STUDENTS’ COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING: JUNE 2014

The Regular Meeting of the Federation of Students Students’ Council at 12:30 PM on Sunday, June 8th, 2014 in SLC 1120/1121. The Speaker in the chair was Doug Turner and Andrew Clubine served as Secretary following his acclamation.

The following members were in attendance: Councillors Turner, Nelson, Hamidzai, Khan, Domingo, Lolas, Sidharta, Liu, McCready, Wan, Assaad, Nasif, Ramdev, Wang (ENG), Gafoor, Koo and Hayman. All four executives were in attendance.

Councillors Knight, Nassif, Balram and Wang (MATH) were exempt from attending the meeting.

Unexcused absence: Councillor Yazdani.

CALL TO ORDER

Speaker Turner called the meeting to order at 12:32 PM.

PRELIMINARIES

ELECTION OF SECRETARY

The meeting began with the election of the Secretary. President Burt nominated A. Clubine as Secretary. A. Clubine accepted nomination and there were no other nominations.

1. “BIRT Council elects Andrew Clubine as Secretary of Students’ Council”

   -Carried-

ELECTION OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Nominations for the election of the Assistant Secretary began with the following blank motion on the table:

2. “BIRT Council elects ______ as Assistant Secretary of Students’ Council.”

President Burt nominated VP Yasin as Assistant Secretary; VP Yasin declined the nomination. There were no other nominations.
3. Moved by VP Hamade, seconded by VP Yasin

   “BIRT Council lay the motion to elect an Assistant Secretary on the table”

   - Carried unanimously-

Election of Assistant Secretary was laid on the table. It will appear in the Preliminaries of the July Regular Meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. “BIRT Council approves the agenda for the June Regular Meeting.”

   -Carried unanimously-

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May Regular Meeting were approved, pending the following corrections:
- Correction made by President Burt to correct the wrongly identified members of PAC and PPC.
- Correction made by Councillor Hayman to acknowledge the election of the Deputy Speaker, Councillor Kianna Wan.

REPORTS

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

President
President Burt presented her Executive Report. She noted that the Action Plan will be completed soon.

Vice-President, Internal
VP Yasin presented his Executive Report, highlighting new clubs and DC pathway.

Vice-President, Operations and Finance
VP Balfour presented his Executive Report, highlighting the retirement of John Jongerius of Feds’ Used Books.

Vice-President, Education
VP Hamade presented his Executive Report. VP Hamade was recently elected OUSA’s VP
EXECUTIVE QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Hayman asked VP Yasin how many proposed clubs receive approval from Feds. VP Yasin responded that half of proposed clubs receive approval, others receive approval pending changes to constitution.

COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Turner (Arts)
Will begin reaching out to ASU and Arts Faculty to pursue outreach to first-year students.

Wan (Science)
Will create Facebook group and/or councillor meet-and-greet for communication for students within faculty.

Lolas (Math)
Feds fee increase approved by Board of Governors. AHS building to be bigger than planned.

Sidharta (Math)
Budget cuts made by MathSoc. New part-time employee in MathSoc office. Dean Goulden is retiring; 1 undergraduate student is on the hiring committee.

McCready (Science)
In process of setting up meeting with Faculty of Science administration.

Gaffoor (Environment)
Preparing proposals for communication plans for ENV and for Feds. Creating ENV councillor video.

Nelson (Arts)
Was in communication with Associate Dean of Arts about publicizing course evaluations. Will follow up with Council.

VP Hamade requested to be involved in all meetings about course evaluations. Councillor Nelson agrees.

Khan (Arts)
Will ask Arts students how to improve campus life.

Nasif (Science)
Will address question regarding ‘mandatory’ endowment funds fees.
Assad (Science)
New councillor. No report.

Liu (Math)

Hayman (SJU)
Involved with PSSA, History Society, ArBus Society. Hopes to bring Feds perspective to those groups.

Ramdev (Engineering)
Attends various meetings and will continue to update Council.

Wang (Engineering)
No contact has been made with new Engineering councillor, Councillor Yazdani. EngSoc to support Pride Day trip.

Hamidzai (Arts)
Has begun working with President’s Advisory Committee.

Domingo (Arts)
On Co-Op, but is still connecting with students. Challenge: How to increase unity among faculty student associations? His focus will be on GBDA Society development as students move to Stratford this Fall.

Koo (AHS)
On Co-Op term, but has engaged on Facebook groups for incoming students, encouraging them to connect with councillors.

Li (Math)
New councillor. No report.

All verbal reports were heard by Council. Written reports were approved in the consent agenda.

STANDING COMMITTEE

Policy & Procedure Committee
A report presented by PPC on upcoming policy recommendations.

Councillor Gaffoor asked about possibility of free parking on campus during non-peak hours. Lolas agreed and will investigate.
Council engaged in a conversation about whether or not it should task PPC with reviewing Feds policies, however no formal motion was made. Speaker Turner vacated the chair to make the motion so that debate could be opened on this issue. Councillor Wan became acting chair.

5. Moved by Councillor Turner, seconded by Councillor Gaffoor.

“BIRT Council tasks the PPC with bringing forward recommendations to Council regarding Students’ Council expiring policies over the current year.”

