

AMS Assembly minutes - Thursday, April 4th, 2013
Wallace Hall in John Deutsch University Centre

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

**assembly commenced at 6:35 pm*

Speaker Scott Mason (hereafter referred to as **Speaker**): Welcoming and opening remarks.

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion(1) that AMS Assembly approve the agenda for the Assembly meeting of April 4th, 2013.

Moved by Commissioner of Internal Affairs Liam Faught

Seconded by Vice-President of University Affairs Mira Dineen

Speaker: Any changes to the agenda?

CIA Faught: Add three ratifications. Amy Chandler as Assistant StuCon Head Manager; Ali Tejpar as Judicial Committee Chair; and Claire Bekken as AMS Clubs Manager.

Motion to add the ratifications of Amy Chandler, Ali Tejpar, Claire Bekken to the agenda.

Moved by Liam Faught

Seconded by James Simpson

Motion carries.

ASUS Representative to the AMS Alexander Prescott: Add a discussion topic regarding the Merits and Faults of Optional Student Union Membership.

Motion to add a discussion topic of Merits and Faults of Optional Student Union Membership to the agenda.

Moved by Alexander Prescott

Seconded by Tyler Lively

Motion carries.

ASUS Rep to AMS Lively: Amend AMS Policy Manual, part 3 to remove section 1.

Motion to add a motion to amend AMS Policy Manual part 3 section 1 to the agenda.

Moved by Tyler Lively

Seconded by Alexander Prescott

Prescott: They can choose to vote it down later after debate.

Faught: This is about the commitment to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms of AMS.

Motion carries.

Prescott: Rather expensive agenda today. If it goes until 1 am, since it is the last assembly of the year, what will happen to the items of the agenda that aren't completed?

Faught: This would get deferred to Business Arising from the Minutes to the first assembly in September. I'm also requesting to have assembly approve the guest speakers to speak first before the election of the next AMS speaker.

Seconded by James Simpson

Motion carries.

Motion(1) carries.

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion(2) that AMS Assembly approve the minutes for the Assembly meeting of March 21st, 2013.

Moved by CIA Faught

Seconded by VP of UA Dineen

Speaker: Any changes to the minutes?

ASUS Rep to AMS Alex Rotman: Last assembly, I raised a point of information that the doors to the room were locked. The minutes did not capture that. Was it an error or was it simply just omitted?

Faught: It is likely to have been a mistake.

Rotman: Well anyways, I was worried about the doors being locked.

Motion(2) carries.

3. Guest Speaker

a. Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic)

Dr. Alan Harrison: New budget model for Queen's University that will apply for subsequent years as well. I will outline four key features of this revenue based model.

**due to the length of the presentation, the following are only significant questions and comments raised during discussion. For full details, please refer to the slides.*

Aesculapian Society Representative James Simpson: Potential decrease in health science spending. I'm just under \$100000 in debt and tuition is close to \$10000. With the tuition increase at that rate, what's the department going to do? How will they maintain quality and attract students?

Harrison: The amount of money through government grant and tuition, although it seems a lot, simply doesn't pay for the medical education that's provided. Gradual transition to 2019-2020 provide same amount of money, revenue from new sources. There are opportunities but they have to provide net revenue, cost of driving that growth has to be less than the revenue growth itself.

Student Senate Caucus Chair Eril Berkok: We've always danced around the idea of cuts. I wanted to ask, given that the University of Calgary had a senior executive level salary freeze, have there been any talks of this within Queen's?

Harrison: Salary and benefit increases, they refer to a consequence of collector agreements. None of the high level positions are covered by those agreements. Since 2010, anybody not part of the union doesn't get a wage increase by Ontario legislation. If you are unionized, you have a right to collectively bargain as it is recognized by the government. It is encourage to be kept at a minimum but that is different on the bargaining table.

Nursing Students Society President Jessica Searle: My program is worried about enrolment growth. We are filled at every level of the hospital and this could jeopardize placement opportunities. Does the university see this issue?

Harrison: Projected increase is specific. We are prevented by government to increase enrolment of basic nursing programs. Queen's is the only university in Ontario that has a basic nursing program not joined with a college so we are not allowed to increase it. No reduction in your ability to get placements in hospitals.

ASUS President John Whittaker: Driving costs to smaller units. From my conversations with Dean MacClean, what is the strategy beyond the transition period to ensure to vitality of smaller departments, since they be make or break?

Harrison: We haven't made any commitment beyond 2015, and talks have just begun. We now have a provisional plan, warmly received by the committee that will take us to 2019-2020. That's at the faculty level, but within, how that is played down to the department level, is a decision of the Dean. That person will have the responsibility of how to work this out. If a particular unit needs support from the rest of the faculty, then discussion of that is necessary and the Deans will figure out some way not to let them go to the wall.

Member at Large Craig Draeger: My time at Queen's has not been pleasant and I feel as though the administration has robbed my educational and over academic experience. It was a waste of my time and even more so asking this question. Can I have my four years back?

Harrison: No.

Prescott: The projected increases will have ramifications on quality of education depending on resources funnelled to the different faculties. We've seen many large six figure salaries, but students can receive better education with that money. Do you think the benefits of this model outweigh the costs?

