Engineering Society Council Minutes

Thursday, February 26th, 2015

Beamish-Munro Hall (ILC) 313

Speaker: Nick Hetherington

Secretary: Oleg Baranov

Meeting Begins: 6:00 pm

1. **Adoption of the Agenda**

**Motion 1:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council approve the agenda of the Council meeting of Thursday, February 26th, 2015 as seen on the EngSoc website.

Moved by: Eleanor McAuley

Seconded by: Nick Hetherington

Opening (Eleanor McAuley): This is my last council being up here. The order is going to be a bit different tonight, so make sure to stay on track.

Nick Hetherington: Is there any more debate on the motion?

Motion Passes: 6:02 pm (25 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)

1. **Adoption of the Minutes**

**Motion 2:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council approve the minutes of the Council meeting of Thursday, February 5th, 2015 as seen on the EngSoc website.

Moved by: Oleg Baranov

Seconded by: Eleanor McAuley

Opening (Oleg): If you’d like something changed, please fire me an email.

Nick Hetherington: Is there any debate on the motion?

Motion Passes: 6:04 pm (25 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)

1. **Speaker’s Business**

Nick Hetherington: Again, welcome to Council. This is my last Council as speaker. There is a presentation tonight, so make sure to pay attention as there will be a motion with regards to it later.

1. **Presentation**

Matt Slavin: I am presenting on behalf of the external communications committee. Last year we removed our involvement from the CFES. People felt that the money it took to be part of this organization and the finances involved with travel were not justified. Thus, this year we focused on redefining the purpose of the External Communications Committee. We worked on creating evaluation matricides that would assist the Society to make such decisions in the future. We recommend that the External Communications Committee remain as a standing committee at Council. Our second goal was to make some updates to the composition of the committee. If you have any further questions, please direct them my way during the motion.

1. **New Business: Motions 3-9**

**Motion 3:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT  
Council accept the recommendations in the ExComCom Report to Council as outlined in Goals 1 and 2, and the corresponding policy changes to α: Engineering Society Council as outlined in APPENDIX EXCOMCOM.

Moved by: Matt Slavin

Seconded by: Matt Lawson

Opening (Matt Slavin): The goal of this motion is to address goals 1 and 2, and I have outlined earlier. If you have any further questions, I am happy to answer them now.

Alex Rey: ERB made a few minor changes, but overall we were happy. Specifically, we made an amendment to the very last part of the policy. It was mostly a change in wording.

Alex Savides: As this is one of the standing committees, I think it is very important to hire people from outside of Council, and they will bring in valuable ideas. This is just something I’ve noticed from past experiences.

Matt Slavin: Who would be in charge of this hiring? I’m not sure that the committee would have enough member to coordinate that effectively.

Emily Townshend: We could potentially elect people onto this committee at the AGM. This would allow us to select from people that are interested in issue discussed at Council.

Frank Hung: What if no-one applied for this position?

Alex Wood: The applications could be extended, and if no-one applies the applications can always be dropped. Ideally, the position would be advertised to sit on the committee as a student representative.

Dylan Bram: Would we be looking to hire people based on their knowledge of the topic, or the person’s potential?

Alex Wood: We are a “no experience necessary” society. So knowing this, having no previous knowledge may be beneficial.

Sam Anderson: Why do you believe that an application based hiring process is better than being elected by Council?

Alex Wood: Many people find Council extremely intimidating, and I think would be discouraged from pursuing the position. Additionally, by creating applications we are more likely to get an outside perspective.

Nick Hetherington: Is there any debate on the motion?

Motion Passes: 7:05 pm (29 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)

**Motion 4:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT  
Council accept the recommendations in the ExComCom Report to Council as outlined in Goal 3, specifically relating to the CFES Hiatus.

Moved by: Matt Slavin

Seconded by: Matt Lawson

Opening (Matt Slavin): With regards to the CFDS decision, the External Communications Committee believes that the cost of this membership and the travel expenses is fully justified by the benefit the Society will be receiving. And happy to answer any and all questions.

Carolyn Fisher: The CFDS has been making strives to improve their culture and professional behaviour. The changes which we have seen so far lead me to believe that the CFDS is moving in the right direction as an organization. We need to be able to actively make an impact to the culture of engineering societies. Having such a great wealth of experience, I believe that it is important for us to contribute to this culture change.

Matt Slavin: I would just like to clarify that we did not address any other conferences besides CFDS. That is not under our portfolio, and is the job of the Director of Conferences.

