

Minutes for ASUS Assembly on November 28th, 2013

Starting Time: 7:03pm

Year Society 15 President Stemp will henceforth be known as Speaker

Speaker:

I will be the Speaker tonight. This is my first time doing a full meeting. Here we go!

Motion 1: "That ASUS Assembly approve the agenda for the November 28th, 2013 Assembly"

Representative Wiseman:

Motion to move motions 12 and 13 to the beginning of new business

Vice-President Tahiri:

I was going to stamp those.

Motion to stamp those two motions

Senator Duchaine:

Point of information: what does stamping mean?

Commissioner Bourne:

If the motion of the agenda is passed, then the stamped motions will also consider to be passed

Vice-President Tahiri:

If we stamp those two, then they won't come up to the front?

Commissioner Bourne:

Yes

Vice-President Tahiri:

I will motion to omnibus them, then.

Senator Stanley:

Motion to stamp motions 3 and 4 to the agenda (Second readings of constitutional amendments)

Senator Duchaine:

I thought we couldn't stamp those

Senator Stanley:

They're second readings

If there are any objections to the stamp, then they cannot be stamped

Member Goodman:

My motions 12 and 13 are grants motions, not ratifications.

Commissioner Bourne:

There was a last-minute change to the package.

I squeezed in the ratifications inbetween the last of the policy changes and the beginning of the camps motions

The Summer Camp Manager/Director are now 13 and 14

Senator Chishti:

Can we move the ratification up so that the person can be there?

Commissioner Bourne:

Move to stamp motion 5. It is also a second reading.

Representative Wiseman:

Point of information: The two ratifications have been moved to the top of the business.
The ones referring to the camps directors

Senator Stanley:

If it's been moved from the 2nd and 3rd from the top so that Senator Utioh can join

Commissioner Bourne:

Move motions 14-17 to the front, but after the motions about the camps.

Member Goodman:

Point of personal privilege: I didn't get an e-mail with an updated personal agenda.

Commissioner Bourne:

I tried to update the package on my phone, and it deleted the contact list. Some information might still be incomplete.

Senator Stanley:

I received no e-mail at all

Senator Duchaine:

Neither did I

Commissioner Bourne:

The updated one is still being worked on. You all received the original one, right?

Moved by: Benjamin Bourne

Seconded by: Scott Mason

Vote:

For: 21

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

Motion 2: "That ASUS Assembly approve the minutes for the November 14th, 2013 Assembly"

Moved by: Benjamin Bourne

Seconded by: Scott Mason

Vote:

For: 22
Against: 0
Abstain: 0

Motion passes

Speaker's Business

Speaker:

Like I said, this is my first assembly. I also have pneumonia so I will try to speak my best.

Guest Speaker

Undergraduate Student Trustee Aulhouse:

Hello, my name is Andrew! I know we removed my position from sitting here last assembly.

I'm coming here to talk to you about what my position means.

The way Queen's works, there's two branches of governance

The senate oversees all academic affairs. We have some Arts and Science senators back there

The board oversees anything financial, all strategic planning, new buildings on campus, hiring the Principal and the Vice-Principals.

The board is made up of ~25 people, mostly made out of alumni. Unique in that regard.

Three people on the board are students. The Graduate Student Trustee, The Rector (All students), and the Undergraduate Student Trustee.

Do you have any priorities, issues, or concerns as Arts and Science students?

The board meets four times per year

E-mail trustees@queensu.ca to secure a spot at the meeting

Queen's is revisiting its campus master plan - The guide to what Queen's is going to look like for the next 10-20 years is being reconsulted

Tied to that is the library and master archives plans. Do we need another library? How do we feel about our ratio of books to study space?

Queen's is facing some challenges with its pension plan, as are most universities.

We're facing the spectre of increased enrolment. I'd appreciate a discussion with you guys, answer any questions you may have!

President Mason:

Who do you collaborate most with on the board?

Undergraduate Student Trustee Aulhouse:

Mostly with students outside of the board.

I meet with James, the Graduate Student Trustee, and Nick, the Rector.

The board is a very collaborative effort, with many different perspectives being brought.

Beyond the students, I try to maintain a good relationship with the Board Chair.

There are several members on the board who are especially friends to students.

Senator Smolej:

I've always been impressed with your conduct in the past. Could you inform me when the 3rd governing body of the university had been dismantled

Undergraduate Student Trustee Aulhouse:

It's the Iacobucci report all over again!

Queen's, although it has the senate and the board, there is a third body. That's the University Council.

In the past, the University Council was a massive group. Comprised of all senators, all trustees, University Councillors. This is a group several hundred large. It's unwieldy.

University Council underwent a change as well and it is in a much different state. It has been shrunk quite largely.

International Representative Pang:

I believe you also represent all the international students.

Have you spoken to any issues about international students?

Undergraduate Student Trustee Aulthouse:

I haven't spoke directly to international students.

However, I have spoken to the international vice-principal.

There's a very big difference between domestic tuition and international tuition. There's a big issue with accessibility there.

The bigger theme is that Queen's is looking to enter into a period of internationalization. It's a two-pronged effort.

We want to raise Queen's' international profile, but we also want to increase the international experience for students at Queen's.

The demographics we've traditionally attracted from are not growing.

The 18-24 year old GTA students are not a growing number. The only number growing is recent immigrants, or first-generation Canadians. International students will play an integral role for Queen's in the future.

Senator Duchaine:

Later we'll be having a discussion of program closures. Given there's a large degree of overlap between Senate and the Board of Trustees regarding enrolment, and several other things. It's outlined in the Iacobucci report! If you could stick around, that would be nice

Undergraduate Student Trustee Aulthouse:

Yeah that'd be great!

Representative Mattiusi:

You mentioned that there was a master plan for campus? Could you go into detail?

Undergraduate Student Trustee Aulthouse:

Every decade or so, Queen's produces a thick document on what the campus will look like for the foreseeable future. The last time they did this, they created the plans for the Queen's Centre. That was the big initiative last time. We're looking for something more feasible and less costly.

What's the future of West Campus? A lot of space, but it exists on the periphery. How can we link the two campuses?

How can we build on main campus? There's only so much space left. You might see something like what they did with the Medical School. They built around the streetfront.

Right now it's in a period of consultation. I believe they're having an open house where people will come in with designs so far. That'll be happening around the same time as board's weekend (in about a week's time).

It's an exciting time! Tied closely to that is the library and archive master plan.

Representative Goodman:

A month back at AMS, there was a guest speaker on the library and archives and what they're doing. Has there been any work done on that, and could you update us on what they have decided?

Undergraduate Student Trustee Aulthouse:

I haven't been informed of anything in the last month

Senator Chishti:

They're currently in the phase where they presented it to the senate awhile ago, and they're presenting it to the board soon. At this point in time, they're not looking at changing it. It's just about how much money they can actually get.

Undergraduate Student Trustee Aulthouse:

E-mail trustee@ams.queensu.ca if you have any other questions!

Executive Reports

President Mason:

Nothing to add! I encourage you to check out the report.

Vice President Tahiri:

Nothing to add to my report. Tonight we'll be ratifying funds and grants as well as ASUS camps directors. This is one of the most relevant things that this society does!

Society Reports

Business of the Senate:**Senator Duchaine:**

Nothing to add to my report!

Academic Reps:**Representative Zarzour:**

We finished appointing our last member!

Business of the AMS**Representative Wiseman:**

Nothing to add to the report!

Statements by Members

Vice-President Tahiri:

If you are receiving a cheque from ASUS, they will all be ready by Monday! I have an essay due tomorrow and I won't be able to write cheques until next week. Send your address and we can mail it to you!

Commissioner Bourne:

The updated version of the assembly package has been sent to the website and to your e-mails. Hopefully we are all now on the same page.

Question Period

President Mason:

There's a section on Orientation in your report. Is the two-part document the SOARB report?

Senator Smolej:

No, that is not the SOARB report. That is what was discussed last time when Member Sherman mentioned the Jackson report. A report from 1990/1991 full of changes to Orientation Week

Senator Duchaine:

The report recommended house crawls as a good idea. It is hard to access by the web version.

Vice-President Tahiri:

Two questions:

First question: Towards the senators.

The new budget committee: There's a new budget model now, so I would like a quick response on how it would affect some of the different Arts and Science departments

Second question towards the representatives:

In your report, you wrote that you would have to adjust the AMS specific fee?

Senator Duchaine:

Firstly, that's not one of the functions of senate at all. That's just something that I, myself am personally interested in. I knew there was a committee of Deans meeting regarding how to implement the new Arts and Science committee. They didn't have a student on the committee, so I became the student.

It would be worthwhile to have this more as a discussion topic or guest speech in the first assembly of next semester. Basically, it's changing the way that money is allocated within the faculty of arts and science.

It will have a profound impact on several departments. There have been huge issues as to how money

Old way example: Politics gets the 4th greatest amount of money ever year

The new way: The more students enrolled, the more money the faculty will get! It's quite complex and I'd love to present in further detail

Senator Chishti:

Research budgets are not department-based. The new budget model also governs how the research budgets are done.

Senator Duchaine:

It's in the report if you want to read it!

Representative Wiseman:

I think the central reason the student fee was raised is because the executive of AMS are making far too little.

The president of the AMS makes 24'000, but the president at Western makes 41'000.

Senator Chishti:

It's not just executive salaries. There are 61 full-time employed students. They would all be receiving raises

Representative Wiseman:

Could you update the house on the politics rally that happened today?

Senator Duchaine:

This doesn't have anything to do with senate. I, am a co-president of the Politics DSC. It was more

of a discussion on the weaknesses of the quality of education. I hope the department takes our feedback into consideration. If you have concerns about your department, please contact your DSC or the Academics Commissioner, Adam Grotsky.

Commissioner Grotsky:

It was a very successful "rally" today. For those not in politics, we hope to offer the same sort of feedback sessions for all departments next semester

Senator Stanley:

Question for the ASUS Representative Caucus:

Regarding the presentation that Board Chair Garcia gave regarding a potential increase of the AMS fee. What was the nature of the discussion? Arguments for or against?

Representative Wiseman:

There are some positions with only one applicant

Minimum wage has not increased since 2010, it is still 10.25

The executive salary has also only gone up several hundred dollars over the last few years

The AMS fee used to be ~54\$, now it's ~71\$.

There was a jump between 2007-2008 of ~10\$

Tuition fees have gone up at a much slower pace compared to Engineering, or Commerce. They went up by 40% here. Engineering was 60%, and Commerce has gone up 222%.

Senator Chishti:

We received a lot of feedback. There was some feedback that agreed that there is a recruitment issue at the AMS. It was cut short by the speaker.

Representative Mattiusi:

I have a question for the Speaker or Commissioner of Internal Affairs. There has been a lot of discussion regarding members of assembly running for positions on assembly

Commissioner Bourne:

The way it works right now, I believe that anybody who holds a formal commissioner or executive position must take a leave of absence in order to run.

I've put forward some policy I've been working on that I've submitted tonight. It would cause anyone on the assembly running to sign a waiver, and have a successor if something were to happen.

In terms of members of assembly, I'm not sure if there are any rules about that. What we've done in the past is informally ask representatives to step aside during the campaign.

Senator Smolej:

Question to the ASUS Representatives to the AMS:

Would you in the future consider having a more detailed report?

Also would you discuss some things now regarding the future of teaching at Queen's?

Representative Wiseman:

I will be frank and say I have forgotten about what the teaching provost has said.

Senator Duchaine:

I also sit on AMS assembly as student senate caucus chair. Vice-Provost gave a presentation. You can find their draft report online. It's in a draft-phase right now.

It's about the future of learning and learning environment at Queen's

Senator Duchaine:

I was just wondering if the executive could give us an idea about what they thought about the faculty of arts and science board meeting tomorrow. Part of the discussion will be about Orientation Week.

In your opinion, does this report paint an accurate picture of the academics in Orientation week?

President Mason:

I submitted a portion of that review and am happy with how it turned out.

At one of ASUS' events, Queen's in the Park, a sorority conducted recruitment.

They were soliciting their sorority, which is in violation of the AMS' new ban on fraternities and sororities. When we caught wind of that, we looked into whether ASUS played a role in that.

We discovered that they did not have permission to be there.

My recommendation is that we remind the new executive to remind new orientation week leaders that those people aren't allowed to be there

The leaders didn't feel empowered.

I'm excited for that to come to faculty board

Senator Duchaine:

The report says that everything was "Very very great".

