

###### Council Minutes

Thursday, January 26th, 2017

6:00pm, Dunning Hall 27

Speaker: Avery Cole

Secretary: Allison Kondal



*Council begins: 6:02 pm.*

*Ali Haidar is representing Danny Arab.*

*Iain Kayfman-O’Keefe is representing Cooper Midroni.*

# I. ATTENDACE

Avery Cole: As always, we will begin with attendance. Please click A if you are representing yourself, or B if you are a proxy.

# II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

##### Motion 1

Whereas: It’s the second Council of 2017!

& whereas: let’s make it a good one;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council approve the agenda of Council meeting of Thursday, January 26th, 2017, as seen on the Engineering Society website.

Lianne Zelsman: One small change - we are going to have new business before the presentations.

Moved by: Lianne Zelsman

Seconded by: Avery Cole

***Motion passes, 6:03 pm* (28, 0, 0).**

# III. Adoption of the Minutes

##### Motion 2

Whereas: Last Council was a short one;

& whereas: it is still important that we remember what happened;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council approve the minutes of the Council meeting of Thursday, January 12th, 2017, as seen on the Engineering Society website.

Moved by: Allison Kondal

Seconded by: Lianne Zelsman

***Motion passes, 6:04 pm* (28, 0, 0).**

# IV. Speaker’s Business

Avery Cole: Moving quickly onto Speaker’s Business, which is my business. Thank you to Kevin, who covered for me last week. I would like to welcome our many guests. There will be a few presentations today. I’d like to quickly state that for the discussion periods, while there will be a lot of fantastic points, please avoid restating things that have been said or agree with points previously made. Let’s keep discussions on topic.

# V. BREAK

*Council breaks, 6:05pm.*

*Council resumes, 6:08pm.*

# VII. New Business: Motions 3-5

##### MOTION 3

Whereas: The Engineering Commerce Investment Club would like to be able to advocate to the engineering student body;

& whereas: having the resources available to EngSoc would greatly improve their members’ experience;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council approve the ratification of the Engineering Commerce Investment Club as an Engineering Society club.

Moved by: Trevor Bergeron

Seconded by: Felix Lafontant

Trevor Bergeron, Opening: Hi, my name is Trevor and I’m the president of the Engineering Commerce Investment Club. Essentially, we aim to teach engineering students financial skills, small business skills and money management. In a basic meeting, we have a market analyst who dictates the current state of the economy and provides updates on, for example, decisions made by Tesla or the current price of oil. Then, we have a 20-minute teaching session where I might give an introduction on how to invest, or how to choose stocks, and then we sum up with a 20-minute discussion on which stocks went up or down. We’d love to be ratified.

Tyler Bennett: How do you plan on using our resources?

Trevor Bergeron: Essentially, we’d love to have access to your alumni, so we can bring in prominent professionals, and having the resources to create events and presentations to further improve the experience for our members.

Taylor Sawadsky: Are you looking for funding?

Trevor Bergeron: We wouldn’t mind having funding to bring in guest speakers, and it would also be ideal if we could bring out food to our meetings, which are Wednesday at 7pm, to increase attendance. Pizza is pretty valuable as you guys can obviously see.

Tyler Bennett: I took a look at your structure. What’s the succession plan for the executive of your club, moving forward?

Trevor Bergeron: We have a good exec team, and a lot of members from younger years that have seen where our success is, so we can get them to come out and work with the class. I know you have a stingent hiring policy, but we’ll try to work within that. On average, there are 20 people at meetings, without food, on top of school. Last time, people were coming up afterwards, saying that they learned a lot. We want to show a different side of school and specifically introduce engineering students to the finance world.

Avery Cole: Do you have a closing?

Trevor Bergeron: Please help me get ratified. Thanks.

**Motion Passes: 6:12 pm (27, 1, 0)**

##### Motion 4

Whereas: Old members of the Committee on External Communications (ExCommComm) already have the option to become ex-officio members, but it is not yet written in By-Law;

& whereas: The Chair position from ExCommComm has grown over the years and having a year of experience on ExCommComm would be valuable to the position;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council approve the first reading of the changes to Section B; Committee on External Communications of By-Law 9: Standing Committees, as seen in APPENDIX “EX-COMM-COMM”.

Moved by: Loralyn Blondin

Seconded by: Callen Hageman

Loralyn Blondin, Opening: The first line was put in so it aligns with our practices. I was an ex-officio member, and then became a voting member. This doesn’t take away opportunities for new students, like their chance to run for chair. I’m open to any questions.

Avery Cole: Any debate on the motion?

**Motion passes, 6:16 pm (26, 0, 0)**

##### Motion 5

Whereas: Steven Lee has been doing some great things as the Mental Health Coordinator;

& whereas: there have been some changes to the original budget;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council approve the changes to the Events section of the Engineering Society Operational Budget of 2016-2017, as seen in APPENDIX “HEALTH-MONEY”.

