

Federation of Students' Council Minutes

SLC MPR, UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

Chair: ELIZABETH O'SULLIVAN *Secretary:* SENECA VELLING

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present (including remote attendees):

- Wu, Richard
- MacMillan, Kurt
- Matthew, Gerrits
- Ethan, Cadler
- Tran, Tomson (AHSUM representative)
- Codini, Jack
- German-Doucet, Jacque
- Mbandi, Joshua
- Mohan, Andrew
- Scambia, Miranda (ASU representative)
- Chen, Junru (Jerry)
- Cheng, Linyi (Lenny)
- Eyre, Alexander
- Small, Jason (Deputy Speaker)
- Shimoda, Mariko (EngSoc A representative)
- Arnold, Katie (EngSoc B representative)
- Baik, Vincent
- Mirlees, Carly (ESS representative)
- Akhtar, Bilal
- Hou, Yu Chen
- Hua, Deon
- Ourchane, Yussef
- Saleh, Rana
- Li, Rongzhao
- Lee, Alex (MathSoc representative)
- Kocko, Christopher (Assistant Secretary)
- Velling, Seneca (Secretary)
- Richard, Austin (SciSoc representative)
- Litchmanova, Svetlana (SoPhS representative)
- Campbell, Oliver

The following members were absent:

- Richardson, Savannah*
- Cortes, Amandreo
- Altaf, Muhammad
- GBDA representative

* excused

The following gallery were present and wished to be recorded:

- Beauchemin, Michael
- Siemens, Jacob

Regular Session

PRELIMINARIES

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, the Elizabeth O'Sullivan called the meeting to order at 10:44AM.

RATIFICATION OF DESIGNATE

Whereas MathSoc Student Council appointed Alex Lee as MathSoc designate to the Federation of Students Council.

Be it resolved that Council ratifies Alex Lee's appointment as MathSoc designate for the Winter 2019 term.

Councillor Li and Councillor Hua.

Motion carries unanimously

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Be it resolved that Council approve the Agenda, as presented.

Councillor Cheng moves to amend the agenda to add an item to approve-in-principle the referendum question on the legal service. Secretary Velling expressed confusion about this from a procedural standpoint as the legal service was already approved in principle (with the request that a referendum be held) by Council at the September meeting. Councillor Cheng stated that he wants Council to approve the actual wording of the referendum. Deputy Speaker Small states that this can be brought up during the President's Report as the wording is attached to it.

Be it resolved that the agenda be amended such that the motions amending Procedure 6 and Policy 20 be for first reading (and referral to the Policies and Procedures Committee) only.

Vice President Gerrits and Vice President MacMillan.

Secretary Velling reminded councillors that policies can be amended through the multiple reading committee process or outright approval with a 2/3rds majority while procedures can be amended with a single simple majority vote if desired. Councillor Eyre believes that his amendment to policy 20 could be considered in a single vote as only one sentence is being added to the policy.

Motion carries

With no further opposition, the Speaker adopted the agenda, as amended.

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Pursuant to Federation Policy 50, *Indigenous Engagement and Inclusivity*, the Federation of Students' Council acknowledges:

“The University of Waterloo is on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabeg, and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, land promised to the Six Nations, which includes six miles on each side of the Grand River.”

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Be it resolved that Council approve the minutes of the November 18th, 2018 meeting as presented.

Be it further resolved that Council approve the minutes of the December 2nd, 2018 meeting as presented.

Be it further resolved that Council approve the December 8th to 10th, 2018 electronic meeting records as presented and ratify the electronic voting results contained therein.

Secretary Velling and EngSoc B President Arnold.

Secretary Velling stated that the December 8th to 10th electronic meeting records were not ready due to competing priorities, although the results of that vote were sent out to councillors. He also noted that he made some minor revisions to the November and December minutes as requested.

Be it resolved that the question be split such that the last item be tabled.

Secretary Velling and Deputy Speaker Small.

Motion is considered friendly and adopted

Be it resolved that the November meeting minutes be amended on page 25 to replace "vulgarity" with "casual profanity".

Councillor Cheng and Secretary Velling.

Motion is considered friendly and adopted

Councillor Li noted that he attended both the November and December meetings remotely but is not marked as such. Secretary Velling noted that this correction would be made to the attendance register.

Vice President Gerrits wishes to expand on his report for the December meeting. He would like to add “policy regarding topics of student union autonomy and funding stability.” Secretary Velling inquired if the Vice President would like this noted in the prior minutes. Vice President Gerrits said he did not see the need provided it was noted in this set of minutes as a clarification.

Motion carries unanimously

REPORTS

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

PRESIDENT WU

Much of the President’s December had been hiring an Elections Events Coordinator and an Admin Assistant to support him in his duties. Other than this he would be happy to entertain any questions based on his written report.

EngSoc B President Arnold noted that the President’s Report should say January instead of December. The President noted he submitted an updated version but it was not included. The Speaker informed Council that it was not included as the Report was late.

Councillor Cheng expressed support for the President’s action plan. Under section 6.3, he pointed out that the President was hiring an elections coordinator to look into metrics for success in elections and requested that such metrics be sent to Council when ready. President Wu agreed they would; he noted that it was difficult to know all the metrics right now, but would send out more information when it was available. Secretary Velling reminded Councillors that elections reports that include metrics are routinely sent to Council following the elections process as drafted by the Elections and Referendum Officer and the Research and Policy Officer.

Councillor Akhtar asked for timelines for consultation for the university policies, comparing the consultation processes between policy 21 and 33/42. He asked where the President drew the line on what needed more effective consultation. President Wu responded that he is doing a more thorough consultation on this at the request of the university. The prior ones had been based on what the university administration had said were timelines for the policy. The Federation asked for additional time on the policies for greater student consultation given that students returning from holidays. With respect to the prior policies, a lot of the consultation processes and timelines are based on what the University slates for that policy. President Wu offered to sit down with Karen Jack and see what can be done to strengthen consultation. Councillor Akhtar asked for set timelines by the university that are publicized for the policies.

President Wu was connected through teleconferencing and there were difficulties in hearing him. As he stated that he would be on campus in about 45 minutes, Vice President

Gerrits proposed that his report be tabled so that it can resume when he is physically present.

Be it resolved that the President's report be tabled indefinitely.

Vice President Gerrits and AHSUM President Tran.

Motion carries unanimously

VICE PRESIDENT RICHARDSON

Vice President Gerrits noted he would pass on questions or comments from the report to the Vice President. None were asked.

VICE PRESIDENT MACMILLAN

Vice President MacMillan reported that he presented some of the day-to-day meetings with managers reporting to him. He pointed to his Bomber report for an outline of the management decisions. He noted that the Bomber is closed and that with the losses to the Bomber exceeding over \$1 million something needed to get done. With ongoing SLC-PAC construction, he noted that having construction overlap was desirable. He stressed that student consultations based on student interest is essential. He welcomed councillors' questions.

Councillor Hua was a bit curious about timelines; the Board approved the closure in October. Vice President MacMillan clarified that in fact the statement in his news release was not entirely accurate, as the Board approved a direction for financial responsibility and approved funds for renovation, and other resources to the Bomber, but did not approve a closure. He reiterated that the Board did not approve the closure. Councillor Hua asked if that report to Board with directions contained timelines. Vice President MacMillan noted that there were projected timelines, but with the greater losses this term than expected and some internal management factors, he had decided to close the Bomber on the advisement of senior management.

Councillor Eyre noted that for closure of the Warrior Tribe service both a committee and the Council voted to do this; why was no elected or fiduciary body making a decision on such a significant business decision, how was that responsible governance on the part of the Vice President, the Executive Committee, or the Board of Directors? Councillors generally concurred with this point and expressed frustration with the poor oversight and unprecedented assumption of decision-making authority on the part of the Vice President. Vice President MacMillan noted that the difference was that commercial services and HR matters sit with the Board because of liability, confidentiality requirements, and operational/legal risks. Councillor Eyre directly responded: but the Board didn't approve the closure, only renovations and a set of timelines you did not follow. Councillor Eyre continued to ask whether the same legal obligations the Vice President mentioned prevented Feds from giving the Bomber staff a one term notice about lay-off. Would this not have been allowed? Vice President MacMillan noted that if employees had known their employment would be the end of the term there could have been theft of money, product, and other items, as occurred with the closure of the "Fox and Fiddle" several years ago. Vice President MacMillan noted that

HR had procedural requirements to approach this which had been followed to the letter in accordance with the HR agreement between the university and Feds.

Councillor Li noted that Kurt had mentioned senior management considering other internal matters affecting the decision, what were those factors? Vice President MacMillan responded that this information couldn't be shared because it was internal to the HR department. Councillor Li stated that the management factors that Council couldn't be privy to, how much did those play into the decision? Vice President MacMillan noted that since discussions happened earlier in the term, there had been planning, but the accelerated timeline by himself and senior management was in part due to these internal management considerations and financial losses. He noted that logistically this early closure would also help with allowing a better chance of reopening in the Fall 2019 or Winter 2020 term. Many Councillors noted that timeline was aggressive for the level of renovations the closure implied.

