



AMS Assembly Minutes
Thursday, February 1, 2018
Wallace Hall, John Deutsch University Centre

The meeting was convened at 19:43 EDT

Julianna Jeans, deputy Speaker, will assume the role of Speaker.

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

Motion for the AMS Assembly to approve the agenda for the meeting of February 1, 2018.

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: Strike motion #5.

AMS President Li: Asks Assembly to adopt the rules and process for the AMS Special Executive Election Process.

Representative Cattrysse: Asks for clarification from President Li on the rules and process

AMS President Li: Rules were designed with the help of legal counsel, the AMS Secretary and were approved by the counsel. This is an unprecedented situation. We used best practices from other schools that do appoint their executive. The rules are intended to ensure a fair and transparent process for all candidates. This is a democratic process and we want to ensure that the judgement of Assembly is on facts and not on any external biases. Rules would only be adopted for Special Assembly portion.

Representative Cattrysse: Has issues with rules. Wants motion to debate them. Takes issue with the stipulation that “members should vote with best interests of the society rather than our specific group or constituencies.”

AMS President Li: We recognize that this is more of a guiding principle. There is nothing binding but we ask that Assembly members realize the urgency of the situation and how all 18,000 undergraduate students are affected. In general, I’d like to address that this event is unprecedented. It is not an event we would like to be in and it affects the AMS as a whole – the thousands of students that rely on these services this year and in the 2018-2019 year. I ask that Assembly takes that into consideration and proceed with the process.

Representative Cattrysse: Does not see need to rush through adoption of rules without a motion to debate them.

AMS President Li: I ask that Assembly vote with the motion

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: Assembly should vote for the motion of the approval of the agenda

Vice-Chairperson Lively: This whole discussion is moot. You are only allowed to add, drop, or move motions. You are not able under assembly policy to adopt it with the agenda.

Speaker: We will proceed with the added motion to adopt the rules and the approval of the agenda.

No further debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

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

Motion for the AMS Assembly to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of January 18, 2018.

No changes to the minutes.

No debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Speakers Business

Speaker: I'm Julianna, the Deputy Speaker for tonight. Sorry as I will be slower than what you are used to. *The land recognition statement was read.* If you are going to speak, please try to get to a microphone to be heard on the livestream.

President's Report

AMS President Li: I think I just want to say something really quick to Assembly and the gallery. While I am excited that there are teams that put themselves in consideration, I ask that the student body think about why other teams didn't put themselves forward prior to this and think about what this process does to individuals. When you hold a position with a title, it somehow causes people to think that you are only a holder of the position and not a human being. I think that the previous few days have really hit home for me, reflecting on my personal experience and knowing how grueling it is but knowing it was worth it because I wanted to serve my constituents and students. Over the past few days, I've received numerous texts calling me "a stupid bitch" and that I "failed so hard that no one wanted my job". I just want to remind everyone that these people aren't doing it for the title or for the resume. I urge the student body to take this into consideration for the future of the student body and for Queen's which we know and love.

AMS Vice President's Report

AMS VP-OPS Hollidge: Nothing to add. I really want you to reflect on what President Li has said. This is not a situation that we want to be in – it is a difficult process to be in, a difficult situation to be in.

Anyone in a position of leadership has felt the difficulties of holding their titles so we should be aware of what it means to be a student leader on campus and move forward with a concept of positivity.

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: Nothing to add.

Board of Director's Report

Vice-Chairperson Lively: We had our meeting in late January where we approved a number of changes to certain job descriptions. Additionally, we are working on a proposal to break forward to CGM in March. There will be more information in coming weeks.

Undergraduate Student Trustee's Report

Trustee Chappell: There is nothing to add, board next meets on March 2.

Student Senator's Report

Senator Berkowitz: It was a relatively uneventful senate meeting. The construction of the JDUC was brought up with sentiments similar to what was echoed by students. Some opinions were from students who attend the school now who won't receive the benefits, however we related it to previous students who paid similarly for things that we reap the benefits for now.

Rector's Report

Rector Yung: Apologizes for not submitting report. Congratulates all Faculty Societies for successful elections as well as Alex Da Silva, the 35th Rector of Queen's University. Was impressed with her campaign and her wonderful job putting together succinct ideas. I am looking forward to transitioning. The Agnes Benidickson Tricolour Awards are taking place this weekend. I will have an announcement of the successful candidates this year. It has been one incredibly fascinating year for elections – it has been historic. With such times, there are many questions we need to ask ourselves. Two that are weighing are how did we conduct ourselves during election season? The second is what is the difference between a student politician and a student leader? The past few elections that have taken place have been filled with controversy and heated debates. For many of the elections that have been held, there has been a common thread; a lack of respect. There has been a lack of respect for the individuals. It is crucial for us to hold student leaders to the highest moral standard. We should ensure that whoever is an advocate and is representative is the representative who has the best interests of the student body. Receiving, providing threatening messages and demeaning their ideas is not what the student body should be about. This is not Queen's. We should not be perpetuating that anymore. It should be called harassment and brought to NAM. As for the second question - although many of us run for student government, we are not politicians. We are not people who carry a party line. We work for the students. Student leaders are people who volunteer from 10AM to 10PM in the PSC and walk people home at Walkhome. People who speak on our behalf at Trustee meetings, or at Assembly. These are our student leaders and these are people who commit their time. I want to see Queen's change. This is not the student body that I want to represent where we are demeaning each other and disrespecting each other. I want to make this abundantly clear.

Statements by Students

No debate.

Question Period

No questions asked.

Business Arising from the Minutes

Motion #3: Moved by: Secretary Sengupta, seconded by: AMS President Li.

Motion for the AMS Assembly to approve the second reading to the changes to the constitution as outlined in Appendix: Tyrosine Kinase.

Secretary Sengupta: These are the changes to my job description already approved at last meeting. Happy to take questions.

No debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

New Business

Motion #4: Moved by: AMS President Li, seconded by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge.

Motion for the AMS Assembly to vote on: “agreeing to the establishment of a mandatory, non-reviewable \$89 fee to support the redevelopment of the John Deutsch University Centre, to be collected annually commencing in the 2019-2020 academic year? Approval of this question will result in a University capital contribution of \$20,000,000 and additional funding to cover financing costs”.

AMS President Li: This is question to be placed on the ballot on the Special Referendum and this is something that students will be voting upon. The project is very unique and is driven for and by students in collaboration with the university. This is special to Queen’s as we have always had a history of driving the university to move forward innovatively. The JDUC is currently not accessible, is not welcoming or inclusive. The university has agreed to contributing \$20 million dollars. The reason why we are asking for a fee in 2019 is that is when construction will start. Students who won’t be reaping the benefits should not have to be paying for it. The fee is not as high as it could’ve been as the university is fronting the majority of it. For the university to approve of it is a big step.

Representative Cattrysse: Appreciates that fee doesn’t start until construction starts, but objects that it is non reviewable. Does not feel comfortable making decisions for students 10-20 years in the future. More comfortable if clause added to review the fee.

AMS President Li: Cannot state number of years because we cannot predict enrollment. The province only gives up to 3 years in the future. To get to a contribution amount, we need to have a static wording in the question. If enrollment went up drastically and we agreed to a ballot that said 20 years, then students could drastically overpay. It is important for us that the student contribution was 50/50 with the university. The fee will stop when the contribution amount has been reached which is why we didn’t want to put a year on it.

No further debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous - 1

AGAINST: None

ABSENTIONS: 1

Motion carries.

Motion #6: Moved by: Commissioner LaFlamme, seconded by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge.

Motion for the AMS Assembly to approve the changes to Policy Manual 2 as seen in Appendix: Polymerase.

Commissioner LaFlamme: This is a motion for dissolution of committees in the CAC. Briefing was sent out with Agenda. Difficult decision, but was made in looking at trends for these conferences over the past few years. Lack of engagement in all of these conferences and clubs or other student services provide the same or better experiences. We are putting in an Arts grant committee to award organizations that contribute to the arts at Queen's

President Dowling: My question is that in terms of the services that aren't duplicated, are there any plans to transition them into clubs instead of straight up dissolution? There is a growing trend in AMS to axe the government side – for example the loss of CIA, CEA. What programming is the AMS going to continue to offer especially on the government side?

Commissioner LaFlamme: Groups dissolving already have clubs that duplicate their services or have terribly low involvement. Too much of a risk in potential deficits running forward. QMC was hoping for 120 delegates but only got 32. Opportunities for students to get involved still exist but we are trying to focus on large scale opportunities that the entire student body can benefit from

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: Concrete Examples: The Media and Journalism Conference offers similar offerings as the more popular QMP Journalism Conference. With QMUN, there is also a QIAA run QMUNi. For Queen's Live Music, Clark Hall Pub provides the same thing. A lot of the things that are being dissolved have opportunities otherwise on campus.

Rector Yung: My question is that there are a couple of bursaries as a result of excess funding. Will there also be an increased funding going to clubs or will that be something that's on the table?

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: The budgeting process is something we do every year where we budget from zero. We take the student fees and based on the programming that the commissioners want to run, that money is allocated. With the dissolution, the money freed up there will result in some work for us to do as we will decide what committees to create. That money can always go to grants and bursaries for clubs as well as in our year, over \$10,000 dollars was set aside for grants and bursaries. This is something that will continue to happen moving forward.

No further debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous - 1

AGAINST: 1

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

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

Motion for the AMS Assembly to adopt the rules of Executive Election for Special Assembly.

AMS President Li: I urge Assembly to recognize the urgency of the situation. We need stability in the AMS for the student body and for every service that is in the AMS portfolio. The goal of creating these rules was to have a transparent and fair process for all of those involved. These are all principles we kept in mind working with the Secretary and legal counsel. Please vote in favour of this moving forward in Assembly.

Representative Cattrysse: Problems with the rules are that it's asking me to vote on behalf of the society when my responsibility is to the engineering class of 2018. We don't have to amend it. I will vote however I want. The second is the rule about no electronic devices being used. I have an issue as many of my constituents are watching on the livestream. I'd like for them to let me know how they would like for me to vote for them as I am casting a vote on their behalf and I don't think it's appropriate to restrict my use of electronic devices.

AMS President Li: All members in Assembly were voted in by constituents and I would expect that at any debate or vote, that you would vote on their behalf, whether they are beside you or if you had a conversation previously. The reason that legal counsel suggested the restriction of electronic devices is so that we could remain objective to any external factors or lobbying based on what your friends are telling you. We should vote on what the candidates are saying tonight and their answers to questions. I can't prevent any personal biases. It is a sacrifice for Assembly members to make for a few hours and something we should all agree to.

Representative Cattrysse: I would like to motion to amend these rules. I'd like to put forward an amendment to the electronics.

Motion #7: Moved by: Representative Cattrysse, seconded by Representative Torres.

Amendment to Motion #6, Motion for the strike the clause to remove electronic devices during Special Assembly.

Representative Cattrysse: I am motioning that we strike this point. It's important to objectively look at what's being said tonight, I don't disagree. However, there are constituents watching tonight and I would like their feedback as I vote on behalf of them.

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: I would like to make a point additional to President Li's. My reason is around the fact that one thing that does happen at Assembly is that when members in Assembly are on their laptops and on their phones, there are messages that are sent between other people and other Assembly members. I want all information given tonight to be available for all students. As a matter of transparency, we should ensure that all conversations happening about the election are happening in this room and are available for all assembly members.

President Dowling: I'd like to speak in support of removing electronic devices. From my perspective, I agree with President Li and VP Lockridge. It has to do with respect. These are candidates that are putting themselves forward. We should give them our utmost and full attention. This is a precedent when we have a guest speaker, that is what we basically have tonight so I will be voting against this.

ASUS President Lagundzija: I'd also like to add a point. ASUS did their due diligence after their elections with a survey about what students wanted in their next ASUS exec. I'd be happy to share with other faculties. I hope that other faculties took efforts and strides to get solicited feedback from students.

No further debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: 5

AGAINST: Unanimous - 6

ABSTENTIONS; 1

Motion fails.

Representative Cattrysse: The next point to object to is that of the secret ballot at the end of the session. I am not comfortable with that. I'd like my constituents to see who I am voting for. I would like to encourage that we don't have a secret ballot. What's the point of being transparent if we're voting in secret?