Alex Wood: Has the CFDS reached out to us this past year?

Matt Lawson: I have been in contact with members of the CFDS for the past year. We have exchanged a number of emails, and it appears to me that they have been making strides in the right direction. For example, they have formed a task force for enforcing professional behaviour.

Tyler Snook: Other engineering societies haven’t stepped down from the CFDS. So clearly some merit does exist from being a part of it.

Kristy Tu: I think it’s important to note that the Dean is not approving of the CFDS at the executive level, due to past inappropriate behaviour, not the organization itself.

Dylan Bram: How long will it take for us to become members in good standing?

Matthew Lawson: The repercussions are very low. Essentially all we have to do is attend one of those meetings, or send a proxy.

Jay Young: In the past year we sent members to every single conference they had. Those members then reported on the validity of the conference. There was not a single person that came back that said there was any value of the conferences. Thus, we decided to take a year of from the CFDS. What do you think have changed in our operation that would require us to rejoin? I do not believe that much has.

Tyler Snook: It is outlined that there will be two first year students on the committee. I think that this is very important, as it will provide continuity to the committee.

Mike Bodley: What have we lost from not being a part of the CFDS?

Matt Slavin: I think that overall we cannot remain to be a member in bad standing. Additionally, we are unable to host any of the conferences.

Nick Hetherington: Four people are on the speaker’s queue, but the motion has been called to question. Is there any debate on the motion?

Motion Passes: 7:51 pm (30 for, 2 opposed, 0 abstentions)

**Motion 5:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT  
Council approve the changes to policy section α: Engineering Society Council subsection B. Annual General Meetings as seen in APPENDIX AGM.

Moved by: Alex Wood

Seconded by: Eleanor McAuley

Opening (Madeline Driver): This motion will essentially give people an opportunity to look over what will be covered at the AGM. That way if people do not have the same knowledge background as us, they will be well informed.

Eleanor McCauley: The goal of this is to improve the overall knowledge of everyone at the AMG. Since everyone gets a vote, it is important that everyone attending is well informed on what is happening.

Alex Rey: ERB has looked over the motion, and we do not have any issues with it. This is widely done in other groups within Queen’s.

Morgan Roff: Do we need a motion to extend council?

Nick Hetherington: In one hour.

Eleanor McCauley: I think that it is appropriate that we extend the timeline to two weeks. Additionally, this only applied to the AGM, and no other meetings throughout the year.

Alex Rey: As it is written now, if someone brings a motion to the AGM, this will add an extra layer of complexity. On a separate note, I have been trying to get rid of all the “should” in policy.

Avery Cole: It seems that people did address it, however if there is something that must be put in last minute this policy would benefit us greatly.

Andrew Crawford: If there is already a framework to add motions to the agenda, a way to clarify this is to add a sub point below, which I will bring up in a second.

Eleanor McAuley: This year AGM is on a Monday because the AMS has changed their dates. Thus I saw it prudent to not have two AGM’s on a single day. Additionally, as of right now none of this is policy.

Alex Wood: First of all I didn’t expect this much debate on the motion. The motion is there so people should feel that they need to get their motion in on time. I think this debate has become cyclical, and I would like to call the motion to question.

Nick Hetherington: Is there any debate on the motion?

Motion Passes: 8:15 pm (29 for, 0 opposed, 1 abstentions)

**Motion 6:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT  
Council approve the changes to policy section ν: Special Events, as seen in APPENDIX SPECIAL FYC.

Moved by: Ryan Cattryse

Seconded by: Eleanor McAuley

Opening (Ryan Cattryse): This policy will essentially change FYC from a conference, to a special event. This has been discussed at council exactly four weeks ago. Some of the problems we ran into had to do with finances, and which director portfolio the event fell under. All of the ticket sale money will go to running the conference, as opposed to the EngSoc budget. Thus this will help the budget overall.

Alex Rey: ERB looked over this policy. There were a few grammatical errors, and would like to propose an amendment.

Nick Hetherington: Is there any more debate on the motion?

Motion Passes: 8:32 pm (26 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)

**Motion 7:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council approves second reading of the changes made to By-Law 18 as seen in APPENDIX BETTER BOARD BYLAW.

Moved by: Morgan Roff

Seconded by: Alex Rey

Opening (Morgan Roff): There are a few things. First, we are changing the by-law allowing the board to take on an extra one year member. Additionally, we would like to add a mandatory year in review meeting.