Councillor Li asked what kind of options had been discussed to address the options of financial losses. How did senior management and the Vice President not find these options viable? Vice President MacMillan noted that most of the options presented relied on a closure. He noted that how it was running now was not financially sustainable. An industry business expert consultant pointed to do this too. Kurt asked for clarification on which options Councillor Li was asking about (referencing his presentation in October to Council). Councillor Li specified that some of the options presented for consultation, such as shifting to serving more food, seemed to allow for the Bomber to remain open. Vice President MacMillan thanked Councillor Li for clarifying and noted the suggestions brought forward in their caucus report were good. Vice President MacMillan noted that the ideas were good, but insufficient. Many had already been tested. He noted that patronage decline was the primary concern, stating that few if any students were using the Bomber. He noted that actions speak louder than words and the numbers do not lie. Students were not regular customers at the Bomber.

Councillor Mbandi noted that the next steps were engaging in student consultations from now until March. He asked how much input would be given to student input if the management were seeking external consultants and university advice. Vice President MacMillan noted that since this is a student organization we would be weighing heavily on student input, but emphasized that expert consultation would be necessary. He gave the example of students wanting a nightlife/club venue but decline in this market would make that option highly financially nonviable according to expert analysis. He noted that management would be representing Board with options based on the outcomes of consultation input.

Councillor Mbandi asked again following up that Feds would be moving to external consultants. Which external consultants would be consulted and what expert information do they have? Vice President MacMillan noted that he would be reaching out to other successful on-campus bars (such as WLUSU's WILFS). Since the closure became public, a lot of consultancy professionals provided advice on the matter. He noted that back in February one of these consultants was brought in. Many consultants so far have provided advice and this would continue (people in the industry and other student unions embedded in the culture).

SciSoc Designate Richard noted that in the [December 19th letter from the Chair of the Board](#), the first bullet point referred to a third-party report in July 2018. He asked when the report was ordered, why it was ordered, and what discussions occurred about bringing it to

Board when it was completed. Vice President MacMillan noted it was ordered in Fall 2017 by predecessor Brian Schwan when the establishment had already over \$800k in losses. Vice President MacMillan saw the report and followed up with management and the consultant with more conversations and questions. He wanted to present it to the Board. The report had a full operational review of management and operations and why we were suffering and what we should do (professionally/industry speaking). He highlighted that every 7-10 years bars and pubs should revitalize or experiment because student culture changes. Universities are hot beds for change and this culture change needs to be reflected in the operations. He also highlighted the report noted that the bar was trying to be too many things at one time (bomber breakfast, night club, full-service restaurant). Secretary Velling spoke to this as well, noting the report had identified Bomber trying to fill in for what Fed Hall used to be, but failing to do so and in effect causing the establishment to lose sight of its business plan and direction, becoming something it was not/trying to be everything.

SciSoc Designate Richard followed up that one of the action item to arise out of this time (Spring to August 2018 period) was a short term strategy. How was this strategy developed? What was in it? Why did this fail? Vice President MacMillan turned the question on SciSoc Designate Richard and asked how the Councillor knew about confidential information. SciSoc Designate Richard pointed to the letter prepared by the Board of Directors which had been signed by the Chair of the Board; it referenced a short-term strategy plan. SciSoc Designate Richard asked the Vice President not to be confrontational to a legitimate question and to respect the right of Councillors to exercise their duties in holding the Executive, Management, and Board accountable to students. Vice President MacMillan noted some strategy items including:

- Event based Bomber Wednesdays instead of weekly
- POS systems had bugs which were fixed
- Better labour costing and food costing

However, he highlighted that the losses continued and continued to worsen because of foot traffic declines due to the SLC/PAC construction and due to disinterest which had been seen in declining trends before the SLC/PAC project began. In order to match labour costs and food costs the Pub needed a minimum number of attendees to even open the restaurant. Closure made sense from this perspective.

EngSoc B President Arnold inquired if Vice President MacMillan felt that the practice of hiring previous Feds Vice President Operations and Finance into roles overseeing the Bomber contributed to its failure over the years? Following that, these people retained their jobs while students and Bomber full time staff did not. What did Kurt think of that? Finally, was it the opinion of Kurt that Feds should continue hiring outgoing Feds executives into positions they created while they were executives? Vice President MacMillan spoke to the first question, noting that people in these roles have more experience and ideas and can continue to bring forward ideas they had from when they were an executive. He noted that the primary issues were declining profitability and lack of patronage, which was not something the vice presidents could correct in one year terms easily and should not be seen as a reflection in their efforts necessarily.

EngSoc B President Arnold asked for comment on why these people retained their jobs while students and Bomber full time staff did not. Vice President MacMillan noted that these persons work in other areas too, not just Bomber specifically. For them to lose their positions for losses at Bomber would be ridiculous as some of them oversee a multitude of other commercial operations and other departments (like IT). Therefore, their removal wouldn't make sense.

EngSoc B President Arnold asked if it was the Vice President's opinion that Feds should continue hiring outgoing Feds executive into positions they created while they were executive. Vice President MacMillan asked for an example; EngSoc B President Arnold provided some examples she felt were such a case, with providing further clarifying details. Vice President MacMillan said that these hires went through an accountable HR process and had no further opinion.

ASU Designate Scambia asked what channels would be taken for consultation. Vice President MacMillan noted that the week coming up is welcome week so marketing is stretched thin, but the week after marketing would be pushing registration links for consultation sessions and other consultation feedback forms. This would include sending information/templates to Councillors to send to constituents.

Councillor Ourchane was curious when Vice President MacMillan was deciding to close the Bomber what was the sample of similar closures he considered in terms of notice periods and the associated risk of employee theft. Vice President MacMillan noted he cited the Pub "Fox and Fiddle" because of management discussions between parties. However, the decision on notice was made due to the strong recommendation of HR in relation to their policies.

Councillor Hua noted that in the prior minutes of the General Meetings, the role of Director of Commercial Operations was brought on and funded from student fees (at the time, prior to Council's reversion of this funding) to fix issues with commercial operations to fix losses. That is how it was sold to students. He noted that this role is not fixing the problem and asked Kurt to speak to the juxtaposition of this role's failure in oversight/attainment of those strategic objectives. Vice President MacMillan noted that the Director role was different and noted the Manager role was fresh (hired last July) and hadn't been tested yet. Councillor Hua noted that the Commercial Operations role had been around for some time and failed. Vice President MacMillan noted the the Director oversees all commercial areas with varying levels of success, such as Feds Used Books which is extremely successful even while books are becoming obsolete. The question became one of the failures of the product (the Bomber) not the Director.

Councillor Hua followed up to an earlier question on student consultations versus external professional consultation. He spoke to concerns about lack of consultation in the prior round of consultation because of one method of discussion. If students choose an option that loses money, how will the Board respond? How will management? Vice President MacMillan noted that this would be a decision going forward and cited McMaster as an example where their restaurant has a dedicated listed fee. If the student consultation points to non-financially sustainable options, then the Board would likely move to having a dedicated fee to support the pub, provided students supported such a fee.

Secretary Velling spoke to policy requirements that the businesses cover their own costs and that student fees are not spent on the businesses. This was Council's direction to the Corporation and that would need to change if the Councillor wished a financially unsustain-

able direction to be taken. Councillor Hua asked for clarification about where the changes to the Commercial Operations policy were at PPC. Secretary Velling referred to the Vice Chair of the Committee, Austin Richard. SciSoc Designate Richard noted that the policy is sitting with Vice President MacMillan's team for consultation and needs to be returned to PPC if the amendments are to be finalized and return to Council for final approval.

SciSoc Designate Richard asked Vice President MacMillan to speak to the *intended* PR strategy for the Bombshelter Pub closure. Vice President MacMillan noted that the Federation followed HR processes to inform people because of the higher risk of leaks and jobs on the line. At Board, it was discussed to have these communications going through the Risk Management Committee. He noted a personal misunderstanding. He explained to the Risk Management Committee what he would be discussing in the PR strategy, but not the closure or anything else. He told the committee about the Staff Relations Committee process but did not run finalized items by the committee. His "message from the VPOF" news and updates article was because he wanted to clarify things. He cited he could have done better and saw this as an opportunity for improvement. He noted he felt he was bound to HR policy processes. SciSoc Designate Richard asked what statements from the Vice President or Feds did Directors see before publication, because it was his understanding from Board agendas/minutes that the Board had required items be run by the Risk Management Committee or Directors. Vice President MacMillan directed this question to the Chair of the Board. Secretary Velling noted the Board did not see messaging, but recalled that Vice President MacMillan had stated the ideas behind some of the messaging. Vice President MacMillan apologized that he did not have opportunity to share this information.

VICE PRESIDENT GERRITS

Vice President Gerrits began by apologizing to Council for not wearing a collared shirt to the meeting (as he normally does) and noted that his report also had the wrong date on it, saying that he would update it. Matt noted his report was in the same format as usual. The highlight of his report was federal advocacy week in Ottawa. Had a number of meetings with MPs from major parties. Discussed policy around undergrad research, international students, student employment, and copyright in the context of fair dealing exception for education (where professors are allowed to limit to use materials for educational purposes up to a limit). Currently universities and student unions are highlighting the importance of maintaining fair dealing.

Councillor Hua focused on UCRU, asking what specific wins were received from MPs for students. Vice President Gerrits responded that UCRU is a lot less formal than OUSA engagements. He noted he would look at the spreadsheet for additional commitments. But he did recall that there would be someone on the finance committee pushing for financial aid for students. He's also identified potential champions in the Conservative and Liberal party for the student path to permanent residency.