Commissioner Tsang: Mostly because we shouldn't be pressured to be voting in a certain way. A secret ballot will make an inclusive space where we respect our own votes and are voting on who we believe on without being pressured to vote similarly to what other student leaders vote for. I'm in favour of secret ballots

President Dowling: I am in favour of secret balloting. Members are more than welcome to share how they voted in an election. Any member can reveal how they voted through their personal or society pages. We will also be revealing the vote percentages so we will be seeing the vote as it goes along. Due to the respect of individuals who have relationships to certain candidates or want to work next year - if they want to reveal their vote, they can. If they want to keep it secret, that is their right.

Representative Cattrysse: Just referring to AMS PM1 Section 2, in section R, Point 4 says that "no secret ballots should be permitted". Why is this in our policy and why are secret ballots being permitted?

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: I have two points of information. We are able to do either secret ballot or open ballots through voting and second point is that Assembly can overturn a rule with $\frac{2}{3}$ of majority vote of Assembly. Because of this second point, we can make the decision to do the ballot open or closed.

Member-at-large: I find this very odd to say that you want to be transparent but you won't let us communicate with our representatives. This is a referendum on our governing body. For the sake of our time, just make this a closed meeting. There is no point for us to be here if we cannot communicate with our representatives.

Representative Cattrysse: As a point of order, which VP Lockridge pointed out, I think it's wrong in these rules that we have a secret ballot tonight when that directly contradicts policy in the AMS Assembly policy. I think that should be struck.

Representative Torres: Just two quick comments. First, I wasn't aware that this motion needed $\frac{2}{3}$ majority before we voted on this. Second of all, I'm in favour of open ballots for two reasons. The assemblies before have been open and we have folks here who took time out of their day to come see what Assembly is doing tonight. For the livestream folks, they need to hold us accountable. To my colleague over there, we should stick it to an open ballot and keep it as open as possible to continue the notion of transparency.

Representative Cattrysse: I propose an amendment that strikes online voting and just have voting by hands if possible.

AMS President Li: Two good points to address the member-at-large. There is a question period where members-at-large are able to pose questions to the candidates. You are able to provide commentary for your representative here. We are able to do something where we vote online in secret ballot, but the vote for the candidate will be tied to the Assembly member so that everyone can see afterwards who voted for who. Raising placards for four teams in ranked ballots will take hours. I ask Assembly to take that into consideration as well.

Representative Cattrysse: I adjust my amendment so that the online voting can be tied to the representative and that our constituents can hold us accountable after the election.

No further debate. Vote on the amendment to release the results tied to each representative proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous - 4

AGAINST: 4

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Recess commences at 20:39PM EST. Assembly reconvenes at 20:47PM EST. Secretary Sengupta will be assuming the position of Chair.

Secretary Sengupta: I would like to explain some new rules for Special Assembly.

Representative Torres: Are you allowed to abstain?

Secretary Sengupta: Yes. Moving on to Special Assembly, we received notice from four full complete teams and their students. Team TMZ – Tyler McIntyre, Matthew Le, and Ziu Horwitz. Team AML – Jordan Adair, Spencer Leefe, Matt MacGregor, Team ACS – Anika Muzmunder, Sarah Hanson and Chloe Demizio. And Team MLM – Miguel Martinez, Liam Tharp, and Munro Watters. Prior to the beginning of Special Assembly, there was a draw as to who will present first. The order will be Team MLM, Team ACS, Team AML and Team TMZ. I'd like to invite Team MLM to give their opening remarks.

Team MLM: Hello everyone. We are Team MLM and we are running. I am Miguel Martinez, AMS Presidential Candidate. I am Liam Tharp, running to be VP-OPS. I am Munro Watters, running to be VP-UA. We're going to begin by talking about who we are and why we want to do this.

Miguel: Fun fact, I used to be an army cadet. I was an expo instructor where I taught youth about hiking and white water rafting. I want to do this because I believe we have to step up as students. We have to put student interests first to the University Council and to the University Senate. I am one of the most qualified people running for this position. I acknowledge that nothing can qualify me to be President except for the job itself because it's an evolving role. The student body is hurting and I have the power to reconnect students to their AMS. My past experiences include being AMS Secretary and SMART Head Manager. I currently am the AMS Speaker. I sit on the Academic Misconduct Panel. This past summer, I was a Project Insight member. This was over the summer where students in many different societies were working together to raise funds for refugee families that moved into the community. As President, there are two major issues I want to tackle. One of them is mental health. After speaking with students, mental health was something that impacted every faculty and every program. Mental health is not a black and white issue. There is a wide level of reasons for why students struggle. There are resources however they are not enough. I believe that we need to widen these. I think we need to address drinking culture on campus. We need to promote a healthier drinking culture on campus to ensure that students are engaging in safe drinking habits. There was an article about how a student almost died and how he woke up in a snowbank. We need to start having conversations and engage in safer habits for students.

Liam: Fun fact: I'm actually a black belt in taekwondo. It's something that I value. It taught me discipline and taught me how to respect others and my superiors. Now as to why I ran for VP-OPS is that it's a great job. If I were to give any other answer, that would be disingenuous. Before I came to Queen's, I had a lot of family members that went to Queen's. When they talked about Queen's, you could see their eyes light up with their experiences in the services. This is something that I want to bring to every student at Queen's and I believe I can do that. My professional experience includes my work at OZ Electric, which is an industrial electric company. I did financial projections, doing a new retrofit and looking if numbers are possible and feasible. I also worked for a mechanical engineering firm doing leading analysis – answering questions like is this sustainable? Can we do better? Can we get a rebate? I have the ability to crunch numbers. I've been involved in the services. I am currently in EngLinks, have worked for Walkhome. I show a continuing support for accounting. For initiatives – in hiring, I want to make it equitable, accessible and removing barriers to ensure a fair hiring process. I also want to look at insurance

- making it accessible for all faculties and ensuring that everyone is safe at Queen's. Finally, I want to provide support to managers. Being a service manager is an extraordinarily difficult job. It's hard. I'd like to provide support both upwards and downwards. I believe that everyone should feel secure regardless of the position they hold at Queen's.

Munro: I'm Munro, not named after Marilyn. I'm a 3rd year Politics and French student. I was raised abroad in Southeast Asia, and was uprooted after 13 years. I moved back to Canada. This gives me a different perspective on things. I was incoming Rector's Alex da Silva's campaign manager which was a phenomenal experience. Through the past three months, I've learned so much about the Queen's community. I didn't run initially for AMS Executive because it felt unattainable. If I was appointed, I'd love to be able to bring it down to a lower level so that students can feel like they have a voice. Being Alex's campaign manager, I was able to engage so much with the student body. My previous experiences include working for Walkhome last year, and Newts Orientation Week – I think a lot of people can say that orientation week holds a lot of importance in their hearts. Outside of the university, I've been a Parliamentary Guide. I am supposed to be a non-partisan body as AMS Executive, but it was good to understand how things worked at that level. I want to focus on mental health, equity and Orientation Week.

Secretary Sengupta: Invite ACS to deliver their opening statements.

ACS: We are Team ACS. We hope to share our passion for student advocacy and share our vision for the AMS.

Aniqa: I am a fourth year life science major and a global development minor. I can speak to some involvements. Last year, I was a deputy in the Social Issues Commission so I've had AMS experience. I've also been a service staff for the P&CC and CoGro so I got to experience the corporate side. I've also been involved in the ASUS Equity Commission as a CoChair and the First Year Rep. I've also had experience advocating with senior administration. I've served as a student panelist for the racism and equity conversation. It helped inform the principal on things like equity and diversity. I'm excited and passionate to share my vision and why I can be a great advocate for students.

Chloe: I am a third year Con-Ed student with a biology major and a psych minor. Looking at experience, I have been the year rep at CESA for two years, did Con-Ed Orientation Week, and was Head Teach this past year. I have also volunteered as a Program Coordinator at the Agnes and been a volunteer at the Peer Academic Support. I've also had two experiences of classroom placements. I'm passionate about advocating on behalf of students in regards to Orientation Week, mental health and the transition from high school to university. This portfolio will allow me to advocate on a number of wide issues looking forward.

Sarah: I was previously the Deputy of Social Issues. I've worked with the university administration on Indigenous and sexual violence issues. I'm currently a Queen's Student Alumni Ambassador. I work with alumni. Alumni who shared their history within the AMS and the student life at Queen's. I've also been involved in orientation as a FYNIRS Executive. I have a strong belief in the integrity and financial accessibility.

Aniqa: I'd like to talk about why we are running. Even though we are all student leaders, we haven't taken the traditional path. We've been involved with various activities and a lot of the positions and initiatives that we've been a part of are initiatives that go unrecognized or work behind the scenes. We are excited to bring these perspectives and advocate for all students. We wanted to run to see student leadership that includes representation – people of colour, Indigenous students and women – in these higher level positions. These are things that are important. Be the change we wish to see. We are really excited to put forward our ideas as a team and we believe that we can work cohesively to achieve the goals of the student body that are brought to us. Our vision going forward to is to encourage student engagement, expand the growth that we currently are doing, working with the JDUC Revitalization and others.

However, we want to stress the importance of consulting with students to create our platform because if we are elected, we do want to represent the students' voices and not our own. We believe that platforms should be created in consultation with students so that it can be created by students in moving forward. It creates a cohesive plan. Something that we want to do is take the time to sit down to form a cohesive platform that will be released after election that is more specific and tailored to the needs of students. If we are elected, we will focus on different opportunities on campus to ensure all perspectives are heard to ensure that our representation is full. Thank you for being here and sharing in our vision. We believe we can advocate for students to enact positive change through the AMS.

Rector Yung: Point of information. I just had a quick question. Is passing notes allowed between general members of Assembly and general members of the public? I would ask members of the gallery refrain from interacting with the members of Assembly.

Member-at-Large: I thought that this was supposed to be open.

Secretary Sengupta: All members of the gallery will have the opportunity to ask questions during the debate period. I would ask to refrain from communicating with to ensure objective opinions. I encourage you to ask questions during the debate.

Vice-Chairperson Lively: Is it not a well understood principle in a parliamentary system and rules of order that members are able to pass notes if it is not explicitly addressed that note passing is permitted?

Secretary Sengupta: I will allow for respectful engagement between the members of the gallery and Assembly. We will ask that Assembly evaluate the candidates on the oral presentations given and not any subjective opinions.

Rector Yung: Is it not the same as having an electronic device and having that contact information with members of the gallery or AMS Assembly? Is that not the same thing in respect?

Secretary Sengupta: As a speakers' ruling, notes will be prohibited from members of the gallery.

Representative Cattrysse: I have an issue with a hired official making a speakers' ruling. I am wondering why we are giving the speaker's power to a hired official.

Secretary Sengupta: As per the rules passed, I am the chair for the duration of Special Assembly. Team AML has withdrawn. We will move onto our third and final team. Team TMZ. I'd like to welcome them to give their presentation.

TMZ:

TM: I am a second year applied math student from Salt Lake City, Utah. I have strong feelings about prime numbers.

ZH: I am a second year commerce student within general management. I love Harvey's while binge watching documentaries.

ML: Hi, I'm Matt Le. I'm in second year kin and I love the ARC.

TMZ: We have five primary focuses – government transparency, mental health services, accessibility, racial and gender equity, and the sustainability of AMS services. Our first point shows that there is a huge disconnect with engagement – there have been multiple uncontested shows. We have several plans to address this problem. We will create weekly videos that detail what the AMS does, what things are still being decided upon. These videos will be approximately two minutes, put on all social media accounts and shared so that it will be viewed by all students. We will also create executive casual meetings with students as in Lazy Scholar, CoGro or Botterell at big breakfast. If we meet at a published time weekly where we sit with homework and tell students to come contact us with concerns, we can address them there. This is different from office hours and creates a less intimidating atmosphere in a public space to address someone. Our final method is to consult with students with obstacles in where student government

stands. Our second post is on mental health. Our first front is a centralized system for mental health services. Our second approach is an anonymous chat, which will be an extension of the PSC. Everybody is different depending on the person in how they feel comfortable communicating – whether it's face to face, or talking to computer screens. People can talk about their issues and have their problems be heard from students. Our third point, as a person of colour, revolves around various instances in the past year with racial issues, especially those mentioned in the Queen's Journal. Our work with racial issues will be looking to improve UCARE. Indigenous issues is also something we want to work on. Finally, we want to create a monthly meeting on racism issues and it will consist of students from all ethnicities, from the Queen's Ukrainian Club and Queen's Caribbean Club which will increase transparency in the student body and allow their voices to come through. We also want to increase native student voice within the AMS. On our committee, we want to meet with them and create direct contact. This will allow more transparency within the AMS. We also want to enhance Orientation Week so that incoming students can be aware of Indigenous issues and be aware of the rich and historical land that we study upon everyday. We also looked at gender equality and women's issues. This is focused around the title, more so around inequalities and conflicts posed and prone to our female students. Our main promise is to further raise awareness on sexual assault harassment, collectively extracting concerns and hearing the body within these issues.

