

AMS Assembly Minutes – Thursday, February 13th, 2014
Wallace Hall, JDUC

**Assembly commenced at 7:05PM.*

Speaker Robert Thomson (hereafter referred to as Speaker): Good evening and welcome to tonight's assembly. Let's get into it.

1. Approval of the Agenda for the meeting of February 13th, 2014

MOTION ONE: That AMS Assembly approve the agenda for the Assembly meeting of February 13th, 2014.

Moved by: Commissioner of Internal Affairs Kristen Olver

Seconded by: Vice President of University Affairs Thomas Pritchard

Rector Francis: I motion for a closed session discussion topic regarding a naming dedication.

Seconded by MBA President Drever

Motion carries.

Speaker: That will be discussion point B, after SOARB discussion.

Motion (1) carries.

2. Approval of the Minutes for the meeting of January 30th, 2014

MOTION 2: That AMS Assembly approve the minutes for the Assembly meeting of January 30th, 2014.

Moved by: Commissioner of Internal Affairs Kristen Olver

Seconded by: Vice President of University Affairs Thomas Pritchard

Motion (2) carries.

3. Speaker's Business

Speaker: Time for speaker's business; that is my business. We have a long agenda today; I want to get through it as quickly as possible. I will be strict on speaking times. If I raise my hand while you're speaking, that's your cue to stop speaking and finish what you're saying. I would encourage you to use your speaking rights for yourself, although you can pass them on to someone else.

4. President's Report



AMS President Berkok: I just want to highlight a few small things quickly. I've been doing some planning with the university. If you have any further comments about the Campus Master Plan, submit them to me as soon as possible. Additionally, the Strategic Enrolment Management group has published its first public online draft. If you Google "Queen's Enrolment Management", the link will be right there. If you have any comments or questions, contact me!

5. Vice President's Report

a. Vice President of Operations Plummer

Vice President of Operations Plummer: One thing to highlight. Obviously, the uncollected student fee money is becoming an issue. There's \$27,000 that has been uncollected this year. I've been working with the executives on an idea, and I want your opinion. Essentially, I want to make this into an AMS membership bursary. This would be a separate restricted fund. It could fund any member of your faculties and societies. Any uncollected money in the future could go into this bursary. It would eliminate the \$5,000 fee from the AMS Specific Fee. I've been working with Student Awards. I welcome any questions, comments, or feedback!

b. Vice President of University Affairs Pritchard

Vice President of University Affairs Pritchard: I just want to thank all those who attended the Good to Talk session today. We got good feedback on programming. Maintaining good mental health is an issue facing many post-secondary students. A lot of students don't know the services offered to them for mental health. The resources are there, just not getting the attention or advertising that it deserves. You can get mental health resources in the community and on campus. They sent me more information. If you have questions or comments about my report, please come see me.

6. Board of Director's Report

Chairman Garcia: There's nothing to add. Later, we will be presenting the AMS Specific Fee. We're getting close to finishing the Board of Director's Policy Manual, hopefully to be approved soon.

7. Student Senator's Report

Proxy Smolej (for Senator Duchaine): Isabelle is in London for the weekend, so I'm here to proxy for her. Nothing to report on except program closures. Talk to your respective faculties to facilitate a discussion on program closures. How do we determine who goes and who stays?

8. Rector's Report



Rector Francis: I just want to acknowledge and thank everyone for their work with the Agnes Benidickson Tricolour Award. Thanks so the societies and faculties that put forth a candidate. I want to recognize everyone who was nominated. It's not a public list, but these individuals are worthy of this award. They do so much for Queen's and our student community. Everyone who was nominated does so much, and they all deserve recognition for their work. For the recipients of the award, their names will be inducted into the Tricolour Association. I want to take a minute to congratulate Digvijay Mahra, Isabelle Duchaine, Jessica Searle, Mark Asfar, and Naheed Yaqubian.

9. Student Trustee's Report

Undergraduate Trustee Aulthouse: Not too much to say. I just want to point out that the March trustee meeting is approaching. Also, this job is a two year position, so I want to congratulate the incumbent AMS Council, whom I will be working with next year!

10. Statements by Members

ASUS Representative Chinniah: I would like to say I am very much in favour of Vice President Plummer's changes to the bursary granting process. Far too often, we overlook individuals who need assistance with their education, especially when you add on all of the ancillary fees.

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: If anyone has a proxy or is being replaced soon by a proxy please put up your hand. We might not have quorum. Also, shameless plug, we've talked about NAD a lot this year, the application is currently open for Judicial Affairs Director, as well as Clubs Manager. The services are also hiring managers. You should all apply.

AMS President Berkok: Just another shameless plug. No one has applied yet to the external alignment committee. If you're really keen to see how we work on the provincial scale, send an application to Commissioner Olver as soon as possible.

AMS Retail Service Director Bone: I just want to highlight something really quick. Next month, the Tricolour Outlet will be having a day in which 100% of our clothing revenue will be donated to a charitable cause.

11. Question Period

ASUS Representative Chinniah: I have a question for the Speaker. With all due respect, can you outline the reason you took a leave of absence without notifying Assembly, and why you think doing so was appropriate?

Speaker: Thank you for putting me on the spot. I was provided the opportunity to run in a



student society election. I was really excited. When I made the decision to run, I discussed the decision with all pertinent parties that would be affected by the change, mainly the executives and the internal affairs commissioner. I figured that notifying the least amount of people and causing the least amount of waves was the most respectful thing to Assembly.

12. New Business

Speaker: Do all of the members want to come to the front to be introduced?

CESA President Marshall: Motion to omnibus motions three to eight, regarding the ratification of incoming commissioners?

Seconded by ASUS President Mason

MOTION 3: That AMS Assembly ratify Colin Zarzour as the Academic Affairs Commissioner for the 2014 – 2015 year.

Moved by: Member at Large & Vice President Elect Philip Lloyd

Seconded by: Academic Affairs Commissioner & President Elect Allison Williams

MOTION 4: That AMS Assembly ratify Michele Charlton as the Campus Activities Commissioner for the 2014 – 2015 year.

Moved by: Member at Large & Vice President Elect Philip Lloyd

Seconded by: Academic Affairs Commissioner & President Elect Allison Williams

MOTION 5: That AMS Assembly ratify Claire Cathro as the Commissioner of Internal Affairs for the 2014 – 2015 year.

Moved by: Member at Large & Vice President Elect Philip Lloyd

Seconded by: Academic Affairs Commissioner & President Elect Allison Williams

MOTION 6: That AMS Assembly ratify Leah Kelly as the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainability for the 2014 – 2015 year.

Moved by: Member at Large & Vice President Elect Philip Lloyd

Seconded by: Academic Affairs Commissioner & President Elect Allison Williams

MOTION 7: That AMS Assembly ratify Ariel Aguilar Gonzalez as the Municipal Affairs Commissioner for the 2014 – 2015 year.

Moved by: Member at Large & Vice President Elect Philip Lloyd

Seconded by: Academic Affairs Commissioner & President Elect Allison Williams

MOTION 8: That AMS Assembly ratify Emily Wong as the Social Issues Commissioner for the 2014 – 2015 year.

Moved by: Member at Large & Vice President Elect Philip Lloyd

Seconded by: Academic Affairs Commissioner & President Elect Allison Williams

Member at Large Lloyd (VPUA-elect): I'm thrilled to be standing up here with these six individuals. They demonstrated to the hiring panel that they were organized and well prepared



for these positions through their applications and interviews. They were thorough in their ability to critically analyze what's been done before in these positions and what should be done in the future. Given that they were only hired four days ago, please make the questions general and more visual, rather than technical.

Speaker: Opening the floor for three questions for all potential commissioners. Does anyone have a question directed to all commissioners? No? Okay, I'll start it off. Why are you interested in your portfolio?

Incoming Social Issues Commissioner Emily Wong: I'm the incoming Social Issues Commissioner. What I'm excited to do is seek student feedback on equity issues and look to how we can advocate and voice these issues and how we can fix them.

Incoming Academic Affairs Commissioner Colin Zarzour: I'm excited to engage students, get their opinions, learn about their needs, and educate where there's lack of knowledge pertaining student advocacy. Student government is so prevalent in our university community, and I want to represent students at Queen's.

Incoming Campus Activities Commissioner Michele Charlton: Based on where I am and what I know today, I credit most of what I know to learning outside the classroom. I want to increase those opportunities to our students. Not everything outside of university is academic based. I want to use this position to enhance on those possibilities.

Incoming Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainability Leah Kelly: In the past year, I have been the CES Deputy of Advocacy and Awareness. I've done projects I've just fallen in love with. I want to tailor sustainability to the demographic at hand. Not many university students are passionate about the environment or recycling. I want to tailor this position to encourage enhanced sustainability on and around campus.

Incoming Commissioner of Internal Affairs Claire Cathro: The reason I applied for this position is because of my experience with the NAD system. It's something that hasn't received a very appreciative welcome. I want students to realize that NAD is an important part of what makes the AMS and Queen's unique.

Incoming Municipal Affairs Commissioner Ariel Aguilar Gonzalez: What attracted me to the MAC position is, well, I spend a lot of time in the community and with community members. I have the potential to turn this shared community into something great. We're approaching municipal elections in the fall. I want to advocate the elections to the students.

Speaker: Any other questions?

Rector Francis: What do you foresee being the most challenging to your position? How do you hope to address those challenges?

Incoming Municipal Affairs Commissioner Ariel Aguilar Gonzalez: I see the biggest issue being the municipal elections. We get one every four years. To outline my proposal; we have the



CEO, DRO, the elections team. Use them. I think it's about running a positive campaign by letting the students know about services that they take for granted by the city.

Incoming Commissioner of Internal Affairs Claire Cathro: One of the biggest issues is defending NAD as a peer administered system.

Incoming Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainability Leah Kelly: Garnering the interest of the students. As I mentioned, students aren't passionate about sustainability. We need to be tailoring events and speaker series to the students' wants.

Incoming Campus Activities Commissioner Michele Charlton: Putting on events and promoting events actually serving the students. We want to run the events currently here.

Incoming Academic Affairs Commissioner Colin Zarzour: There isn't any issue singular or isolated. The largest issue is understanding the history that has led us to here. Enrolment, fees that the school administration is anticipating.

Incoming Social Issues Commissioner Emily Wong: Biggest issues with social issues is the lack of student engagement. We have a strong core of students interested in issues, but this doesn't extend to the remainder of the student body

Speaker: Last question.

AMS Vice President of University Affairs Pritchard: In my opinion, advocacy is big to heart. What skills do you have that would make you a good advocate?

Incoming Social Issues Commissioner Emily Wong: As an individual, I have to be aware of my position. I have to garner as much feedback as possible from students. My advocacy is based on feedback and communicating with people I represent.

Incoming Academic Affairs Commissioner Colin Zarzour: I think advocacy is much about taking the student body as a whole and recognizing interest groups within the student body.

Incoming Campus Activities Commissioner Michele Charlton: I echo most of what they say. My advocacy style is coming in with an understanding of the other side. We won't all agree on the same thing.

Incoming Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainability Leah Kelly: A huge part of advocacy is reflecting on your own enthusiasm and happiness for what you're fighting for. You want to see how you can engage people in ways that fit them. You have to be more subtle so the people don't feel like you're pushing the issue.

Incoming Commissioner of Internal Affairs Claire Cathro: When you're facing the issue, you have to go into it with an open mind and compassion.

Incoming Municipal Affairs Commissioner Ariel Aguilar Gonzalez: I think an important part



is the ability to put yourself out there. You can't be afraid to hear negative feedback from one hundred people. You have to make your most earnest effort.

Speaker: Now we'll ask you to leave the room. A reminder that motions three through eight are an omnibus.

Omnibus carries.

Motion (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), and (8) carries.

MOTION 9: That AMS Assembly ratify Mackenzie Biddie as the Marketing and Communications Officer for the 2014 – 2015 year.

