

***AMS Assembly minutes - Thursday, February 14th, 2013***  
***Wallace Hall in John Deutsch University Centre***

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*\*letters and numbers beside motions are direct reference to those presented in the agenda*

*\*assembly commenced at 7:05 pm*

**Speaker Cailleigh Simpson** (hereafter referred to as **Speaker**): Welcoming and opening remarks. Happy Valentine's Day!

### **1. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion(1) that AMS Assembly approve the agenda for the Assembly meeting of February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013.**

Moved by Commissioner of Internal Affairs Liam Faught

Seconded by Vice-President of University Affairs Mira Dineen

**Speaker:** Any changes to the agenda?

**Engineering Society Representative Douglas Haney:** Due to some time constraints, I would like to move my motion up the agenda while I'm still here.

**Motion to move n. Motion(17) before g. Motion(10).**

*Motion carries.*

**CIA Faught:** Motions(7,8, and 9) should read '2013-2014' instead of '2012-2013' year.

*Motion carries.*

*Motion(1) carries.*

### **2. Approval of Minutes of the meeting of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013**

**Motion(2) that AMS Assembly approve the minutes for the Assembly meeting of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013.**

Moved by CIA Faught

Seconded by VP of UA Dineen

**Speaker:** Any changes to the minutes?

**MCRC President Tuba Chishti:** It says somewhere that it reads Laura Long instead of Lauren Long.

*Motion(2) carries. Abstentions: Undergraduate Student Trustee Lauren Long*

### **3. Speaker's Business**

*\*none presented*

### **4. Guest Speaker**

*\*none presented*

### **5. President's Report**

**AMS President Doug Johnson:** Regarding the principals' renewal, please read what is provided in the link but we'll engage in discussion more after reading week. Tonight we're going to be voting on the student fee protocol which we talked about at city hall back in October.

*\*refer to report for full details*

### **6. Vice President's Report**

**a. Vice-President of Operations Tristan Lee:** I have nothing to add but any questions are welcome.

**b. Vice-President of University Affairs Mira Dineen:** I also have nothing to add to my report.

*\*refer to reports for full details*

### **7. Board of Director's Report**

**Motion to allow reports that were not submitted to be presented to assembly.**

**Motion to omnibus to allow Chairman Rob Gamble and Chairman Eril Berkok's reports to be presented.**

*Omnibus carries.*

*Motion carries.*

**Chairman Rob Gamble:** Apologies for not submitting a written report. A lot of our communities are going through major projects and continuing to operate. Board did approve the addition of SMART, the retail services director's portfolio, and we voted on a couple of bylaw changes that will come back to the Corporate General Meeting in March.

## **8. Student Senator's Report**

**Chairman Eril Berkok:** The enrolment plan of 2013-2015 is targeted for the April Senate meeting. Unfortunately, contrary to what the Provost said in fall term of Senate, the long term enrolment plan beyond 2015, which includes more than just 1<sup>st</sup> year residence operations, is an ongoing process. Town hall for Academic Planning Task Force will be held on March 7<sup>th</sup>. Next month at the March Senate, we'll be asking for a reaffirmation of AMS constitutional changes regarding the sorority and fraternities. For the past year, SCAD(Senate Committee on Academic Development) has been working on a policy regarding suspension of admission to programs. A motion was passed to force all suspension of all programs to come through senate until that policy has been reached. Big congratulations to CESA and Education for their GPA issue is finally fixed. Undergraduate students are strongly opposed mandatory May senate meeting and this is now optional, but still up to discretion of the principal.

## **9. Rector's Report**

**Rector Nick Francis:** Tomorrow is the deadline to submit comments regarding the principal's review for renewal. A second term would be five more years after the next. Doug and I sit on that committee and we really need to have student feedback fitted into that discussion. Please write something please because that would be incredible, and if there is any responsibility you have this year, this would be it because it's a historical thing. You are very fortunate to be in these seats, have these positions and have a heavily weighted voice.

*\*refer to report for full details*

## **10. Student Trustee's Report**

**Undergraduate Student Trustee Lauren Long:** Regarding the policy on suspension of programs, I sit on SCAD and helped draft that policy and it's been a year now. We've finalized and submitted it to Senate, and it should come up next meeting.

*\*refer to report for full details*

## **11. Statements by Members**

**ASUS Internal Affairs Commissioner Zaeem Anwar, proxy for ASUS President John Whittaker:** I would like to wish everyone a Happy Valentine's Day especially CESA representative Olivia Chan.

**Concurrent Education Students Association President Philip Lloyd:** We had to go through a lot of bureaucratic red tape. There was an ASUS and CESA reception, with all the representatives together to discuss their roles and initiatives. It was well attended but not mandatory and there were lots of engaging discussion and we hope it continues to grow strong, along with other faculties.

**Commissioner of Environment and Sustainability Ty Greene:** Greenfest will be going on from March 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>, to celebrate sustainability on campus. The website is running and the full schedule of events posted soon.

**President Chishti:** All the fines are donated to local groups, in Kingston or Queen's. If anyone has an idea of any groups that qualify please tell them to fill out an application the on MCRC website.

