



Operating Policy – Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance (OUSA)

1. Purpose

- 1.1. To apply **Bylaw 10 – External Representation** and **Bylaw 10/A – Delegate Selection** to the MSU's membership in the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance (OUSA);
- 1.2. To establish the MSU's expectations of OUSA;
- 1.3. To establish the conditions of the MSU's OUSA membership;
- 1.4. To ensure that appropriate procedures are followed in the selection of delegates representing the MSU at OUSA functions.

2. Expectations of OUSA

- 2.1. The MSU shall hold OUSA accountable for:
 - 2.1.1. Providing a forum for constructive dialogue between full and part-time undergraduate student governments in Ontario;
 - 2.1.2. Striving to represent the views, beliefs, and needs of its member schools on issues directly related to the academic interests of undergraduates, including the quality and availability of post-secondary education in Ontario;
 - 2.1.3. Articulate these views, beliefs, and needs to all levels of government, university administrations, members of the university community, and the community at large;
 - 2.1.4. Be directly accountable and responsive to the undergraduate students on the campuses of its member schools in all areas of its activities, including the maintenance of a decentralized structure of operations responsible for its function to its members.

3. Membership Fee

- 3.1. The MSU will pay membership fees to OUSA through a per-student fee model, paid out of the MSU Operating Fund.

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- 3.2. Two-thirds of the membership shall be remitted to OUSA by July 31 according to the previous academic year's FTE total. The remaining third shall be remitted to OUSA by January 15 to reflect the November 1 FTE total.
 - 3.2.1. FTE refers to the number for full-time equivalent students represented by the MSU as defined by the Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada.
- 3.3. The membership fee shall be determined annually by the OUSA General Assembly, upon recommendation of the Steering Committee;
- 3.4. The MSU shall expect written notice of a change in membership fees to be normally served from OUSA to the MSU by February 1.
 - 3.4.1. Changes to the OUSA membership fee shall be reflected in the annual budget for the following year.

4. Change of Membership Status

- 4.1. Written notice of intent to change the MSU's membership status in OUSA must be provided to the OUSA Steering Committee ninety (90) days prior to such a vote occurring; the date of the vote must be included in the notice of intent.

5. Representation

- 5.1. The MSU's voting member on the OUSA Steering Committee (OUSA SC) shall be the Vice-President (Education);
 - 5.1.1. If unable to attend an OUSA SC meeting, the Vice-President (Education) may send an alternate Board of Directors member to attend the meeting; this alternate shall have no vote but shall have full speaking rights and shall not be excluded from closed session.
- 5.2. The MSU shall send one (1) voting delegate per three thousand (3000) students, as well as the Vice-President (Education), to all meetings of OUSA's General Assembly (GA);
 - 5.2.1. One (1) delegate shall be the Associate Vice-President (Provincial & Federal Affairs), or a designated representative;
 - 5.2.2. One (1) delegate shall be the President, or a designated representative;
 - 5.2.3. The remaining voting delegates shall be selected from the MSU membership by the Vice-President (Education) and the Associate Vice-President (Provincial & Federal Affairs) through an application and interview process;
 - 5.2.4. The MSU may send non-voting delegates at the discretion of the Vice-President (Education) & Vice-President (Finance);

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5.2.5. All OUSA General Assembly delegates must be ratified by the SRA.

5.3. The Vice-President (Education) has the authority to select an appropriate number of delegates to all non-GA meetings and functions of OUSA, including but not limited to transition meetings, strategic planning meetings, and advocacy meetings.

5.3.1. In the event that additional delegate(s) are needed for non-GA meetings and functions of OUSA, first consideration shall be given to the President and External Affairs Commissioner.

5.4. Any individual representing the MSU shall act in the best interest of the MSU and shall strive to ensure that fair and effective representation is upheld.

6. Interpretation

6.1. If there is a conflict between the MSU Constitution, Bylaws, and/or Operating Policies and OUSA policy, MSU policy shall take precedence.