



President's Caucus



Thursday June 27th, 2019

5:30 PM – AMS Board Room



Agenda

Assembly

1. **Motion #1** – Approval of the Agenda of the meeting of June 27th, 2019
2. President's Report: President Auston Pierce
3. Rector's Report
4. Question Period
5. Statements by members
6. Business Arising from the Minutes
7. New Business
8. Discussion Period
 - a. Queen's Day
 - b. Strategic Planning Administrative Retreat
9. Adjournment



Motion Sheet

1. Moved by: Auston Pierce

Seconded by: William Greene

"That Presidents Caucus approve the Agenda of the meeting of June 27th, 2019"





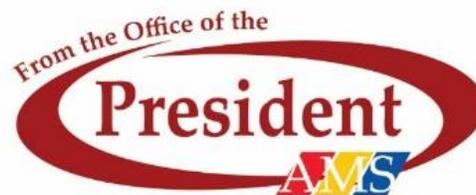
The President of the Alma Mater Society

Report to Assembly

Auston Pierce

June 27th, 2019

president@ams.queensu.ca



Dear Presidents Caucus,

June has been what I can only describe as a month of advocacy and meetings. After coming down from the hecticness of May, our reports are comfortable in their roles and have moved beyond most of the steep learning curves that come with every new year in the AMS. I am happy to report on some of the largest initiatives we have begun as well as some others that we have been continuing.

Goal Plans: The offices and their Directors have begun designing their Goal Plans for the year. We have provided them with templates and guidance, as well as some major goals and philosophies that we plan to act on this year. This includes greater student engagement, sustainability efforts, a focus on advocacy, and collaboration amongst offices and services.

AMS Website Redevelopment: On June 11th I completed the project proposal for the AMS Website Redevelopment Project. In this proposal I included the scope of the project, major deliverables, key design elements, risks associated with the project, a timeline, and a list of key people who will help in the implementation of the website. We have since launched a sub-committee under the Information Technology Steering Committee to take up this task. The sub-committee will be meeting weekly in order to complete the major pieces of the project before September and will be reporting to myself throughout the process. This will be an ongoing project throughout the year to complete some of the other less important pages and to develop a policy to monitor and regulate the website for years to come.

Student Choice Initiative Opt-Out System: Most of my time has been dedicated to the implementation, and implications of the Student Choice Initiative. I have had several meetings and email correspondence with the Division of Student Affairs (DSA) regarding the opt-out system that will be in place come September. Despite our asks for a transparent, and informative opt-out system, the DSA informed us they would not be including fee descriptions on the opt-out page because the opt-out system "was not a University priority". Instead, they would include fee descriptions on a separate webpage in which students or parents could use to compare descriptions with the fee names that appear in the opt-out system. We were disturbed that this would mean students would not be given accessible information that is necessary to make an informed decision at the time of opt-out. The AMS subsequently reached out to Information Technology Services to ask about technical limitations of the system. It was in a reply to this email that the DSA allowed student groups to have 240-character fee descriptions on the opt-out page. We have since partnered with the SGPS and have gotten support from Faculty Societies to advocate for a more transparent and equitable system in which students



will be adequately informed of what the fees on the opt-out system are. After more meetings and emails, the DSA has not moved on the 240-character limit which is proving to be a significant barrier for some groups. We fear that there could be thousands of disgruntled students who would have not been adequately informed about the benefits some organizations provide. The SGPS and the AMS, with the support and input from Faculty Societies, have written and delivered a document outlining our concerns with the opt-out system and presenting some other significant issues which have not been discussed in detail yet. In response to this document the DSA has informed us that Faculty Societies will be able to enter negotiations for information sharing agreements and will be able to bundle some fees to keep Faculty Societies in line with their respective constitutions.

Student Choice Initiative Round Table: We have been hosting a SCI Roundtable discussion every Monday at 5:30 with Faculty Society Executives to hear their concerns, and to discuss their questions, implementation issues, membership issues, reporting issues, to ask about issues they want us to advocate for, and to coordinate marketing efforts.

