

**University of Windsor
Senate**

5.5.3: **Report from the Student Presidents – OPUS**

Item for: **Information**

Forwarded by: **Christopher Baillargeon**

OPUS Free Pizza Friday – April 5th, 2024

We had several students in attendance, mostly international students. We served approx. 200 to 250 students. All students attending these events were appreciative and asked when the next event/activity is to follow. Board, staff, and volunteers assisted with the distribution to make it a continued success.

UWSA Annual Awards Gala – April 5th, 2024

We, along with GSS, took part in the awards gala. It was attended by many and was a great event overall.

Spring Open House – April 6th, 2024.

At the Spring Open House, we had a great turn out with a steady flow of students and parents. During our tabling event, we handed out swag and gave first year students a chance to win a bursary prize. Also, we conducted an information session to discuss part-time transfer and mature students' options with our guest speaker, retired academic advisor Marty Lowman. The day was a great success.

Alumni Awards of Excellence – April 11th, 2024

We took part in this noteworthy tribute of excellence for returning alumni to speak on their past experiences, their current successes and anticipation of how bright their futures are and will be because of attending the University of Windsor. The event was well attended, well organized, and great food, drink, and company to enjoy the evening. The event was a great success.

Pilot program for textbooks – Bookstore/Follett update September 2024

In collaboration with the University, UWSA, GSS, and OPUS, textbooks for Fall 2024, for select courses will be offered at a discount at an overall assessed upfront fee based on number of courses. The assessed fee per course is approx. \$55 at a cost savings to the student from the regular textbook fee costs well over \$100 normally per course. This service will be offered digitally with an easy "opt-out" option, if students do not wish to take part in the program itself. This ancillary fee service is voluntary and offered at cost savings to students through an app and/or link to UWinsite. It will be evaluated for success following the test pilot implementation period.

OPUS/UWSA/GSS Transit Windsor UPass update – September 2024

In collaboration with GSS and UWSA, the UPass fees for returning students will be assessed at \$95 for returning undergraduate students, and newly attending will be assessed at \$148 per semester with discussions with Transit Windsor for Fall 2024. For graduate students, UPass will be assessed at a \$148 per semester fee. Summer will opt-in by choice at approximately \$200. Finalization for contract renewal is set for August 2024.

OPUS Health Plan Fee update – September 2024

Our OPUS Health Plan will be assessed with a slight increase from \$340.97 to \$349.49 for the Fall 2024-25 academic year. This is still at a cost savings, however with increased plan usage and coverage of premiums we needed to adjust ancillary fee and absorb majority of cost for our members for this upcoming year.