

## **Minutes for ASUS Assembly on November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

Starting Time: 7:00pm

*Speaker Davis will henceforth be known as Speaker*

### **Motion 1: "That ASUS Assembly approve the agenda for the November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Assembly"**

Moved by: Benjamin Bourne

Seconded by: Scott Mason

#### **Senator Duchaine:**

Individuals, I am absolutely appalled at the treatment that my report underwent when it was submitted, on time, at 10:15am to the Commissioner of Internal Affairs. I structured it in 12pt font Times New Roman, and there were no exclamation points. It was not in Comic Sans. However, I will admit there was no change in information in the report, but it did drastically alter the tone. I would like to see a formal apology from the CIA, or vote down this motion

#### **Commissioner Bourne:**

Since there was nothing substantive to report, it was my idea to spice things up. If Senator Duchaine was seriously rattled by my inclusion of Comic Sans, then I wholeheartedly apologize

#### **Senator Stanley:**

Point of order, do we accept the apology? Motion to accept it

#### **Speaker:**

No

#### **Vice-President Tahiri:**

Motion to re-strike the Student Initiative Committee to include Matthew Lumsden, Maury Rubin, Sheldon Vaz, and Jake Ferguson. Representative Ferguson will be coming Tuesday Evening, and Representative Kessiah can only come on Wednesday. The motion is to restrike the committee but include Representative Ferguson, and the Special Funds Committee would have Representative Kessiah.

Regarding the ASUS Summer Camps director hiring committee. The Arts representative is unable to make it this Sunday. Scott and Myself, the previous business director, as well as Senator Chishti will remain, but we need to re-select and vote on a new individual. It's Sunday evening from 6pm-10pm. Please nominate yourself.

Seconded by CESA Vice-President Ferguson

*Vote:*

For: 23

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

#### **Representative Chinniah:**

I'd like to add to the agenda.

Motion that ASUS assembly reconsider the vote on motion 14, specifically the section that

ratifies Speaker Davis as one of the members for honorarium evaluation  
Seconded by Representative Walsh

*Vote:*

For: 15

Against: 11

Motion passes

*Vote on motion 1:*

For: 27

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

**Motion 2: "That ASUS Assembly approve the minutes for the October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013 Assembly"**

Moved by: Benjamin Bourne

Seconded by: Scott Mason

**Senator Duchaine:**

I believe ASUS Representative Rubin was called a Senator at one point within a minutes. If that could be changed

**Senator Smolej:**

One point of clarification: The Iacobucci report is still spelled wrong.

*Vote on motion 2:*

For: 26

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Motion passes

**Speaker's Business**

**Speaker:**

People that will be late or absent and have cleared it:

Erin McLaughlin

Kristen Cutajar

Lorenzo Colocado

Could we please keep cross-chat down?

As you can see on the website, there are two rulings for the judicial committee. The second is the more pertinent. In essence, it says that the changes made to the honorarium policy are unconstitutional, due to the fact that any changes to honorarium must be made at a special assembly or an AGM. Should assembly overrule my ruling with a 2/3 majority, that's great. Otherwise they will be struck and we will have to re-do everything.

**Guest Speaker**

**Chief Returning Officer Wraich:**

There's no formal layout for this. I've broken it up to each period

Nominations period : September 27<sup>th</sup> – October 7<sup>th</sup>. It went really well. 3 candidates for senator, 2 for year society teams, and 7 ASUS reps to AMS. Our winners are sitting here, congratulations!

The campaign period went smoothly as well. Two individuals campaigned afterwards and were fined. Nothing too crazy happened otherwise. The 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> (elections period) is the curiosity.

The election was extended from Tuesday/Wednesday to Thursday. Our job is to give the information for them to process with votenet.

On our side, we did everything that we needed.

Due to technical difficulties with the system, all of that is under AMS jurisdiction.

I'm sure many of you remember the shift from the old e-mail system to the current Microsoft Outlook.

The old AMS elections team and the current one were made aware that the system was integrated properly. However, this was not the case.

When issues developed, everybody was caught offguard.

The e-mails were sent, but a lot were blocked. The e-mail address sending them was also blocked. Votenet contacted them and gave them a whitelisted e-mail address.

Took the elections team longer than expected, but was dealt with in the end.

It did however mean that people had less time to vote, which is why we extended

We won't have to deal with this in the Winter time.

The candidates database, which is a new initiative I've implemented. For those who aren't aware, it's on the ASUS website containing their platform and social media links. The problem is that it wasn't advertised as heavily as I would've liked. We've made a few changes. We'll do this for next time:

There's going to be one ballot for elections. I don't know if COMPSA has discussed this.

That ballot will include the AMS ballot and the faculty ballot. Which means you'll get the AMS elections and the ASUS elections. This means students will only have to vote once.

We'll also include the candidates database on the ballot, so all the information is there and easily accessible.

The other good thing is that it's a joint effort. It's not just "vote in the AMS", it's just "vote".

All elections are unified. We are also coming up with new advertising campaigns

Stickers at Common Ground. If you vote, you'll get a free coffee.

Physical polling stations with a laptop setup will be in the JDUC or ARC.

