

The background of the slide features a monochromatic blue color scheme. On the left side, there are several tall, vertical stacks of books of varying heights. Scattered throughout the scene are numerous open books, some appearing to be floating or falling, creating a sense of dynamic movement and academic pursuit. The overall aesthetic is clean and professional, emphasizing the theme of higher education and research.

Undergraduates of Canadian research- intensive universities

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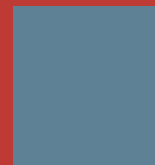
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Mackenzy metcalfe (She/her)



Vice-President of University Students' Council at Western University
(USC)

Chair of Undergraduates of Canadian Research-Intensive Universities
(UCRU)



Undergraduates of Canadian research- intensive universities



Undergraduates of Canadian Research-Intensive Universities (UCRU) is an informal coalition of student associations whose mandate is to advocate to the Canadian federal government for an affordable, inclusive and high-calibre undergraduate university education with opportunities for increased access to undergraduate research.

UCRU at a glance



250 000+

Students represented

**5 leadership
roles**

1/2 of members will hold
leadership roles

9 members

Smaller number of schools

**Founding
members**

A say in the creation of
UCRU



Alma Mater Society
of UBC



University of
Manitoba Students'
Union



McMaster Students
Union



University of
Saskatchewan
Students' Union



University of Toronto
Students' Union



Alma Mater Society of
Queen's University



Western University
Students' Council



Students' Society of
McGill University



Waterloo
Undergraduate
Student Association

Spotlight: Our Values

Aspirational



UCRU will strive to develop policy that while being pragmatic, is driven by popular student opinions and for the benefit of students

Evidence-based



UCRU ensures that its policy is supported by relevant research

Collaborative



UCRU shall ensure that all of its members have mechanisms to discuss concerns in a critical and equitable manner

Spotlight: Our Values

Focused



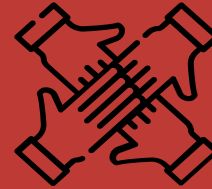
UCRU strives to advocate only on policies that impact the undergraduate student experience.

Non-Partisan



UCRU strives to judge policies of political parties on their own merits, rather than who puts them forward.

Equitable



UCRU strives to include an Indigenization lens and a broader equitable lens in the development of all its policies, and advocate for equitable treatment of all undergraduates.

Easy in

Joining UCRU is simple.

Easy out

Leaving UCRU is simple.



HOW ucru does advocacy

Lobby Weeks

Nationwide
campaigns

In-person meetings
with politicians



Research
Briefs

Relationships with
staffers

Letters to
ministers

Ucru Yearly timeline

New ucru
board is
composed



june

Yearly
priorities set



july

Federal budget
submission



august

*Throughout the year, UCRU also acts to meet the needs of students as the political climate changes.

In tandem to preparations for lobby week, UCRU may also send letters to ministers, meet with policy advisors, run campaigns, or speak to media.

Ucru Yearly timeline

Ottawa lobby
week



November

New Federal
budget
announced



march

New ucru
board is
transitioned



may

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Ucru policy priorities



Indigeno
us
Students



Student
Financial
aid



Internation
al students



Undergradu
ate research



Covid-19
student
supports



work-
integrated
learning

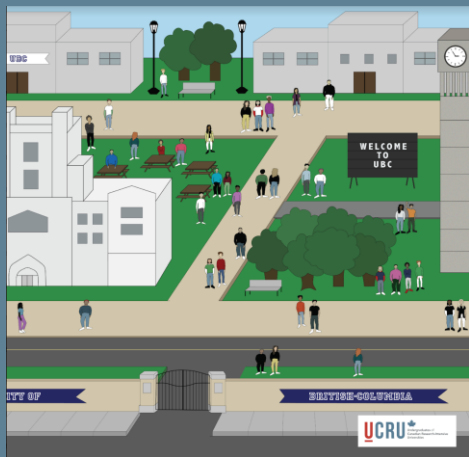
Ucru Areas of growth

Lobbying outside of
budget cycles

Recruiting other
u15 schools

Formalization

Online presence



WHAT IS THE DEBT FREE DEGREE CAMPAIGN?

A national campaign, led by the Undergraduates of Canadian Research Intensive Universities and the University Students' Council at Western University, aimed at increasing accessibility to affordable post-secondary education in Canada



ebt

Free Degree

[Click here to participate](#)

THE AVERAGE STUDENT GRADUATES WITH \$28,000 IN STUDENT DEBT.

WHAT CAN \$28,000 BUY YOU?

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| By <u>Canada Student Loans</u> | to <u>81/2/2019</u> |
| <u>Twenty eight thousand</u> | <u>28,000.00</u> |



28,000 BOXES OF MAC AND CHEESE



Spotlight: formalization

Consensus
on bylaws



UCRU members have worked all summer to ensure that each member agrees on our bylaws.

Lawyers
hired



UCRU aims to be officially registered as a not-for profit corporation by January.

Councils accept
bylaws



Once the lawyers have reviewed the bylaws, each UCRU member will bring the bylaws to their council and officially ratify them to become member of UCRU.

So how much does this all cost?



**UCRU does not currently charge a fee for
it's advocacy work but intends to work
towards one in the future.**

Benefits of a ucru fee

Institutional
memory

Full time staff
assistance

Consistency in
advocacy

Equal opportunity
for input between
schools

THANK S!

Do you have any questions?

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