**Social Issues Commissioner Katie Conway:** Yesterday we received news from the Human Rights Equity office about the recipient of the Human Rights Initiatives award.

**Academic Affairs Commissioner Isabelle Duchaine:** I forgot to submit my report so if you have any questions, swing by my office tomorrow morning as I will still be on campus.

**ASUS Representative to the AMS Daniel Basilio:** It's nice to see condom dispensers in the washrooms of JDUC. Most of them are empty so they are already working.

## **12. Question Period**

*\*none presented*

## **13. Business Arising from the Minutes**

**a. Motion(3) that AMS Assembly approve the second reading of the amendments to AMS Constitution Section 5.01.01 (iii), as seen in Appendix G from the Assembly Agenda of January 31st, 2013.**

Moved by MCRC President Tuba Chishti

Seconded by President Matt Sheculski

**President Chishti:** This is to ensure that we have the same number of seats on AMS assembly.

*Motion(3) carries.*

## **14. New Business**

**Motion to omnibus a. Motion(4) through f. Motion(9).**

Moved by ASUS Representative to the AMS Alexander Prescott

Seconded by ASUS Representative to the AMS Daniel Basilio

*Motion carries.*

**a. Motion(4) that the AMS Assembly ratify Allison Williams as the Academic Affairs Commissioner for the 2013-2014 year.**

Moved by TK Pritchard

Seconded by Student Senate Caucus Chair Eril Berkok

**b. Motion(5) that the AMS Assembly ratify Gareth Savage as the Campus Activities Commissioner for the 2013-2014 year.**

Moved by TK Pritchard

Seconded by Student Senate Caucus Chair Eril Berkok

**c. Motion(6) that the AMS Assembly ratify Colin Robinson as the Environment and Sustainability Commissioner for the 2013-2014 year.**

Moved by TK Pritchard

Seconded by Student Senate Caucus Chair Eril Berkok

**d. Motion(7) that the AMS Assembly ratify Kristen Olver as the Commissioner of Internal Affairs for the 2013-2014 year.**

Moved by TK Pritchard

Seconded by Student Senate Caucus Chair Eril Berkok

**e. Motion(8) that the AMS Assembly ratify Catherine Wright as the Municipal Affairs Commissioner for the 2013-2014 year.**

Moved by TK Pritchard

Seconded by Student Senate Caucus Chair Eril Berkok

**f. Motion(9) that the AMS Assembly ratify Michelle Williams as the Social Issues Commissioner for the 2013-2014 year.**

Moved by TK Pritchard

Seconded by Student Senate Caucus Chair Eril Berkok

**T.K. Pritchard:** Standing before you are our six new commissioners that I hope you will ratify. I have utmost confidence in them and they have excelled in their proposals and interviews. They will continue to take the AMS in a great direction. They are innovative, creative and passionate. They have only held these incoming titles for five days and I'm excited to have them on my team.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Basilio:** What is biggest and best idea for your commission?

**Allison Williams:** Working with Team BGP to implement blue lights into the university district.

**Catherine Wright:** Safety features.

**Kristen Olver:** Making sure NAD(Non-Academic Discipline) stays pure run.

**Colin Robinson:** Education and new deputy positions.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Prescott:** What will be the largest challenge?

**Colin Robinson:** Collaboration and making it easy for people to make a first step.

**Allison Williams:** Enrolment increase.

**Gareth Savage:** Maintaining the mandate of the Campus Activities Commission.

**Kristen Olver:** Keeping non-academic discipline pure run.

**Catherine Wright:** Revival of homecoming.

**Michelle Williams:** Promoting anti-oppression and equity issues.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Lively:** What is your greatest strength and weakness as a manager and as a leader?

**Michelle Williams:** Paying attention to my chairs and deputies. I forget to pay attention to my own needs.

**Catherine Wright:** Self care and getting sleep. There will be lots of hours into this position. My ability to lead a team and respect peoples' different strengths.

**Kristen Olver:** Interpersonal skills. Personal health, I like to take a lot on at once.

**Gareth Savage:** I have an approachable and friendly face. I start more projects than I can handle.

**Allison Williams:** Autonomy

**Colin Robinson:** I commit to too many diff things, focus on pairing down and energy. I hope to inspire the team that I assemble.

**Prescott:** I commend the hiring team on their great job. They look like a group of capable people that can lead our organization in the right direction the next year.

**T.K. Pritchard:** They're already making me proud. They will be strong contributors on council.

*Omnibus(1) carries.*

**n. Motion(10) that AMS Assembly agree to a start time of 6:00 PM for all future AMS Assemblies. In special cases where a mandatory AMS meeting, such as a Corporate General Meeting, must occur prior to Assembly, the earlier meeting shall start at 6:00 PM, and Assembly shall follow immediately afterwards.**

Moved by EngSoc Representative Douglas Haney

Seconded by EngSoc President Taylor Wheeler

**EngSoc Rep Haney:** AMS assembly does run a little long some time. This is so that we stay more refreshed throughout the night. People who have class at 5:30 pm can still have time to grab dinner. A debate at midnight is better than at 1 am.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Prescott:** I like the idea but the only concern is the time limit. When we come to the end, it would be nice to continue. We should extend the time limit so we can stay longer.