You can vote there and maybe the first 10 people will get passes to the underground just to get people out and voting.

There were some issues, but they've been dealt with, and hopefully we won't have any problems in the next election, and we'll have a stronger voter turnout

#### **Senator Duchaine:**

A number of students have told me that they don't receive the ASUS Monthly newsletter. Are these students not getting information from lots of sources, and it's only coming to our attention now?

#### **Chief Returning Officer Wraich:**

I'm not sure, I just know the blacklisted ones were not arriving

#### **President Mason:**

I'm getting e-mails from people saying that they aren't receiving e-mails, or that they graduated 10 years ago and are still getting them

**Vice-President CESA Ferguson:**

You mentioned the amalgamation of the ballots. To my knowledge, CESA hasn't been contacted about this. Does that mean that we'll do a regular election process and then you guys take care of it?

**Chief Returning Officer Wraich:**

have you confirmed your timeline?

**Vice-President CESA Ferguson:**

I'm not involved in that

**Chief Returning Officer Wraich:**

When you confirm the timeline, it's likely you'll have the same ballot

**Senator Duchaine:**

I know it's been an initiative of Commissioner Grotzky to get DSC elections here. In your capacity as Chief Returning Officer,

**Chief Returning Officer Wraich:**

It's under AMS jurisdiction. It wasn't votenet's fault this time for the missing e-mails. It was a miscommunication during the transfer of e-mail services. You'd have to speak to the Chief Returning Officer for AMS, as they're the ones who send out e-mails

**Representative Chinniah:**

What was the voter turnout on the ASUS side?

**Chief Returning Officer Wraich:**

11 or 12%

To give a comparison, it's closer to 18-24% in the past. This year it was particularly bad, because of the technical difficulties. Individuals received a 10 hour gap to vote, rather than the 48 hour timeslot usually allotted

**Senator Duchaine:**

Given the rather disappointing turnout, how are you going to publicize the next election? How will you increase awareness of this issue?

**Chief Returning Officer Wraich:**

Because we have a joint effort for next semester, it will encourage voter turnout. It's voting for your university elections. If you give students that mentality, it'll persuade them to vote more. I also think that students don't vote because they aren't informed. That's why the candidates database is important, because it gives them the information that they need.

**Representative Wiseman:**

The AMS is working on a large marketing campaign.

We know that the AMS is edgier with the "Let's not \_\_\_\_ it up" campaign.

"My first time was in Stauffer" - talking about voting

We also want a more social media oriented advertising campaign

**Commissioner Bourne:**

ASUS is going to have its own marketing initiatives  
We're working on an elections video with QTV  
Working on specific ASUS posters.  
Especially this year, because there will be ASUS executive elections, the rector elections, AMS elections, there will be more ways to push people to vote.  
We'll find out when it gets here, though.

## **Executive Reports**

### **President Mason:**

Two things I'd like to highlight: First, the ASUS security installation will be occurring starting tomorrow morning. The following Friday, they'll be doing the installation. For those of you using the space, they will be drilling tomorrow.

Also, this weekend is the John Orr dinner. ASUS Council will be going to Toronto.

### **Vice President Tahiri:**

Grants Committee: Monday at 7pm

Student Initiative Committee: Tuesday at 6pm

Special Projects Committee: Thursday 6:30pm

Equity and Diversity: Friday 4pm

The Tartan has not been doing stuff. CSS could've spoken more to it. We want the average Arts and Science student to know about it. We've taken responsibility for it being a slow start, however we're trying to fix the problem. They need to find an easy way to transition people to learn the back-end of the website. Articles have been written, so we're working towards a big marketing push.

### ***Business of the Senate:***

#### **Senator Duchaine:**

We have our meeting Monday night, so it's hard for Monday morning deadline.

We are appointing our new interim senator.

When Senator Stanley updates the infographic. We'll e-mail it around to assembly

I also met with the University Secretary this morning regarding concerns of how many interim senators we've had, and whether or not to restructure the 2-year senator term.

Are we happy this way? Or would we like to see some changes?

I will also be meeting with Scott as to our role in assembly

Faculty Board was last Friday and a number of senators and ASUS executive were able to attend, as well as a number of DSCs.

If you have a question about Senate, come talk to us at any time.

Currently we have 3 two-year senators, and 2 one-year senators

We could switch how many twos and ones there are, or all become one

There's a history of people being unable to complete their two-year terms because they resign, graduate, or for whatever personal reasons.

### ***Business of the AMS***

#### **Representative Walsh:**

Thanks from all of the ASUS Representatives to Nicola Plummer and AMS Executives for all of their help.

We've been taking as much advantage of social media as we can in terms of gathering interest at assembly.

Connecting to students via social media seems to work well. That's all on our part.

### ***Business of the Board of Directors:***

**Director Ismail-Tera:**

## **Statements by Members**

**President Mason:**

Mostly directed to Senator Duchaine. There's a newsletter this Saturday. If you have anything by 4pm you'd like to include, let me know

**Commissioner Grotsky:**

W.J. Barnes teaching award. Please nominate teachers who have had an impact on your life.

