

AMS Assembly Thursday, April 12th, 2012

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Motion to approve the agenda.

Motion carries.

Michael Scott, ASUS Rep to the AMS

Motion to add a motion to the agenda. Changes to student fee protocol. Can we add it to the top of the agenda?

Motion Carries.

Stephen Pariser, Campus Activities Commissioner

Motion to add a discussion topic regarding the consumption of alcohol during NEWTs Week.

Motion Carries.

T.K. Pritchard, Social Issues Commissioner

Motion to add 2 members of Assembly to both the Sutherland Prize Committee and the Anti-Oppression Award Committee.

Motion Carries.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Motion to approve the AMS Assembly Agenda.

Motion Carries.

Motion to approve the Minutes for March 22, 2012.

Motion Carries.

Speaker's Business

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

I have a couple things to discuss. Can somebody please bring forward a motion to add a discussion topic on names, use of electronic devices, and dress code for Assembly.

Leo Erlikhman, ASUS Rep to the AMS

Motion to add this to the discussion topics for the night.

Motion Carries.

Reports

Morgan Campbell, AMS President & CEO

Read the opinion piece that we wrote in the Journal. Assembly has pushed me to think about the university in a different way. I would like to thank everyone. I have sat on this body for three years, and this year has been absolutely fantastic.

I will be signing the back of the Good Ship AMS picture at Assembly tonight.

Ashley Eagan, Vice-President of Operations

Assembly has been incredible. This year I have been able to do a lot of research into other student unions. This is one of the most hardworking bodies that I have ever been able to sit on. I look forward to seeing the progress and success of this body in the future.

I was contacted by the Registrar today, and they have completed the final reconciliation of student fees. This must be approved by the head of the Registrar, so I should have this information ready for everyone next week.

Mitch Piper, Board of Directors Chair

Congratulations to Rob Gamble, the new Chair of the Board of Directors and to Duncan Peterson, who will be the new Vice-Chair of the AMS Board. Thank you very much for such a fantastic year.

Doug Johnson, Student Senate Caucus Chair

Congratulations to Eril Berkok, the new Student Senate Caucus Chair.
Congratulations to the Vice-Chair, Afraj Gill.

Nick Francis, Rector

This is luckily not my last report. I have learned a ton from Assembly this year and I look forward to working with everyone next year as well. Thank you to everyone who sat on the Tricolour Awards Committee. This was an extremely rewarding process. Congratulations to Erin Smith, who is in Law here at Queen's. She did a lot of equity work in the Law School this past year. If you'd like to learn more about her, check out the website.

The AMS Executive released their op-ed this past week. Thank you all for sharing it with friends and constituents. Whether you agree or disagree, it is important to spread this message. If you have questions, concerns, or would like to figure out how to move forward with this, come speak with me about it!

Fall Reading Week – hopefully we will have something prepared to discuss this in fall of next year.

Lauren Long, Undergraduate Student Trustee

It is worthwhile to know that International Tuition and Domestic Tuition are rising at the same rate. After a lot of investigation into what happened with the BFA Program, we are looking at the Dual-Degree Program Suspension. If you know students who are disappointed with the suspension of this, please direct them to the Second-Degree Program that exists. I've enjoyed getting to know you all this year, so thank you for a great year!

Kieran Slobodin, Vice-President of University Affairs

Apologies for being late to Assembly. We are in the final stretch of the year, and we are in the clean-up phase. We are doing the last few things in policy.

Mira Dineen and myself have been working together in preparing for OUSA next year. Mira will be bringing forth amendments for policy changes to the Assembly Committee on External Alignment. We would like to open it up to those who do not work for the AMS already.

Statements by Members

David Sinkinson, Municipal Affairs Commissioner

Sign up for Summer House Check online. SMART is coming along really well. We have ordered all of the equipment that we need. We are up to 17 properties now. It has been great, and I am really excited to see where it goes next year.

T.K. Pritchard, Social Issues Commissioner

I am sorry that I did not submit a report. I added two motions in preparation for the two prizes that we shall be giving. If you would like to nominate anyone, you can contact me, or grab a form from the AMS Website.

I would like to thank Kieran for everything that he has done this year. I think you deserve recognition for all of the work that you have done.

Adam Dismine, Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainability

The bike shop would be more than happy to take any old bikes off your hands at the end of this year.

Derrick Dodgson, Member at Large

I would like to speak to what Kieran said regarding the Committee on External Alignment. Neither Kieran nor Mira should be chairing the committee, given that they both also sit on OUSA.

