



## AMS Assembly Minutes

Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017

Wallace Hall, JDUC

*Palmer Lockridge speaker*

*Assembly commences at 7:10*

### **Approval of the Agenda**

*Motion 1 – Moved by: Secretariat Miguel Martinez, Seconded by: President Tyler Lively*

*That AMS approve the agenda for the Assembly meeting of February 2, 2017*

**Speaker:** Are there any amendments to the agenda?

**ASUS Representative Carling Counter:** Just checking to make sure everyone got my email. It's a discussion of appendix alpha, this is not an amendment to the agenda, but my email was sent out late so I'm not sure if everyone got the chance to review it, and that's why I'm saying this now.

**Speaker:** Any other amendments to the agenda?

**President Tyler Lively:** I would like to move to add a discussion topic on the fall term break plebiscite results to the agenda.

**Speaker:** We will now vote on that amendment.

All In favour: ALL

Against: NONE

**MOTION PASSES**



**Rector Cam Yung:** I would like to move to add a discussion topic on the document that was sent out by Carling Counter.

**Speaker:** Carling Counter seconded. We will now vote on that amendment.

All In favour: 16

Opposed: 11

**MOTION PASSES**

FOR: ALL

AGAINST: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

**MOTION PASSES**

**Approval of the Minutes**

*Motion 2 – Moved by: Secretariat Miguel Martinez, Seconded by: President Tyler Lively*

*That AMS approve the minutes for the Assembly meeting of January 19, 2017*

**Speaker:** Any amendments to the minutes? Seeing none we will move to the vote.

FOR: ALL

AGAINST: 0

**MOTION PASSES**

**Speaker's Business**



**Speaker:** After discussion with the secretariat, I've decided I will stay on as speaker through transition period. If you have any comments email the secretariat or myself.

I also picked something up at the ComSoc assembly I really like, so if you want to be added to the Speaker's List, turn your placard and then if you want to be taken off put it back down. So, good work to ComSoc for coming up with that.

### Guest Speaker

**Secretariat Miguel Martinez:** So, today the AMS Director of Advancement, Caitlin Mckeen, will be doing a presentation on the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**Caitlin Mckeen:** Hi everyone, so hopefully you know this is Queen's 175<sup>th</sup>. I've spoken to quite a few of you, mostly presidents and VPs, but what we're doing within AMS, we want to celebrate 175 years of student involvement. The university is so focused on student involvement, student volunteerism, and this is truly something that is a massive emphasis in this university. After 175 years, we want to recognize and promote great work that students, staff and alumni are doing. We have created a website, [175yearsofservice.com](http://175yearsofservice.com), where students who volunteer can submit their hours, their pictures, and money they have raised so we can get together and collect all the hours we've put into everything. In terms of what that looks like for faculty societies, anyone who has done volunteer hours, and any amazing outstanding volunteers who put in so much time of your lives, please submit that or email me and I can submit them for you. These are fun pictures of examples of what volunteering looks like. The submissions can be submitted as a group in general, or individually. The submissions will be put into a pool to recognize the individual who has the most volunteer hours themselves. The groups will also be recognized in a different category. The recognition is through a variety of prizes and spots at the volunteer gala. Thank you very much for listening, if you have any questions at all let me. Please do email me if you have any volunteers you want to recognize. Thank you for your time.

### President's Report

**President Tyler Lively:** So first I want to congratulate team JBP on their election as AMS executive, and both teams on what was a very well fought campaign. I think we saw a real discussion of ideas and the issues that are facing students on Queen's campus, and that culminated in the highest voter turnout in at least the



last 25 years. I also want to congratulate, on behalf of the whole team, Victoria Chappell, on her position as Undergraduate Student Trustee, and all the newly elected faculty society presidents. I'm sure the elections team is also now enjoying some well-deserved rest, we went through the process last year so know the work that is put into the process. I would also like to touch on progress we've made for the long-term plan for the JDUC. As noted in my report, we will be selecting an architect before reading week to complete an architectural study that will form the basis for a long-term plan for significant renovations to the building. An exciting development that's happened in the past week, we've also reached a deal with the university to secure the graduate residence space for purposes of this project. We are still working out the final details there but that's going to add a lot of space for student life on campus, and will provide a lot of office space. We will keep updating you all as we make progress on the renovations. I have the results for the fall-term break plebiscite question, but they won't be announced until discussion period.

### **Vice-President's Report**

**Vice-President (Operations) Dave Walker:** One thing to add, for any of you still enrolled in the health and dental plan, you should have received an email about student legal insurance, this is something we have worked on but not promoted. In last May, student care, our health and dental broker, launched a product called student legal insurance, that gives up to five claims a year, each having \$100,000 maximums, for students accessing lawyers on housing, civil, and academic disputes. So what that survey is assessing the needs on campus and whether or not Queen's students would like to add that to the plan, again it would be opt-outable and there would be no proof of coverage like the health and dental side. If you have not received email and are on the plan let me know, or if you want to know more information.

**Vice-President (University Affairs) Carolyn Thompson:** I just wanted to remind everyone that hiring for our executive team is now open, it's open at [myams.org/apply](http://myams.org/apply) until next Thursday at 4pm. Any questions about positions please reach out to the three of us or any one on the executive team, everybody will be really happy to talk to you about it. Tell your friends, tell your peers, because it's fun.

### **Board of Directors**



**Board of Directors Chair Quinn Giordano:** No major updates except for the fact we will be hiring our new board membership, 4 positions, 1 year and 2 year positions. This is an amazing opportunity, so please share this with everyone. The applications open February 10<sup>th</sup>, and are due February 28<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. Anyone who would be interested and who doesn't have experience and don't hold government positions is fine. We are looking for anyone with an analytical mind, a problem solver, or are interested with AMS at a strategical level are encouraged to apply. Please get the information out because this is a very rare opportunity.

### **Undergraduate Student Trustee's Report**

**Jennifer Lee:** Nothing to add.

### **Student Senate Report**

**Student Senate Caucus Chair Brandon Jamieson:** So we had senate on Tuesday, There was significant major modifications in business, and I'm sure that the ComSoc Representative would be happy to expand on it, but there is a certificate online that you can get after completing the program at Queen's. This is not really for undergraduates but for years down the line, and since it's online you don't have to come back for it. If you have any questions let me know.