Alex Rey: ERB has looked over the motion, and approved it.

Nick Hetherington: Is there any more debate on the motion?

Motion Passes: 8:26 pm (30 for, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)

1. **Break – 8:26 pm**

Break ends: 8:31 pm

1. **Executive Reports**
2. **President**

Carolyn Fisher: So, we’re not allowed to report today. I’d just like to thank everyone that has worked so hard for the past year at the engineering society. I would have a lot more things to say later at the EngSoc Banquet. Additionally, if anyone has any nominations for the Order of the Purple Knights, make sure to email me please.

1. **VP (Student Affairs)**

Alex Savides: You’ve all seen my report in the agenda. I’d like to keep my report today a bit briefer than usual. So I was dealing with some IT people with Eric. There’s lot of transitions going on in the Society right now. So I’ve been overseeing a lot of that. I’d also like to thank everyone that has sat on Council. I promised myself I wouldn’t get emotional.

1. **VP (Operations)**

Peter Davidson: All is going well in the operations portfolio. Services are going well. A lot of manager applications have been extended, so make sure to check that out. And I hope you all attended the Imaginus poster sale. Thank you to all those that volunteered.

1. **Conferences**

Michelle McKay: First off, hope everyone had a great reading week. CEEC is happening next weekend, which is going to be great. I have also been working on creating a transition manual.

1. **Academics**

Sam Anderson: We have a new web app for EngLinks. The academic caucus met recently, there was some great work done there. My FYPCO and I also attended a student-faculty discussion recently about the use of technology in the classroom.

1. **First Year**

Ryan Cattryse: Some cool things are happening. FYC is now officially a special event. My FYPCO is also running a first-year euchre tournament. We have also made great strides this year to make the lounge more accessible. Thank you for everything this year! Also moving forward, year executive elections have been planned. Also moving forward, our AGM is happening on March 9th. Please encourage all of your friends to come out to that. There are a few position that will be elected then.

1. **Internal Affairs**

Eleanor McAuley: This is my one council this year. You guys are all invited to banquet! You should all come, it is going to be awesome. The date is missing from the invitations. It is on the 14th, so please make sure to attend.

1. **Design**

Alex Shieck: A lot of it is in my report. I did a trip to Waterloo recently. We got a lot of good information from it, and hope to start implementing changes next year.

1. **Services**

Mike Bodley: You can read my report for most of the details. We do have extensions for the manager applications. We have had a few issues with EngSoc Apply, so if you are having issues please come and chat with me.

1. **Communications**

Stephen Penstone: We have been pretty consistent for these past few days. I’ve been transitioning the new director recently. Together we’ve been working on ways to better enrich and improve the culture of the engineering society. The internal records officers are continuing to gather interesting photos and facts about Queen’s for the national engineering month.

1. **Finance:**

Erin Murphy: Today marks the day where my time handling your money has come to an end. First of all, I'd like to thank all of you for being such wonderful people this year, even when you tortured me with your American bills in the Council Candy bucket. As I leave this prestigious Canadian Engineering Society Council, I'd like you to remember that America is best.

1. **Human Resources**

Alex Wood: It has been a great year. I am very proud of the work that has been done, and I am excited to pass on the baton. We have made one small change to the application process. From now on all staff applications that do not appear to be legitimate, can be eliminated by the management team, and the applicant will not be granted an interview.

1. **Events**

Mike Wetton: I’m here to talk a bit about Buddy Program and Fungineering. Next year we are going to take a break from both programs, and they have developed a bad reputation over the past few years. We are planning of hiring a committee that will work on coming up with something new and fresh for the Society. This will give next year’s Director of Events a lot of freedom to create something new. Overall, we are open to ideas and suggestions right now, because we would really appreciate the help.

1. **Professional Development**

Kristy Tu: These are some proposed changes to the position of Director of Professional Development. These changes revolve around the hiring of two new positions: alumni relations coordinator, and industrial relations coordinator. Next year the Director of Professional Development would work closely with these two coordinators to improve the relationship between alumni and students, as well as expand our network with corporate companies. A potential drawback is continuity of these two positions. In conclusion, I think that this portfolio is very large, and the hiring of these two position would overall improve the student experience.

1. **Faculty Board Report**

Alex Savides: At faculty board the biggest change that happened is the separation of CIVL 230 from CIVL 220. They may also be putting a course online, but that is still uncertain.

