

October 6th, 2019

Federation of Students' Council Minutes

SLC MPR, UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

Chair: PRESIDENT BEAUCHEMIN *Secretary:* MANSI SHAH

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present:

- Beauchemin, Michael
- Fitzpatrick, Amanda
- Gerrits, Matthew
- Giesbrecht, Michelle (President, ESS)
- Hunte, John
- Velling, Seneca
- Plante, Connor
- Lau, Mackenzie
- Lawless, Sammy (Designate, SJUSU)
- Lindstrom-Humphries, Delaine (President, EngSoc A)
- Chang, Diana
- McGee, Ellen (President, EngSoc B)
- Parkyn, Colin
- Roxas, Nikka (Niks) Ysabella
- Small, Jason
- Soo, Sebastian
- Town, Megan Emily
- Velling, Seneca
- Riaz, Shazza*
- Tait, Abigail*
- Mehta, Navya*
- Yang, Edward

* remote | †late

The following members were absent:

- El-Rayani, Mohammed (Designate, SciSoc)
- Rodney, Victoria*
- Malhotra, Rajat (President, MathSoc)
- Mccomiskey, Kaitlynn*
- Nasir, Shehnoor*
- O'Meally, Taijah*
- Parboodial, Shelbee (President, AH-SUM)*
- Saleh, Rana
- Xu, June
- Dack, Caroline (President, ASU)*

* excused

The following gallery were present and wished to be recorded:

- Nurbhai, Nasir
- Sharma, Kanan

Regular Session

PRELIMINARIES

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, the President Beauchemin called the meeting to order at 12:35PM.

Secretary's Note: The President remarked on the appointment of recording secretary Mansi Shah by the Secretary of the Corporation.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Speaker assumed a motion to approve the agenda as presented. With no requests for amendment made, the agenda **carries** as presented.

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

July 14th Meeting Minutes

Be it resolved that Council approves the minutes of the 14 July 2019 regular meeting, as presented.

Vice President Velling and Councillor Town.

Withdrawn from consideration by the movers

August 17th Meeting Minutes

Be it resolved that Council approves the minutes of the 17 August 2019 regular meeting, as presented.

Vice President Velling and Councillor Town.

Withdrawn from consideration by the movers

September 15th Meeting Minutes

Be it resolved that Council approves the minutes of the 15 September 2019 regular meeting, as presented.

Vice President Velling and Councillor Town.

Withdrawn from consideration by the movers

REPORTS

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

PRESIDENT BEAUCHEMIN

The President mentioned that he had a meeting with paralegals that could inform and help the UW students with their housing issues. The President is also putting in a lot of time preparing for the GM meeting.

Councillor Town inquired about the feedback link that couldn't be accessed with the report that President had sent out and Vice President Velling confirmed that it is an issue with the way items are attached to the agenda in LaTeX.

Secretary's Note: An attendee had mentioned that the projector had not been turned on yet

VICE PRESIDENT FITZPATRICK

Vice President Fitzpatrick has also been working on student housing issues but focusing more on gender safety. She updated the council that a smoke free campus might not be the best option considering the limited resources the University has in place to help smokers. She also mentioned that the sexual violence task force is looking for proposals and that it is open.

Councillor Town inquired about Vice President Fitzpatrick's previous reports regarding orientation, wishing to know which events were referenced to with regard to the successful execution of rain plans. Vice President Fitzpatrick confirmed that the rain plan was organized by central orientation.

Councillor Town also noted that the report presented by Vice President Fitzpatrick from the month shows 47% of the respondents identified as a white person and asked if that is congruent with the demographics of the university. To which the response was more research needs to be done.

Be it resolved that the Council Procedures be amended to remove all references to the Volunteer Centre.

Deputy Speaker Small and Vice President Fitzpatrick.

It was noted that this would probably require renumbering of the sections.

Motion carries

A concern was brought up by Nasir Nurbhai, in the gallery, that the washroom signs in the SLC are outdated and can use the changes for both rail and accessibility signs. Vice President Velling answered that this change will fall under the updates needed by SLC but it will take place if and when the finances allow it.

VICE PRESIDENT GERRITS

Vice President Gerrits mentioned that there is an update going on with regards to the advocacy content on WUSA's website. The website should also have info up on how students can vote in the federal election.

