



AMS Annual General Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 11, 2019

Wallace Hall

UNAPPROVED

The meeting was convened at 18:33 EDT

President Martinez will henceforth be known as Speaker

Motion #1 Moved by: Bronwyn Woolhouse Seconded by: Susie Emerson
That AMS Assembly approve the agenda for the 2019 AMS Annual General Meeting

No further debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Motion #2 Moved by: Bronwyn Woolhouse Seconded by: Miguel Martinez
That AMS Assembly approve the minutes for the 2018 AMS Annual General Meeting

No further debate, vote proceeds.

FOR: Unanimous

AGAINST: None

ABSENTIONS: None

Motion carries.

Speakers Business

Speaker: You can call on three points at any time, point of order, if you believe a speaker is speaking out of order you can interrupt at any time, second is point of information, you must wait to be called on and ask a relevant question on the subject or provide more information. Third is point of personal privilege, speaking too quiet, or mumbling, really anything to make this more accessible. As we begin this meeting, I want to acknowledge the Aboriginal land we



are on, and we remember and acknowledge that. Guest speaker is me, followed by Vice-President Tharp.

President Martinez: Good evening everyone, it is my honour to speak to you about the state of affairs. AGM is an opportunity to celebrate successes and look at set backs. None of our accomplishments could have been achieved without all the AMS executive members. We, Munro, and I, we have tried to foster improvement at Queens. This year has come with many challenges, we want to accomplish goals that we have set out. We have responded to factors outside of our control. Our decisions will be shaped by the provincial decisions. This is entailing less funding for our programs. We don't know what the future holds, and how much the optional student fee will have a burden on the organization. We must find new ways to cope with it. By looking at trends, we can make predictions. Kingston's housing crisis shows no signs of letting up. Last week, city council declared a climate emergency. We have many new opportunities on the horizon, the JDUC referendum comes to mind. It has been almost 20 years for this to be discussed, then 5 years to implement, and 7 years to adjust. The AMS is a transient organization. The yearly renewal makes us relevant, but there only with long term decisions does it have an impact. We can envision a modern, robust, life centre. This came from building our professional relationships. We completed four large scale surveys on the JDUC in as many years. This represents the largest student consultation in Queen's. This involves more study space, common areas, and club space. Research is a tool that drives innovation. By building our strategies, we will be able to more effectively address student needs. Research will help us navigate uncertain times. One thing we have heard is students want their rights protected. In 2013, we failed to act proactively, and students paid the price for it. Since then we have taken a stance in the city. We have helped shaped the nuisance party bylaw to make things right. For years, student leaders and administrators has been working to counteract the binge-drinking problem. We decided to approach it from a different angle. We created different programs and ideas, and although it may take years to benefit from the implementations, it is something necessary. We have learned how to make Queens a more just campus. We do not have a monopoly on student leadership. We are best when we amplify what students want. One thing I love about Queen's is the vast opportunities to get involved. The AMS must continue to support our vibrant club community, with the club map. I hope we continue to have conversations. Everyone at Queen's has a unique story to tell. I have recommitted myself to listen to the stories of my peers.

Vice-President Tharp: The thing that I want to talk about is the future of the Queen's Journal. The Queen's Journal is facing a significant deficit. The student choice initiative has fees that will become optional. The AMS specific fee, Queens student constables, Queens journal, we are advocating to ensure these fees would become mandatory. The Queens journal has a deficit, it collects 150k dollars in revenue. We are expecting opt out rates of 50%. When it becomes an opt out fee. I will be presenting about the services offices during CGM later. This is to make the general members aware. The journal will be on probationary period for the next year. What will happen in the coming year is significant changes. Printing will be reduced from 1 issued a week,



to 1 issue every two weeks or one month. The probation outlines will be discussed later. I am happy to take questions about this now.

Representative Pirani: Reducing number of issues released. Any thought been put into making the Journal completely paperless?

Vice-President Tharp: There are many considerations when discussing this. Most importantly there is revenue associated with this. The Journal has been publishing weekly for years.

The State of Affairs on Non-Academic Misconduct

Manager Emerson: Good evening everyone, the past few months I have been the judicial affairs manager. I will get into NAM and the student safety initiative. Judicial affairs office and committee have served under us. Thought the universities 2015-2016, tested NAM, has continued to show it is willing and able to take challenges for the conduct process. As a result of the agreement with the AMS, the AMS has shown support for non-academic misconduct. As I near the end of my term, I take the time to reflect on the year I've had. It is my honour to speak on behalf of the system. Exists as functions of the society, judicial affairs are an investigatory branch, the intake office moved to the division of student affairs to ensure impartiality. This is for category 1 level. It has been updated, and you can check it out. A major change worth noting, discrimination and harassment are explicitly explained in this. Judicial affairs investigate, meet, and put out a clear picture. If there was a violation, there are sanctions. The sanctions are broad but ensure justice. Educational essays, bans, fines, bonds and restitution, they can accept or reject. It is comprised of 6 members. The involved parties have two weeks following the decision if they are dissatisfied. You can note the reports send out looks different. All NAM units have moved towards a standardized reporting method, focuses more on specific violations. Due to the breach in confidentiality, we ensure information is not divulged. There is a decrease in cases annually. A significant trend is the prevalence in alcohol involvement. The university district safety initiative, including O-week and homecoming. They continue to advocate for a non-adversarial. Category 1 don't go through the full process. We are processing 114 of these letters. Back in November, judicial affairs office closed. Cases were extended for a fair process. Since then, we worked closely with the chief privacy officer to ensure clarity with the AMS. An unfortunate repercussion is that cases were backlogged. We have come across several issues. Working to edit the policy and procedures. We identified revising policy to become more accessible, to ensure judicial affairs office is non-adversarial. To ensure students are aware of self-conduct. This coming year the AMS will be going under restructuring due to the student choice initiative. The office is structured as an independent office. The office of internal affairs will be maintained by moving it from the executive. The manager position will move to an 8-month term. Judicial affairs manager will manage case-work. I came into this office in November, and I have gone through ups and downs. In working with incredible student leaders to ensure fairness, I've concluded that this system is essential to the school experience. It has been an honour to work in service of the system, and with the wonderful people who are



shaping it. If you give students the option to enact change, they can put through positive change. Students must show that they care and engage in the system. Students can have direct involvement with discussion.

Speaker: Any questions? That concludes the guest speaker portion.

Statements by Students

Speaker: Any AMS student can offer statements.

Question Period

Speaker: Any student has the right to ask any questions to anybody in the room. There is no new business.

Discussion Period

Speaker: Any items for discussion? I will now entertain motion to adjourn.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn moved by President Tsang, seconded by Representative Torres.

Adjourned at 719:46 EDT.