I went and checked out W.J. Barnes. He suffered from diabetes, had both his legs amputated, and continued to teach. He eventually lost his eyesight, continued teaching. Right up until several days before he died, he continued teaching.

## **Question Period**

**Senator Chishti:**

Question for the executive about John Orr. Was ASUS subsidizing any of council or executive going there? If so, how much?

**President Mason:**

ASUS will be subsidizing the ticket prices of the John Orr tickets, but members of council will be spending money on their own accommodations and transportation

**Vice-President Tahiri:**

The allocation this year is 1500\$ total. Approximately 188\$ per commissioner

In terms of overall increases to the budget, it was only 1000\$ total

We spoke to the executive board of directors, looked at what's been done previously

It's a year to year decision. It only didn't happen last year.

Covers the cost of a ticket, and one hotel room. I will be staying with my parents, Scott will be staying with his, and two of the commissioners are staying with their parents

Transportation costs are 500\$. We're paying 25%, society is paying 75%

We also looked at it as a volunteer appreciation scheme.

The society does a transition with executives, and it comes out of the executive budget. It was another one of those trips that we thought would fall under this. If assembly has strong reservations against this, then please speak to it.

**Senator Smolej:**

Question for President Mason: At last faculty board, he said he would expand more on the Boston Trip. Is there going to be any more information on the trip you had? Would you like to see it translated to the community here? What are your plans for informing us in the future?

**President Mason:**

I think I'll write something to append to a report. Giving a presentation at assembly would not be of great value to assembly given what we have to get through.

I'd like to meet with other members from the trip to talk to them as well

Academics Commissioner Williams is putting together a white paper. I will be talking to her about how we can contribute

**Senator Duchaine:**

Does The Tartan have articles ready to go? Whether or not the ASUS website could hold them.

**Vice-President Tahiri:**

This is a serious issue of the backup of the website. There's no way that the ASUS website could accommodate it. It was made 2 years ago, and we asked "can it be something we connect to the website?" It is not possible. The editors in chief expressed strong opinions about the image of the website.

The option we currently have is the website COMPSA created for us.

The process behind it is quite difficult.

They created a wordpress website, it looked hideous, but it was easy to use.

They've had several meetings, fine-tuning what they want. There will be a big push by this month's end.

I wish I had brought Rob, because I see that this is a pressing issue for assembly. Please know that we have tried, and every possible step is being taken to have it released as soon as possible. That's why I would like to say that it is not a neglect on our part from idleness.

The average arts and science student should know. Please know we are working on it.

I hate making promises, but I think the push should be next week. Hold me to account, I will give another update in two weeks

**Senator Stanley:**

If Commissioner Grotsky could elaborate on this: How do we know that the same issues we're having with The Tartan won't happen with Politicus or QSURJ? We've got a lot of work ahead of us

**Vice-President Tahiri:**

The question is a bit unfair. COMPSA does not have a record of poorly managing ASUS websites. This is the first one where it has not gone out by the deadline. I do have faith in COMPSA, and in Rob Staaldunen, the COMPSA Site Services manager. I'll let the other two speak about Politicus specifically. This issue is unique in nature

**Commissioner Grotsky:**

The Tartan is a bit of an anomaly. Other publications like The Undergraduate Review are already working and I don't think you can fairly compare the two

**Senator Stanley:**

At what point, then, would the option of going outside and contracting someone become a relevant option for consideration if the Vice-President could elaborate?

**Vice-President Tahiri:**

So far, most of the money being spent for The Tartan has been donations from the Dean. Not a lot of money came from ASUS. That's not an excuse.

COMPASA is looking to start a business within their society. We said that's a good initiative, and in the past they have done websites that impressed us. I don't think you can get somebody more solid than that. I really want to stress that it really is an anomaly. We are on top of it. Rob says it is fixable.

**Senator Smolej:**

Question for Commissioner Grotsky. Within his report he mentioned a restructuring, and some changes that would lead to further the advocacy within the academics commission. In my opinion, I think that this is one of the most important processes that we need to strive to work towards. How exactly is this going to happen? How will the situation improve?

**Commissioner Grotsky:**

Thank you for saying that. The whole idea behind this is to give the commissioner more time for academic advocacy. Due to the large stress of the committee, it hasn't been done in past years or this year. Deputies who have openly expressed an interest in taking a bigger role will start overseeing things. ASUS peer tutoring will be run by a deputy. I will only be involved with issues requiring perspective. The Undergraduate Review will also be pushed to a deputy. Over time, we could also include Politicus and QSURJ in this. W.J. Barnes will also be taken over by a deputy.

**Representative Chinniah:**

Question for President Mason.

You've written in your report that there will be a \$2000 security system installed in the ASUS Core

What was the justification for that, considering Queen's already has an overall security?

**President Mason:**

In our time in the last 4 years, there haven't been any issues of vandalism at the ASUS Core, but in the past it has happened.

What if something were to happen? The amount of money in the ASUS core fluctuates month to month. After orientation week, there are huge amounts of money in the core.

The security system won't change much in terms of the day-to-day operations, but it'll be an extra set of eyes at night and over holidays. It'll also be handled by campus security. They've agreed to monitor it for free. This will pay for itself as years go by.