**CIA Faught:** This is not a policy amendment, just a directive for the rest of the year. Perhaps it could influence next year. We have three more assemblies, along with the AGM(Annual General Meeting) and the CGM(Corporate General Meeting) and that starts at 5pm.

**Haney:** I would like to amend it to read ‘at or before 6:00 pm’.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Basilio:** I have zero classes on Thursdays. ASUS caucus meets before AMS assembly; we have ten minutes to run. If the speaker chose to institute a formal dress code, that hour and a half gives us time to change and make food. Our efforts should make assembly more efficient instead of just moving back timeline.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Alex Rotman:** Does this change the duration of assembly? Would it move forward or stay the same?

**Faught:** Assembly goes for four hours, and then five half-hour extensions, latest goes to 1:30 am. Then this would move it to 12:30 am.

**Haney:** EngSoc Council starts at 5:45 pm. You can make the meal the night before, and pack your formal clothes with you.

**Prescott:** We can also make the end time 1:30 am.

**Haney:** Changing it would require us to amend policy.

**Academic Affairs Commissioner Isabelle Duchaine:** There are a few number of students that have class 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm; it’s a small percentage of the Queen’s population.

**CESA President Lloyd:** As it goes on, it’s less effective. We meet with caucus beforehand and need time to converse with our representatives.

**MCRC President Chishti:** That one and a half hour is important for preparation. I had a lot of meetings before hand too.

**Haney:** EngSoc also has a meet before assembly. A half hour meeting does take ample time to go over everything. That extra time makes me feel relaxed and lose concentration and go out of my mental mind frame. This would propel me to just hammer through.

**AMS President Doug Johnson:** How about 6:30 pm since 7 pm is too late and 6 pm is too early. People don’t like change but maybe we can try it. I propose it to read 6:30 pm instead of 6pm.

**Haney:** First meeting at 6:30 or before.

*Motion(10) carries.*

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**g. Motion(11) that the AMS Assembly approve an increase in the CFRC fee (mandatory) from \$5.03 to \$7.50, an increase of \$2.47, subject to confirmation at the Annual General Meeting.**

Moved by Neven Lochhead

Seconded by Rico Garcia

**Speaker:** Ten minutes allotted for speaking.

**Neven Lochhead:** I will be sharing speaking rights with Rico Garcia and Lisa Aalders.

**Rico Garcia:** A two-thirds vote is needed for Senate to ratify it at the AGM. CFRC has a history and it means a lot to the alumni, community, and students. A lot of students volunteer at the station and it is a unique Queen's experience.

**Lisa Aalders:** Given that we have no staple revenue, CFRC may come bankrupt. We have the lowest level of student funding in Canada given that the national average is \$10.70. York University and the University of Alberta have less but their student population is two to three times that of Queen's. We are a non-commercial service and we make only some money for advertising. Most come from fundraising and donations; another source of revenue is grants but those can't make up for operation costs. We have a contingency plan of staff cuts as of May 1<sup>st</sup>. This would mostly affect sports broadcasting because people actually phone in and call us about it.

**Garcia:** CFRC is the oldest campus broadcaster in the world. Students volunteer there learn about journalism, music and meet people who think alike, and develop careers. The Tragically Hip met on campus. The music scene that Kingston has is amazing given our size of our town and CFRC supports local talents.

**Speaker:** We will now be opening debate on the motion.

**CIA Faught:** There is some confusion about how student fees are altered or established via an AGM. Constitution acknowledges two methods: Either by referendum of student body or by two-thirds vote by assembly subject to confirmation at AGM. We are not placing an agenda on the AGM but debating the merits of the motion itself. We have forty-two voting members present so we need twenty-eight voting in favour to pass.

**Vice-President of Operations Tristan Lee:** This is just a fee increase and if the motion fails, it will maintain at the current price.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Prescott:** It's important to clarify that this increase would raise approximately \$35000. I think it's rather absurd to think that students will agree. CFRC has run massive deficits throughout the year; I think we should see that contingency plan and force their hand. We would be awarding and rewarding poor financial stewardship, a fee on AMS members



that cannot opt-out of. We would be automatically giving them a gift of \$35000 for being inept and an incompetent service. It's important that we recognize that this is a slap in the face for all AMS members. They should go to the entire AMS membership, not just the forty-two of us sitting here today, or the referendum as it should have. But I bet the students wouldn't have voted for it to pass if they knew the numbers behinds this organization. They wouldn't employ that contingency plan should they get this funding. It's a lazy organization and deserves not to get a fee increase.

**Aalders:** There are special circumstances that our campus radio station faces. The student fee would make us financially stable and we're trying to be accountable right now. We are always open to student concern to our financing and we are significantly under that average. In January we were running our funding drive and that conflicted with the referendum.

**Garcia:** The contingency plan affects our staff, students, and volunteers. We want to focus on the experience overall and other sources of revenue.

**Media Services Director Terra Arnone:** It's been a year ago since CFRC asked to raise the student fee. I commend their efforts and hurdles that they've gone through.

**President Lloyd:** Focus on the business sense. Salaries can decrease, should it be passed and even more so if the fee doesn't pass. You don't need to cut staff if you cut salary.

