



AMS Assembly Minutes
Wednesday, October 4, 2017
Sir. John A MacDonald Hall 001

The meeting was convened at 19:10 EDT

Speaker Martinez: *Land recognition statement was read.*

Motion #1: Moved by: Secretary Sengupta, seconded by: AMS President Li.

AMS Assembly approves agenda for the meeting of October 4, 2017.

Judicial Affairs Manager Sidhu: Withdraw Motion #5.

No further debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Motion #2: Moved by: Secretary Sengupta, seconded by: AMS President Li.

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of September 21, 2017.

No changes to the minutes.

No debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Speakers Business

Secretary Martinez: Since we do have some points of discussion, if you need to speak, just raise your placard and wait for acknowledgement. Leave your card raised up and if you decide to not speak, place it down and we will cross you off the list.

Guest Speaker

Commissioner Lewarne: Today we are joined by OUSA (Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance), our provincial educational lobbying partner. Thank you for taking the time to listen to us speak. Our member institutions are all great, except Western (haha). Our members include Queen's, Brock, Waterloo, McMaster, Trent, Laurentian, Laurier – we represent 150,000 students. OUSA is a student driven collaboration of student governments.

Member-at-large Guest Speaker Sophie Helpard: My name is Sophie, I am the executive director of OUSA. Listening to Queen's students, their concerns and bringing them to attention is what we do. Our core activities are listed so that you know what we do as an organization. We conduct research related to post-secondary students and their perspectives. We don't advocate on anything unless we have the research to back it up. We develop informed substantive policy changes backed by our research and then lobby the government to enact these changes to ensure that the student voice is being heard. We also represent the student perspective throughout the sector – whenever the government or stakeholders call to get opinions, we are their number one resource to get insight on students and their perspectives. We also manage a policy library – we will talk later about how these policies get approved. We only advocate on the things in the library – which is separated into finance (affordability), student experience, papers that address different student groups such as Indigenous and International students, student services such as all the parts that make up student experience – health and wellness, employment – as well as system vision and accountability in the sector. Every time an issue is brought up that OUSA needs to address, they first look at research. They will look for any new research that has come out since the last time this issue was presented. They then lobby the government, setting the agenda for them on these issues. As a huge body in the province, there are lots of issues that may arise and be on the agenda, however, OUSA ensures that issues that are pertinent to students are on the agenda. OUSA also consults with stakeholders to further understand student perspective.

Speaker Martinez: As with all guest speakers, we ask that assembly members close their laptops and listen respectfully.

Member-at-large Sophie Helpard: OUSA also develops credible and constructive policy, as well as student outreach which is seeing if there is anything that students want to change and is mostly connecting with students and their daily lives. We also build partnerships, as there is strength in numbers. So we build partnerships with faculty, administration, the university, and even the college sector. This allows us to see if there are issues that address all students so that we can come together. Other activities include engaging with traditional and social media – we maintain a blog and strive to stay connected in the broader sector. If you are a student and are interested in writing, we highly encourage student writers to come write for us – A girl from Queen's, Mary, just wrote for us about smoking on campus. So basically any issue that affects students on campus, we would love for students to come write about.

Our campaigns that have worked include our integrated learning campaign. So we've been working with faculty and administration to facilitate that into universities. We also have conferences to educate students on the most important issues in post-secondary education.

Commissioner Lewarne: Students are at the top as they drive the discussion – we have a general assembly which includes delegates from all member campuses. This is our steering committee – they include a board of directors – AMS VP-UA Lockridge is a voting member, while Commissioner Lewarne is an information executive – but it also includes executive positions such as President, Vice-President, Finance, and HR. OUSA also consists of a Home Office Team. They essentially carry out the day-to-day activities of OUSA. Here is a photo from our fall General Assembly where we brought students from campuses, talked about policy which we then approved and then lobbied. This is our steering committee – we meet once a month in Toronto, where we have at least one rep from each campus member.