Old Business

New Business

Motion 3 (Package motion 12): That ASUS Assembly ratify Nathan Utioh as Interm ASUS Senator

Moved by Isabelle Duchaine

Seconded by Benjamin Bourne

Senator Duchaine:

We had quite a few applicants. I'm looking forward to having Nathan join us as a senator. Feel free to ask any questions you want. Any questions about the Iacobucci report or the Jackson report are always good.

Speaker:

Could Nathan Utioh please come to the front?

Maximum of three questions.

President Mason:

You actually ran in the election for senator a couple of months ago.

When you ran for senator, did you have a platform?

Member Utioh:

I didn't run a few months ago. I actually ran for the retired senator's position a year and a half ago. I was in first year and I do not remember what I was running for

Senator Chishti:

Could you highlight one pressing issue that you'd like to address from senate in the coming year?

Member Utioh:

I also work as a Don. One of the big things is the transition from high school to university. Now we're pushing it outside of the classroom even further.

Speaking with upper years, they like the idea of blended learning. Seeing how to approach it at senate-level would be wonderful!

Senator Stanley:

How do you perceive your role on the senate for the rest of your term?

Member Utioh:

The important thing about being an ASUS Senator is representing ASUS as a whole. I'm a science student myself. Usually it's more arts than science. Listening to the minority of Arts is still important.

Vote on motion 3 (package motion 12):

For: 23

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

Member Goodman:

Was the omnibus ever voted on?

Speaker:

It was all voted on with the agenda.

Motion 4: Omnibussed package motions 13 and 14

Motion 13: "That ASUS Assembly ratify May Lu as the 2013-2014 ASUS Summer Camps Programs Director"

Moved by: Irfan Tahiri

Seconded by: Scott Mason

Motion 14: "That ASUS Assembly ratify Laura Ingold as the 2013-2014 ASUS Summer Camps Business Director"

Moved by: Irfan Tahiri

Seconded by: Scott Mason

Vice-President Tahiri:

The committee voted on these people unanimously!

May Lu:

I want it to be engaging with the staff at the camp. I want life-skills to come out of it for the staff and the children. Back home we call it level 2 skills. Teamwork, perseverance. Things we don't think about but gain in every experience.

Laura Ingold:

I want to get a great bond with the staff this year. We had a great bond last year with the previous staff. Creating a safe space and an inclusive environment for the kids. Also it should be educational! Incorporating as much technology and interactive learning. Lots of outdoors.

Senator Stanley:

In each of your portfolios, what is the biggest challenge you foresee coming across as director of each of these portfolios

May Lu:

The most challenging would be something that happens in the team. It would affect the cohesiveness of our operations

Laura Ingold:

For budgeting, it'll be for getting the necessary funds and grants. The resources for staffing, and making sure we have all of the appropriate equipment

President Mason:

Could you please highlight one previous experience that qualifies you?

May Lu:

I work at the Ontario Science Centre. Birthday parties, sleepovers. We do a lot of programming. It's about interactive, engaging learning. It's also about positive, inclusive, and safe spaces.

Laura Ingold:

One of my great experiences was working for ASUS Camps last year. I know what works, what didn't, where breakdowns occur, and how to fix them. I also have budgeting experience when working with NGO. I raised over 10'000 for two years with them.

Vote on motion 4:

For: 24

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

Motion 5 (Package Motion 15): That ASUS assembly approve the fall 2013 ASUS grants

Vice-President Tahiri:

We have 1000\$ total. They are applicable to ASUS Committees and non-ASUS committees. We'll go down the line, and if you could say the club you're representing, how much you're getting

Member Jasnitte:

We're here to represent Women's Empowerment Committee.

Member Katie:

We are running a stage production called "Down there". It's a space for students to be creative and not judged for it. It's a celebration of diversity, and the point is to raise awareness of issues that are pervasive at Queen's, and even global issues.

We accept submissions from people around campus, and then we perform them.

Member Jasnitte:

The theme usually revolves around feminism, gender equality issues, mental health.

We have a 100\$ grant. It will go towards marketing cost. Making posters, a video prior to the show.

The show is from February 7th-9th

Member Wynaut:

We represent the Social Transition Education Program.

We want to bridge the gap between the Queen's community and those in the adult education system.

Part of this is meeting together, meeting in big group events

Member Penne:

We are being granted \$162. This will go towards volleyball and karaoke, etc.

Member Rashad:

We provide a formal academic setting for students to public undergraduate research. Students do a lot of work in their education. Sometimes its not within the scope of academic journals. We thought we'd create something. It's found at every other major university, and we hope it will increase research. We will be receiving \$480. It will mainly go towards marketing.

We had a workshop last week.

Member Tahani:

I'm with the Queen's Tamil Students Association. Sometimes we collaborate with the Southeast Asian Association.

Our biggest event is a formal which is a celebration of harvest in South Asia

It's on January 18th, and we hope that it will enrich the cultural diversity at Queen's.

We received 100\$ from the ASUS grant, and we are hoping to use this towards marketing the event, and shooting the promotional video.

Vote on ASUS grants

For: 24

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

Motion 6 (Package motion 16): That ASUS Assembly approve the Fall 2013 ASUS Special Project Fund

Vice-President Tahiri:

We also have 1000\$ for this. This is only for ASUS committees.

Member Emily:

I'm from the Devs DSC. Our special project is to refurbish a lounge for council. We have a small room now, being taken over by the faculty. It's not always available for us to use for council meetings.

They've given us a larger space, but it's completely blank.

We've asked for money to furbish it and to have a space to build community, work on group projects.

We've been setting up study sessions, so we want to use that space to promote those sessions.

Member Erin:

I'm from the ASUS community outreach Crohns and Collitus.

They are inflammatory bowel diseases that are very prevelant in students

We want to also raise awareness about IBD.

We run a barbecue, and have raised over \$15'000 over the last two years

We have asked for funds so that we can support students during exam time

We want to provide a de-stress package. Lotions, candies, etc

Member Claire:

We're in charge of sponsorship for Lost Cause

We want to create a positive relationship between Queen's students and The Kingston Humane Society

We organize trips to the Humane Society! You can walk dogs and cuddle cats/

Member-at-large:

We were only able to make a few trips this year. Hopefully with this money, we will have more trips!

We had 240 applicants for volunteers, but could only accept 109.

Senator Duchaine:

I'm not too familiar with how this process works. It's my understanding that you're all members of ASUS committees. How did you come up with these projects? And why wasn't the funding included for it within the original budget?

I'm assuming the reason you're asking for funding now is because you came up with the idea or noticed that there was a budgetary shortfall between when you made your original budget (that was approved by assembly), and now.

Student support during exam time is important, but why are these coming through as special projects.

Vice-President Tahiri:

It's a bit of an unfair question.

In my report, if you read it, it says: having greater diversity with funds will make us more accessible

The special project fund is only available to committees

If the chairs come up with a new idea outside of the regular budget, then if that idea was successful, it would be included in the regular budget in following years.

The reason for the Lost Cause application to the grant is that they had an unprecedented amount of applicants

Senator Duchaine:

It's a question I'm asking to the committee.

Member Jasnitte:

We applied for two grants. We didn't get funding for our bigger project. Paying for food and such will take up the majority of our funding.

Member Katie:

The GOTO welcome barbecue is a big part of what we do. This is its third year. It takes up the bulk of our budget, buying food, working to get resources, etc.

We love CCSC fund-raising, but would like to do more for students on campus.

We want to make sure students can come talk to us.

Member Claire:

Some of our money is allocated for trips, but because we have such a high demand, we want to expand the number of trips we have per semester.

We ran trips for 5 weeks this semester, but we want to run it for 11 weeks next semester. We wouldn't be able to do this with the budget we were given. Given this funding, we would be able to do more

trips

Representative Zarzour:

Has there already been a decision-making process in who arrives here? Are we just approving these people? Why can't we stamp this if they've mostly been approved? If not, why do we not have more choice in selection?

Vice-President Tahiri:

We strike committees here at assembly. As Vice-President I chair every fund and grant committee.

Four individuals from assembly are put on that committee. Every decision made by this committee must be ratified at assembly. It is their tacet approval in their faith of the decision made by the committee.

If assembly did not ratify the decision, then the committee would have to go back and re-hire.

Earlier we just ratified the directors. There was a selection committee for that. Once we hire someone, we bring them here and we ratify them. If they aren't ratified, then we just pick someone else

Representative Zarzour:

Just to be clear, am I voting in my faith of the committee, and not voting on the merit of these individuals?

Vice-President Tahiri:

If you do not agree with the fund allocation that the committee has chosen, then you can vote against it.

All assembly members get to listen, and it makes it "real". We get to see where the money is coming from

Representative Zarzour:

In the event that I agree with some but not all proposals, how should I vote? In favour of the majority and disregard the minority?

Vice-President Tahiri:

I don't know if I can best answer that. If there is one you are not in favour for, then maybe not approve it.

Commissioner Bourne:

You can't split your votes, but if you aren't completely comfortable then you can vote against or abstain from the vote.

Vice-President Tahiri:

If it passes, then they use the money as-is.

Representative Lucas:

Is the full amount budgeted allocated in its entirety, and was it this year?

Vice-President Tahiri:

No, it does not have to be. If all of it is not allocated, you do not carry the money over. In this case, all 1000\$ of each grant and fund was allocated. This is normally the case.

Senator Duchaine:

This isn't a question directly for the committees. Seeing that the DSCs are also within the purview of ASUS, could they have applied for the Special Projects Fund?

Vice-President Tahiri:

Yes, and I believe they have.
DSCs are also ASUS Committees

Senator Stanley:

The Devs DSC did apply and did receive funding.

Vote:

For: 19
Against: 3
Abstain: 1

Motion passes

Motion 7 (Package Motion 17): That ASUS Assembly approve the fall 2013 ASUS Student Initiative Fund

Vice-President Tahiri:

This is for anyone wanting to enhance the academic experience at Queen's. We have Connor and Dominique here. Connor is hoping for the money for a trip to Peru to assist with Humanitarian aid.

Member Connor:

On February 15th, Med-Life Queen's is hosting a trip to Lima, Peru. Med-Life is an organization that believes in three pillars:

Medication
Education
Development

Queen's is taking over 20 students to Peru, me being one of them.

We will be working at a mobile clinic. Patient intake, triage, shadow a doctor.

The trip fee is 750. My airfare is 1400

Vaccinations and travel cost is \$440

Total: 2571\$

You would be sending 800\$ of the student initiative fund for me to receive, so I hope you vote yes!

Member Dominique:

This summer I was a part of the Undergraduate Summer Research Project.

I did a project on ancient building materials for a site that Queen's runs in Jordan.

I presented that research at Stauffer a couple of weeks ago. Part of USURP, they advertise all of the research you've done at Queen's.

I've applied to the American Schools of Oriental Research.

I was accepted, presented my poster there, and to fly out there was a \$750 flight.

I'm applying for 200\$ of the fund

Senator Smolej:

Question of clarification: I was on the grants committee, and had the discussion that there would not be retroactive payments.

It goes against the policy that we have to eliminate some applications.

Vice-President Tahiri:

Given the number of applicants and the quality of the applications, we decided it would be okay in this one instance.

The trip to Baltimore was already done, but it was found out after I called her.
Based on the criterias outlined, the number of applicants was quite low.

Senator Duchaine:

Was the fact that the committee was not supposed to give out retroactive money made clear during the application process?

Vice-President Tahiri:

No it wasn't, my apologies. It's a good point. I will put that on for future applications.

Vice-President Tahiri:

Closing statement: The way the funds are allocated, we can only spend 1000\$ on each of the four grants/funds. The student initiative fund we will keep the same, but the other three would be merged into one \$3000 fee.

800\$ for ASUS Grants and 1200\$ for special project funds could make much more sense!

2017 Year Society President Clark:

We're not paying to let these people fly first class, are we?
Are you guys audited?

Vice-President Tahiri:

We are not audited. But what we would like is a follow-up, where the recipients could bring us something.

There's nothing in place right now, but we could send e-mails and I'm sure they'd be happy to show up

President Mason:

What are you most excited to do?

Member Connor:

To be in another continent where I don't speak the language. I have a lot of experience working with kids in Canada, but not in other countries.

Member Dominique:

I had a really good time! There were famous academics (in my world) who were there!

Vote:

For: 20
Against: 4
Abstain: 0

Motion passes

Motion 8 (Package motion 18): That ASUS Assembly approve the fall 2013 Equity and Diversity Fund

Vice-President Tahiri:

There are some repeat applicants. Individuals on the committee were aware. There were also a low number of applicants for this fund. These were the better applicants

Member Tin:

Friends for inclusion!

