Engineering Society Council Minutes

February 27, 2014

Beamish-Munro Hall (ILC) 313

Speaker (Deputy): Alex Savides

Secretary: Caitlin Stewart

Meeting Begins: 6:03

1. **Adoption of the Agenda**

**Motion 1:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council approve the agenda of the Council meeting of Thursday, February 27th, 2014 as seen on the EngSoc website.

Moved by: JT

Seconded by: Alex Wilson

Opening (JT): Hope you guys had a great reading week, let’s get through these motions and get back to whatever we usually do.

Matt Lawson: I would like to add a motion giving me permission to bid on behalf of EngSoc for CEC to CFES.

JT: That is friendly, that will be new motion 7.

Motion Passes: 6:06

1. **Adoption of the Minutes**

**Motion 2:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council approve the minutes of the Council meeting of Thursday, February 6th, 2014 as seen on the EngSoc website.

Moved by: Caitlin Stewart

Seconded by: JT

Opening (Caitlin Stewart): If you ever find any mistakes, or need me to change something in the minutes, please let me know now, or email me at [11cs51@queensu.ca](mailto:11cs51@queensu.ca). If there are any changes I will fix them up and send them to JT.

Alex Savides: Is there any debate?

Motion Passes: 6:07

1. **Speaker’s Business**

Alex Savides: Hey, I’m back again. Let’s hope we have lively discussion and don’t stay here too long.

1. **Presentations**
   1. **13-Week Term Discussion**

Professor Yousefi: I am a prof in Electrical engineering. I am excited to have been invited tonight. Although I am in electrical engineering I have a lot of interest in mental health. As a senator I have been involved with student health and safety. After 11 years I have seen the stress that engineering students have to go through. I would like to modify that to reduce the load. One thing you may not know is that we have the shortest semester for engineering, 12 weeks. That really limits us. We cover the same amount of material in a shorter time. First of all, that makes more pressure for students and the other thing that happens is that because there is a minimum amount of contact for accreditation, overall there are costs associated. In Waterloo for example, one week is used for midterm exams, they are not throughout the semester. For us, we have to pick our battles, which is another challenge. Having one extra week could fix a lot of these problems. This is my initiative right now, and I would only want to continue this if you guys feel good about it. The condition I have right off the bat is that we don’t want to touch frosh week. We would have to think of a way to add an extra week without doing that. We could reduce the total amount of courses, or re-evaluate them. With our program, 223 courses could be taken off. The extra week would not mean that there would be more to cover, the material would just be covered over a longer period of time. This gives you time to digest, to let the content sink in. With the courses that I crammed for, the retention is less. You have one extra week to do better with your time. My motivation is reducing stress. We could do something similar to the winter semester maybe, or have a midterm week, but I want to know what your thoughts are. Then we can look at feasibility after we have had some discussion. We could talk about shortening the exam period, which would not necessarily mean a worse exam schedule. One of the good things that could happen with that is that timetabling could be better because it would require more work. This question was asked at senate, and their position is that it should be separate for each faculty. So now I would like to open the floor to any questions.

Sam Anderson: In terms of cutting courses, how would you see that happening?

Professor Yousefi: I’m not too familiar with the other programs, but with ECE, the last year is all elective courses. What would happen is that the electives would be reduced. You can still take extra, but the minimum requirement would go down.

Matt Slavin: You mentioned profs being able to have more time to teach. My concern would be that profs have a very set idea of how to proceed. Is there a concern that profs would try to put more material in anyways?

Professor Yousefi: Good question. We always say that organizing thing with profs is like herding cats. The plan would be very clear that that would not be what it is supposed to be used for. That is only one idea though. We could also have the exam idea for the extra week so that the profs can’t do that. I am sitting on the first year curriculum committee. Within the first year and the specific programs, they are already talking about reducing the load.

Peter Davidson: I am concerned about the midterm week. What would you define as a midterm, because some profs have 2 20% quizzes per semester.