**Aalders:** In the contingency, their positions are amalgamated and we are not increasing salaries just to be clear. It's almost near minimum wage.

**Lloyd:** A lot of leadership positions are unpaid and I don't think their job performance would be affected.

**Garcia:** CFRC is a service, which runs twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, for three-hundred sixty-five days of the year. We cannot just run on volunteers because it's a service to the community.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Lively:** That budget at CGM is focused on increases. I've heard testimony here and before about the value of the experience and a great opportunity. I don't think the salary in tens of thousands per year is appropriate and there is room for cutting those. It's troubling to see that they are only willing to cut their salaries if they don't get the increase. This decision should not fall contingent on the twenty-eight members and the fourteen thousand students to pay an extra \$2.50 because at most, only two hundred students have told them to. I'm sure that your funding is important and should have taken time to make sure to get that \$2.50 on the referendum. If this change has to be made it should be brought to referendum.

**Prescott:** The service does provide a niche experience, but after years of deficit of \$20000 year after year. There is nothing else to call it besides poor financial. I understand the service was busy during January but if the funding was important, it should have been on the referendum. It's easiest and expedient to do it here tonight because the students probably wouldn't approve. They

are trying to take the easy way out instead of actually doing their proper job of keeping their books in order. This issue should be taken to the people.

**Garcia:** You are elected by your constituents to act and AMS used the system to increase fee for the Student Constables. It is a democratic process and we are preparing dialogue as a way to address the issue. It's not an easy job and we are here to discuss it and have you represent your students.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Basilio:** I'd like to hear from the corporate side and the Chairman of the Board.

**Chairman Gamble:** CFRC won't be a corporate service of the AMS so in terms on my opinion, it's not really an AMS concern per se.

**Aalders:** Ninety-nine percent of the content we produce is by volunteers who are not paid. We just need staff to run and operate things.

**Member at Large Owen:** There are some allegations of laziness and those are totally unwarranted. Please put yourself in CFRC's shoes and see it is a truly valuable service.

**President Chishti:** We've seen enough cases that CFRC does benefit those involved.

**Aalders:** CFRC is a public service that contributes to the wellness of the campus and the community. Even if you don't listen maybe your organization received a PSA or notice from us to let people know about your events.

**Nursing Students Society President Jessica Searle:** I love radio; it's my summer job and I get paid way less than minimum wage. I do it for the experience and not the money. Those people who want to be there do it regardless of the money. It's still valuable on the resume but I'm still concerned with not cutting salary before asking for a student fee. How much have you been looking extensively outside Queen's such as the community?

**Aalders:** That's what the funding drive is all about. It's still important to make a living because it's a full time gig.

**Prescott:** Never once in this assembly did we mention that it should run for free. The fee as of now is sufficient and they should take better steps to fix the financial issue. Whether we pass it or not, CRFC will not disappear overnight, continue as a status quo, break off AMS, and continue to get a fee from students. Structural deficits should not be rewarded with more revenue. To ramrod it through a stacked AGM is immoral. The Student Constables did it last year, and I was the only one who voted against that increase. Immoral to use AGM as a conduit as it is a macrocosm.

**Director Arnone:** Triennial review will occur in 2017 if this fee passes.

**VP of Ops Lee:** I've taken a very critical look at the services and finances. In my belief of the AMS' mandate, imposing more fees on students should be our last resort to ensure services to be sustainable. I don't think I can endorse this fee increase. I see the value in CFRC and it will continue to operate even without this increase.

**CESA Representative Olivia Chan:** Maybe push the limit of advertisements per hour to raise more revenue?

**Garcia:** We can't just increase it because we are restricted by laws. If we do get the increase, it doesn't mean there will be no changes, and we'll be looking at cutting expenses and explaining this service to the students.

**EngSoc Rep Haney:** The situations are completely different now and this is a good chance to balance the books. We went through a lot of controversial motions ourselves before and AMS was afraid to go through the referendum too.

**Motion to extend debate on this motion.**

Moved by ASUS Rep to AMS Basilio

Seconded by ASUS Rep to AMS Prescott

*Motion carries.*

**President Sheculski:** It's just a 'yes' or 'no' in referendum and there is no justification behind it. At the AGM they can talk and discuss about it and address questions. The average student has not received adequate information about it. CFRC should be allowed to address this increase at AGM and students who actually care can come as it is part of their duty. I don't see the problems and merits of it going to the AGM.

**Proxy for ASUS Vice-President Tom Jacobs:** How dire would the financial situation of CRFC be in five years if you don't get this fee?

**Aalders:** Staff cuts would be an immediate effect and we have permanent staff members that worked for years. It would also affect our programming, advertising and funding. We could end up in bankruptcy.

**ComSoc Vice-President(Internal) Daniel Fairwell:** Referendum would have been the preferred way. I struggle to find anyone who does use CRFC on a regular basis. I'm more likely to hear 'what is that?' Services should be fundamental to safety or crisis and I don't think CFRC falls into the category of this student fee increase.

**Member at Large Green:** AGM is most appropriate.

**Basilio:** We should look at its benefits. Walkhome serves about sixty students a night and over one hundred if we're busy. We have a \$17 student fee. CFRC probably benefits more students than that during games.