I said it would cost \$2000, but I don't expect it to cost that much.

We were more impressed with the cheaper of two options. In all likelihood, it will be \$1800.

**2017 Year Society President Clark:**

What is involved in this security?

**President Mason:**

Door contacts. The front door and rear door will set the alarm off.

We'll need to change our behaviours on council a little bit. When somebody opens the rear door, the system immediately goes off.

Opening the front door will give you 15-20 seconds to put the key in.

Everybody will pick an access code. Don't share it with anyone else.

If anything were to happen, we would know who armed and disarmed the system. It's a



better layer of accountability. We'll also have to have people there to arm the system at night and disarm in the morning

It also includes motion detectors

Video cameras were an option, but for several thousand more.

The motion sensors are designed so that if you were walking around, you'd trigger at least one

**Representative Chinniah:**

When was the last time that a serious incident happened in the ASUS Core?

**President Mason:**

A couple of years ago, somebody broke in. But during the Jacob Mantle incident, people vandalized the ASUS Core in protest.

## **Old Business**

**Motion 3: "That ASUS Assembly commence first reading on the amendments to Section 17.3 of the ASUS Constitution seen in Appendix A"**

Moved by: Isabelle Duchaine

Seconded by: Benjamin Bourne

**Commissioner Bourne:**

The reason I put this in is because it was tabled. However, because I only got the minutes early this week, I was not able to submit it to JCOM. This is the motion that we passed last week as it stands right now. Based on my informal conversations, I suspect that it will not be ruled unconstitutional. If there are any amendments, if we could get those out before I submit it, that would be great.

**Senator Duchaine:**

Not one individual on Arts and Science assembly contacted me with any concerns in the past two weeks. Nobody came forward with any questions, comments, or suggestions

**President Mason:**

Could you introduce the policy?

**Senator Duchaine:**

I'd recommend you read the minutes. Since we discussed this at length, it would not be appropriate for us to re-discuss this

**Senator Duchaine:**

Closing statement! This policy was developed in conjuncture with several people. It is nearly identical to the one passed by AMS assembly. I don't believe the work we do here is much different in terms of representation. The only major change is that we now know what happens if a ratification fails. Furthermore, it indicates that Chief Returning Officer, Deputy Returning Officers, and JCOM could come forward so that we make sure that they're competent. It would be nice to meet these individuals before agreeing to their judgments.

**President Mason:**

Is this codifying who is and who is not ratified in assembly?

**Senator Duchaine:**

Yes. If you would like to move an amendment, that would be good as well

**President Mason:**

Apologies to assembly. The motion as it reads now, in my humble opinion, I would not vote in favour of. I think the business of the AMS is very different from the business of ASUS. I think it's a good policy. Part of the reason we ratify people is not for the reasons you would normally ratify someone, but just to give them the opportunity to speak. This would exclude many members who were previously ratified. I'd encourage members of assembly to think about whether those ratifications were valuable to those members who were ratified. If you think that we're too busy, then that's okay.

**Senator Duchaine:**

I believe all individuals involved in all facets, volunteers or not, have the right and privilege to attend any ASUS assembly and engage on any issues. We've had many well-respected members in the gallery in the past. The power of ratification means that we can remove them from their position. Not to pick on anyone, but had we failed the interns ratification, then they should not be hired. If that's not the case, why ratify them? I think it would be more appropriate if we had a pre-assembly session. A different kind of forum besides ratification, which I think is a process we should take very seriously

**Vice-President Tahiri:**

This is one of those places where Scott and I have a disagreement. If any representative is going to chastise someone for not coming to assembly. While I do appreciate the concern, I wouldn't've gone about it in that way. You brought up one of the most significant examples. The one thing I would like is to add an amendment to have these individuals come to assembly, field some questions, get their feet wet.

**Senator Duchaine:**

If individuals do want to see what we do here, they can come as guest speakers, or statements by members, or question periods. There are a lot of involvement forums within the assembly. Subjecting them to ratification with extreme consequence is unnecessary

**Senator Stanley:**

Is this ping-pong debate method not better served in committee as a whole?

**Speaker:**

This is the reason we have the right of direct reply. If assembly believes that this requires assembly as a whole, then that's good

**Representative Wiseman:**

Senator Duchaine said everything I'd like to say.

*Vote on Motion 3:*

For: 25

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

**Motion 4: "That ASUS Assembly commence first reading on the amendments to section 2.05.06 of the ASUS Constitution seen in Appendix B"**

Moved by: Benjamin Bourne

Seconded by: Scott Mason

**Commissioner Bourne:**

This is about the kerfuffle with the honorarium policy. The policy had been passed, however it was then retroactively ruled unconstitutional. 2.05.06 says that we are not allowed to make any amendment to section 2.05 or honorarium in general without being at a special assembly or an AGM. I think this is holding us back. The reason I think we should keep the honorarium policy in place that was just passed is because the process has already started. The internal review process has already started. Having this ruled unconstitutional midway through our work would be a detriment. For these purposes, the idea behind moving this section of the constitution would ensure that we can, if necessary, tweak the policy without having to wait until the end of the year.

The problems addressed by member Sherman are pretty significant, and it would be unfortunate to have to wait until the AGM.