Question Period

Lauren Long, Undergraduate Student Trustee

Thank you to the AMS Executive for the Op-Ed that they wrote. It brought a great amount of attention to a lot of issues. I was wondering if you have any response regarding how dinner went with the Principal, Provost, and Dean of Student Affairs?

Morgan Campbell, AMS President

We had a 45-minute discussion about the Op-Ed. There was concern on the University Side that there had not been enough heads up regarding our frustrations. The Op-Ed was not just for them. This was a trend that we have been seeing for a number of years. The overall movement of the University to this type of Committee Structure has been prevalent for the past few years.

We have been communicating with alumni as well, who have felt strongly in favour of the Op-Ed.

Tuba Chisti, MCRC President

Do you have any idea what feedback the Administration has been getting regarding the Op-Ed?

Morgan Campbell, AMS President

Daniel did mention that he has been questioned quite a bit on Twitter, and that is why he wrote the blog post. University Council will probably see this discussed. This will lead to hesitancy on the University side, but hopefully it will lead to some good discussion on these committees. Hopefully we will be able to have a frank discussion about things in the future.

Tuba Chisti, MCRC President

Jeff, you mentioned Squash POS in your report, what is that?

Jeff Heenan, Retail Services Director

Squash has hindered the ability of Tricolour Outlet to grow. It is our current POS system, but hopefully we will replace it in the near future.

Tuba Chisti, MCRC President

Are we forming a committee like the Committee on Mental Health for the summer?

Morgan Campbell, AMS President

We will not be forming this committee. The University has already begun work on this, and what will be most efficient is to use AMS Staff Resources. The VPUA and Academic Affairs Commissioner will work on this together.

Sarah Witiuk, Member at Large

Why does the Campus Activities Commissioner only host a set number of events rather than facilitating many events every year?

Steve Pariser, Campus Activities Commissioner

This year, I have wanted to address this. Claire Casher has sat down and expanded upon what I wanted to do. We have been working on an event form for sanctioning events on campus. The CAC can and should be helping out many other students as well. Claire will working on improving this next year!

Kieran Slobodin, VPUA

Claire Casher is the Incoming Campus Activities Commissioner for those of you who do not know.

Sarah Witiuk, Member at Large

Thank you to the Rector for creating a Facebook Group for the Summer! How do you plan on making the group more accessible? Right now it is closed.

Nick Francis, Rector

I didn't even think about this group not being open to everyone. I thought it would be a great idea, so I'll make it an open group. The opportunities are limitless, so I'm extremely excited. I encourage any of you here for the next couple of years to stay

here for the summer. Meet Kingston Residents in the summer! Thanks for the question!

Business Arising from the Minutes

Michael Scott, ASUS Rep to the AMS

Motion 3

We talked last Assembly about changing the constitution for Student Fees.

Debate on the Motion.

Tuba Chisti, MCRC President

We had this problem last year. We had a motion at the AGM that the AMS purchase a bouncy castle. This was not a fee specific motion, but how would we deal with something like that in the future?

Steve Pariser, Campus Activities Commissioner

Wesam Aleyadeh brought this up last year to point out the problems with AGM. This was up on the AGM motion list to make a point.

Morgan Campbell, AMS President

We have two ways of prohibiting stuff like that. If a motion like this was passed, we would have to pass a corresponding line item in the budget as well. If this was deemed to not be a priority by AMS Assembly, we would not be funding it.

How do we protect ourselves from these things? We passed a constitutional amendment last year that ensures that all motions are screened by a committee. They would only be excluded if there were legal issues or if they were against constitution.

Tuba Chisti, MCRC President

Does this mean that this Bouncy Castle motion would have be screened out?

Morgan Campbell, AMS President

It could be, depending upon the interpretation of this policy.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Let's move to vote.

Motion Carries.

Michael Scott, ASUS Rep to the AMS

Motion 4

Next motion regarding changes to the Constitution. Again, we discussed previously.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Move to vote.

Motion Carries.

Mitch Piper, Board of Directors Chair

Can we open the agenda to move a motion higher up on the agenda?

I'd like to motion to open the agenda and move motions 11 and 12 to the top of the agenda and to omnibus them.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Now to vote.

Motion Carries.

Motion to close the agenda.

Motion Carries.

Catherine Wright, AAC Policy Deputy

Motion 5

Virtualization and Co-op: We would like to add pieces of policy to policy manual 3. We tried to take in all of your feedback, and we would be happy to take any questions after this as well.

Presentation on Virtualization with recommendations to be given by AMS Assembly.

Lauren Long, Undergraduate Student Trustee

I have a number of amendments to make to the policy.

Kathryn Wizinsky, VP Commerce Society

Is there a set lecture capture system to be used or is it just a recommendation to use a system?

