:30PM - Zoom

Index Page for March 25th Council Meeting Documents.....	1
Agenda for March 25th UMGPS Council Meeting	2
Appendix II: March 25th UMGPS Executive Report.....	4
Appendix III: March 25th HSGSA Report.....	9
Appendix IV: March 25th PDFA Report.....	10
Appendix V: Senate Report.....	11
Appendix VI: UMGPS CRO Report.....	12
Appendix VII: February 25th, 2026, UMGPS Council Meeting Minutes.....	Separate Attachment

UMGPS Council Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, March 25th, 2026 – 5:30 PM – Hybrid

1. Call to Order

2. Traditional Territories Acknowledgement

The University of Manitoba campuses and research spaces are located on original lands of Anishinaabeg, Ininiwak, Anisininewuk, Dakota Oyate, Dene and Inuit, and on the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. University of Manitoba recognizes that the Treaties signed on these lands are a lifelong, enduring relationship, and we are dedicated to upholding their spirit and intent. We acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past and the present. With this understanding, we commit to supporting Indigenous excellence through active Reconciliation, meaningful change, and the creation of an environment where everyone can thrive. Our collaboration with Indigenous communities is grounded in respect and reciprocity and this guides how we move forward as an institution.

3. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: BIRT the UMGPS Council approves the agenda for the March 25th, 2026, UMGPS Council Meeting as presented.

4. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of February 25th, 2026, UMGPS Council Meeting were pre-circulated via email prior to this meeting.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGPS Council approves the minutes of February 25th, 2026, UMGPS Council Meeting as presented.

5. Committee Reports

5.1. February Committee Reports (Appendix II)

6. HSGSA Report

6.1. February HSGSA Report (Appendix III)

7. Senate Report

7.1. February Senate Report (Appendix V)

8. Executive Reports

8.1. February Reports (Appendix II)

9. Departmental Reports

10. Unfinished Business

11. New Business

11.1. Ratification of the 2026/2027 UMGPS Election Results

- i. Chamali Kodikara (*Chief Returning Officer*) is present to answer any questions.

UMGPS President & Senator

Emma Heath (253 - 57%), Won

Uche Nwankwo (188 - 43%)

UMGPS Vice-President Academic & Senator

Laleema Senanayake (193 - 43%), Won

Janie Dupuis (164 - 36%)

Manish Dhakal (56 - 12%)

Muhammad Aldhshan (37 - 8%)

UMGPS Vice-President External & Senator

Lamia Mahzabin (334 - 81%), Won

UMGPS Vice-President Equity & Inclusion

Kyra Swenson (378 - 92%), Won

UMGPS Vice-President Events & Clubs

Abiodun Adejumo (378 - 87%), Won

MOTION: BIRT The UMGPS General Council ratifies the results of the 2026/27 UMGPS General Election as presented.

12 Announcements

- a. **Next Council Meeting:** TBD
- b. **April Newsletter:** If anyone has anything they want to share e-mail marketing@umgps.org

13 Adjournment

Appendix II: February Committee Reports

Timi O – President

Yet to be received.

Vice-President Events & Clubs – Diwan Oulai (Acting President February 9th – March 9th, 2026)

Meeting Dates: February 26, 2026

- No event was held
- Club funding applications and Club registration
- Tax Clinic for UMGPS/HSGSA
- Hosted Governance & Strategy Committee meeting February 19th

Vice-President Academic & Senator – Lamia Mahzabin

Yet to be received.

Vice President External Affairs & Senator – Armin A

Yet to be received.

Vice-President Equity, Inclusion, & Diversity – Peggy Wu

Yet to be received.

