

Federation of Students
Student's Council

Feb 11th 2018

SLC 1120/1121 (The Multi-purpose Room)

Chair	Elizabeth O'Sullivan
Secretary	Tristan Potter
Attendees	Altaf, Subham Brieva, Antonio Clarke, Antonio Clubine, Andrew Easton, Benjamin Eyre, Alexander George, Rebecca Goomer, Kanishk Guillen, Jennifer Jowhari, Nickta Knight, Jill Li, Tianqi Mistry, Harsh Mohan, Andrew O'Sullivan, Elizabeth Potter, Tristan Schwan, Brian Shibli, Aisha Simpson, Abigail Small, Jason Terzian, Hagop Tran, Tomson Velling, Seneca Xu, Wenyu Ye-Mowe, Stephanie
Expected Absences	N/A

Call to Order

Be it resolved that the Speaker calls the meeting to order at 12:30 PM.

Note, the land that the University of Waterloo Resides on is Indigenous land.

Approval of the Agenda

Be it resolved that Council approve the agenda as presented.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of a meeting are the official record of what happened at that meeting, and contain the authoritative versions of the actions taken at the meeting. If there are significant reservations about the minutes, the approval may be dispensed with, and the minutes will be returned at the subsequent meeting for approval.

Approval of the Minutes

Be it resolved that Council approve the minutes of the Jan 14th meeting as presented.

Reports

Motions arising directly out of a report, including to adopt recommendations in the report, may be considered immediately after the report without having to wait until later in the meeting. No action is required to receive a report. If Council decides to adopt or accept a report, then it is endorsing the entire report and not just the recommendations.

Executive Reports

Each executive will highlight key aspects of their written reports in an oral report that lasts no longer than 2 minutes, to be followed immediately by a question period lasting no longer than 10 minutes per executive.

1. President
2. Vice President, Internal
3. Vice President, Operations and Finance
4. Vice President, Education

General Orders

A general order is an item of business that is ordered to be taken up at a meeting. Time limits to discussions indicate the point at which the Speaker will end the discussion unless Council directs otherwise.

Update on MathNews/MathSoc – Seneca Velling

Discussion on revalidating the student health and dental plan – Nickta Jowhari

Discussion on "University Mandated Leave of Absence Policy" that was recently withdrawn at the University of Toronto - Nickta Jowhari

Discussion on introducing a mentorship program for new members of the FEDS council - Nickta Jowhari

Be it resolved that Council amends Policy 25 (Sustainability) by adding the following provisions to the existing policy:

WHEREAS the University of Waterloo supports “practices and processes to reduce consumption of resources, minimize output of waste, and mitigate upstream and downstream environmental impacts from campus operations” (UW Policy 53, Environmental Sustainability, section 5.5); and

WHEREAS bottled beverages are the cause of large volumes of plastic waste; and

WHEREAS the use of cheap reusable bottles filled with tap water is a low-cost, safe, and sustainable alternative;

BIFRT the University of Waterloo, the Federation of Students, and the businesses that operate on campus should produce as little food waste as possible, including disposable containers, plates, cutlery, and bottles; and

BIFRT the University of Waterloo should provide convenient and easy access to water fountains and water bottle refilling stations in all buildings. – Jason Small

BIRT Council appoints _____ and _____ to SLEF council seats – Jill Knight

BIRT Council allows the executive team to appoint _____ and _____ to SLEF at large seats – Jill Knight

BIRT Council approves the creation of a new student-run service catered to meet the needs of racialized students on campus, pending an approved fee increase of approximately \$1.20 at the March General Meeting. – Antonio Brieva

New Business

Any Councillor may raise any item of concern during new business. Generally, long discussions without a specific motion before Council should be avoided, and are technically against the rules of procedure. If a Councillor has any questions about the procedure, form, or content, they should ask the Speaker.

Adjournment

Adjournment scheduled at 2:30 pm.