Member-at-large Sophie Helpard: Home Office is the group of employees that take the direction from students from the Steering Committee and execute their ideas in Toronto. Our Home Office team includes myself, Marc Gurrisi and Colin Aitchison, our Research and Policy Analysts, and Deborah Lam, our Operations & Communications Director. Part of the reason we want to be on campus is because we want to talk about how the AMS contributes to OUSA, and the returns you get on those contributions. All students currently pay \$3.04 to be an OUSA member. This funds our staff salaries, our office, and General Assembly meetings in Toronto. That value provides you – individual students and the AMS as an organization with the ability to set OUSA's priorities and goals. Every year OUSA sets priorities depending on what students want to see changed on campus. AMS VP-UA Lockridge and Commissioner Lewarne are speaking on behalf of the larger Queen's voice at OUSA. They are also the primary student stakeholder for the government to consult. OUSA consults major decision makers, and makes connections in local municipalities, connecting to MPPs to really lobby for students. We also provide resources and assistance – Colin and Mark were training AMS volunteers on policies and the processes last week. This ensures that the expertise in house can be shared amongst students. Delegates from the AMS also came to General Assembly in August and talked about issues that were going on across all our member student associations. OUSA also provides opportunities for individual students who are interested in talking to media about certain student issues with internships and the opportunity to learn about research. Some of our major milestones and wins include the 2017 budget launched in April. There was an over \$190 million investment in exponential learning, an additional \$9 million increase for front line health care in institutions, over \$73 million for student psycho therapy budgets, and the OSAP loans repayment threshold increased from earning \$25,000 a year to \$35,000 a year. This makes loans more manageable for graduates. One major milestone is the \$365 million reallocated from tax credits to education grants – this is the free tuition or OSAP program that you might have heard about. Our advocacy process for that included an OUSA brainstorm that summer for student loans, and we looked at what this policy could look like. This paper was approved by students and was written into our policy. The government essentially used all of our calculations and numbers in their budget and policy.

Commissioner Lewarne: We firmly believe that our approach is one of the best ways to provide students the opportunity to voice their opinions. OUSA likes to be at the table and the government likes to sit at the table and talk about our priorities. Our priorities this year are data recording and accessibility – creating a central data hub. We are also looking into experiential

learning – as student leaders, we can see how learning by experience through volunteerism and others is so important. Another priority is looking at mental health system design and funding – this is so everyone can receive adequate health and wellness services on campus. Another one is open educational resources – this will provide free textbooks, and a more open access to education, but also looks at making groceries and rent affordable. Other priorities include sexual violence prevention and response and looking at our tuition framework and funding formula – We want to make education affordable for domestic and international students. Our door is always open. So what we can expect for the fall? We are developing policy around lowering barriers for Indigenous Students, accountability, system vision & open educational resources. This will be done at our Fall General Assembly on October 27-29. If you'd like to have conversations about that, you know where to find us.

Member-at-large Sophie Helpard: The OUSA budget gives us a snapshot on what we are investing in and makes sure that our investments align with student goals. It has been broken down into a service based budget. Our biggest expense is in advocacy and outreach, then research and policy. Our operations and administration is for keeping lights on in office and also for conferences and events, which general assemblies are a large portion of that. We have a total budget of \$406,000.

Question period commences.

Aesculpien Society Representative Milden: Would you be able to expand on the research process? What is the balance between academic material, student input and what exactly does that process look like?

Member-at-large Helpard: Most of our research is secondary research, but we do conduct primary research. There is a huge student survey that goes around in November, but most of our research is secondary.