Student Choice Initiative Marketing: We have completed a guiding document with timelines, deadlines, reporting frameworks, and major deliverables for the Communications Office. The marketing campaign will be headed up by the Communications Office with input from the Executive. This campaign will be about informing students about what the AMS does, what benefits it provides to students, and what the Student Choice Initiative is. It will always remain positive and will encompass many different mediums from social media, to print, to film, and to in person communications. Part of this campaign includes goals for the Advancement Office to establish new deals for students at local businesses in the Kingston Community and collaboration with AMS services.

Pride: The AMS has been busy celebrating Pride month through specials at our services and participating in Kingston Pride celebrations. On June 15th we marched in the parade and spent our day speaking to people and celebrating with the community.

OSAP: Last week students began finding out what their projected OSAP funding would be for the upcoming academic year. The cuts were shocking to many and it has put many of our peers in financial risk. The AMS has released a statement denouncing these cuts and has organized a survey asking Queen's Students how they have been impacted. The AMS has also been in constant contact with our partners at OUSA and we have partnered with a great student led initiative called Students for Students. We are currently exploring ways in which the AMS can raise money to support this cause and our peers who are now faced with another barrier to access post-secondary education.

Alcohol Policy: The advocacy continues! The AMS is still very concerned about the impact this will have on student safety at Queen's, and what impacts this will have on students and clubs' ability to fundraise and engage in philanthropy. We are also concerned that this policy includes exemptions to Queen's University while not providing the same exemptions to Queen's University students. We were thankful for a meeting that we had with two representatives from the Alcohol Working Group as there was some productive conversations. Public consultations



will be beginning in the fall. We have launched a focus group regarding alcohol to hear from our peers, and collect data. This executive has a focus on harm reduction, and providing students with the ability to choose how they conduct themselves in their private lives. As such, we will be continuing all of the harm reduction and awareness campaigns as usual while heavily advertising our deals for Designated Drivers and launching a Protect our Paws campaign for Orientation week. We hope to partner with external parties including the city on this matter.

Queen's Day: This is an initiative that the AMS has undertaken with the partnership of the Advancement Office. This is something that I hope will have a positive impact on the Queen's community and increase engagement with all students. I am very, very excited.

Other Efforts: I will give an update to all at this meeting regarding the initiatives, goals, and projects that have already been accomplished this year. We will be circulating this document on our website as well as on social media. We are particularly proud of our team who have been pushing our vision and goals forward. I am in disbelief at the creativity and drive that our staff has, particularly in relation to our sustainability goals. I know that with their passion, students will be better off after we all leave.

Cha Gheill,
Auston Pierce



Vice President (Operations)

Report to Assembly

Jessica Dahanayake

June 27th, 2019

vpops@ams.queensu.ca





Commission of External Advocacy

Report to Assembly

David Bath

June 27th, 2019

external.advocacy@ams.queensu.ca



Hello Presidents!

June has been a busy month for the CEA including a wide span of different tasks. For the sake of simplicity I will break this down into three parts: (1) follow-up from my last report, (2) administrative tasks, and (3) advocacy work.

To begin, in my last report I stated that I was completing introductory meetings, and reading to prepare both for my advocacy work and for my goal plan. I am very happy to say that both of those tasks are done. I have now met with every major stakeholder who had a meaningful relationship with the AAC and MAC to update them on the changes to the commissions, and discuss our priorities moving forward to the 2019-2020 year. Moreover, I have read every major strategic document for University. These documents, including the academic plan, strategic mandate agreement. Etc. allow me to identify what the University's long term goals are, and how we can align our advocacy work with the priorities of the University to spark actual change.

In terms of internal administrative tasks. I have been working with the AGC and HRC managers to develop their goals plans and think of new ways to expand the outreach of the services to more students, specifically, first years. These examples include online marketing, adjusting the hours the services are open, and changing the training program for the volunteers. Beyond that, I've been revamping all social media pages that were formerly held by the MAC and AAC, to have them reflect the changes of this year. Another administrative task that is next on my agenda is begin Academic Caucus meetings. These meetings will be comprised of the academic representative from every faculty society, and it is where we will discuss academic issues which are relevant regardless of department. These issues include academic appeals, along with considerations and accommodations. With that being said, if you (The President) could send me an email (external.advocacy@ams.queensu.ca) with the name and email of your representative, it would be greatly appreciated.