ZH: Running for operations, we will be performing research with students to ensure the feasibility and long term sustainability of the AMS services and the corporate service sectors to maintain and maximize revenue and profit in order to facilitate potential new investment opportunities.

TMZ: Finally, our last pillar of safety governing entities. First, we believe that there are areas between Main and West Campus that pose certain dangers. We wish to put in more blue lights on union street. It could potentially save a students' lives. It would be best to implement potentially near Victoria Park. It is a place where students go through a lot and we'd like to ensure the safety of students. We are also looking to increase safety and accessibility. My friend Siobhan McDonald has mentioned that she has found that Queen's does not ensure enough services, and accessibility to people with physical disabilities. We can poll to see what services could be added to ensure their safety, potentially expanding Walkhome service to walking home students with disabilities during the day. Thank you very much.

Senator Berkowitz: Could the Chair please confirm if any individuals have submitted their candidacy?

Secretary Sengupta: There was one individual who submitted, Emily Townshend. I apologize deeply for not mentioning this earlier. I will now entertain questions from members of the gallery, Facebook livestream, Twitter, and whoever is watching from home with the hashtag #amsexec2018. At this time, does any member of Assembly have a question for all three candidates? There will be 1 minute response allowed, and one minute rebuttal at the discretion of the Chair

Enter into 90 minute debate period

President Dowling: Given the closure of the Commission of Environmental Affairs, I was wondering if you could list tangible ways to promote sustainability both within AMS as a corporation and the university as a whole?

MLM: Some tangible ways: look at the best practices of the Tea Room. It's the only cafe where nothing goes into the garbage. There is a cost to this and it is a notable financial cost, however, the benefits that we can get from a sustainable cafe is something to look towards.

ACS: We should look at the sustainability groups established on campus. Quite a few resources that allow us to move forward in ways would be to incorporate more sustainability in the AMS and on campus. We'd look for support students who are doing this work and provide them with resources to support them in any aspects as well as prioritize that sustainability needs to become a forefront of the difficult decisions and that we appreciate the work that has been done.

TMZ: Agrees with Team MLM and ACS and thinks they're valid. We should be taking advantage of resources that take place outside of the university. We should look at other universities and institutions and their best practices and emulate them to take the best ideas that have come before. We should be looking at things that can be modified. For example, the JDUC being old has a higher energy bill than the ARC.

Member-at-large: The AMS is more than a student government, it's also a \$16 million corporation that serves students here at Queen's and the Kingston community. What is the biggest problem facing the AMS?

ACS: The deficit from TAPS and the underground. We have to be reminded of the double bottom line in ensuring that our social bottom line is aligned with our financial bottom line to ensure sustainability. We want to be working towards making sure that all our services are sustainable.

TMZ: Biggest problem is to achieve the equilibrium in having revenue to facilitate facilities to find that certain point where we could generate revenue but also provide feasible and successful services for our student body.

MLM: The largest issue is the minimum wage. It will be going up to \$15 if all goes as planned. This is difficult to manage. We need redistribution of wealth amongst the AMS services to sustain this. There may be pay rakes within supervisor pay within the AMS.

Rebuttal Martinez to ACS: You mentioned a deficit to the AMS, which is a not for profit organization. If all of our corporations ran a surplus, what does that say about the AMS? How do you plan to address the deficit that TAPS is facing?

ACS: The double bottom line also entails that the social aspects of the financial deficit. We are the student government and TAPS creates a safe drinking environment for students so it's important to focus on the double bottom line here.

Secretary Sengupta: From Facebook Livestream: How do you justify the revitalization of the JDUC while many student wellness services arguably require more vital attention?

TMZ: The JDUC revitalization is something that has been on our to do list. Justification for renovating even though other services are not getting the funding to do what they would like to do is about the future. The revitalization is not about the current, however we look at the current issues: it is currently not accessible for disabilities, not energy efficient. It's a huge issue as it's something that is outdated. This needs to happen now because the facility needs to change for reasons that have been going for many years now.

MLM: Once the innovation occurs, LaSalle services will be moving into that building and so will other wellness services. The JDUC struggles with accessibilities. That ramp is super inaccessible. How many people here on a regular assembly feel a bit cold? That's because this building itself is outdated. The elevators are outdated. The JDUC needs to be redeveloped so we can make sure it is as accessible and updated as possible.

ACS: Echoes what was already said. Agrees that student wellness services deserves more funding and resources however these two are mutually exclusive. It's important to focus on both of those priorities as it provides opportunities for students to be involved with the input on what this space will look like. They can voice concerns about study space and other things. There are a lot of things like that in the revitalization of the JDUC that require student input.

Vice-Chairperson Lively: As one of the candidates mentioned, the minimum wage hike is going to have a substantial hike and effect over \$8000 per year. The AMS has services which run recurring deficits year after year. What would go into your decision when it would pertain to closing an AMS service?

MLM: Look at the cost benefits of shutting down services. The experiences that services provide are invaluable - there aren't many people who can say that they run a full service at 20 years of age. I would talk to people who visit the service and look at the bottom line. By getting information from a lot of sources, we would be able to make the decision.

ACS: To reiterate what we said about financials, we are student leaders thinking about students. Services are important for so many students. The current team has been working and facing this issue. Students need to feel that we are working for them. We need to think about what we can do proactively instead of transforming the offices. This includes shift changes, minimum number of employees and increasing retention of qualified candidates to further along the process in the next years and fill that gap.

TMZ: In regards to minimum wage officially rising, significantly self sectors and factors of AMS, there are many components that should be considered. This is a case of cost benefit analysis; seeing proportionalities and seeing how certain accessibility and other factors that can be greatly impacted when it comes to the service. This looks at whether the service is useful and beneficial and eliminating depending on priority.

Member-at-Large: At this assembly alone, there was an attempt to unconstitutionally vote. How would you better advocate for this body's blatant disregard for transparency?

Secretary Sengupta: Just a point of information, Assembly does reserve the right to suspend rules of order with 2/3 majority, which is what was done. This is not an unconstitutional vote.

ACS: Transparency should be a big priority in the AMS. A lot of student leaders put in a lot of time to be at Assembly and contributing. It is definitely inaccessible to navigate this bureaucratic process. Team ACS is dedicated to transparency and ensuring that students do know how to navigate it. Difficult decisions should be made in collaboration with the students.

TMZ: This is an insightful question and topical to where the AMS is. Bureaucracy is why people believe the AMS is inaccessible. I have talked to students about what keeps them from getting into government and believe that cutting down the bureaucracy, putting out guides in a simplified manner, and trying to convey what the AMS is doing and what will be done in a succinct way for the people will decrease the barriers. This includes our plan for a weekly video that informs students on what's going on.

MLM: It's important that every student hold their student leaders accountable. I do want to touch on the decision that was made tonight. Members of Assembly will be voting tonight and their vote will be tied to their vote. They won't be swayed on how their colleagues are voting. They can vote on what they believe will be the most beneficial for the student body and on who will be able to do put their students first.

Secretary Sengupta: *Question from Twitter.* Why did your team not come forward in the regular campaign process and why step forward now?

TMZ: I did. I put forward an executive team. We started an application late and with a different executive team so that we could provide opposition but it did not work out. After the subsequent events, I saw an opportunity to come in and selected a team that would more appropriately dedicate to their jobs and make a more positive difference.

MLM: There was a constraint of both of us running their own campaigns for our individual candidates in the Rector campaign. Early in the year, I was heavily considering to run. After a lot of self-reflection, I put that on hold to focus on my personal academics. I put myself first and that was selfish of me. After this past week's events, I want to put the student body first and I want to advocate on behalf of all student and all student interests. I am now more willing than ever to put 100% in.

ACS: I'd like to answer on behalf of ACS. One of the reasons why we didn't run was that we hadn't found each other as running mates. It's lucky and fortunate that we have found each other and that we share each other's vision. Running for the AMS is scary and I highly commend anyone who has put themselves out in AMS. At the time in December, I didn't have that self confidence in ourselves however

since then, we've had a lot of peers who have come forward and tell us that they can see us in the office and it's so rewarding and humbling to have that trust in our ability.

Representative Lunetta: What should be the nature of the relationship between the student government and the university administration?

MLM: A lot of the functions in our government are aligned with tiers of university administration. This would look like communicating consistently with the Rector, student societies, and administration. Increasing transparency is vital. By creating united fronts to administration, we go forward together. If we go separately, that will not be effective. When we go up together, it will have a better effect and impact.

ACS: In looking forward toward our relationship with administration, I think it's important that collaboration is key. It's important for students to advocate for students and use the resources available to us. Moving forward, we should ensure that we have taken their perspectives and student perspectives and worked together.

TMZ: I feel that we need to maintain a positive relationship. We are students first and keep the student voice heard and stand our ground. Through the JDUC project, we need to make sure students voices are heard when we are talking about the fees of this project. This will foster a relationship and ensure that the actions listed upon our committee are going to be acted upon by the administration.

Secretary Sengupta: *Question from Facebook.* How are you going to address racism on campus, in light of recent attacks on campus?

ACS: Thank you. I think it's very important. There has been so much activism for people of colour and making queens a safer and more inclusive place for students of colour, would like to acknowledge all of the work being done by students. Moving forward, there should continue to be an emphasis on this work. Students of colour know how to advocate for themselves and don't need people to speak for them. Team ACS will be further committed to following recommendations outlined in PICRDI as a student inputted recommendation.

TMZ: We must keep our finger on the pulse of racism. With our racism committee, we will be including and collaborating with committee student leaders from all clubs on campus about their experiences on campus. This will facilitate a more free and open conversation so that we can also help them going forward.

MLM: First and foremost, I would like to recognize my privilege. I cannot speak for people of colour on campus. I will do my best to listen and advocate for them. I think that this is pressing, especially with the establishment of PICRDI and UCARE in December. As much as they are doing amazing work, I think they need to be continually supported, and given the resources in order to thrive. We need to provide them with support, with structured institutions. That way students who are knowledgeable can serve them and students can serve them to give them the information that they need.

Rebuttal **ACS:** Thank you. A question for MLM. Beyond the university bodies of PICRDI and UCARE, how do you plan to involve students organizations and students who have been advocating for this in advocating for students?

MLM: Although it will be beyond UCARE and PICARD on campus, it will stem from them. We will consult with clubs and organizations and draw from these things. These subcommittees and organizations need to draw from these on campus organizations otherwise they will not have enough resources to provide for the services that were decimated.

Representative Farley: There are a lot of goals that you talked about in your introductions. Choose the goal that's most important to your team and the qualifications you have to achieve this goal.

TMZ: Excellent Question. The thing that is the biggest issue is the lack of transparency and the fact that getting involved in the government is not accessible and feasible. As a group who doesn't have a lot of

government involvement, we understanding that this, Assembly, is an intimidating thing to join and speak up at. We will then take actions to help people gain greater knowledge about these things.

MLM: Important question to elaborate on the issue of mental health. After speaking with student leaders, I learned that mental health is an issue that impacts all students. You asked what qualifies me as an individual - nothing qualifies me to support people with mental health other than the fact that I'm willing to listen. My previous experience in high school includes bringing a Best Buddies Chapter to my high school so that we could support our other peers who had mental disabilities. I also sat on the committee for safe schools for the Toronto Catholic District School Board to ensure more accessibility for all members and all schools.

ACS: What team ACS is most excited about is involving students in the development of our platform. We've put forward a vision for the AMS that doesn't include specific things that we put forward. The reason for this is that all of these teams have formed in the last three days and that is not enough time to meet with parties that should be involved in forming these platforms and making these decisions. We are excited to form a platform that excites students which we will be releasing after we are elected that will be formed with through consultation with involved parties such as students.