Councillor Akhtar queried if the Vice President had an update on the tuition framework specifically from the province. Vice President Gerrits responded in the negative.

Councillor Cheng noted that Vice President Gerrits had mentioned at the last meeting that the co-op office was using new statistics. He would like to hear the details of this. Vice President Gerrits noted that it slipped his mind, but there were some things like students

on exchange that are no longer counted. Secretary Velling asked if this was disingenuous marketing. Vice President Gerrits responded that co-op led this change and agreed they would have more statistics that accurately portray their strategic goals and employment numbers. Cooperative Education Council and Co-op Students Council gave feedback on this. This change was passed by multiple student committees and bodies. More details would be provided.

Secretary Velling inquired about when advertising for delegates for the OUSA General Assembly this term would be up, noting that other schools have started promoting this and problems in the past of getting enough UW delegates. Vice President Gerrits responded that this will occur in the coming week.

Secretary Velling found out in end of September about some UW Food Services locations not following proper health practices including requiring student employees to come in when sick and not following proper hand washing practices. He noted that he interviewed many students but few wished to testify publicly or on record for fear or reprisal or impact on their work environment. Practices varied widely by location but he felt that many of them were being run too much like businesses. SciSoc Designate Richard spoke to his colleagues experience at UW Food Services, including a case where they had called in when sick but told to work, told to come in with short notice even during exams, midterms, and when ill. He noted his belief that this violated employment standards and that they were mistreated. It was her worst work experience in her life. It's not just her experience. Vice President MacMillan noted that he and Vice President Gerrits would look into this.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

Chair of the Board Velling gave a brief overview of his written report, highlighting the emergency meeting held on the Bomber (for which the public minutes were quickly approved and had been sent out in advance of the Council meeting as requested by Councillors).

With regards to Deputy Speaker Small's previous inquiry on the calculation of Councillor seat allocations, he noted that there are two potential datasets, with the Registrar's data not including students who are not fees arranged (excluding many members of the Federation) while the IAP data handles students in multiple faculties problematically. The Board chose to use the IAP data to ensure students voting rights were not diminished, even if there was some lag in the data which underrepresented changes in year-to-year growth. The Board had considered the right to vote of students the most important factor and wished to provide the most effective means to do so. He also reported that the Board is revamping its access to information policy (currently under committee consideration), is looking to hire a corporate secretary, is revamping organizational transition, approved executive action plans and the Board's annual plan, reappointed MNP as the Federation's auditor's (since the Annual General Meeting had failed to do so), set a date for the Winter General Meeting (scheduled in the evening in response to student consultation), and has provided its opinion on several proposed policies. Deputy Speaker Small asked in what faculty does the IAP data count students enrolled in multiple-faculty programs? The Chair of the Board responded that they are counted in the faculty that the program is housed (with Software Engineering counted under its own classification).

Councillor Mbandi asked about the minutes from the September Board meeting and

others. The Chair of the Board noted that he could approve a draft under the Corporations Act but the Board was required to approve them in accordance with procedure. He deferred to Tomson Tran, the Secretary of the Corporation, who noted that the minutes had been completed and were awaiting approval.

SciSoc Designate Richard thanked the Directors for getting minutes to Council over the break (holiday break especially) which is more than what he expected.

Councillor Cheng asked about the legal advice obtained regarding the legality of alternative delegates. The Chair of the Board responded that the opinion of legal counsel was that the Corporations Act allows the Federation to designate both corporate and alternative delegates but that the Bylaws do not have a mechanism to create alternative delegates, with Councillors being the corporate delegates; suggestions were offered for how alternative delegates could be chosen but was wary to the suggestion that they could serve as a form of proxy for councillors. He nonetheless recommended that the question of councillor proxying be further discussed at PPC and suggested that Councillor Cheng should be invited to such discussions if they occur. Councillor Cheng then asked how much it had cost to obtain that legal opinion; the Chair of the Board responded that he did not know or could disclose this information; Vice President Gerrits added that the billing is one month in arrears so they would have to wait until the bill for this came to know.

Councillor Cheng inquired about the task force discussion on why the Annual General Meeting failed to keep quorum. The Chair of the Board spoke to various operational, logistic, and marketing considerations. President Wu said he had nothing to add to the Chair's statement. Councillor Cheng asked for the recommendations or set of recommendations to go to Council mailing list; President Wu agreed this would happen.

Be it resolved that Council recess for 10 minutes.

EngSoc A President Shimoda and EngSoc B President Arnold.

Withdrawn from consideration by the movers after some discussion

REPORT FROM THE OFFICERS OF COUNCIL

Speaker

Speaker O'Sullivan had no report to deliver at this time.

Deputy Speaker

Since the start of the meeting, Deputy Speaker Small has become aware that new SoPhS designate Svetlana Litchmanova was appointed by the SoPhS Board of Directors.

Be it resolved that Council ratifies Svetlana Litchmanova's appointment as SoPhS designate for the Winter 2019 term.

Deputy Speaker Small and Secretary Velling.

Motion carries unanimously

As the assistant secretary is remotely attending today, he is not well placed to take minutes during the feedback session later today, as originally intended in the motion calling for the feedback session.

Be it resolved that Council designates _____ to take minutes during the feedback session instead of the Assistant Secretary.

Deputy Speaker Small and Secretary Velling.

EngSoc B President Arnold volunteers herself for this role and is acclaimed.

Motion carries with EngSoc B President Arnold in abstention

Secretary

Secretary Velling noted the councillors that are vulnerable to expulsion due to their absences if they miss this meeting or any subsequent meeting. In response, a councillor noted that arts councillor Elisa Umuhoza graduated last term, making the seat vacant. Secretary Velling noted that the ASU was now entitled to two representative appointments (one designate for the president and one temporary replacement for the vacant seat). Discussion occurred around the differing standards around the resetting of absences applied to society representatives compared to other councillors.

Councillor Cheng asked about the progress on setting up a page for past election, referendum, and other GM results. Secretary Velling noted that this was being done as part of overhaul of governance part of the website.

COUNCILLOR REPORTS

AHS Caucus

AHSUM brought up the orientation held for all of AHSUM. Joint events for other societies events and the all-societies assembly are being organized. Secretary Velling asked what the all-societies assembly was. AHSUM President Tran noted this was an initiative to get all the societies to meet together and work on sharing practices and group goals on the line. EngSoc B President Arnold added that this is based on ESSCO and CFES best practices sharing and that Feds doesn't often prioritize societies wants in advocacy and this would help prioritize and outline society level advocacy. Seneca requested that relevant advocacy priorities be provided to Matt and EAC.

Arts Caucus

ASU Designate Scambia reported that new software and printers that were purchased for ASU last term, which was a new technological leap from the 90s. Succession planning for the ASU is currently under way. This will help the roles' transition. Higher interest from first year that has been seen in years prior, which is exciting. Arts Gala event in March is being planned.

Engineering Caucus

Deputy Speaker Small noted that a written report was submitted. EngSoc B President Arnold noted that she had forwarded the Chair's and the Vice President, Operations and Finance's emails regarding the Bomber closer to members of EngSoc Council to provide factual information. Feedback in response was that students didn't object to the closure, but found the handling and communication was very inappropriate since the Federation should prioritize students first. CFES conference was in the first week of January; their priorities for this year are mental health and internship opportunities; the newly elected CFES executive team includes one of EngSoc's executives.

Environment Caucus

Nothing to report.

Mathematics Caucus

Councillor Saleh and Councillor Hua spoke to the MathSoc side; new things coming up from MathSoc include welcome week (this week) and improvements to MathSoc's mental Health strategy and events. Working with the mental health commissioner from EngSoc. MathSoc asked for Feds and societies to work with them if interested. Councillor Li continued that transition into this term had technological issues with non functioning mailing lists and email addresses. MathSoc is aiming to upgrade their infrastructure, this will be discussed more at Committee of Presidents. In response to comments on trying to get non-profit access to G Suite, Secretary Velling spoke to Feds being a not profit with the Societies being under the auspices of the Federation. Discussion moved to support for mailing lists from the Federation's IT department.

Science Caucus

Secretary Velling spoke to interest of an indigenous affairs committee. He noted some work by the caucus in discussion with the RPO on what other schools had done that would provide some basis for understanding and potentially then move to consultation and see what WISC, ISA, and other appropriate stakeholders saw as valuable. Councillor Mbandi asked what indigenous groups were involved thus far. Secretary Velling said background research had just commenced but noted that emails had been sent out in the weeks prior with minimal response. It was noted that the RPO had met with Lori Campbell at St. Paul's who expressed interest in the idea. The caucus was interested in Feds having another useful committee here not a redundant or disengaged one.

Cambridge

Not present.

Kitchener

SoPhS Designate Litchmanova starting up responsibilities and planning events with SoPhS.

Stratford

Not present.

St. Jerome's University

Councillor Campbell noted promotion of mental health awareness and raising funds for Bell Let's Talk. Speakers and give-aways have been lined up, hoping not to compete with main campus. He brought up concerns with the nomination of candidates for the St Jerome's councillor seat not being available online. President Wu said he would look into it. Secretary Velling noted that there was not to be an elected seat for St. Jerome's as the sole allocated seat is to be for the SJUSU President or their designate. However, a bylaw amendment is being worked on that that would make the society councillor seats not count against councillor allocations.

Be it resolved that the President's report be raised from the table.