Catherine Wright, AAC Policy Deputy

Changes to the policy to be made are friendly. I would like to close debate and thank you very much for considering this.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Now to vote on this.

Motion Carries.

We will proceed now proceed on omnibus Numbers 11 and 12. Ratifications of Head Student Constable and Student Constable Assistant Manager.

Motions 11 and 12.

Three questions to be given to the candidates.

Now to vote on the ratification of these two.

Ratified. Motion Carries.

Now we will move back to the presentation about cooperative education.

Catherine Wright, AAC Policy Deputy

Motion 6

Presentation on the use of cooperative education.

Leo Erlichman, ASUS Rep to the AMS

I don't agree with the idea of 4-month cooperative education. Having spoken with Daniel Basilio, who did a full year coop program, I don't agree with 4 month coop. If you want a coop program, you could go to another university.

Kieran Slobodin, VPUA

The recommendation is really only to investigate the introduction of this program, not necessarily to do so. What should we consider when the program is being considered by the university?

Sarah Witiuk, Member at Large

I have a question regarding the difference between coop and internship. I want to better understand the difference between these two programs.

Catherine Wright, AAC Policy Deputy

Through our research, we have found that the implementation of these programs has been successful at other Universities.

Kelsey Patterson, Commerce Society President

I was wondering about the last point regarding targeted financial support. What is the target and where would it come from?

Morgan Campbell, AMS President

We do not fund anything that the university is responsible for at all. The faculty would have to fund this. Obviously the introduction of a co-op program would be a long-term project. This policy would be used to aid the AMS in lobbying the University in the long-term.

Rico Garcia, ASUS President

I would like clarification on how this policy will be used.

Kieran Slobodin, VPUA

We use policy manual 3 to guide us in any way possible. This is a guiding document for us more than anything, and any emphasis that should be drawn through it can be suggested by anyone.

Leo Erlichman, ASUS Rep to the AMS

I am not saying that a 4-month internship would not be credible. I would like to place an amendment that would place a focus upon longer internships (12 to 16 months) rather than the shorter ones.

Catherine Wright, AAC Policy Deputy

I would consider that an unfriendly amendment.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

We will vote, but you will each have one minute to speak on this.

Leo Erlichman, ASUS Rep to the AMS

I think that Queen's should be focusing upon longer internships rather than shorter ones. University should not be altering itself to look like other Universities.

Catherine Wright, AAC Policy Deputy

We would be better representing all students if we were exploring all options, including the 4-month option.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Now to vote.

Motion made by Member Erlichman fails.

Colleen McLaughlin, Nursing Society VP

The school of Nursing already has a 4-month internship, and not all faculties could afford to have 8 to 12 month internships.

Leo Erlichman, ASUS Rep to the AMS

Point of Information. I don't think we should be changing ourselves to look like other schools. There is a reason why people come to Queen's, and if people don't like this school, go to another one.

Colleen McLaughlin, Nursing Society VP

This is the addition of more opportunities for students if they would like to utilize them, but they are obviously not mandatory.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Voting on the motion.

Motion Carries.

Moving on to the approval of the ORT Budget.

Steve Pariser, Campus Activities Commissioner

Motion 7

Unlike past years, we are doing Orientation budgets in advance to be approved by Assembly. We are giving Assembly the level of choice and power that it should have.

Dmitri Tchebotarev, ORT Coordinator

I won't go through this budget item by item. I will go through 4 items that are changing item by item. *Going through important pieces of the budget.*

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Floor is now open to questions.

Tuba Chisti, MCRC President

Why are you asking for more money and can you show us where money is being cut back?

Dmitri Tchebotarev, ORT Coordinator

Last year they had a surplus. My budget has been planned based upon the actuals from last year.

David Sinkinson, Municipal Affairs Commissioner

Do faculty societies also host training?

Dmitri Tchebotarev, ORT Coordinator

After our training, faculty societies can do as they wish with their leaders.

Tuba Chisti, MCRC President

I am concerned that you are budgeting for such a small surplus.

Dmitri Tchebotarev, ORT Coordinator

I have been guided through this process to budget to zero as much as possible.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Voting to approve the budget.

Motion Carries.

Steve Pariser, Campus Activities Commissioner

Motion 8

This year, we did the budgeting process with incoming and outgoing CAC.

Katherine, FYNIRS

Last year, they over-projected the number of Frosh by a ton. We are hoping for growth this year. We planned for a total of 100 frosh for this coming year, but would break even at 75 frosh. *Presentation on the Budget.*

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Debate will now open on the motion.