Moved by: Academic Affairs Commissioner & President Elect Allison Williams

Seconded by: Member at Large & Vice President Elect Philip Lloyd

AMS Academic Affairs Commissioner and AMS President-Elect Williams: I'll say a lot that Phil said. Mackenzie showed incredible understanding and vision. She brought forth great proposals and ideas. This is the first time we've hired the commissioners and officers at the same time.

Speaker: Questions?

ASUS Representative Chinniah: Considering marketing and communications offices were merged this year, how do you intend to manage the transition?

Incoming Marketing and Communications Officer Biddie: It's been something we've been working to get through as a team. I will be transitioning with both of them on a joint custody schedule.

Vice President of Operations Plummer: This year Eril and Jacob have had a huge push to integrate research. What are your thoughts on that stretch, and how can it support the services in the society?

Incoming Marketing and Communications Officer Biddie: I think market research is an important part of this portfolio. Jacob and Eril have done a great job incorporating it. We have started research, but I want to expand it. I want to see and communicate with people who aren't using our services right now and see why they aren't. It's great to see the value people see in our services, but I want to evaluate the people who don't use our services to find out why. I want to use research as an advocacy thing so we can use it as empirical data.

Trustee Aulthouse: What are you looking forward to most in your role?

Incoming Marketing and Communications Officer Biddie: I'm really excited about this new office incorporating the two streams of marketing and communication. I've decided to hire two new brains.



Motion (10) carries.

MOTION 10: That AMS Assembly ratify Troy Sherman as the Student Centre Officer for the 2014 – 2015 year.

Moved by: Academic Affairs Commissioner & President Elect Allison Williams

Seconded by: Member at Large & Vice President Elect Philip Lloyd

AMS Academic Affairs Commissioner and AMS President-Elect Williams: I'm beginning to sound redundant now. So, Troy was phenomenal in his interview and application. He has great vision for the SLC moving forward.

Proxy Asfar (for ASUS Representative Goodman): The SLC is the black sheep of the AMS, and it is often missing from the AMS specific fee report. What do you plan to do with the SLC to remove this stigma?

Incoming Student Life Centre Officer Troy Sherman: I wouldn't call it a black sheep, I'd rather call it a new service. The SLC is so new, and always changing. We need to figure out an identity for the SLC. The tenants of the buildings are very diverse. We have four buildings. I hope to work on a long term marketing strategy. We want to make it the heart of student life on campus. We want the programming and tenants to be diverse, like our students. We want the SLC to become more attractive.

Proxy Grotsky (for Vice President Tahiri): How do you plan on acquainting yourself with this job given your lack of experience with the AMS?

Incoming Student Life Centre Officer Troy Sherman: Well, I need to figure out where the paperclips are, and find my way around the office. We have orientation for that. I want to get comfy in my new house of the JDUC.

ASUS Representative Wiseman: What is your favourite building, and why?

Incoming Student Life Centre Officer Troy Sherman: I would have to say the JDUC. I think it's my favourite because it's iconic. Everyone recognizes it. Everyone has affinity towards it. We need a long term vision for this building and determining what students want here. We want to make this an iconic student building moving forward. I think there's a lot of great memories in this building. Students come here to this very room to have their student card renewed every year. Students maintain their own traditions with going to QP after classes. There are so many great memories to be had in this very building. We want students to look back on their university memories, and remember the JDUC.

Motion (10) carries.

MOTION 11: That AMS Assembly ratify Maggie Monteith as the Human Resources



Officer for the 2014 – 2015 year.

Moved by: Academic Affairs Commissioner & President Elect Allison Williams

Seconded by: Member at Large & Vice President Elect Philip Lloyd

AMS Academic Affairs Commissioner and AMS President-Elect Williams: Yeah, once again, she was phenomenal. She impressed me with her maturity and her preparation for the interview and the role.

Speaker: Why are you excited to be the HRO?

Incoming Human Resources Officer Maggie Monteith: Everything I've done at Queen's is to become part of this community and further the sense of family. I know there's an external perception that no AMS experience can be questioned, and that AMS experience actually is required. I really want to work on that this year, and providing transparency with that.

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: With human resources, you deal a lot with confidentiality, and there are not many people you can talk to. What do you plan to do to ensure that you're maintaining your personal health, and getting the support you need?

Incoming Human Resources Officer Maggie Monteith: I think this is why I'm interested in this role. I'm very much able to stay healthy while being busy. I've made my own methods to cope. Lately, this means spending half an hour a day just to turn off my brain; watching television, talking to housemates, doing something not focused on other people. I have the ability to compartmentalize. I acknowledge the magnitude of issues that may come my way, and I know how to maintain objectivity.

AMS President Berkok: Transitioning is necessary to ensuring the efficacy is maintained. In the heat of the day, transitioning can become secondary. How will you emphasize the importance of transitioning?

Incoming Human Resources Officer Maggie Monteith: Part of it has to do with the transparency. While no AMS experience is true, we won't simply allow you to walk onto the job and start working. I want everyone to be informed of the resources available to them when they come into the job. That comes from myself wanting the Queen's community to feel safe about their problems.

Motion (11) carries.

MOTION 12: That AMS Assembly approve that the Queen's TV \$3.00 fee should no longer be subject to individual opt-out, subject to confirmation at the AMS Annual General Meeting.

Moved by: Member at Large Travis Rhee

Seconded by: Member at Large Mohammed Kasraee

Member at Large Rhee: Hey, everyone! Thanks for having us tonight. I'm the executive



producer of QTV.

Member at Large Kasraee: And I'm the QTV business manager.

QTV Representatives: TV is the on campus video producer. We have come a long way in the time that QTV has been functioning. Four years ago, we established a YouTube channel. We have three pillars to our organization. The first pillar is student run content. We have various subjects, including student life, comedy, and athletics. We also feature video factoring as our second pillar, which is a client based video service. Clients pay us to take videos of their conferences. We cover student services. Our third pillar is our most recent addition; livestream. Every weekend, we livestream men's and women's basketball and volleyball. This year we taped all of the home football games. We offer many student opportunities, open to everyone. We provide hands-on training for the film and media departments. QTV offers that gap in training for any student to get this experience. The second aspect to our services is employment. This gives students the opportunity to meet with clients to edit and film a video on a timeline. We enhance student employment portfolios. We cover a wide range of ways students can be involved with QTV. For music, students can get info from the videos we create. It's something they can share with other students. Our livestream capabilities bring students opportunities for Gael sports. For Homecoming, all the tickets were sold out, and students weren't able to watch the game in person. We covered the game so they could watch it. We cover AMS elections, assemblies, and TedXQueen'sU to students. We did the CIS Volleyball Championships two years ago. We're asking to make out opt-outable fee a mandatory fee. This will bring us more money. We will purchase new equipment. Currently, we have limited equipment, and we have to share that between all of our obligations and events. This hinders our ability to make effective and high quality services. We want to provide new employment opportunities to use a new unique skill. Being able to practice and learn provides valuable experience in broadcasting and journalism, two programs that our school doesn't offer. We want to purchase and repair our equipment. Over three years, this would be \$45,000 in student fees. We would allocate a certain percent to live streams and such. Other money would go towards remunerations, and seven percent would go towards repairs. We want to free up resources. This isn't just for livestream. By purchasing new equipment, we can create better quality for all aspects of QTV. We can create more content, better content. We would be able to cover twice the amount of content for sporting events. Twenty new student jobs would also be included in this. It also allows us to go beyond athletics. This allows us to cover other events and performances that are important to students.

Media Services Director MacDonald: I want to cover a few things that they didn't cover. First of all is why they are here for the mandatory fee, and the accessibility. The mandatory fee is important. They are the only media service on campus that is currently an opt out fee. Their service is available to anyone on campus. Their usership is broad. You see that opt-out fees mainly support opportunities or causes. QTV is deserving. They provide value to our students. Secondly, note on the need for more resources. I've spent almost a year with them. I've seen how efficient, frugal, and constrained they are. The breadth of their staff and volunteers is enormous. They have 135 volunteers and staff, on a tremendously small budget. They are constrained trying to save money. I think you should view this proposal, not as a way to "squeeze" more money from your constituents, but as a true investment. Every dollar you put into them will contribute to their growth. They will continue to be an effective, impactful organization. What they do is



highly resource intensive. QTV needs \$50,000 to \$60,000 worth of equipment just to open the door. They can't just say, "We're a club, come to us!"

Chairman Garcia: On behalf of the board, I want to endorse QTV. We've seen the growth and potential they have. I received an email from George and Jess from the Alumni Association, and they wanted to say how much QTV does have an impact on students and the Queen's community.

AMS Vice President of Operations Plummer: Point of information. I want to explain the process for this, and how the fees are being passed right now. Essentially, student fees can be passed through referendum or AGM. Sometimes it can be misleading. In the sense, what we're voting on right now is the merit of the fee. You're not talking about whether or not it will be voted on. This is a representative democracy. AGM is a direct democracy. Please stand up and express why you're voting no or yes so it's a more interactive conversation. You are debating the merit of the fee.

Proxy Asfar (for ASUS Representative Goodman): Quick question, I want to know, the fee will last for several years. What do you do to ensure that future managers and producers will use this money wisely?

QTV Representatives: We have a plan to use this money effectively. The yearly turnover is an issue with a lot of services. However, this question is answered in the transitional manual. This was brought on by Gene two years ago. Two years ago, QTV was in turmoil. We established a new business manager, we brought forth more opportunities. Establishing these relationships with athletics and alumni will keep accountable future executives. We have a plan, and we're being held accountable by you, by the AMS, and by the students. The direction we're going in is encouraging the people in the future to use the funds wisely. The students as well; we want to keep on track with the funds and the services. They will have lenience regarding the content and where they want to go. To add on, I would personally make sure with the business manager, where the shortfall and good parts are, and how to effectively use this fee in the model we've created.

ASUS Representative Rubin: Point of information, about the nature of what we're debating here. I think if this were in the referendum, it would be the most equitable way to gauge feedback. Most people I've talked to question if this is the fairest way to establish a fee. Is this limited to discussing the merits of a fee, or should we be discussing whether we should even push this to AGM?

AMS Vice President of Operations Plummer: We as assembly members are voting yes or no. We're not voting it through to AGM. If you're voting yes at this assembly, you should vote yes at AGM. You shouldn't be changing your mind. This vote is not a vote of you as a student versus you as a representative.

ASUS Representative Rubin: What I got from your first statement is that the only thing we should be debating is the establishment of the fee, and if there is merit to it. What I'm saying is, is it acceptable to debate whether we can push a fee through this way?



AMS Vice President of Operations Plummer: If you have problems with process, that should have been debated last fall. That's something that should have been brought up in a separate conversation, and we shouldn't penalize these groups for that. We can eliminate the AGM process all together. If you're questioning why these groups are choosing AGM over referendum, you can ask them why. Our policy isn't written that way. There's no preferential treatment.

ASUS Representative Rubin: QTV, why did you go the AGM route?

QTV Representatives: There are two different referendums. During the fall, we have hiring and training. The majority of the fall is training. As well, our volunteers are not equipped to pull a campaign together in that short a time. For the winter, we run into the problems of running an election media campaign. It's too difficult to pull together the resources.

Engineering Society President Fleck: Couple of points, I don't agree with mandatory fees going to the AGM because it affects every single student, so it doesn't have the same representation. Many groups say that their money and financing is so complex that students wouldn't understand. It's my opinion that it doesn't hold. QTV claims that their resources during referendum time are to advertise AMS teams. This fee attempt has been on their radar for several years, so I don't see why they couldn't have prepared for it. In Engineering Society 2008, we increased the fee. It passed with 87%. I think it passed because it was so understandable. The students at this university have the ability to understand finances.

AMS Vice President of Operations Plummer: Point of information, I want to make it clear that the specific referendum President Fleck is referring to was tied to the reopening of Clark Hall Pub. The increase of the fee was associated with Clark Hall Pub. It's not exactly a comparable situation.

