

November 3rd, 2019

Federation of Students' Council Minutes

SLC MPR, UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

Chair: DEPUTY SPEAKER SMALL *Secretary:* MANSI SHAH

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present:

- Fitzpatrick, Amanda
- Velling, Seneca
- Sharma, Kanan
- Hunte, John
- Zumot, Samer (President, MathSoc)
- Chang, Diana
- Parkyn, Colin
- Jeon, Sung Eun (Stephanie)
- Rodney, Victoria
- Mathouda, Damanpreet
- Brodsky, Guy
- Giesbrecht, Michelle
- Soo, Sebastian
- Lawless, Sammy (Designate, SJUSU)
- Roxas, Nikka (Niks) Ysabella
- O'Meally, Taijah (online)
- Riaz, Shazza (online)
- Dack, Caroline (President, ASU)(online)
- Yang, Edward (Assistant Secretary) (online)
- McComiskey, Kaitlynn Angela
- Nasir, Syeda Shehnoor
- Lau, Mackenzie
- Tait, Abigail

* remote | †late

The following members were absent:

- Beauchemin, Michael*
- McComiskey, Kaitlynn Angela*
- Nasir, Syeda Shehnoor*
- Lau, Mackenzie*
- Tait, Abigail*

* excused

Regular Session

PRELIMINARIES

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, the Deputy Speaker Small called the meeting to order at 12:43PM.

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.”

RATIFICATION OF SOCIETY PRO TEM. DESIGNATES

Be it resolved that Council ratifies Kanan Sharma as pro tem. councillor for the Mathematics constituency as selected by the MathSoc Council.

Deputy Speaker Small and Vice President Velling.

Motion carries unanimously

RATIFICATION OF BY-ELECTION RESULTS

Be it resolved that Council ratifies the results, as certified by the Elections and Referenda Committee and documented in Appendix A, of the by-election held on October 9-10, 2019.

Deputy Speaker Small and Vice President Fitzpatrick.

Motion carries

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Council approve the Agenda, as presented. The Speaker assumes the motion to adopt the Agenda, as presented or amended

Motion to amend the published agenda to include among the appendices the report of the VPSL, the updated budget report (released October 29, 2019), and the budget QA responses. (to make it as shown here)

Deputy Speaker Small and Councillor Hunte.

Motion carries unanimously

REPORTS

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

PRESIDENT BEAUCHEMIN

There were no comment or questions on his written report

VICE PRESIDENT VELLING

Vice President Vellinghad a successful meeting with the food operations and student run businesses across campus. Renegotiation of Upass has also been started. He stated that 24% of his joint executive plans have been completed.

There were no comment or questions on his written report

VICE PRESIDENT GERRITS

There were no comment or questions on his written report

VICE PRESIDENT FITZPATRICK

Vice President Fitzpatrickhas been working towards increased accessibility for trans students and health services around the campus. She plans on introducing a bursary for Trans students which should be ready for Winter 2020.

Councilor Sharma inquired how much money will be given out via the bursary. Vice President Fitzpatricksaid 1200 and only 2-3 applicants will be selected. Every term the money will be replenished from an area of the VPSL budget.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

Chair of the Board Plante announced that there was a special Board meeting to approve the agenda for the upcoming annual general meeting, which included a presentation and approval of the corporation's audited financial statements. The capital improvement fee, which was approved by the Board for inclusion on the agenda of the annual general meeting, will be for a dollar amount of up to \$15. The October regular Board meeting is coming up and he is in the midst of preparing for that.

REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

AHS

Applied Health Sciences Caucus had no questions, comments or queries

Arts

Arts Caucus thanked Vice President Vellingfor helping organize the halloween event. They had no further questions, comments or queries

Engineering

Engineering Caucus had no questions, comments or queries

Environment

Environment Caucus had no questions, comments or queries

Mathematics

MathSoc Caucus notified council that they successfully completed their bielection and now have a new councilor and president

Science

Science Caucus had no questions, comments or queries

Cambridge

Not present.

Kitchener

Not present.

Stratford

Not present.

St. Jerome's University

St. Jerome's University Caucus had no questions, comments or queries

Renison University

Not present.

OFFICERS OF COUNCIL REPORTS**Deputy Speaker**

Deputy Speaker Small noted that there was a resignation from Math councilor June Xu. He also noted that 3 councilors are vulnerable to to a movers vote due to their absence at the GM.

Be it resolved that council accept June Xu's resignation
Deputy Speaker Small and Councilor Kanan.

Motion carries unanimously

Secretary

Secretary Shah mentioned that shes working on the minutes and trying to complete them during the Christmas break.

STANDING COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONERS REPORTS**Report of the Internal Funding Committee**

Be it resolved that Council accepts the report of the Internal Funding Committee regarding a voluntary student contribution to the Enterprise, Opportunity, and Innovation Fund, as presented in Appendix F.

Vice President Velling and Councilor Kanan.

With no further discussion on the main item, it is brought to a vote.

Motion carries

Report of the Budget and Appropriations Committee

Be it resolved that Council accepts the FY2020 Budget Report as presented by the Budget and Appropriations Committee and included in Appendix G, including the affixed FY2020 Budget.

Vice President Velling and Councillor Hunte.

Motion carries with Vice President Velling and Andy noted in favour

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no reports.

Secretary's Note: Shazza joined the meeting at 1:12

SPECIAL ORDERS

Be it resolved that a temporary structure be erected in the Bomber Patio to provide more shade and a nice atmosphere.

Be it further resolved that the structure would be temporary, until first snow, with at least three flimsy walls.