**Chishti:** AGM doesn't allow all the students but it does allow for a 2% quorum. So we should try to get as much representation as possible. Queen's Bands has a much higher fee and I don't think it's as much engaging as CFRC. They have a program that caters to deaf people with different pitches.

**Aesculapian Society Representative James Simpson:** It's problematic that the money raised would be more than the deficit and doesn't warrant structural change. \$6 dollars would cover the deficit and we would see changes.

**Lloyd:** I don't see enough sacrifices being made. I don't see the problem with even a little bit of salary cut.

**NSS President Searle:** If you need a job, there are other chances on campus. I'm just concerned there isn't even a small deduction of salary.

**Prescott:** Regarding President Chishti's comments to other services, it's like comparing apples to oranges. Walkhome isn't the same as CFRC and Queen's Bands' bussing fee at \$46. This service has been in a structural deficit for quite some time. A couple of red flags and it hasn't improved; they haven't done enough work to cut that line to get back to a sound position, fiscally. We shouldn't throw more money at it to make it go away. We'll have to increase it again and again because we're rewarding them with more money. Structural changes are required at the service, and the hand should not continue to dish out.

**Garcia:** CFRC encapsulates the emotions and experiences of students and generates that culture and heritage of Queen's.

**Lee:** The idea behind each fee is how much they need student fees to help it operate. CFRC will not die in the next five to ten years and I'm sure the current dedication will ensure its existence. The people employed are valued at the station and I think after the split they should still be employed.

**Lively:** I don't believe they should not have a mandatory fee and it should be an opt-out. The fifty-one percent cannot force the forty-nine percent to pay for it. I think they should get that fifty-one percent instead of the two percent. I would like to see this assembly to tell CFRC to stabilize an action plan first before coming back to assembly.

**Faught:** Part of my job is to interpret the spirit of policy not just what it reads. With respect to this, the debate has centered on the fee increase itself. AGM could reverse a decision made by our elected representative that our students disagree with.

**Aalders:** CFRC has made great strides in trying to solve its financial problems. I'm at the station everyday and I see how it operates and I'm really worried about staff cuts.

**Garcia:** CFRC operates daily for the whole year. Whether it's alumni, students, or community, they all benefit.

**Motion for a secret ballot.**

Moved ASUS Rep to AMS Prescott

Seconded by ASUS Rep to AMS Basilio

*Motion carries.*

**Motion for a 10 minute recess.**

*Motion carries.*

*\*assembly resumed at 9:40 pm*

*Motion(11) fails.*

**AMS President Johnson:** In the interest of transparency, I would like it to show on record that the executive voted not in favour.

**Garcia:** How many voted for?

**Speaker:** Eighteen for and nineteen against.

**Prescott:** Does this not defeat the purpose of a secret ballot?

**Faught:** There is no written policy in the AMS so it is ultimately up to the discretion of the speaker.

**EngSoc President Taylor Wheeler:** I would like it to show on record that EngSoc voted in favour for.

**Motion to open the agenda.**

Moved by ASUS Rep to AMS Lively

Seconded by ASUS Rep to AMS Prescott

*Motion carries.*

**Motion to add a motion for the assembly to do the Harlem Shake.**

Moved by ASUS Rep to AMS Lively

Seconded by ASUS Rep to AMS Rotman

**Speaker:** We are now voting to add 'Harlem Shake' to the agenda.

*Motion fails.*

**Motion to close the agenda.**

Moved by ASUS Rep to AMS Basilio  
 Seconded by ASUS Rep to AMS Paulsen

*Motion carries.*

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**h. Motion that AMS Assembly approve the Student Fee Protocol, as seen in Appendix A: How Student Fees Become A Thing.**

Moved by AMS President Johnson  
 Seconded by VP of Ops Lee

**President Johnson:** This is a protocol, an agreement between the university, SGPS, AMS. It shows how fees are established and increased. The ministry mandated that universities have some sort of protocol since 1994. We've been thorough throughout and it has been approved by SGPS and Vice-Principal's Operations Committee. MTCU will not approve it until a body that represents the students involved approves it, and we didn't feel comfortable about signing off on it.

**VP of Ops Lee:** This document is pending the approval from the AMS. I'll be having a meeting with student affairs, SGPS and finances as well. Implement as soon as October instead of November like this year.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Prescott:** Would the AMS continue to lobby the university on ancillary fees such as lab fees because in my program we've been charged lab fees that were later to be found out to be illegal.

**AAC Duchaine:** The compulsory tuition ancillary fees are not covered by this.

**Johnson:** Other universities have small committees that decide student fees. We have a referendum and open discussion with a democratic process.

*Motion(12) carries.*

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**i. Motion(13) that AMS Assembly approve the amendments to AMS Policy Manual 1, as seen in Appendix B: Tired Of Using Technology.**

Moved by AMS President Johnson  
 Seconded by Chairman Rob Gamble

**President Johnson:** AMS Board of Directors passed a new IT policy last year but it's a much more updated version. It was put together by the IT manager, Vice-President of University Affairs and I. We're just doing some housekeeping now and updating.

