

Assembly Minutes – February 2, 2012

Patrick Allin, CEO

Motion to approve the agenda..

All in favour.

Motion Carries.

Speaker's Business – Patrick Allin

New AMS Executive Team has been elected (Doug Johnson, Mira Dineen, and Tristan Lee). They received 60% of votes in the first round of voting.

President's Report – Morgan Campbell

Short agenda. Congratulations to the new executive team. Congratulations to the Elections & Communications Teams on such a successful election period.

VP Ops' Report – Ashley Eagen

Congratulations to the teams that ran in the election. I'm very excited to begin transitioning my successor, Tristan Lee. The Occupy Queen's University movement took place in the Queen's Centre recently. It was a very successful and peaceful movement. Awareness was raised about dropping tuition fees.

VPUA's Report – Kieran Slobodin

Introducing event to be run next week. Multi-day food drive. Communications packages will be sent to you. All presidents will get a box. Your goal is to fill them as much as possible. Reach out to constituents and get constituents to give food. Communications package to come soon, please follow through with the challenge

Board of Directors Chair's Report – Mitch Piper

Congratulations to the AMS Executive teams. I don't have anything to add to my written report. If you have any questions, I would be really happy to take those.

Student Senate Caucus Chair's Report – Doug Johnson

I unfortunately missed much of Senate because of the election. There was a 45 minute break out regarding mental health. Please send your opinions and feedback regarding this to the Senate email account. We were also able to resolve the DR issue, and the motion passed. However, the registrar will now be putting NG on your

transcript if you drop a course. Morgan's motion about program suspension passed as well, and we should see its effects in April.

Rector's Report – Nick Francis

I had a meeting with a student leader earlier. Sometimes people forget what my position is for. I would like to remind everyone at this point. In dealings with the administration, no matter how big or small your issue is, I highly recommend that you come to speak with me before. There has been high turnover of university administrators. Congratulations to all of the teams in the elections, but congratulations even more so to the volunteers on the campaigns. It is an incredible experience for them as well. Make sure to thank them for their work!

Student Trustee's Report – Lauren Long

I officially have an office in the Queen's Centre! I have set open office hours. Come by any time with questions or concerns. You can always email me for alternate times if they don't work for you. We have spoken about the aftermath of the BFA suspension, and are working to formalize a process for the suspension of programs. A subcommittee of the Senate has been struck to create this policy. I will be sitting on the subcommittee. We're trying to figure out a way of creating a policy that will apply to the entire University.

Statements by Members

Gracie Goad, Hospitality & Safety Services Director

I would like to bring it to assembly attention that Board of Directors passed a motion to add an 8-month Assistant Manager position to Walkhome. This was done after consulting with Student Constables, the current Head Manager, the Current Night-Cos, and previous Head Managers. It was a step in the right direction in addressing the problems with current structure (issues in division of labour). Head Manager's duties currently involve payroll and scheduling. This could be done by an 8-month Assistant Manager. The Head Manager could then get more involved in community work and other initiatives. We receive much of our revenue through student fees, so I wanted to bring this to assembly first. You can also send questions to my email.

Steve Pariser, Campus Activities Commissioner

Catch Me If You Can is currently doing registration. Send a reminder email to your constituents, because tomorrow is the last day to sign up. Best Darn Singer is in Wallace Hall tonight. They will have a surplus this year, rather than a deficit. Will have great talent and performances. Drop by to support friends and others.

Morgan Campbell, President & CEO

I am collecting names for the IT advisory group. I have contacted society presidents. Have heard back from some, but am still waiting to hear from the rest of assembly members. We'll be giving feedback to IT Services at the university. We will compile all comments into a report and use it as the basis of their plans for next year. We want to make this an annual tradition, so if you want to make this more regular, that would be great! I'm very excited that a university department is getting so much feedback to guide their processes. Send me the names for next week, if you would like to be included 2 weeks from now!

Katherine, VP Internal, Commerce Society

Congratulations to all teams. I have a statement on behalf of Kelsey, regarding our elections. Commerce Society election period will be starting soon and the official elections will be held on the 14th and 15th of February.

Nick Francis, Rector

Tricolour Awards Selection Committee is being struck. I need representatives from every faculty society, but also from the SGPS. Those who have not sent reps in yet, try to be diverse with your choices. Allow everyone to try out for it. It would be great to have a diverse background of students. I'd like to see a diverse selection of views of what we want the Tricolour Award to be this year, and how students will be selected.

Derrick Dodgson, Engineering Society President

Science quest is hiring instructors! If you're interested in a cool summer job, talk to Robin Johannsen. Results from the executive elections are not yet online, but Taylor Wheeler is the new President. Listed all of the VPS as well.