Secretary Sengupta: *From Facebook Livestream:* Mental health advocacy is something that candidates quickly add to their platforms but require real tangible actions. What will you do to ensure that mental health remains a priority?

MLM: As students, we can recognize that there aren't enough mental health resources on campus and thoughts like "I don't have the resources I need". What is going on? From there, establishing action items. If we go in blind, how are we supposed to improve upon that? Implicating administration in mental health services is important. A lot of students feel uncomfortable in asking for accommodations and support. Faculty doesn't realize the impact of mental health on academic experience. We need to make sure that we have transparency and administration that is educated on this to ensure the best possible resources for our students.

ACS: As it has been mentioned, mental health can be thrown around as a platform point, however it is a very prevalent issue. Team ACS will be looking at the existing services while working towards the services we have in the future. With the Innovation Centre opening and LaSalle moving there, it opens up more opportunities for counselors and support. It's also important to look at the now with what we currently do have at LaSalle and trying to improve them. This also includes the PSC fee increase which will allow us to support more students and also looking at more innovative ways such as online platforms and best practices from other universities to allow students to be more comfortable with getting help.

TMZ: We believe mental health is a two prong approach. First, is the consolidation of mental health services so we can see what they all are. It should be linked everywhere to Queen's students so that help and support services are visible everywhere. They should also include links to all the relevant topical support services. These will include warning signs for mental health issues, ways to approach others and a list of which service to be best for your approach.

Member-at-Large Townshend: Queer students, especially trans and non-binary face many barriers whether it's professors rejecting your pronouns or shifts that require a link to a specific gender. It's more than just accessible washrooms. What do you have as a tangible action to our queen, trans and non-binary students?

ACS: I think it's definitely an important question, one that we would be committed to addressing through consultation. Through meeting with groups like EQUIP and Engiqueers and other groups that are already doing this work on campus. Queer students, especially trans and non-binary students already know how to advocate and what they need. They just need a platform to address their concerns to the AMS. Team ACS will respond by opening our doors and having these conversations with these queer and trans students that they are ready to have.

TMZ: Queens has a stereotype as being a homogenous population which does create barriers and we will try to lower that barrier as much as we can. LGBTQ+ students are welcome to our gender discrimination committee to discuss their issues that will increase the transparency of the government so that we can try and resolve it together.

MLM: I'd like to first recognize my privilege as a heterosexual cisgender female. Again I can't speak for their services. Due to the nature I was not able to consult with as many individuals as I could have. If elected, I plan on making everything as intersectional as possible. When we talk about sexual assault and violence, people of LGBTQ+ are very much at risk. When we talk about these issues of race, mental health, sexual assault, we can ensure that they are represented as much as possible. We can talk with services like EQUIP as they are the most educated and qualified to address these issues.

ACS: You asked a question pertaining to trans and non-binary students. I want to know both of the teams' plans in supporting these students that do not force these students to self-identify. How do you plan to advocate for trans and non-binary students in a way that doesn't forcing them to self-identify?

TMZ: Piggy backing on our committee, it's strictly a gender issue so they don't need to personally identify and we can work our way towards resolving them in a generic format.

Commissioner Tsang: Point of information. This is regarding your rebuttal. How do you address students who don't self-identify but your exact plan as discussed before required you to consult individuals who self-identify?

Secretary Sengupta: I will allow Team ACS to respond after the rest of the responses.

MLM: I think with regard to it, it's important to acknowledge because obviously not everyone is comfortable with identifying as a certain group and that we need to make sure that the resources are aware of these things and are trained to adequately deal with it. Making sure we have counselors that are trained and are accessible. Looking at PSC and making sure they're trained in addressing these situations but I will do my best to consult with students to establish what they feel before they identify as being queer or trans.

ACS: I just want to clarify – in consulting with a lot of these groups like EQUIP, Engiqueers, Q+: these groups are really important groups that provide safe spaces for queer, trans, and non-binary to speak about these issues and connect with other students and find a community. The purpose and point I wanted to make was in consulting with these groups that it doesn't force students to identify because these are groups that are formed to create safe spaces and groups to be advocates for these students as well.

Secretary Sengupta: *Question from Twitter.* How do you plan on engaging with and supporting Indigenous students on campus? How do your past actions demonstrate your commitment to such promises?

MLM: I would like to recognize that Queen's is situated on Indigenous land. We need to not speak on behalf of them but give them a platform and stand by them. My commitment is that I'm sitting on the Indigenous committee with some members in this room and the whole goal of the committee and point is to enhance the opportunities and experiences for Indigenous students on campus.

ACS: I am Indigenous. I think that represents that more Indigenous voice will be heard, I will not only represent my views but the views of people I know and life. I was the Deputy Commissioner on Indigneous Affairs, and the QNSA Co Chair. I sit on multiple committees and councils, listening to the voices of the students. I believe in advocating and listening to their voices past my own. If it doesn't align with my personal opinion, but seems to be the opinion of the greater Indigenous student population, I'm okay with representing that as I will be providing a voice for people.

TMZ: This is an incredibly insightful question. We have two plans. We will create a bi-monthly meeting with Indigenous people on campus. We can react quickly to any issues that come up now so that they can

be solved before they become larger. We will work with residence orientation where we will bring in Native speakers who will educate students on Indigenous history, on the land, and Indigenous issues.

Secretary Sengupta: *Written Question by the Gallery:* Several major rulings in the last year have been made by the AMS Judicial Committee, including constitutional interpretations for Bikes & Boards, elections appeals, and calling for this Special Assembly itself. If elected, how would you ensure that the Judicial Committee remains independent, apolitical, and absolutely impartial in ruling on elections, PIP (policy), NAM, and other matters?

ACS: Transparency is key. Moving forward, with that that would fall within everything in our portfolio. I think that allowing transparency for hiring processes and selection processes for the individuals that are chosen in these committees and how they are forming their decisions and ensuring that all things are clear to the student population and suit the best interests of students.

TMZ: To be entirely honest, I do not know. However, I am dedicated to finding out. To do that, I want to consult with all of you. I want to consult with current AMS Exec and assembly members to ensure that whatever is done is effective. I have a great deal of faith in the people in these position, and that these people are incredibly fair in facilitating the just operation of the institution. Even if things seem impartial, they often are and are made with the best interests at heart

MLM: I worked in the Office of the Secretariat and the Judicial Committee falls under that. The most important thing in supporting the Judicial Committee is to remain at an arm's length; that they are holding us as an executive accountable to the policy. The judicial committee does not need to be persuaded, they need to sit down, consult policy and decide what is best for the policy and the student body. To ensure this, remaining at arm's length as possible and that any decision made is made public information.

President Kruizinga: How will you work to offset the burden on services such as Kingston General Hospital and Kingston Police Services in regards to issues such as sexual violence and drinking culture?

TMZ: Within our slides, the proposal of a more centralized online virtual forum where you submit possible concerns, proclamations and sign your name or remain anonymous will offset burdens from institutions such as the Kingston police and those governing student activities. I believed this overall centralized forum will be more effective than smaller subsections.

MLM: With regard to sexual assault specifically, I think consultation is key. Speaking to students and survivors that are willing to come forward, Barb Lotan, so that we know exactly what they need as survivors. This will allow us to communicate as effectively as possible. By creating centralized services here at Queen's, making steps in place to make sure that our services are effective. In regards to drinking culture, we need to push education, especially during Orientation Week and making sure that students realize the impact of drinking culture and aware of how this effects them as well to try and discourage that.

ACS: We're experiencing a lot of changes with the Innovation Centre. We are looking at our current resources and utilizing what we have on campus to better equip students with proactive needs so how to educate students on how to get these resources if they were to happen. This will lessen the burden rather than working reactively. Students may then feel more prepared. This is the same philosophy with drinking culture work with harm reduction and harm prevention. As well as working with police, educating students on what is appropriate and what is best in partaking in drinking culture and utilizing the resources on campus that can help deal with these issues.

Vice-President Jeans: To incoming VP-OPS, how do you plan on making the event sanctioning process accessible for the student groups on campus? I am looking for tangible things that you plan on doing.

MLM: By consultation. There's been controversy with student constables and I believe that student constables are essential. We need to look at that capacity and how we can best restructure it for the needs of the individual societies.

ACS: It's valid to look at the event sanctioning process because it has been changing. We have to realize that a lot of the things we do aren't going to be seen right now and a lot that we do aren't going to be known by the greater population. Try to find a more efficient way to deal with event sanctioning and in the future we will work with faculty societies to create a more accessible form and look internally at what needs to go, what is valuable and trying to individualize it for clubs, services and stakeholders that will be utilizing it.

TMZ: We believe it's important to reduce bureaucracy by establishing and exploring more in details of particular facilities, members of facilities, and what they have to offer within the provided context of what the clubs provide on campus.

Secretary Sengupta: *From Assembly.* Please explain your understanding of a university governance and one major issue faced by the Senate and the Board of Trustees.

ACS: Lots of parties involved. All of the parties are equally important to the structure and decision making. There is no most important between AMS, the Senate, the AMS Board of Trustees and the administration. My perspective is that we are all equal players with different perspectives. With regards to senate, one issue is that, in consulting President Li, one issue that is brought greatest space for collaboration. There isn't much discussion of what is going on. It's along the same vein with the Board of Trustees.

TMZ: I understand student government as having a primary role which is to represent students to the best of their ability to administration and Board of Trustees. It's important because the university may not always have the best interest of students in mind. The Senate has a lack of connection with students with decisions being made on the student level. This rests on the growing disconnect with the student governance system and the students as they stand now. The Board of Trustees is working with finances and the long term finance feasibility in terms of university governing services and bodies.

MLM: The way that the university governing body is composed is of three bodies. The Senate, Board of Trustees, and the University Council. Following last year's event of the racist party and the racist issues on campus, the Senate and Board of Trustees have failed to reprimand students who engaged. They defended themselves by saying the student code of conduct lacked addressing issues of racism and thus they did not put students through non-academic misconduct. I do believe that there is room for them to address issues of racism and discrimination and we need to hold administration accountable to these issues.

Member-at-large: How would you differentiate from the other teams and how would your team better serve students than the other candidates?

TMZ: What sets us apart is that we have very concrete plans and all the committees we plan to launch. We also have tangible campaigns such as the mental health campaign and our online chat for Queen's mental health.

MLM: I am incredibly lucky to say that I've known them since first year. Liam and I used to walk from Wally to West together. Miguel was in my Gael fam. We can all trust each other incredibly well and we have those interpersonal connections. All three of us have been involved and are aware of student issues and those things pressing the student body. We are all competent people within the areas that we wish to represent students.

ACS: Speaking on behalf of our team, we provide a unique and new perspective that is not biased coming from all of our different involvements and issues that we've been a part in. Our ability to pull from unique experiences has helped us to pull together a different perspective moving forward. Our team is strong in

involving students with our platform and the shaping of our year. Student involvement and engagement in creating the AMS that they want to see to best their student experience is something that we stress.

Secretary Sengupta: Given that the AMS oversees more than \$16 million, and more than 18,000 students, why do you believe that you are uniquely qualified to lead this organization?

MLM: I don't believe any of us are and there is no way to be completely qualified. Nobody can say that that they are completely qualified going into this position. However, I'm interested. Operations are something that I've always been fascinated with. I used to be a project manager which is 100% operations. Something that has fascinated me and I'd love to go into it more.

ACS: I'm not that knowledgeable and I am so willing to learn from Chelsea and past AMS alumni that have had this position. This is a student government. Student engagement is so important and seeing what the students need and the managers and seeing how important each of the services are. The financials does have a point in room to be there. It's there to sustain the AMS as a corporation and as a non-profit. I have been involved in many student involvements – working in FYNIRS and working to help transition outgoing students to jobs outside of Queen's.

TMZ: As has been stated, these are positions that we are taking on that are almost impossible to take on. We believe that since we represent three of the faculties, so we have greater representation of the students and faculties. We think that's an advantage. My other two people are people of colour and can represent those issues on campus. We believe that in terms of the diversity, that in terms of experiences and faculty, and that we have two people of colour, that we can properly represent the issues that are here at Queen's.