Moved by: Francesca Feldman

Seconded by: Connor McMillan

Francesca Feldman, Opening: Basically in September, I submitted the wellness budget before the Wellness Coordinator was actually hired, and now that he’s been in the role, he’s just reallocating the funds.

Tyler Snook: Is there any way that we can avoid this happening in the future, or does this just happen every year?

Francesca Feldman: What happened this year, was that they are usually hired in April, but I wanted to rebrand the position and work with Engineering Wellness Centre on that, and by the time we were able to meet, the budget was submitted, so for this year it worked out like this.

**Motion passes, 6:44 pm (28, 0, 0)**

# VI. PRESENTATION

##### AMS Executive team

Avery Cole: We will have a 5-minute introduction from each team, followed by a discussion period.

Landon Wilcock: Thank you for having me and Aniqah out. It’s good to have discussion like this. We’d like to offer an apology on behalf of Julie – she got food poisoning, but she’s a trooper and she’s on her away. Our platform is based on improving the efficiency of services, because there’s a number that are not quite profitable or quite as efficient as they could be, and there’s a lot of room to grow. The other big part is of course social issues, addressing things like LGBTQ+, race and racism after the events in the fall. Queen’s is a hurting community. Our platform will be released tonight in full. For now, I’ll let someone else speak.

Aniqah Mair: Hi, I’m Aniqah and I’m a third year computer science student. I’m the CompSA president. Julie is our VP of University Affairs candidate. When I talk about social issues and mental health, it was actually Julie that educated me in the politics of it, and arts and science. What it emphasises is the interconnectedness. For example, mental health affects race and sexual assaults and a number of different factors. We have a number of concrete platform points, including the peer support centre. The number of visits per term has quadrupled to 400, in 2016. Obviously it is not adequate. That’s just something I keep talking about. For now, hopefully you’ll ask more questions.

Jennifer Li: Hi everyone, that’s for having us. My name is Jennifer Li, and I am the presidential candidate for team JBP. We came together with a shared vision of the AMS that reflects diversity. What is the biggest issue on campus right now? Is it fragmentation? It’s that we’re not supported, we’re disconnected and disengaged, and left feeling that we could not really make a difference. We are proud of our platform. We have put the students’ opinions into this to address a multitude of issues. We’re very excited to discuss them with you.

Palmer Lockridge: Hi, I’m Palmer Lockridge, and I’m the VP of University Affairs candidate. I have to say, this has been one of the most fun assemblies I’ve seen in a while. Like Jenn said, we had a shared vision for the AMS and what it can do for students. It came down to: how to enhance student life, because we all came here for a reason, like academics and extracurriculars, so how do we make that easier? Second, how can we create a caring campus? And third, how can we tailor the services to the students’ needs today? Our platform emerged from talking to students, so we can’t take the credit for a lot of these ideas.

Brian MacKay: I’m both humbled and excited to be running for VP Ops. I can say that in order to make this a reality, we need to realise that there’s a government, corporate and advocacy aspect to the AMS. We need to make sure they’re interconnected. We have been very ambitious about research and consultation. We want to address various aspects of student life. I’m excited about implementing sustainability to the corporate side. Sustainability hasn’t been as prominent there as it has on the government side. We want to do a full audit of our services for carbon output, because the University is aiming to be carbon neutral by 2040, so we should be looking forward to that. The Tea Room is an excellent example to model after.

Jennifer Li: I’m excited to implement an online booking system for wellness services. When I wanted to book a counselor, the only ways to do that were by phone or in person, and as a person who lives with anxiety, that made it inaccessible for me.

Palmer Lockridge: We had an idea to move the release date for exams forward. Getting your exam schedule right would make it easier to know what’s coming up in the semester, and book travel for cheaper. We’ll be happy to take questions now.

Avery Cole: You will be answering questions in alternating order.

Taylor Sawadsky: What is your favourite platform point from one of our EngSoc campaigns?

Brian MacKay: We’ll be transparent, the only candidate we’ve seen is a joke candidate, so the upper year orientation week was one point that stood out to us. We want to to have strong relationships with faculty societies, if elected.

Aniqah Mair: I have seen Julianna’s, although not necessarily my favourite, since I haven’t seen the others, but I thought the consultation about a fall term break was very important, especially for engineers, because I know orientation week is so important to you. The proposal that goes forward, matters.

Landon Wilcock: We’re supporting Keshav.

Evan Dressel: What is a platform point you know is unreasonable, but you have kept just for votes?

Landon Wilcock: I wouldn’t say there’s one that’s unreasonable, but I would say we have a very strong stance on social issues. There’s no way to solve each one in a day, so we admit we’re not going to be the people that come in and solve mental health on campus, or make all LGBTQ+ members feel welcome on campus. We’ll work hard so those people feel this is their home. We have concrete steps towards making that happen.

Brian MacKay: The idea of integrating local produce into AMS. Regrettably, the Kingston Farmer’s Association does not vote; however, it’s the way in which students interact with that platform point that we thought made it less feasible. It would be a good tool for city relations.