Member-at-large Gurrisi: Usually I always start over literature reviews – that is my go to first step. Anything that comes up in the news, academic stocks, daily headlines – we look at a bunch of sources to hear about new daily items that are going on in the sector. We ensure that these are ones that are well researched but we also do on-the-ground research. This includes consultations with Indigenous students and support staff where we talk about their experiences, best practices, and using our information, put it into papers for policy and research. Colin is currently talking with mature students and seeing what we can do there. Then we look at statistics. ~~Publications that come out of HECKO~~, Statistics Canada, and a survey that's conducted every 2 years of with over 10000 responses from students are ways that we gather information. The survey also addresses a variety of themes and is the backbone of our research as it is credible research of the students in our membership.

NSS President Palmeri: One of the items that you have mentioned was the ability of students being able to go to OUSA and address their concerns. OUSA covers such a diverse range. How would you go about dealing with issues from campus to campus, especially since membership consists of ones from smaller campuses to bigger campuses? How does that factor in recommendations, especially since each campus provides different experiences?

Member-at-large Sophie Helpard: Every year's agenda includes common priorities across all universities – we represent 8 but we speak for all of them. The common issues include mental health, tuition, and student financial assistance. We look for issues where every student rep says

yes – usually the top 5 things are important to all students across the board. We find synergies from campuses, for example with open educational resources – everyone was excited for it, but every single school was at different stages in terms of open educational resources. Some campuses have no professors that have even adopted these resources. However, everyone agreed that it was important for students, therefore it made its way onto the list. From there, when we talk about how we attack priorities based on the diversity – we start on a high level focus. We're not doing any institutional advocacy, we only advocate to the government. We look to conduct research on these high level focuses. For example, mental health is about funding, but also system design. Some campuses can meet with off campus counterparts to create safe, diverse areas and programs to discuss these issues. However, this is different on campuses such as Laurentian where they depend on the community partnerships. This is unlike Queen's where they are not relying on these community partnerships, but these partnerships bolster the current programs and services. The government then has to make system wide decisions, taking in all opinions and then will try to present the best option possible.

ENGSOC President Wong: Things like professional development workshops are already provided at Queen's - how are you providing things that at Queen's that we don't already provide?

Member-at-large Sophie Helpard: We as a whole office contingent, we have pretty great expertise about the sector. We also update student leaders on the workings in the government, government priorities. We also do training, research, and lobbying training, whether it be for part time or full time staff. We have a direct line and provide a nuance to the government. We also have a vast network of alumni who come in to do training on things like board governance, who understand these issues thoroughly but also have the unique previous experience and insight of being on student governments.

PHESKA President Murray: If OUSA is an effective lobbying group, why aren't prestigious schools like the University of Toronto members of OUSA?

Member-at-large Sophie Helpard: We do conduct some membership recruitment, but our main focus is on our current members and their concerns. Although we do engage with every stakeholder in the sector, we do focus on the campuses that we currently represent. However, we will also take on new ones if we do have the opportunity to recruit. For example, Laurentian is a new campus and it provides us with some new perspective on Northern campuses and students.

ASUS President Lagundijza: So first, I have consulted OUSA's policy, and it is useful to students at Queen's. What benefits does OUSA give to Queen's individually that for example, the University of Toronto, doesn't receive? I'm sure the advocacy OUSA provides benefits students, but how do you ensure that your member organizations receive a benefit that other universities who are not members don't receive?

Member-at-large Sophie Helpard: OUSA prides on being the primary stakeholder that students go to. OUSA sets government priorities, and makes sure that the government acts on those priorities that our members voice. We are setting the government agenda, and that is done through our members. In theory, our experience is that the concerns of our member schools will show up in government investments. Obviously other schools benefit from this, but governments have many consulting bodies that they could choose from and but they consult us mainly, and thus the concerns of our members are served first.

COMSOC VP-OPS Susic: What are those subgroups that also provide similar services and have we considered consolidation with those other groups?