VICE PRESIDENT VELLING

Vice President Velling mentioned that there are updates on the budgets and thanked everyone for the time given to him to help organize budget better to better deliver this to the students. He went through a summary of the financial budgets (which can be referred to). An important note from the budget summary was that the retained earnings for some of the societies has grown steadily which will be brought up later on in the meeting.

Vice President Gerrits and Vice President Velling have been working on finances and advisory help for fourth year students with housing issues. They have also met with persons to help them better the situation

Vice President Velling mentioned that the audits for the organization are completed and approved by the Board and will be shown in the AGM. An RFP for paper products and washroom disposables has also been sent out, to be rolled out in early winter term.

Councillor Yang mentioned there was a a section in Seneca's written report that had the wrong text.

Councillor Town asked why the SSO fees are compulsory and Vice President Velling replied that the University categorizes fees as either compulsory or not.

Councillor Hunte mentioned that feds.ca/council redirects to the wusa.ca homepage which is not congruent with the re-branding. Councillor Yang noted that the website was working correctly in September. Vice President Velling didn't have an immediate answer but noted that maintenance is probably easier and cheaper in one domain rather than all the domains

*Secretary's Note:*A break was taken at 1:01 and the meeting resumed at 1:07

BOARD OF DIRECTOR REPORTS

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 had no questions, comments or queries

Engineering

Engineering Caucus had no questions, comments or queries

Environment

Environment Caucus had no questions, comments or queries

Mathematics

The MathSoc president resigned last week and MathSoc Council will be meeting tomorrow to appoint a stand in. Vice President Velling asked if they want their election to run concurrent with the other MathSoc election to which Councillor Hunte replied that this will be decided by the election committee.

Science

Interested in making a permanent resource that students can look back on after their first year for housing to promote residence.

Cambridge

Not present.

Kitchener

Mentioned that the AGM is happening the same time as the PharmD exam and they will try to send someone in on their behalf.

Issues regarding car culture and fourth year placements were brought up because even though they are working for free while being in school, they don't have access to UW amenities such as bus pass, athletics, mental health services, etc. If their placements are outside of region of Waterloo, they can get a refund on their U-pass. President Beauchemin told them to bring these issues directly to him.

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**President**

The President noted he had received a resignation from environment councillor Brendan Wilson. Vice President Velling proposed the assembly accept the resignations as an item arising from the report of the President:

Be it resolved that Council accept the resignation for MathSoc President Rajat Malhotra and Environment Councilor Brendan Wilson.

Vice President Velling and Councillor Yang.

A question was raised to confirm whether the Environmental Council Caucus by-election would now elect two Councillors rather than one. The After a review of Elections & Referenda Procedure in consultation with the Deputy Speaker, the President confirmed this would be the case.

Councillor Hunte raised a question as to why Council was accepting a Society President's resignation, given that Mathematics Society had already accepted it.

Councillor Hunte amended the motion to strike President Rajat Malhotra:

Be it resolved that the motion be revised to only accept the resignation of Councillor Wilson, as President Malhotra's resignation has already been accepted by the Mathematics Society.

Councillor Hunte and Councillor Town.

Motion carries

Without further debate the President brought the motion to a vote.

Motion carries unanimously

Deputy Speaker

Deputy Speaker Small noted that there was now a webcam in the room for remote attendees to see and encouraged remote attendees to turn on their cameras if possible. He also reminded councillors of the chat platform on Microsoft Teams and brought up that after the next meeting, council should have a social gathering to incorporate the new incoming members.

In relation to the Election and Referenda Committee, Stephanie Jeon is both an at-large member of the committee and a candidate for AHS councillor, therefore the President has removed her from the current meeting creating one more seat on the elections and referendum committee for WUSA. Vice President Velling asked for this opening to be mentioned on WUSA's opportunity web page.

Deputy Speaker Small reported on the members of Council that are eligible for a removal vote due to absences, namely Kaitlynn McComiskey and Rana Saleh. Councillor Town asked if they have been contacted between the current and previous meeting regarding their unexcused absences. Deputy Speaker Small responded that both has last been informed prior to the September meeting, at which point they were told that they were eligible for removal.

Be it resolved that Math Councillor Rana Saleh be removed from council due to her absences.

Councillor Town.

Councillor Town believes that Rana should be removed for her continued absences and failure to provide comments justifying them. She chose not to move for the Kaitlynn's removal because she has provided comments giving good justification and demonstrating commitment.