### **Rector's Report**

**Rector Cam Yung:** My sincerest apologies for not including report in the agenda, the reason for that is over the past weekend we were sitting around a pretty large table and choosing recipients, that will be publicly announced at a later date. As well I've been sitting on the principal's commission surrounding new policy. The last two weeks we've had 60 hours straight of consultations, and that was really fascinating but we also want to make sure we get the students' voice as well, so in March there will be an opportunity in which we will all have a chance to meet with the commission to provide our thoughts on what a public policy can do. Further to this, I've been sitting as an advisor for the communications team to prevent racism and promote diversity and inclusion at Queen's, that was been fantastic and I'm looking forward to what's to come, as well as focusing on the culture at Queen's, I've been working closely with those at an administrative level. I want to voice my congratulations to team JBP and as well as Victoria Chappell, I'm looking forward to working with all of you in the years to come.



## Statements by Students

**Commerce Society Vice-President (Operations) Rene Puerta:** A couple of things I want to introduce is Zachary Snow, who is our upper year AMS Representative who is taking over for Matt as he is away on exchange. Secondly I wanted to give a shout out to the elections team and tell everyone we had the highest voter turnout for the ComSoc election, as far as I know we had over 50% turnout. I think the voting software was a huge part of that, a big shout out to the elections team for that.

**Engineering Society Vice-President (Student Affairs) Evan Dressel:** I would first like to congratulate my elections team, they were phenomenal, they got the highest turnout ever, 66.5%, I'm very proud of them. For some people who were elected, we have Juliana Jeans, Jill Read, this one is taking over directly after me and hopefully she's going to be the new Deputy Speaker.

**Member at large:** Thank you. Hi I'm the Traditional Affairs manager for those of you who don't know me, so for all of you guys I have handed out a confidentiality agreement and a non-disclosure agreement for you all to sign. Later on we are going to discuss reports, which has not been released to the senate or the student body at large, and so this is nothing really new, but in the past it was released, but with the rise of social media there is the risk that students can be identified so we are keeping reports tight this year. I think it's important that you all know what's going on, but in order to do that we have to use the confidentiality agreement because it's especially sensitive material. So, if you wouldn't mind signing those please and then passing them down this way, I'd appreciate it and I will send out the reports by email to all of you.

**ASUS President Darrean Baga:** I'd like to congratulate our election team as well as the incoming ASUS executive, senators, and our future ASUS representative to the AMS, and our 2019 year reps, so we're very happy to have them aboard and look forward to working with them in the upcoming year.

**Computing Students' Association President Aniqah Mair:** I want to congratulate team JBP on a fantastic campaign, it was very well thought out and I want to congratulate out incoming reps and point out that all three of them are women.



**Concurrent Education Students' Association President Jacob Gardhouse:** Our elections team also did a great job, I would like to congratulate our CESA President Liam Dowling, so we all get him for at least one more year.

**Physical and Health Education and Kinesiology Association President Matt Nelms:** I would like to congratulate our incoming executive team, I'm really excited, they're going to be a great team.

**Speaker:** Last opportunity for statements by students.

**Secretariat Miguel Martinez:** So the last two weeks since we last saw each other have been very interesting for myself, the elections team and everyone who's been running, it's been a lot of fun, it's kept a lot of us on our toes, but however I'm very excited for what the next couple of months will bring. I want to congratulate team MTW on a great campaign, and I want to give a special congratulation to team JBP for being elected as the next AMS executive. If you conducted an election through us, I want you to let all of your internal affairs know, or elections team know that they did an excellent job and from my team to theirs we appreciate all of the cooperation. Excited for what the next few months have in store

**Speaker:** Last opportunity for statements by students. Seeing none, we will move onto question period.

### **Question Period**

**Speaker:** Any questions? Any questions? Last chance for questions. Seeing none we'll move on to Business Arising from the Minutes.

### **Business Arising from the Minutes**

*Motion 3 – Moved by: Vice-President (University Affairs) Carolyn Thompson, Seconded by: President Tyler Lively*

*That AMS Assembly approve the final reading of the changes to the AMS Constitution, as seen in Appendix Alpha*

**Vice President (University Affairs) Carolyn Thompson:** So this is the second and final reading of changes of the constitution. I want to thank everyone who



came and took the time to meet with us to make suggestions. Specifically suggestions for some new initiatives, like a transition committee, as well as an internal fund of \$30,000 to encourage the incorporation of sustainable practices into their areas of work. I am open to, and looking forward to continuing these conversations.

**Member at Large:** Hi, I have some questions. First the correction 7.28, that clubs will not be revenue-generating entities, and since Earth center's primary mandate is to sell products, is the Earth Center becoming a club part of the AMS constitution. Second, what was your original intention under the environmental procedures manual?

**Commissioner of Environmental Affairs Liam Dowling:** Just to respond, as far as I'm aware I can provide a contextual history concerning the earth center, just as information, if I'm saying anything other than facts please correct me. The contextual history is that it originally operated as club under AMS, but clubs could not be primarily revenue generating so had it to join the commission. As far as I'm aware that policy hasn't changed. That is a contextual history associated with the Earth Center. In terms to your comment about the environmental procedure manual, it has information related to commission and has discussion for what can happen to it, because as of right now its design has the commission in it. That is a good point to mention. And then what was your last question sorry?

**Member at large:** What was the original intention under environmental procedures manual?

**Commissioner of Environmental Affairs Liam Dowling:** If you remember from my discussion back in April, it was about starting a conversation so that the commission would be able to work with other areas of the AMS in order to promote sustainable practices. That was the intention, and again this is not reflecting my opinion but facts that have been stated at previous assembles.