Harrison: We looked at how the costs have changed to those working in higher administration. Our percentage increase was lower than faculty members. Faculty members' costs gone up by more, even though the number went down. Whereas the faculty are unionized, the other group were flat-lined. \$5 million dollars for vice-principal, principal and everyone else in total. It'll be part of the minutes in the next senate. It sounds like a big number but it's not as much as the faculties.

Media Services Director Terra Arnone: How would the new budget model affect the relationship and influence of Queen's?

Harrison: Fundamental goal is transparency. The second step is to think about how this model can be used and exploit these incentives in the interest to provide a first quality education to our students. Over 90% comes from government and students. 2013-2014, you will collectively provide over \$200 million of \$450 million.

Motion to end discussion

Moved by James Simpson

Seconded by Jessica Searle

Motion carries.

b. University Librarian

AMS Vice-President of University Affairs Mira Dineen: We have a guest here tonight to talk to you guys about the identity of libraries, moving collections around and perhaps getting rid of some in regards to the Campus Master Plan.

Martha Whitehead: My job here tonight is to raise awareness of this project as it will impact you guys. Please feel free to provide input.

**due to the length of the presentation, the following are only significant questions and comments raised during discussion. For full details, please refer to the slides.*

Member at Large Kanivanan Chinniah: Stauffer is almost always at over capacity but Douglas is often under capacity. Any plans to direct students to Douglas given enrolment increase?

Whitehead: Architectures identified possibilities of expansion on both libraries. Part of renovations in Douglas is to open up the building; the front doors will be open to make it more accessible. 1966 reading room, renovations to provide more study space and make it attractive. Harry Potter room will remain. Students are naturally expected to flow over there.

Chairman Berkok: Collaborative work space, prioritizing that in the library?

Whitehead: Love to hear from you about innovative collaborative library spaces. Applied Science students are thinking and designing project rooms. We don't have full details yet but we've had requests for more presentation spaces, borrowing projectors and booking group rooms.

JRHC President Matt Sheculski: Stauffer is a library within itself but the others are marketed to specific faculties. To take the strain off Stauffer, how will you guys open up these niche libraries to general student population? I know that first years are often called SNAILS (students not actually in law) when they occupy the law library.

Whitehead: Administration in health sciences thinks the students there are not just students of that faculty. Market it in a new way but SGPS wants to not lose that feeling, rhythm given their niche studies.

Prescott: Most of my applied science friends basically live in the ILC. They have everything they need. Work with IT to have faster wifi on campus, if students want to study, they need to be able to download online resources and materials for classes. If they can't, they might as well just do it at home.

Whittaker: Being in arts and science I'm constrained to Stauffer and Douglas. Given that we are the biggest faculty, should we have some preferential privileges. I don't mean that they are reserved for us but just a little advantage. We facilitate the DSCs but one student has to book rooms for their meetings and they run out of their 20 hours very quickly.

Proxy Kalem Boomhouwer: Lower learning commons, some seats are reserved for health sciences but that may seem like a negative connotation.

Whitehead: That sign was supposed to come down but thanks for reminding me.

CESA President Philip Lloyd: Upgrade the technology in the libraries.

Whitehead: We're studying the numbers about usage. Just the work some students are doing require certain software so they might have to rely on their own. I do expect it to change overtime.

Undergraduate Student Trustee Lauren Long: Libraries are a little too quiet for me and everyone has their headphones in. Every time I go to CoGro or a coffee shop, people are still studying. Maybe have a floor for more relaxed atmosphere where talking wouldn't be looked down upon and soft music.

Whitehead: We get the feeling that you've defined particular spaces. So I think the students have the best sense of what they want.

Dineen: I made a survey about the library study spaces and what you expect to see. Chance to win a \$30 gift card to CoGro.

Faught: Three ratifications to complete tonight. Hoping we could open the agenda to ratify that right now.

Seconded by Troy Sherman

Motion carries.

Motion to move the ratifications of Amy Chandler, Claire Beckon, and Ali Tejpar to the top of the agenda.

Moved by CIA Faught

Seconded by Matt Sheculski

Motion carries.

Motion to close the agenda.

Move by Troy Sherman

Seconded by Alvin Suen

Opposed by Alex Rotman

Motion carries.

Motion to omnibus motions(3,4,5).

Moved by Matt Sheculski

Seconded by James Simpson

Prescott: Will we have a question and answer period from the candidates?

Speaker: Yes all of them at the same time.

Motion carries.

Motion(3) that AMS Assembly ratify Ali Tejpar as Judicial Committee Chair for 2013-2014.

Moved by Incoming Commissioner of Internal Affairs

Seconded by CIA Faught

Motion(4) that AMS Assembly ratify Claire Beckon as AMS Clubs Manager for 2013-2014.

Moved by Incoming Commissioner of Internal Affairs

Seconded by CIA Faught

Motion(5) that AMS Assembly ratify Amy Chandler as Assistant to StuCon Head Manager for 2013-2014.

Moved by Nicola Plummer

Seconded by CIA Faught

Prescott: How can any of you mitigate any conflicts of interest?