Several questions and comments ensued. Following debate, the President brought the motion to a secret-ballot vote, with Chair of the Board Plante serving as scrutineer.

Motion carries with 13 votes in favour, 2 votes opposed, and 3 abstentions.

Vice President Velling requests that the President notify MathSoc of their ability to name a pro-temp councillor.

Be it resolved that the ballots be destroyed.

Vice President Velling and Vice President Gerrits.

Motion carries unanimously. The scrutineer was directed to destroy all ballots.

Secretary

Assistant Secretary Yang confirms that the minutes from the August meeting are in the process of being completed optimistically by October end and latest by December. He also asked the council if anyone wants an unapproved, unofficial version of the minutes, they should reach out.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Adoption of Policy 0: Administration of Policies

Be it resolved that pursuant to the President's report, Council approves and adopts Policy 0: Administration of Policies, attached; and

Be it further resolved that Council mandate the office of the President with updating all policies following the previous format to the template provided in Policy 0.

Vice President Velling and Councillor Parkyn.

An amendment is proposed that voting should be just be 2/3 for everything except adoption which should remain a simple majority.

Vice President Gerrits and Deputy Speaker Small. After some discussion between Vice President Gerrits, Deputy Speaker Small, Vice President Velling, and others, the amendment was brought to a vote.

Motion fails with Vice President Velling in opposition.

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

Motion carries

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no reports.

Secretary's Note: SJUSU Designate Lawless left the meeting at 1:55

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

President asked the council if there was any business arising from the meeting that needed to be addressed at this point. There were none, so the meeting continued.

GENERAL ORDERS

DECISION REGARDING THE APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET

Be it resolved that Council accepts recommendation _____ as outlined below:

1. Further Continuing Appropriations for FY2020: Council approves the continuation

of funding from member dues at the same levels as September and October, less any amounts required to be reduced in the interests of financial position of the Corporation, which shall expire by the end of the November Regular Meeting of the Students' Council, unless Council otherwise adopts a budget superseding this resolution.

2. Special Meeting for Budget Approval: Council directs the President to call a special meeting on October 2019, for the purposes of reviewing and approving the prepared budget as it pertains to the expenditure of member dues

Vice President Velling and Vice President Gerrits.

Vice President Velling walked through the budget spreadsheet for the assembly. Deputy Speaker Small asked if the budget runs on the expectations of the opt-outs and whether the opt-outs in the fall will be the same as in winter. Vice President Velling said that he couldn't comment on that yet because university has not disclosed the information. Deputy Speaker Small also asked if opt-out expectations are increasing for the winter term to which Vice President Velling said that they will probably go up but plateau in a couple of terms to about 30%. Deputy Speaker Small inquired where WUSA would be operating from if there was a net loss. Vice President Velling said the savings account would be used in the case of a net loss but that is not the best option.

A member from the public inquired where the International News profits are coming from. Vice President Velling clarified that International News's finances have been reported incorrectly for the past 2 years because they didn't include salary amounts.

An amendment was moved to select option 1.

Deputy Speaker Small and Councillor Hunte.

Motion carries

Motion carries

BOMBSHELTER PUB REPORT

Be it resolved that Council accepts the report on the direction for the Bombshelter Pub space, as presented

Vice President Velling and Councillor Roxas.

Vice President Velling mentioned that the Bombshelter pub is at a terrible loss and options were discussed and a report was issued out by himself. 4 options available: *refer to the attached report*

Councillor Town asked Vice President Velling to speak more about what work has been done to reassure her that that these choices are financially viable and will not go into another loss. Vice President Velling answered that the numbers presented are estimated with the trends and statistics of realistic trends that go hand in hand with the SLC expansion and other related trends. Councillor Town also asked if the student's desire for lounge space will change over time. Vice President Velling replied to that concern by pointing out that the trends have been stable for many years which makes it a safe bet

Councillor Hunte asked how UW Food Services can refuse a certain food chain or restaurant in the SLC. Vice President Velling replied that Food Services is handled by UW throughout the campus even though places like SLC are not run by the university.

Member Nurbhai (in the gallery) brought up concerns about bringing in a fast food chain such as McDonalds due to the already existing competition of Tim Hortons and Starbucks on campus. Vice President Velling replied by saying that was just an option presented and they can still decide which fast food chain they want to bring in depending on whether they even want to bring one in. Member Nurbhai pondered the idea of creating a social lounge such as the rec room in place of the Bombshelter Pub. Vice President Velling replied that social lounge space is already being created in the SLC expansion.