1. **Alma Mater Society Report**

Dylan Bram: The last assembly was very long, sorry for the lengthy report. We ratified all of the commissioners for next year. Congratulations to Peter Liberty. There was a bit of a debate about the hiring policy. We also introduced a new committee policy for the AMS. And then we got to the ReUnion Street Festival fee, and it will be further discussed at the AGM.

1. **Senate Report**

Emily Townshend: Senator Manson raised the issue of questions being submitted to Senate and being totally ignored because the Chair feels answering them could be deemed inflammatory, in this particular case potentially damaging labour negotiations. Senator Weiner raised the point that that section of the agenda is “Question Period”, not “Answer Period”, and it would be prudent for the Secretariat to publish the questions anyways, with perhaps “answer deemed inappropriate” or “answer cannot be given at this time” in the response section, so that other Senators know a concern has been raised and are aware it can’t be discussed further at this point.

Principal Woolf and Provost Harrison both condemned the social media campaign against Health 102 as largely uncivil and unwarranted. When I questioned them if this could be used as learning opportunity, to work to make lines of communication between students and faculty clearer and accessible for the future, I was very disappointed with the evasiveness of their answers. They were both focused on breach of copyright and how this situation would make other Profs afraid to do their jobs, and there was no acknowledgement of the systemic issues and lack of oversight that led to this situation.

Action Items:

\* Senate approved the establishment of an internship program for Arts and Science.

\* Moved into Committee of the Whole to discuss the Governance and Nominating Committee’s report on the revision of the Senate Composition. These revisions will not affect the Engineering Society of Queen’s University.

\* Senator Weiner brought a motion asking the Educational Equity Committee to investigate if it’s feasible for the Human Rights Office to publish statistics on case outcomes (resolved, dropped, lapsed, rejected, etc.) in their annual report of number of cases filed.

Reminder that subcommittee applications are due March 20th. Please encourage everyone you know to apply! Senate went into overtime this week so I had to miss the Sexual Assault working group’s interim report. Brandon will summarise.

1. **Board of Directors Report**

Morgan Roff: We will be hearing soon from the new FROSH week and Sci’ Formal Committee.

1. **Engineering Review Board**

Alex Wood: Thank you to everyone that hired anyone this past year. We had a great year, and I am very happy with the work we have done.

1. **Club Reports**
2. **Apple Math**

Jaqueline Craig: We have a banquet coming up. You will hear about it soon.

1. **ChemEngChem**

John Chernoff: We have a banquet coming up, and will be instating an academic caucus for better communication.

1. **Civil**

Stephanie Carswell: We also have a banquet coming up, and just gave out all of our ordered merch.

1. **Geo**

Frank Hung: We’re planning out a social with the mining department. Also, our elections are happening week 10.

1. **Year Reports**
   * 1. **Sci’ 15**

Matt Slavin: It has come to my attention that Sci’ 15 lost someone today. Actually, we are working on organizing our Iron Ring after party. We’ll be selling tickets for that soon. We will be using the money from our year gift to fund improvements for the Tea Room.

* + 1. **Sci’ 16**

Stephen Martin: Super Semi has broken even! We sold 300 tickets which is amazing. It is going to be a grand old time. I have a few extras, so let me know if you want one.

* + 1. **Sci’ 17**

Nichola Trinh: We are ordering hats, and may be booking Clark soon. Also, we are excited for Super Semi.

* + 1. **Sci’ 18**

Avery Cole: We finally launched our website. Finally, we finished our year moto voting, and they are being ordered at the bookstore.

1. **Statements and Questions by Members**

Matthew Lawson: Is money from FYC carry over to the next year?

Ryan Cattryse: The money will not carry over to the next year.

Dylan Bram: I had a great time working as an AMS rep for EngSoc. It was a great experience, and I learned a lot from it.

Alex Cavalier: Will the new Tea Room tables be square?

Matt Slavin: We are exploring different ideas.

Carolyn Fisher: Thank you to everyone for coming. Read my report.

Nick Hetherington: I’d like to thank everyone for all the great times that we have had at council. It has been a staple experience for me at Queen’s. My challenge for the incoming council is for all members to be engaged in debates. It is often just a few members that are arguing over issues, so please make sure to stay engaged.

**Motion to Close:**

Moved by: Carolyn Fisher

Seconded by: Peter Davidson

Motion Passes: 9:24 pm (24 for, 2 opposed, 0 abstentions)