Deputy Speaker Small and AHSUM President Tran.

Councillor Cheng brings up concerns about wanting lunch and there maybe being a lot of questions. Speaker O'Sullivan suggested that any questions should be kept concise to get to lunch quicker.

Motion carries

EXECUTIVE REPORTS (CONTINUED)**PRESIDENT WU (CONTINUED)**

To repeat what was reported earlier: President Wu noted some corrections to his report including changing the date on it and an updated version of another document (referendum). In addition, he spoke to consultation on policies, especially far reaching ones. In terms of timelines for how long to consult students on, this is something that's regularly pushed for, but many policies are being reviewed and are on-going at any given moment. He has been working to get more student voices on Policies 42 and 33. He agreed to sit with Karen Jack (University Secretary) to discuss how much consultation should occur.

Secretary Velling requested guidelines be produced by the University as he noted that their committee process was poor in its level of engagement of undergraduates. He noted that there were issues with the policy framework, resulting in far-reaching policies not being thoroughly reviewed, and asked executives to lobby more for removal or limitations on class G policies and to include proper consultation of undergraduates in the policy process. Councillor Akhtar expressed his agreement that class G policies have been overused.

Deputy Speaker Small asked if the SLC-PAC expansion was still on schedule, to open at the end of Spring 2019. President Wu noted the current official word was "yes". However, he cautioned that he needed to consult with the Board of Directors on what could be disclosed before providing further details. He stated that he asked if the timeline was still feasible, the project manager hesitated and noted technically yes. Secretary Velling noted that he sent an email about this too and promised to provide more information to the extent permitted

under confidentiality requirements. President Wu noted that the University owns the project so as far as risk is concerned so the Federation isn't in harms way with respect to the matter.

Councillor Cheng noted President Wu had provided a for information item regarding the upcoming referendum.

Be it resolved that that an agenda item to consider approval-in-principle of the referendum questions proposed by the President be added to the start of Business Arising.
Councillor Cheng and Councillor Hua.

Motion carries

Be it resolved that Council recess for 30 minutes.
Secretary Velling and EngSoc B President Arnold.

Motion carries unanimously

Secretary's Note: Council reconvened at 1:35PM.

Be it resolved that an agenda item to discuss the executive action plan update be added to the end of General Orders.

Be it further resolved that the agenda item regarding the Bombshelter Pub be moved to occur after this new item.
Deputy Speaker Small and Councillor Campbell.

Motion carries with Councillor Mbandi in abstention

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

REFERENDUM QUESTIONS

Councillor Cheng made a request to change the title of the referendum to make it clear that the legal service and the UPass are two separate matters. Specifically, he requested that the title change from "Feds Legal Service and UPass referendum" to "Feds Legal Service and UPass referendums".

SciSoc Designate Richard asks for clarification on the final item on the document about on eligible voters. For ballot two, "eligible voters shall be all students with 1 or 2 on campus courses". SciSoc Designate Richard then asked if this was to identify non-part-time students. But anyone can become a part-time student at any time if they end up in that situation. He said that was improper. President Wu noted that he originally envisioned all students to vote on the item, but the case was made that similar to how past students voted on the past expansion for future students (in which they would not pay or not see benefit outright). He noted that this decision is based on multiple past referenda where those with the current applicable conditions should be eligible to vote. SciSoc Designate Richard asks who made the decision. Vice President Gerrits responded that it was the Executive Committee and that PT students can weigh in better on this because they do not currently have access to

UPass and so they would have a better idea about what this access would look like. He reiterated some of the President's points and noted there were limits in how items could be restricted currently under Council Procedure and the data provided by the Registrar. He then raised the question as to whether all students should be eligible to vote for a Society fee or not.

Councillor Eyre asked if this would exclude students currently on co-op or off term who don't have currently have the right to vote on this; Vice President Gerrits confirmed this to be the case. Secretary Velling brought up that this would exclude off-term students who are normally part-time during their academic terms. Vice President Gerrits answered that this is a conflict between principles and practicality.

Secretary Velling said that there a variety of situations where someone might become a part-time student and said the example of a society fee isn't relevant here as the bylaws say that all members have the right to vote in Feds referendums while any society referendums are being conducted in accordance with the society's bylaws even if they are using the Federation's voting infrastructure. He suggested that the issue of non-part-time students lacking awareness of the issue could instead be addressed by having a second question that allows students to self identify as part-time or full-time.

SciSoc Designate Richard asked the Speaker whether Council has the authority to change these requirements at this time. Deputy Speaker Small responded that it would depend on whether the referendum has been approved yet, while Secretary Velling stated that Council has the authority to approve the language of referendum questions regardless of who calls the referendum. President Wu stated that while the referendum has been called, he submitted the language to Council so that they could consider it. Secretary Velling advised on the Bylaw interpretation to Council and noted that currently only procedure required that the referendum allow all students to vote. He noted it was not an unreasonable interpretation of the bylaws that the referendum could be restricted to part-time students, but that it was also not inherently clear either. He noted that an amendment of procedure this close to the start of the election period could run against bylaw challenges too.

Richard notes that four hypothetical outcomes exist if the referendum was open to all students:

- Full-time students don't care and vote in favour while PT students vote against, causing the referendum to pass despite part-time opposition.
- Full-time students don't support but part-time students do, causing the referendum to fail.
- Both support it.
- Both oppose it.

If the self-identification question were to be included, then those results would also need to be published and there could be issues then with respect to what actions are taken with those results.

Secretary Velling posed the question of who are we catering to. He suggested that since part-time students who would be paying for it, their vote should vote should be the one that

counts. President Wu noted that including part-time students in UPass could potentially impact the amount of the fee that is charged to full-time students (more likely as a decrease than as an increase).

Councillor Akhtar suggesting that students that were part-time in the current or prior two terms could be allowed to vote. President Wu responded with uncertainty on whether it was technically possible to implement that.

SciSoc Designate Richard asks how comparable situations were handled in the past. He noted that as he reads the bylaws all members should be allowed to vote. Vice President Gerrits notes that part-time students have had this in the past and voted not to be part of the UPass agreement. Deputy Speaker Small asked if the two UPass referendums occurred at the same time; Vice President Gerrits did not know.

Secretary Velling and Deputy Speaker Small point to Article 11.3(2) of the Bylaws which states: "Unless otherwise specified by Students' Council, Council shall resolve all matters of controversy in elections and referenda."

SciSoc Designate Richard notes he doesn't necessarily support this motion but would like to move it for a discussion and decision:

Be it resolved that that the UPass referendum be modified to allow all members to vote rather than only current part-time students.

SciSoc Designate Richard and MathSoc Designate Lee.

Be it resolved that the UPass referendum ballot include the following self-identification as a second question: "Are you currently, or likely in your studies, to study as a part-time student?" (with response options "yes", "no", or "decline")

Vice President Gerrits and SciSoc Designate Richard.

Motion is considered friendly and adopted

MathSoc Designate Lee asked "I am currently on a co-op term and am taking a course while on co-op. on quest, it lists me as a full-time student, but on my tuition bill, it lists that i am paying part-time tuition. would I be considered a part-time student or a full-time student?" Vice President Gerrits says that in this case it would be up to him to choose how to self-identify.

Vice President Gerrits asks if President Wu knows if two questions can be connected on the voting site; President Wu says that he would need to check on that.

Be it resolved that Council permits the Executive committee to implement changes to this language and structure that remains within the spirit of the original motion.

Secretary Velling and SciSoc Designate Richard.

Motion is considered friendly and adopted

Councillor Cheng said it was common sense to allow all members to vote. Some Councillors disagreed noting that only those affected by fees and service on this item (PT students) should be voting.

Councillor Hua pondered how it would work if a majority of part-time students said yes but a plurality or majority of all students said no, given that full-time students outnumber

part-time students significantly. Secretary Velling asked Vice President Gerrits to clarify his position. Vice President Gerrits spoke to part-time students being best qualified to make decisions about their current predicament. He also noted that many students – such as Engineering or professional students – who would never likely be part-time and why should they be able to vote in matters that only affects part-time students.

A strawpoll was held on the matter; 17 councillors preferred that all students be able to vote (per the stipulations in this amended motion) while 4 councillors preferred that only part-time students be able to vote (with the remaining councillors present not expressing an opinion).

Motion carries

Be it resolved that that legal service referendum language be modified such that "\$30" be replaced with "\$29.99 or less".

Be it further resolved that clarifying text on what the legal service involves be added to the legal service referendum language.

Councillor Cheng and Councillor Hua.

Secretary Velling noted that he had requested that a explanatory page be produced. President Wu confirmed the page does exist and he would make sure it was there.

SciSoc Designate Richard asked why to change to \$29.99. Councillor Cheng responded that \$30 would seem like a big number, bringing up how stores price things with .99 endings. Councillor Mbandi said it was misleading to put \$29.99; most councillors agreed but some noted the benefit would be simple psychology.

Councillor Mbandi asked if the price could be expressed as a termly figure. President Wu and Secretary Velling clarified that that isn't possible because the termly amount would be different for co-op versus regular students (similar to with the Health and Dental plan), however they stated that it would if successfully adopted be implemented as a termly fee.

Deputy Speaker Small asked what price the Board reached following negotiations. Secretary Velling noted that it is the same as the one in the previous Council presentation of about \$9 per term or \$26 per year.