We want to promote inclusivity and accessibility through our events.

The majority of the funds will go towards a rental at the ARC

Member Isabelle:

We strive to create an environment inclusive to students and Kingstonians.

The tournament is a great event because everyone is included!

Most of the grant will be going towards the rental, but also towards the marketing!

Member Tin:

We'd also like to eliminate the cost of participation fees.

Member Isabelle:

In the past we've eliminated the fee for certain people, but that goes against the inclusivity

Member Katie:

Women's Empowerment Committee.

We are the highest grossing committee within the Community Outreach Committee.

We are raising money for Interval House, Donj House, and the Sexual Assault Centre Kingston.

Member Jasnitte:

\$340 to us. There is a dance piece. It was usually monologues. Lots of the money will be building a set for Down There

Member Wynaut:

We're from STEP.

We establish a buddy system between people in the Heart School of Smiles and Queen's Students

Member Penne:

\$240 will cover transportation for 11 volunteers, 8 adults from the Heart School of Smiles for our bowling night.

It also includes the bowling package for 7\$ per person.

Member Adrina:

ACSA Culture Show. It is a platform for everyone to show off their culture!

Member Jasmine:

Our charity of choice is the Kingston Youth Shelter. The fund will go directly to the rental of our locale for the fundraiser

Vice-President Tahiri:

If there's a question about the nature of it, you could ask me

Representative Lucas:

For those of you with fundraising activities, could you speak to why ASUS student fees should go towards you, instead of other fundraising opportunities?

Member Tin:

Our committee is mainly to promote inclusivity on campus. We don't do a lot of fundraising.

Member Jasnitte:

While we do have tickets assigned for the show, we try to keep it at a low cost. \$8-10. We raised around \$12'000 last year, but it all goes to the charity. Our budget for the show is about \$2000, and our bake sales only raise ~\$100.

Member Wynaut:

Our group mainly focuses on building relationships. Different activities with buddies themselves. There aren't a lot of fundraising activities.

Member Jasmine:

The culture show costs a lot.

Duncan McArthur is a \$900 rental, lighting is another \$1000.

We do bake sales every month, keep our ticket costs low.

Any fundraising we do is to help pay it off.

Vice-President Tahiri:

Bear in mind that we give out these funds every semester.

We pick the groups that have shown that they do some work. We don't want to give it to the groups that have really high revenue either. This is a fund for students that are starting.

I do understand the accountability issue

Commissioner Liu:

Right now, WEC and Friends for Inclusion are under me.

We make the budget in the summer.

Each year, the previous commissioner gives us recommendations on what the budget should be. I also take into account how much money they raised or spent last year.

Lots of committees also get external funds, depending on whether or not they do get the funding, it is also based on that.

The budget is also based off of their preliminary strategy plan.

During the year, they may come up with a new idea for which we may not have budgeted.

Representative Lucas:

If it's a predictable expense, why do you need to come forward for a grant, rather than using the budget or fundraising?

To give a specific example, you're saying that you have trouble raising money from bake sales. This money comes from students, whether through bake sales or student fees.

Vice-President Tahiri:

Yes it's student money, but this is one of the best things we do.

One of the biggest barriers for students realizing their dreams is funds.

We're proud of this kind of initiative.

For example, ACSA needs the money to book that venue. That's a foreseeable expense, but then they won't be able to do it unless they get the money.

In the big scheme of things, looking at the clubs that come forward and the quality of their ideas, that's what's important.

I'd be happy to speak to the nature of funds and grants.

But we've sat down for hours as a committee to decide on these people

Representative Tsang:

What are your plans to accommodate for physical disabilities. You said you have shows or events,

but to what extent have you thought about physical disabilities

Member Tin:

We support people with intellectual and physical disabilities. We tried to use BEWS or Mac-Brown, and we didn't have to apply for a grant. People with wheelchairs couldn't get in

Member Isabelle:

By renting out the ARC, it is one of the most accessible buildings on campus.

Member Tin:

We also used it 3 or 4 years ago

Member Kate:

Our event is also wheelchair accessible

Member Jasnitte:

Our event talks about potentially triggering talks, and we are providing support for that.

If parents want to come in and watch the show but not have their kids see it, then we have volunteers to watch over the children

Member Wynaut:

The only situation where that might apply would be bowling. We have information on people who are coming, and it has been cleared in terms of physical disabilities and there should be no problem.

Member Adrina:

There are dances, but people could still perform if they have any disabilities.

International Representative Pang:

This is called the equity and diversity grant. We use the students fee to help out students who have physical disabilities or who might not be receiving equal treatment.

This is really meaningful to promote ASUS' reputation

I would vote in favour of this

Vote:

For: 20

Against: 2

Abstain: 1

Motion passes

Speaker:

Package motions 3, 4, and 5 have been stamped.

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

Moved by: Isabelle Duchaine

Seconded by: Benjamin Bourne

Package Motion 4: "That ASUS Assembly commence second 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

Package 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

Motion 9 (Package Motion 6): "That ASUS Assembly approve the changes to Section H-4 of the ASUS Policy Manual seen in Appendix D"

Moved by: James Pang

Seconded by: Benjamin Bourne

Representative Pang:

This is a small change, but in the constitution it does not say anything about reports required for international students. I added that in so that now we do.

Senator Utioh:

PHEKSA left, so could we remove them from the policy?

Commissioner Bourne:

Yes they have been removed, but it's not efficient to update the document every time it's changed. It will be updated over the break. I have the updated version.

Vote:

For: 23

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Motion passes

Motion 10 (Package Motion 7): "That ASUS Assembly approve the changes to Section C of the ASUS Policy Manual seen in Appendix E"

Moved by: Benjamin Bourne

Seconded by: Scott Mason

CESA Vice-President Jake Ferguson is henceforth being proxied by CESA Vice-President Miller

Commissioner Bourne:

This is my elections policy overhaul.

It's fairly wide ranging but I'll give you a brief overview of everything.

The first change: Eliminates the gap date that happens in the election calendar.

The break that used to be designated in timetable between end of campaign period and the beginning of voting period serves no practical purpose.

It's frustrating for people to take things down one day and wait extra long.

The AMS does not have a gap period like this.

It makes sense for us to be as synchronized as possible with them.

I've also formalized the way that ASUS Representatives are elected. Before, it said that 6 Representatives would be elected in the winter term.

I've updated it so that of the 6 people who run in the winter term, two spots will be reserved for first-year candidates.

If someone who runs in the winter term before the fall by-elections, then there would be a

separate vote for that position.

I've also added something about the debate. There was something about the pros and cons of how the debate worked. [

Added a couple of stipulations about the debates. I deleted the condition that they should be synchronized with the AMS elections. Based on my perception of past elections, if we were to proactively combine forces with the AMS debates, our voices would get drowned out.

I've also stipulated that the debates can only be held during Winter term. This is because there are executive, senator, and representative elections. It arrives with the backdrop of AMS elections, and in the case of this year, Rector elections.

This makes the elections more accessible for different goals and viewpoints.

I've also deleted the policy about electronic balloting.

I was the one who added it when I was a deputy last year. I had a brief conversation with the last CIA and President. There was some controversy about voting procedures and counting methods employed by the AMS.

I adapted their procedures for ours. However, I came to the realization that they only elect the executive. We need something much more comprehensive. Many definitions don't match up with what ASUS is about. I've proposed deleting it entirely from Policy.

I'll be working with members of the Judicial Committee to draft something new and applicable to our interests.

I'll also be collaborating with the Commissioner of Internal Affairs of the AMS.

Representative Goodman:

Could you explain your reasoning about switching from one first-year representative to two first-year representatives? I was under the impression that the representatives were partially based on merit. Those students can no longer get that position, regardless of merit, could be a major problem

Commissioner Bourne:

This for me extends from my experience during this past election season. In terms of first-year representation, I want to ensure that there is adequate representation of different years.

Some years might not be as committed as other years.

Having two could make it work out to have 25% per year.

In terms of the merit arguments, for all people who want to get involved in upper years, they have the previous Winter term elections. We had 8 candidates for 4 spots last voting period, so I imagine there will be no shortage of candidates for 6 spots.

Not only will those people have the opportunity to get involved beforehand, if only one candidate steps forward, then the executive would be able to do something about that.

The first-year representative last year was elected on their own merit.

The majority of the rest of the candidates were unsuccessful, even though they were meritable.

First-years have a limited social network on which to rely.

While it's not insurmountable, I do think that this would go a long way towards ensuring that first years are equally represented and have an equal chance to be representatives.

Representative Goodman:

Would you then look favourable upon something that would reserve a spot on the ASUS Representatives to the AMS for one person per year, and let the other four positions be up for grabs amongst all students?

Commissioner Bourne:

I am not sure I would look favourably upon that.
It was not my intention to put first years in their own barrel.
I want to diversify what we have.
I would however like to see as equitable of a split as is possible between representatives.
It does not need to be completely equal.

Commissioner Grotsky:

The way I see it, it's intimidating for first-years to run against upper years. We want to promote first year involvement right from when they get here.

The upper years have more experience, and in the eyes of the voters, they would be more qualified. This isn't necessarily true

Senator Smolej:

Move to enter committee as a whole
Seconded by Representative Goodman

Vote:

For: 19
Against: 1
Abstain: 1

Motion passes

Senator Stanley:

Who is speaker now?

President Mason:

I can do so!

*Speaker will henceforth be known as 2015 Year Society President Stemp
President Mason will henceforth be known as Speaker*

Speaker:

When you think we've reached a consensus, you can move to leave committee as a whole

Senator Smolej:

I think that we shouldn't keep debates only in the Winter term. It's important to keep a forum of debate for the Fall and Winter elections.

As I understand it now, it's because it fosters more interest because there's more positions.

We should garner more interest and conversation on what can be done, and the different mandates.

The statement that there hasn't been interest is an unacceptable one.

This fosters a culture of complacency. Why hasn't this worked in the past?

The Winter elections have a forum for discussion. A 2-year senator can be elected in the Fall or the Winter

Vice-President Tahiri:

I think overall, there's a lot of cleanup. How would assembly feel if we added a debate to the Fall term as well?

The change from one first-year representative to two first-year representatives might be too

fast.

I would like there to be debate in the Fall

Commissioner Bourne:

My intention wasn't to say that Fall candidates don't matter, or that we don't care.

This was just based on what I saw in the past Fall elections. Could be a chicken/egg thing because there wasn't any formally instituted debate.

Vice-President Tahiri:

Would you be opposed to changing back the need for a representative?

As it currently stands, there's one spot reserved for a 1-year representative

The change would make it

Positives: First years get involved

Negatives: Logistical organization issues. If a first-year didn't run, then what?

Would we have representation for every year?

Commissioner Bourne:

The idea was to get first-years involved in the mix. Then they could run the following year as a second-year.

Sort of like affirmative action for first years.

Commissioner Grotsky:

Representative McLaughlin has a point

Representative McLaughlin:

As a first-year, you have no idea what you're doing. If you have two of us, we won't be able to do as much.

Member Alex:

I think that it's important that there are two positions.

The point is to learn. People could get really involved in government, get involved in debate.

2017 Year Society Vice-President:

As first years, we really look to you guys to learn.

Senator Smolej:

I would disagree with some of the sentiments that the first years are arguing. It's up to the person to be as informed as possible. Even in 4th year, you could be elected and have no idea what you're doing.

It's good in the sense that we might have an extra first year.

They might not have the most social base established.

However, do we want to pity them this way?

Member Goodman:

Although it's possible to be in 2nd, 3rd, or 4th year and not have any idea, you aren't given any preparation for this election.

I understand the need for at least one person to be from first year

If you go any further, even to two, then you're giving preference to people who may not

know anything going in, whereas other people could not know anything going in. Why not make it as equal as possible?

2017 Year Society President Clark:

Have first years been underrepresented in the past? If not, why are we putting more votes towards a first-year representative when it's redundant and a waste of time.

Representative Zarzour:

Part of the argument going on is that if we have two first-year positions, we are sort of training more people earlier on to be involved in student government.

The question then I would ask is whether the role of the first year on the Representatives to the AMS is to advertise for student government, or to represent students?

If it's for advertising, then two first-year representatives would be great.

Representative Goodman:

I haven't actually made a motion yet. I'm trying to judge what people want, whether or not they want one for each year or not. Otherwise keep it at two.

Representative Wiseman:

They are not the only first-year that sit on assembly. There is also the year society.

There is already effective first-year representation on ASUS.