**President Tyler Lively:** So I'll provide the same information that I've provided to member at large when met with her on the topic of the Earth Center. The AMS constitution states that clubs cannot be primarily revenue generating. I was on the board's finance and audit risk committee when that decision was made, and it was made without appropriate consultation at our committee, and it was an executive decision at the time. The decision was over zealous application of risk



management, if you will and with the changes, and our interpretation of the constitution, this would not apply to Earth Center, looking at Policy Manual 2, part 8f, as it provides the mission statement for the Earth Center. There is a greater good than revenue generation, it is about providing social value at Queen's, promoting environmentalism, and revenue generation is but a small part of that. So to fit the definition of primarily revenue generation, I think that the mandate and mission would have to change substantially and disagreement with interpretation would go to the judicial committee as the final constitutional interpretation body at which point we would argue that is a misinterpretation and we want to defend Earth Center's ability to maintain club status, and I would hope that our successors would do the same.

**Speaker:** Is there any more debate on the motion?

**ASUS Representative Carling Counter:** I know there's lots of discussion and criticism about the CEA about how it lacks long-term strategy. In the document I provided today, I wanted to point out that the majority of the positions that are commission positions, don't have long-term mandate, as they are 12-month positions. I just want to know why that criticism is being leveled out by this one in particular, where as a lot of the other positions are a 12-month commitment, and not technically carrying out one initiative through a 5 year plan.

**President Tyler Lively:** While long term planning can be an issue across AMS as a whole, and is across AMS as a whole, I think it is particularly relevant here. We have identified flaws that have not been dealt with in long-term fashion and plan to bring forward a full review of AMS governance, I have completed a paper on that, that I plan to bring forward to the next assembly, that addresses that very issue across AMS as a whole. This is not solely applicable to the CEA, but I think it's more prevalent there being a newer commission, and it's just one of many reasons why we are bringing forward this proposal, and I think we could go through the concerns in that letter, but I think there is a lot of misinformation in that letter, that does not reflect what has actually happened in this process, it's been a lengthy process that has involved a lot of consultation and we're at the second reading, where really most of these concerns could have been dealt with in the past few weeks, they could have been dealt with in length by us if they were presented along with the remainder of the agenda. So frankly, we would rather not entertain this letter and deal with it point by point.



**Member at large:** We have question regarding the SLC. President Lively spoke to what's going to happen with the JDUC and SLC and did not assist to speaking to mandate. Does the SLC have sustainability mandate how will you ensure it's being enforced by an internal mandate that there already meaning it has not been already been enforced. What does the dissolution of the environmental affairs have to do with the executive portfolio, and also if there is a concern or an inquiry about not prioritizing sustainability, what will happen there? I would also like to address these questions to commissioner Dowling.

**Vice-President (Operations) Dave Walker:** Thanks for the question. I will direct my answer to the SLC in particular. In our meeting we passed a restructure on the Student Life management structure, which including increasing the time commitment of the operations manager to add a sustainable mandate, renaming it the operations and sustainability manager. In addition, last year when I was the SLC Operation's manager, there was an energy management committee, and there is an energy management policy within the SLC, unfortunately that at the time was being housed through the CEA and the commissioner didn't feel a whole lot of progress coming from it, and we do understand that is a difficult task when we are talking about buildings and large scale facilities, and we have hired a new facilities officer who will also be tasked out as a permanent staff who will be there full time and who is working in facilities management. Additionally, environmental and physical accessibility are something of highest priority within the JDUC and that's something we look to fix and address when we are coming up with the architectural plans, so I think that is in in the mandate for the coming year. It's something that will be prioritized in the renovations.

**Commissioner of Environmental Affairs Liam Dowling:** I am going to provide factual information associated with this. I was transitioned on the SLC management policy, and if you read through that, I believe in the implementation section, I think it says in the implementation would fall under the manager of operations. So essentially the way the document was made was made with former commissioner Kelly, was made to set standard of metrics associated with the SLC to match climate action plan. This implementation, the responsibility of getting that done, falls on operation manager's policy and that's what the policy currently says, and that's what it said when it was created. To your point on the ramifications from an executive that's coming in and not really prioritizing sustainability, it's difficult because there's not many facts associated with this, so I would encourage other members to debate or for the executives to comment on that.



**Speaker:** Is there any other debate on the motion?

**President Tyler Lively:** To build on some of the remarks that Vice-President Walker made, to date we have made substantial improvements to the JDUC, there has been washroom renovations, the Wallace hall renovations, although they are still in progress, around the utility usage of the building. We have seen significant decrease in water consumption; once the windows are replaced we will see a reduction in electrical and heating usage. We have a long-term plan that involves metering of individual spaces and areas so we can know where is affecting the use of utilities the most, to see how different energy management policies in those departments are affecting utility, water, electrical and heating usage. We can't make this change at the moment because the building is on one set of meters, so we can't even differentiate between the residence and the SLC, but this is an issue we want to address. It's something we've made clear to the building committee that we met last week. We will be passing it on to the next executive team to carry on from here.

**Member at large:** I have a question for Dowling. Could you please speak to the impact of the dissolution on sustainability week, as the CEA commissioner has a large role in acting as liaison to successfully run and plan sustainability week, including preparation over the summer. Now, given that commissioners responsibilities are spilt throughout the VP positions as well as the deputy position that doesn't start until September, and a lot of the planning occurs between the summer, and that sustainability week falls around homecoming, which will be a busy time for the VPs, will the sustainability week be able to run without the CEA?

**Commissioner of Environmental Affairs Liam Dowling:** So again, I won't necessarily be saying what I believe, but I can provide you with facts. The recommendation from the sustainability office is that that sustainability week will be cancelled next year without the assistance from the CEA.

**Vice-President (University Affairs) Carolyn Thompson:** As we talked about the other day in our meeting, I think that sustainability week is very important and must be maintained. Through the transition process, through the committee that Taylor and I are going to be talking about very soon, we are going to be working with the sustainability office to make sure initiatives don't drop, and we are not stopping emphasis and importance of sustainability within AMS, instead we



want to spread the emphasis throughout AMS. We want sustainability to still be maintained and remained in AMS, and we believe that sustainability week is so important, so we are going to continue to work through this so that the week will continue.

**Aesculpien Society Junior Representative Julia Mildren:** This is directed to the executive or to Commissioner Dowling, whoever you feel should respond. I'm just curious that when this idea was first brought up, what was the original student debate or demand to which this dissolution was responded, or if not student demand, what was the specific precipitation event to this idea?