Be it further resolved that it shall be reused annually, have a thatched roof, and that it be built within one week of the AGM.

Deputy Speaker Small and Guy.

Vice President Velling and Vice President Gerrits encouraged the rejection of this item as it does not fit into WUSA's budget

Motion Rejected

GENERAL ORDERS

ELECTION TO VACANT COMMITTEE SEATS

Speaker's Note: Given the arrival of new councillors, the intention is to fill all remaining vacant committee seats. Per Procedure 10, at-large seats may be filled by councillors if there are no interested at-large members. Under no circumstances shall any voting member of ERC be a candidate for an active Election or By-election, join a Referendum committee, endorse, or campaign on behalf of any candidate, team or referendum position.

Deputy Speaker Small and Vice President Fitzpatrick.

Be it resolved that Council elects Binoy Pattharwala and _____ to the vacant at-large seats on the Policies and Procedures Committee (PPC).

Councilor Kanan nominates Vice President Gerrits for this position

Be it further resolved that Council elects _____ to the vacant at-large seat on the Elections and Referenda Committee (ERC).

This seat will be left to the committee to fill

Be it further resolved that Council elects _____ to the vacant at-large seat on the Campus Life Advisory Committee (CLAC).

Councilor Kaitlyn nominated herself for this position

Be it further resolved that Council elects _____ to the vacant councillor seat on the Education Advisory Council (EAC).

This position does not entail Coop

Councilor Kanan nominated Debra Rose Defazio and Councilor Guy nominated himself

Be it further resolved that Council elects _____ and _____ to the vacant at-large seats on the *Ad Hoc* Committee for General Meeting Engagement.

Colin nominated himself

RECLASSIFICATION OF ORIENTATION AS AN ADMINISTERED PROGRAM

Be it resolved that Council amend the schedule of programming, reflective of the Winter 2018 General Meeting decision regarding separation of Orientation programming from the General Operating budget, to treat First-Year Orientation as an administered fund.

Vice President Velling and Vice President Fitzpatrick.

Motion carries unanimously

Secretary's Note: A break was taken at 2:18 and the meeting resumed at 2:30 *Secretary's Note:* Diana left at 2:26

APPROVAL OF CAPITAL PROGRAM

Be it resolved that Council accepts the memorandum of the Vice President, Operations Finance, included in Appendix H, for the creation of a Capital Program for the Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association;

Be it further resolved that the Vice President, Operations and Finance, will report back to Council when the the determination of the compulsory or optional nature of this fee, in whole or in part, is negotiated with the University; and

Be it further resolved that Council directs the Office of the Vice President, Operations and Finance, to begin the development of a Capital Improvement Plan for the organization.

Vice President Velling and Councilor Kanan.

Motion carries

EXAM SCHEDULING AND RELIEF POLICY

Be it resolved that Council adopts the proposed advocacy policy on Exam Scheduling and Relief attached in Appendix I, subject to clerical and formatting revisions to be made by the Policies and Procedures Committee.

Councillor Town and Councillor Hunte.

Motion carries unanimously

FOSSIL-FUEL DIVESTMENT OF FACULTY ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Whereas it has been the opinion (based on reports and major actions) of companies and sovereign wealth funds such as MSCI and the Norwegian Sovereign Wealth Fund that divestment of fossil fuels is financially prudent

Whereas the University's Working Group on Responsible Investment has recommended an ESG-focused investment policy (Environment, Social Governance) for both ethical and financial reasons; and

Whereas the student club Fossil Free UW and large involvement in the recent climate strike has shown students want the university to act on climate change and implement fossil fuel divestment.

Be it resolved that the Policies and Procedures Committee be tasked with drafting an advocacy policy supporting the divestment of faculty endowment funds from 'fossil fuel' assets.

Guy and Councilor Kanan.

Motion to amend policy procedure committee and add education advisory council (EAC)

Deputy Speaker Small and Vice President Velling.

Motion amended for the policy to include lobbying of the provincial and federal government to allow fiduciaries to divest from fossil fuel-based investments without risk of personal liability.

Councillor Hunte and Councilor Kanan.

Motion amended to replace supporting with exploring

Vice President Velling and Councillor Hunte.

Motion amended to strike out the word faculty from the motion

Councilor Kanan and Vice President Velling.

Carries 14 in favour, 1 opposed, 7 abstention. Vice President Velling Vice President Fitzpatrick noted their votes in abstention. Councilor Kanan Councillor Hunte Niks, Carolyn, Guy, Tajah noted in favour. Andy noted in opposition.

OPT-IN LIFE INSURANCE POLICY FOR STUDENTS

For Discussion: See Appendix J for information on this Student Care product offering.

Vice President Velling and Councilor Kanan.

Motion carries Motion carries Motion carries Councillor Stephani asked how the fees would differ for international students to which Vice President Velling replied saying they don't have the logistics just yet. Another councilor asked how students would be able to change their insurance companies to whihc Vice President Velling replied that poly opt-outs are always available.

Councilor Colin asked how much the policies would cost and it was answered that it would range between 50-200 dollars depending on how many students choose to opt for it.

It was concluded that WUSA will not pursue exploring term life policies

NEW BUSINESS

No new business needed to be discussed.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The next regular meeting of Council is scheduled for December 1st, starting at 12:30PM, in the SLC MPR.

Vice President Velling encourages councilors to rerun for the next election in whatever position they want on student council

ADJOURNMENT

Be it resolved that the Chair adjourns the meeting no later than 11:59PM.

Meeting adjourned at 3:29

Vice President Velling and Councillor Hunte.

Motion carries