Loralyn Blondin: All of the faculties range greatly in size. How will you ensure each is heard equally?

Brian MacKay: As current VP of ASUS, we recognize the importance of autonomy, while being there as general and specific support. We want to maintain the autonomy of each faculty’s orientation week. What I can say is that it is really making our doors open, holding the presidents’ caucus, an equity caucus, and having stronger communication between the VP Ops. All information needs to be transparent and accessible. We are able of able and capable of listening to opinions.

Aniqah Mair: I’m from CompSA, which is small, but comparable to ASUS. We understand the idea of making sure that small and large voices are still heard. What I liked this year, was that Tyler Lively held biweekly meetings with presidents of all societies. I’d like to see the same thing this year, as well as with the VPs.

Emily Townshend: I’m here to talk about StuCons, with issues like sexism within the structure, and gendered lines. How will you ensure that trans and non-binary aren’t erased as staff members and students?

Landon Wilcock: What I see in your specific question, is that there is an HR policy violation. Students need to feel comfortable, however they identify. They deserve to go to the Underground and have a safe and fun time. I haven’t heard of that issue in particular, but I’ll work on that tonight.

Aniqah Mair: Thank you for bringing it up, because support for queers and trans students is important. Looking forward, if elected, I would look into adding to support for these students, including non-binary and gender-non-conforming students. This goes with positive space training and fostering a culture of acceptance. We have progress but not complete acceptance. We are passionate about working on this. We have consulted with trans students on how to work on this.

Jennifer Li: Campaigns are a dialogue, so for you to bring that to our attention, means a lot. We are releasing a paper tomorrow. We want to learn how to improve the broader climate and be more inclusive and be more welcoming here at Queen’s.

Tyler Bennett: The AMS runs services that are 10 times the size of EngSoc’s, so the the Ops candidates – how do you plan to balance those student services - the need to provide student value with bottom line?

Brian MacKay: We identify the social value of the services. We have a double bottom line: a social value and fiscal responsibility. For example, if the StuCons run a deficit, that’s okay, because all the services need to have zero profit to maintain not for profit status. That comes through consultation with students, stakeholders and customers. How do we tailor that to the modern student body? Thank you for that question. We have a plan for each individual service moving forward.

Landon Wilcock: That’s something that we touched on, but the important thing is the autonomy of services such as Clark Hall, which is built into tradition and the Society. The AMS needs to allow you to have that autonomy. We are taking the double bottom line, such an important point in this election. Other services are noted as safe spaces and safe drinking places. We are respecting the autonomy that faculty societies should have.

Dan Tamming: I’m wondering if each team could say good quality of the other team.

Aniqah Mair: They’re very driven. I don’t think that needs to be explained. That was not an insult.

Jennifer Li: They have a lot of ambition as third years. That’s definitely worth recognizing.

Julianna Jeans: I have a question for the Ops candidates - how will you work to make events sanctioning easier?

Brian MacKay: We recognize that as all faculty societies and clubs are covered by AMS, you need a fill out a form to get coverage. We’ve identified that between the StuCons, space booking, food request and sanctioning, that’s a lot. Design team and clubs by EngSoc are what makes student life so simple, so the process should be simple. We have comprehensive plan, including information packages for insurance information.

Landon Wilcock: Brian touched on a lot of issues. Through consultations, we’ve identified that the processes for independent events is very difficult and painful and annoying. We also believe we can simplify the process, and potentially increase revenue for StuCons.

Stuart Fowler: Jack Horn is my proxy. Treat him well.

Tyler Snook: I’m wondering how you want to be remembered after your term? And a follow up question - why didn’t you go with PB&J?

Landon Wilcock: We see that AMS teams are trying to reinvent the AMS wheel. We have fantastic parts and services, so we don’t want to dismantle or change anything. We just want to make things more efficient.

Palmer Lockridge: We wanted a team that was open to criticism and new ideas, and willing to work with those who come forward. If someone comes forward during the year, we want to implement those ideas, like we said about the three parts of our platform, if we can make it easier for students to focus on passions, and have a caring campus, and serve students better, that’s what I’d be looking for.

Brian MacKay: We’ve heard this throughout the election. We’ll issue a statement later - all filler, no crust.

Kodie Becker: What are your stances on a fall break implementation going forward?

Palmer Lockridge: It will be on the ballot in this election. Also, I think it will be the responsibility of both old and new exec, to protect orientation week, and pre-exam student days. If we implement it, it’s good for mental health.

Aniqah Mair: Right now, we are not 100% sure where the students stand. We want to wait for the results, and to go from there to consultation with faculty societies. Admin has been selling it as good for mental health, but is this truly going to benefit mental health?

Landon Wilcock: The admin consulted students well. How does this work in terms of feedback? We should push the admin to do more consultation. There will be students and groups that are unhappy after implemented.

Max Lindley-Peart: Each faculty is so unique. How do you plan on encouraging interfaculty work on projects and initiatives?