Secretary Sengupta: Clubs at Queen's are an integral part to student experience at Queen's. What do you think is the biggest problem facing clubs at Queen's, other than space, and what actionable steps do you plan to take to resolve it?

ACS: Clubs face issues emphasizing and utilizing support that the AMS can offer that will allow clubs expand to the capacity that they aspire. Whether that be providing them with more resources, sitting down to see what each club plans to do, what their goals are, and getting them from Point A to B so that they can further themselves as organizations.

TMZ: One of the key characteristics is that we host the highest number of clubs and that there is a lack of recognition. There are so many clubs – I'm a part of the Queen's Ukrainian Society where I've never been told was a club. What we can do is increase recognition and increase resources in finding what they need to thrive so that we can match the diversity of our students to fill their interests accordingly.

MLM: Making sure clubs have the resources. Looking at the clubs toolkit that JCP and Director Myzko have been working on is valuable. Want to further develop so that new clubs are able to come into the fold and that they know what resources are available to them. Another issue is overlap of clubs. As much as they are incredibly unique on their own, I think it can be a great idea to bring clubs together to further their cause as much as possible.

Member-at-large: What is one of the things you admire and respect the most about your opponents?

TMZ: I believe there's a lot to admire. I have been incredibly impressed and humbled by the opposition. They have brought great options and ideas to this forum. They have incredible qualifications and have really walked the walk and talked the talk. Team ACS, I am impressed by how much you care about so many issues at Queen's and how you've showed that they affect you on a personal level.

MLM: That's an important question to remember since we are students who support each other. Team ACS, one of the things I admire the most is that you have always been a voice for students and are not afraid to voice your concerns and opinions and hold your students accountable. Team TMZ, this is the first time that I've met you. The fact that you're putting yourself out there is so impressive. This is not an easy process to go through. The fact that you're willing to set up and offer yourself to serve the students and have prepared yourselves for this debate, I congratulate you.

ACS: I'd like to address TMZ. I really admire your bravery and tenacity putting yourselves out there and going forward with this opportunity. I know that a lot of students feel that the AMS feels inaccessible and I think it's important that you put yourself forward through the barriers and are standing in front of everyone in this room. Team MLM, I admire your demonstrated commitment to student advocacy. All of you have had previous dedications and passion for student advocacy.

Secretary Sengupta: "Student engagement" has been a buzzword in the opening statements - how specifically does your team expect to generate more interest in engagement with the AMS and student government as a whole?

TMZ: I believe that the most important step is that people know what's going on. The way that the minutes are written are written in a way that isn't very accessible to students. A lot of the things that are communicated to the student body are in places where people won't actually read it. They need to be placed in a place where students will see it in their everyday life. This has to do with the videos and the meetings week-to-week. It's hard to be engaged and feel represented by a student body if you don't know what they do.

MLM: We, as an AMS executive, need to engage with students. We see AMS Execs meeting different clubs, students in their campaign however, as soon as they are elected, they go back into the bunker. MLM is committed to treating our entire year as a campaign. The issues that we face now are not going to be the issues we face ten months from now. We need to make sure that we hold ourselves accountable in representing the students and that goes into into treating our entire term as a campaigning season.

ACS: In looking at accessibility of the AMS, we also believe that it's strongly important that our presence is known among students. Instead of having students come to us, we will reach out to students – this will mean going to different events, attending different meetings, making sure that our presence is known to eliminate that barrier of having people come to us. Regardless, either through social media or in person, our doors are always open for students to come and interact with us to keep us up to date with the issues. But again, making sure that our presence is known throughout the faculties will be our focus.

Secretary Sengupta: If any candidates would like to have a brief closing, they are welcome to do so. We will take a short recess to go into team questioning. We will begin questioning with TMZ, ACS, and MLM. I would ask other teams to leave with the Chief Electoral Officer and that they leave their cellphones in Assembly.

Recess at 23:08PM EST. Assembly reconvened at 23:31PM EST.

Team TMZ Question Period commences.

Secretary Sengupta: We will start the question period with Commissioner Tsang.

Commissioner Tsang: One of the greatest concerns in our faculty society are individuals with intellectual, mental and learning disabilities and their accessibility at our institution. What are your plans and how can we create a more accessible campus for these students?

TMZ: I've been working with students with disabilities in my entire time at Queen's with Revved-up and WAG. We plan to help people in those situations is to expand the Walkhome services if they need someone to walk them home and throughout campus and we want to start and institute a peer buddy system to help them navigate to classes. On the topic of physical disabilities, we plan to try to make the new JDUC as accessible as possible. To do that, we aim to have more ramps and elevators as needed.

Commissioner Safer: I have a question that's been given to me from a member of the gallery. Alumni are an integral part of the Queen's experience. There's always a risk of letting them perpetuate outdated and harmful attitudes towards consent, alcohol use, mental health and etc. How do you plan to involve

alumni at these events while safeguarding our students, and in particular our service staff such as student constables, who may bear the brunt as non-academic misconduct does not apply for alumni?

TMZ: Alumni can bring certain dangers back to Queen's. When we bring into minds traditions that might be being barbaric such as throwing things at engineers as they climb the grease pole are really not as far away as we think. When did that end? 1988? That's not far away. We see a lot of idiots at HoCo and such. What's important is to remember that these barbaric traditions die away. At the beginning of the alumni events, we can speak to these important issues.

Representative Farley: You laid out 5 goals in your intro. It's a lot of goals considering your lack of experience and qualifications. How do you plan to achieve these and do you think it's feasible to have this many goals?

TMZ: We have next to no qualifications, but we have a plan. The plan is to try and bringing in to address these issues. I think students and other governing bodies will help us to understand and address, particularly if these students are asked to. Ultimately, many of them may not be fully tackled but we should be still be able to make progress on these initiatives.

Representative Romanski: What approach do you believe the AMS should take when faced with divisive issues on campus?

TMZ: We want to open up discussion for all students so they will have a say in the government. That is a big part of our campaign in trying to increase transparency and voice of our student body. Each one has a unique story to tell. We will try to listen and deal with any issues as they arise.

Vice-President Susic: This is a two-part question that is operationally related. Firstly, what experience do you have going over a business and a budget (transactions)? Secondly, given the financial burden in the coming time, what are some ways that you can see AMS decreasing costs so you are not simply burdening students by increasing student fees?

TMZ: We were all interested in managing a business and a budget, especially in our specialized areas of study. But in regards to the second part of the question to do with equity and assets, subsidizing from certain different components would be the main source. Adding on an addition to our accessibility fees or overall tuition, since it's safe to assume that Queen's would be filled with predominately middle class or to increase funding by redistributing to decrease costs could help.

Vice-President Negus: As the next possible AMS president, you will be involved in the selection of the next principal. What qualities are you looking for and how will you go about incorporating student voice into the next decision?

TMZ: The discussion of the next principal has not been prominent enough as it will affect students for longer than any of our decisions may. First metric will be having experience at Queen's and having experience with the long term culture and trends at Queen's. Second is a concrete plan as in what they want to do, things they would institute. It includes how they would run the university differently and how that affects students in the long run? Next principal must have passion and recognize how student concerns evolve over time.

Representative Milden: This is also a question passed on from the gallery. In consultation with Indigenous students in formal and informal settings, a recommendation has been made to set up a Commission for Indigenous Affairs. Would your team be interested in setting up a Commission for Indigenous Affairs and if so, why or why not?

TMZ: 100 percent. The Native voice is important to us. Going back to our platform, we intend to set the committee and meet with the Queen's Native Student Association bi-monthly to have conversations rearing safety and inclusivity at school.

President Dowling: A big part of your platform is the creation of a lot of committees. A lot of criticism from students is that these committees only create recommendations but don't create tangible benefits. How will you ensure that these committees will create tangible changes?

TMZ: These committees are to keep our executive team in contact with these issues and will keep our finger on the pulse of these issues. Often times, when it comes to an issue, when an action is taken, it's already a problem that has already grown on campus. It's not meant to necessarily have direct result from the committees, but to address issues that we may not see. We can meet with them to see what their issues are, and then we as an executive can then shape policy and share the issues itself. The changes will not be made through the committee itself but as a speaker piece for us to expedite the process.

Rector Yung: Going back to strategic plan that was laid out by the current principal and his administrative team, one of the parts is the internationalization of Queen's and the increase of international students here. What are current issues facing international students and what should the AMS be doing to better support and advocate for those students?

TMZ: The many issues that they face is that they are not necessarily integrated with our community. What we want to do is to try our best to integrate them into what our culture is. The way we can do that is posting more events, having more clubs, and creating a buddy system with us to create a sense of belonging in our little community.

President Lagundzija: In the feedback we received from ASUS students, almost 90% of students expressed what they prioritized in an ASUS Executive was a commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion. If you are selected, could you please speak to how your past experiences prove your commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion?

TMZ: From a personal perspective, I am part of a plethora of cultural groups on campus. I am a part of the Korean Student Association, I do slavic dancing. I am also a part of Revved-up and WAG which involves students with physical disabilities and mental disabilities. I am well versed in the issues that are facing these groups.

President Wojaczek: How will you as a team work together in eliminating financial barriers for students?

TMZ: I suppose overall, we will look at an overview with what we consider a list that is proportionate to the benefits and shows how widely needed and impacted certain groups of students are in relation to bursaries and scholarships and overall prioritizing exactly what may be of higher matter in what matters in regards to things that are not as necessary or mandatory.

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: We are moving into a provincial election in Ontario. All of these parties have different positions on things that affect students such as tuition, pharma care, OSAP, and funding framework. How do you go about crafting an advocacy strategy and activist strategy when there are no students on campus during the election in summer?

TMZ: With advocacy, we will inform students on what would either benefit or not benefit the students but ensuring that the first person to hear the information are the students and prioritizing them.

Motion #8: Moved by: Representative Cattrysse, seconded by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge.

Motion to extend questioning period by 10 minutes.

FOR: Unanimous - 5

AGAINST: 5

ABSTENTIONS: NONE

Motion carries.

Member-at-large: How will we make sure that students who fall through the cracks of floor friends, faculty friends, particularly for transfer students or commuting students? What would you help those students, particularly for students who don't have good experiences with their floor, their faculty and their frosh group?

TMZ: I can't say that I don't know anyone who does feel that way, which is your point – they fall through the cracks. Try to create more events that are involved during the day to day which usually are on the weekends and evenings. More social events during the day will help those commuter students to get involved. Another way may be ultimately rely on asking people, and it's tough to adjust to. Polling students to know what they would like is important.

Representative Milden: What kind of a culture do you want to create between the three of you and the team that you hire and how will you take care of the team that you build?

TMZ: Need to work well with them and work closely with them. Ensure that we actually know each other on some level. Nepotism is not to be encouraged. The first step is general knowledge and openness on the team. Over the transition period, we will be trying to spend time together while working inside and outside to craft a relationship beyond a professional one while retaining respect and traditional elements.

No further debate. Questioning period closed.

Recess commences 11:59 PM. Assembly reconvened 00:04AM EST.

Question period for Team ACS commences.

Commissioner Safer: I have a question that's been given to me from a member of the gallery. Alumni are an integral part of the Queen's experience. There's always a risk of letting them perpetuate outdated and harmful attitudes towards consent, alcohol use, mental health and etc. How do you plan to involve alumni at these events while safeguarding our students, and in particular our service staff such as student constables, who may bear the brunt as non-academic misconduct does not apply for alumni?

ACS: It's something that people put forward as integral to the Queen's experience, but can be countered by the fact that what's integral is not tradition, but community. While I am in favour of continuing traditions that make Queen's special, we need to be aware and adapt to the future and cognizant that traditions can be exclusive and not tailored for today. This can be helpful in engaging alumni in the community today and that relationship.

Vice-President Negus: As the next possible AMS president, you will be involved in the selection of the next principal. What qualities are you looking for and how will you go about incorporating student voice into the next decision?

ACS: In consulting with President Li, one the biggest strengths is that Daniel Woolf respects student leadership and how important it is for students to be able to advocate for themselves. We will look for a principal candidate that values that student leadership. We have a position that has an incredible access to administration and can advocate in ways and opportunities that other schools do not have. We will look for someone that has participated. Students are doing a lot of work, and we will look for a principal candidate that actively reaches out to the students instead of them doing it all themselves.