Appendix III: President HSGSA – Ashraf Kadar Sahib

- Over the months of January and February, my work primarily focused on fulfilling ongoing committee obligations and ensuring the smooth administrative functioning of the HSGSA.
- At the governance level, I chaired and attended routine HSGSA Executive and Council meetings, as well as the HSGSA Annual General Meeting.
- I also actively represented the HSGSA at the broader university level by participating in UMGPS Executive meetings, Governance and Strategy Committee meetings, the UMGPS Town Hall, and the UMGPS AGM.
- Furthermore, I maintained attendance at regular MHRE meetings, FGPS Council meetings, FGPS Executive meetings, and Gala Committee meetings to support ongoing event planning.
- In addition to committee work, I dedicated time to special initiatives and administrative duties to support the graduate student body.
- This included organizing the HSGSA Pickleball Tournament, evaluating applications for the Continuing Education Grant, and preparing and reviewing PCL Nominations across both months.
- I also continuously worked on the preparation of various organizational documents to support council operations.
- Regarding my time commitment, I dedicated a total of 72 hours to HSGSA duties in January and 90 hours and 30 minutes in February. During both months, I maintained 10 regular office hours.
- Finally, I am pleased to report that I missed no scheduled meetings during this two-month reporting period.

Appendix IV: Vice-President Postdoctoral Affairs – Dr. Nazanin

PDFA Council Report – March 2026 Submitted by: Nazanin Vafaei

- **Election Process (PDFA Executive Transition)** During this period, I was actively involved in supporting the upcoming PDFA elections. This included:
 - a. Communicating with postdoctoral fellows to encourage participation and nominations
 - b. Engaging with potential candidates and discussing roles and responsibilities
 - c. Supporting the nomination process to ensure a smooth and transparent transition for the next PDFA executive team
- **Research Showcase Awards – Follow-up and Financial Processing** I continued to follow up on the financial processing of awards from the **2025 UM Postdoctoral & Graduate Research Showcase**.
 - a. The award documentation had been signed in December; however, it came to our attention that some recipients had not yet received their payments
 - b. I initiated communication with the relevant individuals (PDFA/UMGPS team) to clarify the status and help resolve delays
 - c. Ongoing coordination is in place to ensure that all awardees receive their funds as soon as possible
- **Meetings, Branding, and Gala Preparation**
 - a. Attended PDFA/UMGPS meetings and contributed to ongoing discussions
 - b. Provided feedback on logo design and branding materials
 - c. Participated in planning discussions for the upcoming UMGPS Gala
- **General Coordination and Communication**
 - a. Maintained communication with PDFA executives and relevant university contacts to support ongoing activities
 - b. Responded to inquiries from members regarding PDFA initiatives and processes

Appendix V: Senate Report – Timi O

Yet to be received.

Appendix VI: University of Manitoba Graduate & Postdoctoral Society CRO Report

Final CRO Report – UMGPS Election (2026-2027)

2026 UMGPS General Election

Final Results

The CRO report to Council was delivered on March 25th, 2026. The complaint and appeal deadlines have passed, making the following results final (pending ratification by the UMGPS Council)

UMGPS President & Senator

Emma Heath (253 - 57%), Won

Uche Nwankwo (188 - 43%)

UMGPS Vice-President Academic & Senator

Laleema Senanayake (193 - 43%), Won

Janie Dupuis (164 - 36%)

Manish Dhakal (56 - 12%)

Muhammad Aldhshan (37 - 8%)

UMGPS Vice-President External & Senator

Lamia Mahzabin (334 - 81%), Won

UMGPS Vice-President Equity & Inclusion

Kyra Swenson (378 - 92%), Won

UMGPS Vice-President Events & Clubs

Abiodun Adejumo (378 - 87%), Won

Summary of Violations

Throughout the Campaigning period, only one infraction was reported related to use of unauthorized campaigning material. In this case, the candidate did not seem to be acting intentionally and promptly reframed their campaign material in response to an inquiry from the

CRO. It was corrected within 24 hours; hence a minimum infraction was enacted. The details are as follows:

Complaints

- *Thrive Slate - The Candidate (Uche Nwanko) used two campaign slides with UM logo during all-candidates forum.*

After reviewing the **UMGPS General Election bylaws**, CRO and DRO decided this violates specifically under the "**Article XIV: Prohibitions and Violations**", point 1: "**No candidate, Slate, or Slide may distribute or use, campaign materials which contain logos associated with the UMGPS, HSGSA, or the University of Manitoba.**" A two-point demerit was issued against the slate.

Recommendations

Some amendments are required to the policy regarding the involvement of volunteers and the handling of third-party election campaigning and information dissemination.