Landon Wilcock: What I have heard, is that they want more autonomy and cohesion with other faculty societies. To be honest, we don’t have a specific point on cohesion, but as Aniqah said, we will have the presidents’ caucus, and listen to Societies. We know that’s important.

Jennifer Li: Let’s do this together. Collaboration has to be at the core. They can interact at presidents’ caucus. We have to have an approach that allows for agreement and disagreement in a conversation. Fall term break shows that different faculties have different views. It’s okay to disagree, but we need to move forward collaboratively.

Loralyn Blondin: In one sentence, summarize why you’re running. What moved you?

Brian MacKay: We are incredible close and have a dynamic, shared experience, and our vision addresses a caring campus that respects the diversity of opinions.

Jennifer Li: I’m running because of my running mates, and how much we can move student experience forward.

Palmer Lockridge: From the ideas that I’ve heard from students and consultations, I carry on with the belief that I can implement those changes.

Aniqah Mair: I didn’t actually want to run; when Landon contact me, I met with them to say thanks no thanks, but we ended up clicking. We had a shared vision and we all had unique experiences. I really like both of them, and I’m not going to have an opportunity like this again.

Landon Wilcock: We have an external perspective, and not always can you make that change from the outside perspective. We became frustrated together, and we wanted to open it up to more students that were frustrated like us.

Avery Cole: We will now entertain a closing.

Landon Wilcock: We know there are assignments to do, but we hope you’ll see our passion. Every student is involved in the conversation. We have a strong approach to keep the AMS financially sustainable as certain services need reform. In the long term, we see some issues. Out short term goal is for 12 months, but the long term plan is to leave parts of the AMS better than when we started. We want to make Queen’s a better place. When you love something, you can see those flaws.

Aniqah Mair: Landon said all of it, your assembly is so cool.

Jennifer Li: This election is about coming together as community. We need t embrace what makes Queen’s special, and let everyone participate. It addresses every facet of life, and your experience, and we’ve done our best to listen. On January 30 and 31, vote for an enhanced student life, for tailored student needs, and for a caring campus. Let’s do this together. Thank you.

Avery Cole: Thank you for your time.

##### senator voting

Avery Cole: This is purely informational; we will have a discussion later on.

Emily Townshend: Hi, I’m Emily Townshend, and we’re here to talk to you about Senators voting at EngSoc Council. This comes as a result of 4 years of experience. Initially I was very strongly in favour of Senators voting on council, and Derrick Dogeson sat me down and said, well, actually, this is actually not a great idea and he even went so far as to imply that Senators shouldn’t really communicate with the rest of exec, which is a little too extreme. Over the years as I have heard the arguments for and against it I grow less and less able to defend Senators having a vote in this body.

1. It is important first to distinguish between the Engineering Faculty (students), and the Engineering Society (the governance body).
2. It is a conflict of interest for Senators to be this involved in the day-to-day policy decisions of the Engineering Society, a body whose interests they are not meant to represent.
3. It’s bad policy to have voting members who can pick and choose to attend meetings.
4. It is in the Council’s interest to be informed of issues being discussed at the Senate level, which is why we propose that Senators remain on the Council as an Ex-Officio member, similar to The Advisory Board Chair or the Student Senate Caucus Chair at AMS.
5. Having Senators as a voting member of EngSoc makes them appear to Senate as representative of, or influenced by, EngSoc, which is not meant to be the case.

Lon Knox: The Senate doesn’t set rules in terms of the election of students, so what we do see is divided loyalties. The AMS trustee does not vote on AMS assembly, but is entitled to be there. There could be significant conflict of interest and conflict of loyalty. That’s what Emily’s suggesting.

Avery Cole: We will now take clarification questions. You can discuss your personal feelings later.

Evan Dressel: Could you elaborate on what other faculty societies do?

Emily Townshend: I can speak to the AMS, where the chair of the caucus is an observer only.

Julianna Jeans: You said that other societies have made steps - what are they?

Lon Knox: It’s how the AMS deals with ASUS. Senate itself doesn’t prescribe any rules about tenure on Senate. You could fall into areas of conflict there.

Tyler Snook: If we have clarification questions, that’s now?

Loralyn Blondin: Are there any other issues that we can mitigate or fix?

Emily Townshend: Burnout. Senators sit on a high number of bodies. I think sitting with an ex-officio relationship formalizes our structure because of our relationship with Council. I think there are some things, that will be in my graduating remarks at the end of the year.

Kevin Corey: When I ran, I thought it was to represent the average engineering student, like the exec for EngSoc, but I’ve been told that’s not the case. It’s one of the only voting positions elected by everyone, where you consolidate information but come to your own opinion. In this role, I am supposed to represent my sole opinion at Council and at Senate. We should move towards this.

Matt Whittle: Can you give us examples of conflict of interest that you have experiences? That are not confidential?

Emily Townshend: When I was on SOARB, there was pressure from the EngSoc exec that caused me, as a Senator, had to weigh Council’s opinion against my own, and sometimes make some compromises that I made within myself. Also, SOARB is the Senate Orientation Activities Review Board.