Engineering Society President Fleck: Yep, moving forward. The opt-outable fee is still the best way to go. You could increase the opt-out fee from \$1.30 to \$1.50, and still receive the same result.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: To clarify Fleck's position, why is President Fleck saying she is opposing the mandatory fee, but two weeks ago she approved the mandatory fee of CFRC?

Engineering Society President Fleck: I see them as different services. From the conversations we have had with our students, they value CFRC over QTV services.

Member at Large (from the gallery): How do you plan to use the fee increase to ensure events in the community are relative and accessible?

QTV Representatives: With the fee, we are given more freedom. We share the same pool of resources. On weekends, our equipment is used for livestream for athletics. This would help us purchase more equipment to go into Kingston to cover events for the city. We like to go into Kingston and film business owners. Over the weekends, a lot of businesses are available, but we don't have the equipment. This would help us have students being more aware of what's going on in City Hall as well.



Proxy Lively (for ASUS Representative Wilson): Can you go into more detail about the capital expenditures? Is it really going to be your plan to spend \$24,000 and have it amortized over the next three years? Is this not depreciating equipment? Is there not a better way to leverage funds from other sources? Given that the alumni seem so supportive of QTV, can you not solicit funds from them? You've budgeted \$0 in donations here, which I assume would come from interested parties and alumni. If you're going to come in here with a case based on external forces, you should be asking those external parties for assistance.

QTV Representatives: It's going to be broken down. Tricaster equipment is \$20,000. We need cameras, soundboards, microphones, and cabling. We decided to pick three years because it's easier to present. That's the expected life expectancy of our equipment. Our Tricaster rattles and runs slowly. It has had performance issues for three to four years. We have included that in our capital expenditures. Going any further would have people in five years paying for broken or not working cameras. For the Queen's Alumni Association, thing is, that's not stable. They don't have a set fund for grants. We can't rely on them to purchase equipment. For football, QAA said they would give us a \$4,000 grant. In fact, athletics fronted the bill. They can't fund the endeavour. We want to ask students, get their opinion. If we purchase the equipment, we have a say in the livestream. If the QAA funded us more, we would do more athletic oriented things. If athletics bought everything, we would feel more obligated towards sports and athletics, when we want to go beyond that. We want to do student performances.

Media Services Director McDonald: Point of information, we made a budget plan for five years. Actually, to clarify, for the next five years, we plan to change amortization over the life span. It wouldn't be prudent to advertise for a time over their life span. Regarding your question on non-appreciable equipment, you'd be surprised about the little things that break; keyboards, SD cards. These are the estimated additional support costs. It's frugal that we're not spending. We could spend a ton more. They could have gone for a higher fee, but they wanted to switch to a mandatory fee. QTV is efficient and frugal; they do so much with so little funding.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: I will be abstaining from this vote because I have a conflict of interest, but I want to say that QTV represents the biggest growth potential we have in the society. From video factoring to streaming services, they will continue to express their potential. They will be a credible competitor to the Queen's Journal and other media outlets on campus. I feel that the transition to a mandatory fee does have merit. Although I will not be joining you in voting, I encourage you to help them continue their history.

Engineering Society Representative Godin: I would like to speak against this motion. I would say that I would support a larger opt-out fee. The same revenue can be generated and accomplished in that manner. This increase may not be necessary. These funds can be generated through revenue. More games and events could be covered. You could purchase whatever you need.

Director McDonald: Point of information, we do generate revenue, but it's from athletics, and it's limited.



Engineering Society Representative Godin: Yeah, still just a source of revenue. Continuing, the key point. In November 2011, this went to referendum. The answer was no to 83%. That's a clear answer from students about what they want. To that end, I do not support this motion.

ASUS President Mason: Speaker Thompson, I believe debate has been exhausted. QTV has explained all aspects of their proposal. I move the question.

Seconded by Jon Wiseman

Member at Large: Point of information, I want to point out that amortization is an accounting process. It is different from financing.

Proxy Lively (for ASUS Representative Adam Wilson): Point of information, if I may. I want to point out that QTV's budget is already budgeting to spend \$11,000 on depreciation of furniture, and amortization of \$10,000.

ASUS Representative Walsh: I am curious as to we have radio and newspaper as mandatory fee. In today's media news, television and online videos -

Speaker: This is not the time for points of debate.

ASUA Representative Walsh: We should be looking to different medias.

Speaker: In terms of progressing the debate, we have to look at this first. If you have a point of information about calling this point to question, speak now. All for calling this motion to question.

For: 32

Against: 11

Motion carries.

QTV Representatives: Thanks again for listening to us. We hope that you vote in favour of this motion. Before we close, we want to read a few words from a volunteer. This is coming from Justin Matthews. He asked me to read this:

Please read THIS, as is, brackets and #ICEE included, with the way I deliver #ICEE: Hello dear friends, I apologize for being unable to be with you today in person, thankfully I have Travis as my mouthpiece. As he reads this, I am, in all likelihood, passed out on the Megabus on my way home. But let me get right into it: Today, we are here at AMS Assembly in the hope that we can put forward to AGM a mandatory fee for Queen's TV. As it stands, we are the only media service (save for YDS) that does not have a mandatory fee. I could tell you about what QTV has done for this community, but I'd rather share what it has done for me and the many people who have had the pleasure working here. QTV has changed my life. Whether it was interviewing hip hop legends like Shad, politicians like Justin Trudeau, being a part of TedxQueen's, spreading Random Acts of Kindness with the help of Cogro, organizing and filming the Harlem Shake (remember that!), making a music video, trolling students, taking shots at the Queen's Journal,



responding to that guy in the Globe & Mail on school spirit (yes, that guy), or getting emails from Alumni and parents across the globe about our livestream and how overjoyed they are that they can, even for just an hour, be with their sons or daughters as they compete as our Queen's Gaels. QTV has taught me a wealth of technical skills I would only learn in college, filming/interviewing skills I would only learn studying journalism, and I got it all for free - thanks to people like Adam Cunliffe, Travis Rhee (I know this is slightly awkward for Travis to be reading this out loud to you as I thank him), Sebastian Diaz, Melanie Burton and Derek Vogt who I'm sure learned from the people before them (yes, Eugene Michasiw). When I first came to Queen's University, I wanted to work in policy. My dream today is to work in that 'intersection between media and policy' because I've come to learn that where you reach people is not from the hilltops of Parliament but from home, on TV and computer-screens. My point is this, a mandatory fee is more than just a fee - it's an investment into students who share in our passions for journalism, entertainment and storytelling. If you go to Queen's it would come as a shock to me if you haven't seen something we've done and enjoyed. We are still growing, we are still learning and we are still creating incredible content. And it was here that I learned friends can become family - that may have been a bit sappy, but I do mean it. To those who have expressed your support, I can't thank you enough. To those unsure, it is my humble request to each and every one of you tonight to vote in favour of putting this to AGM and investing in this tradition that is living, breathing and vibrant as ever. JM out. #ICEE

We want to echo what Justin said. We think this can be really great. This will establish us at Queen's and in Canada for providing experience and opportunities. We want to be part of a great organization.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: Point of information, how much of a margin is required?

Speaker: It is two-thirds.

For: 31

Opposed: 8

Abstentions: 3

Marshall: Two individuals didn't vote.

ASUS President Mason: Would that make a difference?

Speaker: Yes.

ASUS President Mason: Move for a recount?

Speaker: We're having a recount. Everyone needs to vote.

For: 31

Opposed: 8

Abstentions: 3



ASUS Representative Chinniah: Point of information, what was the total before?

Speaker: It is the exact same.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: What were the totals?

Speaker: It is 31 for, 8 opposed, and three abstentions. Now, that doesn't bring us to a 44 total.

Rector Francis: This is irrelevant to debate, but is it possible in future assemblies for the heat to be turned up?

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: Point of personal privilege, I emailed you all to bring blankets! I told you it would be cold.

Motion (12) carries.

ASUS Representative Rubin: Motion for a five minute recess.

Seconded by Jon Wiseman

Assembly called to recess at 8:41PM.

Assembly called back at 8:49PM.

MOTION 13: That AMS Assembly approve an increase in the Queen's Journal mandatory fee from \$6.96 to \$8.16, an increase of \$1.20, subject to confirmation at the AMS Annual General Meeting.

Moved by: Member at Large Alison Shouldice

Seconded by: Member at Large Janina Enrile

Queen's Journal Representatives: I'm one of the editors in chief. We're here to ask for a \$1.20 fee increase. We'll go into the numbers shortly. We want to tell you a little more about the Journal. We were founded in 1873. We've been the campus's main source of media ever since. We're a twice weekly publication. We currently have twenty five editorial staff members, and five staff. We have no journalism school at Queen's. We have a lot of notable alumni members. We spoke to John Stackhouse, the editor of the Globe and Mail. He graduated Commerce in 1985. He said that Queen's Journal offers so many opportunities to students. I'll be talking about how the Journal is right now. The ad revenue in newspapers across the world has gone down, with revenue declining 55%. Ours has declined 53%, so we're right up there. Because of that, we have cut expenses. We have cut them by 20%. This doesn't mean that student interest isn't there. We have had 470,000 web visits in the past year. Earlier this year, we projected a deficit of \$44,000 to \$47,000. We want the budget to zero. This number can fluctuate based on revenue. I want to talk about the cuts we've made. First was over the summer. We released an editors note telling readers we cut print issues from forty to twenty-nine. We made up for this in an online issue. We removed permanent staff positions. Every year, two staff members work at the Whig in an internship. We've cut the salary in half. What we're asking for is a \$1.20 increase. This money



could help us fulfill our mandate. Queen's Journal has two pillars, the first being coverage. We feel that we're part of a healthy democracy. We keep university and student leaders accountable. The second pillar is education. We don't have a journalism school. We work as a defacto journalism school. I'm going to go through pillar one. We've made coverage's this year, first being print design. This is an example of our second issue of the year, June 2013. The photo is small, text heavy. We decided that we want to focus more on the design on the print issues. These are more of the recent front pages. We work more on the front page. We have another staff member with more design skill. We started making digital features. We're getting started on this with other features across the country. Obviously, we have less resources. First came in October, with QJhomecoming.com, featuring articles discussing the traditions surrounding homecoming games. We wanted to be more ambitious. Next we did a seven part series, called State of the University. We want to do a website revamp. We looked into this last summer. It's a long term project. We met with web developers in the community and provincial region. Based on what we learned, it would be a \$20,000 to \$30,000 expenditure over four years. Websites aren't that long term. It would need constant updating to accommodate content management issues, an enhanced online experience, easier to navigate, and enhanced ad space. It would help be a base for long form features. We're hoping to bump the web developers honoraria. Our lowest honoraria is our developer, when they are a part of our core team. We want to hire a creative director. Right now, our staff is working to their capacity. The digital long form features are our staff going above and beyond. This person would work on the design. They would serve the visual end of the paper and adapt to global changes. The Globe and Mail has changed their direction, now we want to. Second pillar, there's no formal journalism service at Queens. Students can get solid practical experience here. We've envisioned several things to increase this. The more we can strengthen the educational side, the more we can enhance the coverage. For multimedia, we have a lot of photographers at events. A lot of people don't know this, but the Journal doesn't own its own camera. We want to purchase a new camera and lenses. This would cost between \$1,500 and \$2,000. This would attract people without a camera or with no skills. You can see there's a lot of multimedia with having a camera around. Writers are well versed in the writers end. Professional newsrooms have multimedia kits. To help our reporters have that knowledge going into the field, we want to have coding workshops. Being able to teach our reporters how to code would be helpful. This creates opportunities for us to enhance our storytelling.