Ali Tejpar: I have a diverse team of six people that have a wide understanding of the NAD system. I would ask them about conflicts of interest and even it includes me I will select and alternate chair.

Amy Chandler: I'm currently a senior for StuCon. Maintaining consistency, remaining professional, and being safe.

Claire Beckon: Each club is unique and equal, no club have preference, and all final rulings are group decisions.

President Lloyd: Name one main project you'll be working on next year.

Beckon: Large clubs forum, Jeff came up with an idea this year. All the leaders will come together, share resources, talk about challenges and other things they need.

Chandler: Changing image of the service to be more positive. Implementing a marketing portfolio for one of our seniors. Ironing out the myths about the service.

Tejpar: Continuing good relations with Campus Security. And also StuCons, and cases from them will be followed up well with the right decisions.

Chishti: Responsible for appeals of elections from any member society. Do you see any relation between JCOMM and elections team.

Tejpar: They are meant to be separate, CRO and CEO make a ruling and if it is appealed then it comes to us. But before that it should be separate. Good communication is needed first and done within 48 hour time span.

Chishti: How will you keep StuCons motivated and enjoy their work.

Chandler: We really need teamwork, but when it comes to classes, some are overwhelmed with academics. Everyone does their part and staff appreciation. We are understaffed and some of the shifts are difficult. Letting them know they are important to us and we value them.

Chishti: What's your favourite line from Harry Potter, preferably from Dumbledore? Since you are quitting Quidditch Club.

Beckon: I'm not the biggest Harry Potter fan ever. I guess my favourite is "You're a wizard Harry."

Opposed by Rotman and Prescott
Omnibus(1) carries.

4. Speaker's Business

a. Election of the Speaker and Chief Electoral Officer for the 2013-2014 session of AMS Assembly

Speaker: It's been a privilege to have worked with you this year. This has been one of the most fulfilling volunteer experiences.

**the following individuals have been nominated by members of assembly and have accepted their nominations:*

Forrest Donaldson
Tyler Lively
Robert Thompson
Kayla Mielli
Steve Matussi

Forrest Donaldson: Currently 3rd year history major. Continue the proud tradition to ensure this assembly paces moderation in debate. I want to expand the role of speaker not just as moderator but also advocate for this assembly. Use the speakership to reach assembly members, not just to advocate viewpoints, but to let them know about it. Three information campaigns, one before the fall election, one before the winter election, and during the AGM. This will allow all students understand what the process is to let people involved and know about it. And before every Wednesday, I would put up the blue tent and shout the agenda to students before the assembly on Thursday.

Tyler Lively: I'm a current sitting representative but I've been working hard to represent my constituents. I've been actively involved and I've shown that I know policy really well and contribute to debate not by putting my own views forward. Calm and considerate debate and moving forward. Role of the speaker is fundamental to help students through discussion and debate of the highest quality.

Robert Thompson: I'm a second year student in materials engineering. As speaker, my opinion lies within constitution and how council is facilitated. I've been able to see how my society grows over leadership and its importance. You're all here for a common goal, betterment of AMS and Queen's University. I've been able to touch a lot of students, not in an awkward sense.

Kayla Mielli: I'm a third year biology student. I've been involved in a lot of extracurricular activities and policy work. Productive and non-cyclical debate. PR and advertising campaign, guest speakers more pertinent to students across departments because important to see departments that are less politically inclined.

Steve Matussi: A lot of students don't know how important this body is to them. Get more people involved to find the best solutions that we face.

EngSoc Sci '13 Representative Douglas Haney: What about in the Policy Manual where three times throughout the year to have promotional campaigns.

Donaldson: Priority of my speakership. Constant understanding. Not just turnout that's the problem, but lack of knowledge of what we do.

Lively: Best debate possible. Incorporating a marketing office. Force people to know what the AMS does and how they can reach out to us.

Thompson: Centralize the information and experience to those that can't be here.

Mielli: Improve social media presence but reaching out to first year students. They will be aware for the rest of their time. They may not choose first but later on they know where the debate is and to get the information.

Matussi: I'm director of recruitment and membership in a certain club. Holding class talks and always have a smile on your face.

Member at Large Allan: The use of laptops and electronic devices has been criticized in the past. Some assembly members are not fully engaged. As speaker would you limit the use?

Matussi: My personal view is that I trust them to focus on debate and issue at hand. I don't see the need to impose restrictions. But that is a sign of trust.

Mielli: I would not limit the use either but just ask everyone to be respectable and remind everyone about the importance of this body.

Thompson: Access for information but screens pointing at me instead of faces may feel intimidating. I would talk to members and ask their opinions.

Lively: I don't think banning will necessarily engage members more. Members have smart-phones that connect them through social media. It degrades the entire assembly to an elementary level. We need to trust members. It's a useful tool to have but to use it correctly, but I will put out a recommendation for everyone to focus on debate.

Donaldson: Saving resources but for referencing policy. Patrol and keep an eye on individuals but I will talk to them after assembly and offer a warning. If they go too far then I will enforce policy.

Municipal Affairs Commissioner Troy Sherman: How will you facilitate discussion on both sides, to ensure safe space for everyone.