Kevin Corey: I haven’t been on long enough, but we are very passionate about fall reading week, and the role of the Senator is to internalize that information and go with their own opinion. We should not be mandated to broadcast an opinion on behalf of the Society.

Lon Knox: Although elected, the first rule of Senate is participation, not representation. Senate is the highest academic body. The decisions made are in the best interest of the entire University. Some faculties feel more strongly about some issues. Your Senators, although from your faculty, don’t represent this faculty. They must vote with their conscience. They could have more information provided to them, than is available to the rest of the Society. Sometimes we do hear about pressures from people who feel that Senators should represent their point of view.

Emily Townshend: Thank you for coming, Lon, and I look forward to hearing your discussion.

# VIII. Executive reports

##### i) President

Taylor Sawadsky: Election season is upon us, so encourage all your friends to vote. I will discuss fall reading break in the statements. ExCommComm’s presentation is delayed until we finalise that we’re doing. Directorship applications are open, and they’re posted on EngSoc Apply. Building Bridges, A Discussion on Race & Racism, is next Monday at 7:30pm in the Tea Room. SafeTALKS training for suicide awareness happened, so you can reach out to me or Tyler. My FYPCO is working on the position descriptions, and frosh week and Sci Formal are going well. It will be Venetian themed. I encourage everyone to look at the meme. Anyone who was involved in elections, please lead us in the hymn.

*Council signs the Engineering Hymn.*

##### II) Vice president of student affairs

Evan Dressel: I’ve been helping the elections team in a supportive role. I’m going to mention this every time, compost is coming soon, so please let your people know that we have to do this right or we’ll ruin the University’s plan for compost across campus by 2018. When the bins come in, please don’t put things that aren’t compost in the compost bins. I’m very excited for my new lower. There’s someone else coming into my life very soon. Right now, the bulk of my portfolio is getting things paid for EngWeek. I’m helping conferences with payments. Those of you trying to pay for the Space Conference, talk to the delegates coordinator.

##### III) vice president of operations

Tyler Bennett: Why am I so excited? Are the holidays coming up? Is it summer? Is a new iPhone coming out? No, that excitement is about the Imaginus Poster Sale. Those are really inexpensive posters. At Advisory Board this week, we discussed investment policy. Like Taylor said, I attended safeTALKS. I am preparing transition documents, an online payment system, and working on general Society operations.

# IX. Director Reports

##### i) Academics

Daniel Tamming: I’ve had a good time as the EngLinks Coordinator. We moved the first year workshops to avoid conflicts with FREC hiring. The BED Fund proposals are rolling in this week. The fall term break task force met yesterday about the plebiscite. The two options are to have everything moved seven days earlier and the layout of first semester is exactly the same with a five day break, or to move in 5 days early, have 4 days of faculty orientation, two days of class, and then two days of residence orientation. Later in the semester, you would have Thursday and Friday off. Feel free to ask about this. Also, I finally changed my meme.

##### ii) Communications

Heather Simmons: It’s all in my report. I’ve been working on the elections and the 60 for 60 campaign – 60 seconds for a 60% voter turnout. We peaked at 1 viewer on the livestream which might have just been me.

##### iiI) Community outreach

Emma Howard: Fix ‘n Clean is organized. If you have ever done anything for Fix ‘n Clean, please give yourself a pat on the back. We are going to 16 households with about 60 students involved. Due to lack of snow, the 24-hour snow fort building competition has been cancelled. The External Relations Committee is looking for winter fun ideas. Enjoy the baby penguin, it has snow.

##### iv) conferences

Taylor Sweet: I went to the Queen’s Conference on Business and Technology, and I met the former director of engineering at Facebook. I hired a new Queen’s Engineering Competition chair, and this weekend I will be going to two conferences simultaneously.

##### v) Design

Max Lindley-Peart: Good evening. It’s all in my report. I talked to Simon Smith to get funding for the design bay. Also, the composites bay meeting is coming up to discuss furniture like ovens and chairs. The auto-drive team captains have been hired, and now we are finishing a proposal to get a spot in the competition. We got bursary funding to buy EngSoc logos on team uniforms. Coming up, we’re keeping on with the website, and doing consultation on purchases for the design bays.

##### vi) Events

Francesca Feldman: Basically, we had EngWeek, EngVents had a skating event with the nurses, and Wellness did the Lego competition with free hot chocolate. EngVents is having the ThunderBallz tournament on February 4th. Upper year frosh groups can also join.

##### vii) Finance

Connor McMillan: Right now, we are keeping the lights on. We’ve been busy with last minute stuff. Please let me know in advance if you need a cashbox of the debit/credit machine.

##### viii) First Year

Alan Goodman: FYC went surprisingly well, attendance and retention are both up from last year. We met with people at the conference about what they liked or didn’t like, and how to advertise it next year. A bunch of first years have asked about how to apply for directorships. I got to tell them how it’s not all fun and games, but a great time. This is the time when the DoFY portfolio slows down.