Member Butler:

An issue brought to AMS assembly is that many positions remain unfilled. Getting first years involved opens up doors for people later on.

Reserving two positions for first-years gives people an opportunity to see what student government is like. They may not be given the same opportunity otherwise.

Vice-President Tahiri:

The thing is that the logic behind the first-year position is that you win it, that you are interested.

You'd be encouraged to sit on committees. Not only at ASUS, but at AMS.

We only have two 2017 Year Society Representatives.

I'll be honest, I understand the crazy shift from 1 to 2 first-years.

They aren't stupid. They know as much as we do

Is it worth it to dedicate one fifth of our AMS representation to first-years? I think so.

They'll tell friends in residence.

These societies have 100% turnover. When you've seen everything in first year, you can come back and kill it.

First-years who are motivated and want to learn will go out of their way to do so.

Commissioner Grotsky:

I just really believe that we should have two positions for first years. What Erin said about her not knowing too much speaks to this issue.

Having people at assembly gives them the forum to learn.

I'd really like to see this implemented for that reason.

Senator Duchaine:

I feel this is redundant, but I'm going to echo the comments made by Vice-President Tahiri.

I will disagree on one point. He said first years know as much as upper years. I really hope they won't

Vice-President Tahiri:

I meant it in a different way

Senator Duchaine:

First years come in with such a new perspective on many issues. They might be more willing to shake things up. It should be reflected on AMS assembly. One third of CESA's representatives are first-year representatives.

I don't think it should be continued beyond the first year, recognizing this as a distinct and separate issue. I am in favour of this.

Representative Mattiusi:

Could you clarify if an election takes place, and only one first year comes forward with two reserved spaces, what would happen?

Speaker:

The executive would come to a decision for an interim representative

Senator Stanley:

If you don't have an ability to get two people to run, how would you find one to appoint?

Speaker:

What Irfan and I did this past summer, is that we didn't feel comfortable filling people we knew to fill the vacancies.

We advertised in the newsletter, put the names in a hat, and had a lottery.

International Representative Pang:

To add on to the point that first years don't know anything about assembly.

I'm a Computer Science major. I didn't know anything about student government.

It's not hard to learn everything after three or four assemblies just sitting here. You learn how to speak and behave, and there is a tremendous amount of information online. If you are interested, then you can go online and learn by yourself.

One question: If we do have one more representative, do we have to go through another constitution change?

Commissioner Grotsky:

No, it's just that two people would be reserved as first years

COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman:

COMPSA is a lot smaller, so things are a little different.

The idea of reserving two spots for first-years is a great idea.

There are some positions that often go unfilled. Demand for positions isn't that high.

It was a competitive race this year, and will probably continue to be in future years.

If there was a high demand on COMSPA, I would absolutely advocate for this position

Senator Chishti:

The process of elections is very intimidating for many people.

Even if we were in a place where only one of the two positions were filled, I think it would

still be very feasible to get another first year into the position.

Member Alex:

In terms of unfilled positions, CESA will hold a first election in the Winter, a second in the Fall, and then we will appoint people if the position remains unfilled.

Representative Tsang:

My first question is how many people have run for these first year positions in the past?

Commissioner Bourne:

We don't keep records of people who run.

In the past election season, 7 people ran for 4 positions. 3 of those people were in first year

Senator Chishti:

The past two years there have been two people running for the position

Representative Tsang:

If there was only one person running for the two positions, how would you fix that?

Speaker:

If it were me, what I would do is the individual would have their spot, and there would be a vacancy.

We'd relay that vacancy information in the newsletter for several months and get

The person appointed would be in first year.

2017 Year Society President Clark:

Instead of having another representative who doesn't know what's going on, could we instead of the year society rep and one first-year ASUS Representative go out and advertise?

Representative Zarzour:

We've heard a lot of arguments so far about why it's important to get these first years in.

Because it's a great opportunity for first years to get involved in student government.

The purpose of these positions is to represent people, not to advocate for the government.

Senator Chishti:

We get 10 representatives to the AMS. Two are executives

Having 1/5th of the representatives represent 1/4 of our students makes sense

Vice-President Tahiri:

We already have one reserved for first year

The way I see it, it would then be 2/10 representatives towards AMS.

How to market elections?

The first year representatives would be able to add to those kinds of debates

A first year's perspective of how it would affect people on the residence level is important.

We struck a committee to look at the Queen's Events Services space issue.

People are being charged a lot of money for space.

The first year was able to contribute about how their Don had to pay to rent out space.

I like it because it's more involvement for first years, which benefits the society long-term.

Senator Smolej:

I still see the two issues. One is a philosophical one: Who should fulfill these roles. The other is an issue of demand: Do we have enough people? I'm leaning towards including a second first-year representative. Bringing in a fresh new perspective is good. Being in 2nd, 3rd, or 4th year can cause you to be complacent in your views.

We represent our contingency enough already. Do we need an extra person? I disagree with that. It leads to a culture of complacency. Who are we to question the relevancy of these positions?

You guys said you wanted to do town halls. It's the role of the executive to make sure that ASUS is more accessible for people.

Why isn't there more interest in getting involved? The opportunity to include another student can only help that. It's a negative view, but we should go with the worst option with the hope that we can remedy the situation.

I support the decision of another first year student so that we can break the culture and to get a greater ability to get involved

Member Butler:

In terms of marketing to first years, the two important groups I think we can advocate to are students of CESA or COMPSA. Advocating to them as a whole, they have far fewer positions.

Representative McLaughlin:

I don't think you should have first years special privilege to get involved. If I wasn't on assembly, I would want everyone to be qualified. You shouldn't give someone the position just because they're first year.

Member Alex:

A fundamental belief and a core value of our society is "no experience needed". This is a learning ground. It's where we learn. It's crucial to have first year involvement. Just because we aren't qualified doesn't mean that we don't have a right to be here.

Representative Goodman:

I had no previous experience before this position. I'm in second year. If this was mandated this year, it could've been me that didn't get this position because we had to take two first-years. In addition to the fact that if you look at signature gathering for nominations, first-years are the ones living in the highest concentration of people from whom to receive signatures. These are people who don't think about it before signing.

This is seeming very much to me like an advertising attempt for the society.

Speaker:

I'm going to invite the mover to speak for this motion, and one member to speak against, and then we could entertain a motion to close.

Commissioner Grotsky:

Ben should speak last.

Strawpoll:

For: 11

Against: 9

Vice-President Tahiri:

The main consideration should be the representative's value.

The biggest thing, and what's pushing me towards this is that the more students you have at a first year level, the better it is long term.

I understand the significance of democracy here. Many motions we do here do not make or break peoples' lives.

There is normally a pretty strong consensus on motions that do. ie Grading Scheme.

What about the tea room fee? First years might not know what that is. A good perspective.

I don't think making 20% of people representing ASUS to the AMS in first year is an overstatement.

If you think that the long-term success of the society is important, then I would encourage you to vote in favour of this.

2017 Year Society President Clark:

This seems patronizing.

You'll notice that the people who voted against this are the first years.

This is the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th years telling us that we need more space.

We would've raised our placards if we thought so.

Senator Smolej:

You represent all first year students in theory.

If I was my first year self, I would not support the things you're saying.

My understanding is that you guys have raised the issue that students are uninformed and that you'd want someone more experience to sit on council.

Why did you guys then decide to run if you didn't feel confident or that you would be good advocates. Doing this allows this bias to be eliminated.

You're saying you can't effectively advocate for students because you don't know what's going on.

That's why we need a second person. You're less likely to vote for someone if you don't have the connection with them.

As a first year, you don't necessarily have that knowledge or experience. This is a safety net for first years to reduce the possibility of it being a popularity contest

Commissioner Bourne:

Don't be afraid to vote against this!

People brought up what happens if someone wants to run if they are upper year but there are only vacancies in the lower year.

This proposes many more legitimacy problems than if we were to limit it to second years.

Referencing Representative Wiseman's comment, having first year representatives on ASUS and Year Society Presidents is for you to lobby for your year and your year only. The job of the AMS is to represent students as a whole.

I also want to echo what Senator Chishti said. We ran booths to get people to step up and run. I can't tell you how many people have come up to me and said "I'd like to run but I have a huge paper due".

First-year exams can be crazy, and the schedule can be hectic to adjust to.

Also in terms of advertising: Marketing procedures that we put into place are separate.

It is different than the generic frosh week "get involved" message.

My intent was not to have this be an advertisational echo chamber. This was, for me at least, important.

Speaker:

I've chaired a few of these meetings and what I would suggest is that a member would put forward the motion to amend that.

Please respect the debate that occurred during committee as a whole

Representative Goodman:

Motion to move out of committee as a whole

Seconded by International Representative Pang

Vote:

For: 21

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

Speaker will henceforth be known as President Mason

2015 Year Society President Stemp will henceforth be known as Speaker

Senator Smolej:

I would like to discuss another part of this policy, but something else in this appendix. Can we vote on this first?

President Mason:

Somebody would put forward a motion and then we can debate on it.

Representative Goodman:

Motion to amend the introduction of 2 ASUS Representatives to the AMS down to 1, and I would like to speak to that

Seconded by Senator Stanley

Representative Goodman:

My main reason for moving this is because I want to vote in favour of this policy. If this amendment did not happen, then I would not be able to do so.

If assembly is against this, then I will still vote for this policy to go through. I want to see in an official capacity what would happen.

Commissioner Bourne:

Voting in favour of this amendment would remove my changes regarding the switch from one first-year representative to two first-year representatives.

Vice-President Tahiri:

If you vote in favour of the motion, it will change back. If you vote against, it will stay as the changes Ben has made.

Vote:

For: 10

Against: 10

Abstain: 2

Motion is up in the air!

Vice-President Tahiri:

Can we wait to do the vote again because COMSPA Vice-President Bannerman is not here?

Representative Goodman:

I would like to know if there is anything in policy that allows us to vote again if a member is not here

Senator Stanley:

Point of order: If there's nothing in policy that states that a vote can be re-held due to the absence of one member, then we can't do this.

Representative Zarzour:

Can I as a member motion for a re-vote? Assuming one of the members who abstained wants to change their vote

Representative Goodman:

Seeing the results and changing your vote should not be something we stand behind

Representative Zarzour:

Is it 2/3 that we need?

Vice-President Tahiri:

Point of information: Given that we need a 2/3 majority to overturn a decision. If assembly votes 2/3

Senator Stanley:

We can't have a revote because we don't like the outcome.

Commissioner Bourne:

The speaker has to decide in the negative.

Senator Utioh:

In policy, it says that the Speaker votes in the negative.

Senator Duchaine:

That would be voting in the negative of this amendment.

The point is that the Speaker makes the least destructive decision. They would vote in favour of continuing the status quo.

Representative Goodman:

The Speaker could get rid of the amendment if they thought it was constructive, or vote for it because it would continue debate.

Speaker:

I'm voting in favour of the amendment.

Senator Stanley:

The notion of entertaining a reconsideration just because it was a one vote difference is

ridiculous.

COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman:

I'm sorry guys!

Would it be possible to re-do the vote with my tally included as well?

Speaker:

We'd have to have a motion and second, with a 2/3 majority in favour of revoting

Representative Zarzour:

Assuming the only vote that changes is the new member. No matter what, the result will be the same because of the 2/3 majority?

If that's the case, let it be out there that no matter what happens if we re-vote, the result will be the same

Commissioner Bourne:

If the vote happened again and COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman voted for it, it would still not pass.

If you still have objections, I won't stand in your way.

Vice-President Tahiri:

There's a lot of confused looking representatives.

If we vote to overturn the speaker's decision, it would require 2/3.

Then we would go back and vote again. The spirit of this is because Representative Bannerman wasn't here, and that isn't fair.

I encourage those of you to vote in favour of my motion

Senator Stanley:

What is the information?

You are urging people to vote. This is not a point of information.

Speaker:

If someone motioned, got a seconder to override the ruling.

Vice-President Tahiri:

Motion to overturn the Speaker's Ruling

Seconded by International Representative Pang

Vote:

For: 6

Against: 16

Abstain: 1

Motion fails

Commissioner Bourne:

The amendment stands.

Representative Zarzour:

Point of information: We were voting on to approve the amendment before. Do we amend

it back to one, leaving the rest of the changes?

President Mason:

It is the least destructive because it retains the original policy. The status quo

President Mason:

Point of information: This is the weirdest thing I've ever seen.

Senator Smolej:

This is in relation to Appendix E.

Were we never discussing Appendix G?

What are we discussing currently?

Commissioner Bourne:

Every change is still in there except for having two first-year representatives. We will only have one.