Media Services Director McDonald: Motion to go into committee of the whole.
Seconded by Scott Mason

Media Services Director McDonald: I apologize in advance for another boring slideshow on finances. We're going to discuss what the goals are, and how we want to achieve them. We'll also go into financial stability. We want to put them in a stable position so they aren't coming back here to ask for money. Second, reliance on print revenue. Print revenue is a large contributor. Our contribution is \$80,000. We want to lessen that in case print revenue sees further declines. We want to cater to a different kind of media. This year, they had fairly significantly reductions in cost through the reduction in number of issues they printed. We're trying experimentation with new revenue models. They can't rely on this revenue going forward, but we see this as the future of advertising revenue. Half a million dollars in a cumulative deficit. Take away structural deficit. Their revenue growth potential is limited. Slight interim increases. They're at a status quo status. They can't grow from here. They're way out is generating new revenue and making cuts. This



allows them to deal with immediate issues, but nothing that comes forward. It's above the zero, but they haven't changed anything to their operational picture. They aren't pivoting towards the future. Another scenario is a fee increase. The structural changes they had before with strategic investments causes further declines in current revenue (web revenue or special projects). This is the most stable possible plan. We hope we're mostly through the woods. But things can get worse before they get better. Going back to the goals, financial stability requires investments beyond what they've made. They've cut 20% of their budget, and they're asking for a bit of money to cover the rest of that cost. The cuts they've done are huge in comparison to what we're asking for. This was never a for sure vote, it always required something on part of the Journal. The relationship is never easy. They've truly impressed us with their ambition and vision. Not a lot of people can do this effectively.

ASUS Representative Walsh: I'm curious, you guys budgeted \$12,000 to special funding. Could you specify where this money will go?

Queen's Journal Representatives: That's \$12,000 per year. That money will go towards paying for a developer. We want to increase the honoraria.

Media Services Director McDonald: To add to that, websites are expensive to develop. This is an enormous catalogue. It's tremendously complex, and there's a lot of money to go with that. The New York Times would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to maintain their website.

ASUS President Mason: The Journal met with us. We've had to make huge financial choices like that. They're taking real steps to eliminate their deficit. They're the second oldest student run newspaper in the country, and they are taking drastic steps to ensure their tradition is kept.

Engineering Society Representative Godin: I want to speak against this motion. I think the various groups tonight have approached many of us. I have spoken to the Journal. I don't like this because the budget numbers presented to me; the status quo indicated a profit of \$250,000. Capital projects are possible over time. Another thing striking me is the overhead cost. One very physical example is the house. It seems to cost \$36,000 annually in rent. While I understand that can't become \$0, I think I would like to see it reduced by you moving, without taking more money. This is a mandatory fee. When talking about a fee increase, if I asked constituents, none of them would say yes to this.

Media Services Director McDonald: In regards to changes to overhead costs, specifically rent, what would it look like? What is a comparable space? The PPC spends \$25,000 every year on rent. The Journal pays \$26,400 in rent due to lease hold appreciation. That's money donated many years ago when we first moved there. If we moved away to find a comparable space, even the PCC which would be significantly smaller, it would cost similar or more. It is necessary to make strategic investments in websites to go forward. We can make investments in camera, but it won't move us into the future.

ASUS Representative Wiseman: Two questions. Why AGM, and not referendum? And why do you want print? What do you do with excess papers?



Media Services Director McDonald: It's a misconception that print is a drainer. It actually reduces the cost for us. We generate \$144,000 revenue. Print costs \$50,000. That's a \$90,000 operating budget. When we talk about cutting print, we have to the point where we can without losing revenue. Most people don't advertise more than once a week, which is why you see a lot on stands. Essentially, if we print less copies, revenue from ads would be cut. We currently have an average of a 60% pick up rate. Our floor manager did a lot of work to refine the pick up rate, which is now 75% to 85%. Due to our revenue, it's actually more financially savvy. Basically, we feel strongly that our financial situation is complicated enough that it should be here. We've made a bunch of cuts to virtually zero. We don't think we would be able to fit our vision into a referendum.

NSS Vice President Collin: What is the percentage of students that subscribe to the Journal? Do you have a plan to become more visible to the students?

Queen's Journal Representatives: We don't have subscriptions. It's free. For visibility, we hired a marketing manager. We wanted to undertake it because we want to promote it more. This person was hired before the holidays, and she's getting her work underway now.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: Point of information. The pick up rate has been low in the past, but now it has risen under this past year, if that's the subscription rate you're referring to.

Proxy Smolej (for Senator Duchaine): I take issue with how it appears that we're circumventing the opt out system. I've heard concerns relating to that. Why would this not pass at an opt out? It goes to the core of quality reporting and issues circulating ideologies and lack of substantive research. The plan going forward doesn't address any of those points.

Queen's Journal Representatives: Your question is why aren't we addressing quality? In a way, we are. With the creative director role, we will oversee the visual design. The way we work is with section heads. Our news editor edits ten to fifteen articles per week. He has the responsibility to manage three assistant news editors. When you're putting someone in that capacity, we will release his burden to enhance our quality.

Media Services Director McDonald: The Journal does great work. I make a lot of mistakes in my job because I'm learning. I'm hoping that I'm held to the same standard as anyone else. The Journal is a learning opportunity for many students. As we improve resources, they will get better at what they do. We want to improve alumni dates and engagement. Learning opportunities would be improved. I think they're doing a tremendous job, everyone here makes mistakes. It's part of the process.

Proxy for Vice President Aharon: Clarify about training. What kind of training are you trying to do? Are you hiring people to teach people?

Queen's Journal Representatives: With our projects, we require a lot of coding. These are used in newsrooms. We want to look visually attractive. We want to bring in someone to teach our staff those skills. We did look into the cost, and that's why it says \$1,000 is there.



Aesculapian Representative Broussenko: I want to address assembly. We've had a number of fees come to consideration with multimedia platform. With the exception of QTV, the rest of the fees have been mandatory. We need to evaluate our perspective on mandatory fees. We need to evaluate the merit on the fee itself, not mandatory versus opt out. This service reflects Queen's as a whole. This is something that can be considered by all students. Assessing the solvency of their financial plan should be our only job here tonight.

AMS Vice President of Operations Plummer: I want to put aside comments by saying that I don't think there's a relationship more strained than the VPOs and the editor in chief of the Journal. It means that I care a lot about this issue. I want to echo what Devin said. This wasn't a done deal at the beginning of the year. At the beginning, we were confident in voting no for this fee. I have so much confidence in these two girls. They have done a fantastic job in changing our mind. They're the only newspaper that truly simulates what a real newspaper is. We're all here trying to learn what it's like to work real jobs. These two women in collaboration with fifty staff are proving an opportunity not offered by the school. I and the Council are in full support of this newspaper. These students are deserving of the increase. They've demonstrated how they intend to use this money responsibly and efficiently.

Member at Large Randall: I would like to speak in support of this motion. In my capacity as a student director, I have represented the AMS on the Journal Board of Directors. These two girls have taken financial scare and deficit more seriously than a lot of others I have seen. They've executed steps to address it. It speaks to the character of them and their staff. Last point is that in response to comments made about EngSoc not seeing value in the Journal, we've challenged Queen's administration in the past. The next year, when I sat on council for the AMS, I saw the impact that the op-ed had. The alumni would not have seen it. It would not have had the reach into the community without Queen's Journal. Their experience is better.

Chairman Garcia: I want to speak in favour. On behalf of the board, the value that Queen's Journal has is phenomenal. Their ability to change things is incredible, and we all support this. I want you to comment on the reach that Queen's Journal has in terms of the views.

Queen's Journal Representatives: We had that figure in our presentation. We calculated that from this time last year, we have had 467000 gross views, with 250,000 unique views.

Commerce Society President Hennick: I motion to call it to question.

ASUS Representative Wiseman: Point of information, can we call the question in committee of the whole?

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: We move out of committee of the whole.

Proxy Lively (for ASUS Representative Wilson): Motion to leave committee of the whole.
Seconded by ASUS President Mason

Motion carries.



Commerce Society President Hennick: Can I still call the question?

Speaker: He has use of speaking rights at this time.

Proxy Lively (for ASUS Representative Wilson): I would like to point out that this is not a question of whether they will exist in the future, this is a question whether they want more money from students. Is this going to go to the AGM? I would like this answered after, what is the state of the change since the 2013/ 2014 AGM? The budget I have right now projects deficit. Many of these cuts in spending are not reflected in this budget. You're saving \$68,000. I think that's a stretch. You're looking at a \$50,000 surplus after these cuts are made. I'm disappointed that they haven't used that reach to get students to come out tonight to support this. If you aren't using that reach, you aren't thinking well of the average student.

Media Services Director McDonald: For the budget, you're right, but your interpretation is different. We projected a \$7,000 surplus. Instead of that, over the course of the year, we've done considerably worse than we anticipated. When we're talking about the deficit, and the cuts we've made, that brings us back to zero. Take the budget of negative \$7,000 dollars. Add the money, take away the cuts, and we're back at zero. We were told someone would purchase our web capacity, and they pulled out. We don't have control over certain things. This amounted to a \$40,000 difference for the revenue this year versus last year. We're responding to this point in the year, rather to where we were in August. I stand by those numbers from the summer, but now we know other news.

Engineering Society Representative McElroy: I spoke with the girls. I see the merit. I spoke the last week with my constituents, and the result was unfavourable. I will be abstaining from this vote. I see the merit, but without support from my constituents, I cannot support it.

Engineering Society Representative Blair: This is two part. Can you explain the requirements of the Journal to vet democratic unrest throughout Queen's? Yesterday, we discussed how the Journal served the purpose of allowing students who have been wronged personally to have a means to get their story out. Is that true?

Queen's Journal Representatives: Yeah, in terms of the democracy, as an institution, we hold administration and student leaders accountable. The Journal serves as an outlet for students to get their opinion out. Even if a student doesn't support or read the Journal often, that outlet is there.

Engineering Society Representative Blair: In your current financial status, if you don't get the fee, can you still provide that?

Queen's Journal Representatives: Yes. It's in degrees. The Journal still plays an important role, the Journal can do a lot better. This is being reflective of the community and getting the resources to do so. As the media landscape changes, we need resources to reflect that.

Proxy Butler (for ASUS Representative Matiussi): I would like to pass my speaking rights to President Mason.



ASUS President Mason: I move to ask the question.

Seconded by Commerce Society President Hennick

Queen's Journal Representatives: Thanks for listening to us and encouraging this lively debate. The news industry is in a transitional state. While faced with financial difficulties, we made decisions to better our financial position. We want to continue to provide students comprehensive coverage. A new website and other digital additions would achieve this. One part of our mandate is to act as a training tool for our students. Going forward, we want to keep the best parts of the Journal, while increasing our opportunities and experiences.

Proxy Lively (for ASUS Representative Wilson): Point of order, I'd like to call a secret ballot, based on the power the Journal holds. I don't want any representatives in this room to feel in danger of having their vote cast into the public, or having any backlash from their vote.

Speaker: As there is no policy, it is a Speaker's ruling, and I am in favour of it.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: Motion to overrule that?

Media Services Director McDonald: Can five members stand to overrule as role call?

Speaker: So, there's a motion to overturn my decision to use secret ballot. I want to do this secret ballot. Representative Chinniah is trying to overturn that. Right now, you're voting to overturn my decision.

For: 14

Against: 27

Motion (to overrule the Speaker's ruling on secret ballot) fails.

Rector Francis: Point of personal privilege, relative of what's going on. I would ask the members to project their voices.

AMS Vice President of Operations Plummer: Motion to reconsider the vote?

Speaker: There's a motion to overturn the previous decision, to reconsider the reconsideration of my ruling.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: Point of order, I put forth the motion. It was defeated.

Speaker: That's where my head's at.

AMS Vice President of University Affairs Pritchard: Yes, but if Plummer wants to reconsider, that allows two people to speak for and against. This will allow more debate on this motion.

AMS Vice President of Operations Plummer: Motion to reconsider.

Seconded by VPUA Pritchard



Speaker: Calling two people for and two people against. First person for, Plummer. Against, Lively.

AMS Vice President of Operations Plummer: The reason I did this is that I feel strongly against secret ballots. You're here voting for your students, not your personal opinions. I feel like your students should know how they're being represented. There should be no secret ballot in policy. I'm asking to reconsider this motion. I think if you're sitting here, students should know how you're voting.