##### ix) Human Resources

Taylor Sawadsky: She’s writing a quiz but it’s all in her report.

##### x) Information Technology

Tyler Bennett: He is also writing a quiz, but there’s been a lot of great work on EngSoc dash area; I had a top level security viewing. We’re doing great. I wish him luck on his quiz.

##### xi) Internal Affairs

Lianne Zelsman: I encourage you to vote on Monday and Tuesday, and invite your friends. AGM will likely be Thursday, March 9th. Everything else is in my report.

##### xii) Professional Development

Taylor Sawadsky: It’s all in his report with the exception of tickets for the Alumni Networking Summit. Eat nice food, and go to Toronto for a day. It’s on February 4th.

Tyler Bennett: The student to alumni ratio is good for networking. It’s approximately 1:1.

##### xiii) Services

Tyler Snook: Science Quest hired new directors. The Tea Room and Golden Words have very important votes coming up. I had a meeting that I’ve been trying to plan since September, and CEO is having a sale this Thursday.

# x. Question Period for ED team

Loralyn Blondin: There was something about workshops in IT, what’s that bout?

Tyler Bennett: Robert is organizing workshop prep for workshop sessions for all members who are interested in programming in IT, with sponsorship from companies like Slack. If you’re curious, let him know.

Connor Meeks: I just wanted to address the Director of Academics, geological engineering has two field schools that are booked with industries, so whatever decision is made, make sure you contact the department head to make sure you are in communication with them, because if it gets pushed back a lot, it would wreak havoc on our schedules.

Dan Tamming: Do they need to know more than one year in advance?

Connor Meeks: It varies year to year depending on the teacher of the course. They’re both happening at the beginning of the year in the coming year. It’s first come first serve for these kinds of things.

Loralyn Blondin: There are old stools hanging out in the hallway, what’s happening with them?

Dan Tamming: They’re great stools. I talked to Simon Smith, and he said we can use them for student clubs. He wouldn’t like to see them being taken home.

# Xi. Faculty Board Report

Matt Whittle: In the dean’s report, we had a chat about frost week and first year participation. It was strongly reminded to faculty members that it is well within their rights to kick students out of their lectures because it does make several people uncomfortable. As much as it’s fun, we have to be cognizant of the effects on others. Beyond that, the building is on track, though potentially over budget. The deconstruction is flying by. An interesting fact from Prof. Pham is that graduate numbers are down, but we’re optimistic that it’s swinging back up to $4 million across the University, $600 000 of which was our portion.

# XIi. Alma Mater Society Report

Evan Dressel: AMS assembly was exciting because I was the Speaker. We ratified the elections teams and some fee increases and fee establishments. We nominated people to sit on the Committee on Inclusion, while approves equity grants to groups across campus. We added a plebiscite to the AMS referendum. WE dissolved the commission on environmental affairs, and placed the members in the correct places throughout the AMS so they can make a bigger impact. That policy will be brought on the second reading of the constitution.

# XIII. Senate Report

Emily Townsend: Senate will meet next Tuesday. The highlights include that the senate effectiveness results are in. I am cautiously optimistic that the people on a committee in the principal’s report will be helpful. Students got to take pics with Justin Trudeau at Q&P. Regarding the party that happened on campus, the Board was concerned, and we talked about the Guinness world record, and getting new people on SOARB. This year there were no issues related to upper year involvement! Commerce is off probation! Steven Smith is getting an honorary degree because getting a school named after him wasn’t enough.

# XIV. Engineering Review Board Report

Emily Varga: We received a complaint, and are resolving the issues. We met to review the Commerce Engineering Investment Club ratification.

# XV. Advisory Board Report

Tyler Bennett: The Board met on Monday, and we discussed three major things: the Golden Words fee, investment policy, and Sci Formal. The next meeting is in a month.

# XVI. Club Reports

##### I) GEOLOGICAL

Connor Meeks: Not a whole lot is going on; we had discipline night, and moving forward, we will be attending the Prospectors Developers Association Conference at the Toronto Convention Centre. It’s the largest of its kind. It’s an amazing networking event. We just began the process of looking for a department head. We had a great time at BEWIC.

##### ii) CHEM ENG CHEM

Quinlan Hickey: We had our first CHEE orientation night on Tuesday and had a good turnout, and we had a very funny and entertaining prof. We discussed the intensity of 470 and how to not take everyone’s lives. We had our first gear night out.

##### iii) APPLIED MATHEMATICS

Jack Warant: The merch order is in, we are beginning banquet planning, and the website is out: applemath.org.

Evan Dressel: The website was funded by the discipline club bursary that I put out. Congrats to Apple for taking advantage.

##### iv) CIVIL

Ali Haidar: Civil had the New York trip from January 12th to 14th. Our quarterzips came in, they have our new crest on them. We’re going to have our Turcke evaluations next week.