Senator Duchaine:

I think this is in Appendix E. It's the stuff about debates.

Commissioner Bourne:

Yes

Senator Duchaine:

Awesome! Motion that we have debates in the Fall if there are candidates that are running in an election. Just as we would expect them to do so.

Commissioner Bourne:

I consider that friendly

Senator Smolej:

Point of information: Was that not already included?

Commissioner Bourne:

No.

Representative Mattiusi:

In the section getting rid of the gap day in the campaign period, would you be able to clarify the reasoning behind it, and who you talked to about that?

Commissioner Bourne:

I addressed this initially 10 years ago.

In our elections policy, as opposed to the AMS' one, the gap day does not serve a purpose.

Having a non-campaign period between campaign period and voting doesn't make sense.

There was a consensus that this gap day didn't serve any functional purpose.

Senator Smolej:

I support this. It makes sense. This isn't the federal government.

Although this makes sense, in no way does it take away the responsibility of ASUS to

encourage education.

2017 Year Society President Clark:

You said that there was no purpose for the gap day, and I felt the same way. Why is it there in the first place?

Commissioner Bourne:

We don't know. ASUS has not kept archives about why this was put in place. Even if there was a concrete reason, I don't think we'd have access to it now.

Senator Stanley:

Point of information: Do amendments not need to be considered friendly by all?

Vote on motion 10:

For: 19

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

Motion 11 (Package Motion 8): "That ASUS Assembly approve the Winter Elections timeline as seen in Appendix F"

Moved by: Benjamin Bourne

Seconded by: Scott Mason

Commissioner Bourne:

This is our Winter elections timeline.

Thank you for voting in favour of the last one. First of all because it's over. Second of all because it changes the voting day, which means that this timeline works!

Nominations open on the 6th and closes on the 14th.

This fulfills the stipulation that we have to have a minimum of 5 business days of nominations

The AMS starts on the 6th as well.

The verification period and the all-candidates meeting.

People on assembly can be very active.

The first of Q&P would be on the 15th.

If for whatever reason the deputies are unavailable, then we could always Skype people in.

Campaigning ends on the 27th. There needs to be 8 business days of campaigning

Voting begins on the 28th, around 8am.

Voting ends on the 29th, around 8pm.

Vote on motion:

For: 24

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

Motion 12 (Package Motion 9): "That ASUS Assembly approve the changes to Section C of the ASUS Policy Manual seen in Appendix G"

Moved by: Benjamin Bourne

Seconded by: Scott Mason

Commissioner Bourne:

This was a policy initiative that was given to JCOM at the beginning of the year. I'm presenting it on their behalf.

It's about leave of absence and the responsibilities that are inherent when you do that action.

ASUS hasn't had too many issues. I filled in for former Commissioner of Internal Affairs Anwar last year. There weren't too many loose ends because I was a deputy.

This is a failsafe in case something pops up.

The first stipulation is that if the CEO takes a leave of absence to run in the election, that assembly would appoint one.

I personally don't feel that restricting the CEO itself is democratic or conducive.

They only affect the election if there is a dispute.

We do agree that the CRO should not be able to run, so we've added that as well.

We've also added a requirement to complete a replacement package alongside the nomination package. The interim successor will have the adequate knowledge base to fulfill their job in the manner that ASUS expects.

Senator Smolej:

I'm not familiar with what happened last year in the AMS, but as it currently stands, I don't understand the proposal. I also don't agree with it.

The CRO is prohibited from running in the next year's ASUS elections, while the CEO can.

If I'm going to apply to the CEO position, then I know it's my purview and my duty to manage the election.

While the CEO does the nitty-gritty stuff in case something goes wrong, I think it's ever more important for them to be available to handle any misgivings.

I'd like to see a reversion of the policy where the CRO could run and the CEO wouldn't be able to.

However as a gold lining, I don't think either of them should be able to run.

Commissioner Bourne:

Thank you for the comments.

I want to address a couple of things. You mentioned a hypothetical that the CRO should be able to run but the CEO shouldn't.

Based on how the elections run, everything is organized around either mine or the CROs actions.

The CEO's role is just to manage in case something comes up.

This would be no different if I was running for Vice-President. I'd still be refusing myself from the proceedings during the election.

You don't technically apply to be the CEO. If you apply to be the Speaker, then you are also the CEO because the positions are merged. The Vice-President is also the Chief Financial Officer. 50%/50%. For the Speaker/CEO combo, the responsibilities are more like 95%/5%

Senator Smolej:

I understand that, but I don't understand the logic of the rebuttal.

We're here for the best interest of the students. If we're going to argue this, then we should argue what it under the purview of CEO and CRO. If we're doing one thing and saying we'll do another, I don't like that.

Representative Zarzour:

Could we have a readout of the mandates of the CEO? I could benefit from a reading of CEO and CRO.

Senator Stanley:

It is clearly listed in the appendix.

Vice-President Tahiri:

I know how this works in practice. There are questions of conflict of interest.

Say I wanted to run for re-election, am I allowed to enter my e-mails, work with my committee members, sign me cheques.

The society would not function if that were the case.

Not just for me, but for other members as well.

Senator Duchaine:

Within the AMS, once you are running, you are officially on a leave of absence.

You cannot enter the ASUS Core after hours, cannot enter your e-mail, cannot oversee any committees.

Vice-President Tahiri:

Would members of assembly then be okay to make provisions?

Senator Stanley:

Point of order: Could we go back to the rules of order?

Speaker:

That was a direct reply.

Senator Stanley:

I think one of the big points that Senator Smolej was trying to get at was that should the Speaker take a leave of absence to run, regardless of what they are running for, they could come into a situation where their neutrality comes into question. If they were running for President against an ASUS Commissioner or an ASUS Representative to the AMS. You could get to a point where the Speaker has directly challenged their neutrality insofar of their ability to work with another individual on assembly.

Once you consider the precedent of what occurred last week, we need to think about the neutrality of the Speaker in a greater scope.

Maybe we should dissolve the role of Speaker and CEO.

It's worrisome that the Speaker can run and then come back as though everything was still neutral

Senator Duchaine:

If you truly believe that the role as CEO is so minimal that it does not affect the role as speaker, then we should separate the roles.

I cannot support people taking a leave of absence during the most crucial part of their portfolio

Senator Smolej:

I still stand by what I've said previously. Just to add to this discussion about how it presents a conflict of interest.

Section G, C3.04E, it says that under the duties of the CEO: "Shall hire with the CRO and internal affairs commissioner an elections team"

If our CEO is running for a position within ASUS and they are also hiring the people who are managing the elections, then that also is a conflict of interest.

Representative Zarzour:

I want to speak in support of what Peter is saying.

"As well the CEO can extend the nomination and campaign periods".

These, when combined with everything else, can present a conflict of interest.

Commissioner Bourne:

If this is contentious and you feel that the motion should be changed, then I would look favourably upon an amendment and I can resubmit it to JCOM.

What if the Chair of Judicial Committee ran for a position? Last year, they ran for President.

If that happened, then they would be in a greater conflict of interest than the Speaker.

The CEO's role is to determine if complaints are valid.

Final say on these complaints are subject to the decision of the Judicial Committee.

By the same token, you are saying I should be prohibited from running for anything because I worked with the CRO in the past.

I feel that this reduces the talent pool a little too much.

COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman:

The context might be a little bit different.

Last year, I served as the COMPSA Speaker. This was during the time that I was elected for this position. It was before Speaker of COMPSA was defined also as the CEO.

We made a motion after I was elected to change the definition of Speaker to do so.

I did take a leave of absence. I came back as Speaker, and I was Speaker of COMPSA for 2012-2013. I was not Vice President Operations 2013-2014. I didn't allow any conflicts of interest. Nothing was different, and I didn't assume any responsibilities as Vice-President Operations until after my role as Speaker had ended.

International Representative Pang:

Motion to call into question

Seconded by Representative Lucas

Commissioner Bourne:

The motion to put to question is to put the motion to a vote as it stands. You can vote against it!

Senator Stanley:

Point of information: If the motion to call to question does fail, would a motion to table it to the next assembly be in order or looked favourably upon?

Commissioner Bourne:

The things apart from the CEO changes are necessary and I haven't heard any complaints about those.

The CRO thing is still good to have.
I would prefer a motion to strike that section of my policy

Senator Smolej:

Point of information: Section C3.04G. If that was not to occur, would the CEO still be allowed to run into the election?

Commissioner Bourne:

As of right now, there's nothing prohibiting them from running, so they can.

Vote to call into question:

For: 9

Against: 14

Motion fails

Vice-President Tahiri:

I'm going to speak in favour of this motion. It ultimately boils down to how you see student government. For those who have a voting seat.

At the AMS, a similar discussion came forward. They didn't want the Speaker to run for anything.

Scott was Speaker last year for AMS, and now he is a great President.

Just as Representative Bannerman was a speaker and now here.

We are taking precautions to make sure everything runs smoothly.

This is an opportunity for students to get involved.

Most of the criticisms here have been pretty serious. I don't believe individuals in the CEO or CRO position would manipulate things.

This puts more obstacles on the reality, and pragmatically it reduces the chance for students to get involved.

At the AMS level, this failed. There are a lot of representatives on this campus who don't believe that limiting candidacy is the right philosophy.

President Mason:

Point of information: You'd have to motion to overturn policy with a 2/3 majority.

COMSPA Vice-President Bannerman:

Perhaps we should motion to move into committee as a whole

Senator Chishti

Motion to move into committee as a whole

Seconded by Representative Goodman

Vote:

For: 22

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Motion passes

*Speaker will henceforth be known as 2015 Year Society President Stemp
President Mason will henceforth be known as Speaker*

Strawpoll on whether the speaker should be able to run after taking a leave of absence, and returning to their role after

For: 9

Against: 10

Senator Stanley:

What are the thoughts on an amendment?

Representative Goodman:

Question for Commissioner Bourne: At AMS it was not to eliminate the Speaker's rights. It was put in place, however the current Speaker was grandfathered.

It was very controversial, and it passed with a grandfather

Senator Duchaine:

I just realized this!

Somebody proposed an amendment to the AMS document that included the CIA along the CEO in from running. Because of that, the executive voted against it.

They then said that if they were including the CEO, they should also include the CIA.

The ASUS executive then voted in favour of that.

That's my understanding of what happened

Vice-President Tahiri:

That's correct. Why we voted in favour of Speaker, CEO, CIA, and CRO all on it, then they would all have the same number of connections

Senator Duchaine:

Would this not be appropriate for ASUS then, rather than at AMS?

Vice-President Tahiri:

There was so much discussion on it that we went ahead with the motion. It didn't make any sense to put forward the other positions and not include the CIA.

Speaker:

CESA, COMPSA, and ENGSOE also voted against it.

This debate really is around whether or not we want our Speaker running for anything in this society.

Senator Stanley:

The Speaker has to remain impartial. Any election could influence their impartiality.

That's the number one priority of the Speaker is their neutrality.

I wouldn't have confidence in a Speaker if they ran in an election

Senator Smolej:

I don't understand the counter-argument for why they support the inclusion of this clause to allow the CEO to run.

If a Speaker, or a CRO presented themselves for election, that's saying that they would be available for elections.

You can't just willy-nilly out of this at the last second.

If I gave you my support for the year, then that's that.

Right now in the context of CEO and CRO, I see clearly that we should not proceed forward with the clauses that are present. I'd also recommend in the future to closely examine what is their role.

Commissioner Grotsky:

If the CEO chooses to run, who then fulfills their roles?

Commissioner Bourne:

As of right now, there are no rules about that.

If this passed, the Judicial Committee would appoint one of their own members

They'd partially be keeping themselves from normal working operation

Representative Wiseman:

When you are elected Speaker, you are Speaker and CEO of ASUS.

I do not plan on running in any elections this year due to the nature of my position

They know what they're getting themselves into

Representative Zarzour:

I'd like to draw attention against the evidence Peter is trying to make.

In the case of Scott and Jamie where they ran despite already holding the position for speaker, I don't think anecdotal evidence is a good basis

Just because conflicts of interest do not apply to you guys, doesn't mean that the concern is invalidated.

Look at all of the powers that the CEO has, and think of the potential for something to go wrong.

Representative Wiseman's testimony to this is that he chooses not to run even though he is not prohibited from doing so.

COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman:

I understand where you're coming from, but I am firmly of the belief that if you are Speaker for this year, your position for the following year is separate.

The duties of Speaker for one year would not interfere in any way for whatever position you run for for the following year.