**President Tyler Lively:** As I mentioned, it was about a year ago that we first started this conversation with Assembly. Our view after discussing goals within commission was that we saw AMS falling short in terms of achieving sustainability within the organization. We raised that question with the Assembly and that conversation started our initial thoughts and then pieced together this plan. This is not uncommon to be without broad student consultation, we reform of internal affairs last year. With that change, like with this change, we are not substantially changing any operations, aside from the commissioner position, we felt no need to do broad student consultation because the AMS is being more sustainable under this model than it is under the current model.

**Rector Cam Yung:** In these past few weeks since this motion has been brought forward, I have had students come into office with concerns and questions. Many times what I've heard from many of these students is with regards to consultations and deliberations that have taken place around the motion and the dissolution of the CEA. The reason for this, as President Lively had mentioned, when it happened, the adjustment of internal affairs took several years; however, this one has only been a year with few consultations to the broad student body. On behalf of students, this has been a concern and possibly more conversation and deliberations are to be made surrounding this motion. I'm neutral to the matter, but speaking on behalf of students voicing their concerns, I think that this needs more time to make sure it is moved forward appropriately.

**Speaker:** Everyone who wishes to speak still has already spoken once, so I want to give the opportunity to any member who has not spoken on the motion to speak.



**Member at large:** Do you believe that the CEA been successful in implementing internally stable initiatives?

**Vice-President (University Affairs) Carolyn Thompson:** In regards to practices of our commissions and our services, no. We don't focus on sustainability in any other commission, and we think this is a huge problem. No one else thinks about it, I think we can all attest to that. We have read everyone's goal plans and have worked with them for nearly a year, and we do not see action for sustainability. This motion is so that each commission throughout AMS addresses this issue, and will also make sure that people throughout AMS are addressing sustainability both within our facilities and with all of our programs.

**Commissioner of Environmental Affairs Liam Dowling:** Again, I am providing factual information. There is some sustainability work that has been done throughout the AMS, so I know for example TAPS has an organic program, through Studio Q all of the tricolor year books and agendas are printed on 100% recycled paper, CoGro has compostable cups. To be perfectly honest I don't know where those came from, whether from the commission or the individual service, I don't know the specifics of that. To provide contextual history, a lot of sustainability work was done internally in the AMS before the commission was a commission, when it was a sustainability office. Commissions usually focus on educational advocacy and that's sort of the reason why there hasn't been a lot of focus on internal sustainability. Secretariat Martinez can probably give more information about the structure of the AMS.

**Computing Students' Association President Aniqah Mair:** I have a question for Vice-President Thompson. The member at large asked about sustainability week, and not to be confrontational but I didn't hear you say what is actually going to happen with sustainability week, and who is going to run it. I do appreciate you saying it is very important, but I was wondering what are the specific plans to ensure that it happens this year?

**Vice-President (University Affairs) Carolyn Thompson:** So this is an initiative that comes from sustainability office at Queen's, and we will make sure they have 100% support behind them so that this can continue. We will be working with the deputy; the deputies typically do work a little bit over the summer to do work plans and such, the Vice-President of University of Affairs, that's something that they can do and take on a project with sustainability week, there are a lot of potential and this conversation is not over. There is a lot of



potentiation here, and this conversation is not over, it is just the beginning. The Engineering Society President and I are meeting on Monday, and we are also going to have a transition committee in place to ensure it is done properly. Through the sustainability office and with support from the AMS, we will make sure conversations are being had with them to make sure they know that sustainability week is something we are supporting.

**Engineering Society Vice-President (Student Affairs) Evan Dressel:** I want to ask a point of clarification, is it executive or board chair who is in charge of creating sustainability within the AMS services? Furthermore, I believe that moving the commission of environmental affairs to a potential spread throughout the other commissions and then forming a committee on it will make it a more effective body as individual groups will be able to advocate in their individual commissions to make the AMS government's body more sustainable.

**Board of Directors Chair Quinn Giordano:** While the AMS board of directors is concerned with sustainability, sustainability can be provided in a variety of definitions, whether financial, environmental. But, sustainability, if we're talking about environmental sustainability, in my view will be maximized by this change, because what we're going to do see is one particular commission that was in charge of sustainability that did not have any direct authority over services, they will no longer have that authority, executives will be taking on, and will make decisions that consider the aspects of sustainability. So in a lot of ways, if we add environmental concerns right in with all our other concerns, I think that it is something that will be taken much more seriously and will lead to tangible results. I'm very eager to work with this executive to ensure the changes that are being implemented will be effectively leading to tangible results. Thank you for the question.

**Aesculpien Society Senior Representative Celine Allen:** I have a question for any of the commissioners, other than commissioner Dowling. I was wondering to what degree sustainability was brought up during your meetings to discuss goal plans that was brought up at beginning of year, to what degree was sustainability brought up?

**Municipal Affairs Commissioner Francis Campbell:** Those discussions weren't really apart of our initial goal planning that was brought up later with the VP.



**Speaker:** Once again we've reached the end of the list for everyone who wants to speak and hasn't already for the first time, except for the two members at large in the back.

**Member at large:** I just have a question, so the dissolution of the CEA as an organized body and those working for sustainability, so I'm wondering how you justify that this organized body isn't the same as the already existing commission?

**Speaker:** Could you repeat the question and clarify what answer you're looking for.

**Member at large:** So I'm just wondering how the already existing commission isn't already a communicating body that will allow communication working towards sustainability and that this communication won't be lost? I'm worried by the dissolution of the CEA, and I would like someone to address that I guess.

**President Tyler Lively:** What we're really trying to do is spread out sustainability, and what we mean by that is we've lumped a lot of things together in the commission, we have advocacy, we have education, we have a number of services, we have internal sustainability, and those we want to bring together under each of those rather than just under the banner of sustainability. There needs to be internal sustainability in our services. We can centralize this in the SLC because they have knowledge of facilities and are best equipped to work with the services and ensure that they are being sustainable at a facilities level. What we also hope to do is to have the board be mandating the services when they're going through goal planning process to orient goals related to sustainability, and that's going to leverage the expertise of the individuals in the services who know how they operate because they spend the whole summer learning that. When it comes to education, we do still need to figure that out. That's something we're still working on and I think we're still looking at, we've received a number of suggestions about setting up a committee or a sustainability caucus to bring together a faculty society reps, AMS reps, and people from the broader Queen's community and that's something we're going to continue to take input on. It's not something we have sorted out right now, but it is something we want to sort out before the end of our year.