Donaldson: Points enforced. If anything discontinues or diverges from debate, I will warn members and cut them off, or ask them to no longer speak. Not allow personal attacks, foul language, I will ask them to leave.

Lively: Points are often misused. I think it would be a good idea to distribute a package to outline procedure but also have the speaker to talk about them at the first assembly.

Thompson: Points interject what people are saying and interrupt. I think it's important to allow students to speak and have respect.

Prescott: Point of information. They are usually interjections by nature. What the speaker is saying might be out of order or false so the points are there to fix that.

Thompson: I understand that they can do that after the member has spoken. It feels like it starts to encourage disrespect.

Mielli: Multi-partisan environment, everyone should be heard. Foster good and clean debate.

Matussi: My family gatherings are full of yelling, gossip, disagreements of sports and politics. But at the end we sit down and eat. I'd like to bring that here without the yelling. Perhaps without interrupting, those people can raise their placard so the person speaking can recognize.

Social Issues Commissioner Katie Conway: How will you create a safe space for marginalized students, gender-neutral language?

Prescott: Point of information. Can you clarify what you mean by marginalized students?

Conway: Identities such as aboriginal students, colour, and disabilities.

Matussi: Using the right language.

Mielli: Just respecting everyone.

Thompson: Address everyone equally and giving no preference.

Lively: There is systemic oppression against certain groups. Regardless of decorum, these groups would not come out anyways. This is an issue for the entire campus at large but I will still hold this at assembly.

Donaldson: I will continue with this by policy or precedence but also because it's cleaner. Lifts up this assembly to a higher level and has a more House of Commons feel to it.

Motion to close the speaker's list.

Moved by Tuba Chishti

Seconded by Nick Francis

Motion carries.

Motion to limit answers to one and a half minutes.

Move by Nick Francis

Seconded by Troy Sherman

Motion carries.

Academic Affairs Commissioner Isabelle Duchaine: Will you give priorities to voting members of assembly.

Donaldson: I will encourage non-voting members to speak anyways

Lively: Those people are still within Queen's and no need to discourage them.

Thompson: Everyone has equal voices.

Mielli: I will let all members speak, voting or non-voting.

Matussi: They have a right and have a role. Perhaps if it comes to time, maybe the representatives get a bit more priority.

Representative Simpson: What experiences have you had that prepared you for Speaker.

Matussi: I watch a lot of CPAC. Engage people in debate and to keep an orderly environment

Mielli: I've seen a lot of healthy debate and I've worked in Queen's Park for legislative affairs.

Thompson: I've seen a lot of debate and I know what is good and bad.

Lively: Being a representative I know what's productive and what will make results. I've also seen bad debate and what will become circular.

Donaldson: I'm all for outreach and discussing issues. I've been active in student government and sat as a Member at Large for two years now.

Speaker: Everyone will write out their choices from one to five, and we will take the candidate who has more than 50%.

Motion for a ten minute recess

Moved by Alex Rotman

Seconded by Tom Jacobs

*Motion carries. *assembly went into recess at 9:21pm and resumed at 9:32pm*

Speaker: Esteemed members of assembly and people of the gallery. Welcome our next speaker of the AMS, Mr. Robbie Thompson.

Speaker Robert Thompson (hereafter referred to as **Speaker**): I'd like ask Doug Johnson to deliver his report

5. President's Report

AMS President Doug Johnson: At Brock we attended an OUSA conference to work and meet with other student governments across Ontario. In comparison to other schools, the personal growth to seek and facilitate is unmatched. We have elaborate AGM, referendums, firmly established offices that work closely with the university. The philosophy of Queen's University and the AMS, students run the show, students who help lift their boxes, walk them home, and serve them their first beer on their 19th birthday. Through strong community, we are stronger individuals. Tradition does not mean sameness and that our norms can shift, and that comes with acceptance and embracement. Students can succeed regardless of their background and have equal opportunities. Our students are not merely customers, recipients but rather architects and shapers of their own experiences. I hope you all reflect on your past year and learn through your challenges. On behalf of Mira, Tristan and I, I'd like to thank you all for your hard work.

**refer to report for full details*

6. Vice President's Report

a. Vice-President of Operations Tristan Lee: I'd like to think that after this is all said and done. Everything we've done and with the group of people in this room, I feel honoured to have been surrounded by you all and can't wait to see where you'll go in the future.

b. Vice-President of University Affairs Mira Dineen: This is often an arena of debate and policies. The three of us have learned so much from the discussion we've had this year. Thank you very much and I really appreciate it.

**refer to reports for full details*

7. Board of Director's Report

Motion to allow Rob Gamble, Nick Francis and Eril Berkok speaking rights.

Move by Philip Lloyd

Seconded by Jessica Searle

Opposed by Lively and Haney

Motion carries.

Chairman Rob Gamble: Incoming board meeting tonight and Keenan Randall was elected.

8. Student Senator's Report

Chairman Eril Berkok: I've solicited a bunch of feedback from most faculty societies about online virtualization. We are in the process of receiving feedback and the final draft for this academic plan will be submitted on April 16th. I will fight next year that university governance will be done as best as possible.