A clarification about the interfaculty running: In the COMPSA constitution, it states that the Speaker would be under no conflict of interest if I was Speaker of COMPSA and wanted to run for ASUS President.

I'm going to vote in favour of this motion because the duties from year to year are separate

Representative Zarzour:

In your capacity as Speaker for COMPSA, did you also manage COMPSA elections?

COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman:

No. But this year, the speaker does have the role of CEO. However, it doesn't say anywhere that they have to leave their role.

Representative Goodman:

I just went through the minutes for that assembly. When getting to the point of CEO, there were two amendments.

Strike faculty society and elections from them not being allowed
Institute a grandfather clause. The grandfather clause did pass.

The AMS executive then dropped support for the motion, and the motion did not pass during that AMS assembly. As much as I do feel that if you are the CEO or Speaker, you should not be allowed to run in the election, you shouldn't be allowed to leave.

It sets a bad example, especially if it is outlined in your position description.

Representative Mattiusi:

One side saying that Speaker should remain as CEO

The other side saying that there's a great pool of talent and that the CEO should be able to take a leave of absence

Could there not be an argument made so that you still leave it open to the Speaker/CEO to run, but then assembly could choose a new Speaker

I understand the moral questions, but to be frank, in every other governmental position in the country it's like this. If you're an MP, you can run to be mayor.

Commissioner Bourne:

Obviously I have opened a labyrinth and a can of worms.

What I'm going to do, whenever you choose to exit committee as a whole, I will move an amendment to delete this section of policy. There are a plethora of issues here. JCOM needs some time, we need several assemblies to pass this.

In section 3.04G "Judicial Committee can appoint one of its members to replace the CEO".

The stuff about the CRO will remain in there.

Senator Stanley:

I'd like to thank Steve for bringing that up. When you become the CRO or CEO, there are a set of obligations and priorities. If an individual feels that running for an election is more important than their role as CEO or CRO, then they ought to resign their post.

If you want to run, you resign. You can't maintain your impartiality as a Speaker and still run.

Senator Smolej:

There's a lot of anecdotal discussion.

The CEO and the Speaker are two different roles. Separating them is a different idea.

What is the duty of the CEO? It is to manage the one or two election periods.

One duty. We elect them to fulfill this one duty for one year.

We elect you for one task, you are aware you are here to do that, and then right before your job, you quit. You never fulfilled your job as CEO, you left.

Senator Duchaine:

I respect that Commissioner Bourne is willing to withdraw this

I think that part of the reason we've had such a long history of people involved as Speakers and Internal Affairs candidates is that they've been allowed to is because that we have allowed it.

If it's in the application description very clearly that you cannot run, then people who would want to run for elections would not run for these positions here.

I think another point that we need to continually reiterate is that if the CEO takes a leave of absence, who fills their spot?

The AMS lucked out last year. There was a different CEO after Scott ran last year, and I'm surprised and thankful.

I'm not sure that the current infrastructure we have within ASUS would be able to support that.

Had someone not stepped up last year, I'm not sure what would have happened, but we would not have had a CEO.

It's unfortunate that this issue hits so close to home for some members in this room, but it is important to address.

Vice-President Tahiri:

I have a few points.

I understand all of the conflicts of interest. We need members. These are the applicants who are highly qualified.

If you look at the nature of the position of Speaker and CIA, these are very qualified people.

I've never done anything in ASUS before this.

The abstraction is so high, that maybe we should rethink the whole nature of the position.

This is something ENGSOB brought forward.

In the future, this could be a good discussion

Representative Mattiussi:

Is there anything in policy that says that the position of CEO is a full-year position?

Commissioner Bourne:

Indirectly, because the Speaker position is full-year, and the Speaker is the CEO.

Representative Wiseman:

Would it be possible to separate the role of Speaker and CEO, and have the Speaker not be able to run in elections?

Commissioner Bourne:

Doable, but I'd rather not discuss that right now.

COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman:

I'm not offended because you think my anecdotal evidence isn't valid.

Whatever ASUS decides to do, COMPSA can do things differently.

The best suggestion I've heard is from Steve. When you are Speaker, you are tied to the position of CEO, but you are allowed to step down.

It's what I would support most in this context.

However, the suggestion of tabling this would also be something we should look at.

Senator Smolej:

I think the discussion is becoming cyclical. I'm wondering if the Commissioner of Internal Affairs would be able to pull section G out and proceed with the rest.

You proposed earlier that you could withdraw it

Commissioner Bourne:

I will do that.

President Mason:

The policy that Ben is presenting do not deal particularly with those issues.

Senator Stanley:

I fail to see how amending this would not achieve this intent

Commissioner Bourne:

Yes we could amend it to include, but I would echo Senator Duchaine's question about whether or not the CEO and Speaker should be separated entirely.

I think that there is a broader discussion that needs to be had, regardless of whether they should be able to resign and run.

Vice-President Tahiri:

Motion to move out of committee as a whole

Seconded by International Representative Pang

Vote:

For: 24

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

Speaker will henceforth be known as President Mason

2015 Year Society President Stemp will henceforth be known as Speaker

Commissioner Bourne:

Withdrawing section C-3.04G changes from my amendment.

Much still needs to be discussed.

President Mason:

Move to put into question

Seconded by International Representative Pang:

Vote:

For: 21

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

Vote on motion 12:

For: 16

Against: 0

Abstain: 4

Motion passes

Motion 13 (Package Motion 10): "That ASUS Assembly approve the changes to Section I of the ASUS Policy Manual seen in Appendix H"

Moved by: Benjamin Bourne

Seconded by: Scott Mason

Commissioner Bourne:

This is the second last of the JCOM things to deal with. This is just to set some ground rules for the ballots.

My motivation is two-fold. All of the motions from JCOM are their work. I'm just the amplifier of what they've done so far. I haven't seen anything too off-base, but you always have the right to amend or alter any suggestions.

This is to implement policy for secret ballots.

Based on my personal experience, I feel that the secret ballot was being used in an unwieldy fashion.

There were instances where secret ballot was called in a mean-spirited way and didn't contribute towards moving assembly forward.

This would require that moving for a secret ballot requires a 2/3 majority vote.

This makes sure that one person can't just hold up the whole show.

This also gives Speaker the ability to rule whether these ballots are appropriate

I think the Speaker should directly enforce the direction in which assembly is taken.

It also sets up the general conditions for when secret ballots can be used, including personal matters where decisions could affect future conduct.

Representative Zarzour:

Is it not included in Robert's rules as to how secret ballots are handled? Are we choosing to overrule that?

Commissioner Bourne:

We're supposed to use Brunot's. We refer to it if we don't know, but it doesn't preclude us from changing it. We aren't Brunot's slaves.

If I carried around a copy of the rules of order in my pocket, then I could use it, but I don't because most of us have lives.

International Representative Pang:

When we asked people to turn around earlier, was that like the secret ballot?

Commissioner Bourne:

No policy doesn't prevent you from doing things, it just doesn't enforce it.

If everyone is on really good terms, then you don't have to use it.

If those conditions don't exist, such as if it's close, or if I wanted to stop my ex from getting grant money. Not that that would ever happen.

Under these rules, if you felt uncomfortable, then the onus is on members of assembly to point out when this happens

Representative Mattiusi:

It says a secret ballot requires a 2/3 majority and the Speaker has a veto.

Does that mean assembly can hold a 2/3 veto override of the Speaker

Commissioner Bourne:

I'm guessing JCOM didn't consider that.

Senator Smolej:

I understand why we might want to do secret ballots, but I think clarification is needed as to why we would do it.

If the government votes on issues of national security openly, then why can't we?
We don't record who votes for which motion already
We are all mature individuals who can have a conversation

Vice-President Tahiri:

Right of direct reply. We definitely don't have any foreign policy issues.
The assumption that we're mature shouldn't play any part in this.
It's in order to maintain a professional ambience
We're 21 year olds. I have no problem with heads up, seven up
I understand the importance of public voting, but I think that secret ballots are important.
There are times when people make decisions and they can be sensitive.
If members want to have an open role call, I wouldn't be against that either.

Senator Smolej:

My rebuttal to that is exactly why we should do this.
We aren't the federal government. It's much more simplistic.
What is your definition of transparency?
How am I to have the ability to know that I voted for the right person

Vice-President Tahiri:

We discussed this in the Red Room with me, yourself, and other senators.
It was with CESA, COMPSA.
Do you remember that afternoon?
We discussed whether the student government should be a trustee or a delegate
A trustee is someone to whom you give your vote because you trust them to make the right decision.
A delegate model is whenever you want your representative to come back to you and talk to you. It's a direct form of democracy. We had a discussion and you agreed.
I think it's a trustee model.

Representative Zarzour:

Is the discussion you're referring to with a decision actually have any effect?
One of the discussion topics we had was about the nature of representation

Senator Stanley:

This is a direct reply to a direct reply to a direct reply.
Only one direct reply is legitimate. If we're doing ping-pong, we should move to committee as a whole

Senator Smolej:

Point of personal privilege: I feel I was misrepresented.
I don't think it's fair to end here.
Our discussion was about the role of a Senator, which differs from other positions.
This is a whole huge other discussion.
I don't understand the relevancy to referencing this discussion.

Representative Goodman:

Motion to move into committee as a whole
Seconded by Senator Stanley

Vote:

For: 18

Against: 2

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

*Speaker will henceforth be known as 2015 Year Society President Stemp
President Mason will henceforth be known as Speaker*

Senator Duchaine:

Motion to make a 5 minute recess?

Seconded by Representative Mattiusi

Speaker:

You can't do that while in committee as a whole

Representative Mattiusi:

The point you're bringing up is that why should something be secret?

Commissioner Bourne:

With respect to Senator Smolej, the conversation is irrelevant

Vice-President Tahiri:

Absolutely not

Senator Stanley:

As far as I see this motion, and this is what I was hoping to speak on. I was on the speaker's list next until we got caught up in the brew-ha-ha there.

I am a bit uncomfortable for setting the threshold for a secret ballot so high.

It should be 50%+1.

Then if the speaker says no, a 2/3 majority can overturn that.

Commissioner Bourne:

If there were 2/3 that wanted a secret ballot, then they could overturn the Speaker's ruling

Vice-President Tahiri:

It is important to differentiate between trustee and delegate models.

If you are a trustee, you should be comfortable in your position.

If you have a delegate model, then before you make big decisions, you should go directly back to your constituents, and getting something out of it.

That's not how a lot of representative positions work.

For example, when people campaign on ideas, they won't make or break it on one small motion

What you're saying doesn't translate pragmatically.

In those cases where it is contentious and you want an open role-call, then you could do that.

I do believe it's a trustee model, and that individuals make the best decisions when it comes to sensitive debate.

Furthermore, this is something that can help the spirit of the Speaker
The Speaker can say "the concern is this" and outline the reasons.

I think students would prefer a trustee model. I'm not saying they're stupid students, but it's how I see the nature of the position.

Representative Zarzour:

I believe that I'm close enough to the student body that I can fairly frequently go back to just the students and get feedback from them.

If John Patrick Stanley has the 50%+1 and everyone else is in agreement with that, can we just change it to that and move out of committee as a whole?

Commissioner Bourne:

If you have other comments, please make them separately.

Representative Wiseman:

Do you guys have anything in your policy with regards to secret ballots in CESA or COMPSA?

COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman:

Nope!

Scribe:

Point of information: At COMPSA, only one secret ballot was called for in the last 3 years. it was turned down.

COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman:

On the point of a secret ballot, I hope we could have some procedure regarding the secret ballot

Commissioner Bourne:

I think paper ballots work best, but I wouldn't be opposed to other forms.

Representative Goodman:

Is this coming up to a time where we'll have to extend?

Senator Smolej:

Just previously, I never said I was for or against this.

I still do believe that the discussion about trustee or delegate is irrelevant to what we're discussing now.

What does a secret ballot mean in the context of general assembly, when we have lots of students at large?

This just echoes my frustrations about how my body can be very irrelevant at times to students.

If you look at the minutes, the bulk will be regarding whether or not the CRO can run. We're supposed to be advocating for the everyday life of students.

Vice-President Tahiri:

Motion to leave committee as a whole

Seconded by member-at-large

Vote:

For: 19

Against: 2

Abstain: 1

Motion passes

Speaker will henceforth be known as President Mason

2015 Year Society President Stemp will henceforth be known as Speaker

Speaker:

I can't stay up until 2 or 3am because of my pneumonia

Senator Stanley:

Motion to amend the policy in section 30.0.01 subsection 2 to say "simple majority vote (50% + 1)" instead of 2/3.