**Member at large:** Can you speak to your ability to associate transition of sustainability into the AMS under the proposed model, and why was the decision for the dissolution mutually exclusive, concerning sustainability in the



services? In the SIC report there is a proposed position of an equity affairs manager due to the over titration of the SIC, why are we contributing to worsening this issue so that less attention goes to teaching the committee?

**Commissioner of Environmental Affairs Liam Dowling:** To your point about whether or not this topic is mutually exclusive, I don't really know. Some could argue that having internal sustainability as well as someone who is an expert could be merited, there's always that option. To your comment about the ability to transition, as of right now there hasn't been a formal conversation between myself and the executive as to what the transition will look like and my part in the transition, they can comment on that. As well, as of right now, I'm having conversations with Vice-President Walker about my contractual obligation associated with the transition, and discussions around that, and potentially renegotiating my expectations because currently my contractual obligation is to only transition a single replacement. So, right now, there's still discussion about that.

**Engineering Society 2019 Representative Tristan Brunet:** Quick question, do we have any metrics about environmental impacts within AMS? Particularly within effectiveness of environmental sustainability, and any information about how that can improve down the line, including sustainability week itself?

**Commissioner of Environmental Affairs Liam Dowling:** Concerning metrics within AMS, there is no specific quantitative metrics, but qualitative can be associated with research I did on the environmental procedures manual, that is qualitative things associated with sustainability that are currently being done and potentially being done in the future. With topics such as sustainability week, there is still conversation to be had. This is an event that occurs campus wide, and not just within AMS. Our Facebook event this year had 500 attendees, and some events reaching even over 1000 attendees. There are a lot of events within sustainability week, and I don't have time to go into detail for success of individual events.

**Social Issues Commissioner Leandra Keren:** Yes the equity affairs manager was put into place because the SIC is over saturated, so the CEA absorption does contribute to that growth but we're experiencing growth despite whether or not we absorb the CEA, and everyone within my commission is over worked, so that position was introduced to ease the load on everyone, and so that people who



are working countless hours within the AMS are rewarded for that work and receive the pay that they should get regardless with what happens with the CEA.

**Member at large:** With the dissolution of the CEA, how will sustainability be a visible presence on campus and give students opportunity to get involved with sustainability initiatives? In section 6.10.1.2 of the municipal of environmental affairs, mandate says that a major role of theirs is to proctor collaboration and act as a liaison between commission and other groups and the university sustainability office, so my main question is how are students going ot really know what is going on and be given the chance to get involved?

**President Tyler Lively:** The most visible presence on campus concerning sustainability is through clubs like “Queen’s Back in Action Against Climate Change,” and they will continue to be that visible presence after we hopefully pass this motion. There is still ways to increase the visibility of sustainability, we are still going to have a deputy position that can work towards working with groups on issues around campus. We have very innovative students who want to contribute to raise profile on sustainability. When we’re talking about the board of trustees responsible investment policy, that’s not because of the work AMS has done, that’s because of the work that groups like “Queen’s Back In Action Against Climate Change” has done. When I talk to the chair of the board of trustees about that policy, and about the process moving forward, that’s the group he cited about being the huge influence behind that. So I think we shouldn’t diminish the influence that clubs can, and do have in our community in raising the profile of issues, and I would say that’s one way we’re going to keep doing that.

**Member at large:** Do you think it’s fair that clubs have to advocate and are lobbying to issues such as environmental sustainability, when that is literally the role of elected student representatives?

**President Tyler Lively:** No if that’s what students want then it’s what their elected representatives should be doing.

**Member at large:** Trustee Lee, as incoming AMS president would you be willing to take on this motion, and take on a reevaluation strengthening sustainability at Queen’s?



**Student Trustee Jennifer Lee:** I don't think it's appropriate to change any plans of the current executives teams, if the motion passes we will continue this plan. We will enforce a strong transition process, and make sure that sustainability will continue to be a priority at Queen's.

**ASUS Representative Carling Counter:** I just want to say I'm really impressed with the turn out in the gallery; it's great that so many people who do care about these issues are coming out. Democracy is working. I do appreciate your openness of continuing the conversation. This ideology is still tense for a lot of people, and I'm happy that the executives are open to continuing the conversation. I know that Commissioner Dowling has put in a lot of work the environmental policy manual, and it is very strong and he has done a great job. So I want to know, what is happening with the manual itself, and if it will be given to future sustainability deputies? The policy is very solid and worked through, and I would like to the spirit kept alive in continuing conversations.

**Vice-President (University Affairs) Carolyn Thompson:** We want to see this continue as well, an amazing job was done in creating the manual, it is very clear. So the way we envision it, there will be that mandate from the Vice-President of University Affairs, and working with the deputy of environmental affairs in the SIC, making sure that there is that collaboration between the Vice-President, the deputy, to make sure that there is constant communication. Then the mandate, and going through goal plans, making sure people are going through what is being said is something very important moving forward.

**Aesculpien Society Junior Representative Julia Mildren:** Just to follow up, if this dissolution was under works at this time last year and included sustainability under other commissions, why was it not pushed during goal planning? Also, what motivations, power, and punishments will be instilled if these goals surrounding sustainability are not reached, especially with those who use cost as an excuse?

**Vice-President (University Affairs) Carolyn Thompson:** The actual plan for sustainability throughout the AMS came in November, so no it wasn't something we were thinking of during the goal planning sessions. We came together through talking to each other and thinking about how we can do this best. This is not something executives have looked at in the past, and I'm really hopeful that by hopefully passing this motion, executives can look at it again way more thoroughly in the future. A few things, first I think that the executive as who you



are reporting to by mandating it and making sure it's in your transition manuals, it's not something that's appropriate for your employees just deciding not to put into this manual, or into their documents, so I don't see that happening. I don't see that happening because we have quite a thorough process when going through our goal plans. The other thing is that goal plans come to assembly, and there is a lot of importance in Assembly being body that holds the executive responsible always, but especially in this matter in making sure that through goal plans and other initiatives that we are incorporating sustainability throughout the AMS. Third, I mentioned before we are creating an internally restricted fund that our services and our commissions would be able to apply to, for two reasons, one for as we've been saying sustainability is something that is extremely important to the AMS and something that we need to be fostering and encouraging, but two so that we stop our services and commissions from applying to the sustainability action fund, because I think we need to leave that money for students at large to apply to because their initiatives are extremely important and we need to be encouraging them to do things like that.