*Motion(13) carries.*

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**j. Motion(14) that AMS Assembly approve the changes to Policy Manual 1, section 4 Part A: Executive Elections, as seen in Appendix C: Texting.**

Moved by Jesse Waslowski

Seconded by Volha Kibitkina

**Member Waslowski:** It has come to my attention that mass texting in elections should be prohibited especially for those in AMS campaigning, unless specifically required by that person. One should not to be spammed by elections and I'm open for assembly to implement a definition.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Rotman:** I don't really see a point. How does this differ from me sending out a mass Facebook message?

**Waslowski:** It's usually to a group that person has joined. Specific membership is required to receive it.

**Rotman:** I could go on Facebook and add a large number of people. Maybe we should ban that as well.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Prescott:** This is one of the most absurd things I've heard in regards to election campaigns. The essence of campaigning is to tap into your resources. It can be any of your contacts or friends, they can expect at some point, to receive these messages. It's expected come election time, like ad mail regarding political parties, billboards or posters lying around. You can just ignore it and not something we need to ask the elections team to look after.

**President Johnson:** Adding something more on the plate will slow down the process. We can't define mass texting and really regulate it. There's no real clear process to this. AMS elections team doesn't ban mass tweets or Facebook messages, and a legitimate form of campaigning. Onus is on the person who sent it in the first place. I cannot support this motion for that reason.

**EngSoc Rep Haney:** Is calling people on the ban as well for campaigning?

**Motion to amend the motion to include personal phone numbers.**

Moved by EngSoc Rep Haney

Seconded by President Chishti

**ASUS Rep to AMS Basilio:** I agree we shouldn't be doing this but I'm worried enforceability. This is just give elections team more work. If it bothered people, they would have done something about it.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Lively:** If people mass text, when voters are exposed to these tactics, they are more inclined to not vote for them. Over long term, teams will realize that and adapt to what works and what does not.

**Prescott:** It's only logical that if you do not like something done to you, you won't like that person, according to Game Theory. Elections team should not be concerning themselves with something so trivial.

**Haney:** But if I receive a long distance call, I don't want to pay that bill.

**Rotman:** There's a reason why phone calls are used and why campaigners are allowed in buildings and solicitors aren't. Don't pick it up, just ignore it, don't open it.

**VP of Ops Lee:** This is pointless because it's not enforceable. What about emails and wall posts then?

**President Chishti:** If I'm texting my friend to vote for me, I don't think my friend would have a problem with that. Probably just a reminder.

**Prescott:** I'd like to show Representative Haney that with these new phones, it's very convenient. You can press a red button if you don't like the call.

*Motion to amend fails.*

**AAC Duchaine:** what's the definition of mass texting?

**Waslowski:** It wasn't defined and up to the assembly decide.

**Prescott:** I think we've captured the spirit of this motion. I encourage all to vote it down.

**Johnson:** We now have the first three digits of Representative Haney's phone number. If anyone has the next seven, I'll buy you a drink.

*Motion(14) fails.*

**k. Motion(15) that AMS Assembly approve the winter term New Events Grants, as seen in Appendix D: Granted, This Joke Is Old.**

Moved by Campus Activities Commissioner Claire Casher

Seconded by Vice-President of University Affairs Mira Dineen

**CAC Casher:** There was great enthusiasm in the applications. The groups gave brief five minutes presentations and their proposals. The criteria are that it is a new event, innovative and likely to engage students. It could also link to the broader Kingston community or be onetime events. The ties to the Green Party were not political but to promote sustainability on campus. We will require an event summary form after the event to ensure accountability and the committee consists of the Clubs Manager, the Vice-President of University Affairs and I.

**Proxy Jacobs:** I'd like to thank Claire Casher and approving the Muslim Society.



**ASUS Rep to AMS Prescott:** Point of information: we are now in debate of the motion and not a time to promote events.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Lively:** Sometimes with politically themed events, they are not completely honest. These can become pretty partisan pretty quickly.

**Casher:** We will follow the event more closely in the planning stages and trust the integrity of the applicants and our judgement. We are funding the aspects of the event that are non-political.

**CES Greene:** My commission is in touch with them because for Greenfest, we wanted a speaker to talk about sustainable policy. In our collaboration, it's completely non-partisan and more of an information session.

**Lively:** Politicians are not the best people to put your trust into. If an event became partisan or not exactly how it was describe in the application, would you withhold grant money?

**VP of UA Dineen:** We are looking at tweaks to the policy, they are eligible to apply and we felt comfortable funding it. If you don't feel that way, assembly can vote on that or make an amendment.

**Prescott:** Considering other political parties are not allowed to receive funding, I move to strike Queen's Greens their funding from the grant.

**Motion to add an amendment to strike Queen's Green's funding from the events grants.**

Moved by ASUS Rep to AMS Prescott

Seconded by ASUS Rep to AMS Lively

**ASUS Rep to AMS Rotman:** Green Party is not considered a party by the House of Commons. What's the exact policy? Do all events by political parties receive no funding or only political events?

**CIA Faught:** Point of information: for clubs grants, political groups will not receive it. It's in that policy but does not appear in this one.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Basilio:** Is it legal to remove that group from the grant?