Vice President Gerrits spoke to negotiations that would occur after the referendum which require some leeway of the price being a bit higher than quoted just to be safe. As such, this can be subject to change. Speaker O'Sullivan noted that this is a slight psychological discussion and not really a useful discussion for the assembly.

Withdrawn from consideration by the movers

Be it resolved that the legal service referendum language be modified such that "no more then" is replaced with "lest than" and such that the dollar amount and period be bolded (e.g. **\$30.00 per year**).

Secretary Velling and Councillor Cheng.

Councillor Cheng asks for background information to be emailed out to Councillors; President Wu responded in the affirmative.

Councillor Cheng asks to add to the landing page clarification that references the comparison to the Feds Health and Dental plan. Secretary Velling noted that the Executive had said the information was in the background information.

Motion carries unanimously

Be it resolved that the legal service referendum language be modified such that the following text be included: "As with the Feds Dental Care Plan, students may choose to opt-out online from this service during a change-of-coverage period for a full-refund."

Councillor Cheng and Secretary Velling.

Motion carries

Be it resolved that Council approves the language of the referendums as amended.

Secretary Velling and President Wu.

Motion carries unanimously

Secretary Velling asks for ERAC to draft procedural amendments to make them responsible for language approval of referendums and that Council restrict itself to ratification of those decisions. Debating the location of articles and pennies in a dollar amount was not a useful exercise of Councillor's time and better reserved for a committee.

PROCEDURE 9 AMENDMENT ON NEWS GROUPS

Be it resolved that Council adopts the attached Amendment to Procedure 9 (News Groups), bearing in mind that Council had already adopted a resolution containing the primary elements of this amendment in our September 2018 meeting.

Councillor Cheng and Councillor Hua.

Councillor Cheng spoke to this resolution that was first considered by Council in September and referred to the Policies and Procedures Committee (PPC) who returned it in November at which point it was tabled as it was in the wrong format. He re-wrote the resolution as a procedure while keeping the same spirit as before. He noted this was common practice already for the most part. This would formalize the practice.

SciSoc Designate Richard reminded Council that PPC's formal opinion in November was to reject the item.

Deputy Speaker Small asked Secretary Velling's opinion on whether he considered the tasks mandated in this to be burdensome. Secretary Velling responded that most of this is already common practice and newsgroups can be invited simply by them being on the mailing list, allowing them to read the agenda for themselves. However, he felt that it should be up to the newsgroups to cover the meeting and not up to any of the officers to produce a summary for their use as that is fundamentally their job as a news organization.

Be it resolved that the item be amended to strike clause 11.

Secretary Velling and Speaker O'Sullivan.

Motion is considered friendly and adopted

On a point of information, Vice President Gerrits asked how far in advance is the agenda procedurally required to be released. Deputy Speaker Small noted that it was minimum 4 days, but it could be more.

Motion carries with Deputy Speaker Small and Secretary Velling in abstention

Be it resolved that that the meeting's adjournment time be changed to 4PM.

Secretary Velling and Councillor Hua.

Motion carries

GENERAL ORDERS

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Be it resolved that Council selects _____ to fill the vacant councillor seat on the Education Advisory Council.

Be it further resolved that Council selects _____, _____, and _____ to fill the vacant at-large seats on the Honorary Lifetime Membership Committee.

Deputy Speaker Small and Vice President Gerrits.

Deputy Speaker Small noted the the vacancy on the Education Advisory Council (EAC) arose from Councillor Hua becoming VP Academic of MathSoc and therefore gaining an *ex-officio* seat on the committee and vacating the councillor seat he previously held while the vacancies on the Honorary Lifetime Membership Committee (HLMC) were seats that had never been filled since the initial election to committees in May; given that this committee only operates in the Winter term, he felt that now would be a good time to pursue filling the remaining seats.

Vice President Gerrits noted that Council had allowed the HLMC seats to be filled by the Executive Committee and that they were going to start to work to do so but chose to hold off once they saw this motion on the agenda.

Upon an initial call for nominations to EAC, none were received. Secretary Velling gave a summary of EAC's responsibilities. EngSoc B President Arnold encouraged a non-engineering student to take this seat as the committee already has two engineering councillors on it. Secretary Velling noted that complaints had been brought forth by Arts students about on campus employment and therefore recommended that an arts councillor run for the committee. Still no nominations were received.

Be it resolved that Council permit the Education Advisory Council to fill the vacancy with interested at-large members subject to subsequent ratification by Council.

Secretary Velling and SciSoc Designate Richard.

Motion is considered friendly and adopted

Clarification is made that there is in fact two councillor seats on HLMC rather than one as was believed due to a typographical error in the procedures.

Be it resolved that the motion be amended to be filling one vacant councillor seat on the Honorary Lifetime Membership Committee in addition to the at-large seats.
Deputy Speaker Small and Secretary Velling.

Motion is considered friendly and adopted

Upon request by EngSoc B President Arnold Vice President Gerrits explained the role of the HLMC as being generally empowered to name honorary lifetime members of the Federation, which confers an honour (not real membership for the purposes of the Act) for their meaningful contributions to the student body. No councillor nominations were received.

Deputy Speaker Small invites Michael Beauchmenin to speak. Michael nominates Jacob Siemens; Jacob reluctantly accepts the nomination. With no other nominations, Jacob is acclaimed.

Be it resolved that Council permit the Honorary Lifetime Membership Committee to fill all remaining seats with interested at-large members subject to future ratification by Council.
Secretary Velling and Vice President Gerrits.

Motion is considered friendly and adopted

Motion carries with Councillor Mbandi in abstention due to being out of the room during discussion

Be it resolved that Students' Council ratifies the appointment of Rayyan Ahmed Quraishi to the at-large seat on the Internal Administration Committee.

Be it further resolved that Students' Council appoints councillors _____ and _____ to the Student Life Endowment Fund Committee.
Deputy Speaker Small and Secretary Velling.

Deputy Speaker Small introduced the motion as being self-explanatory. Secretary Velling summarized what the Student Life Endowment Fund Committee does.

Vice President Gerrits nominated himself; Councillor Hua is nominated by Councillor Li; Deputy Speaker Small nominated himself.

Vice President Gerrits withdrew his nomination. Councillor Hua and Deputy Speaker Small are acclaimed.

Motion carries with Deputy Speaker Small and Councillor Hua in abstention

PROCEDURE 9 AMENDMENT ON PROXY VOTING

Be it resolved that Council gives leave to introduce for first reading the attached Allowing Proxy Voting for Remote Members of Council procedural amendment.

Be it further resolved that Council refers the proposed amendment to the Policy Procedures Committee (PPC) to assess its legality or seek consultation advice.

Councillor Cheng and EngSoc B President Arnold.

Councillor Cheng introduced the item, referring to the Chair of the Board's report. He noted remote councillors had some difficulty participating (with issues including muting, overlapping speakers, managing the speakers list).

Councillor Hua noted his agreement with Councillor Cheng stating that Councillors in the Math Caucus were having difficulty getting their voices across or hearing the debate properly.

Deputy Speaker Small understands this concern substantially, concurring that attending remotely has never been a pleasant experience for him. But he does not consider proxy voting to be a proper solution as it does not allow councillors to properly participate in the meeting. He instead supports different solutions to the issue.

Secretary Velling spoke to the motion and supported it being discussed at PPC, but highlighted legal difficulty of this given the Ontario Corporations Act requirements around delegate bodies, which in the opinion of legal counsel the Students' Council was.

EngSoc B President Arnold noted that for a student union that represents a largely co-op student body the Federation is very bad at supporting governance and committees for students on co-op. She noted that other than proxies there were other options including investment in better infrastructure that could also go to support Societies too.

Councillor Li noted that we are effectively already often requiring a proxy (i.e. a councillor in the room speaking on their behalf) in order for councillors connected remotely to raise their points. He noted that currently we have no method of delegating proxies. He advised sending it to PPC for review of legality.

Motion carries with Deputy Speaker Small in opposition

Secretary's Note: EngSoc A President Shimoda left the meeting at 2:58PM.

DATA-DRIVEN DECISIONS POLICY

Be it resolved that Council gives leave to introduce for first reading the attached Making Data-Driven Decisions and Understanding Students' Needs corporate policy.

Be it further resolved that Council refers the proposed corporate policy to the Policy Procedures Committee (PPC) to make revisions and record of debate.

Councillor Cheng and Councillor Hua.

Vice President Gerrits said that the spirit section of this motion is the best he has ever seen.

Councillor Cheng stated that this is about getting data and receiving feedback. All corporations make decisions made by data. When Apple produces a new iPhone model they do consultation and they look at financial and operations data. There needs to be more data in the decisions that the Federation makes. Rhetoric and special interest groups (such as WPIRG) shouldn't guide decision making; any policy process should rely heavily on data. As an example, he highlighted that with data on constituent voter turn out we can target the groups that vote the least. As another example, he brought up the principle of value-for-money, noting that the costly MappedIn kiosk in the SLC was very useless. Better allocation and decision making of spending is useful. Quantifying student concerns is useful. How many students have concerns with Federation or University services? Data helps with this. With regards to the feedback section of this policy, he stated the creation of an annual census or survey would be useful.

Secretary Velling cited surveys run by Science Caucus and the turn out in those methods and the positive results from them. He stated his support for the policy and noted he expects some minor amendments at PPC but supported it nonetheless.