**Nursing Society President Alexandra Palmeri:** What is being missed in this discussion is merit in motion and commitment to sustainability. Dissolution is a scary word but this is not a dissolution but a distribution and a determined effort to make sustainability a mandate of the AMS across the board. The CEA is a silo entity commission of environmental affairs, and in my perspective, why wouldn't we want this to be a discussion across the board. We are hung up on dissolution and removal but neglecting to see the huge potential of this motion.

**ASUS Representative to AMS Craig Draeger:** I have two things tonight. I would like to speak in support of the motion. I have been to many AMS assemblies for many years, I have seen the inception of the CES now the CEA over its life span. I've heard a lot of consultation, I can say this because I was at the Assembly in which the CES was originally formed, I remember an hour-long discussion about what it should be called. That is a testament to just how deeply this student community cares about environmental issues, and how highly we will fly the flag after this responsibility is distributed across the AMS, which I think is very important to do. In the time that environmental sustainability has been siloed under one commission, I've seen incredible opportunities missed. In 2013 and 2014, when 1,000,000 was released from the university in part of the agreement on the management operations of agreement of the Student Life Center, the money was refunded. Many upgrades could have been made to this building. The last time I was privy to this data, it actually cost more money to heat this



building than to heat the Queen's Center, because of how old and drafty it was. Necessary upgrades were delayed because there wasn't valuable distributed student focus on environmental issues. So I think it's critical to distribute this over the AMS rather than under one specific commission.

**Engineering Society 2019 Representative Tristan Brunet:** I don't think we know which way is more successful, but I think there are some members how could speak to it. For example, how much paper is being wasted at PC&C, and then look to how we can effectively reduce those issues across the board.

**Rector Cam Yung:** Point of Information, Commissioner Kim, in regards to the earth center, do you believe it is in position right now that it is possible for it to become a club or will there have to be changes?

**Clubs Manager Grace Kim:** I do think it is possible. Giving an example, the Walk Home kiosk sells products, but that club's primary mandate is for it to be an education resource on campus. Saying this, there could be a shift in mandate though.

**Member at large:** Why not maintain the CEA as well as make sustainability a priority throughout AMS?

**President Tyler Lively:** At that point you basically have the two people doing the same thing and expending more resources than necessary. At that point we can't transfer funds to the MAC and the SIC for their new responsibilities, we can't make a restricted fund available for our services and commissions. We do not want to allow cost to be an excuse in terms of making themselves more sustainable, so this is more of a reallocation of resources, so there is not necessarily that many more resources, but it is a redistribution of the ones we already have to more effectively use them.

**Member at large:** You complained previously that there was not enough resources going into sustainability, so why shouldn't there be more resources?

**President Tyler Lively:** As we said before, we are using resources we have more effectively. It is going to require a bit of new resources, but without increasing student fees, or anything like that, we do have a fixed pool of resources to draw on. One of the things we're going to see is on corporate sustainability, that is coming from the non-student fee revenue, that is coming out of building center.



So that there is need more but not increasing student fees. We are making more resources available and using the resources we have more effectively.

**Speaker:** Is there any more debate on the motion? Final opportunity for debate on the motion? Seeing none, we will move to the vote.

FOR: 27

AGAINST: 6

ABSTAIN: 1

### **MOTION PASSES**

#### **New Business**

*Motion 4 – Moved by: Social Issues Commissioner Leandra Keren, Seconded by: Vice-President (University Affairs) Carolyn Thompson*

***That AMS Assembly approve the changes to Policy Manual 1, Section 6 as seen in Appendix Bravo***

**Social Issues Commissioner Leandra Keren:** So this is the introduction of a new award that is being made by the Peer Support Center, so I'm going to let them speak to any questions that anyone might have about the change.

**Peer support center:** Our goal is to establish an award that celebrates people who are investing a lot of time into other people in our community, something you cannot put on a resume. So this is a culture right from the AMS, encourages the vulnerability and the conversation surrounding mental illness on campus. That is part of mandate and that is why we are facilitating that. It's about promoting that positive behavior seen on campus and that community sense of support. So with this award it is going to be a nomination based award, where an individual receives support from someone else would nominate them for the support they were given and talk about their experience with the person who supported them. One of the big questions we had when we were developing this was how can you objectively measure support. At the peer support center during training for volunteers we learned a lot of different techniques for using peer-helping skills as a way of objectifying the award. It's not going to be based on the personal



narrative, or the struggle that the individual faced, but rather the techniques supporting that individual.

**ASUS Representative Carling Counter:** I really really like this, I think it is a very fantastic thing and so important. This is a very important step forward for mental health, the emotional that people do to help others is not something to be ignored. In terms of the nominations, can peer support members nominate other peer support members? Will the nominations be limited to these members? You have how many, 30 volunteers? So, will this be starting within that circle of volunteers? Or will it be put out to everybody?

**Peer support center:** It's about 65 volunteers and 15 members of the management team, and the director is the only one who couldn't receive the reward. This is not restricted to AMS volunteers in any way. It really wants to celebrate support no matter where it comes from. However I would be blind to ignore the fact that some of these volunteers do have an advantage, just because they're more aware of the explicit techniques, but that doesn't invalidate the ability of others in any way. If they are the most deserving of that recognition then they will have that recognition.

**Nursing Society President Alexandra Palmeri:** My question is with regard to training. So how often is that reviewed and what type of research goes into making sure that the training mechanisms are up to date?

**Peer support center:** My job within the Peer support center is in marketing, so I'm not the best person to ask about the training process. However, during the summer where they are going over the training, strategy does more search on peer helping skills, the training manager improves techniques and coordinates monthly upkeep, and sees what can be different.