President Lagundzija: In the feedback we received from ASUS students, almost 90% of students expressed what they prioritized in an ASUS Executive was a commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion. If you are selected, could you please speak to how your past experiences prove your commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion?

ACS: We are all women. Two of us are women of colour. This is a new thing to Queen's and a special thing we can bring to the table. We have all been involved with orientation week where we have perpetuated inclusivity and approachability. FYNIRS don't go into residence, but perpetuating this inclusivity within each of our roles and experiences is important to us. Falling back on our experiences is important to reaching out to students.

Vice-President Susic: This is a two-part question that is operationally related. Firstly, what experience do you have going over a business and a budget (transactions)? Secondly, given the financial burden in the coming time, what are some ways that you can see AMS decreasing costs so you are not simply burdening students by increasing student fees?

ACS: In my previous experience, I worked with FYNIRs and the logistics so I have overseen the budget for that orientation week, worked with the chair, learned with them on how to budget and how to deal with revenue. This involved ordering things, orientation forms and that. I've also worked with QNSA as the Co-President this year which involved budgeting, and looking at what we need to do. Dealing with the wage increase, I would talk to the hiring managers and looking at their input on how they deal with this and seeing what they need and what they don't. This is just important to be willing to listen to the students and what they need.

Rector Yung: Going back to strategic plan that was laid out by the current principal and his administrative team, one of the parts is the internationalization of Queen's and the increase of international students here. What are current issues facing international students and what should the AMS be doing to better support and advocate for those students?

ACS: I cannot speak on behalf of these students but by consulting those groups to find out their issues would be a start. There are some barriers for them, sometime language. We can advocate for better use of resources such as QUIP to allow these students to know that there is a place where they can thrive and we can also connect them with better resources that may enrich their experience as well and contact those student groups to find out what resources they need to thrive.

Representative Lunetta: As an AMS Executive, what will you do to ensure that all voices will be heard, even those that you disagree with?

ACS: The AMS should be a body that represents the interests of all students, regardless of beliefs. ACS's personal approach is to recognize that these roles. While important for advocating, anyone who takes on these roles don't act in isolation. As individuals, we can never be able to use our own perspectives to advocate on behalf of the thousands of students, we need to take into consideration the diverse views of all students at Queen's and being open to being challenged or being open to things that we disagree with but that students need and advocate for.

President Dowling: the creation and approval of the environmental procedures manual, some could argue that there is a triple bottom line. What do you plan to do to balance the social, environmental, and financial responsibility of the AMS?

ACS: As I've mentioned before with the dissolution of the sustainability committees, it opens the opportunity to bring environmental issues back to the forefront of the university. I think that working with our different portfolios, that would be how we work with the triple bottom line. Calling on our portfolio and looking to these groups that work for these sustainability issues and figuring out how we can bring these back, whether that's in supporting them in their views or providing them with resources, that could allow for more opportunities for sustainability to thrive in the university.

Commissioner Safer: My question is two pronged: first part is how would you ensure that UCARE and the administration is accountable? Secondly, how will you ensure that student activist groups who don't have the best relationship with the AMS or the administration, are still used to be consulted throughout the process?

ACS: I currently am in working group with Terry Shear that is working to implement the justice centre so the goal is that it's implemented by September 2018. There are many things to be considered immediately: one thing that I think that is a strength is autonomy from the AMS. The purpose of the project is to give groups that are at risk a space where they are not at risk of losing their space or facing opposition. Allowing these groups to work with the working group without oversight from the AMS is important and we need to know when to input and when to step back.

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: We are moving into a provincial election in Ontario. All of these parties have different positions on things that affect students such as tuition, pharma care, OSAP, and funding framework. The question is: how do you go about crafting an advocacy strategy and activist strategy when there are no students on campus during the election in summer?

ACS: I think that something to keep in mind is using OUSA to work through advocating. We have that opportunity of going to Parliament. This would be an extremely crucial piece to allow us to advocate for what we need to. Making sure that when we are spending time lobbying at Parliament that we would bring forth the issues that are the most prevalent at Queen's campus. Even with students not here during the summer, I believe that we have the time and we have the opportunity to pull from this semester to get a cohesive perspective to establish an appropriate platform to lobby for.

Representative Farley: You focus on consulting everyone, making sure you know everyone's needs. Many faculties have not been consulted in the past: how do you make sure that every faculty is consulted during a decision time?

ACS: As we've mentioned before, our team has put forward a vision. A lot of the platform has been left for consultation with student groups, student leaders and interested parties. If elected, we will release a platform after consultation with as many groups as possible. We will continue the outreach through the term by emphasizing student engagement and their input in our vision for our AMS. We do make a strong commitment not only doing our due diligence in consulting all groups but continuing that forward into our term.

Representative Romanski: What approach do you believe the AMS should take when faced with divisive issues on campus?

ACS: Student leaders make difficult decisions and it's difficult for them to have the responsibility for advocating for so many students and to live up to that responsibility. I think we need an Executive that is not afraid to make a hard decision and is transparent with the decision making process. It's important to consider all sides and acknowledge where you may be right and where you may be wrong.

Motion #9: Moved by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge, seconded by: Representative Cattrysse.

Motion to extend question period by 10 minutes.

FOR: Unanimous - 5

AGAINST: 5

ABSTENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Commissioner Hollands: Kingston currently has a rental housing central vacancy rate of 0.7%. In Central Kingston, the vacancy rate sits at 0.5%. Simple economics says that low supply leads to an increase in price. How is your team prepared to work with municipal stakeholders to address a housing stock that is low in quality and in stock?

ACS: I strongly believe that this is a pertinent issue, just having experienced and hearing the experiences of my fellow students. We need to keep in mind our relationship with Municipal Affairs and the stakeholders that communicate with us in regards to these kinds of topics. This will involve connecting with the City of Kingston to see if there is anything that can be improve the housing quality and supply and also seeing if there's anything internally to see if needs can be met. It might also be helpful to reach out to students see what the exact needs are before reaching out to the municipality.

Vice-Chairperson Lively: Go back to minimum wage hike. Our revenues will stay constant but our expenses will go up. Students are not here in the summer and there is a propensity for managers and commissioners to prioritize their own commission. How are you going to make objective decisions on where to make resource allocations and cuts?

ACS: The minimum wage hike is a topic that we will continually talking about in the next few years. I am not financially literate but am willing to learn from people who know what they're talking about. Working with the staff with the AMS, using the analysts that we'll be hiring and utilizing all of the resources that we do have this year in dealing with this. We are currently looking at the equitable parts and ensuring that student needs are met and that in hiring, that managers are thinking about the student needs and not just their own.

Commissioner Tsang: One of our greatest concern in our faculty society are individuals with intellectual, mental and learning disabilities and their accessibility at our institution. What are your plans and how can we create a more accessible campus for these students?

ACS: It's extremely important to talk about these issues. Looking at this changes, with the new wellness centre, there is the opportunity to implement the services that we are currently lacking. Changes are being made to accommodate physical disabilities, but looking at exceptionalities, this is a prime opportunity to pull in more services to accommodate those students for their transition at Queen's and address it to better let them succeed.

President Lagudzija: In preparing for this evening, we took feedback from ASUS students. I wanted to share sentiments from our survey and our students. One student said they'd like to see an AMS Exec that's empathetic to hearing students rather than an agenda. Another said: there is too much nepotism in student government, it's incredibly exclusive. Another said that the AMS Executive should be made of humble and selfless people who represent students not the corporation that is the AMS. I believe sentiments like this represent a disconnect between students in this room and students outside. Why do you believe this is and as an executive, how do you address those sentiments?

ACS: Some of the sentiments were definitely true. I'm currently speaking to a room of 35 people and I'm sure more people are watching. The students in this room are not necessarily representative of the thousands of students who go to the school. Our advantage as Team ACS is that we do not come from traditional methods of student government route. Our strength comes with our diverse network of student experiences that we have through our unique involvement with Queen's, and through those, I believe we can advocate for all students and not only just the students in the room.

Motion #10: Moved by: Representative Cattrysse, seconded by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge

Motion to extend Assembly by 30 minutes.

FOR: Unanimous - 7

AGAINST: 7

ABSTENTIONS: None.

Motion carries.

Member-at-large: One of the biggest problems is that these executive, director, and commissioner positions are grueling, overwhelming, underpaid and tend to cause severe burnout. What are things to prevent you from burnout and what are some changes you can make to making these more accessible, healthier and safer?

ACS: A lot of student government positions are really grueling. There is a lot of work that goes into dedication for students. Mental health is important in these positions, we are all human beings and would like to be treated that way. Our personal approach with our employees and other members is to emphasize that priority of mental health of our employees.

Motion #11: Moved by: Representative Cattrysse, seconded by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge

Motion to extend questioning period by ten minutes.

FOR: 16

AGAINST: 15

ABSTENTIONS: None.

Motion carries.

Commissioner Safeer: Intersectionality is often used as a buzzword without a nuance and understanding on what intersectionality and intersectionality advocacy looks like in practice. I'm looking for tangible examples of what that advocacy looks like and making sure that it is not being thrown out as an empty promise.

ACS: Intersectionality is important to focus on any issue. Team ACS's understanding is that it's something that affects everyone's lives - different identities, different backgrounds. Not using it as a buzzword is making a commitment to realizing that identities and backgrounds affect themes in different ways, and that it's not an additive effect but something that students face with the intersectionality of their backgrounds. Our commitment to making it a priority is to include intersectionality consulting through student groups and building that understanding ourselves and also not tokenizing.

Representative Torres: Considering the numerous events that occurred during this week, how can you assure that this dumpster fire of a week won't happen again?

ACS: Important issue to bring to the table right now. As we've mentioned before allowing the students to have a better understanding of what's going on. This will include potentially sending out more information to students in the masses that could be more well received. This will create more of an understanding of what the student government looks like. This will include reaching out to students to figure out why and how engagement has not been great and seeing where the disconnect between students and those positions do.

President Grotzky: You guys are really brave for coming up and answering questions that you may not know the answers to. You're doing your best, especially since you were put together so late in the game. I want to learn more about what you have done before to get a better sense of what you can do. Tell me one thing you've accomplished so we can see how that might translate for future success.

ACS: AM: I am currently working as an organizer called QCRED which is an organization that has had a lower profile. I'm working with their Director of HR, bring back this historic organization that advocates for antiracism and does a lot of good work. **SH:** I'm Indigenous and I'm also working with QSAA. I was privy to go with the 50+ guest dinner during homecoming. Before the gala, another student was assaulted

by an alumni and I've worked with alumni coordinator to implement a plan around training and creating awareness at that event to making sure that it doesn't happen again because it's important that it doesn't.

CD: I have been involved in a various amount of things. I'm in Science but I've seen the creative side of working at the Agnes, through helping students at the PSC, through my personal achievements – through the wide range of activities, I'd be able to pull that experience to the use of my portfolio.

No further debate. Questioning period closed.

Questioning period for Team MLM commences.

Commissioner Safeer: I have a question that's been given to me from a member of the gallery. Alumni are an integral part of the Queen's experience. There's always a risk of letting them perpetuate outdated and harmful attitudes towards consent, alcohol use, mental health and etc. How do you plan to involve alumni at these events while safeguarding our students, and in particular our service staff such as student constables, who may bear the brunt as non-academic misconduct does not apply for alumni?

MLM: With regards to alumni relations, we can't control what they do as they do not fall under non-academic misconduct. As far as what we can do, we can implicate alumni significantly and maintaining open avenues of communication. Also by being assertive, telling alumni that these are the things that we are passionate about and these are the ways that we're doing them. For example, ReUnion Street Festival is an indicator where we can see, so we can look at what has worked in the past and what we can do in the future.

AMS VP-UA Lockridge: We are moving into a provincial election in Ontario. All of these parties have different positions on things that affect students such as tuition, pharma care, OSAP, and funding framework. The question is: how do you go about crafting an advocacy strategy and activist strategy when there are no students on campus during the election in summer?

MLM: With regard to that, we will be making sure that we have these conversations before the summer happens. We will be making sure that we have that transparency and taking into Effect that as much as we prepare, it will be difficult to predict what the provincial government is going to do. As much as we can prepare, it's important to have contingency plans in place, leaving room for improvement and maintaining input and not letting it be the end of discussion once the summer starts and being open to ideas.