Secretary's Note: Councillor Campbell left the meeting at 3:30PM for work.

Be it resolved that the motion be amended to strike the 2nd-to-last clause regarding an annual census/survey.

Vice President Gerrits and President Wu.

Vice President Gerrits noted that global surveys were something he was interested in but with discussion with his SRM and RPO, they indicated interest in more targeted research and to look at other methods of gaining quantifiable data, citing the bi-annual OUSA survey and the annual Feds post-election survey (which includes a question on what students would like to see improved in the Federation) that are already done. He noted that on his staff's behalf and his own he was moving to strike this in favour of a more targeted approach.

Councillor Mbandi said this was a good idea. He asked how Councillor Cheng wished for data to be collected. Councillor Mbandi asked if caucuses would be better collecting data or what sort of vision did Councillor Cheng have about collection.

Councillor Cheng said it would be nice to work with the registrar to send emails out to all students that caucuses could use to put out surveys.

Councillor Mbandi asked if this meant that in future meetings would they require statements of who they surveyed and for what period or something similar. Councillor Cheng responded that that would be nice if possible.

Secretary Velling supported Councillor Mbandi's idea about focusing on how many people were surveyed and groups they belonged to but noted that he hoped this would compliment the committee process rather than to solve problems on the floor of Council meetings.

Secretary Velling proposed changing the amendment to recommend that the committee strike that clause so that running a census be given a fair review by the PPC based on any insights from staff on its feasibility and usefulness.

Withdrawn from consideration by the movers with the understanding that PPC would consider striking the 2nd to last clause

Motion carries**POLICY 20 AMENDMENT**

Be it resolved that an amendment to Policy 20, External Lobby Organization Membership, be received for first reading and referred to the Policies and Procedures Committee such that the following is appended to it:

BIFRT before Executives of the Federation of Students in their official capacity may pursue lobbying or advocacy of a policy adopted by an External Lobby Organization in which Feds holds membership, Council must approve of that policy with a 2/3 majority.

Councillor Eyre and Councillor Mbandi.

Councillor Eyre introduced the motion as giving more power to Council to control lobbying for OUSA related work. He noted that Council does not currently have the power to review the policies lobbied for by OUSA before Feds executives advocate for them. One of the reasons for this is that what's best for McMaster is not always what's best for Waterloo. This gives us the power to say "do not lobby for this with Waterloo funds or with the Feds executives" because this empowers councillors to fulfil their mandate to achieve Feds advocacy goals.

Councillor Mbandi asked for why the motion calls for 2/3rds majority for approval rather than a simple majority. Councillor Eyre said he was not caught up on 2/3 or 50%+1 and deferred to Secretary Velling about the process followed for Feds policies. Secretary Velling explained that 2/3rds is the threshold in Council Procedure for policies that do not go through the committee process, but that it could feasibly be 50%+1 given the process for OUSA policies and the appointment of delegates.

Be it resolved that that the item be amended to replace "2/3 majority" with a "simple majority".

Councillor Eyre and Councillor Mbandi.

Motion is considered friendly and adopted

Councillor Mbandi asked Vice President Gerrits how this would impact the Feds-OUSA relationship. Would this impact our relationship or standing with their steering committee? Vice President Gerrits noted that OUSA has a lot of respect for institutional autonomy and that individual student unions may not want to support certain items. If an OUSA advocacy goal that runs contrary to a Feds policy then those steering committee members don't need to support it. He noted that he wasn't speaking on their Free Speech policy at any point during lobby week. The major reason this might be problematic is for urgent matters or other edge cases. He noted no philosophical opposition to the policy though, it's just another step of stuff to do.

Councillor Hua asked Councillor Eyre and Vice President Gerrits if it would be more appropriate for the approval to be by EAC or Council? Vice President Gerrits responded

that Council ultimately gets to decide what the official beliefs are; Councillor Eyre agreed with Vice President Gerrits.

EngSoc B President Arnold noted she is in favour of the policy, but acknowledged that the Federation does have a large voice at OUSA general assemblies since delegates are appointed proportionally. This might make the Vice President, Education's job more difficult and might restrict the ability to act on rising issues quickly. She supported the spirit of this motion. Councillor Eyre noted that even if all UW delegates opposed the motion at an OUSA general assembly it is possible that the motion might still pass. He proposed that an electronic vote of Council could be held in the event that a stance needs to be quickly approved.

Secretary Velling noted that:

1. The UW delegates at OUSA general assemblies are expected to act on behalf of the organization and therefore follow any existing Feds stances.
2. PPC may seek to add an exemption for urgent or emergency lobbying.
3. He agreed with Councillor Hua that the approval could be done by EAC even if that meant changing procedure to shift EAC's mandate.

Councillor Hua offered the opposite, that Council could be given the power to reject a policy stance, rather than having to approve them. Councillor Mbandi expressed support to this suggestion.

Councillor Eyre noted that part of this motion was to keep Council aware of what OUSA is doing. He did not think committee or council referral being a concern, but noted that Council should hold this power and not delegate it as Council is responsible for approving policies.

Secretary Velling supported Councillor Hua's suggestion and noted that adding a BIFRT to require the Vice President, Education to present to Council after every OUSA general assembly about the passed policies would be useful in ensuring awareness without holding up lobbying action.

Councillor Mbandi supported Secretary Velling's suggestion and Councillor Hua's. Vice President Gerrits noted that the reversal of the onus would be better.

Councillor Eyre noted the conversation can move to PPC.

Motion carries

COUNCIL TRANSITION AND TRAINING

For discussion: Council training/transition retreat + mentoring program to train interested students in the workings of Feds.

Councillor Cheng.

Deputy Speaker Small noted that in parallel Councillor Cheng came up with some ideas and Deputy Speaker Small drafted some procedure about Council transition. There was some collaboration in these efforts but different points are brought up in each.

Councillor Cheng supported Deputy Speaker Small's ideas and asked to skip the discussion and proceed to Deputy Speaker Small's motion. No objections were heard to proceeding.

Be it resolved that Council gives leave to introduce for first reading the attached Transition of Council Draft Procedure.

Be it further resolved that Council refer this procedure to the PPC for them to complete, revise, and return to Council in time for its February 10th meeting.

Be it further resolved that Jason Small be made a pro tempore non-voting member of PPC for matters related to this procedure so that he may assist in its completion.

Deputy Speaker Small and Councillor Cheng.

Deputy Speaker Small introduced the transitional speaker role as making the transition easier on the incoming President and ensuring that the transition is organized proactively. He noted that he had submitted the partial draft he had completed so far for first reading due to the time constraint that this be approved by February in order to be able to implement the process for the coming transition. He intends to continue working on it as it goes to PPC and has therefore included that provision that he temporarily be a non-voting member of the committee for this matter.

Secretary Velling spoke to the process this year and noted the effective use of a "transitional speaker" by having the outgoing officers assist the incoming president. He also noted that the proposed council handbook was already underway.

Vice President Gerrits asked if the "transitional speaker" being speaker rather than the president being the default speaker raised concerns with regards to the bylaw amendments being currently proposed and asked if a change in the title might solve the problem. Deputy Speaker Small noted that there's flexibility because the bylaws allow Council to name its own speaker, but admits that this needs to be sorted out in PPC.

Councillor Cheng was about to propose an amendment to the procedure but was instead encouraged to send it to PPC.

Motion carries

PROCEDURE 9 AMENDMENT ON OFFICE HOURS

Whereas Councillors are expected to represent their Constituencies;

Whereas Office Hours are a useful tool to consult with students and to gather feedback;

Whereas a physical presence increases the exposure of Students' Council and increases the opportunities for students to interact with their Councillors;

Be it resolved that Council takes the following amendment to Procedure 9, *Meetings of Students' Council* for First Reading and refers the amendment to PPC:

G. Reports

I. Representative Reports

3. Councillors are expected to conduct at least one (1) on-campus Office Hour each week and provide details in their reports. Constituency caucuses may elect to conduct Office Hours jointly. When a Councillor is off-campus, they are exempt from this expectation. Office Hours for Students' Council may be conducted in conjunction with other Office Hour commitments, ie. Office Hours of a Constituency Society.

Councillor Hua and Councillor Li.

Councillor Hua introduced the item, citing the utility that the Math caucus has had with office hours.

Deputy Speaker Small posed a question to any Councillors who had run office hours about the attendance they had received. Vice President Gerrits said that office hours he has held as Vice President, Education for Feds were very poorly attended, as were those held while serving as an executive of ESS. However, he still felt is important that these hours existed for the few members that showed up. He also made use of Society poster boards for office hours and previewed council items, which helped to a degree to get attendees.

EngSoc B President Arnold asked if it was the responsibility of the society to facilitate these office hours. Councillor Hua said he didn't think it was the society's obligations.

Councillor Hua responded to Deputy Speaker Small's question about spring and fall attendance, citing poor to moderate attendance. MathSoc Designate Lee noted his office hours were pretty well attended.

Secretary Velling reported that his office hours (held in conjunction with SciSoc) were decently attended. He felt that the assistance of societies was certainly helpful. He spoke about issues relating to office space, budgets, marketing, and challenges with this for co-op students, as well as to his experiences in communicating and reaching out to constituents.

Be it resolved that the item be amended such that the procedural amendment be adopted immediately rather than referred.

Secretary Velling and Councillor Hua.