9. Rector's Report

Rector Nick Francis: Thank the executive and the council for their fantastic job this year. We've been working hard advocating for student issues on different committees. Tricolour Award has been given to eight individuals who capture their energy and core values of individuals in our community.

10. Student Trustee's Report

Undergraduate Student Trustee Lauren Long: I was here two years ago getting ratified and answer questions from assembly. Thank you for all your hard work but my transition ends at June 1st and I'll be acting as a voting member for the upcoming May Senate meeting.

**refer to report for full details*

11. Statements by Members

Whittaker: We've hosted several guest speakers throughout the year. I'd like to express my disappointment on cutting short the Speaker's List prematurely given that Dr. Harrison's report was of extreme importance and we may not have had another chance to ask him.

Chishti: In this body, I learned to be confident in what I believe in, strengthen my views, and ask for help. President's caucus has been the highlight of my year. There's nothing wrong with consulting outside of this body, can't treat of this assembly as see all know all. We work best when we think about what our constituents need most.

Lloyd: Look at the reports submitted and raise questions to be asked or pass them on to your representatives.

Johnson: Queen's free speech wall. The display was taken down because of slurs to alienate individuals based on race or religion.

Lively: What on the wall was so wrong that it was taken down?

Johnson: Free speech must be protected. Being part of the university community cannot be contingent on fear, harassment or subjugation. This fundamental belief has been ratified by the University and the AMS, and all event bookings are understood under this and this cannot be under the cost of student security. Any comments and questions should be directed to the Provost.

Sherman: Submissions for summer house-check program. It's a free service. Application is needed and things you would like for us to do in case of break in.

Rotman: Thank you all for the commitment and hours. With regards to the free speech wall, the point that worries me is where the line is drawn or when someone feels offended. I walked through the JDUC and for two weeks there was an exhibit that I felt uncomfortable with but I did not feel like I need it to be removed or taken down. There seems to be an increasing attempt to monopolize racism and sexism as a political agenda. Concept of privilege being used to delegitimize individuals. Seeks to discount the individual based on the groups they belong to and uses that as a hammer, increasingly accepted and tolerated. To rethink the way we look at rights and award them because they belong to a group, and rights are not because they belong to a group or particularly characteristics. They should have rights because they are individuals, unique and have intrinsic value. Rights have nothing to do with gender, ethnicity or skin colour.

Sheculski: Often we miss people only to find out that they are not here. So I just want to say, thank you Kalem Boomhouwer for coming back to us.

Prescott: Point of information. But where is our scribe?

**AMS Assembly scribe Barrie Li waves frantically to acknowledge his presence. I had to move to sit beside the Executives to charge my laptop. I would like to specifically thank ASUS Representative to the AMS Alexander Prescott for being aware of my false absence. 😊*

Member at Large Corey Schruder: I'm a first year student from Cape Breton and I just want to say the politics there at the Maritimes are dirty. I came to Kingston, hoping for something better. I went to interviews with AMS, internship within the MCRC and thought that would lead to something. AMS is disgusting and that is something that hits home with me. People slandering your name when I went through on a campaign that they didn't like. It's not a personal statement on you guys because the ideals I criticize are those because I believe in. They use what is on your twitter account to ruin your life and I think that's disgusting.

Donaldson: I've deeply enjoyed coming to this assembly. There's a tendency not to listen to each other and expediency and what makes the most sense and works quickly. I don't think it's a fault of this particular assembly but I really want to call upon all members who will remain. This is student politics, a learning experience for everyone involved, and it's okay to make mistakes.

Matussi: I've been thoroughly impressed with this assembly and honoured to attend these meetings. I see students that are incredible passionate in what they're involved. I'd like to extend my congratulations to the new speaker.

Motion to extend assembly for half an hour to 11 pm.

Moved by Eril Berkok

Motion carries.

Member at Large Allan: Classes are becoming more impersonal online and the AMS is really going to become the body that gives a closer experience. We represent over fifteen thousand students and years ago, there was a vote of no-confidence. A result of that was the resignation of the principal. We are the same body who voted to pass funds to start the Queen's Centre. Many students associate the AMS with CoGro, StuCons or the Queen's Pub. When I was speaker two years ago, we addressed people by mister or miss. But we are peers and we should be on the same level to ensure trust.

Berkok: If you have any questions about the new budget model, submit them to me and I can pass it on to senate on April 16th.

Francis: I find it regrettable how the Provost responded to Member Draeger's question. We're here to learn and I don't think it's justified for students who have had a negative experience to be treated like that after sharing with a senior administrator.

Duchaine: There's a big difference between an academic classroom and a piece of plywood in the JDUC. Universities are institutions to provide safety and security for students.

Member at Large Jonathan Reid: QSFL is having an event where people can write their opinions on white t-shirts of volunteers.

Member at Large Kanivanan Chinniah: It's not just Stuart Clark and I, but other nine conspiracists, I mean conservatives. I stand by criticisms of AMS. I voted for the lead administration and I think Queen's is better now than before. They've worked hard for students and regardless of their actions, I've never doubted their sincerity to the betterment of students at large. The entire cabinet has done a good job but not all things, some shove in a garbage bag and throw outside.