Bren Piper, Engineering Society Rep to the AMS

Why were assembly members not sent the budgets in advance?

Kieran Slobodin, VPUA

I will take ownership of this immediately. Unfortunately we had not been able to send them all out in advance. That is why we are doing a more serious presentation on this.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Voting on the motion to approve the budget.

Motion carries.

Steve Pariser, Campus Activities Commissioner

Motion 9

I will be presenting the budget for NEWTS week. We have increased the budget by \$1000, because there are events after the week itself that are run by this committee. *Presentation on the budget.*

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Proceed to voting on this motion.

Motion Carries.

Move onto next motion by Kieran and Ashley.

Kieran Slobodin, VPUA

Motion 12

You are seeing a piece of policy that was presented to assembly last year. It is policy regarding student fee bursaries for incoming students. We are going to strike the exclusion of AMS salaried or part-time staff not being able to apply.

We have changed the committee structure as well. The new committee membership would be VPUA, SIC, and either Information Officer or someone from Student Awards.

This is mainly a rewrite of the committee and providing an update to assembly about how many members received it. We are open to any feedback or suggestions.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

This is now open to discussion.

T.K. Pritchard, Social Issues Commissioner

I agree with this, but I'm not sure why you wanted to give VPUA unilateral decision-making on the committee.

Kieran Slobodin, VPUA

I am happy to change this to be vote by consensus.

Tuba Chisti, MCRC President

Have you already spoken with the registrar about this? Would the Student Awards office be okay with this?

Kieran Slobodin, VPUA

My predecessor's reasoning for putting this in place is that the fee slate was relatively daunting for many students.

T.K. Pritchard, Social Issues Commissioner

Did you consider putting another member of the Executive on the committee?

Kieran Slobodin, VPUA

We can certainly add more people, but perhaps adding another Executive would not be the best. Perhaps we should add the Academic Affairs Commissioner on?

T.K. Pritchard, Social Issues Commissioner

I will motion to amend the part about membership to include the Academic Affairs Commissioner onto the committee. The amendment will also remove the portion that states that the VPUA will have unilateral authority.

Tuba Chisti, MCRC President

I don't think that the third person should be the Academic Affairs Commissioner. Why is that?

Kieran Slobodin, VPUA

The committee is trying to establish reasoning based upon financial need. There should be differing enough perspective to determine whether someone is truly in financial need or not. The Academic Affairs Commissioner is well aware of what goes into this decision making process.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Ending debate on the motion. Now we move to vote.

Motion Carries.

Now moving on to Commissioner Pritchard's motions.

T.K. Pritchard, Social Issues Commissioner

Motion 13

Selecting two members of assembly to sit on the Sutherland Prize Committee.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Looking for nominations for the committee members.

Nominated: Tuba Chisti, Kalem Boomhauer

Three questions for the candidates.

Voting on the motion:

Motion carries. Committee members elected.

T.K. Pritchard, Social Issues Commissioner

Motion 14

Selecting two members of assembly to sit on the Anti-Oppression Award Committee.
This is for faculty.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Looking for nominations.

Nominated: Kalem Boomhauer, Nick Francis

Three questions for the candidates.

Voting on the motion:

Motion carries. Committee members elected.

Discussion Period

Dan Sczepanek, Media Services Director

I would like Assembly to recognize the amazing contributions that Gabe King has made to the Journal over the past 28 years.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

We will now move into closed session.

Motion to move into closed session.

Motion carries.

Closed Session

Stephen Pariser, Campus Activities Commissioner

One thing that has come up at SOARB is the inclusion of alcohol in Orientation Week. There is nothing formal keeping alcohol out of Orientation Week. NEWTs week has a very unique circumstance. Almost all students are of legal age to drink in NEWTs week. The Dean of Student Affairs can technically say that she will not allow us to have alcohol present during the week.

There is drinking culture existent in the countries that many international students are coming from. The approach that Student Affairs is taking is a very knee-jerk reaction that asks students to clean up after. There has been the controversial banning of alcohol in residence this past year. Both the JDUC and Harkness Hall were in fact exempt from this ban.

My closing thoughts are, what is your opinion about having access to alcohol during Orientation Week? Does providing alcohol create an uncomfortable environment for anyone?

Lisa Acchione, MCRC VP Discipline

Overseeing the ban of alcohol in residence this year and next year. I strongly agree with it, because most people in first year are not of age. Residence is a very different environment,

Stephen Pariser, Campus Activities Commissioner

We do not make any money off of students drinking. We do not have any material gain from having a student choosing to drink. When we removed alcohol from the week last time, we saw a decrease in enrolment in the week by 150 people. Those individuals may decide to go elsewhere in Kingston.