Member-at-large Sophie Helpard: Some other groups are the Ontario Graduate Student Association, which represents graduate students across Ontario. There is also RÉFO – It is the Franco-Ontarian Students' Association, which is a smaller group. Another group is the College Student Alliance which represents college students. Finally there is a Canadian National group that represents students on the national level, but also has smaller provincial branches. However, OUSA is different in that we believe in sitting at the table instead of banging on the door. We are the go to for government consultation, and we are that bounce back on program implementation. We have not considered consolidation, however we always look to find synergies and collaboration. We might look into partnerships, especially when there is an issue that affects students in all of these groups and we will get together in looking into joint submissions and policies to the government.

President's Report

AMS President Li: First of all, I apologize for being late. I was giving a High Table speech. First on the list is the ReUnion Street Festival. This is its 4th year and it will be happening next Saturday. The main act has been confirmed and will be announced on Wednesday, October 11. On the Sunday after Homecoming, the AMS is hosting a community clean up which encourages students to be responsible and to give back to the community. That will happen on Sunday, October 15 at 6:30AM. There will be Timbits and coffee. Also, ~~I've been~~ I am very proud to announce that the next phases of the JDUC project are under way. This project is so important, and I'm excited that we've brought the university in as a partner. A broad student survey is being launched tomorrow and focus groups are underway to get the student perspective on the project. We want to make sure that we get student input and that the student voice is driving the project to completion. A new JDUC will recruit the best students, and will foster the amazing community that we know and love. Exceptional Queen's students deserve an exceptional building to match that.

AMS Vice President's Report

AMS VP-OPS Hollidge: Nothing to add to my report, and understand that it is a lengthy report, but wanted the Assembly to see a broader look at all the services, which is important for transparency and accountability.

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: Nothing major to add to the report. The only thing I add is that I compiled an overall budget brief that provides a nice breakdown of the commission budgets, especially outlining and explaining whether or not there were any major changes to the budgets ~~there is a nice breakdown of the budgets~~ of the commissions moving forwards.

Board of Director's Report

Chairperson Blair: Nothing further to add.

Undergraduate Student Trustee's Report

Trustee Chappell is not present at Assembly.

Student Senator's Report

Chairperson Corey: Apologize for not submitting a report. Senate met yesterday. An update on equity initiatives, the principal was very pleased with the efforts but recognized that there is still a long way to go. For example, the signage put up on move in day. Under the provost, there will be a university council on anti-racism and equity. This council will tackle university issues, combat inequity. A student representative will sit on the committee. Regarding truth and reconciliation – there is an inaugural director of Indigenous Initiatives. This is an implementation group where they will take our previous recommendations that were worked on and bringing them to fruition. _____

Rector's Report

Speaker Martinez: Rector Yung is not here. Wish him a speedy recovery from his concussion.

Statements by Students

AMS President Li: Today is AMS VP-OPS Hollidge's birthday. "*Happy Birthday*" was sung.

Speaker Martinez: Happy birthday, hope you had a great day.

Judicial Affairs Manager Sidhu: In the agenda sent out, the AMS misconduct report was included, and the statistics will be posted online very soon. If anyone has any questions, I'd be happy to answer during question period.

Question Period

No questions asked.

Business Arising from the Minutes

Motion #3: Moved by: CESA President Dowling, seconded by: Representative Namkung.

Motion for the AMS Assembly to approve the final reading of the changes to the constitution as seen in Appendix: CESA Re-Teal.

Speaker Martinez: The first reading in changes to the AMS Constitution found in "Appendix: CESA Re-Teal" was passed last Assembly.

CESA President Dowling: CESA has been undergoing some rebranding. This section lists the AMS's recognition of the different faculties and their colours. I thought I would add in the Concurrent Education faculty and their colour of teal.

No further debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSECTIONS: None

Motion carries.

New Business

Motion #4: Moved by: Judicial Affairs Manager Sidhu, seconded by: Secretary Sengupta.

Motion for the AMS Assembly to ratify Victoria Gudzak to the position of Judicial Affairs Deputy for the 2017-2018 school year.

Judicial Affairs Manager Sidhu: This is our fourth deputy for the fall semester, Victoria Gudzak. she sat on the committee last year and has lots of previous experience. There is a heavy caseload this year and we are excited to have her help.