Vice-President Negus: As the next possible AMS president, you will be involved in the selection of the next principal. What qualities are you looking for and how will you go about incorporating student voice into the next decision?

MLM: There will be three students who will be sitting on principal committee – the AMS President, the SGPS President and the Rector. The three of us have to sit down and figure out what the best interests on the entire student body are. Three things that I believe are important are accountability, transparency, the belief for the principal to hold himself accountable for the entire committee. Earlier this year, we looked at things that we want to see from our principal. These recommendations included sustainability and mental health. We need a principal who is going to students' interests first and hold himself accountable to advocating on behalf of all students.

President Dowling: Earlier, Rector Yung talked about transitioning from student politician to student leaders. However, during your earlier questioning, you mentioned the need to continue on as if you were campaigning for your entire term. How are you planning to make that transition from a student politician to a student leader?

MLM: student leaders need to be approachable. Being the AMS Exec doesn't mean that we're waiting for students to come to us but it means going out to clubs and campus organizations and talking to students and saying things like "hey, how do you think I'm doing? Is there something I need to change? Let me

know". Being a student politician is about speaking with the students and representing them to the university administration and actually performing tangible change.

Rector Yung: Going back to strategic plan that was laid out by the current principal and his administrative team, one of the parts is the internationalization of Queen's and the increase of international students here. What are current issues facing international students and what should the AMS be doing to better support and advocate for those students?

MLM: Having been involved in NEWTS Orientation week, I recognize that international students don't fall under that category, however it does make me aware of the issues of students who come from abroad. The QUIC – it's a phenomenal resource. There are a lot of areas that we can improve, especially access to ESL resources. If we think about note taking, not all of the services are offered for ESL students. It's important that we give them a level playing field by providing them with the resources that's needed to allow them to thrive and succeed at Queen's.

Senator Berkowitz: Liam Tharp, you just ran for ENGSOC VP-OPS, where that campaign just ended 48 hours ago. So how did this affect your interest in AMS Operations and how is this position uniquely different to other student positions on campus?

MLM: I aimed to promote the services in EngSoc. My campaign was focused on feedback. If I'm being honest, I have a lot more experience with the ENGSOC but I have worked at Walkhome so I realize that there is a lot to learn. I do think that the ideas apply. I am interested in this because I do care about every student here. I believe that I'm able to improve the Queen's experience to all students.

Commissioner Tsang: One of our greatest concern in our faculty society are individuals with intellectual, mental and learning disabilities and their accessibility at our institution. What are your plans and how can we create a more accessible campus and an enhanced experience for these students?

MLM: I worked a camp that works with individuals with disabilities. Due to the nature of the disabilities, a lot of them had mental and cognitive disabilities so it's something that I'm very aware of. Working at a grassroots level is important and having stream to support them is important so programs like Best Buddies are there to raise awareness of these things. We want to make sure that the resource availability is incredibly important.

Member-at-large: Last year when Alexander Prescott applied for the AMS Speaker position, Miguel was vocal in his support for Alexander Prescott's appointment. Specifically given Miguel's support for Mr. Prescott and VP Candidate Munro's position on sexual assault, how do you reconcile your sexual assault policy with your candidate's off-putting remarks?

MLM: I'm sure many of you remember that assembly, where I was the AMS Secretary therefore I had no opinion. I was never in support or against of Mr. Prescott's appointment. What I was in support was the fact that Assembly follow due process and that if a member were to be removed from the chair that we followed the due process. I encourage all members of Assembly to read the minutes and realize that I was never fully in support of that appointment.

Secretary Sengupta: I would like to ask that all questions are respectful of the candidates and all of those involved as per the President, VP, and Rector's request earlier today. The question from the member of the Gallery was wrong and inappropriate.

President Murray: I think it's important to be critical of this process, especially with the results. I want to know what your biggest disadvantage is as an AMS Executive.

MLM: One of our biggest disadvantages is that we never got to go through an AMS campaign. We never had time to meet with all the faculty societies, meet with clubs and groups, go reach out to administration and figure out their interests for the student body for the next year or two. I think that's the biggest weakness as a team.

Motion #12: Moved by: President Lagundzija, seconded by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge.

Motion to extend Assembly by 30 minutes.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

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

Motion to extend questioning period by 10 minutes.

FOR: Unanimous - 5

AGAINST: 4

ABSTENTIONS: 1

Motion carries.

President Lagundzija: In preparing for this evening, we took feedback from ASUS students. I wanted to share sentiments from our survey and our students. One student said they'd like to see an AMS Exec that's empathetic to hearing students rather than an agenda. Another said: there is too much nepotism in student government, it's incredibly exclusive. Another said that the AMS Executive should be made of humble and selfless people who represent students not the corporation that is the AMS. In your opening statements, you expressed that some of you were involved in campaigns during this election season. I believe sentiments like this represent a disconnect between students in this room and students outside. Why do you believe this is and as an executive, how do you address those sentiments?

MLM: Nepotism - it's something that does happen and something that is prevalent. Something I touched upon was hiring. Hiring has a lot of obstacles because there is an inclination for people look more favourably on their friends. What I can address is that I want to make sure that everyone has an equal opportunity. One of the advantages of this team is that we have no agenda and we all know each other, however I don't believe there is any need for us to have an agenda. I worked with Munro, I live with Miguel's friends. There is no desire for us to have an agenda.

Commissioner Hollands: Kingston currently has a rental housing central vacancy rate of 0.7%. In Central Kingston, the vacancy rate sits at 0.5%. Simple economics says that low supply leads to an increase in price. How is your team prepared to work with municipal stakeholders to address a housing stock that is low in quality and in stock?

MLM: In light of what you've said, it is confusing because we have all these vacancies but we are building new buildings and these buildings aren't conducive to living standards. These are all things that need to be addressed but I want to engage in an open dialogue with Kingston municipalities as I can't speak on all of it but we can work on improving living conditions and those vacancies and figuring out how we can work on that.

Vice-President Susic: Firstly, what experience do you have going over a business and a budget (transactions)? Secondly, given the financial burden in the coming time, what are some ways that you can see AMS decreasing costs so you are not simply burdening students by increasing student fees?

MLM: You heard my experience – I’ve worked with Oz Electric, the Akila Group – I’ve had operational experience, all extraordinary experience that will be conducive to my success. I’m also the Treasurer of the Sci’ 18 Exec. That part of the question I feel I can answer adequately. The next part of the question is something that I cannot answer. Cutting costs with the AMS is something I am not certain about. There are certain measures that are important such as sustainability where we cannot be cutting costs. I cannot tell you where the money is coming from. I am not prepared to answer this question however that does not mean that I do not desire to give you a good enough answer.

Commissioner Safer: Intersectionality is often used as a buzzword without a nuance and understanding on what intersectionality and intersectionality advocacy looks like in practice. I’m looking for tangible examples of what that advocacy looks like and making sure that it is not being thrown out as an empty promise.

MLM: It’s important to recognize that it is a buzzword for sure but it can mean different things to different people. Depending on how you identify personally, recognizing that and being conscious of that and that people may not see things the same way. For me, it means realizing the limitations and working to break down barriers to ensure that people can access things in all the same way. This includes recognizing that sexual assault that happens to LGBTQ+ will experience things differently than my experiences as a cisgender heterosexual female. The statistics are not the same and the way people cope with things is different.

Member-at-large: One of the biggest problems is that these executive, director, and commissioner positions are grueling, overwhelming, underpaid and tend to cause severe burnout. What are things to prevent you from burnout and what are some changes you can make to making these more accessible, healthier and safer?

MLM: The first part to address is the executive team. I spent a large amount of the last 24 hours with those two people. I found that I was questioned, but I was questioned for the right reasons. They were questioning me to supply better answers. Mental health is a real thing and is near to my heart. There is a lot of burnout and it does happen. By having open conversations and talking to people, making sure that everyone’s okay. I talked about providing support to the service managers. By talking about this, we can really start to work on it.

Motion #14: Moved by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge, seconded by: Representative Farley

Motion to extend questioning period by 10 minutes.

FOR: Unanimous – 7

NO: 7

AGAINST: None

Motion carries.

President Wojaczek: Finances serve as an obstacle for many students in being able to participate in life. How will you as a team work together in eliminating financial barriers for students and that students are able to access the resources they need to succeed?

MLM: I am not fully able to speak to this. I’m a EngLinks Tutor and I know some of the executive staff. Some of the things that they put into place was a bursary system – it is a phenomenal idea and I believe it needs to happen in another places. If I were to give you another answer to that, it would be disingenuous. Thank you for the question, I will research it and get back to you.

President Lagundzija: In the feedback we received from ASUS students, almost 90% of students expressed what they prioritized in an ASUS Executive was a commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion. If you are selected, could you please speak to how your past experiences prove your commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion?

MLM: MM: I currently sit on Indigenous committee that is working to enhance the visibility and opportunity for Indigenous students on campus. This committee is working on implementing artwork, educational posts, and basically focusing and enhancing that education so that's something that I worked on in equity, diversity and inclusion. **MW:** I've worked at camp with people with disabilities in the scope of personal support worker. It gave me a far greater appreciation for the potential that individuals with disabilities have. I know I can't speak for them, but will do my very best advocate for them, because they deserve the time of day to interact with the Queen's community. **LT:** I was the head of the one of the orientation teams for engineering. We made sure to only look at the application of the candidate and nothing else, we focused on merit. One of the difficulties that we did face was that one of the people had a physical disability. So when we were allocating things, we made sure that she would be comfortable and that there was nothing that she was excluded from.

Representative Milden: This is also a question passed on from the gallery. In consultation with Indigenous students in formal and informal settings, a recommendation has been made to set up a Commission for Indigenous Affairs. Would your team be interested in setting up a Commission for Indigenous Affairs and if so, why or why not?

MLM: I'm going to be completely honest, we have not had that conversation so I'm not in a position to tell you whether that committee or commission will be. We want to create a way for Indigenous students to have a voice at that table, whether that looks like a commission or an office. We are open to implementing whatever is best for the Indigenous students and whatever that may look like.

Representative Namkung: You answered that a disadvantage was that you didn't have time to campaign. Could you then explain your choice in deciding to assist other campaigns instead of preparing for the AMS campaign?

MLM: Managing Alex's campaign was a personal choice I made in October because I believed so much in her campaign. I also believe that I felt intimidated and that I was not able to do this. Despite that I felt like I was a competent student, I felt like the AMS wasn't accessible to me as a student – that it was elite and I couldn't get in. Having someone say to me, "oh my goodness, this is phenomenal" opened a whole new world for me. I recognized that while I considered my decision, it was reinforced by how the time and effort I put into Alex's campaign.

Member-at-large: Point of information: The livestream is out.

Secretary Sengupta: We will work on that. Debate ends.

Questioning period closed.

Secretary Sengupta: We will now move into closing statements. Candidates have 5 minutes each.

TMZ: It's really late and none of us want to be here. Queen's faces a lot of issues. There are going to be challenges that face whatever executive team appointed tonight by you esteemed people. There are challenges in systematic and effective manners with intentional and well thought out plans. People seem to not want to do government. It's problematic because this means it doesn't get served the way Queen's wants to be served. Mental health is an issue and we need to do something about that. The issues with race and gender never go away and they seem to get larger and larger. There needs to be an address from the executive team. My sister is planning on attending Queen's and I want her to come to a Queen's that is safe, equitable and well managed as possible. Queen's deserves the best people and the people coming to

Queen's deserve the best school. Please take these into consideration tonight when you're making your votes.