Clubs Manager Jeff McCarthy: We're not going to get to discussion topics at this rate so I'd like to get your feedback now if assembly has any questions.

Lloyd: I would like to also recognize Doug Johnson for all the work he's done this year.

Prescott: What a year. Everyone at this table has contributed something. I do not agree with some things done but there are people here who are working for the best interest of students. As a reflection, rather tumultuous eight months, I'm fairly certain, and I'm proud to say, and I do

not agree with student union but I congratulate the executive and ex-officio members. I will use the word enemy, as disrespect for what we do for students. But there are others who will put their own agenda before the students. I will say that we've made the best of a bad situation, a not so bad year, for a mandatory student union.

Member Draeger: I wish the executive the best in their future trials. But I want you to know I'm going to miss you all.

Lively: We have achieved at least something that can be considered good. Debate on fraternities and sororities, and policy changes to constitution. I don't have much to compare it to. Although I may disagree with some if not all of you, I wish you all good luck in future endeavours. I've been attacked for dragging the name of the university through the mud. I have a problem with the administration, a problem with an administrator who laughs when a student voiced their disparagement of their experience. I've received no official feedback from the university about why they've taken down the wall. We should allow the students to make decisions and allow it to stand. It's not up to the university to decide for us. I was assaulted on a native reserve by two aboriginal youths because I am white is hate crime. Although it may be against university policy, this university has a moral and legal obligation to uphold freedom of speech as described in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. One of the most fundamental values of this nation is the freedom of expression. Allowed to put forth controversial ideas without names. The wall was to bring attention that freedom of speech is under assault in Canada. We've seen the supreme court of Canada lower the standards. In order to truly combat the oppression and hateful attitude, we need to be able to bring that to light and express that idea. If we allow it to hide in the dark, we won't have a chance to combat it. These people their attitudes have not changed and we cannot correct it. Regardless of what is written in policy, actions speak louder than words, and that's why I moved to have that commitment to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms removed. I don't really believe that but because we don't anyways, we might as well not have it.

Motion to extend assembly to 11:30 pm

Moved by James Simpson

Seconded by Troy Sherman

Motion carries.

ASUS Vice-President Tom Jacobs: Sorry but I have to leave. Scott Mason will act as my proxy.

SIC Conway: If you are interested in what the committee is up to, let me know.

12. Question Period

EngSoc Rep Haney: The condom dispenser has been completely pried open and vandalized.

Hospitality and Safety Services Director Keenan Randall: I've spoken to Amanda Judd and we've put in a work order and they're going to put in extra protection and reinforce that area.

Member at Large Reid: In your beginning of your speech about racial slurs not being permitted, can you repeat that?

Johnson: Removed because of racial slurs that served to alienate individuals by not allowing them to participate in on campus dialogue.

Dineen: In our discussion with the HRO, the difference between a wall in JDUC and a book in the library is that students can access it, but someone can walk by a public wall without a choice.

Pritchard: We look through policies and make sure specific ads don't offend anyone as manager of SLC.

Johnson: Careful about drawing parallels. We would act in a similar manner if these same statements were graffiti on the walls on JDUC.

Dineen: We consulted HRO and complaints are brought to the SLC formally. Sometimes when statement and discussion revolves around debate, you can add it to discussion topic.

Member at Large Kevin Wiener: What part of policy it exactly violates?

Prescott: I find it personally offensive that the speaker would stifle debate instead of listening.

Dineen: We are all completely available tomorrow and we have a lot of things to get to tonight.

Motion to close question period.

Moved by Mira Dineen

Seconded by Tristan Lee

**Alexander Prescott would like it noted in the minutes that he believes AMS assembly is the proper body and the most appropriate one to have discussion and currently the AMS is acting against their members.*

Prescott: How many people must be present to request a roll call vote?

Faught: Five.

Lively: When the free speech wall was taken down, it was not done by the rest of the AMS assembly but by the executive. We have the right and every member of this society is allowed one question. If you want to change that then you can change the policy.

Prescott: How about amending the motion so that it doesn't allow questions about the wall.

Draeger: You can't amend procedural motions.

Opposed by Rotman, Lively, and Prescott
Motion carries.

Motion to adjourn assembly.

Moved by Craig Draeger
Seconded by Corey Schruder

Proxy Scott Mason: As you are not a sitting member, you are not allowed to motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn assembly.

Moved by Alexander Prescott
Seconded by Tyler Lively

Motion fails.

Motion to open the agenda.

Moved by Mira Dineen
Seconded by Doug Johnson

Motion carries.

Dineen: We have members here since 7:45 pm waiting to present their budgets. Also move our state of the union up to the top.

Motion to move e. Motion(11), f. Motion(12), g. Motion(13), and the Executive State of the Union discussion topic to the top of the agenda before Business Arising from the Minutes.

Moved by Mira Dineen
Seconded by Doug Johnson

Motion carries.

Motion to add a motion to censure Vice-President of University Affairs Mira Dineen.

Moved by Alexander Prescott
Seconded by Tyler Lively

Motion fails.