Nick Francis, Rector

If you are of age, you should be allowed to drink. What are the implications to NEWTs Frosh Week?

Stephen Pariser, Campus Activities Commissioner

This would not change anything. This would keep the Orientation Week the same as it has been in the past.

Gracie Goad, Hospitality & Safety Services Director

Even if we vote and motion on this, there is still policy that must be discussed at alcohol working group. This will shape the way that we decide to speak at alcohol working group.

Leo Erlichman, ASUS Rep to the AMS

Students should have the option to drink if they are of age. It is the right of these students to do so, and we are alienating students from our community extremely quickly. We are further alienating International Students by doing this.

Alex Rotman, ASUS Rep to the AMS

This is worrisome if enrolment in the week is declining. If people are of age when they come here, and have been drinking at home, it is a turnoff to have a Frosh Week treat you like you are underage again. We don't want to alienate people and treat them like they are underage.

Dmitri Tchebotarev, ORT Coordinator

Lisa spoke about the alcohol ban in Residence. 93% of students are underage in first year residence. I would be curious to see what that number would be in Harkness Hall. All of these people have at least one year of prior University experience.

James Simpson, Aesculapian Society President

There were no ill effects in the use of alcohol during Medical School Orientation Week. How much of the NEWTs week class of age? If we are excluding many people, then perhaps we should think about this. If not, I don't see a problem with having alcohol.

Stephen Pariser, Campus Activities Commissioner

We have had years during which there are no students who are underage.

Dmitri Tchebotarev, ORT Coordinator

I checked with places from last year. People with x's on their hands would be able to participate to the same capacity as others except that they could not drink.

Nick Francis, Rector

Where did this come from? What is the reasoning behind it?

Kieran Slobodin, VPUA

This is mainly a SOARB discussion. The point of non-alcohol is to give students the chance to make relationships without the involvement of alcohol. We can make the argument that these people coming into NEWTs week would have already made their decisions about drinking. However, we don't want students not of age to feel left out.

Rico Garcia, ASUS President

I am currently the co-chair of SOARB. We realized that SOARB has never created policy or documents regarding alcohol during the week. We decided at SOARB that it was not within our purview to allow for a ban to take place. There needs to be something that comes out of this discussion in the way of a motion. We should be able to approach student affairs and present something regarding this. For James Simpson, what approval process is there in place for Orientation?

James Simpson, Aesculapian Society President

Not positive, but it should pass through the President and then on to the Dean of Health Studies.

Stephen Pariser, Campus Activities Commissioner

I would like to raise a motion – that specifies NEWTs Orientation Week and says that it is okay to have the sale of alcohol during Orientation Week. However, we do not endorse underage drinking.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Move on to President Chisti's closed session.

Tuba Chisti, MCRC President

I would like to give a brief overview about Non-Academic Discipline in MCRC. Level 1 issues are dealt with solely by students. Level 2 issues are done by students and the administration. Level 3 is dealt with by the administration solely. In the proposed system, students would not be hired by MCRC, but by Residence Life. 90% of the current cases are dealt with by students. Level 1s take about a week to process fully.

The draft policy is of obvious concern. We can not fight this alone, and we all recognize that. This is a statement to inform you of what is going on in MCRC. You can always contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. Thank you to everyone for the help you are giving to me already on this, and hopefully we can come to a decision that will benefit students most.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Discussion on the topic now.

James Simpson, Aesculapian Society President

What can the AMS do to aid MCRC?

Tuba Chisti, MCRC President

MCRC is looking at how to work on this on our own, but if we also had others working together, it would be greatly helpful. We are looking into ways to work under the AMS as a possibility.

Leo Erlichman, ASUS Rep to the AMS

If the process will become guilty until proven innocent, then people will be appealing far more. The appeal process right now is kind of annoying.

Tuba Chisti, MCRC President

There are no students involved in the appeals process right now.

Rico Garcia, ASUS President

I'd like to respond to James' question about what this body can do. I have been talking to a few administrators and there are things that have truly resounded with them. Perhaps we should all be speaking in our own capacity with administrators, not just as a body.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Motion to open the agenda.

Motion carries.

Motion to add a motion in closed session.

Motion carries.

Motion to close the agenda.

Motion carries.

Proceeding into closed session motion.

Stephen Pariser, Campus Activities Commissioner

Motion has not changed. I would like to motion as we had previously discussed regarding alcohol in NEWTs Orientation Week.

Scott Mason, AMS Speaker

Any further discussion? Vote on the motion.

Motion Carries.

Assembly is adjourned.