Professor Yousefi: We haven’t done that, but what I would like to do within ECE is cap a percentage that exams can be up to. Generally speaking, having a more divided mark is probably better. We are planning to do that and say, for example, no exam can be worth more than 50%, but we cannot stop anyone from making a higher percent exam. We could say the definition of exam is more than 20%, so if it is that, it would have to happen in that week. That leads back into the student prioritization of things too. Then again, it is not something that we can really enforce, but we are doing stuff like that to really get out what we can get out of it.

Mitch Wasson: There are two concerns that I have. The first is with not requiring as many technical electives. This would result in students taking the bare minimum which results in less experience for students. As well, engineering education isn’t meant for anyone, so that stress and forcing students to take in information quickly is really important for the workplace.

Professor Yousefi: You would still have access to the same technical electives, just the minimum requirements would go down. If you want to take extra, you can. We are going to reduce the stress by reducing the minimum. For the second point, I agree with you to a certain point as a little bit of stress can improve you. However, with the stats, there are people dealing with anxiety disorders and other more serious mental health issues and that is an issue that Queen’s is really focusing on right now. It is possible to give the same amount of information while putting a little bit of stress on people, but it is possible to do better.

Leslie Chaplin: Personally I have a friend that goes to Waterloo where they have the exam week, and I actually think this actually added stress. That being said, this week would actually be more beneficial to the mining department because we would like to have a field trip during that time. If there were mandatory midterms during that week, it wouldn’t allow us to do that.

Professor Yousefi: We could accommodate one week in between, and different departments could use that week differently. Because people have different tastes with exams though, you are going to get profs that want to have a more significant test no matter what, so they could utilize that week in that way.

Amanda Brissenden: You talk about not adding more content. Will there be more hours spent on each class or more per week spread out? I am also concerned that profs that don’t usually get to teach extra content will in this case.

Professor Yousefi: This change could be interpreted in many different ways, so of course that is a concern that will always be there, and goes beyond the issue of the extra week. Even if they do add extra content, you still have extra time to digest.

Bailey Piggott: How would the 12 week term work with ArtSci courses that many engineers take?

Professor Yousefi: Originally I wanted to do this from the top, but as I’ve heard, it is going to be done as a faculty initiative, and in that case, that is a major issue that we would have to look into.

Lowell Rose: If you are planning on keeping frosh week and the same exam schedule, is the idea to push exams back into the winter or to have frosh week earlier?

Professor Yousefi: Exams could not be pushed back any farther. In the three week period of exams, what we could do is condense it. Right now we don’t have any exams on Sundays, which is a start. If we could get special treatment for timetabling for exams, we could make it work without having to push it back.

Nichola Trihn: Based on the processes that other faculties have gone through, how long would this take to implement? Also, have you gotten feedback on how well it has worked?

Professor Yousefi: What is different with us is that the frosh week is sacred. The other faculties do not have that issue. For us, whatever we do we have to think about frosh and your summer positions. We could potentially solicit information from those other guys, but from how I see it, we are very, very different.

Meredith Raddysh: How much discussion have you had within the different disciplines, because each runs very differently? For the disciplines that have recently become accredited, how will reducing technical electives affect us?

Professor Yousefi: First of all, my intent was first to talk to you guys, because it took time to come here, I brought this up to my colleagues in ECE. I did not expect the result that I got which was unanimously yes. I taught at Waterloo and when I came here I thought it was great to have more time for my research here. I took the same thing to faculty board where there is representation from all units, and I got the same thing, all yes. Now, for number two, the numbers still have to work out. The number of hours of contact still has to work out. Even if you are not teaching more, we still get the benefits. We could look at that though. By the way, there is something happening at the CAB level, which is that they are looking at removing some of the caps that they have, and if that goes through, it opens up a lot of flexibility for us. That will potentially change, and if it does, we are doing it at the right time.

Sam Anderson: You showed us a lot of sides to this issue and ways to tackle it. I think I’m right about saying that it is either a reading week or stretching classes. We cannot however make a decision in this right now, but what can we do as an engineering society to help you collect information and get a better idea of the reaction of our constituents to this?