**Dineen:** Well voting on it club by club would be ridiculous.

**Lively:** AMS is a non-partisan organization. In funding political groups and partisan events, we go against the spirit of the institution. I don't see anything wrong with it because it's a non-partisan event, but I do see a problem in the future with the policy.

**Prescott:** Elizabeth May is speaking and a political leader. They can talk about anything and can further their policies. This could become very partisan very fast and go against our constitution as a non-partisan organization. To provide student dollars to fund that goes against it.

**Casher:** We are looking for a panel discussion and other speakers, with professors from Queen's and prominent environmental activists. We saw it as a well rounded and thought out event and at this time they are eligible within the policy of our grants.

**Prescott:** I'm just worried that it will turn partisan fast. We can pre-empt that. This is going to be a great event and I don't deny that but the headliner will definitely be 'Elizabeth May'. We should not provide any funds to this specific event, because she's a leader of a federal party in this country.

**Basilio:** If the policy was in place not to fund political parties, would this group get funding for this event? We should not pass it because it should apply to all future groups or parties on campus.

*Motion to add amendment carries. Abstentions: AMS executives.*

**Member at Large Nathan Utioh:** How would groups have access to the funding in the fall, given the strict timeline?

**Casher:** Nothing past April. The decision was to spend the money during this fiscal period.

*Motion(15) carries.*

**I. Motion(16) that AMS Assembly approve the winter term Clubs Grants, as seen in Appendix E: Clubs Can't Handle Me, and on the Assembly Dropbox.**

Moved by CIA Faught

Seconded by Clubs Manager Jeff McCarthy

**Faught:** Club grants weren't on Dropbox but I emailed to everybody in excel form. It's analogous to the one in the fall. Priority was given based on inventory funding and investments in clubs to carry out their day to day activities. To increase accountability, clubs need to show why they need grants for a particular item, and we will request receipts and documentation of purchases made for fall club grants. With uncollected student activity fees, the assembly approved some of that towards club grants. We budgeted \$30000, \$15000 for each semester, and with this additional funding, it is now closer to \$33000. We aren't going over budget but a transfer from those uncollected student activity fees. Jeff McCarthy, the Vice-President of University Affairs and I were on the allocation committee.

**Clubs Manager McCarthy:** Groups that didn't get a chance to apply in the fall got a change in the winter term. More of them showed up to the workshop.

*Motion(16) carries.*

**m. Motion(17) that AMS Assembly Approve the amendments to Policy Manual 2: Section 2 Part N, as seen in Appendix F: PSC.**

Moved by Social Issues Commissioner Katie Conway  
 Seconded by VP of UA Dineen

*\*due to the lengthy discussion, these were only the significant comments and questions raised. Please refer to the presentation slides for full details.*

### **Motion to extend assembly to 11:30 pm**

*Motion carries.*

**VP of UA Dineen:** I would like to congratulate the team on their presentation and visionary nature. This takes some decision making power from us and some standards and safety procedures should not be left up to this body but to the Peer Support Centre Advisory Committee.

**NSS President Searle:** Mental health is of a great concern and I think this is an excellent way to help my constituents.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Prescott:** It's great to see the formalization of what this center can do to help others. I commend on you on that. I suffer from clinical depression and I've never approached the PSC for help because it's not professional. Now that I hear this policy and professional help, it's very comforting to know that to see that students are able to get support.

**CESA President Lloyd:** Shows that we are always critically reflecting on what our services do.

**SIC Conway:** It's my task that this is implemented for my successor.

*Motion(17) carries.*

## **15. Discussion Period**

### **a. Eligibility for AMS elected positions.**

*\*due to the lengthy discussion, these were only the significant comments and questions raised. Please refer to the presentation slides for full details.*

**ASUS Rep to AMS Basilio:** I have questions about more positions. What about the Judicial Affairs Director, the deputies and the committee. What if one of the CRO or DRO decided to run?

**VP of UA Dineen:** No one is right now banned from running but they should be included in the discussion.

**VP of Ops Lee:** HRO offers an unbiased room for people to go to. It's a legal responsibility for our employees to have. I'd advocate for stronger restrictions on HRO running for office.

**AAC Duchaine:** Keep in mind this would set the precedent for elections in your own faculty, residences or societies.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Lively:** Everyone should have a right to run in the election; it's our constitutional right. In policy is just an ad hoc based on case by case basis. If there's a conflict of interest, up to CEO or elections team to bring it to attention, assembly to force a leave of absence. The Executive should make sure those responsibilities are fulfilled. If they take a leave of absence of their own, it's not specific in policy to account for whose responsibility it is to fulfill it. The CEO and CIA, in my opinion, that they should not run. When taking that position, it's your choice that you're giving up the right to run not us taking it away from you.

**Motion to extend assembly to 12 am.**

Moved by CES Ty Greene

Seconded by Municipal Affairs Commission Troy Sherman

*Motion carries.*

**President Chishti:** Does this restrict all elections during that time or only for AMS? Because both CIA and the Speaker are a huge part of the portfolios.

**Chief Returning Office Ali Tejpar:** Deputies can step in if the student decides to run.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Prescott:** It should be written into policy that CIA and HRO in their job descriptions. If you accept, you knowingly accept you cannot run in that year's election. They would voluntarily submit themselves instead of having us withhold their rights.