The one concern people could have is that people could try and up their honorarium. I feel as though there are already enough measures in place to prevent this.

**Representative Rubin:**

You might not be able to comment on why this was in the constitution, but if you could offer your opinion as to why this is originally in the constitution?

**Commissioner Bourne:**

I wasn't around when this was passed. I suspect the reason was that people were concerned that the executive or commissioners might stack assembly with friends and get them to vote to give them more money. As of right now, there are enough mechanisms to prevent the blatant nepotism

**CESA Vice-President Ferguson:**

I think only the President and Vice-President are voting members, so I think that helps to answer the boosting their own honorarium question, since most people don't vote on it

**Senator Stanley:**

Motion to override the speaker's ruling

Seconded by Representative Goodman

*Vote:*

For: 27

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

*Vote on motion 4:*

For: 27

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

**Motion 5: "That ASUS Assembly commence first reading on the amendments to section 5.01.03"**

**of the ASUS Constitution seen in Appendix C"**

Moved by: Benjamin Bourne

Seconded by: Andrew Aulthouse

**Commissioner Bourne:**

The rule of this policy free Trustee Aulthouse from coming to assembly every two weeks. At the beginning of the year, I updated the list. Traditionally, the Rector and Business managers were unofficial members. They will always be welcome as guest speakers, but are not required to come and visit us regularly. This relieves the Undergraduate Student Trustee and Rector as observers of assembly. The Business Manager will still be here. At the AGM last year, the general manager at the time was very instrumental on moving debate forward regarding honoraria

**Undergraduate Student Trustee Aulthouse:**

This comes from a few places.

I'm guest speaking at a lot of faculty societies regarding what the board is, my role on it, and any issues.

The bigger issue is that it makes more sense to sit on none of them, or all of them. They're almost every night of the week.

The last few Undergraduate Student Trustees were arts and science students, but that is presumptuous. If you were in Commerce, you'd sit on ASUS assembly but not on your own faculty assembly.

This does not mean I will be cutting all ties to ASUS forever

I've certainly enjoyed my time on assembly, but I'm not sure of the value of my being here every time

**Senator Duchaine:**

I think it's also important to point out that the Undergraduate Student Trustee sits on AMS

**Undergraduate Student Trustee Aulthouse:**

Ex-officiating member to AMS

Observing member of senate

President's caucus as well

I can guest speak at residence societies too

**Senator Duchaine:**

There are multiple ways of getting in contact with the Undergraduate Student Trustee regardless.

**President Mason:**

Move to put into question

Seconded by member-at-large

*Vote:*

For: 23

Against: 2

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

*Vote on motion 5:*

For: 26

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

**Motion 6 :That ASUS Assembly re-strike the ASUS Student Initiative Fund Committee to include Matthew Lumsden, Maury Rubin, Sheldon Vaz, and Jake Ferguson.”**

**Vice-President Tahiri:**

Please vote in favour, this makes things much easier logistically

**COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman:**

Motion to put into question

*Vote:*

For: 27

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

*Vote on motion 6:*

For: 27

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

*Motion passes*

**Motion 7: “That ASUS Assembly re-strike the ASUS Special Projects Fund Committee to include Jamie Bannerman, Kanivanan Chinniah, John Stanley, and Keziah Uychocde. “**

**Vice-President Bannerman:**

Motion to put into questions

*Vote:*

For: 27

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

*Vote on motion 7*

For: 27

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

**Motion 8: “That ASUS Assembly re-strike the ASUS Camps Directors hiring Committee to include the ASUS Executive, the former ASUS Camps Business Director, Tuba Chisti (Science representative), and one other member from Assembly (to be an Arts representative).”**

Moved by Irfan Tahiri

Seconded by Benjamin Bourne

**Vice-President Tahiri:**

Representative Wiseman cannot make it from 6pm to 10pm Sunday night. If you are an arts student, a voting member, then please nominate yourself. No silly nominations please.

**Senator Stanley:**

Motion to open nominations  
Seconded by member-at-large

*Vote:*

For: 27  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0

Motion passes

*Nominations:*

Representative Mattisui – Decline  
2017 Year Society President Clark – Accept  
2016 Year Society President Vaz – Accept

**Member Goodman:**

Motion to close nominations  
Seconded by member-at-large

*Vote:*

For: 25  
Against: 1  
Abstain: 0

Motion passes

**Member Goodman:**

Motion to skip question period of nominees  
Seconded by member-at-large

*Vote:*

For: 10  
Against: 15  
Abstain: 0

Motion fails

**Senator Duchaine:**

What qualifications do you have to be on this hiring panel?

**2017 Year Society President Clark:**

General qualifications that I understand what it takes. I know what kind of candidate needs to be hired. I'd also be working with the counterparts in this committee, and I think it's important to have the best people. Qualifications of any Queen's student? I have those.

**2016 Year Society President Vaz:**

What makes me the best candidate, no offense, is not because I know anything more about this committee, but that I'm a good person to be part of a committee. At the end of the day, hiring the best two candidates is important. I'm a good team player, and I'm able to work in that capacity. I believe I'm a good and qualified candidate.