Rector Francis: Point of information, is it not in policy in secret ballot to write your name?

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: That policy was brought forward last April/this past September and was tabled.

Proxy Lively (for ASUS Representative Wilson): I'd like to point out to Plummer that while this exists in policy, we shouldn't disadvantage the people who do want to bring this forward. A secret ballot is warranted. I'm calling this because the Journal has a lot of sway. If I was an editor, I would call someone out on this. I don't want any representatives to be called out for voting on behalf of their constituents.

Aesculapian Representative Broussanko: I want to respond to the point raised by Lively. I think it's disrespectful to assembly at large and the Journal to claim that they would be vindictive to take out someone in voting and identify that person. Frankly, a huge vote of non-confidence, I believe we have to stand up for our constituents. To feel personally threatened by the Journal, I think we have a strong back bone. We're proud of our ability to sit here. Our constituents would want this to go on the record. For that, I support open vote.

Proxy Asfar (for ASUS Representative Goodman): I respectfully disagree. The democratic process is something we oblige our students. We all have friends in the Journal or issues with the Journal. We will either offend people and friends who are pro-Journal or against mandatory fees. I think this could damage our personal relationships. We want to represent our constituents purely.

Speaker: That's all the discussion we have on this motion to reconsider. All for motion to reconsider the previous motion to overrule my decision.

ASUS President Mason: So, voting yes would reconsider to motion to have a secret ballot.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: So, if you vote yes, there won't be a secret ballot?

Everyone: No.

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: If you vote no, we will proceed with a secret ballot. If you vote yes, we will reconsider.

Member at Large: Could you repeat that?



Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: If you vote no, the motion to reconsider will be defeated, and we will have a secret ballot. If you vote yes, we will have a motion to reconsider the motion to overrule the secret ballot.

For: 25

Against: 12

Motion carries.

Speaker: So, that motion passed. Now we are back to the motion to overrule my ruling to have a secret

ASUS Representative Chinniah: So, if you vote no, we'll have a secret ballot?

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: So, if you vote yes, no, we WON'T have a secret ballot. If you vote no, yes, we WILL have a secret ballot.

Speaker: All for reconsidering the previous motion?

ASUS Representative Rubin: Can we clarify what is yes and what is no?

Speaker: I decided that we were going to do a secret ballot. We wanted to overrule that vote. We had a motion on that which failed. Now we want to reconsider it. This motion is to overrule it.

Proxy Asfar (for ASUS Representative Goodman): Point of information, clarification. Do secret ballots suck? Yes or no?

Speaker: All for reconsidering previous motion.

For : 31

Against: 12

Motion (to reconsider the motion to overrule the Speaker's decision) carries.

Speaker: Damn. So, now we're going back to the motion to overturn.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: So, I move to overturn the speaker's ruling. So YES, no secret ballot, or NO, yes secret ballot.

Speaker: Chinniah's motion to overturn. To clarify, if you vote yes, that means no secret ballot. If you vote no, there is a secret ballot.

Motion (to overrule Speaker's decision) carries.

Speaker: Now, back to motion thirteen. Open voting.



For: 28
Against: 11
Abstentions: 4

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: My numbers keep coming up different, has a member of Assembly left?

Commerce Society President Hennick: The ComSoc VP is absent with no proxy.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: Representative Steve Mattiusui is not here, though there is a proxy present.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: But did he assign you?

Proxy Butler (for ASUS Representative Mattiussi): No, he did (*points to ASUS President Mason*).

Speaker: How did you vote?

Proxy Butler (for ASUS Representative Mattiussi): I voted yes to the Journal.

ASUS Representative Rubin: Point of information, was the margin larger?

ASUS President Mason: Point of information, respectfully, what's going on?

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: It's my understanding that presidents can delegate their proxies, my understanding is you can vote as it is 2/3 the total membership.

Speaker: Fifteen people either voted against or abstentions. You would have needed forty four people, and twenty nine to vote in favour of it.

Chairman Garcia: Do abstentions count as a no?

Speaker: Figuratively, no. Numerically, yes.

AMS Vice President of University Affairs Pritchard: If members did not feel that the members who abstained did not know that, we could entertain a reconsider.

AMS Vice President of Operations Plummer: Can you clarify when you can and can't abstain?

Speaker: It's essentially a no without ties to the question. My understanding at this time is that the motion fails.

Motion (13) fails.



AMS Vice President of University Affairs Pritchard: I motion to reconsider the last motion.
Seconded by ASUS Representative Chinniah

Speaker: I will take two people for and two against. Pritchard, for. Lively, against.

AMS Vice President of University Affairs Pritchard: I'm sorry to do this to you. I motion to reconsider based on Chairman Garcia's comment. I don't believe members understand the abstentions. They aren't for if you're unsure. They're for conflict of interest. If you were a supervisor, that would warrant an abstention. The assembly can debate a conflict of interest, you can vote and we can challenge that. I don't think that those four abstained individuals understand their vote. Just consider all of the work for this presentation. I would encourage you to change your abstention to a yes or a no.

Proxy Lively (for ASUS Representative Wilson): I think what we're seeing is that we're trying to change the rules after the game has been played. This isn't the reason we have the ability to reconsider. It's not the role of the vice president to influence everyone votes according to this. I don't want to be told as a proxy, or anyone else, how to vote in such an elementary fashion. Some members don't want to vote their conscious in an open ballot. They've voted their opinion.

AMS Vice President of Operations Plummer: Point of personal privilege, I don't believe it's fair for the member to construe my intent. That wasn't the intent of my motion. If you have a conflict and need to abstain, that's fine. But a member put doubt in my mind that everyone should be voting yes or no without conflict.

ASUS President Mason: I will be brief. We should reconsider. This is crazy. Wacky things happen in assembly. We can more clearly vote yes or no.

Commerce Society Representative Lopez: Question, would it be possible for us to bring in a proxy for commerce? Daniel Bone?

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: There's a conflict of interest.

Commerce Society Representative Lopez: Does it have to be a commerce student?

Speaker: Very much so.

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: You could try to find someone in the building.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: Could I pass my speaking rights to Lively?

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: It has to be two people against.

Speaker: I will allow it.

Proxy Lively (for ASUS Representative Wilson): The thing is, I'm sorry VP TK if I misconstrued your statements. If someone truly abstained or voted no when they didn't mean to,



then that person should stand up right now and say that they voted wrong and want to reconsider. What we've seen is that people don't believe that they've made a mistake.

Media Services Director McDonald: Can we wait for Lopez?

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: Motion for a five minute recess.
Seconded by Tyler Hennick

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: Wait, I withdraw my motion.

Speaker: I know it's getting crazy. Please don't interject. I don't believe a recess is going to happen. Thank you, Lopez, for finding a commerce student in the building. Motion to reconsider Assembly's ruling on motion thirteen.

For: 33

Opposed: 11

Speaker: Back to motion thirteen. I won't entertain debate, but I will entertain clarification on what it means to vote for, against, and abstaining.

AMS Vice President of Operations Plummer: If you're voting for this, you're voting for an increase. If you vote no, you vote against this. Keeping in mind that this decision can be confirmed or rejected at the AGM. If you abstain, it's due to a conflict of interest.

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: It wouldn't be recorded as you voting no, however it would be counted as a no numerically.

For: 31

Against: 11

Abstention: 2

Motion (13) carries.

Proxy Lively (for ASUS Representative Wilson): Point of information, I would like to motion to reconsider.

Speaker: I am sorry, but I cannot entertain that considering what we just went through. I understand that there might be reasoning behind it. There is now a clear outcome for the vote now; 75% of assembly voted for. You would have to change 12% more trying to change it.

Engineering Society Representative Godin: Within policy, no motion may be reconsidered more than once.

Proxy Lively (for ASUS Representative Wilson): I would like to challenge that.

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: You want to challenge the constitution?



Proxy Lively (for ASUS Representative Wilson): Yes. Before that vote took place, there was a stern explanation on what an abstention is. I want you to think that an abstention is what you think it is. Although the CIA gave a clarification, I'm not sure that everyone did hear it, and I want to challenge it on those grounds.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: Point of order, if Lively doesn't have a seconder, can he still challenge it?

Speaker: Is there a seconder? As there is none we are moving on.

MOTION 14: That AMS Assembly approve the establishment of a \$3.75 mandatory fee to support the Union Gallery, subject to confirmation at the AMS Annual General Meeting.

Moved by: Member at Large Camilo Guevara

Seconded by: Commissioner Internal Affairs Kristen Olver

CESA President Marshall: Point of personal privilege, I have a really early bus and I have to head on out of here.

Speaker: Members of assembly, this isn't a recess. I would ask you to come back to your seats so we can proceed.

Proxy Lively (for ASUS Representative Wilson): Point of information, I think we can continue.

Speaker: We are moving on.

Union Gallery Representatives: We would like to motion to move into committee of the whole.
Seconded by Vice President of University Affairs Pritchard

For: 27

Opposed: 8

Motion carries.

Union Gallery Representatives: We realize it's been a long night. We'll try to say our information as quickly as possible, but we'll take our time to ensure that we're providing our services as clearly as possible to you. We're here to speak to you in regards to the student fee. The Union Gallery is located in Stauffer Library. It's our twentieth anniversary here. We're the only kind of this in Canada. Sixty percent of our shows are for students every year, and forty percent is for professional artists. We offer experiential learning opportunities through our programming committee, development committee, engagement with event planning, and involvement in fundraising throughout the year. We have two spaces; main space and project space, for student and professional art. Through exhibitions, collaborations, and events, we provide diverse dialogues and materials so students can engage with the art presented. I'm going to provide an overview with more detail. The Union Gallery has received support for a



mandatory fee for eighteen years. We lost this fee over 28 votes. Because of this, we lost fifty percent of our funding, and fifty percent of our operating budget. We've had to reduce our hours and cut our programming and experiential learning opportunities. We're speaking to demonstrate that the value our institution provides. We've chosen to seek support through AMS assembly and AGM because we feel the complexity of our services could not be adequately addressed through referendum. We have reached out to assembly members and associations to address your questions prior to tonight. This has created dialogue to better articulate our institution. As a specialized organization, we require professional staff with experience in the contemporary art world to provide the opportunities that we do at the moment. This ensures staff are there to provide our students with opportunities. We have contributed to Queen's representation as a professional launching pad for students. We have a testimonial from a previous student, she is speaking to her involvement. She was an intern. She received credit towards her degree. In her time here, she curated an exhibition of student work. She goes on to describe the importance of the gallery. What do we want our campus to look like in the years to come? Kristin became our gallery assistant position, our second paid position. It created an opportunity for her to launch into the arts. That's all because we have an amazing professional staff, it's necessary to provide the opportunities. We organize twelve to fourteen shows a year; sixty percent of those shows are allocated to student shows. We do events on and off campus with Queen's entities and those in the Kingston community. We get students to help get involved in our fundraising. This is an indispensable event for emerging artists to show their work. It provides an academically accredited experience. It will further enrich students. We have mentioned volunteer positions are open to all faculties and all students. They provide an environment of interdisciplinary dialogue. It should be mentioned that because we've operated for twenty years, we're contacting our alumni to have them to come back and exhibit in our space. Our budget, we receive funding from a variety of sources. We used to receive fifty percent of our money from the fee. We receive grants from the City of Kingston Arts Fund. For the expenditures, we have workroom, office, gallery equipment expenses. The majority of expense goes to paid staff. It requires a wealth of experience and contacts. That's how our gallery maintains a national profile. We've had applicants for our shows from across the world. It's an important part of what we do. We also have a student work experience program that requires funding. Other expenses include bookkeeping, telephone, insurance, advertising, promo material for shows, programming, off site programs. We're fortunate in that when we found out that we would no longer receive a fee, we were able to make cuts, mainly through programming, in order to save some money. You'll notice that occupancy and maintenance, the university pays for that, we don't pay rent. We had a surplus carried forward. We have no student fee, we receive a Queen's allocator, as well as SWEP's fee. Fundraising is unstable. The major cuts we've had to make is reflective in our hours. We went from five days a week to three. We did receive SWEP's this year. Advertising budget has been cut and programming; no workshops or professional development opportunities, no advertising student shows. This year, carrying forward, we will have \$28 at the end of the year. The final budget on the edge there is where we would like to be operating for next year. We haven't included the proposed student fee. Again, we would hope to get SWEP grants, project grants, funding through Kingston. Again, fundraising is unstable. That's a projected number. Ideally, we would want to bring our hours back up. That allows us to have the programming that's important to student experience. It allows us to schedule workshops, mentorship program, foster interdisciplinary dialogue, and create a broader audience. We have two paid positions. Together, they amount to one and a half full time positions. That's the gallery director and gallery assistant.