Motion to add a motion to censure President and CEO Doug Johnson.

Moved by Alexander Prescott
Seconded by Tyler Lively

Motion fails.

Motion to close the agenda.

Moved by Doug Johnson
Seconded by Troy Sherman

Motion carries.

Prescott: I find it offensive, as motions are probably going to be on the table, the executives will rush through debate. I also find it personally offensive that Director Suen is laughing at me.

Johnson: Director Suen is laughing at a joke I made, not at the rest of the members.

Dineen: If we don't pass the budgets today, worth thousands of dollars, orientation will not run.

Motion for a ten minute recess.

*Motion carries. *assembly went into recess at 11:58 pm and resumed at 12:11 am*

Motion to extend assembly to 12:30 am.

Moved by James Simpson

Seconded by Jessica Searle

Motion carries.

Prescott: Can we bypass policy to not end assembly at 1 am.

Motion to move assembly into a closed session.

Moved by Philip Lloyd

Seconded by Member McElroy

Lively: Can only go to closed session if there's a reason.

Lloyd: Not pointing fingers at the Members at Large, assembly has spiralled into an unproductive body and we need to get to the motions efficiently.

Dineen: Allowing the committee members to stay?

Haney: Closed session can only come from AMS Execs.

Motion to move assembly into a closed session but allowing the presenters of the budgets to remain.

Moved by Doug Johnson

Seconded by Philip Lloyd

Prescott: I want to express my displeasure at what is progressing here. Closed assembly because people are saying things that we don't want to hear. Why do we want an assembly then?

Lively: The point of having members in the gallery is transparency.

Matussi: I like to commend you tonight Mr. Speaker in your trial by fire.

Schruder: The budget would be clearly in the interest of the society and would you allow us to hear it?

Motion fails.

Chishti: The speaker has the right not to recognize or eject members.

Lively: We are accountable to those people in the assembly and the members of the gallery and I cannot sit here tonight and stand to watch you guys do this. *ASUS Representative to the AMS
Tyler Lively vacates the room.

Haney: I don't know why he left seeing that we voted down a closed session.

Prescott: He was speaking to the executives' decision to stifle debate, not the assembly at a whole.

Sheculski: We are talking about budgets four months from now instead of something resonating now. Perhaps we should have a special assembly to pass these budgets.

Rotman: Why weren't they moved to the top of the agenda?

Faught: Technically they are at the top of the Business Arising from the Minutes.

Schruder: You have to understand that in recognizing the democratic process, this is how things work sometimes and things don't get passed.

Reid: Someone raised a point about debate not going the way we want. Can you clarify?

Chishti: For all members who are not contributing to debate, or if conversation has become cyclical.

Motion to extend assembly to 1 am.

Moved by Isabelle Duchaine

Seconded by Troy Sherman

Motion carries.

13. Business Arising from the Minutes

Prescott: I find it abhorrent that elected members of assembly think that debate is not important.

Member at Large Lauren Galloway: I just want to put it out there that there are students here who want to ask a question. Debate and discussion is key. Some of my closest friends do not come to AMS assembly because they know they won't be able to or are afraid to speak.

Motion to omnibus motions e. Motion(6), f. Motion(7), g. Motion(8).

Moved by Matt Sheculski
Seconded by Douglas Haney

Motion carries.

e. Motion(6) that Assembly approve the budget for FYNIRS Orientation 2013, as seen on the AMS website or in the Assembly Dropbox.

Moved by Claire Casher
Seconded by Mira Dineen

f. Motion(7) that Assembly approve the budget for NEWTS Orientation 2013, as seen on the AMS website or in the Assembly Dropbox.

Moved by Claire Casher
Seconded by Mira Dineen

g. Motion(8) that Assembly approve the budget for the Orientation Roundtable 2013, as seen on the AMS website or in the Assembly Dropbox.

Moved by Claire Casher
Seconded by Mira Dineen

CAC Casher: Make very clear that the money is spent between two fiscal years, a tail end of what they have spent, and then what their successor will spend. It's a logistical improvement and transparent for where student fees are going. Enrolment is not as predictable so money will be increased or decreased depending on how many students participate in orientation week.

**please refer to the budget spreadsheet for full details*

Dineen: Thank everyone for staying and I'd like to thank Claire for being accountable this year along with her commission.

Prescott: I trust they will be handled very well. So let's just pass those budgets because everything else those proletariats say don't matter.

Motion to call the question.

Moved by Alexander Prescott
Seconded by Matt Sheculski

Schruder: It's lazy for you guys to just get through things. You can override constitution and stay past 1 am.

Motion fails.

Prescott: I would like it noted that I find it absolutely absurd, for the past hour and a half, the moment we get to allowing them to get passed, we fail to call the question.

Casher: We'll purchase a water bottle for every incoming student, so that everyone will have a reusable one at their time at Queen's. At the past we couldn't get a sponsor but we want to get back to it.

Motion to extend assembly to 1:30 am.

Moved by Philip Lloyd

Seconded by Ali Tafti

Motion carries.

Casher: FYNIRs maintain a strong committee after orientation week, acting in place of having a floor. They run events throughout the year.

Omnibus(2) carries.