**Vice-President Tahiri:**

There might be a contentious vote. To what extent would you voice your concerns or go with the flow?

**2016 Year Society President Vaz:**

Like I said, I think it's important to hire the best candidate possible. If you have two people who disagree, that's not good. I would voice my concerns. It would only help the committee come to a better decision. Go with the flow is not a strategy for a committee. A Committee is supposed to be an amalgamation of opinions

**2017 Year Society President Clark:**

I have no problem being controversial. When you have a committee, you need the best ideas. This is serious business. That's how you reach compromise and consensus. That way, you will get the best candidate

**Senator Smolej:**

Do either of you have any experience working at a Day camp or summer residential camp? If so, for how long?

**2017 Year Society President Clark:**

Yes, I was a drama camp councillor, as well as a writing camp councillor. We did deal with contentious issues. I have also volunteered with youth. I was a peer tutor with several groups throughout high school. Especially for history, with at-risk youth

**2016 Year Society President Vaz:**

I have had extensive experience working with children. I worked with the Boys and Girls club in Mississauga as a volunteer for underprivileged youth. In high school, I was involved with multiple orientations for incoming grade 8s, as well as kids who needed "peer help".

**Speaker:**

Could the candidates please leave the room so that we can vote?

**President Mason:**

Motion for a heads up, seven up  
Seconded by Vice-President Tahiri

**Senator Duchaine:**

Is that a thing?

**Speaker:**

Yes

**Vice-President Tahiri:**

Point of information, these have been done in the past. We have done them in this session of ASUS.

**Senator Stanley:**

I thought points of information required a question?

**Speaker:**

No, as long as they reveal information

*Vote:*

For: 14

Against: 11

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

*Vote on candidates:*

2017 Year Society President Clark: 14

2016 Year Society President Vaz: 10

*2017 Year Society President Clark is selected*

**Vice-President Tahiri:**

I think that there might be some concerns of members when voting on people. Personal issues could come into it. I didn't take into account the members at large

**Senator Duchaine:**

Is there anything in policy about this?

**Commissioner Bourne:**

There's actually nothing on secret ballots

**COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman:**

Point of information: Last assembly, there was a vote where I had to leave. The vote totals were in the minutes, even though I left the room

**Speaker:**

It's so that you don't see who's voting how. You could hold grudges against people who didn't vote for you

**Representative Chinniah:**

This has nothing to do with you personally, Mister Speaker. Further to that, I think that one principle we should defend is that especially for an honorarium review committee that specifically reviews the honorarium of the executive, I feel that it is fundamentally inappropriate for the speaker to sit on this committee as it could infringe on their impartiality.

Member Sherman submitted this to JCOM, and they ruled that the speaker would be able to sit on the committee, but that a speaker cannot meaningfully participate in a committee without infringing on the neutrality for which they are required. I implore assembly to remove Speaker Davis from the committee. This committee will directly oversee the honorarium given to the executive.



**President Mason:**

Speaking on behalf of the executive, we will be abstaining from this vote. Pick whoever you would like to sit!

**Senator Duchaine:**

Just a piece of information that the honorarium review committee has received information, and Speaker Davis has received information packages with information regarding honorarium. We've already met twice, had conversations about the process. In that sense, his feedback has already been incorporated into the greater conversation. To that end, I'm not sure how much affect removing him would have. He's been involved in decisions up to this point. Not final ones, but the conversations.

Because it's not clear in policy where the speaker can sit, I'm not sure how appropriate it would be to remove the Speaker. However, it's something that we should consider for the next honorarium review committee. It might be difficult for us to change this, considering our work has already begun

**Speaker:**

The JCOM ruling is available under the assembly tab if that is of interest to anyone

**Senator Chishti:**

I wanted to echo both of these points., I agree with Representative Chinniah. I do agree that the speaker's role is supposed to be impartial. But seeing as how the committee has already met, I think that we should change it for next time and not this time. If that is something we want to consider for future policy-making, then that's something I'd like to consider.

**Senator Stanley:**

What's the lower bound of overturning this? 2/3?

**Speaker:**

I think it's just a majority. I'm not sure what a reconsideration motion requires, whether or not it is a repeal.

**Senator Stanley:**

Could Representative Chinniah clarify the spirit of this motion? Is this a do-over, or a reconsideration of the whole motion?

**Representative Chinniah:**

I don't think that the people would be picked in a fair way.

The spirit of this motion is quite simple. It's just that we believe the speaker of the assembly cannot sit on this committee, regardless of how long they've been on the committee. It's an unfortunate inconvenience, but one we need to take. The intention is not to remove the speaker for the sake of removing the speaker, but to find someone else

**Senator Stanley:**

The question I was asking was whether or not this is a do-over of the vote, or the entire nomination process as well

**Representative Chinniah:**

The proposal is to just remove the speaker, not look over the entire process again. It would keep other representatives intact. There are three candidates for two positions. One was COMPSA

Vice-President Bannerman. If assembly chooses to accept this, then we should elect a new member to sit on the committee.

**Speaker:**

If assembly votes to remove me from the committee, then you would need to select someone else. It wouldn't immediately pass.