That's really important to us. Being able to offer the professional level programming with contemporary art from across Canada, as well as bringing funding back into the students. Without a student fee, a few issues would come up, we would have to cut our hours to 1.5 days a week. We can't provide internship opportunities. We don't have time to provide volunteer opportunities. Yeah, to clarify there, we wouldn't have staff to write and grant proposals to receive outside funding. To close, what we will be doing. With support of the fee, we hope to bring programming to previous levels to best provide services to the student body. More testimonials on the screen. This is a picture of the initiatives, show installation. This is a key skill to develop. To wrap it up, the arts are an integral part of the Queen's community. It brings life and energy into academic spaces. The Union Gallery is accessible to all students. A lot of potential here. Thanks for your time and attention.

Member at Large: I am the treasurer for the Union Gallery. I didn't get involved until the end of my third year. The Union Gallery provided me an opportunity to volunteer and get involved. It showed me, when I took on this position, how capable I am. It changed how I thought about myself and the opportunities for my future. I hope that it can stay in Stauffer and be open longer.

ASUS President Mason: I was on the elections team when they lost by 28 votes. They had a fee for twenty years. They were a hub for the BFA, for arts on campus. We have to protect this niche. I want to make a unique argument, the university has given Stauffer space to them. Without a student fee, their programming is diminished. This is space going to waste. We can make better use of this space and this organization.

Proxy Asfar (for ASUS Representative Goodman): I speak from a position for deep appreciation. However, we have to take caution in creating votes in implementing mandatory fees outside of the referendum process. Tonight, we voted in favour of QTV and the Journal because they showed us why there wasn't a second referendum followed up. I think a follow up referendum would have been in their favour. Union Gallery only lost by 28 votes. Had you talked to 28 more people, you could have gotten the referendum fee. I think this is something that should have been followed up with another referendum.

Union Gallery Representatives: To clarify, we felt that this way of going through this process would allow us to hear the feedback. As elected representatives, you are aware of the opinions of your constituents. It's important for us to hear the feedback. When we went through referendum, we couldn't hear why we didn't get those 28 votes. Now we can hear what's expected of us and what they want us to provide the student body.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: I have a few questions. You have two permanent staff members; a director and assistant. You have salaried people. Are they students or not?

Union Gallery Representatives: They are not students, but the positions go mainly towards Queen's graduates to provide a step into the professional sphere.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: Do you feel you deserve the student fee because of a change in student life? To echo what Asfar said, you lost by 28 votes. You could go to referendum. You have other mandatory fees, like Queen's Legal Aid goes to referendum. We have mandatory fees



and they go to referendum and they don't come begging us for money. It's because they can engage students in what they do. If you aren't willing to engage students, I don't think you deserve the fee. I will be voting no, because I think you have the ability to go to referendum and engage students. It's not the place of this body to give you the fee, turning its back on the results.

Union Gallery Representatives: We have received a fee for the last eighteen years. Because it was such a small margin, it made more sense for us to approach it a different way. In terms of the comment about us not willing to engage. The whole reason we're here is to engage students in art dialogue. It's in a central location, but it depends on student willingness to seek out services. Through this dialogue, we hope that we've performed the outreach to show how we help students. In a particular situation we're in, we don't have the resources. Our volunteers are stretched. Without being open for more than three days a week, students aren't able to be engaged in what we do. We can't get events off the ground because we can't get solid, consistent dates for these events. We're trying to get groups to provide interpretive materials, with reduced hours, we can't do this. We can't schedule around people when we're only open three days.

Proxy Lloyd (for CESA President Marshall): Thanks for coming in and giving this presentation. The Union Gallery was in the BFA program a few years ago. When we are asking students for money, we have to critically analyze how the money will be spent. I was wondering, as we've seen with QTV, are there any changes with your finances with or without this fee?

Union Gallery Representatives: We have never run at a deficit. We have always maintained a balanced budget. We want to focus funding in our outreach opportunities. Our student board works hard. In terms of things, we're always looking for ways we can be the most, we can use the money to the most of our ability without overspending. We do diversify our budget. Our sources of funding aren't solely dependent on the student fee, though it does help us.

Member at Large Randall: Regarding the winter referendum from last year, I don't remember seeing a single poster, ad, Facebook banner, et cetera, encouraging students to vote yes. What were your campaign efforts? What would be your strategy for AGM?

Union Gallery Representatives: In terms of referendum, we did have a social media campaign. I remember the posters, but maybe that's because I was in charge of getting that info out. We want to focus on outreach. Speaking to students, finding out where they want to see services. We think it's important to work towards interdisciplinary dialogue. That's important to us going forward. It's going to bring students into the gallery. We're hopeful that going forward, we can convince more students.

AMS Vice President of University Affairs Pritchard: Motion to extend Assembly?
Seconded by ASUS Representative Wiseman

Union Gallery Representatives: An important way we reach students is through outreach initiatives. We bring guest speakers to campus to discuss research related to the work that is exhibited. This works by bringing students in to speak of their own research and explain how it relates to the art being shown.



Proxy Lively (for ASUS Representative Wilson): I'd like to echo some of the comments being made. I think this is a question for the referendum. If you were so close before, it's easy and expected that you should be able to convince those twenty-eight individuals to vote for you. This is a lot of money for us to be giving out without consulting students. You said yourself that you wanted feedback by coming here. Here is it. You say you're in a high traffic area, advertise what you want. Say, "This is what we offer", to get students to take part in it. That responsibility is on you, not us. It's not about getting one hundred students to come out to AGM and force the rest of the student body to pay a fee. This doesn't mean you will continue to offer value to the student community.

Union Gallery Representatives: The reason we chose AGM was because our situation in our programming next year is bad. Without this fee, we won't be able to operate in a professional capacity, then, we can't provide services; no internships, volunteers, nothing. I understand your concern why we chose AGM over referendum. Going into next year, the existence of the Gallery is at stake. Without fifty percent of our operating budget, we cannot function as a gallery. We would have to break contracts with professional artists because we schedule a year and a half in advance. We hope to have communicated the specifics of our situation well. We thought it was a more direct way to demonstrate our issue.

Proxy Lively (for ASUS Representative Wilson): Point of information, would it be possible to amend the motion so that if the fee is voted to go to AGM, that is would be a one year fee, then it could go to winter referendum?

Speaker: Lindsay, is that friendly?

Union Gallery Representatives: Can we have a moment to think?

Speaker: Representative Lively's amendment is not friendly. If we have a seconder, then we can open the motion for debate.

Secoded by EngSoc Representative McElroy

Proxy Lively (for ASUS Representative Wilson): To go over the amendment, essentially the case we have before us is that the Union Gallery cannot operate in its proper capacity for next year. What I would like to see is it passed with the condition that it goes to the winter referendum for next year. I have seen services that continually run deficits. I see a valuable service that managed their budget effectively, even without a student fee. They don't have a sense of entitlement. It goes beyond our mandate to have this for three years. I think it does have to go back to referendum. They should have a second chance, but that chance should be next year.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: If I may say so, I think Lively's amendment would give you a better chance of getting your fund, and defending your fee one more time. I will be here next semester, and I see why you would need the fee. For the record, I am personally prepared to help you win the referendum, if you want to take this route. This route would give you the money for one year. I would recommend you to think about whether it's friendly or not.

Proxy Asfar (for ASUS Representative Goodman): I want to commend Lively on what is a



brilliant compromise. The motion un-amended is impossible to vote in favour of. So many students would take so much grievance with few people in a room approving their mandatory fee. I have moral culpability in letting an organization suffer without their operations. This isn't good for the long term. This way, it ensures the service is alive the next year. Compromise is the whole point of AMS Assembly.

Speaker: Any other points?

Union Gallery Representatives: I think in terms of our programming, because we do programming a year and a half in advance, this wouldn't be friendly. We appreciate your proposed amendment to compromise. Thanks for your comments.

Speaker: We're going to vote on it now.

Proxy Lively (for ASUS Representative Wilson): I just want to make a quick closing statement. I think that this is the best compromise. I'd advise you to think about it. The general consensus is that this is the best way to go. I understand the long term financial pressures. Maybe it would be better to have this in the fall referendum then. Just something to think about.

Union Gallery Representatives: Can we change it to friendly?

Speaker: Let's just vote. Voting on the amendment.

Motion to amend carries.

ASUS President Mason: I move to ask the question.

Proxy Lively: We're still in committee of the whole.

Speaker: I have to go back to the original speakers list. Starting with Residence Society Vice President Preisner.

Residence Society Vice President Preisner: I'd like to motion to move out of committee of the whole.

Seconded by Proxy Lively

Engineering Society Representative Godin: I would like to speak against this motion. This is for a few reasons. The first is that they are paying two non students. I believe this should be at referendum. I don't believe this fee should be mandatory because it's not an essential service. This is not for every student, it's geared towards Fine Arts.

Representative Savides: I want to echo what was just said. In my opinion, groups that primarily benefit a special group of students should be an opt out fee over a mandatory fee. This provides students who receive no benefit from the service the ability to opt out. I feel that if you convinced students of your value to them, you'd have a lot greater success with students.



AMS Vice President of Operations Plummer: Point of information, I wanted to clarify for assembly what fees are currently mandatory. *Lists fees.*

Speaker: Wow, didn't know I was paying that much.

ASUS Representative Wiseman: When I asked constituents, their response was, “What is the Union Gallery?”, meanwhile, students pass it every day when they enter Stauffer. There is little exposure, especially to non-fine arts students. Do you have a marketing plan going forward, regardless if you get the fee or not?

Union Gallery Representatives: We have been working on an outreach program. We are a part of Stauffer's master plan, which may provide potentially more signage for us. As well, we're working on reaching out to clubs to provide special tours and reaching out to associations to give an idea of who we are and show them the events we hold that stem interdisciplinary dialogue. In terms of us being part of the master plan, we want to improve our signage, these are things that take time. This won't necessarily happen next year.

Member at Large: This is going back to a point already said. It was brought up the amount of money they would get from mandatory fee. I want to make sure that Union Gallery is the only facility like this on campus. If a large sum is going to an organization that is one of the biggest, and is actually contributing to students in a major way, it should be the only facility of its kind.

Member at Large (Union Gallery Treasurer): With the Union Gallery, the students get an opportunity to work there in a substantial way. The amount of experience I have gotten has no words to describe it. It is a more unique work experience than any other I've ever had, and I've gotten so much more out of it.

Representative Zuccaro: My question has been answered.

Engineering Society Representative McElroy: Speaking about this motion with the amendment, we want them to reach out to students. Before the amendment, I did not support this motion. I do intend to visit it at some point, however, there's a serious problem with outreach and awareness. This has to be addressed. With this fee, they get their operating fee back to reach out. If they can't reach out, then they lose the money. This is a last chance. This does have merit to give gallery back its fee.

Union Gallery Representatives: In closing, we want to give last remarks of our experiences. I got involved in my second year, as a volunteer in the programming committee. In this position, I could contact artists directly. My enrichment was furthered when I contributed my own questions to the taped interviews with the artists. I was able to voice my opinions and questions. I was able to take the skills and confidence I gained at my time there to secure an internship in Edinburgh, Scotland during my exchange. I have helped with fundraising opportunities. My own experience goes to show the range of skills that a student is able to develop during their time at the gallery. The amount of beneficial professional experience is unparalleled in any other student position on campus.