CESA President Dowling: What is your favourite pillar of NAM?

Member-at-large Gudzak: Restorative justice. I don't want to be punitive, I am a student too, I just want to understand.

No further debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSECTIONS: None

Motion is ratified and carries.

Motion #6: Moved by: AMS President Li, seconded by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge.

Motion for the AMS Assembly to approve the OUSA budget as seen in Appendix: OUSA.

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: Just as a reference point, we always budget to net zero. Our budgeted total revenues are \$69,810.66, which is typical to last year. This is around a \$6000 increase from last year. That \$3.04 cent increases according to the **CPI** and also increases with enrollment. The second part of that increase is that one of the General Assemblies last year was held at Queen's so we did not have to spend as much on travel and accommodations. We had to spending more in accommodations and travel costs for that and all the delegates this year.

No further debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSECTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Motion #7: Moved by: Commissioner Safeer, seconded by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge.

Secretary Sengupta/Speaker Martinez: The goal plans for each commission have been attached, for your information but do not need any assembly approval. Each budget will be presented by each commissioner.

Commissioner Safeer: There is nothing in particular to add as commentary to the budget. Major changes can be spoken to individually.

CESA President Dowling: With the dissolution of the CEA last year, what happened to the funding that was meant for that specific budget? Did that fund go back into the revenue budget?

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: Strive, Youth Mentoring Youth – all of the funding for those were pretty much were carried over into the new commissions in the exact amount. Some of the funding will go to the internal sustainability fund – we received the first application for that – and hopefully that will go to TAPS so they are able to pursue more sustainable options. If it doesn't fit into a new committee, it goes into the general office budget. There were new programs that were added where the money might go – for example, some of it went to Commissioner Safeer's new program on black history month celebrations.

CESA President Dowling: There is approximately \$40,000 that isn't going back towards environmental programs. From a student perspective, that funding has been provided for the last 6 years, and it was around \$40,000. That means that there is no longer much funding going towards these environmental AMS initiatives, which is a little concerning.

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: Some of the \$40,000 will fund a new deputy for environmental affairs, and some will go into the internal sustainability fund. Not all, but most the funds have gone to that and the rest will be going into the general office fund.

COMSOC President Folkes: Regarding the printing lines budget – why is that amount so much higher than last year's?

Commissioner Safeer: The printing line increased so exponentially because we are putting more money into grassroots programs. We are currently underway for a cultural appropriation campaign that will roll out before Halloween. The printing budget thus is going to be used for printing posters about cultural appropriation, which is crucial in response to some of the racially charged events that happened last year. There were also changes in the AMS's policy on providing printed posters to 5,200 residence students on racism. These were infographics that validate that racism is an issue at queens, while also validating the identity of many people of colour and providing educational resources about those issues.

Chairperson Blair: If you take another look at the budget, you will notice that the Social issues budget for printing actually decreased by half, from about \$5200 last year to \$2600 this year. It did not increase.

Aesculpien Society Representative Milden: What areis the health and wellness ~~honorarium~~ and bonus for? Bonus and Honoraria for?

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: Honorarium is a thank you to volunteers. For example, deputies, co-chairs, and some other positions will receive this as a thank you for volunteering through the year. This is different from volunteer appreciation. For example, the Peer Support Centre falls

under the Social Issues Commission so if they get pizza for their social, that would be part of the volunteer appreciation budget. The bonus is for salaried staff which is an additional grant on top of their salary.

Chairperson Blair: They created the bonus in 2013 to incentivize employees to become more active. A quick note about the honorarium is that if you note in the budget the honoraria is a non-rounded number. We tax the amount and that is why you will see the difference.

No further debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Motion #8: Moved by: Commissioner Hollands, seconded by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge.

Motion for the AMS Assembly to approve the Municipal Affairs Commission budget as seen in Appendix: MAC.