Councillor Wan vacated the chair. Councillor Turner reassumed the chair as Speaker.

Council discussed tasking PPC with policy review. It was determined that reviewing policy is already the mandate of PPC. Furthermore, PPC members assured Council that PPC will bring forward recommendations to next meeting. Therefore there was no need for a formal motion.

-Motion defeated-

UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS

CO-OP STUDENTS’ COUNCIL

6. Moved by VP Hamade, seconded by VP Balfour.

“BIRT Council add Co-Op Students’ Council to Council Procedure 10 (Committees of Council) as follows:

Co-op Student’s Council

a. Responsibilities
1. The Co-op Students’ Council is a body that meets to facilitate regular feedback channels between undergraduate students and the Department of Co-operative Education and Career Action and the Federation of Students on issues relating to co-operative education. It is a forum for students to advise the Vice President Education and CECA staff of current attitudes and opinions towards existing operations and to provide suggestions and advice for improvement.
The Council’s mandate covers a range of CECA operational issues including: job placement software (e.g. Jobmine), student-staff relationships at CECA, student support through co-op process, progress on CECA projects, employment standards, availability and diversity of jobs, etc.

b. Membership
1. The chairperson, who shall be the Vice-President, Education;
2. Three (3) voting members of Students’ Council enrolled in co-op, elected termly;
3. Two (2) students-at-large enrolled in co-op, elected termly;
4. Faculty Society student representatives of the Co-operative Education Council or a designated student enrolled in a co-op program;
5. Representatives from respective student societies operating at a satellite campus and Affiliated and Federated Institutions of Waterloo that offer co-op programs (Cambridge, Kitchener, St. Jeromes, Renison);
6. A representative designated by the Vice President Education, whose mandate includes co-operative education matters, non-voting.
7. Director, Student & Faculty Relations, non-voting
8. Co-op Student Experience Manager, non-voting

c. Meetings
1. This committee must meet at least two times per academic term.
2. Quorum for any meeting of this committee shall be a majority of those members elected by Students’ Council.”

-Carried unanimously-

RECESS

7. Moved by Speaker Turner:

“BIRT Council recess for 10 minutes at the customary 2:30PM recess time.”

-Carried-

Speaker Turner called the meeting back to order at 2:40 PM.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS (CONT.)

Following the amendment to Procedure 10 (Co-Op Students’ Council), nominations were opened for the 3 positions on Co-Op Students’ Council that are to be occupied by members of Council.

VPEd Hamade nominated Councillor Li to Co-Op Students Council. Councillor Li accepted the nomination.

VPEd Hamade nominated Councillor Gaffoor. Councillor Gaffoor declined the nomination.

Councillor Sidharta nominated Councillor McCready. Councillor McCready declined nomination.

Councillor Ramdev nominated Councillor Wang (ENG). Councillor Wang (ENG) accepted the nomination.

Councillor Lolas nominated himself.

Councillor Gaffoor nominated Councillor Balram. Councillor Balram was not present to accept his nomination.

Councillor Hayman nominated herself.

There were no more nominations.

8. Moved by Councillor Ramdev.

“BIRT that Council appoint Speaker Turner and Secretary Clubine as scrutineers for the election 3 members of Council to Co-Op Students Council.”

-Carried-

Speaker Turner and Secretary Clubine facilitated the election and tallied results. Councillors Lolas, Hayman and Wang (ENG) were elected to Co-Op Students Council.

10. Moved by Councillor Wan, seconded by Councillor Gaffoor.

“BIRT ballots from the Co-Op Students Council election be destroyed.”
-Carried-

Speaker Turner destroyed the ballots.

NEW BUSINESS

11. Moved by President Burt, seconded by Councillor Ramdev.

“BIRT Council renew Student Council Policy 3 (Statement of Autonomy) and Policy 8 (Request for Minutes of University Bodies) pending edits for proper grammar and spelling.”
-Carried unanimously-

12. Moved by President Burt, seconded by Councillor Ramdev.

“BIRT Council task the Education Advisory Committee with reviewing Policy 11 (Academic Cost Recovery) and Policy 18 (Tuition Set-Aside).”
-Carried unanimously-

13. Moved by President Burt, seconded by Councillor Ramdev.

“BIRT that Council rescind Policy 4 (University Ancillary Enterprise Operations) and Policy 6 (Counselling Services).”
-Carried unanimously-

Councillor Hayman provided an update from the Elections Committee. The committee will advertise Council vacancies.

14. Moved by Councillor McCready, seconded by Councillor Wang (ENG)

“BIRT PPC be tasked with proofreading and reviewing the format of Students Council Policies and Procedures to ensure consistent formatting throughout, and to allow PPC to make any changes that do not affect meaning or spirit of the Policies and Procedures.”
Carried unanimously-

Councillor Koo requested information from VP Balfour on reimbursement of councillors’ expenses. VP Balfour will forward reimbursement protocol to all councillors.

ADJOURNMENT

15. Moved by VP Hamade.

“BIRT the June 2014 Regular Meeting of Students’ Council be adjourned.”

-Carried unanimously-

The meeting was adjourned at 3:32 PM.