Motion to open the agenda.

Moved by Alexander Prescott

Seconded by John Whittaker

Motion carries.

Motion to add a discussion topic regarding the free speech wall.

Moved by Alexander Prescott

Seconded by Matt Sheculski

Motion carries.

Motion to close the agenda.

Moved by Matt Sheculski

Seconded by John Whittaker

Motion carries.

15. Discussion Period

c. Executive State of the Union

Johnson: Just go through our platform this year, our completed tasks, ongoing and ones that have been abandoned. PEC was open up for exams so it was easier for professors to schedule exams. Opening of PEC, the waiting list for intramurals has gone down to zero. It's good to have more active and healthy students.

**refer to report for full details*

Prescott: Any plans for more usages of the PEC?

Johnson: Intramurals, free time, or just leisure activities. That would be a nice addition.

Prescott: Increase usage of ARC gym. Any suggestions for incoming to pressure them to direct more attention to PEC?

Johnson: Strain on current ARC, gym equipment wearing down ten times as fast. There are five thousand people there each day and even more during the winter time. It was only a short time solution and hoping for more facilities in the future.

Whittaker: Communication with registrar that all students are accessed the right fees.

Lee: More talking with contacts in the registrar about the accuracy of those reports.

Chishti: Move some events back on campus into the PEC? It would be cheaper.

Johnson: Intended for intramurals originally but we can definitely reassess the use of that space.

Motion to open the agenda.

Moved by James Simpson

Seconded by Ali Tafti

Motion carries.

Motion to move the discussion topic regarding the free speech wall to the top of the agenda.

Moved by James Simpson

Seconded by Ali Tafti

Motion carries.

Motion to close the agenda.

Moved by Matt Sheculski

Seconded by Tuba Chishti

Motion carries.

Motion to limit discussion time to a minute each.

Moved by James Simpson

Seconded by Member McElroy

Motion carries.

d. Free Speech Wall

Prescott: We've seen in the past couple of days what has thrown us into the international spotlight. I think it's important to discuss what actions were taken and whether they were correct or not. I personally believe that it is an act of theft and something that should be discussed. The bigger conversation is about the tenants of free speech, who's allowed to dictate it, and through what methods. I respect everyone's gusto for staying here past our bedtime and I would not like to see another travesty or assault on free speech.

Rotman: It's problematic to me that who will decide on what is offensive and who gets to make that call.

Lloyd: Those discussions are important and need to take place but I think there are better mediums for doing so.

Haney: Cases have been passed in the Supreme Court of Canada, outlining the pros and cons. I was wondering where their research came from.

Queen's Students for Liberty President: The wall we put up violated nothing according to law.

Galloway: Every day I see and hear things that I don't approve on this campus. How can the minority of students move forward if a majority of them do not approve of my views?

Sheculski: There are before and after images of the wall on the internet. Did the AMS see that these terms in question were still present when the wall was confiscated?

Schruder: Campus Security took it off and drove away. They confiscated it; they have the right to take it off but no right to seize it. They would give us 8:30 pm to get rid of the wall and offensive statement in the email. But it was taken down 15 minutes earlier. They didn't specify what they were.

Johnson: I will not be going off on what the SLC deemed offensive. There was another wall and this morning and Campus Security took it down too.

Schruder: It was the title of a book that could be found in the library with the call number given.

Prescott: There has never been anything written down on what classifies as hate speech. The owners of that wall are at least privy to an explanation on why it was taken down and what grounds. What is that hate speech, can we hear it, who makes that judgement, and be the inquisitor general to what is considered hate speech?

Berkok: I beat Daniel Basilio for sitting through a seven hour assembly.

Rotman: You could write over it, and it wouldn't really matter what was on it. It's so much easier to that on paper than public discourse.

Reid: **reads Section 3.22 of the Canadian Criminal Code regarding theft.*

Motion to extend assembly to 2 am.

Moved by Jessica Searle

Seconded by Ali Tafti

Motion carries.

Motion to cap the speaker's list.

Moved by James Simpson

Seconded by Jessica Searle

Motion carries.

Schruder: You are elected representatives, since you have voted to extend, you should continue.

Dineen: Best directed to Campus Security. I'm not a lawyer.

Schruder: President Johnson still refuses to tell us what those comments were. The problem is having people telling us what is offensive of what we should be offended by without letting us know what those things were.

Lloyd: Move forward and get past this and go into a more meaningful discussion and debate but we should have a more suitable environment for this.

Reid: The project is to encourage those individuals who may not feel safe confronting those individuals, to help them express themselves and as well as others.

Schruder: Some people aren't strong enough and you can't have a shield for everything. You'll be offended by something eventually.

Prescott: When we can see a wall where people can actively say no to oppression and that they don't want it. But to stifle this kind of debate, because they might hurt some people's feelings, that is against liberty.

Motion to table all remaining motions to next assembly.

Opposed by Whittaker, Rotman, and Prescott

Motion carries.

Motion to adjourn assembly

*Motion carries. *assembly ended at 1:48 am.*

Recorded, prepared, and written by Barrie Li

Scribe for the AMS Assembly

April 4th, 2013