Commissioner Hollands: There is nothing to add, except two additions to the goal plan. First, we are working collaboratively with AMS VP-OPS Hollidge to work out an increase in after hour coverage for bussers and a lower cost for the Bus-It fee. Secondly, we are working with KEDCO (Kingston Economic Development Corporation) – we want to explore the possibility of creating a formal cross-institutional partnership to ensure future collaboration between the AMS and them.

ASUS President Lagundijza: Just a point of clarification – could you provide insight on what the student fee for United Way goes into?

Commissioner Hollands: This is a \$2 opt-out fee. We contribute that to the United Way at their headquarters in Kingston. This is their single largest donation in their entire year campaign. The United Way does an incredible amount of work in Kingston. That money goes to their HQ so I don't know the exact breakdown of their spending but I'm sure it goes towards their programs of community outreach. Therefore, the fee is a charitable outreach.

ASUS President Lagundijza: Is that not against student fee policy for opt-out fees to be donated to charities?

CESA President Dowling: This was in discussion two years ago. AMS Executive Team CPL passed a lot of policy regarding student fees. One was not allowing the passing of fees through AGM or allowing donations in opt-out fees. I encourage Secretary Sengupta to look into the minutes.

NSS President Palmeri: I was there at that Assembly. I can't recall if the policy would work retroactively – I believe it works moving forward, but once it would be applied retroactively, that would require review from the AMS to repeal these opt-out fees and thus this issue has not been revisited. The United Way discussion has been brought up because of the nature of it being a charitable donation. Students can donate through their own pocket instead of being taxed a student fee.

~~AMS VP-UA Lockridge: Can Secretary Sengupta pull up the law?~~

AMS President Li: The policylaw is that once the opt-out fee is up for renewal, it would be reconsidered for validation.

NSS President Palmeri: When would that be?

Secretary Sengupta: Not this year, but pretty sure it's next year.

No further debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSENCES: None

Motion carries.

Motion #9: Moved by: Commissioner Lewarne, seconded by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge.

Motion for the AMS Assembly to approve the Academic Affairs Commission budget as seen in Appendix: AAC.

Commissioner Lewarne: There is nothing major to change. Most of the budget is my salary. Changes you could see – printing lines have increased because we are trying to do something different. We will be trying to print briefs and provide them. The Academic Grievance Centre has also changed locations and we have had to readvertise the location by reprinting all posters. Marketing promotion is a pillar in the goal plan and is reflected in the budget. The Teaching Awards Committee was pulled from the invoice. The only other change is the minimum wage change for the Student Constables.

NSS President Palmeri: What is the telephone line for?

Commissioner Lewarne: Just for physical office telephone.

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: All of our phones are done through ITS and the cost is based on calls made from those phones and where those phone calls were calling. An average is taken and they are billed every month.

No further debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSENCES: None

Motion carries.

Motion #10: Moved by: Commissioner Laflamme, seconded by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge.

Motion for the AMS Assembly to approve the Campus Activities Commission budget as seen in Appendix: CAC.

Commissioner LaFlamme: There is nothing to add. If there are any major changes that you have questions about, I am happy to speak to them.

ASUS President Lagundijza: Quick question – if AMS conferences aren't receiving funding from Assembly and they cannot receive club funding, how are we making sure AMS conferences are sustainable?

Commissioner LaFlamme: AMS conferences aren't requesting assembly funding as they receive large revenue in ticket sales. However, the budget reflects an increase in grants and bursaries for those conferences. Not all of the allocation for grants were used for the conferences last year, but we still chose to increase the grant fund to ensure that these conferences were still financially accessible for all students.

No further debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Motion #11: Moved by: Judicial Affairs Manager Sidhu, seconded by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge.

Motion for the AMS Assembly to approve the Judicial Affairs Office budget as seen in Appendix: JAO.