# XVII. Year Reports

##### I) Sci’17

Charlie Renzoni: Happy Australia Day. I’m doing budgeting for the ThanQ gift. Anyone can propose an idea. WE met with yearbook producer. We need discipline heads, merch is budgeted, iron ring after party budgeted.

##### XI) Sci’18

Loralyn Blondin: Last week, we had a coffee house and open mic night, where Studio Q took pictures. The Sci Formal theme has been released. Merch is coming, and Super Semi is being finalized – it is an all year event. We’re planning another takeover with Sci ’19.

##### XII) Sci’19

Hillary Crossley: We have not done much; we’re meeting soon to finalize year merch distribution and the Underground takeover.

##### XII) Sci’20

Cole Mero: We ordered merch, and the website is moving along, though Sci’ 17’s just went up this year so we have some time, right? Our BED Fund proposal is in.

# XVIII. Statements and Questions by Members

Taylor Sawadsky: The plebiscite question for the referendum, is a non-binding question, since nothing might happen, but what’ s important is that constituents know that a break is happening. It will be included in the AMS and EngSoc ballot to ensure that we know the breakdown of the vote based on faculty so we could advocate for engineering students specifically. We tried to do a class talk. Please vote. Get yourself informed.

Dan Tamming: Thanks, Taylor. On that topic, it’s a little unorthodox, but I’d like to do a straw poll for the options, between option 1, or option 2, or if you’re equally happy with both and can’t decide, or if you hate both.

Avery Cole: Yeah, absolutely.

Dan Tamming: Thanks everyone. .

Loralyn Blondin: The Canadian Federation of Engineering Schools commissioner applications are open, where you get to work with corporate sponsorship, kind of like directors. I can get you the form if you’re interested in applying.

Emily Townshend: As I said before, the SOARB report is out. It’s well-written and they did a great job compiling it. Second, I want to encourage you to vote, and take confidence votes seriously because we take those in seriously. It’s not a funny joke to vote no when you don’t mean it. I still remember my approval rating.

Evan Dressel: There have been some changes to the first year curriculum, which were voted on at Faculty Board. Both 171 and 172 are being reweighted so that anything that happens outside of class is reflected in the course, though they are mostly the same. 174 will introduce MATLAB to the course; the idea is to introduce the upper year numerical methods courses, and to make MATLAB more relevant in later studies. Ideally, they will switch 142 to first semester, making it 143, and flip graphics to second semester. The idea is that we are moving away from the Lego robots and more towards Arduino, whichever is decided by the summer students. Chemistry was altered slightly, and physics have more balance. We changed the names to Physics 1 and Physics 2 because it’s not just exclusively mechanics. 151 has been changed to “Engineering Geology & The Biosphere.” They will have half the amount of labs in alternating weeks. We’re adding a new course – Applied Engineering Mechanics or solid mechanics in second semester, and we are going to cut half of the graphics lectures to add in mechanics lectures.

Connor Meeks: Fun fact - even though geo is only rocks, we have a MATLAB course.

Connor McMillan: The robots were a BED Fund purchase, so what happens if we get rid of them?

Taylor Sawadsky: We are going to consider it, if redistributed, the funds go back to bed fund. Arduinos are inexpensive, so if first years bought their own, they could return and reallocate money elsewhere.

Tyler Bennett: Quick question for Evan, Physics 1 is in first semester and Physics 2 is in second?

Evan Dressel: Yes.

Loralyn Blondin: We are nearing the end of Dean Woodhouse’s term, and she has done a lot for us, so I thought it would be cool if we as a Society gave her a gift or each discipline made something.

Taylor Sawadsky: Yes.

Cole Mero: For Evan, you mentioned that weighting would be changed by what goes on outside of the course?

Evan Dressel: This committee has been going on for 3 and 4 years, and we wanted to make it easier on students, so it’s really not a lot of content changes. They may have taken out a lecture or 2, but there are no major differences. Those course are reasonably the same, but it overall reduces the amount of credits that first years have to go through with regards to workload.

Loralyn Blondin: Are you saying they’re taking less credits, and how does that affect upper years?

Matt Whittle: We reduced the academic credits from 3.5 to 3.3, then added 181 which is 1.7 credits. The small deficit should be reflected in the slightly lower workload.

Taylor Sawadsky: The impact of credits does not affect accreditation for upper years.

Charlie Renzoni: I was wondering if credits have been lowered, is APSC 100 still 11 credits?

Taylor Sawadsky: I believe APSC 100 is the same.

Evan Dressel: It is the same, with minor modifications like switching around MATLAB. It will be iterated through the next few years. There is no guarantee that this will happen.

# XIX. DISCUSSION PERIOD: Senator Voting

Emily Townshend: I think Kevin and I made our position very clear. We have discussed this with the possible incoming senator, and he has same opinion as us. I want to mention that anything you want to say that is bad about senate, I’ve probably said ten times worse.