Professor Yousefi: This is very unofficial. I wanted to gauge your feelings. If you like this, I would love to strike a task force after you reach out to members to let them know the issues and limitations. We could put an official group of people together, but I am not there yet.

Eric McElroy: I think it is a really interesting idea and has a lot of potential to aid in the section 900 program that we have there. I do have a question though, for moving into exams, is there precedent for getting special timetabling, or have you talked to anyone about that?

Professor Yousefi: We struggle in ECE with timetabling because of the nature of the program. We complained about the issues we were having, and they were very receptive. If this is something that happens, I am pretty sure that we can get the support from them.

Alex Savides: That is all the people that we had on the speakers cue, so thank you very much for coming professor. We are going to put his email up on the board if you have anything to add. For the next presentation, it has come to our attention that you cannot have a presentation for a motion, so can we extend your opening, Matt, for you to do the presentation in?

Matt Lawson: Yes, I suppose that is fine.

Alex Savides: Ok then, we will move onto new business.

1. **New Business: Motions 3-4**

**Motion 3:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council approve the BED Fund proposals for the 2013-2014 year.

Moved by: Arman Harari

Seconded by: Chris Reid

Opening (Chris Reid): Unfortunately Arman couldn’t be here. I sent the proposals out in the agenda. I can present them if you want, but mostly everything got accepted other than a few minor things. I don’t want to take too much time.

Alex Savides: If you would like to ask what was cut, just ask now.

Motion Passes: 6:42

**Motion 4:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council approve the changes to Iota and Gamma as seen in APPENDIX MASSIVE REPERCUSSIONS.

Moved by: Chris Reid

Seconded by: Emily Fleck

Opening (Chris Reid): It’s just a few updating of the positions, including workshop director, and setting up a few guidelines about deadlines and stuff. There are no massive repercussions, I swear, it is just mostly minor stuff.

Alex Savides: Is there any debate on the motion?

Motion Passes: 6:43

**Motion 5:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council approve the changes to By-Law 2 in its first reading as seen in APPENDIX ATTENDANCE IS FUN!

Moved by: Matthew Slavin

Seconded by: Matthew Lawson

Opening (Matt Slavin): This is the motion that I brought to council last session. It got tabled because we half ran out of time and people wanted to check it over. I am going to remove the part about vocalizing the votes. The two main things were with attendance and penalties with being late, and that every time there is a vote, the votes for and against should be noted.

Alexander Rey: I just wanted to say that we have looked over the policy now, and we are down with removing the vocalization part, so everything else looks great.

Alex Savides: Is there any more debate on the motion?

Motion Passes: 6:46

**Motion 6:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council approve the creation of a Mental Health Coordinator as seen in APPENDIX MENTAL HEALTH.

Moved by: Emily Fleck

Seconded by: Mark Godin

Opening (Emily Fleck): This is our last council and I’m very sad. I met with Joanne, the in-house counsellor and we talked about what she wants to do to get involved with students. I agree with her that faculty involved events don’t get any traction. We came up with the idea of a mental health coordinator that would have a lot of room to grow. I haven’t developed a lot of ideas about this position but we have found that hiring someone and letting them run with it has worked really well and Joanne also has a lot of ideas. They would not be in charge of providing any counseling and they would be completely autonomous in their position. One idea that we are working on is making a “one thing I want to do before I die” wall. Let me know if you have any questions, but I think this is a really simple policy change that would be great.

Matt Slavin: Where would they fit in within the society and who would they report to?

Emily Fleck: They would be in the Director of Events portfolio just like the other event coordinators.