Union Gallery Representatives (2): I also got involved in my second year. The gallery has provided incredible experiences to me. I'm passionate about my work and relationships to the guest speaker and artist. This program is exciting in that it's creating interdisciplinary dialogue. This dialogue is incredible to take part in. It's allowed me to grow as an artist, a team member, and a student. I want to thank all of you for your comments. It will help us. We hope to have our support as we push for more recognition in the future when we go to referendum.

AMS Vice President of University Affairs Pritchard: Point of information, she can't move a motion, she's not an AMS member.

(Union Gallery Representative, Camilo, becomes new mover).

Motion (14) fails.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: Motion to reconsider.

Speaker: I don't know, are you kidding?

ASUS Representative Chinniah: Yes.

Speaker: Okay.

Engineering Society Representative McElroy: Point of information, motion to extend Assembly?

Seconded by Proxy Lloyd

MOTION 15: That AMS Assembly approve the establishment of a \$0.50 fee (subject to individual opt-out) to support the Good Times Diner, subject to confirmation at the AMS Annual General Meeting.

Moved by: ASUS Vice President Irfan Tahiri

Seconded by: ASUS President Scott Mason

ASUS President Mason: We are going to do this presentation in two minutes. We want a fifty cent opt-outable fee to support the good times diner. It's an entirely student run soup kitchen, providing hot and nutritious meals. It has been functioning for over a decade. It was once an AMS club, but turned over to ASUS. ASUS covers their expenses when unforeseen things occur. This fee would go strictly to purchasing groceries. We want to go to AGM. Unfortunately, a communication error occurred, and our organization missed its opportunity to go for triennial review. As a result, we are in a tight financial spot. We've already contributed a few thousand dollars. Grotsky will share finances.

Proxy Grotsky (for Vice President Tahiri): The average cost per month is \$900. We have three revenue streams, and that money goes 100% to the groceries. Sometimes, students generously donate money. Secondly, through the AMS student fee. Thirdly, the polar bear dip. If you look at funding, we manage the small deficit that occurs on a month to month basis. Without the student



fee, we will be covering \$7000. We were fortunate to be able to cover it this year, but unfortunately we can't do it next year.

AMS Vice President of Operations Plummer: Can you clarify the communication error, and how that won't be a problem moving forward?

ASUS President Mason: I think Commissioner Olver can also speak to this. AMS claims they sent an email, we didn't receive it. We sent a message to VP Tristan, and he said that we weren't up for review.

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: To clarify, they were up for triennial review last year, not the current academic year. The ultimate responsibility to come to referendum or AGM is up to the organization, however the commissioner every year does contact all groups. I have the email that last year's commissioner of internal affairs sent to the diner. It's the responsibility of the CIA to determine which referendum triennial review groups will participate in. Good Times Diner was informed December 5th, 2012 to participate in the winter. It was negligence on the part of the managers of Good Times Diner last year. That being said, there were emails sent back and forth this year where I can understand how this year's GTD may have thought they did not have to go to referendum this year.

ASUS President Mason: You have our word this wouldn't happen again. We take this very seriously. In closing, in all my times as a volunteer at Queen's, ASUS has never come to AMS asking for money. We come humbly asking because an error has occurred. This program gives out food to the unfortunate. This is entirely student run; they volunteer their time. We work Tuesdays and Thursdays the entire summer. Their greatest shortcoming was an administrative error.

Motion (15) carries.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: I'm sorry to inconvenience you further. Is it possible for me to move a motion to reconsider the motion for Union Gallery? I don't think everyone understood the amendment.

Seconded by ASUS President Mason

ASUS Representative Rubin: We are missing the two people for that motion.

Speaker: There's no reason we can't do a motion to reconsider. It's hard because it's on the basis that assembly didn't understand. However, the Union Gallery representatives have left.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: I think it's more appropriate that they left, because we can have a more formal debate.

Speaker: Reconsidering motion 14; two people for, two people against

ASUS President Mason: I'm for this motion. Let's reconsider.



ASUS Representative Chinniah: Union Gallery wasn't afforded the extra level of consideration that the Journal was afforded. I think it's fair to give them another opportunity. I don't think they appreciated Lively's proposal, but now it would allow them to get a confirmation of their fee. This is an existentialist crisis for them; we might see their cancellation. We should grant a one time, one year fee. This is a key issue because it is an existentialist crisis, and they will not survive.

Proxy Asfar (for ASUS Representative Goodman): I understand the concerns. I want to point out that we had an exhausting debate. I spoke in favour of the proposal. If anyone was confused, I think we can expect that person to come forward, other than that, we're wasting everyone's time. I don't think anything was unclear. The motion failed.

Speaker: Motion to reconsider.

Motion to reconsider fails.

MOTION 16: That AMS Assembly approve an increase to the AMS Specific Fee from \$70.74 to \$80.00 for the year 2014 – 2015, an increase of \$9.26, subject to confirmation at the Annual General Meeting.

Moved by: Chairman Rico Garcia

Seconded by: Member at Large Keenan Randall

Chairman Garcia: Thanks for sticking around. I'm going to ask everyone to stand up, stretch out, then sit back down. Alright, you can sit down now. I'm going to turn it over to Keenan. We're representing the Board of Directors. You should have all gotten the presentation a few minutes ago.

Member at Large Randall: I'm the vice-chair AMS Board of Directors, and I am a member of the AMS specific fee review committee and the AMS audit committee. The fee is adjusted to CPI annually. Little bit of policy, as per policy manual, we must review the fee on a regular basis. We've seen this exercised on infrequency over the last twenty years. This was certainly warranted this year. So, things we went through. Background and history, growth and a needs-based assessment. The fee was last changed in 2007. We are going to go through how have we changed, financial projections, university comparison, and the board recommendation. Looking at our finances, these are the three major buckets. Government, general office (corporate service directors), and corporate services. We were projecting a contradiction of \$88,000, it will be closer to \$50,000, still leaving a deficit position. It's typical for things to change as the year's dynamic changes. The AMS fee was raised in 2003, next was 2007. It used to be 63.63, and was adjusted for inflation. There was a report done during CES Cambell's year, and through the analysis, there was an increase. Due to political obstacles, they felt it was not appropriate to increase the fee. Looking at how we've grown in a period of six years. There are the numbers on the left. Some commissions we've seen haven't grown. Student maintenance and resource, the changing of an office to commission, contract with VoteNet, addition of archive assistance positions. This all changes those numbers. Looking at office growth, these are support functions. They aren't all tangible projects, but they allow other aspects of the AMS to function



appropriately. That has been a significant increase to the budget of that office. Now, broken down on a per student basis. How much would each student have to pay in order to fund the growth? This number is looking at total growth increase since 2007, and accounting for inflation. Theoretically, we need an extra \$10.63 per student to fund the growth in the officers we've seen.

There has been an increase in the minimum wage. Starting June 1st, it will be raised from \$10.25 to \$11. When you see how it will impact us, it will be about \$85,000. But there's the impact of the new salary grid. We overall increased salaries by \$100,000 across the society. When we looked at the services, after the minimum wage increase, there shouldn't be an increase to the grid. It was good that we were a couple of months ahead. So, why are we not coming here for seventeen dollars? That would be fiscally irresponsible. With the added minimum wage, our services can't contribute to the overall bottom line. As you can see, general office will still have a general office deficit of \$100,000. We don't want to go to students and say give us the full money right now. We want to come to the students responsibly. We want to see if we're meeting student demand and seeing if we're meeting those demands and financing well. This shows why we went to nine dollars instead of seventeen. When we compare that to other universities, it's quite comparable. It's hard to compare across universities, based on size of schools, what their fees include, fees we had access to in 2007, but the overall increase across the board has been around 25%. We felt comfortable with that number. There are recommendations to increase it, and that will continue in the years ahead. We want to ensure that the specific fee committee meets on a regular basis. We want people to look at the AMS bursary. That's it. We welcome questions.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: Obviously, I'm a conflict of interest. Because we're not getting the full growth potential, do you think we need to make cuts and where should they come from?

Chairman Garcia: We've taken a look at general office and services, we haven't looked at government side, that's the duty of assembly. There's budgets we're looking into. To be efficient, we should look at the government side of things. We want feedback from corporate and commission sides. We want our services to do some of the work. We are re-evaluating pricing structures.

MBA President Drever: Point of information, motion for an extension of Assembly.
Seconded by CESA Proxy Lloyd

Motion carries.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: I recognize you are chair of the Board; would you strike the possibility of budget cuts? I can't talk for the Board, but if this body deems it necessary, then it would be our job to do so.

AMS Vice President of Operations Plummer: As I've said, I think the real deficit doesn't lie in office, it lies in Assembly. I think what would be prudent and effective than having a one-time committee would be to strike a subcommittee, call it the budget and audit committee. I would recommend having a standing committee struck from this committee, task them with looking at budget from government side of things. It's too large of a task to ask this body to look at in this amount of time. Reviewing them monthly. I think that's more effective. I can stand here and walk



through general office. If that's what you're looking for. Preferably at another Assembly. This body is too large to be looking at government's budget.

Proxy Butler (for Representative Matiussi): You showed projections for office four years, and government not as long.

Chairman Garcia: The government side of things isn't allowed to run a deficit. Financial projections show that services won't contribute to overall bottom line, they'll be breaking even. I would wager that there would be a deficit next year.

Residence Society Vice President of Residence Affairs Preisner: Can you elaborate on your second recommendation?

Chairman Garcia: The Board has a standing committee. The Board is an offshoot of Assembly, we don't have to discuss the finances of every service. We're reworking the Board committees. The other committees, right now we have six, we will have three and it will circulate. It would be rotating.

Residence Society Vice President of Residence Affairs Preisner: So, that would be in policy?

Chairman Garcia: Yes.

Engineering Society Representative Godin: I want to speak against the motion after much thought. Before I begin, I want to thank everyone for meeting with me to discuss this. I thought a lot about if the increase is a good thing, whether or not it will be supportive. I struggle with the reality that there's need for more money. You hear about the society having too much money and running into audit issues. As is stipulated, changes to the fee should only change when there's changes to the activity. They've done a good job on noting where that change has taken place. Bottom line, there's creeping growth in the society, and that's driven by assembly. That's created new expenses since 2007. However, I don't think that the growth is healthy. The AMS specific fee was mentioned at the meeting in November. The solution was either to increase expenses or decrease student fees. I support the idea of having a government or budget review. I would like to see that happen while we're here. I want to see that before a dramatic increase. I know the AMS is in a difficult situation with the increase in wages. Bottom line, I'm here to represent my constituents, and they would not be in favour.

Chairman Garcia: Right now, we're looking at a deficit of \$285,000. Yes, we could run that for one year. We're looking at putting a deficit of only \$100,000. However, it's still a sustainable deficit to run. As board of directors, we can't advocate a \$285,000 deficit. I think it's irresponsible and unaccountable. I don't think you can say your constituents wouldn't support you, when you voted in favour of the consolidated budgets. We look at it to figure out how we can adequately fund it. Why weren't concerns raised when the budget was passed? If I can add, there can be money found on the government's side, but you won't find \$285,000 dollars. I was wondering if I could get Nicola to clarify the operating fund.

AMS Vice President of Operations Plummer: The operating fund has been explained in many



ways. It's not a pool of money laying around somewhere. I understand Mark [Godin] in saying there's mixed messages. Where you hear at the budget meeting that we have this large operating fund, but we're asking for money. I'm going to send out financial statements. We'll learn about how AMS finances work.

Engineering Society Representative Godin: The reason my opinion changed is because the deficit.

AMS Vice President of Operations Plummer: I just sent out the AMS financial statement, please open them and follow along. The finances are complex. I have a four year degree in business, and I still get lost. I appreciate the sentiment that this is a complex situation. A fiscal year is a manmade concept. At any moment, our finances are in flux.

Chairman Garcia: Sorry for everyone if that was too much detail when I asked to explain the operating fund.

Speaker: Back to the speaker's list.