Judicial Affairs Manager Sidhu: There is nothing to change from last year – as we don't spend much money. The marketing promotion line is high as we advertise in the Queen's Journal and Kingston media so that students know where to go if there see violations of student conduct.

No debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Motion #12: Moved by: Secretary Sengupta, seconded by: AMS President Li.

Motion for AMS Assembly to approve the Office of the Secretariat budget as seen in Appendix: SEC.

Secretary Sengupta: There is not much change. ~~Simply, the voting rental~~The cost for ~~SimplyVoting-cost~~ has gone down slightly as there is a decrease in expenditures there. Office operating expenses have increased because there is a Rector election this year. Otherwise, things have stayed pretty much the same.

NSS President Palmeri: In terms of food allocations – can we try something other than pizza in the future?

Secretary Sengupta: I am more than happy to take suggestions for food other than pizza, and also very willing to take sponsorships from member societies for food at assembly.

No further debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Motion #13: Moved by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge, seconded by: AMS President Li.

Motion for the AMS Assembly to approve the Vice President University Affairs budget as seen in Appendix: VPUA.

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: My apologies that I did not submit a summarized form. The budget has grown quite a bit as a result of the things that I mentioned in the budget brief. All commissions used to have special project lines that allowed them to add special projects. What I saw during my time setting up the budget process was that the special project lines often went unused. So, we pulled the project lines out of the commissions, grouped them and put them in the VPUA budget. If any commissioner wants to pursue a project this year, they can tap into that pool. With the dissolution of the CEA, the action fund granting was taken on as a major addition to the budget.

No debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Motion #14: Moved by: Commissioner Myzko, seconded by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge.

Motion for the AMS Assembly approve the Clubs Office budget as seen in Appendix: Clubs.

Commissioner Myzko: Regarding changes in my budget, the Club Outreach budget allows my office to attend club events. It goes towards the fees for the clubs events because often these events have a fee to attend. There is also a student constable bursary. This is a fund that clubs can apply to if student constables are needed at events and they cannot afford to pay for them.

No debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion is ratified and carries.

Motion #15: Moved by: Commissioner Hollands, seconded by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge.

Motion for the AMS Assembly to adopt the resolution as seen in Appendix: Uber.

Commissioner Hollands: The AMS has been holding consistent contact with Uber regarding a new proposed bylaw by the taxi association. The proposed by law that will be considered aims to regulate transportation network companies such as Uber. *The AMS Resolution provided in Appendix: Uber was read out.*

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: We heard from students from the survey that was conducted that commercial ridesharing is something that students want. We cannot lobby externally without approval from the Assembly. We are taking questions on the brief and on what we think a fairer commercial rideshare by-law should look like.

CESA President Dowling: I was wondering if you could elaborate more on the lobbying efforts by the executive in previous years. How has the AMS specifically interacted with the transit commission in the past?

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: The AMS has generally provided very little input as they cannot do so without approval from Assembly. Students do use these services that are available on campus and we have been approached by Uber to join in their petition. However, that petition wasn't run by us, it was run by Uber. That's something that we have done on their behalf, but this would be different as this would include a submission to Kingston by-laws. This submission would voice that students want to use commercial rideshare and to look on similar models such as Guelph and Western.

Aesculapian Society Representative Milden: I am curious if any kind of lobbying or attention towards ridesharing decreases a focus on expanding bus times.

Commissioner Hollands: It's definitely not a zero sum situation. We've been interacting with Kingston and their transit department and working hard to encourage expanded bus times. We want to make Kingston a smart and livable city and that means having affordable and accessible transportation in all facets. But we also need to consider accessibility: sidewalks are not salted in the university district and thus it may be hard for students to catch a bus in the winter. Uber would be the next financially accessible option for students.

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: For students that can't access bus routes to get to school, the AMS does provide a taxi bursary. Students can apply for funding for that bursary through the Registrar if the AMS cannot support students through our bussing program.