Commissioner Bourne:

Consider it friendly

Motion to call into question

Seconded by Representative Wiseman

Vote:

For: 21

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

Vote on motion 13:

For: 21

Against: 1

Abstain: 1

Motion passes

Motion 14 (Package Motion 11): "That ASUS Assembly approve the changes to the ASUS Policy Manual seen in Appendix I"

Moved by: Benjamin Bourne

Seconded by: Scott Mason

Commissioner Bourne:

Last one! This is just housekeeping. Reflects the replacement of "General Manager" to "Business Manager"

Commissioner Bourne:

Motion to put into question

Seconded by Vice-President Tahiri

Senator Stanley:

We have not had debate yet.

Vote:

For: 20

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

Discussion Period

Program Closure at Queen's

Senator Duchaine:

This came out of a conversation that I had earlier with the executive about how we can use ASUS Assembly as a forum for dialogue.

Not sure if everyone had the opportunity to read the article, but it's a thing we're talking about at the Senate committee subcommittee Program Closure!

Queen's has closed a number of programs. There is no longer a department of Russian Literature, German, Canadian Studies.

The problem is that we don't have any policy

How terrible is it that they don't have any policy about whether or not we'll have Linguistics next year!

But! I hear you at the back over there arguing that article 39 of the collective bargaining agreement has a section specifically on program closure

Ah! But it only applies if a faculty member is displaced and they don't want to be

Senate has a loophole where if there is a program, if there is talk of program closure regarding the voluntary displacement of staff, it doesn't trigger article 39.

This means that if we're closing DEVS, and all of the faculty members are okay with getting rid of the Major or Media programs in DEVS because they'll be leaving, then we go through the policy about academic development.

A lot of talk about jurisdiction about senate and board of trustees. It's all about that Iacobucci report.

The issue I am coming into this is what's our role as students within the whole scenario?

It obviously affects all students.

The collective bargaining agreement specifies that there are 5 individuals, none of whom are students

All:

Shame!!!

Senator Duchaine:

There is a big talk about program closures going around.

What is the role of Queen's as an institution. Do we want to be a balanced institution with lots of different departments, even if it comes at a financial cost.

Do we have to take a more pragmatic, realistic approach?

What is relevant, what is not relevant?

What is program closure?

Who gets to make this decision?

Why?!

Senator Chishti:

Many of these issues are brought up, but on a periphery.

The Dean of Arts and Science brought up that they were considering closing Theology.

At the end of the day, as it stands, no matter how we feel about that, it doesn't have to go through any of us. It can be made from the Dean, and that's it. Theology has 50 people enrolled, and they would all be taken care of.

They might be coming after Politics next.

Representative Lucas:

I was in that faculty board. Is the closure of theology at that meeting official?

Senator Duchaine:

Only as information.

Last year saw the creation of an indigenous studies program

It had to be presented by curriculum committee, voted by students and faculty

Then it went up to faculty board, voted by students and faculty

Lots of voting happening! Lots of consultation and critique!

Then it goes to the senate committee of academic development where we change it and make sure it's great

THEN it goes to senate! That's five committees!

But to cut a program, we don't have ANY of that procedure! It's all on the Dean

If we do not give them the power to create one, then we should not give them the power to delete one

President Mason:

I want to mention that for those of you who read the article, the program closures are much like a coin flip.

The administration can only be likened to the "Harvey Dent" model.

"The world is cruel, and the only model in such a cruel world is chance"

Representative Goodman:

I can see this becoming a real problem insofar as we don't pick our majors until after first year. A.K.A. when we're already here.

If someone comes for a specific program and the University closes that program in that person's first year, then that doesn't make any sense.

We should at least try to make it so that if they make a decision to close a program, it should remain open for the current year, but closed for future years

Senator Smolej:

Everything you said stands, but we should remember that students don't get accepted to their program automatically. They need to be cleared academically. This is a separate issue we have addressed.

Commissioner Grotsky:

We should be mindful of the slippery slope this creates.

If we close the smallest program every year, how long is it before we only offer politics and life sciences?

We should value the number of students in a program.

If we want to be recognized as a diverse school with a unique set of interests.

If a faculty only has 5 students in it, then that's good.

If some of the larger faculties take responsibility financially, then that's a good idea

2017 Year Society President Clark:

I think that when you want to put the same level of beurocracy into a smaller program, it may be too hard to get rid of programs that we don't want to offer.

Just having the Dean being able to get rid of it does make this more efficient

Representative Lucas:

Most of us agree that a little more conversation would be good.

I'd be interested in hearing the opinions of those against more regulation

Senator Chishti:

It's exciting because as much as I hate life science students, we have three here.

Life Science and Biochemistry now has only one dean.

This is a move in the effort of efficiency

The administrative salaries of having so many different departments isn't something we necessarily want to take on for every department.

If you've read "For Whom the Bell Tolls", the idea is that there are people are coming for you.

They go for the poor neighbourhood, you think you're safe, so you don't say anything.

Then they come for you and there's nobody to fight for you.

Representative Mattiusi:

Forgive me for my ignorance of procedure.

When the dean is taking into account the motions of a specific program, is the only criteria the number of students in the program?

Senator Duchaine:

Currently, there is no criteria. There's absolutely nothing.

According to the university, we still have a Marxist Literature program. No faculty, no students, no classes, but it's still there!

There are a number of factors that we should consider.

We have an art conservation program with very few people enrolled, but it is the only one in the country. Is it worth keeping even if we lose money?

Representative Goodman:

I'm not sure that I support larger faculties supporting smaller faculties.

Some do bring relevant value, but I also don't think that the onus is on students of other faculties to be paying for it.

It might seem a little unfair. If I'm paying my money to the university, I'm expecting it to go towards my experience. If it goes towards the experience of others, then I feel like I'm getting ripped off.

Not feeling like you received your money's worth as a student is something that causes a lot of issues as a student.

Senator Smolej:

The current situation now is too controlling.

The dean shouldn't have the sole decision

Sometimes we do have to streamline things

We can become very cynical, but this is not to say that discussion about cancelling a program would not occur, it's just that it would be more accessible for students.

We're the ones who choose to come here and pay the school.

We expect everyone to act within the best interest of students

The reason we have policy is because if there is a lack of trust in some people, then there is something to fall back upon.

Representative Zarzour:

I'd like to see either from Isabelle or assembly as a whole how can we influence this.
How can we create this process? Even the exact same model from creation.
How can committee members as a whole get involved?

Senator Duchaine:

If you are concerned about this, then we as senators will be voting on this.

The subcommittee is heavily represented by students. There are three of us, and some very sympathetic administrators.

When we're done with the subcommittee around January, that would be the time to have a discussion about the specifics of the policy.

One thing that some other universities have undergone is a program prioritization process, or a PPP.

A subcommittee would make the strategic decisions as to which programs are central to the university's mandate, and which are peripheral

2017 Year Society Vice-President:

Is this discussion philosophical?

Senator Duchaine:

Yes!

Representative Lucas:

When a Dean goes through a program, they are being given more power.

If a dean doesn't want the program, then they might not act in the best interest of students.

Making it not interesting for students, etc

We'd be forcing a process whereby the Dean might have to act against his own program.

Speaker:

We have to vote on whether or not to extend assembly
Motion to extend by 1 hour as of midnight

Vote:

For: 15

Against: 1

Abstain: 2

Motion passes

Senator Duchaine:

This is already happening!

They are reducing the requirements for a DEVS degree

Or reducing the support for the Linguistics degree.

These are strategic decisions made by the dean about which programs to prioritize.

The issue is that it's not transparent

I wish I could've found the material online

The head of the school of computing has a fantastic quote: "Academic programs are not like potted plants that should be left to the die by the hands of unattentive deans"

Representative Mattiusi:

What was the last program that was terminated?

Senator Duchaine:

Theology is suspended. Canadian Studies was removed 3 years ago.

Under the current definition, a program or plan is a major, medial, or program within arts and science.

It also refers to a stream, like in engineering. There used to be a stream on structures, one on bridges

Vice-President Tahiri:

Bridges.

Senator Duchaine:

Eliminating those different options would have to be made by someone other than the head of the engineering department.

Undergraduate Student Trustee Aulthouse:

Program closures are a board/senate issue.

There is a very strong academic component, but it also has a foundational centre as to why we're doing it.

A lot of good stuff has been said.

When I was a senator last year and I went to the board senate retreat, our discussion topic was on program closure.

One of the people in my subgroup was the Dean of the School of Business.

He made an interesting point. He pointed out that Engineering and Commerce are money-makers for the school, whereas Math or English do not make as much money.

But he said what kind of university are we if we don't offer Math or English?

Representative Goodman:

I might sound like I'm arguing with myself.

These program closures don't just affect the students within the programs. It also affects people who would want to take these courses as electives.

I'm taking a class through the Department of Japanese Studies. It's a very small faculty. It's not a major, or a minor. It's something I wanted to take.

If we cut programs willy-nilly, then it leaves people out of opportunities.

CESA/COMPSA Defederation

Senator Duchaine:

Background!

You know who used to be part of us? PHEKSA!

We don't get their money any more! We're having fun!

How did they leave is my question, and if they could leave, could we lose COMPSA, or CESA? Is that bad? Let's talk!

President Mason:

I'm not sure what direction you want to take this discussion in.

Since PHEKSA did separate from ASUS, there have been issues with their jacket production.

They have not made any changes to their policy as to who should make jackets.

I would like to ask assembly's opinion as to the nature of that. Should we intervene?

Vice-President Tahiri:

They separated! I place a lot of blame on the leaders of PHEKSA.

Next semester, when that Physical Health Education student comes into the core and ask about their jackets, it will be an issue of who paid the fees. They didn't pay us!

If you need your jacket, you need your jacket.

I need an answer when people come to the core and ask about the jacket.

Should they be prioritized? Or serviced at all?

President Mason:

For the record, I have no opinion on this.

I will take my cues from assembly and act on what you guys would like to do.

I'm happy to assist PHEKSA, and I'll grudgingly accept if you want to reject them.

COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman:

The topic is about what we might do.

At this point in time, COMPSA has zero intention of separating

All:

Hear hear! Woo!

COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman:

This has never come up at our assembly

I will mention it at the next assembly. I have almost 100% confidence that no, we do not want to separate.

COMPSA's council is 13 official member plus an extended council of 3 members.

At this point in time, separating from ASUS would be terrible.

Representative Lucas:

One of the things I noticed in the discussion point that Isabelle hosted is that they lose access to ASUS services. Could someone go through a light or most important list of what they would be losing?

Vice-President Tahiri:

Would not be able to come to the ASUS formal

Cannot apply for ASUS Camps Directors

They can still volunteer and be committee members. Loosey-goosey with chairs.

The jackets is a big one! My biggest concern is that the PHEKSA student who doesn't know what happened last year asked why it happened.

I like the discussion topic. It makes it real.

Representative Goodman:

I can also speak to some of the other benefits that they would lose.

We came into a situation where a PHEKSA group applied for a specific grant, the spirit of the policy says we have to choose the ASUS group over the PHEKSA group.

We have a very big mandate to give it to ASUS groups and ASUS members.

We should not be punishing members of PHEKSA for actions of those who came before them. At least for the jackets.

Whether or not their referendum to separate was a clear question is up to debate.

Representative Mattiusi:

I didn't see the question, they just probably wanted to separate!
I had the pleasure of being a Gael and a Tech for ASUS and COMPSA orientation week.
I wouldn't have been able to be a tech if we were separate

Representative Zarzour:

I was under the impression that there was no protocol for how a group separates.
I would like to know about the protocol. Is there always a referendum? Is it unofficial?
Can we implement something so that they would have to tell their students and us what they're getting into?
We shouldn't punish PHEKSA students for what their leaders did
We also cannot punish ASUS students for what PHEKSA did.
I just want to close by saying I have lots of love for COMPSA and CESA.

President Mason:

There is no policy on defederation. PHEKSA held a referendum for all of their members.
ASUS really poorly handled the situation. They didn't do much in the way of keeping PHEKSA there.
If CESA or COMPSA were to defederate, the only one of the two that could would be COMPSA.
CESA is difficult because Con-Ed students take a lot of Arts and Science students.

Representative Zarzour:

The question I had was about policy, but also about if we had policy in place, would it be too territorial? Can we make a semi-external group give us notice, or make them explain things to their constituents?
To what extent can we put policy in place to assist in the process to make sure that CESA or COMPSA students would be informed.