Avery Cole: There is no motion to be voted on right now, and as EngSoc we don’t have the power to give them a vote and request that they come to Council, so we have no real jurisdiction over them, and they are absolutely free to say that they don’t want to vote. We have minimal jurisdiction over the Senator portfolio.

Tyler Snook: When I first heard this, I was against it, but the more I heard from you, I’d like clarification. Senators represent themselves as an engineering student?

Emily Townshend: We represent ourselves as member of the Queen’s community, though students tend to vote as student block, but we act as a community, as a whole.

Tyler Snook: I totally agree with you; it’s not necessarily mandated but I would get as many opinions as possible. In theory they get every opinion from every engineer by coming here.

Julianna Jeans: I’m in favour of ex-officio Senators. You brought up conflict of interest in hearing these opinions. As an ex-officio member, do you think you will be able to go to Senate and still represent yourself efficiently?

Kevin Corey: What I would say is it would be as an observer, representing ourselves as members of Queen’s. We inevitably hear opinions, but we are meant to just observe and react to information. I have not felt pressured, but removed from the opinions.

Emily Townshend: The separation of us from the nitty gritty of policy would be beneficial. I have vested interest in this, because Senators want to be engaged, and that’s where the bias starts. That will balance so we can get the fastest opinions possible. We’re not being overly influenced.

Nathaniel Wong: I’m also confused, if you’re representing yourself, why are you being elected by the student body? Isn’t that contrary to what the election process is for? Why could we not be picking random person, like jury duty?

Emily Townshend: The thing is, realistically we should do what Trent Senate does, where everyone goes into the same pool. The reason we do it this way is because student elections are a lot of work, and Senate has a proportional representation system, so each faculty is allotted people. It’s not meant to be representing faculty interests, only perspectives.

Evan Dressel: This isn’t directly related, but about potentially not electing Senators, just because time after time we’ve seen the faculty nominating students. They often pick their views rather than a student at large’s view. Students elect people to represent the faculty.

Emily Townshend: It’s not like committees or applications, because people put themselves forward. It should be through a centralized secretariat, where you sign yourself up. Instead it’s run by the elections teams of faculty societies.

Julianna Jeans: Me being in favour of this relies on this one point, that the election remains with us, I personally think our voter turnout is great. I would be wary to give this to Senate because it won’t have as good of a turnout.

Emily Townshend: Great point, Julianna. Maybe three or four years down the line, I would say, we can assume it would continue the way it has been, with in house elections.

Sam Johnson: By-law says nothing about Senators representing EngSoc, but that they will concern themselves with Senate and its committees.

Nathaniel Wong: I still don’t really understand why we’re choosing someone through an election, to choose someone you share the same beliefs. But if we chose someone who doesn’t represent what we’re thinking, what’s the point?

Kevin Corey: I was able to run because I was able to convince people I could convey my opinion to faculty and administration. We don’t necessarily run on a platform about change, but rather consultation and come to our own personal opinion. We have representational voting is so it’s not 17 ArtScis, but rather every student has some outlet in which they can easily consult with the Senator. I understood I had to consult with student body, and come up with my own opinion. I don’t see the discrepancy.

Tyler Bennett: We spoke about information flowing, even as ex-officio member. Senators offer value with bringing things back this way.

Emily Townshend: Nat had a good point. When you vote for a Senator, you vote for someone who you trust to have judgement and make the right decision for you. When you ask what’s the point, the head of the union sits on Senate. Students senators are there to use their own judgement.

# XX. DISCUSSION PERIOD: Council transition

Lianne Zelsman: Last Council, we had a discussion on the transition period. This year, they transitioned on AGM whereas exec switched over on May 1st. It’s not a binding vote, but I will pass around a paper, where voting yes means implementing it this year, and if you say no you are not comfortable maintaining your position for the extra period of time.

Tyler Bennett: What about proxies?

Lianne Zelsman: I won’t look until after everyone filled it out.

Charlie Renzoni: What about Sci ‘17s?

Lianne Zelsman: You don’t need to.

Dan Tamming: Will the vote have to be unanimous?

Lianne Zelsman: I’m doing this so when I write a motion, I want to make sure I’m bringing it with wording that people like. I will say it’s implemented it for this year, but if it’s not unanimous, we’ll move that effect for next year. This is just for my own ethics and morals when I bring the motion.

Rachel McConnell: Why is the exec transition May 1st and not the date of last Council?

Evan Dressel: When they did it last year, they recognized that you don’t want to hand over the reigns right before the exam season. Dealing with exams and stuff they’ve never seen would be too stressful.

Lianne Zelsman: Last week I didn’t have the time to say, the new years resolution question was Tyler’s - wearing my sweater all the time - this is the 18th day in a row he’s worn the same sweater, and Patrick’s - stealing Tyler’s sweater. This week’s is everyone that said “do nothing but put it on my resume”.

Avery Cole: We will now entertain motion to close.

##### Motion to Close:

Moved by: Kevin Corey

Seconded by: Julianna Jeans

**Motion Passes: 8:18pm (26, 1, 0)**