AMS President Li: Because the proposed by-laws were not public last year, we weren't able to lobby or make any submissions. Now that they are public, we can make a submission for them to respond to. What we are looking for from Assembly is comments, quotes or specific wording that we can use in the submission so that it reflects what students want to say in response to the by-law.

CESA President Dowling: I am hesitant to automatically support this motion, and think it would be more appropriate for the AMS exec to draft a submission so that Assembly can work into the wording to know fully what they are supporting.

Aesculapian Society Representative Milden: I am wondering if there is a discussion for the AMS to enter this debate. Should the KATC approve to changing their by-law? What are we getting ourselves into?

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: Our opportunity right now is just a draft submission, whether they make any more changes, we would go forward and provide the opinions of students. If the by-law is passed, then it is difficult to continue pursuing changes as it becomes rather permanent at that point. As long as there is an opportunity to make a submission on the behalf of students, the AMS will continue to do so.

Commissioner Hollands: What we are trying to do here is not to say that we support Uber. We are just trying to address regulatory fairness. This is a document that is firstly, only serving the interests of one industry and secondly, terrible for market equity. We are proposing a regulatory capture of an industry, and advocating for best practices. You see a divergence between Kingston and other municipalities' best practices. We want to practice in a way that promotes market equity.

RESSOC President Roseman: I'd also be supportive of postponing this until there is a formalized document. The document should provide the scope of the AMS's role, and should ensure that the students' voice is heard to the best of their ability.

Commissioner Hollands: I want to reiterate that the by-law is going through its first reading on October 8 2017 so this issue is a little time sensitive as this reading will be happening before the next AMS Assembly.

NSS President Palmeri: ~~We are not asking for direction. I think that T~~the AMS is looking at this for advocacy purposes. We are lobbying for a fairer by-law processes saying "Hey! Can we pump the brakes so that there is a more thorough analysis on what we are doing and why we are doing so?"

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: If we do have to make a submission, do you want us to go ahead and write something that can be provided to Assembly over email to ensure transparency?

AMS President Li: The last time something like this happened, the AMS executive wrote an email that they agreed upon in Assembly and the letter was shared via email.

No further debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: unanimous

AGAINST: none

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Speaker Martinez Secretary Sengupta: ~~We are withdrawing I withdraw~~ Motion #16. Member-at-large Rosenstein is writing a midterm and ~~cannot be ratified in his position will not be able to attend assembly.~~

Discussion Period

RESSOC President Roseman: Was wondering about discussion related to the Orientation Working Group. Can we have an update on the progress of the group, any motions or if there is an agenda set for the year? Residence Society has expressed an interest in being a part of that board. Two weeks ago, we heard that there would be workings and I was wondering if there are any updates on that to ensure that the Residence Society voice is being adequately heard.

AMS President Li: Thank you for raising your concerns. The work~~ing~~ of the Orientation Working Group has just started, so there is nothing that can be finalized yet. The next meeting is in a week. I'm not in a place to speak on behalf of the entire working group so I would recommend~~ing~~ redirecting you to the chair of the working group. I encourage you ~~that~~ if you have these concerns, that these conversations happen in the office as opposed to Assembly where these issues are not applicable to everyone.

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: They had a meeting today, and coming out of that meeting, there is a subcommittee that is responsible for planning residence orientation. They will be reaching out to Residence Society later this week to incorporate them into the planning.

NSS President Palmeri: I also want to point out that AMS President Li has provided a summary in her report which addresses at a higher level what the Undergraduate Orientation Working Group has been working on.

Speaker Martinez: Just want to iterate that the discussion period is more for member to bring in their own opinions and facts to add to the discussion. Beginning next assembly, the discussion period will only be allowed if a member writes to the Secretary regarding their topic for discussion prior to release of the Agenda.

No further debate.

Adjournment

Moved by: CESA President Dowling, seconded by: Chairperson Corey.

Vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Assembly is adjourned at 20:52 EST.