Be it resolved that the Vice President, Operations and Finance shall prepare and present a full business case to council for approval prior to implementation of the recommended option.

Councillor Town and President.

Councillor Town introduced the motion requesting that the Vice President, Operations Finance seek the approval of Council prior to any implementation. However, there was some disagreement on whether approval was necessary or appropriate, so the request was changed to only be a presentation for information to Council (amendment deemed friendly to the assembly).

Motion carries as amended to not include "for approval".

Vice President Velling asked what type of business case do the people that voted yes for the motion want. Councillor Yang said he wants more feedback for constituents such as FAQs. Councillor Town wants less use of the words "hope" and more discussing of the financial venture in the business case. Councillor Hunte prefers a summary of the business plan as well as a detailed one only for the Board. Councillor Parkyn wants something more detailed on how it can be ensure that what happened to the bomber will not happen again. Deputy Speaker Small wants details about the financial viability from an operational standpoint.

Secretary's Note: Councillor Riaz left the call at 2:40

The President made everyone aware that these requests will take some time and will probably not happen before the end of the year.

Motion carries

Secretary's Note: A break was taken at 3:12 and the meeting resumed at 3:22

TAKING A STANCE TO ADDRESS SMOKING ON CAMPUS

Be it resolved that Council accepts the report of the Vice President, Student Life, as presented, regarding a harm-reduction approach to smoking on campus.

Be it further resolved that Council tasks the Vice President, Student Life and the President with looking into alternatives to a smoke-free campus that focus on harm reduction, allowing all students to access campus spaces without negatively impacting others, and advocating for the same at the Wellness Collaborative Advisory Committee.

Vice President Fitzpatrick and Vice President Gerrits.

Motion carries

PRESENTATION ON THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE REVIEW

It was asked where the data Vice President Fitzpatrick presented was derived from. Whether the campus satisfaction data included drop-outs, average students vs extraordinary students and the correct group of population.

Vice President Velling noticed that there is a distinct lack of attention for international student support services and asked that Deputy Speaker Small or President Beauchemin bring this issue to the October 21st Senate meeting.

UNDERSTANDING CLIMATE CHANGE

Councillor Hunte wanted to discuss the misunderstanding of what climate change is and suggested for a small marketing program around campus to make students more aware of the issue. Vice President Gerrits suggested to direct this issue to the Sustainable Campus Initiative. President Beauchemin mentioned that the marketing department has been overworking and if this is something that the council feels deserves top priority, then there are going to be other marketing projects that will have to be put away for later. Councillor Parkyn mentioned that people with mental health issues get very overwhelmed when they see such issues being constantly brought up.

NEW BUSINESS

Vice President Velling brought up that the SLC fee restructuring will be brought up at the GM and that he is going to suggest transferring some of the university's SLC fees to WUSA so that students can have more control over those fees. Vice President Velling also mentioned about the draft Capital Improvement Program report he sent to councillors, requesting that any feedback be sent to him as he will be bringing it to a vote at the next meeting.

Vice President Gerrits made a general encouragement for students to vote for the federal elections during advance polling hours. He mentioned that there will also be a live viewing party of the English leaders debate at RCH 101.

Vice President Gerrits announced that OUSA GA applications have been extended until October 8th due to insufficient applications. Councillor Yang mentioned that the delegate link is not working currently.

Finally, Vice President Gerrits encouraged councillors to read the OUSA membership review report that was produced during the previous governing year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMINDER OF EXPECTATIONS

President Beauchemin requests that councilors read the agenda package in full and come prepared to meetings. Deputy Speaker Small reminds councillors if they cannot attend meetings, they must send in a proxy or inform the councillors of their unavailability.

Member Nurbhai (from the gallery) believes that there was a lack of awareness for Remembrance Day and he is hoping that this year WUSA organizes something to commemorate the tragedy such as a two minute silence. He will be saving the rest of his concerns for the GM. President Beauchemin told Nurbhai that the University's Chaplain does in fact run a Remembrance Day ceremony.

Deputy Speaker Small repeated that he will be working towards running a social event for the council to incorporate new members following the November meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Be it resolved that the Chair adjourn the meeting at 4:10PM.

President Beauchemin and Deputy Speaker Small.

Motion carries