David Sinkinson, Municipal Affairs Commissioner

The Golden Key has officially begun. Submit your landlord if you like. Please submit, your landlord's information, and if your's wins, you will get free pizza!

Amanda Judd, Communications Officer

The AMS is hiring. Applications start being due as early as Monday. Full time applications are due throughout the month of February, and volunteers throughout the month of March. Check out our website, and look into opportunities quickly, because deadlines are coming up really fast.

Rob, COMPSA President

Results from our elections are in. Listed all VPs and the Incoming President. I know that these people will do great work.

Rico Garcia, ASUS President

Congratulations to John Whittaker and Tom Jacobs on being elected for ASUS. I will also provide a full list of the Reps shortly.

Question Period

Derrick Dodgson, Engineering Society President

Is another reason for no report from the Campus Activities Commissioner the financial woes of last fortnight?

Steve Pariser, Campus Activities Commissioner

To explain, we had a wager as to whether Leora Jackson was elected as Rector in my first or second year.

Bren Piper, Engineering Society

Question for Rob, how did trivia go on the weekend?

Rob, COMPSA President

COMPSA ran trivia night at Clark Hall. The Engineering Society team showed up and may have won the COMPSA trivia night event.

Lauren Long, Student Trustee

Nick, can you explain the Nomination Process for the Tricolour Awards?

Nick Francis, Rector

Nomination packages will be out in the next week. Nominate whoever you think has contributed a long-term benefit or impact to Queen's or the community. These people don't have to be student leaders. They could be someone who started a club or something. I've been loading bios of past recipients. It is the award of the highest prestige at this University. People win for making an impact on this campus. The selection process begins on Monday February 27th – the selection committee will be cast with deciding what types of students win this award, or should win this award. There is a general definition of what recipients should be like online. Essentially, it is for students who have contributed big things to the school.

Agenda Items

Amendments to the Constitution – Policy Manual 1

Kieran Slobodin, Vice President of University Affairs

This is one of the last policy changes we will be making. Any questions regarding it are welcome. The changes are to sections 14 through 20.

Assembly votes.

Motion Carries

Patrick Allin, Speaker

This concludes business at tonight's assembly. We will now move into closed session, so I will have to ask all non-members to leave the room.

Closed Session

Mitch Piper, Board of Directors Chair

I wanted to enter closed session because it is too early for this information to go public, but I wanted to inform assembly of upcoming bi-law changes. There are going to be bi-law changes to CFRC. I'd like to give a brief overview of the process of bi-law changes. BOD approves them and they are effective immediately. However, at the next Corporate General Meeting, people will have the opportunity to confirm the changes.

These changes regard CFRC's management structure. CFRC expressed interest in having a 4th manager added to the team. We have discussed this in detail with Dan (Media Services Director) and Ashley (VP-Ops). We have also discussed this with the current CFRC advisory board. Changes will primarily be to sections 18.04 and 18.01.03, 18.03.02, 18.03.03. The key change is to management structure. This creates the position of Head Manager. There will be one Head Manager, one Assistant Manager of Music Programming, one Assistant Manager of Spoken Word, and one Assistant Manager of Music Resources. We think this is one way to ensure that students are given the best opportunities. We need an accurate accountability structure to deal with business management and day-to-day operations. There will be no other changes to the AMS Permanent Staff at CFRC, particularly regarding CRTC regulations. Her job is to advise on the legal aspects of running a station. We really think this is the way for the station to move forward and grow. The service must be a part of and fall in line with the AMS mission statement and mandate. Our

values and mission as a student government should be reflected in the operations of all services.

The AMS took over CFRC at the beginning of 2003. Since this time, the station has sustained a \$225,000 deficit. This is very concerning, and is being covered by students. This is concerning along with the incongruent management structure of the service. We notified them early in the year that we would be conducting a review of the service's operations. This review has broadened to a holistic approach. Where does CFRC fall in our community? We are offering the best opportunities for volunteers as well as for students as consumers. The primary group of listeners are 55 plus. The service's primary stakeholders don't fall here. The deficit, listenership, and participation by students are being considered. We need to look broader, and at a larger picture.

There is a report from 2001 entitled *CFRC, Students Tune In*. I can give you a copy in paper. This was written prior to the AMS taking over management of CFRC. The report states that the AMS should never have taken on CFRC as a corporate service. We are revisiting this and ensuring that it fits well within our mandate. These bi-law changes will go a long way to making it fit within the framework. There are regulations of content set by CRTC, but this particular change is not specifically stated within CRTC regulations and we are therefore fully in compliance with the CRTC.