As for advocacy work, I have recently become a member of the Mayor's Task Force on Housing. What this task force does is make professional and educated suggestions to City Council on how to address, and ultimately, end the housing issues Kingston sees. The task force is comprised of City Councilors, developers, students, and professors all bringing together their own suggestions for legislature. In addition to the task force, I have also been meeting the new presidents of the committees which used to be supported by the MAC. Some of which include



The United Way, Greenovations, and the Youth Homelessness Steering Committee. My goal is to find way to continue to work with these organizations in a non-financial capacity. Finally, I have also been engaging with provincial advocacy through OUSA. I just returned from the OUSA Strategic Conference where we set our advocacy priorities, and scheduled major dates for events throughout the year. OUSA will also be running an on-campus campaign in the early fall addressing the concerns surrounding the changes to OSAP.

See you in July,

David A. Bath



Commission of Campus Activities

Report to Assembly

Alexia Henriques

June 27th, 2019

cac@ams.queensu.ca



Hello everyone,

I hope you have all had a productive and enjoyable summer.

I have been busy working on Orientation Week activities and tasks with the help of my four Orientation Roundtable Directors. I have also been in contact with many on and off campus stakeholders, including the Student Experience Office, the Deans and Designates group, and representatives from the City of Kingston and the KFL&A Public Health Unit.

My primary focus this month has been finalizing all City Park spaces, as well as on-campus room requests, so that we can approve all Orientation events. Additionally, I have been working with the VPUA on securing vehicles and insurance for any faculty or group that requires them. Finally, I have finished submitting all food permit applications for the majority of events, so that we can obtain approval from Queen's Hospitality and ensure all events are handling food in a safe and effective manner.

Thanks so much!

Alexia Henriques (she/her/hers)

Campus Activities Commissioner

cac@ams.queensu.ca



Commission of Social Issues

Report to Assembly

Bunisha Samuals

June 27th, 2019

sic@ams.queensu.ca





Office of the AMS Secretariat
Report to Assembly
Lucas Borchenko
June 27th, 2019
secretariat@ams.queensu.ca



Hello Presidents Caucus,

With the summer fully in swing now I have been knee deep in policy. The constitution is ready to go for September, and others are being focused on heavily.

Judicial Policy

I have been consulting with many different Administrators on this policy. Currently about half the policy has been rewritten. It will be ready for September.

Student Choice Initiative

Between working on small projects for research and organizing information this has taken up much of my time the last month. I wrote a large document outlining many of the policy related issues we are facing and gave suggestions on potential solutions.

Policy Manual 2

Policy manual 2 has not been touched in many years and is in need of a serious overhaul. It is one of the last policies which is in the old format and does not have a working table of contents. This will be a longer project than the constitution as many different organizations within the AMS are listed in this policy.

All the best,

Lucas Borchenko

Secretary of Internal Affairs



Clubs Director
Report to Assembly
Scott Schrempf
June 27th, 2019
clubs@ams.queensu.ca



Hello Presidents' Caucus,

Now that summer has officially hit, I hope you have been enjoying the sun and time off academics. In this report I hope to detail what has been going on in the Clubs' Office since my last report.

Most of my last month has consisted of reading through the re-ratification documents for our 260+ clubs. In addition, we re-opened re-ratification over the last month so I have been learning about the clubs that have submitted the form and updated the relevant documents.

I have also continued to work on the Clubs Map. The next stage of this project will be contacting clubs. We hope to have the Map up and running for September in order to help incoming students find their passions during Orientation week.

In addition, I have begun consulting with the services and government side of the AMS in order to begin revamping the Clubs Manual. The current version on our website is from 2017/18 and requires some reworking. With this project I hope to show clubs all that the AMS can offer to them.

Over the rest of the summer, I will be working with several members of the Senior Management team on making the AMS website more accessible and easier to navigate. I specifically will be working on the Clubs portion of the website in order to make it more aesthetically pleasing and add more resources that clubs may find relevant.

Lastly, the summer granting period closes this Friday. I look forward to allocating grant money to clubs in order to help them get involved with Orientation Week and to help them put on events.

That is all for now. I look forward to the next month working towards the goals I have set and working on my projects.

All the best,

Scott Schrempf



Appendices