Would the deputy speaker come and speak?

*Speaker Davis will henceforth be referred to as Arbiter Davis*

*2015 Year Society President Stemp will henceforth be referred to as Speaker*

**Commissioner Bourne:**

There is no formal method to remove Member Davis from the committee. However, if assembly votes for his removal, he will resign from the committee.

**Member Sherman:**

When there is a lack of detail, it is in policy to refer to Bruno's rules of order. It does specify that the chair should be impartial. Whether there is a lack of definition within our own constitution or policy, we must refer to that. The chair reported back that they did not refer to the rules.

**Representative Rubin:**

Thank you for bringing this up. I'd also like to recognize the speaker who has made good judgment in stepping down. He has good judgment when he needs to be impartial.

If he did feel uncomfortable sitting on this committee, he would speak up.

**Arbiter Davis:**

Firstly: Obviously, the speaker must be impartial. That goes without saying. I wouldn't have accepted nomination if I thought it compromised my ability to be impartial. I believe that this committee is distinct. I am reviewing a set of documentation, and making a decision based on that documentation. It does not enable me to bring in an opinion of my own, but to examine the documents.

I am not the sole arbiter on this committee, there are four.

My desire to sit on this committee is to help ASUS. If my sitting on this committee is contentious, I would not sit. If this motion receives anything less than a 2/3 majority, then I cannot do it in good conscience.

I do not believe that this engages me in affecting my impartiality. I engage with other members of committee, not the executive.

I have much more profound and disturbing relationships with President Mason and Vice-President Tahiri

**Senator Duchaine:**

I'd like to echo what Member Davis has said. As members of the honorarium review committee, we are only allowed to modify honorarium based on what documentation we receive.

We are supposed to be completely impartial. In that sense, I do not believe that there is much of a conflict of interest. However, I do understand very much the point being raised about the speaker's role in assembly in general

Looking beyond this particular instance, maybe we need to change something

**Senator Stanley:**

Just on the note of impartiality. Bruno's rules of order are for debate, while we sit in

assembly here.

Senator Davis is not bringing his own opinion. He doesn't have an agenda.

Considering the murky impartiality argument, I do not believe there is an issue

In this case, I'd like to consider that Member Davis is one of the better people to sit on this committee as they are bound by their impartiality

It is ensured that the member cannot have any extra opinions because he cannot have any other choice but to be impartial

**Arbiter Davis:**

For those who haven't read policy and constitution extensively, the Speaker also holds the Chief Electoral Officer position.

**Member Sherman:**

First about the neutrality of the speaker: After discussing this with other members of other faculty societies, they have said that this probably wouldn't have happened in their society because of the fact that the speaker is supposed to remain objective throughout assembly. It is a performance review going on. And by asking them to make a subjective decision on them, that ruins the impartiality.

As well, regarding Member Davis holding the CEO position. I have asked the other faculty societies if they would allow this because of that. They have said no.

**Representative Chinniah:**

This is not about whether they should remain impartial during debate. This is about the speaker conducting something so subjective as an honorarium review. I believe in his judgment. I don't think anybody has ever put the speaker in such a subjective-decision making position

**Member Goodman:**

I don't think anybody here is calling into question the ability of our speaker. That's not the issue. The issue is whether or not the speaker could find something out about any of the executive of commissioners that could bring his impartiality down when he comes back to assembly.

These are confidential performance review. If we give them the details of the inner workings of people not fulfilling their entire role, then that could cause dramatic issues when they come back and are required to be impartial

**Representative Lucas:**

Move to call into question

Seconded by Member Goodman

*Vote on motion 8:*

For: 20

Against: 6

Motion passes

**Motion 9: "That ASUS Assembly reconsider the results of last assembly's Motion 6 (package motion 14) ("That ASUS Assembly strike the Joint Committee comprised of two (2) members of the Board of Directors and two (2) members of assembly for the purposes of honoraria evaluation"), specifically the section that ratifies ASUS Assembly Speaker as one of the members**

**Member-at-large:**

Motion to put into question

Seconded by member-at-large

*Vote on motion 9:*

For: 14

Against: 6

Abstain: 6

Motion passes

**Senator Stanley:**

How are abstentions considered? Is it against and abstentions together?

**Speaker:**

It's still a majority comparing for against against and abstain

**Vice-President Tahiri:**

Motion to strike a new committee

*Vote:*

For: 26

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

**Vice-President Tahiri:**

Motion to restrike

Senator Duchaine, Director Ismail-Tera, and Director Grundy, and one other representative

*Vote:*

For: 26

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

**President Mason:**

Motion to close agenda

*Vote:*

For: 26

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

*Nominations:*

*COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman – Accept*

*2017 Year Society Vice-President Renwick - Accept*

*Representative Goodman – Decline*

**Senator Duchaine:**

Motion to close nomination period

Seconded by member-at-large

*Vote:*

For: 25

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

*Speaker will henceforth be referred to as 2015 Year Society President Stemp  
Arbiter Davis will henceforth be referred to as Speaker*

**Representative Lucas:**

Do you have any reason to believe that you cannot be impartial?

**2017 Year Society Vice-President Renwick:**

No. I am a new member, and a frosh. I come into this with a clear conscience.

**COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman:**

I'm a member of COMPSA. I have made a few relationships with a few members of assembly. For the most part, I don't know most of you, and I wouldn't let any bias or conflict of interest get in the way.

*Vote:*

*COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman: 5*

*2017 Year Society President Renwick: 17*

*Abstain - 3*

**Speaker:**

It's worth mentioning that I've also been selected to sit on the Tricolour Award Committee. If there's a concern regarding my sitting on the honorarium review committee, it wouldn't behoove me if you reconsidered this

**Representative Lucas:**

What is the tricolour award committee?

**Speaker:**

The highest non-academic, non-athletic award you can receive. It comes out of the Rector's office.

**Representative Chinniah:**

You would not be on that committee as the ASUS Speaker.

**Speaker:**

I would be representing ASUS

**Representative Goodman:**

In your time on that committee, would you come into any information that could change your opinion of members of ASUS?

**Speaker:**

That's an impossible question, insofar that I don't imagine sitting on any committee would affect my opinion of people. However, I could be asked to determine the relative quality of someone in ASUS or not in ASUS.

**Senator Chishti:**

Many faculties pick members at large, so I don't believe that there is a conflict. Thank you for bringing it up

**Commissioner Bourne:**

I'm sure that if there was a wide consensus, you could speak to him in a non-assembly setting.

**Representative Chinniah:**

Move to adjourn?

**Speaker:**

We still have discussion period and speaker's last word.

**New Business**

*No new business*

**Discussion Period**

**International Representative Pang:**

I've been trying to organize a survey to collect international students' opinions. I've also been speaking to people in the International Centre. I've the idea that the International Student's Award is too broad. The International Students Cultural Awareness award is the new name. This is something that International students have. We also share our culture. You will find that a lot of people offer help in language courses. They also offer unique food that you have never tried before, or celebrate a holiday that you haven't heard of before. We should recognize those international students that have raised cultural awareness. On top of that, international students have different traditions than everyone else. This is something that I think we can do to justify the efforts to the school community. I was just wondering how people think of this. Would you oppose it? Agree with it?

**2015 Year Society President Stemp:**

Does the International Office have similar awards that would make more sense to a broader community? Because this is I ASUS, does this represent some students, instead of all? Does that make sense? International Office would know of all of the students to reach out to.

**International Representative Pang:**

I have considered of talking to the International Student Office or Student Awards, but I feel like international students don't have any platform to speak on our issues, such as AMS. I think this is something that I can try to start. I think this is a good place to start, also to raise awareness of international students.

**Representative Goodman:**

I wanted to offer my support. I think this is a good initiative, to recognize someone based on bringing in a certain new culture or supporting cultural awareness on campus. I think that that's

something that this society should report, and it's something we could really get behind. Recognizing that people come from different places and that our school is diverse is great.

**Commissioner Falk:**

I would also like to say that this is a great initiative.

Last year, I believe the Women in Science and Engineering won an ASUS Equity and Diversity grant. That may or may not set a precedent. But if this award was instated, we could consider not limiting it to only Arts and Science students.

**International Representative Pang:**

The reason why I think it's only for Arts and Science students is because over half of the money would be coming from ASUS. Only Arts and Science students pay into this, so only they should get the benefit of it, not the whole school.

**Vice-President Tahiri:**

This is an interesting issue. I commend Representative Pang for bringing this forward. I believe it to be in good spirit, but I do have questions.

I spoke to a few other representatives from other student governments. They said that they thought that this would be a redundant position. International students should be represented and not sidelined

However, this does put stress and emphasis on that one demographic.

I like what Commissioner Falk put forward. We do already have an ASUS grant giftable to non-Arts and Science students.

I think that this is a great idea for international students.

ASUS Funds and Grants are for ad-hoc programs that can bring a measurable result to students on campus.

The reason I bring it up is because all elected representatives should consider this.

I'd really like to commend Representative Pang, and ask that he bring forward the results of this survey.

If I'm honest, I don't know what the concern is from the international students.

There are questions to consider as voting members and non-voting members

**International Representative Pang:**

The redundancy is definitely something I've heard about.

AMS doesn't have any position for a student fund.

They don't actually speak on issues specific to international students. Nobody has spoken to international students at all. Except for one that was addressed regarding enrolment.

We actually have issues. Our tuition is very high. We may have academic difficulties due to adapting to a new environment. We can address the issues more specifically towards international students with this.

**Senator Duchaine:**

Can we make a motion on this?

Moving the group that currently uses this space behind us at 9pm to somewhere else. It is very distracting to be at the back of the room and have Salsa music

**Senator Chishti:**

It is actually Indian music

**Vice-President Tahiri:**

That doesn't even sound like salsa

**Speaker:**

Order

**Senator Stanley:**

Motion to close discussion period

Seconded by Vice-President Tahiri

*Vote:*

For: 27

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

**Speaker's Last Words**

**Speaker:**

None!

**Vice-President Tahiri:**

Motion to adjourn

Seconded by COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman

*Vote:*

For: 25

Against: 1

Abstain:

Motion passes

Finishing Time: 9:11