Motion is considered friendly and adopted The procedural amendment will now be considered for immediate adoption.

Be it resolved that the item be amended such that "each week" be replaced with "every two weeks".

Deputy Speaker Small and EngSoc B President Arnold.

Motion carries

Be it further resolved that Executives shall direct Marketing to support Caucus Office Hours where requested by a caucus, where able within budgetary and human resources constraints.

Secretary Velling and Councillor Hua.

Motion is considered friendly and adopted

Motion carries with Deputy Speaker Small in abstention

PROCEDURE 9 AMENDMENT ON ROLL CALL VOTES

Whereas the Federation of Students is committed to transparency,

Whereas publicizing Councillors' voting records will increase transparency,

Whereas a Councillor's duty is to their constituents,

Whereas a public voting record will allow constituents to clearly see if their Councilors are representing their wishes;

Be it resolved that Council takes the following amendment to Procedure 9, *Meetings of Students' Council* for First Reading and refers the amendment to PPC:

E. Conduct of Business

V. Voting

- ~~1. Any vote shall be counted if any member so requests.~~
- ~~2. The vote (or abstention) of any member on any motion shall be recorded in the minutes if that member so requests.~~
- ~~3. A one-fifth (1/5th) vote is required to order a roll call to be taken on any motion except for an election.~~
1. A roll call shall be taken on every motion except for an election.

Councillor Hou and Councillor Hua.

Councillor Li introduced it as an amendment to increase transparency of Feds meetings. This would ensure representation and that the votes of remote councillors were always being counted.

Secretary Velling stated his opposition to the motion, noting the amount of time and difficulty it would produce if roll-calls were needed for every single vote. He considered the current 1/5th requirement for having such a roll call to be sufficient. Speaker O'Sullivan concurred as to the substantial time it would add.

Vice President Gerrits cited the excellent work of the Officers of Council by ensuring close votes are often confirmed by a roll call or similar. He also noted that ability for councillors to call for a recount after a vote is counted if they felt it was not correctly counted.

Councillor Eyre agreed with Seneca that the intention was meant well but noted that this would lengthen meetings to untenable hours.

Councillor Hua noted that this measure was meant more to ensure the voting of remote councillors whose votes often don't get counted. He suggested that this item go to PPC so that the idea can be better considered.

Deputy Speaker Small pointed out there exists an in-between option of having a vote with a recorded count, which under procedure could be requested by any single councillor; in that event, the officers would carefully count each online vote. As it currently stands, the votes cast by remote councillors generally don't go close to altering the result but if they appeared to then they would be more carefully handled. He is open to more deliberately counting remote votes other councillors want him to, but feels that requiring roll-calls is an extreme solution to this issue.

Councillor Hua agreed with Deputy Speaker Small that the accuracy in counting was fair, but he desires more transparency to be available on how councillors voted, which constituents may wish to examine when considering re-electing their councillors.

Deputy Speaker Small noted that there's very few controversial items that require such transparency. Such items could get the 1/5th of the assembly as currently required by procedure to call a roll-call vote. SciSoc Designate Richard agreed that the 1/5th threshold was sufficient.

Councillor Cheng stated his belief that the extra time needed for roll-call votes was worth it for accountability.

Motion to Call the Question

President Wu and EngSoc B President Arnold.

Councillor Cheng demanded a vote by roll-call on calling the question. With the necessary 1/5th support being observed by the Secretary, the vote proceeded by roll-call.

President Wu – in favour
ESS President Mirlees – in favour
MathSoc Designate Lee – in abstention
Councillor Akhtar – in favour
Councillor Hua – in opposition
Councillor Li – in opposition
Councillor Cheng – in opposition
Councillor Mbandi – in favour
EngSoc B President Arnold – in favour
Councillor Eyre – in favour
SciSoc Designate Richard – in favour
Councillor Baik – in favour
Deputy Speaker Small – in favour
Vice President Gerrits – in favour
Speaker O'Sullivan – in favour
Secretary Velling – in favour
Councillor Hou – in favour
Councillor Chen – in favour
Councillor Ourchane – in favour
Councillor Mohan – in favour

With a 2/3rds majority being obtained, the motion to call the question passed, proceeding to an immediate vote on the main motion.

Councillor Hua requested a vote by roll-call on the main motion. With the necessary 1/5th support being observed by the Secretary, the vote proceeded by roll-call.

President Wu – in opposition
ESS President Mirlees – in opposition
MathSoc Designate Lee – in opposition
Councillor Akhtar – in opposition
Councillor Hua – in favour
Councillor Li – in favour
Councillor Cheng – in favour
Councillor Mbandi – *definitely* in opposition
Councillor Baik – in opposition
EngSoc B President Arnold – in opposition
Councillor Eyre – in opposition
SciSoc Designate Richard – *vehemently* in opposition
Vice President Gerrits – in opposition
Speaker O’Sullivan – in opposition
Deputy Speaker Small – in opposition
Secretary Velling – in abstention
Councillor Hou – in favour
Councillor Chen – in favour
Councillor Mohan – in opposition
Councillor Ourchane – in opposition

Motion fails

SUSPENSION OF THE RULES

Be it resolved that Council further suspend the rules to allow the OUSA membership vote to occur at the March regular meeting of Council instead of the February regular meeting.

Vice President Gerrits and EngSoc B President Arnold.

Vice President Gerrits stated that the necessary report was not yet complete and noted that 4 weeks notice was required with the finished report before the vote occurs. He said that if this motion fails he will be forced to call an emergency EAC meeting tonight to approve what limited sections of the report currently exist. He noted that the committee had gone above and beyond with following a data-driven process. He encouraged the assembly to provide the time to finish this.

Secretary Velling asked for a review of the OUSA membership review process to be done as this seemed to be a problematic exercise, albeit an incredibly important one. Vice

President Gerrits agreed there would be a review informed by a debrief of the committee, EAC, and council of the experiences. He said that this point was well taken.

Motion carries with Councillor Hua in abstention

EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEER POLICY

Be it resolved that Council gives leave to introduce for first reading the attached Employment and Volunteer Policy.

Be it further resolved that Council refers the proposed policy to the Policy Procedures Committee (PPC) to make revisions.

SciSoc Designate Richard and Secretary Velling.

SciSoc Designate Richard and Secretary Velling spoke to the policy, referring to it as a first-draft, and noted some high-level principled policy was needed within which the Board and Council procedures would then take over.

With regards to the clause on the 3rd page that Directors, Executives, and Officers of the Corporation shouldn't serve as Officers of Council, Councillor Mbandi asked why an exception existed for the Secretary of the Corporation. Secretary Velling explained that this was based on provisions in the Bylaws and in council procedures that the Secretary of the Corporation is the default secretary for Council if Council does not elect its own secretary.

Vice President Gerrits asked if this was a corporate policy. It was confirmed as a corporate policy by the Speaker.

Councillor Mbandi asked about the clause on advancement of pecuniary interests and sought that it be removed. Secretary Velling spoke in support of the clause, noting that this would prohibit students leadership and volunteers from doing things that would see them financially benefit as a direct result. Actions should not be motivated by gain. Vice President Gerrits asked for a footnote to explain the term "pecuniary" or more accessible language, but agreed that the corporation's actions and those of its senior most volunteers (at the very least) were required not to be carried out for gain.

Motion carries with Secretary Velling in favour

Be it resolved that that the meeting's adjournment time be changed to 5PM.

Vice President Gerrits and Secretary Velling.

Motion carries

PROCEDURE 6 AMENDMENT

Be it resolved that an amendment to Procedure 6, *Election and Referenda*, such that the attached new section is appended to the end of it be received for first reading and referred to the Policies and Procedures Committee.

Councillor Eyre and SciSoc Designate Richard.

Councillor Eyre spoke to the lack of set procedures on how referenda are run.

Be it resolved that Council refer the item to ERAC;

Be it further resolved that Council invites a representative of the Marketing and IT Departments to meetings of ERAC for which this topic will be discussed.

Secretary Velling and Deputy Speaker Small.

Motion is considered friendly and adopted

Vice President Gerrits is opposed to the parts dealing with written signatures. The entire purpose of moving to an online system was to have this online. Councillor Eyre confirmed written petitions would be phased-out in preference of online mechanisms.

Motion carries

SNOW-DAY POLICY

Be it resolved that Council approve the attached Advocacy Policy for Improved Snow-Day Procedures to go into effect immediately.

Councillor Mbandi and Secretary Velling.

Councillor Mbandi notes that reading the policy makes the intention clear. He stated that over the past two years the university's policy has been unclear or been applied spuriously and caused confusion. Feds's job is to represent undergraduates and undergraduates have expressed frustration with the university's handling of this matter. He has included references to prior petitions. Since then many concerns have been raised on this item. He noted that he wished the university to conduct a review of their snow day policy with student input and review the policy. He cited he was not an expert in snow day policy, but student input should be paramount and students tend to get the short end of the stick on this matter.

Vice President Gerrits encouraged Councillors to consult EAC or PAC in the future to see what could occur.

Councillor Eyre cited that he does not believe the university should extend the exam period due to snow days.

Be it resolved that the following clause be added to the end of policy: "BIFRT that the Federation requests the University that examinations not be changed because of snow days."

Councillor Eyre and Councillor Cheng.

Councillor Mbandi stated he agreed with the idea because students should not have to cancel plans.

