STUDENT MATTERS
PRESENTATION BY
LEANNA BARWICK
JANUARY 30, 2023

Student Governance

OCAD University

Addressing student issues in governance is part of a larger systemic process of change

Acknowledgement for Student Matters

AS A RESULT OF THEIR CHAMPIONING STUDENT LEADERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT IN GOVERNANCE WE HAVE CREATED A STANDING SENATE AGENDA ITEM (STUDENT MATTERS). THIS SECTION GIVES STUDENT SENATORS A PLACE TO SPEAK THAT RECOGNIZES THE INHERENT POWER IMBALANCES THAT EXIST FOR STUDENTS IN THESE SITES OF ACADEMIC POLICY AND DECISION MAKING. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CARE AND EMPOWERING US TO NAVIGATE THIS IMPORTANT ISSUE, BEING A RESOURCE, SHARING KNOWLEDGE, AND USING THE POWER YOU HAVE TO MAKE SITES OF GOVERNANCE MORE ACCESSIBLE FOR STUDENTS.

Thank you!

NATALIE NANTON, SECRETARY TO SENATE

Thank you!

SIMONE JONES, SENATE CHAIR

Barriers for students reps in governance

SITUATION

There is no structure in place to bring together full student governance group that represents the largest stakeholder group within the university

BARRIER

Short student life cycle (4 years)

BARRIER

Individual capacity as students to balance their course load, labour outside of the institution and service within governance to address the student matters work

BARRIER

Short appointment terms of elected students

BARRIER

student governance reps are disembodied from a cohesive unit, including from SU

IMPACT

The lack of a cohesive student governance structure means that relevant information the representatives are elected to oversee and share back to the membership is not effectively communicated and distributed

OCAD Student Union

OCAD UNIVERSITY STUDENT GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

OCAD University Senate

OCAD University Board of Governors

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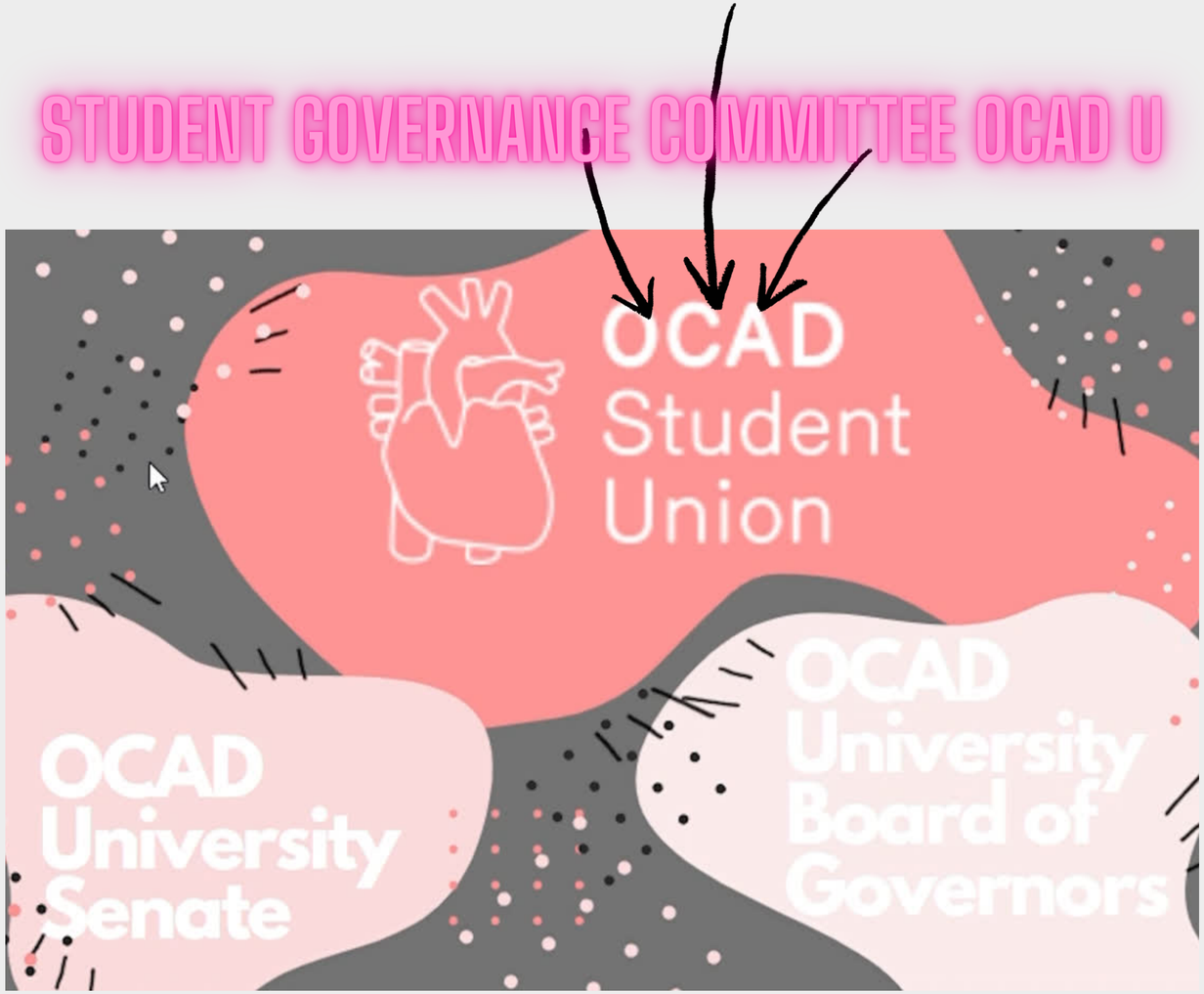
STUDENT GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE OCAD U



Committee Overview

The Student Governance Committee is a body of elected student representatives across all areas of governance at OCAD University.

One goal we have identified is to create a legacy for student issue representation on a systemic level that will outlive the appointment terms of individuals elected to represent the issues.

On-boarding between people in roles.

We will meet and strategize together on student matters, report back to the group to identify opportunities, issues, areas of growth and share updates/news.

We want to establish cohesive more impactful ways to communicate student issues to and from the membership.

Where we're at

LOGISTICS

Setting up meeting structures

INITIAL PHASE ORGANIZATIONAL DESIGN

- Define how structure will support larger student issue goals
- How could it merge with a contribute to existing systems
- How can this group help inform other feedback loops on a committee/Senate level?

EARLY CONSIDERATIONS

- Who is missing?
  - e.g. student reps IEC
- What conflicts of interest might arise with students sharing information across different groups and what confidentiality protocols if any should we align on

Academic Strategic Plan Goals within Governance

COMMUNITY GOAL

Empower student led initiatives & learning

COMMUNITY GOAL

Address barriers of access for students, specifically within the sites of power and decision making

How Can You Support Student Governance?

- How can student governance support you?
- Ideas for structure and information exchange?
- Be open to influence and understanding the diversity of student perspectives
- Dream of the endless possibilities for OCADU if more student voices were included

Strive to foster a deeper level of dialogue and inclusivity, make space for various and competing views, tensions, feelings, and styles of communication in a way that supports awareness of relative rank, power, and privilege and how these tend to marginalize various views, individuals, and groups

Thank you!

Are there any questions?

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