We can take questions from any of you. This is a notice to you of what is coming in the future. We want to ensure that policy is followed and that this process is smooth. The people seated around this table will be approving this bi-law change. If you have specific questions that you are not comfortable asking now, send them to board@ams.queensu.ca. We at BOD are doing this in the best interests of the corporation and the student body. We will discuss this in great detail and at great length to ensure that the appropriate decision is being made. The wording of the exact bi-law changes will be coming to board next week, and will be approved there. The Head Manager would be required to be a student, as would 2 of the 3 Assistant Managers. This is important for us in this corporation to ensure that when we are significantly funding something with student fees, we are doing so wisely.

Lauren Long, Student Trustee

You mentioned the service's deficit. Will this new management structure help close the deficit gap?

Mitch Piper, Board of Directors Chair

We do hope so. We hope to close off the deficit by obtaining grants and advertisements. The Head Manager would be acting as the service's business manager. There will be a great focus put on this aspect of the service.

Derrick Dodgson, Engineering Society President

How does board feel about the CFRC Permanent Staff?

Mitch Piper, Board of Directors Chair

The CFRC Operations Officer is held accountable to the executive and students. It is important to have a person there who understands the CRTC regulations. It is important to have a direct accountability structure. Do we have plans to get rid of the position? No. We want to see direct accountability at the station. If we get stuck not knowing who is accountable, and responsibility falls on the permanent staff, this is not okay. This is a model successful at every other AMS service. Head Managers & Directors deal with all other issues in our H&S, Media and Retail Services. Responsibility can be given to students as long as it is accompanied by proper advisement.

Rico Garcia, ASUS President

How will this alter the transition process? Considering that the station must run 24/7, so given that it is always open, how will this affect the service?

Mitch Piper, Board of Directors Chair

CFRC is open 24/7, so someone from the management team must always be on call. The closest comparison to these hours is CoGro. It is open many hours from very early to very late. This is something that must be worked out. By having an extra manager and a solid accountability structure the Operations Officer will be able to make decisions. The Operations Officer can teach the information necessary and then pass it down to staff. The Operations Officer should not be making HR decisions while transitioning staff. A strong accountability structure is important in the business' operations. Permanent staff are used as resources for transition.

Derrick Dodgson, Engineering Society President

The Business Manager is also listed as a permanent staff on the website.

Mitch Piper, Board of Directors Chair

The current Business Manager is not a student. Should they be allowed to stay for multiple terms? The current Business Manager is in her 2nd year at the station. This would be a slight change, but this is an area where we should not see too much of a hiccup in. It is important that a student government providing student fees should have that reflected in its structure.

Mitch Piper, Board of Directors Chair

Closing.

This is a notice of a bi-law change. It will be voted on next week by BOD, but has been approved in principal. CFRC will be making a presentation at Board next week. This is where the service should go in the future. We are providing significant funding to really fund a significant deficit. What will this relationship look like in the future? We took on CFRC because Student Affairs passed them off. We saw important history and an importance to campus. Services must be accountable to the student government. This is the result of a more holistic review of accountability. No offices are off the table, as the Board of Directors does not operate that way. Listenership can be seen in a 2001 article. BOD is looking at a holistic approach. Where does this fit into our corporation and into our campus community? There will be an opportunity to confirm these bi-law changes at CGM in March.

End of closed session.

Forest, Member at Large

I would like to bring to assembly's attention the switch on ballots for "yes" and "no" on referendum questions. In my opinion, this changes voting intentions, and hurts the democratic voting process.

Patrick Allin, Speaker

We used a system called Vote Net for online voting. This is a widely used system and we are very confident that it is a secure system. We have the option to scramble the ballots, and do so that students are forced to read the questions rather than just saying yes, yes, yes. It is important that the system be done this way to ensure that students know what they are voting on.

Forest, Member at Large

The problems are not technicalities. The problem is that the changing of the order punishes people from voting a certain way. We want people to vote deliberately. It is wrong for the AMS to dictate how one should vote.

Alex Rotman, ASUS Representative to the AMS

That is a valid point, but the argument is lessened because students check the ballots before they submit confirmation. I don't think this is as much of a problem as it could be if this wasn't in place.

Christopher, Member at Large

I have spoken to several friends. The problem is that 2 people waited until the last second to vote, and didn't look over the ballot. They didn't know how they voted on half the questions. The system needs to change in part from what it is now.

Kathryn Wizinsky, Vice-President Internal Affairs

Was it truly randomized? In mine, the ballot said "yes, no" for the first half, and "no, yes" for the second half.

Mark Preston, Commissioner of Internal Affairs

There is a computer program that shuffles them. There is not much control over how they show up.