Acknowledgments

Some recognition of effort is required for the past and current officers of Student's Council, as their hard work has led to vast improvements to the efficiency and efficacy of this body, including in the improvements made in the construction of this agenda and the attached minutes. The following members in particular have devoted an extraordinary amount of time and effort to the cause of amplifying discussions on student issues and improving the clarity of debate:

- Alexander Wray (Speaker, 2016-2017), for his efforts to run concise and productive meetings.
- Andrew Clubine (Speaker, 2014-2015), for his efforts in introducing transparent procedure to the operations of Council.
- Sacha Forstner (Secretary, 2016-2017), for his efforts in bringing the operations and decisions of Council to the at-large student population.



Antonio Brieva President Report

February 2018

Federation of Students
University of Waterloo

Mental Health: PAC-SMH and Accessibility Committee

-The last PAC-SMH meeting took place on Friday, February 2, 2018. The Committee worked for three hours, and in the weeks prior to our meeting, to condense the 140 recommendations from the five supporting panels.

-We have until February 16 to finish the final report and submit it to the President's office.

-As requested Jowhari, I'd like to provide information on what we're working on with the university to enhance the student experience of people living with a disability and those individuals living with mental illness. I represent Feds on the Accessibility committee that developed Policy 58 throughout summer and fall of 2017. Now that policy 58 has passed all the formal approvals it needed to become official University of Waterloo policy, we've moved to creating a Multi-Year Action Plan (MYAP).

-I sit on the accessible education working group that is looking at how to make learning at UW accessible to all our students, while focusing on how to approve the process in which students use to seek accommodation.

-We can address concerns that have been brought up due to UofT's policy — challenged by the Ontario Human Rights Commission — through the work of this working group and ensure that it is properly addressed in PAC-SMH's final report.

Task force: General Meeting

-Our task force has met twice and has developed the following working groups to explore the following topics:

- Evaluate engagement and data metrics of past GMs under our current structure

- Council as Meeting of Delegates (including ratification of elections & auditors report, director election reform, role of executives)

- Improving Engagement of AGMs the way they exist now (Motion submission, advertisement, agenda accessibility)

- Reforming GM Structures (e.g. Town Hall / Q&A session with Execs, Speaker, Chair)

- Electronic Ballots (multi vs single day, what does this look like with Council as a meeting of delegates & GMs as townhalls, how to keep discussion and engagement, referenda) + Post hoc voting viability

-We will present our early findings as a task force by the March 21st General Meeting!

Policies & Procedures Committee

-We've had one meeting since our last Council meeting. We're looking at our Council procedures to identify any potential changes that can be made to facilitate and enhance Council's evidence-based policy development process. Any of these changes will be recommended to Council.

-We've considered two different reports and proposals from Seneca and the Research and Policy Officer. Between now and the next Council meeting PPC will decide which elements of both proposals we like best and propose some potential amendments to council procedures.



Jill Knight Vice President Internal Report

February 2018

Federation of Students
University of Waterloo

Societies:

- Monthly meetings are continuing with society presidents
- Committee of Presidents passed a COPs procedure document
- Myself and the SRC have attended majority of the society executive meetings
- We are finalizing details for hosting an event with all societies on March 2nd at the Bomber
- We have moved forward with society fob access for all society president's
 - o This is a pilot project
 - o The usage of these fobs are for the main society
- Goal for Winter 2018: to have a webpage for society content
- **Society Relations Commissioner Goals:**
 - o Increase satellite campus outreach
 - o Increase society involvement during Orientation
 - o Create clear event form guidelines
 - o Working on assisting societies during their transition

Wellness:

- Bell Let's Talk Day was on January 31st – we had a visible presence through toques being given to all students on the frontlines of our commercial services, our service coordinators and society executives
- Working on a collaborative event with Campus Wellness, Jack Talk/Spotlight for an event highlighting ways to end mental health stigma through expressions of various arts (poetry, songs, guest speaker etc)
- Branding of these days continues

Overall Updates January/February:

- **IAC** has been continuing to meet weekly
- **IFC** has only received two proposals this term
 - o Looking at marketing this fund better for the remainder of the term
- Services Advocacy:
 - o **MATES** – working on partnership with Housing and Residence
 - Looking at expanding partnership within Orientation
 - Helping with speakers for their Chili Dog Run
 - o **Women's Centre** – working on ensuring the student input is taking into consideration for the Policy 42 review
- **Cultural Caravan** planning is on the way – book March 8th into your calendars!
- **UW BASE** – Along with Antonio, working with this group to discuss the needs as a club and beyond
- **SLEF** – creating deadlines for the term
- **Leadership awards** – creating deadlines for the term
- **Visiting Cambridge Campus** with Andrew
- **PACE (Provost Advisory Committee on Equity)** – we hosted an open consultation with faculty, staff and students on campus to drive what the priorities should be for this committee

If you have any comments, concerns, complaints or compliments about campus life (or anything about the university and Feds) feel free to reach out!



Brian Schwan

VP Operations & Finance

January 2018

Federation of Students
University of Waterloo

Executive Report

- 1) Month Summary
- 2) Current Projects /Initiatives

Month Summary

The Bombshelter:

- We have plans to launch an Express menu where certain food options will be available to be made at reduced time to increase the convenience for students
- We are working on implementing being open on the weekends and are currently analyzing hours of operation for this and also when we should/could start these expanded hours.
- Bomber trivia's and Special event/themed bomber Wednesdays have continued to be busy. We have also seen an increased in society bookings this term.
- New Catering Menu has launched.

International News:

- Nothing New to Report

Campus Bubble/Bento:

- Nothing New to report

Feds Used Books:

- Still ongoing: We are currently looking at reducing the hours during the remaining two months of each term. This is going to be done through assessment of the previous years transactions during these months. During the fall term there was mre traffic during the middle of the day and less in the morning and evenings. This will be done to ensure the service is still accessible but also efficient.

Current Projects/Initiatives

2.A MathNews/MathSoc Report

I have continued to meet with both MathNews and MathSoc to ensure needs of all parties are attended to. I can confirm that the MOU between MathSoc/MathNews is moving forward in a positive direction. In addition, I have personally worked through barriers that MathNews was experiencing to better serve their needs. As of our last meeting all parties have accepted our apology and are happy with the solutions presented.

2.B Legal Survey

The Legal survey has seen a decent amount of responses to date with a couple hundred individuals participating. We will continue to have it open for an additional week to encourage more people to fill it out! Reminder to please encourage your peers to fill it out at www.legalsurvey.feds.ca.

2.C Job Fair

The Job fair saw over 175 students attend in employment with Feds, it was a great opportunity to chat with students and to better communicate all the services and job opportunities we have to offer.

2.D Email Update

Many students who are using their EDU emails experienced some delivery issues when trying to email a recipient who had their account being forwarded to another email. Feds.ca had experienced these issues in January however, the problem is resolved and we will work closely with IST to ensure this does not happen again.

Confidential Information
Regarding MathSoc has been
Redacted

STATEMENT FROM MATHNEWS

8th December, 2017

TO: Speaker of the Board
CC: FEDS Student Council, FEDS Board of Directors
FROM: Zishen Qu, *MathNEWS*
SUBJECT: Statement to the Feds Council on *MathNEWS*
NOTE: Transcribed verbatim

“The online article that imprint wrote has almost all of the relevant emails to this matter.

“From the perspective of myself and my staff, it seems that the Feds administrators looked to make their work easier in terms of auditing and accounting. In the process of doing this, they have pressured many student societies and clubs to close their accounts, and place them directly under a faculty society account. I did not ask if the needs of those societies or clubs was addressed in these closures, but considering my own experiences with the Feds Societies Account, I'll assume that they were not. You can ask Gayle Goodfellow or the Feds Societies Accountant for a list of these closures.