**Basilio:** Can I get a straw poll as a general principle to remove the constitutional rights of AMS members?

**Speaker:** If you are okay to remove the constitutional right of an AMS member, please raise your placard. *Strong majority favouring no.*

**ComSoc President Nicola Plummer:** Are the current executives allowed to run because I see a bigger conflict of interest in that than the CIA or HRO.

**Prescott:** Can i get a straw poll to see if you are in of a policy whereby an AMS member can give up their right voluntarily to run in an election? *More no's than yes's.*

**Member at Large:** Trust the professionalism of those in office.

**Prescott:** This year's events are a cast study. We need to focus on the integrity of the voting process. If you manage the elections team, you cannot vacate your position.

**Basilio:** I don't think the CIA could have done or not done anything if he were or were not there because it was an issue of delay with VoteNet.

**Dineen:** HRO should not run and current executives too because we would have to leave and be a disservice to the students. They can take a year off and then run again.

**Tejpar:** We worked on eight elections this year and they ran smoothly given some hick ups.

**Basilio:** HRO is the very sticky one where they would have to resign, or have deputies step up. Perhaps HRO should declare their intention to run beforehand?

**Prescott:** Doing that voluntarily would not be an issue.

**Lee:** Should be a clause in the contract and the job description.

**Dineen:** Nothing in policy stopping CEO from running in elections.

**Prescott:** People who are supposed to be overseeing an election should not be running. They are there for a reason and abandoning that is neglecting one's duty.

**Dineen:** Perhaps we should implement any policy changes if they were to resign?

**Prescott:** If you apply for that position, where it be CIA, HRO, or the Executive, you should not be allowed to run again during the year.

**Motion to extend assembly to 12:30 am.**

Moved by Chairman Eril Berkok

Seconded by ASUS Rep to AMS Basilio

*Motion carries.*

**Proxy Jacobs:** Students deserve a smooth and efficient election.

**Prescott:** It should be more codified instead of year to year basis instead of up to the Vice-President of University Affairs or just glanced over in the interview question.

**Chishti:** What about the HRO?

**Prescott:** Because there no one in office during elections. It's logistics.

**Dineen:** We will get back to assembly, write something and bring it back for everybody to vote on.

**Basilio:** Speaker Scott Mason just posted a photo of himself on a Valentine's Day date while we're stuck here in a six hour assembly. What should we do about this?

**Faught:** Jumping the gun on this would not be a good idea.

**Motion to open the agenda.**

Moved by CESA President Philip Lloyd

Seconded by CES Greene

*Motion carries.*

**Motion to add a closed discussion topic.**

Moved by NSS President Jessica Searle

Seconded by MCRC President Tuba Chishti

*Motion carries.*

**Motion to close the agenda.**

*Motion carries.*

**b. Commission Mid-Year Reviews.**

*\*due to the lengthy discussion, these were only the significant comments and questions raised.*

*Please refer to the presentation slides for full details.*

**ASUS Rep to AMS Prescott:** Shouldn't the Clubs Manager be under CAC?

**VP of UA Dineen:** For management, it's better under CIA. More capacity for CIA to handle this.

**CAC Cashier:** The spirit aligns well but logistically it's more fit with CIA given space considerations and grants. But it would be nice to see a more formalization of the connection between the Clubs Manager and the CAC.

**CIA Faught:** How student activity fees are established, it makes sense for students to go to Jeff and then to me.

**Motion to extend assembly to 1 am.**

Moved by Chairman Berkok

Seconded by SIC Conway

*Motion carries.*

**Rector Nick Francis:** Queen's is the only school in Canada that has a student-run discipline system and only about three schools in the United States have this. One professor remarked how forward-thinking Canadians are. This was a historic step to save the system, a big win for students, to continue autonomy over self-governance.

**ASUS Rep to AMS Lively:** There were forty-five cases since May 2012 but on the website it says there is an estimation of over fifty. Why do they deal with off campus noise complaints?

**Faught:** Campus Security can attend to it if it contains a Queen's student. But that would be picked up by the committee.

**Prescott:** What are we doing about clubs not existing but collecting student fees?

**Faught:** Clubs are in transition with their executive positions from February to May as new executives are coming in. We need to do a better of who really exists, especially if they have a student fee, then it becomes troubling.

**Prescott:** What about the role over of the Sustainability Action Fund? Is it all allocated from last year?

**CES Greene:** It can't rollover. We will give it to those who apply for a project pending approval from the assembly.

**Motion to extend assembly to 1:30 am.**

Moved by Chairman Berkok

Seconded by MAC Sherman

*Motion carries.*

**Prescott:** How come the publications work is outsourced?

**SIC Conway:** It takes lots of time for the publication, about twenty to thirty hours.

**Prescott:** would you like to see more volunteers?

**Conway:** It's just not possible given the amount of work done.

**Lively:** Are there any bids on graphic designers?

**Conway:** Publishers are around \$400 to \$600 and sometimes they have designers who will do it for free.

*\*at 1:05 am, the assembly moved into a closed discussion topic. Minutes were not recorded hereafter and the scribe was no longer present.*