Member Marshall:

Constitutionally, you can't do that to us, but we'd be nice enough to tell you.

Senator Stanley:

I'm going to be blunt about this. PHEKSA had a very leading referendum question.
"Do you agree to PHEKSA students still paying the ~24\$ ASUS membership fee"
When you ask someone if they want to pay 25 bucks for something, you're not going to get a positive response.
With that decision, and with any decision comes consequences.
Unfortunately, the consequences of PHEKSA no longer being an affiliate body with ASUS means that they lose out on privileges such as grants, or ordering jackets through the jacket director.
We need to recognize the autonomy of PHEKSA to do this.
We need to respect their decision. I'm not in favour of allowing PHEKSA students to access the ASUS services.
It might sound unfair, but they're their own independent body.
We wouldn't allow COMSOC, ENGSOCC to do any special deals with us.

Commissioner Grotsky:

I think the biggest issue is not what to do with PHEKSA, but how to improve our relationships with COMPSA and CESA. There seems to be a lack of involvement
We aren't giving them the opportunities to do things
Also in orientation week: CESA was left out of our welcome forum last year.

What benefits do they get if we continue to abuse them?

COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman:

Last year, 3 of the ASUS Representatives to the AMS were COMPSA members

Also the AMS president is a COMPSA student.

Last year, those three people who were ASUS Representatives were very active in student government, which is why they held those positions.

Commissioner Grotsky:

What I was referring to more so was positions within ASUS.

There's a lack of advertisement to CESA and COMPSA, and a lack of people who actually apply.

There are people involved as representatives and more external positions, but we should be encouraging more internal positions.

President Mason:

I'll do whatever assembly would like me to do.

We could partner with PHEKSA to assist them for one year

Maybe they weren't thinking far enough ahead. They wanted more independence or Queen's pride.

This will impact the Queen's experience of students in PHEKSA.

Regardless of what the decision is, I think it's important that we consider that

Representative Zarzour:

I don't know the context of what happened last year. I don't know if it's possible for them to come back.

I think you have the right idea in extending the hand of friendship, even just once

Member Marshall:

I noticed this in your agenda, so I figured I should show up.

You need to focus your conversation on whether or not ASUS is relevant to these sister societies.

We had a conference and approached the graphic design team for a logo, and they said no because we weren't a part of ASUS.

Focus on why they left, rather than how silly it was that they left.

I'm going to echo the thoughts of Commissioner Grotsky.

Why are we paying the ASUS fee when we are already paying the CESA fee?

Commissioner Bourne:

The judicial committee will be working on this over the break.

I don't have a horse in this race.

Senator Duchaine:

Great points brought up by the CESA president.

Your students are arts and science members. They are expecting representation by their DSCs.

They have representation from our commissioners based on issues for student life and education.

You pay fees to the faculty of arts and science and the faculty of education.

I would be horrified if this happened similarly to the Canadian Federation of Students where they try to sue people who are trying to leave them.

We have a legal argument to pursue funds, but we should not.

It is counter to the principle of student government, life

We need policy in place so that if in the future CESA or COMPSA wants to leave, there are rules.

Senator Chishti:

I think this conversation should be focused more on the value that CESA or COMPSA students receive from ASUS.

What are we getting as Arts and Science Students?

I'm a Science student. I don't think that there's much that ASUS does that gives me value.

I could run for senator, or commissioner, or get a jacket. Is that enough? I don't think that that's enough.

What concerns me is that when CESA committees apply for things, they're already not considered as Arts and Science members.

If we can break it down and say that they aren't getting very much value, then that's where we need to go. Does this apply to everyone?

I know this is a dark and dire topic.

Vice-President Tahiri:

I was very blind as to how ASUS has not been keeping close with its sister societies.

The biggest thing that ASUS offers is grants and positions.

Rob Staalduinen is trying to have a student initiative of web development. That's great.

Since I'm the CFO, we worked it out.

The work they do is seamless, and there's no effort.

The ASUS Summer Camps director positions are a great opportunity

Jacket orders are a huge headache. They spend hours and hours doing the jackets.

The Arts and Science student fee is incredibly low. It's only \$24. It's the lowest faculty fee, and lower than many other universities.

When we look at things holistically, it is something we need to bring out.

It hasn't been as high of a priority as the other students, but it should be.

President Mason:

The intangibles, too!

We coordinate faculty board and DSCs, which is quite big.

We've been working to leverage our advocacy, but it's a tremendous apparatus for Arts and Science students

Senator Smolej:

I appreciate all of the comments our Vice-President has just made.

I think there's a significant amount of improvement that we can do.

As an executive, you can instill a cultural shift in your council as a whole.

What we just discussed points to huge cultural systemic issues within ASUS. There is irrelevancy to the everyday student on what we can offer them, and I would like to see a further discussion, maybe through a taskforce, to reinitialize our function as a body.

I had the privilege of attending a Queen's Retirement Association Day last year.

We talked about that nobody had tams anymore.

It didn't use to be so segmented between faculties

I would like to see ASUS helping PHEKSA students with jackets. Maybe we can charge them a little bit.

We do have that bond, though. If you're from Queen's and I'm from Queen's, then that's our connection.

I don't want us to forget that connection. We should always remember the students at heart who may not come here, but who we represent

Representative Tsang:

Approximately 60% of Music students are Con-Ed students.

There are very few selling points in our program.

There is representation within ASUS for the Con-Ed students. There is a huge number of Con-Ed students that are in the Arts programs. If they choose to be represented on council, then they can choose to run.

We have a Con-Ed representative on our council on DSC.

Last year, I was not involved at all with student government, or really with anything.

With the whole PHEKSA disseminating from ASUS thing, that's completely new to me.

I'm part of ASUS. Why was I not notified of this?

It's not the decisions being made between leaders, it's about letting the students know what's happening. It impacts them.

Had I not chosen to run for a DSC position or Academic Representative position, I would have no idea what's going on.

There are a lot of students who don't know what's going on.

They don't realize what's going on, and we need to look at that as well.

I still haven't heard from anybody why PHEKSA decided to separate from us. There had to be a reason, and we're not talking about it

President Mason:

The reason PHEKSA separated from us is because PHE/KIN is a very unique program. If you look at other universities in southern ontario, they're associated with either arts or science. They felt like they wanted to be more in-line with other programs, and to be separate. They wanted more autonomy.

Representative Goodman:

Some of the things that CESA and COMPSA do get are jackets, grants, academic support, similar courses, DSCs, ASUS formal.

What I would like to speak to is Senator Smolej's comment about the institutional aspect of it.

There is a certain culture of value placed on specific degrees on this campus.

This culture is instilled from the very beginning of your time at Queen's that some degrees are better than others.

This affects us even more because we have so many different faculties within our school.

Commissioner Grotsky:

Yes they have access to my services. But do they really value from them?

Do they know that they have that access?

We don't talk within an inner ASUS group about what we can do as the three societies.

If they don't know that they can use me as a resource, then there's no point having it.

CESA Vice-President Miller, proxying for CESA Vice-President Ferguson:

If there are two equal grant applications from someone in Con-Ed and someone in ASUS if they're equal, then it immediately goes to ASUS?

Representative Goodman:

If a CESA group did apply, they are still under ASUS. But since PHEKSA dissolved, they would no longer get priority.

Representative Lucas:

I'm president of Life Sciences. I'd like to speak to Senator Chishti.

It's a running joke in our council as to why we're part of ASUS. We pay the 24.50. 6% of that goes

to DSCs. Of that, only 200\$ goes to us. That's a new initiative by Commissioner Grotsky.

As for tutors, we usually organize our own.

As for jackets, jackets are great, but we're starting on windbreakers.

It's difficult for us to see where the money's going. We joke about the number things we could do with 24\$ per life science student. We would have information sessions for every course that we run. I want people to be aware that as a student who wasn't involved, and I didn't know.

There are 5, 10, 15, 20 positions that are paid out of the thousands.

I don't know what I can do as a DSC with that kind of money that ASUS has.

Commissioner Grotsky:

I agree that there is a lack of resources with respect to you guys with respect to tutoring. One thing we do offer is Orientation week.

Vice-President Tahiri:

One thing I would say to the concurrent education program is that we get a lot of applications from Con-Ed members. It deals with kids. We'd have to tell Con-Ed students that they can no longer apply.

Representative Tsang:

Your point of if CESA were to defederate from ASUS, I don't think that that would be possible at all.

The only thing that separates us is the practicum and the prof classes.

We do have a very different set of expectations, and different lifestyles.

It's impossible for us to move. We take so many Arts and Sciences courses.

With PHEKSA, their courses are just different.

It's also been a little bit of a joke in the music faculty about representation.

If I was not part of ASUS or DSC, I would just know that I was part of them. But I would have no idea what you do other than the formal (and we have our own) and the jackets.

This is very preliminary, but we are talking with film, drama, and fine arts program to create the School of Creative Arts. They were saying how they wanted to have a larger focus.

Many professors raised concerns about how they did not raise concerns in ASUS.

I am in Music, but I cannot represent somebody in Drama.

I felt as though it was important that I bring up the fact that there are talks. Nobody's sure whether or not this will actually happen. They want to offer a minor in musical theatre. That is only possible if we join together as The School of Creative Arts

Representative Zarzour:

I'd like to talk about in terms of representation for Arts.

As an academic representative, we all sit on the DSC assembly. This has representation from all departments. Those groups all have representation within their own faculties.

Those groups you're referring to should have a voice if we are doing things correctly.

We have switched topics as to what ASUS does actually provide.

It doesn't matter if we think we're providing good things. The point really is that even if there are a small handful of students that question why ASUS exists, we need to do a better job of communicating that. That's an ongoing structural issue.

I don't doubt that you're doing a lot of work for a lot of different people.

We should move the discussion to how we can bridge that gap

COMPSA Vice-President Bannerman:

I was reminded about an experience that was had earlier this year by our academics commissioner regarding how we did tutors.

The academics commissioner had a great initiative about merging our tutoring system with ASUS'. What we eventually found out is that ASUS has some strict rules about tutoring. The tutor must have at least a B+ in their course. We try to be a bit more relaxed in that nature. If a student is deemed worthy of tutoring, then they should be a tutor.

The eventual result is that we decided to not merge our tutoring system and are doing it on our own.

That is one area where we have had issues merging.

Commissioner Grotsky:

We still do help you guys do tutoring.

I don't think it's unreasonable to expect that tutors have a certain grade because it does verify their knowledge in the class. I respect that there were issues.

People weren't interested in going through ASUS because they prefer the smaller society feel, which in and of itself is a larger issue.

Senator Chishti:

I will go back to what I was saying initially which is what the DSC representative for music was mentioning

I don't think that that's a relevant reason to not separate.

It's not based on classes, it's based on value.

In PHEKSA, about half of their classes are still arts and science courses

When advocacy is done best, nobody should see it.

It doesn't have to be academic advocacy, it could be equity.

The first thing is advocacy, second is opportunities, third is services.

As a smaller faculty society, you can probably reach out to your constituents better.

Hypothetically if there was an issue for either of CESA or COMPSA, the executive should be able to reach out.

I've been on student government since first year, I'm in 4th year now.

If Science was separate, we would be paying a tuition more similar to engineering.

Whether or not the society gives me much value in a purely advocacy front is another question entirely.

Where are we going wrong, or right?

Vice-President Tahiri:

Motion to close the speaker's list

Seconded by member at large

Vote:

For: 20

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

Senator Smolej:

I'm really enjoying this conversation. I think it's adding a lot of value.

This is exactly what we need to shift the status quo and to change the status quo. I'm speaking as a student who has not been involved in ASUS before this. I've never been involved on DSC. I feel disenfranchised about them.

For me as a student, I would like to see more of a synergistic relationship.

I feel they do a good job on advocacy, but I see an issue where you have these close relationships

with your constituent bodies.

You can funnel these concerns to an academic commissioner on things like class sizes.

My experience with administration is that the more engagement they have, the more likely they are to move forward.

I'd like to see something happen, so how are we going to do that?

Is it a standing committee?

Is it further discussion down the line?

Nothing has happened for the last 5 or 10 years.

We as students are here for such a short time. Only 4 years.

Representative Mattiusi:

I have friends in Comp Sci. I have friends in Con-Ed.

I want to thank those representatives. Although I have friends in these faculties, I'm not fully aware of the worries and needs and I apologize for that.

Hopefully as an ASUS Representative I can learn more about it.

It's an underground hot topic.

Speaker's Last Words

Motion to adjourn

Vote:

For: 19

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Motion passes

Finishing Time: 12:57