ACS: SH: Thank you so much for being here, listening to us and for asking such important questions about us, how we stand and where we are. The change required to change students and meet the needs of the current student population requires a new and fresh perspective. Team ACS comes with a set of diverse experiences and a willingness to learn in each of our roles. We will use these experiences to look at the future and get things done in a proactive approach rather than a reactive. Our student body is changing and so does the student government that represents its interests. Our financial responsibility and credibility is increasingly important to ensure accountability. VP-OPS isn't just about the financials but ensuring that our services are accessible and inclusive to everyone. **CD:** In regards to our overall goals, I think through combining our passion for advocacy, we have a prime opportunity to garner ideas and see the needs of all the students and creating an action plan that will help the AMS to grow for the future years to come. Specifically with my portfolio, through garnering those ideas and speaking to people such as stakeholders and other individuals who fall into those portfolios, students, using our combined experiences, we have the ability to formulate a response to the issues that are arising now to create the best experience for Queen's students. **AM:** I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity for us to be up here and share what we would like to do to improve the Queen's experience. I think it's a true testament tonight to the dedication that so many people put into the AMS and that a lot of the time these positions are often overlooked or under acknowledged. Student leaders put a lot of time and passion into these positions. We've put forward a vision of student engagement and involvement, AMS accessibility and transparency. One of the biggest challenges facing whoever is appointed is to convince the student body is that despite the fact that AMS Exec is not elected by the body, that the incoming exec is able to represent the needs of all students. We are excited to work with administration, the Senate, the Board of Trustees and all those who are involved in making all of these decisions. Students have been at the centre of what's going on. I'd like to thank the other teams for being here. This is a big commitment and this is a big thing to take on and I think it's great to be able to share ideas and foster this environment where different ideas can be heard. I'd like to thank everyone and hope you vote Team ACS for AMS Exec.

MLM: Firstly I would like to thank every member of Assembly, of the gallery and everyone who is watching online. It's important that students remain engaged in the democratic process. I want to take the time to thank Munro and Liam. Over the last 30 hours, you guys have demonstrated your potential to me and I want to thank you for that regardless of the results tonight. Thank you for standing with me and thank you for putting student interests first. Should we be elected, we are willing to give this 110% and treat our entire term as a campaigning period – listening to the students.

I also want to thank the Secretary and his office and this is an unprecedented event so you have been under so much stress. You have ensured that this is a democratic due process and so thank you for that.

In the last 32 hours, I have been completely challenged by the two individuals standing there. I believe that the three of us can hold each other accountable and make sure that every student's experience is the best that it can be.

Recess commences at 01:31 AM EST. Assembly reconvened 01:45AM EST.

Motion #15: Moved by: Representative Cattrysse, seconded by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge.

Motion to extend Assembly by 30 minutes.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Secretary Sengupta: We would welcome comments and debate from Assembly on the candidates. All individuals who wish to speak will be encouraged to speak once unless there is a direct rebuttal or every member who wishes to speak has already spoken.

President Dowling: This is closing remarks. I've been on this assembly for four years now since November 2014. I just want to say a thank you to everyone who came out. I have never so much student engagement. Great to see all of the challenges and the level of questioning, and I can safely say that I am confident in all three teams. When you make your decision, I ask you to think about systemic issues facing AMS and seeing who will advocate best for the students. It is a time for us to seriously question how we can change a lot of the engagement as a society.

Representative Cattrysse: If none of the above wins, how will Assembly proceed?

Secretary Sengupta: In the event that None of the Above wins, Assembly will then proceed to appointing individuals to the individual positions.

President Lagundzija: Something I'd like to say, in seeing what students submitted to ASUS I was surprised to see that the feedback the students gave back differs from a lot of the priorities in the room. The AMS is a humongous corporation but I think that students are looking for a change from what we've seen over the years. I believe that being involved in ASUS and AMS thus I believe that I was very adequately able to take on my roles. I can honestly say that the questions that we've thrown would be difficult to answer. They likely formed in the last 24 hours. This is going to be a learning curve for any of the executives. There is a team of permanent staff and a very capable executive to help them transition. I definitely think that some of the teams showed experience that is different than what we normally experience. In my hands, I see that students want genuine leadership, coming in and wanting to change and really address these changes. I'd really love to hear some more opinions from Assembly. I really challenge you to consider what do you see as an AMS Executive. I'm starting to see a lack of student engagement as some of us don't necessarily represent the diversity of this university and I think that we have the opportunity to change that.

AMS President Li: Wanted to reiterate my personal thanks and on behalf of Palmer and Chelsea for all the engagement and everyone's willingness to stay. I do commend everyone for staying engaged and asking the tough questions. I want to provide two pieces of information. An important quality that Assembly should consider is a willingness to learn and a willingness to experience new positions and challenges. In the past three days, only Team TMZ and Team ACS have come to consult us and have shown a willingness to learn. In a long campaign period, there is an opportunity to sit down with every group however it shows that these two teams have come to sit down with us and shown a willingness to learn. President Lagundzija already said that the current team and permanent staff are prepared to transition these leaders and to keep that in mind when you are voting.

Vice-Chairperson Lively: One way to make this assembly more lively this early in the morning but it's probably not me speaking. What I wanted to draw attention to from a board perspective was how competent the incoming executive are going to be as managers, both financial managers and managers of people. These positions are not just about advocating on behalf of students and about consulting with students. It really is about interactions with your staff, whether that be your permanent staff or service staff. Your ability to manage staff who worked 20-30 hours a week is important, I ask that Assembly keep that in mind with the experience and character judgements you make tonight.

Representative Milden: I think the most important thing was not only a willingness to learn but also teams that had values, principles and appreciation for one another and valued one another and their strengths. Neither us nor them are able to predict what decisions they'll be able to make but what we can

be rest assured about will be the framework in which those decisions will be made and those principles. I've been incredibly reassured and the ideas brought up tonight and that all teams brought an exceptional vision. I think we should look at the vision and teamwork on how these teams want to work together and I think all teams were great.

Commissioner Tsang: Just want to first off commend the current AMS Executive for your tenacity sticking it through thick and thin. You guys have done an amazing job especially this week. On behalf of all Assembly members, we want to send a big thank you your way for putting in all of this time. The second thing, at one point, I feel like all of us lacked experience. Maybe some candidates lacked experience, but I saw some show ambition and ambition drives innovation. Tonight, we should take that in mind and see where we can take the AMS to improve student engagement. I'm very hopeful to see where this goes with the nine individuals up there. At this point, all of us just need to have some hope.

Motion #16: Moved by: Representative Torres, seconded by: Vice-President Susic.

Motion for AMS Assembly to call the question of appointing qualified individuals into the position of President, Vice President of Operations, and Vice President of University Affairs.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Secretary Sengupta: Balloting part of tonight. Each member of assembly will be handed a paper ballot for you to write your name. You may select 1,2,3, or 4 of the options, or you may abstain. Once you're done with that, please come to the front to record the votes in SimplyVoting which will calculate them according to our balloting procedures. As per the amendment earlier today, we will release the votes of each assembly member, probably tomorrow.

Motion #17: Moved by: Ryan Cattrysse, seconded by: AMS VP-UA Lockridge.

Motion to extend Assembly by 30 minutes.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Secretary Sengupta: This is a 15 minute vote.

Voting period commences and closes.

See the [Appendix](#) to these minutes for a complete breakdown of the vote.

Secretary Sengupta: This is probably the biggest announcement of my 21 year life. Thank you for putting your name forward and for all three teams for participating. Thank you for expressing student engagement. Thank you for giving Assembly a hard time trying to decide tonight who will be our executive. To all those in the gallery, thank you for your engagement. Thank you for making this process accessible to students and your ideas that you brought forward who will help shape our next executive. To all the members of assembly that bared through this unprecedented 7 hour Assembly, we literally could

not have done this without you so thank you very much. Onto the breakdown of the vote, on the fourth ballot, by a margin of 33 to 1, Team MLM, consisting of Miguel Martinez, Munro Watters and Liam Tharp are the new AMS executives!

Martinez: Thank you. We're at a loss for words. We're thrilled, we're excited, we're emotional, we're tired. More than anything, we're ready to take this on, we're ready to take the interests of students, we're ready to fight for students and advocate on their behalf. I wish I had more to say but right now I'm at a loss of words. Thank you.

Tharp: Thank you all very much and good night.

Watters: Thank you for staying up so extraordinary late. I'm impressed that I'm still awake and I'm still trying to cope. Thank you for staying up. Thank you for all of the questions that made me question the way everything is done at Queen's and for making me want to be more and more engaged in student government and for making me to want to push for a better Queen's community.

Secretary Sengupta: That concludes Motion #7 on the agenda. Seeing as there is no discussion period, the chair looks favourably upon a motion to adjourn.

Discussion Period

No debate.

Adjournment

Moved by: Representative Torres, seconded by: Representative Cook.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Assembly is adjourned at 02:29AM EST.

Appendix

Ballots of Assembly members for AMS Executive Special Assembly Results from February 01, 2018

Preferences of Assembly members on the vote to appoint an AMS Executive, as listed on their paper ballots, are provided below.

Juliana Jeans, EngSoc VPSA

1. None
2. Team ACS
3. Team MLM
4. Team TMZ

Sophie Campbell, Sci' 20 Proxy

1. None
2. Team ACS
3. Team MLM
4. Team TMZ

Ryan Cattrysse, Sci' 18 Representative

1. None
2. Team ACS
3. Team MLM
4. Team TMZ

Jillian Reid, Sci' 19 Proxy

1. None
2. Team MLM
3. Team ACS

Andrew Farley, Sci' 21 Representative

1. None
2. Team ACS
3. Team MLM
4. Team TMZ

Nathaniel Wong, EngSoc President

1. None
2. Team MLM
3. Team ACS
4. Team TMZ

Emlyn Folkes, ComSoc President

1. Team MLM
2. Team ACS
3. None
4. Team TMZ

Taryn Mason, ComSoc VPSA

1. Team MLM
2. Team ACS
3. None
4. Team TMZ

Filip Susic, ComSoc VPOPS

1. Team MLM
2. None
3. Team ACS
4. Team TMZ

Jordan Nensi, ComSoc Lower Rep

1. Team MLM
2. None
3. Team ACS
4. Team TMZ

Maclen Chisholm, Proxy for Elliot Rosenbaum (ComSoc Upper Rep)

1. Team MLM
2. None
3. Team ACS
4. Team TMZ

Jasmine Lagundzija, ASUS President

1. Team ACS
2. Team MLM
3. None
4. Team TMZ

Stefan Negus, ASUS VP

1. Team ACS
2. Team MLM
3. None
4. Team TMZ

Sagal Sharma, Proxy for Molly Marland (ASUS Rep)

1. Team ACS
2. Team MLM
3. None
4. Team TMZ

Alexandra Romanski, ASUS Rep

1. Team ACS
2. Team MLM
3. None

4. Team TMZ

Zack Lunetta, ASUS Rep

1. Team MLM
2. None
3. Team TMZ
4. Team ACS

Cailean Cook, ASUS Rep

1. Team MLM
2. None

Kara Kovacs, ASUS Rep

1. Team MLM
2. None
3. Team TMZ
4. Team ACS

Liam Dowling, CESA President

1. Team ACS
2. Team MLM
3. Team TMZ
4. None

Carla Namkung, CESA Rep

1. Team ACS
2. Team MLM
3. Team TMZ
4. None

Joyce Chiang, Proxy for Trinidad Mena (CESA Rep)

1. Team ACS
2. Team TMZ
3. Team MLM
4. None

Julia Mildren, Aesculpien Society Senior Rep

1. Team ACS

Courtney Leach, Aesculpien Society Junior Rep

1. Team ACS
2. Team MLM

3. None
4. Team TMZ

Kris Murray, PHEKSA President

1. Team MLM
2. Team ACS
3. Team TMZ
4. None

Quentin Tsang, PHEKSA Equity and Wellness Commissioner

1. Team TMZ
2. Team MLM
3. Team ACS

Connor Goudey, PHEKSA VPUA

1. Team MLM
2. Team ACS
3. Team TMZ

Alexandra Wojaczek, COMPSA President

1. Team ACS
2. Team MLM
3. Team TMZ

Ashley Drouillard, COMPSA VPUA

1. Team MLM
2. Team ACS
3. Team TMZ

Lauren Yates, COMPSA VPOPS

1. Team TMZ
2. Team MLM
3. Team ACS
4. None

Julia Kruzinga, NSS President

1. Team MLM
2. Team ACS
3. Team TMZ

Caroline Frankfurter, NSS VPUA

1. Team MLM

2. Team ACS
3. Team TMZ

Jennifer Li, AMS President

1. Team ACS
2. Team MLM

Chelsea Hollidge, AMS VPOPS

1. Team ACS
2. Team MLM

Palmer Lockridge, AMS VPUA

1. Team ACS
2. Team MLM

Representative Alden Torres, ASUS Rep to the AMS, abstained from the vote.