**Social Issues Commissioner Leandra Keren:** So, the peer support center does a pretty extensive training program that they develop every summer that tries to stay relevant and up-to-date on the campus climate, and what the most relevant research expresses is important. They do on-going training throughout the whole year based on what the volunteers need an update on, or new information.

**Physical and Health Education and Kinesiology Student Association Equity and Wellness Officer Sarah Skelding:** I was involved with helping developing peer skills, some of the stuff that we pulled was from motivational interview



training, so those were skills that help active listening and stuff like that.

**Speaker:** Last opportunity for debate. Seeing none, we will move to vote.

FOR: 33

AGAINST: 1

ABSTAIN: 0

### **MOTION PASSES**

*Motion 5 – Moved by: Vice-President (University Affairs) Carolyn Thompson, Seconded by: Secretariat Miguel Martinez*

*That AMS Assembly approve the changes to Policy Manual 2, as seen in Appendix Charlie*

**Vice-President (University Affairs) Carolyn Thompson:** So the changes to policy manual 2 are in regards to the sustainability throughout the AMS, so hopefully everyone read it. Under the social issues committee we are putting a deputy of environmental affairs, and students for sustainability which will be overseen by the deputy of education, under the municipal affairs commission, youth mentoring youth will go under, and Green Innovations will go under the municipal affairs commission with the housing resource center, and the sustainability action fund, the VP will become a chair and the deputy will become an information member on that committee.

**ASUS Representative Carling Counter:** This is basically what we just passed 5 minutes ago?

**Vice-President (University Affairs) Carolyn Thompson:** The proposal in policy now, we are still open to having conversations but this is what the proposal was.

**Speaker:** Any debate? Second call, final call. Move to vote.

FOR: 34

AGAINST: 0



ABSTAIN: 0

**MOTION PASSES**

**Speaker:** We have reached the end of motions on the agenda, but we will move into the discussion period.

**Discussion Period**

**Speaker:** I would look favourably upon a motion to alter the order of the discussion period so that the closed section is last, and we're asking students to leave and come back in.

**Member at large:** Motion to open the agenda.

**Speaker:** Rector Yung is a seconder.

**Member at large:** Motion to move the discussion I added, which is a closed discussion, to the end so not everyone has to wait outside and then come back.

**Speaker:** Representative Counter seconds the motion. We will take a vote on the motion.

All in favour: 33

Opposed: 1

**MOTION PASSES**

**Speaker:** Now we need a motion to close the agenda. Vice-President Mackay has motioned, seconded by Counter. We will take a vote on closing the agenda.

All in favour: ALL

Opposed: 0

**MOTION PASSES**



**President Tyler Lively:** So I wanted to raise a discussion relating to the results of the AMS fall-term break plebiscite question, so the results are as follows: 7,951 total voters on this question, on this question there was 91 abstentions, which equates to 1.1% of those 7900 voters, I would note that that is the lowest rate of abstentions on any question on the ballot by at least 10-15%. If we're going to context the executive question received about 15% abstaining, so it seems like a lot of people were coming on solely to vote in this plebiscite question. The results are 4152 votes in favour of option 1, 3708 voters in favour of option 2, so that's 52.8% to 47.2%. As noted in the policy on the plebiscite, a plebiscite is a non-binding question, so we are under no obligation to advocate accordingly. Given that this is a close margin, we wanted to bring this to Assembly to get your thoughts on how best the AMS should proceed, especially given a number of faculty societies elected to include the same plebiscite question, same information on their ballots, and the results do vary quite a bit. So in effort to represent the broader student population, we would like to have a discussion.

**Engineering Society President Taylor Sawadsky:** I first want to start off by saying that we should be advocating on the option that won, I definitely think that's what we should be advocating on behalf of the students. It was 60% for a week early and 40% for the other option, which isn't a small difference. I strongly support option 1 and advocating on behalf of it.

**Aesculpien Society Senior Representative Celine Allen:** I just wanted to speak to the abstention issue and I think that one of the reasons the abstention reading was so low was because many students were unable to abstain from the question, I was unable to submit my ballot without making a choice and there was no abstention option.

**Secretariat Miguel Martinez:** I apologize for that, I did tell you I was going to try and take it off their ballot but unfortunately policy does require plebiscite question to not list an abstention option, so it's just simply because of policy that I could not add that option to the ballot.

**Engineering Society President Taylor Sawadsky:** Then how was there a 1.5% abstention?

**Secretariat Miguel Martinez:** I think that was just the overall abstention from the ballot, in general. I'm going to look it up.



**Concurrent Education Students' Association President Jacob Gardhouse:** Our faculty society voted for option 2 so we cannot properly advocate for option 1, but we agree with whatever option AMS has to take as long as student voice is the primary factor.

**Engineering Society Vice-President (Student Affairs) Evan Dressel:** So just with respect to the options given, I believe the first thing we need to do is advocate for option 1, as the university is more prone to give us option 2, so we have the greatest chance at getting something else, and then if option 1 doesn't work we can fall back onto option 2 as a perfectly acceptable back-up. Ideally we get option 1 but we also wouldn't hate option 2. This makes it look as though we are making a sacrifice, so we are then more likely to actually get one of the options that we ask for, rather than starting with option 2.

**Nursing Society President Alexandra Palmeri:** Just from our perspective, so our election happened in the fall, so with the data that was collected this week here unfortunately we're not able to extract the nursing data to say which option our students preferred, so a solution that we found to that is we're going to re-issuing that survey question to our students in the coming week to bring forward an accurate representation of nursing students.

**Student Senate Caucus Chair Brandon Jamieson:** One thing I will say is I think that assembly has the opportunity to look down the line for broader environments that we're operating in. I think that option 1, despite not winning by a substantial margin; I think that it ensures we don't open too many doors that will allow change to occur in the future. If we're willing to alter the structure under which orientation week works three years after, that could be an entirely different thing. I think that if our goal is to ensure the continued success, beyond just the time we will be here at Queen's, it is important for us to take into account what the option can do 10-15 years down the road. Option 1 is a safe insurance policy for that and preserves the week as we know, because there is not a significant threat for change.