“Here were the concerns brought to me by the Feds Accountant, as I understand them. First, *mathNEWS* has little ‘accountability’. In this sense, I presume them to mean that *mathNEWS* cheques are not written by the Feds Accountant, and no cheque request forms needs to be filed before reimbursement. I thought such concerns were meaningful, and suggested that *mathNEWS* present it's actual spending for a term at the next term's MathSoc General Meeting.

“The second concern that was brought up was the one of record keeping. I was told that there was no problems with record keeping until the Fall 2016 term, but the records during and after that term were sporadic and incomplete. I mentioned that I was looking to standardize the *mathNEWS* system of record-keeping. It is also worth noting that a previous and soon-to-be-returning editor, George Lambrou, had already started this process.

“The third concern was if the money that *mathNEWS* was receiving was being spent well for the students. I thought that such a concern being brought up by Feds administrators was inappropriate for discussion. However, I sought to demonstrate that *mathNEWS* was a worthwhile organization, as I wanted to continue to have amicable relations with Feds. In this meeting, it seemed that the Feds administrators were unwilling to accept any arrangement other than the one they suggested. I suggested an arrangement where the *mathNEWS* account would be under Feds, with no one having signing authority other than editors, but the cheques themselves would be printed by Feds, after a cheque request. The response was that they would have to ask the board of directors. I took it to mean ‘no’, as that's what I would say if I wanted to reply ‘no’, but not look bad in the process. In my opinion, that compromise along with finance presentations at a general meeting addresses all of the concerns brought up.

“This pretty much ended my meetings with the Feds Societies Accountant, Gurpreet Saini. If I were to agree to the terms that Feds proposed, it would either force me to disband *mathNEWS* or give up its independence as a publication. Both of which would be against the principles of the publication, so I

STATEMENT FROM MATHNEWS

8th December, 2017

decided that if it came to that, I would resign rather than do either one. It came to a point where a neutral party commented that the Feds Accountant simply had power over *mathNEWS*, and that there was nothing I could do but accept their demands.

“Next, I decided to ask the mathematics undergraduate students on their opinion of *mathNEWS* funding. The most appropriate place for such a discussion was at the MathSoc general meeting, open to all mathematics students who had paid their fee. *mathNEWS* is quite a popular publication, so I was able to get the previous letter of understanding between MathSoc and *mathNEWS* passed easily, after reassuring the MathSoc executives that they would not be the target of retaliation from Feds.

“After this, I was forwarded the emails that are now released by imprint. As you may surmise from my email back to them, I was not pleased at the content of the emails, even less than the so-called negotiations. Asking for *mathNEWS* to be digitized is a most unwelcome suggestion, even ignoring the fact that *mathNEWS* is already available digitally, it was obvious that Gurpreet had never even picked up a copy of *mathNEWS* before making demands of us. It also goes without saying that you shouldn't ask for a publication that has existed before the internet to be available only on the internet.

“The threat of getting lawyers involved was less than welcome, but I felt that I had distanced most of the staff of *mathNEWS* and the executives of MathSoc sufficiently such that their academic careers would not be in danger. I also felt that I had quite a bit of support, and that my studies at the university were not seriously threatened. I sincerely hope that other student executives of societies did not face the same threat, as I doubt that they would have the same popular support that *mathNEWS* has. It was also very lucky that I knew a few students that had been around for a long time, some of which even participated in writing some of the MathSoc by-laws that I was relying on. Either way, *mathNEWS* is the official publication of mathematics undergraduate students, so I am *definitely* not going to compromise on the letter of understanding that the MathSoc general meeting passed.

“At this stage, imprint requested an interview, which I accepted, and requested the emails, which I also accepted. However, it is now apparent to me that I should have censored the email addresses in the emails, as imprint itself did not do so for some reason.

“...If you have any questions, feel free to email me here, at mathnews@gmail.com, call me at x36355, or just come to the *mathNEWS* office when I'm around.

“Please note that this was a personal statement of experiences, and the rest of my staff may disagree with my opinions on persons and organizations that I have stated.

“Thanks,

“quizED (Zishen Qu),

“*mathNEWS* Editor, Fall 2017 [sic]”