Proxy Lloyd (for CESA President Marshall): I will be speaking in support of this motion. The Board and Executives have spent a good portion of this year assessing the necessity and need for this fee. They have demonstrated that this is the responsible thing to do. We're serving more students and they want more from the AMS. The state of the current finances do not allow that.

Member at Large Chisti: In terms of growth, a lot of the growth is unprecedented, but we're talking about clubs, grants, etc. What we're saying is that those exist now. Where do we scale back? Do we really need the Peer Support Centre to exist? We can't evaluate that now. Growth of the student body services is needed. Maybe growth that wasn't accounted for but is needed by students. The market research manager doesn't go to assembly, but those are opportunities that are given to students. You can see the impact.

ASUS President Mason: I want to commend the level of concentration that they have done. This started at the corporate general assembly. Political pressures and low executive salaries have been talked about. We approved budgets to hike these salaries to fix the decline in applications. The amount of work, they've met the faculties and societies individually. It definitely put our thoughts to rest. In lieu of all the work they've put into this, we should pass it.

Commerce Society President Hennick: I'm voting for it. What I appreciate is that it doesn't just look to achieve growth, but just in response to growth. They've done a great job in research. They're being mature and accountable in their approach of recognizing that they need seventeen dollars, but are only asking for nine dollars because we can re-evaluate this in the future. There's no reason not to support this.

Chairman Garcia: In closing, I want to thank everyone for listening. I know it's late. If there's a message in this, it's that I've sat where you are. We are the AMS. You guys are the owners of this corporation. The Executives are employed by you. There has been growth, and that has been approved by this assembly. I strongly recommend that you look at the direction the AMS is going,



so we can shape this going forward. Thanks for listening, if this goes through, further comments and questions can be directed to Randall, me, or Plummer. You can come to the AMS Board meetings; 5:30PM, on the opposite Thursday of assembly.

Motion (16) carries.

AMS President Berkok: Motion to extend assembly.

Seconded by Commissioner Olver

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: Point of information, is QPID here? I'm motioning to open the agenda to move QPID up, thank you for your patience! Motion to open the agenda.

Seconded by ASUS Representative Chinniah

Motion carries.

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: Motion to move motion item 19 up to 17.

Seconded by MBA President Drever

Motion carries.

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: Motion to close agenda.

Seconded by Vice President of University Affairs Pritchard

Motion carries.

MOTION 17 (old motion 19): That AMS Assembly ratify the decision of the Commission of Internal Affairs to grant the Queen's Project on International Development an exception to the AMS Constitution Section 7.01.09, as outlined in the AMS Constitution section 7.01.10, as seen in Appendix C: Marmalade.

Moved by: Commissioner of Internal Affairs Kristen Olver

Seconded by: Member at Large Gemma McEachern

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: Cool, so, really fast then I'm going to pass speaking rights on. Normally we don't have paid positions within clubs or offices. Sometimes we can grant exceptions, when remuneration is deemed necessary. The commission reviewed a proposal QPID submitted. None of the money going towards the position comes from student fees. It comes from SWEP and the QUIC. Feel free to ask questions. I want to pass on my speaking rights now.

Member at Large McEachern: So, the remuneration would go to the summer director position. This position is key to the organization. QPID sends twelve interns to Botswana, Nunavut, and Ghana every year. It's key for us to maintain the safety and security of the interns. We have to be able to help the interns. We have a 24 hour emergency cell phone, weekly check-ins to see if our intern's physical and mental health is sound, and that they are in no imminent danger. This individual is responsible for upholding finances, and checking in with interns. The reason why the position needs to be paid is because it takes a lot for a volunteer. We ask enough from our



general directors and volunteers. It meets the qualifications of a full time job. Without this funding, we couldn't have this assistance.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: How is this not being funded by student fees?

Member at Large McEachern: We get funding through the summer work experience program, and the Queen's International Centre. Money from the AMS goes towards local initiatives.

Engineering Society Representative Godin: I support QPID. I'm happy that it came here.

ASUS Representative Wiseman: Quick question to CIA, are there any other clubs that have this policy thingamajig?

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Oliver: There are other groups that do this, like OPIRG, Levana, et cetera. They aren't the only one. They've gone through similar processes of being approved by Assembly. If approved it would be until the circumstances they are currently approved under change.

Member at Large McEachern: Hopefully, you understand how important this is to QPID. Summer opportunities are amazing for students. Helping students train and prepare for their trips, we need these positions funded.

Motion (17) carries.

MOTION 18: That AMS Assembly approve the amendments to Policy Manual 2, Section 3, as seen in Appendix A: Peanut Butter.

Moved by: Municipal Affairs Commissioner Catherine Wright

Seconded by: Vice President of University Affairs Thomas Pritchard

AMS Municipal Affairs Commissioner Wright: This is a policy change. We aren't losing the committee. Their mandate is being absorbed into another policy. They would be able to do a better job through this.

Motion (17) carries.

MOTION 19: That AMS Assembly approve the amendments to the AMS Hiring and Appointment Policy and Procedures Manual, as seen in Appendix B: Jelly.

Moved by: Chairman Rico Garcia

Seconded by: Vice President of Operations Nicola Plummer

Chairman Garcia: This is pretty straight forward. This was approved at last Board meeting. It has to do with recruitment. If you have questions, contact me.

Motion (18) carries.



MOTION 20: That AMS Assembly approve the amendments to the AMS Constitution, as outlined in Appendix D: Butter.

Moved by: Commissioner of Internal Affairs Kristen Olver

Seconded by: Vice President of University Affairs Thomas Pritchard

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: We did this backwards, we withdrew the motion last assembly. These changes are reflecting the changes made at the last assembly. This requires two readings; this is the first one. If you have questions, please come to myself or VP Plummer.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: To clarify, this means that all our discussions on the Tea Room fee or whatever will not be done again because we're putting it into the VPOps?

Commissioner of Internal Affairs Olver: Assembly is no longer having a debate on eligibility, but they still have authority to reject a fee. During the validation week, the CIA and VPOps will go through budgets and proposals. Groups can't proceed to nomination period without that. Assembly can still deny a fee, but now that discussion no longer occurs.

AMS Vice President of Operations Plummer: This is just constitutional amendments from last assembly. All changes we made to the policy last time, these are just corresponding word changes.

ASUS Representative Chinniah: This is a good policy. However, it's so late, and I don't think anyone's paying attention anymore.

Motion (20) carries.

13. Discussion Period

Member at Large Sherman: I know it's late. This is an important discussion regarding the SOARB policy, especially considering Commissioner Savage's report from last week. I'm the student co-chair on the Student Orientation Review Board (SOARB). I talked to Commissioner Savage about this about bringing this topic to Assembly to get your feedback with issues with current policy or issues in the report. Anyone who has read the report will see that we've done the manual, nothing has been consolidated into one document before. We're meeting once a week to get this document up and running. We plan to finish it by March 20th to present it to senate in April. This is at the committee level. Okay, feedback, throw it out there.

CESA Representative Maguire: I'm the ORT coordinator this year, and how we've been working with them. I sit on SOARB as an observer. I've been happy to work with the members. My responsibility is to act as a guide to O-week policy. Because they don't have a document, this is a guide for the faculties and societies to work off of. It changes the sanctions and infractions section. It used to look to ORT as a discipline body, when it really lies with AMS NAD. All of the committees need to know that issues and infractions are dealt by NAD, though ORT can



assist. Feel free to ask questions.

Rector Francis: I was one of the students to express the sentiment in the report. Not to disrespect or offend anyone who sits on SOARB, I understand the context to some degree. But I understand that you changed the report a lot from the original. I'm concerned with the report because it's written negatively. I understand it's a regulatory review body. I don't disagree with some of the points brought up. I think that SOARB provides recommendations, and it's odd to me that there's never follow-up to the recommendations. The other issue is that maybe this isn't a SOARB report issue, but that the only official documentation talks about the week. Just as a student who was observing, I felt disappointed and offended on behalf of the student leaders. They almost get no recognition. Perhaps the AMS can produce a report on "this is what we did well" and have it go into the archives. I wouldn't be happy as an orientation leader to read reports and read about hazing and students being peed on and watermelon seeds being spat at people.

Member at Large Sherman: I would like to respond to the concerns. I think they're legitimate. What I've been doing is with faculties and societies, I met with everybody except Nursing and PHEska. I've been blunt that the SOARB document is good at recognizing issues with O-week. I think it's important for us to have best practices highlighted in that report, especially how all faculties deal with these things in their own way. Ten years down the road, SOARB will have an important collaboration aspect. That will be featured in the next report.

Proxy Grotsky (for ASUS Vice President Tahiri): I have comments similar to Rector Francis. The second one is small; more of a nominal change. A lot of the stats don't represent the thing the way it does. Two percent of students were "asked or forced" to drink alcohol. I think that's misrepresentation. "Asked" and "forced" are two very different things that can be construed in drastically different ways.

Member at Large Sherman: After our meeting, I did bring it up for us to provide more context with raw data and note the trends that we saw. We don't want to just have statistics; we want to have statistics with X, Y, and Z reason. It's a bit too much, that data is blurred. That's a concern you brought up, and I took that up.

ASUS President Mason: Nick and Adam touched on a few things. Three things, ASUS orientation. The hazing definitions need to be watched, as student reps communicate the claims to the AMS executive and faculty orientations. We need to know what definitely is hazing, and what is just making students uncomfortable. I want to make sure that the "Oh, I feel so good" cheer stays in O-week. And, we also want follow up reports.

AMS President Berkok: One thing in particular, there needs to be some way to separate deans and the power they have. The way they are positioned in the paper addresses them as co-organizers, and that distorts the work that the student organizers put in. Things going forward for policy as well. Somewhere at some point, through future reports or policy, there has to be regard for "baby proofing". Three years ago, we were talking about reinstating faculty rivalries. The "Oh, I feel so good" chant is diminished.



Member at Large Sherman: What are the roles of deans in O-week? I think the report accurately reflected the role in policy, although that isn't the practice. As a result of the Jackson Report, it's supposed to be people in the faculty. That is clearly not the practice. We are going to look at what is actually in practice. There will be a full section dedicated to this. We are going to look at that at the terminology used in that. Recognize that for some O-weeks, deans play an important role, one of the faculty reps plays an important role. If that's a system that works well for them, we can't say "thou shalt not". I think the report did reflect senate policy, but not practice.

Commerce Society President Hennick: I realize it's late. I want to commend Troy. The meeting was yesterday, I'm out of it. This is incredibly important. It's a shame that we're talking about it past midnight after a crazy assembly. We need to put a stand on frosh week and student autonomy. Get informed about it.

MBA President Drever: Motion to extend assembly?

Seconded by PHEKSA President Silva

ASUS President Mason: I just have one question left for you. On behalf of the ASUS caucus, HOW DO YOU FEEL?

Member at Large Sherman: It is really early in the morning, but I FEEL SO GOOD. OH, I FEEL SO GOOD. OH!

Speaker: Any other questions or point of debate?

Proxy Smolej (for Senator Duchaine): This relates to SOARB and procedural functionality. Some of the points raised. We view that there is contention, who has authority, role of deans, et cetera. They went a bit too far. Another thing is how SOARB is viewed by senate. This policy look is as an information point, not a motion, even without comment, SOARB views any report published as official without asking for critique or advice. Who delegates authority to SOARB? We're looking to work with troy to remedy this situation

Member at Large Sherman: We did talk about this. We will be explicit in our policy about what we can do. It's great that senate gets it, but it's not an approval. Any amendments will be explicit. Any recommendations will be up for approval. Thanks for raising those concerns. In closing, I want to say that the student members of SOARB are trying to change the reception of SOARB. We have a bad rap, but we're committed to changing that. If there's ever a question, send a message to me, Erin, Gareth Savage, or his successor. We're there to make sure you guys have the best week possible. If you have questions, send me an email. I'm happy to send that out to you after assembly. Thanks!

Assembly moves into closed session. Closed session adjourns at 1:20AM.