**Computing Students' Association President Aniqah Mair:** Without the question being asked on ASUS ballot, is there any way to ensure Arts and Science students are not being underrepresented?

**ASUS President Darrean Baga:** Unfortunately this was a missed opportunity. When we're talking about negotiating with the University Administration, best



for us to set expectations quite high and find the middle ground that will likely be much better than option 2. With 52% voting for option 1, I'm very comfortable advocating for option 1.

**Rector Cam Yung:** The results speak for themselves, 52% of AMS population wants to go with option 1. This is an incredible and powerful result that can definitely be used on behalf of students. We know what's to come as well with option 1, we know the consequences, as well as with option 2. We can look at the pros and cons and assess them clearly and choose what is best for students.

**Engineering Society President Taylor Sawadsky:** I just wanted to speak to the over representation point, I do want to re-iterate that each student was given the opportunity to vote on this plebiscite question, so over representation of a certain faculty just speaks to their own prerogative, not the inability to vote.

**Computing Students' Association President Aniqah Mair:** I'm not talking about who voted versus who didn't, what I mean is, we're entertaining the amount of votes for who voted in the EngSoc election, not just AMS elections, so Arts and Science students who may have voted in the ASUS election, but not the AMS election.

**President Tyler Lively:** Move to open the agenda.

**Speaker:** Seconded by Representative Counter. We will now vote on opening the agenda.

All in favour: all

Opposed: 0

### **MOTION PASSES**

**President Tyler Lively:** So I move to add the motion to the agenda, stating that AMS assembly direct AMS executive to advocate for option 1 from the fall term break plebiscite question.

**Speaker:** Seconded by President Sawadsky. There is no debate on this, but whether or not it should be added to the agenda so we could debate on this.

All in favour: ALL



Opposed: 0

### **MOTION PASSES**

**Member at large:** Point of information. Has that been added to the end of the agenda or has that been added next?

**Speaker:** It has been added next I'm going to move us to New Business. So Representative Counter motion to close the agenda, seconded by Representative Draegger. We'll take a vote on that.

All in favour: ALL

Opposed: 0

### **MOTION PASSES**

**Speaker:** We are now back to New Business, talking about motion 6.

*Motion 6 – Moved by President Tyler Lively, seconded by Engineering Society President Taylor Sawadsky*

*That AMS Assembly endorse the AMS Executive to advocate for option 1 for the fall-term break plebiscite question*

**President Tyler Lively:** Move to make an amendment that the motion reads endorse instead of direct.

**Speaker:** Student Senate Caucus Chair Jamieson seconds the motion. Do you find the change friendly?

**President Tyler Lively:** Yes.

**President Tyler Lively:** Based on our brief discussion, it seems that there is a consensus around AMS advocating for the more popular motion, option 1. I've chosen to word the motion as such rather than the previous wording because technically if the AMS assembly is to endorse something I am constitutionally required to represent the assembly's opinion when advocating externally. So if I go to the task force, I have to represent this because the Assembly is endorsing this.



**Engineering Society President Taylor Sawadsky:** I think this is a great motion and I would like to voice that would be beneficial for all students if all the representatives on the fall term task force were to meet prior to next meeting to discuss tactics on how to properly advocate for this option.

**Nursing Society President Alexandra Palmeri:** I would like to speak in favour of this as well, although we will be offering a vote to our students.

**Speaker:** Anyone else wishing to speak on the motion? Last chance to speak on the motion. We will move into voting then.

For: 24

Against: 6

Abstain: 2

### **MOTION PASSES**

**Speaker:** I'll assume the fall-term break plebiscite discussion is now over, so I'll move to the discussion moved by Rector Yung.

**Rector Cam Yung:** This information was provided an hour before assembly, and it had some pretty interesting information, but as Vice-President Thompson had mentioned there was information that was not correct, so maybe if there is an opportunity to speak on that and the information in there.

**Speaker:** So that was the opening for the discussion, is there anyone that would like to speak to this point.

**ASUS Representative Carling Counter:** Sorry I didn't get it into you guys earlier as I just got it today. There may have been stuff on the document that wasn't absolutely correct; I did read it very fast. Hopefully it won't be detrimental to discuss, but a student came to me and did this work on their own, to go through it and voice their concerns. The gallery was touching on a lot of the same things as this student, so I am glad I brought it up. Hopefully those questions raised in there will be considered through the process of transitioning.



**Member at large:** We as members in the gallery, this is entire process is quite worrisome, and we will feel it is inaccessible for students to hear about these issues in the first place, and go through the process for reading all the documents that are hundreds of pages long. We do thing that moving forward, the last assembly was incredibly inappropriate, those kinds of concerns need to be addressed and it would be helpful if members at large can have formalities so that this doesn't happen at future assemblies.

**Speaker:** Any more debate on this topic? Seeing none, do you want to close Rector Yung?

**Rector Cam Yung:** I haven't had the chance to read over all the information, but I do want to say as a final note, in terms of deliberations and consultations that are taken in order to assess what's best for society, so it's interesting to see that this was moved at a speed that is irregular of that of other consultations. I hope this is not a precedent sent for years to come. Students should have their voice and have their say within their own society is really important.

**Speaker:** That wraps up that discussion period, we will now move into the NAM report. I look favourably to a motion to close session so we can protect the privacy of students. We will have that moved by Member at Large, and seconded by Vice-President Dressel. So, is there anyone that needs to be allowed to stay in? So, the motion will be to close the assembly except that the judicial affairs manager will stay in to present, and representative of the Queen's journal as well. So we will move into vote to close session.

All in favour: All but 1

Opposed: 1

### **MOTION PASSES**

**Speaker:** So I'm just going to ask that all proxys leave as well because they are not permitted to stay in closed session.

*Assembly moved into closed session to discuss the AMS NAM report.*

### **Adjournment**



**Speaker:** Lastly I'm just looking for a motion to adjourn. So, motioned by Vice-President Dressel, seconded by Vice-President Suriyakimar.

All in favour: ALL

Opposed: 0

**MOTION PASSES**

*Assembly concludes at 9:32*

*Assembly length: 2h 12m*