Alex Rotman, ASUS Representative to the AMS

Do you have to check a box before sending?

Mark Preston, Commissioner of Internal Affairs

Yes, it does ask you to confirm. It says something along the lines of, "I confirm that these are my true wishes."

Alex Rotman, ASUS Representative to the AMS

If they didn't read the ballot, that's not a fault to system.

Forest, Member at Large

This does put the onus on the voter. Sometimes that's not always the case, but legally you're right. The onus should be on the AMS to not randomize it. This is legal; it's about democracy. We saw 34% turnout, but people don't feel invested in the system. This turns people off. People should be able to vote the way they want, not how we tell them to.

Amanda Monteiro – ASUS Representative to the AMS

I was on the elections team last year. I recognize that clubs that went to referendum both years. Campaigning was the same, but quite a few more clubs passed this year than they did last year. This says something to how randomized balloting is.

Robin Johanssen, Engineering Society Representative to the AMS

I'm all for the intention of doing so, but would say that it is tricky. I don't really see the difference between a 3 and 2 letter word. There should be a big disclaimer at the top saying that your ballot is randomized. Don't be sneaky!

Derrick Dodgson, Engineering Society President

I dislike discussions that go on at great length. Somebody propose an amendment to policy manual one.

Nick Francis, University Rector

I don't want to go on over and over again. When doing the ballot this time, I really did think about it. It catches your eye. Students who want to click all no or all yes will do so. They can choose to click no still, with more time taken. We should have students thinking and engaged.

Leah Gater, PHEKSA Vice President

Let's solve everyone's problems, and leave a disclaimer at the top explaining that things are scrambled.

Alex Rotman, ASUS Representative to the AMS

I voted at 4am, and was able to catch myself. It's not too much of a problem. If you are reading a question, you should probably be thinking about how you're going to answer it. Because you can verify at the end, it's not too much of an issue. How many students did this affect? Perhaps we should look into it? We should warn students that the ballot does flip around a bit.

Morgan Campbell, President & CEO

We could put out a poll in the President's newsletter. There are different factors at play. We hope for ease of voting and legitimacy of results. We have assisted in ease of voting with online voting. By making this easier, we can ensure that the legitimacy of votes is not compromised. Everyone gets one vote (password on every ballot). Randomization was used this year. The wording of questions is looked at carefully. Let's make this as statistically safe as possible.

Forest, Member at Large

I'll respond to everyone. There was a point brought up that this is a good system because people have to think. Everyone in this room should be thinking about how to vote. Be careful about how you vote. The point of voting is not for anyone to exert their power. It is everyone's right to vote how they wish to. There is nothing legally wrong with what is going on here. Some people will speed through and skip everything. This does violate the spirit of what we are trying to do here. We should

have everyone involved in decision-making. In response to what Morgan said about the idea of ease of voting: isn't this the opposite of making sure people are taking the time to read questions? I would like to make a motion that all ballots say yes first, then no second.

Gracie Goad, Hospitality & Safety Services Director

I would like to put forth the motion that both gentlemen have put forth

Alex Rotman, ASUS Representative to the AMS

I don't think that we should propose the motion tonight. Let's hold off to next assembly after a read from students.

Member at Large

I don't think putting forth the motion today would be a good idea. I don't think polling students would be worth our time. This whole thing could be solved by putting a big disclaimer at the top saying that the order will change. It is pretty hard to ignore a disclaimer.

Morgan Campbell, President & CEO

We don't have control of the aesthetic aspects of the system because it is an external company.

Amanda Judd, Communications Officer

There will be a President's newsletter before next assembly. If you want, we can get this by next week.

Nick Francis, University Rector

In response to what Morgan said: You can't change the site, but if you want a disclaimer in the email sent out, we could do so. We should do it at next assembly.

Member at Large

Frankly, nothing in an email would be sufficient. Who reads the emails? Nobody takes the time. Sometimes I ignore them. If you can't change the aesthetics of the site, change the site! This is our democracy! Let's do things right!

Forest, Member at Large

Thank you for an awesome discussion. I will bring up a motion next week.

Mark Preston, Commissioner of Internal Affairs

You can come by my office and craft the motion for next assembly.

Amanda Judd, AMS Communications Officer

Does assembly want the poll in the President's newsletter?

Morgan Campbell, President & CEO

There are some decisions that are better made by the legislative body of this society. We could poll to see who is in favour – yes or no to including the poll in the President's newsletter?

Bren Piper, Speaker

Is there any other discussion?

End of Discussion Period.

I would like to pass the speaking rights back to Member Allin.

Patrick Allin, Speaker

Thank you, this concludes Assembly.

Assembly concluded.