Speaker O'Sullivan noted that the university does provide a guiding statement not to book flights for before the end of the exam period, including the extra emergency day to allow for closures. Vice President Gerrits provided the context that Waterloo is notorious for not having snow days, but late in the exam period there were two days of inclement weather conditions based on ice (not snow) which caused 1-2 days of exams. The University currently budgets 2 days for inclement weather conditions on

Sundays during the exam period and an additional day on the end of the exam period. Since there were two days snow days late in the exam period, there were some required extra days. This was conducted poorly because of poor internal communication in the university which was compounded by professors individually scheduling their exams without consulting their faculties. He confirmed that students are told to be available for the extra days.

Secretary Velling noted that, compared to having to write the exam in a subsequent term or having the exam removed altogether, the options of pushing exams to the end of the exam period is the least awful of a set of bad options.

Vice President Gerrits noted that if this went through first reading, he would take it to the registrar for feedback and to get their side of the story. Deferral of exams by one or more terms can cause serious problems and the information of those courses can fall out of students' heads. He noted that there were many students who would want to take it during the exam period if it takes a day.

Be it resolved that that the amendment be changed to replace "requests" with "recommends".

Councillor Mbandi and Councillor Eyre.

Councillor Mbandi says that this change will provide more flexibility.

Motion is considered friendly and adopted

Motion is considered friendly and adopted

Be it resolved that the first clause of the policy be amended to say "... not unintentionally harm or endanger the safety of students and staff."

SciSoc Designate Richard and Secretary Velling.

Motion is considered friendly and adopted

Be it resolved that this item be referred to the Education Advisory Council.

Deputy Speaker Small and Vice President Gerrits.

Motion carries with Councillor Mbandi in abstention

Motion referred to the Education Advisory Council

Be it resolved that Council recess for 10 minutes.

Deputy Speaker Small and Secretary Velling.

Motion carries

Secretary's Note: Council reconvened at 4:32PM.

Councillor Li moves to adjourn immediately, without receiving a seconder. Discussion goes into rescheduling the feedback session that was to occur immediately after this meeting to an evening in the next week given how long this meeting has gone on for.

Be it resolved that the meeting be immediately adjourned.

Councillor Li and Councillor Hua.

Motion fails

Be it resolved that Council tasks the Speaker and Deputy Speaker to reschedule the feedback session for a time in the next 7 days that works best for the majority of councillors.

Secretary Velling and EngSoc B President Arnold.

Motion carries

Vice President Gerrits inquired about which agenda items remained. Deputy Speaker Small responded that the remaining items under general orders are university policy 42, executive action plan updates, and the Bombshelter Pub motion.

Be it resolved that Council waive the procedural requirements in the terms of reference of the Executive Feedback Ad-Hoc Committee, only so as to allow the Executives to attend, present their action plan update, and then leave the feedback session.

Secretary Velling and EngSoc B President Arnold.

Vice President Gerrits asked if a QA period would be part of this shifted presentation. Secretary Velling responded that that would be up to the councillors present.

Motion carries

Deputy Speaker Small proposed the option of sending out the anonymous feedback received from directors in advance of the feedback session, under the understanding that it is a confidential document whose contents cannot be disclosed to the executives, rather than waiting until the feedback session for councillors to review it. Following some discussion of the risks involved and a strawpoll showing no opinion being held by councillors, Deputy Speaker Small said he would decide himself in the next few days.

UNIVERSITY POLICY 42

For discussion: Draft University Policy 42 and associated procedures

President Wu.

Given the late hour and that feedback is due to the University on the 25th of January, President Wu suggested withdrawal of the item. He invited anyone with thoughts to submit them directly to him or come talk to him. Secretary Velling requested the feedback period be extended. President Wu refused as the period for feedback had already been extended once.

Be it resolved that this item be withdrawn from the agenda.

President Wu and SciSoc Designate Richard.

Motion carries

MOTION REGARDING THE ABRUPT CLOSING OF THE BOMBHELTER PUB

Whereas Article 9, Section 4(7) of the by-laws states: “The Vice President, Operations and Finance shall, to the fullest possible extent, respect and uphold the Policies of the Corporation in the execution of the above duties”;

Whereas Article 8, Section 1 of the by-laws states: “the purpose of Students’ Council is to represent the full members of the Corporation through the general oversight of the Federation of Students’ Executives”;

Whereas Council was not consulted or given prior notice regarding the decision to close down the Bombshelter Pub;

Whereas the VPOF, in making this decision, failed to adequately comply with Policy 1 which states: “All decisions in the government of an institution of post-secondary education should be made in a democratically open, transparent, and accountable manner”;

Be it resolved that the Federation of Students conduct consultations with students on the Bombshelter Pub and provide a report to Council by the March meeting;

Be it further resolved that Councillors conduct consultations with students on the future of the Bombshelter Pub and provide a report back to Council by the March meeting;

Be it further resolved that Council determine the future of the Bombshelter Pub with a majority vote.

Councillor Hua and Councillor Mbandi.

Councillor Mbandi noted that the original motion had areas that conflicted with the bylaws and procedures and therefore proposed amendments.

Be it resolved that that the operative clauses of the motion be replaced with the following:

Be it resolved that the Federation of Students provide a template for consultations to Students’ Council for Councilors to conduct consultations with students on the Bombshelter Pub;

Be it further resolved that Councilors conduct consultations with students on the Bombshelter Pub, providing results of the consultations to the VPOF, and the VPOF provide a report to Council by the March meeting;

Be it further resolved that Council provide a recommendation to the Board of Directors, informed by consultations, encompassing all aspects of the Bombshelter Pub’s revitalization.

Councillor Mbandi and Councillor Hua.

Motion is considered friendly and adopted

Councillor Mbandi spoke to the specifics of what he would like to see. Students felt there was not enough student consultation and that management should have handled the closure better (roll out needed to be improved). To address this we would like to have Executives provide a template for consultations to Council to be conducted with students. Councillors would then conduct consultations the results of which would be relayed to the Vice President, Operations and Finance who would provide the report to Council and enable Council to issue a recommendation to the Board on the item.

Secretary Velling noted his appreciation for the amendments and stated that Directors don't take the feedback from Councillors lightly. He noted that the consultant's report (which was produced by an industry expert) highlighted student feedback from customers and employees. He also noted that comment cards had been collected for some time. This was all a part of the consultation that was involved in the Board's decision. While the consultant's report is confidential, he suggested that data on the feedback collected could probably be disclosed in some form if a request was made to the Vice President, Operations and Finance.

Be it further resolved that the Board of Directors provide Council any non-confidential consultations about the Bomber during the duration of the consultants report; and this shall resolution shall interpreted to allow, at the discretion of the Board, redaction of portions that they feel necessary for legal compliance, protection of personal privacy, or other matters.

SciSoc Designate Richard.

Withdrawn from consideration by the movers with the understanding that similar information (or a summary of such information and level of consultancy) be provided in the report of the VPOF to Council.

Councillor Hua asked whether the consultation and analysis done included events such as Bomber Wednesdays. Secretary Velling responded that the cards were given to a random sample of customers at all hours, including seated customers during Bomber Wednesdays, and that the consultants had investigated all operations during all sorts of times of day and special events.

Motion carries unanimously

NEW BUSINESS

CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS

SciSoc Designate Richard rose a point regarding the University's scale-back of Canada Day celebrations. Hosting of major portions of the annual Canada Day celebration has been dropped by the University due to financial burden (the event runs at over \$200k). He noted that in 2013, the University picked it up the event from Feds. Prior to that, the Federation had run it since the 1980s. While student attendance numbers had been dropping in recent years, a significant number of both students and community-at-large still attend the event.

He would like to see if discussions can be had parties such as the City of Waterloo to see if a good celebration could be organized moving forward.

Secretary Velling concurred that discussion should be had with a specified set of stakeholders with the goal of having them all contribute. He said that the event is very important to students who attend, citing personal experience on Spring terms where large amounts of students had walked to the Columbia field for games and fireworks.

Vice President Gerrits stated the list of organizations mentioned by Secretary Velling happened to correspond with those that have representation on the city's Town and Gown Committee and said he would advance this with the Municipal Affairs Commissioner. In the past, the city had been reluctant to contribute money to this event, but that doesn't mean that they couldn't be convinced.

Councillor Eyre agreed with Secretary Velling stating that Canada Day is important not just for the student body but for the whole community as the celebration is about the founding of Canada and was a uniquely Canadian event which helps promote community and national identity. It's importance is for both Canadian students and international students that may be experiencing the event for the first time.

Be it resolved that the Federation of Students calls upon the Cities of Waterloo and Kitchener, the Wilfrid Laurier University and the Laurier undergraduate and graduate students unions, the University of Waterloo and the Graduate Student Association of Waterloo, and Connestoga College and Connestoga Students Inc., to develop a plan to hold a Canada Day celebration jointly.

Councillor Eyre and Secretary Velling.

Vice President Gerrits noted that success on this item was very much contingent on external partners willingness to participate. He also noted that the university is reluctant to host events of this size on its property, whether or not they are paying for it. Secretary Velling noted that he sees the university as being hypocritical in saying that they support student mental health but are unwilling to spend this money on something that engages students with the community.

Motion carries

ADJOURNMENT

Be it resolved that the meeting be adjourned.

Secretary Velling and Councillor Li.

Motion carries with Deputy Speaker Small in abstention