Motion Passes: 6:50

**Motion 7**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

CEC Motion

Opening (Matt Lawson): Sorry for the unconventional method of this motion, but it is time-sensitive because the bid is due in mid-March. I am bidding for this as the ExComm, so my role in this is that I think this it is great for the engineering society and so I have no personal bid in this. CEC is a huge event, taking place over 4 days. Why should we host? It allows students to interact with sponsors and alumni which provides an opportunity to showcase Queen’s engineering and generate an interest for engineering competitions within the school. It also fills our conference obligations for 4 years with CFES. It also fulfills the same thing with ESSCO. It allows our students to interact with people from other schools. We always hear about how great that is, so why not have all of us experience that. The committee would be about 13 with an additional 50 volunteers, so there are great opportunities associated. We would have to arrange travel and accommodations for overnight and food and where the competitions take place, as well as making up the competitions and providing materials, along with being financially responsible. Travel companies are mostly willing to provide discounts, and the Sheridan has hosted for conferences before and offers a lower rate usually. This is again 100% preliminary, but this showcases that we have the capability to plan and run this. It does ultimately come down to the co-chairs which exec would have control over. RMC approached us about helping to organize, as well as with manpower, bilingual aspects and sponsorships. I would also love to work with science quest, as well as with the faculty, who may have a lot of support for this. The big thing is the cost of the event. This is based on Western’s pre-actuals, which would be pretty accurate. They have a $190,000 budget including a $15,000 contingency plan. Most of that comes from corporate sponsors, delegate fees and other sponsors. I am not committing us to any money now, real policies would come through if we get the bid. Non-monetary requirements would be continued membership for the next two years including fees, and we are already in for one. This would fall under ED portfolios, who would be in charge of hiring. Basically, we would be assuming the whole risk of the event, including the financial repercussions if something happened to a delegate, but that is a worst case scenario that is most likely not going to happen. That is my presentation, so if you have any questions, please let me know.

Matt Slavin: I seconded the motion because I think it is worth our society’s time and effort. It would be fantastic to showcase or EngSoc and bring a whole lot of other groups to the university.

Michael Blair: Do you know who else is seeking the bid?

Matt Lawson: They sent out an email saying that other schools are interested. Right now I know of us and UoIT.

Michael Blair: I think that for the amount of money that EngSoc would have to spend is really worth the amount of exposure we will get and showing off our society and faculty. I am in support of this motion.

Eric McElroy: I have already spoken to Matt and given him my support. It shows that we are still interested in speaking with other schools and it will really reflect well on the society and the faculty and everyone involved.

Emily Fleck: The discussion on CEC has actually been going on for a little while and I had hoped that we had this presentation earlier. I have a few reservations about this. First, the Dean’s support. If we have not had enough time to talk with her about this, she may have some reservations of her own. My other concern is the financial aspect. The amount of money we would have to spend if we got this is equal to other fees we have already dropped. If we bid, we will get the bid because we were nominated to bid. Additionally, it would be in a really busy time for the society, and we are in a flux with our positions right now so it would be a lot to take on. I have a question. What plan do you have if you don’t get a meeting with the Dean before the bid?

Matt Lawson: Without the Dean’s approval, we would not be able to bid. I have 28 days as of yesterday to get the bid in. I have confidence that I will be able to meet with her. That is a concern, but even if I don’t get a meeting, I won’t be putting the bid through. As far as support, putting in a bid would be putting value in CFES.

Carolyn Fisher: My main issue with this bid is that we are thinking about our involvement with CFES. We would like to have this year to figure that out. CEC ties us down to CFES for the next two years. We voted on putting that money towards other initiatives, so by bidding for CEC and most likely getting it, we are going in the opposite direction.

Matt Lawson: It is not a secret that we would be tied down with CFES, but don’t vote on that, vote on the benefits CEC would bring. I see value in this and I think it would be an appropriate use of the money that was reallocated.

Alex Wood: Do you think our thing with ESSCO and CFES would make it hard for us to organize with other schools?

Matt Lawson: All of the other schools understand why we have left, and this would actually improve communication in that regard with other schools.

Peter Davidson: Have any conversations happened with anyone else in the faculty or the office?

Matt Lawson: I messaged the outreach coordinator yesterday and haven’t heard back. I also messaged Babcock and he seems keen on it. Other than the dean, I haven’t contacted anyone else.

Sam Anderson: Touching on the CFES issue, we decided that it wasn’t worth the money sending people to external conferences and to make more opportunities for Queen’s students. This is exactly what this is trying to do. Having an impact on students, this is in that vein.

Steph Van Raay: Does this bid happen every year, and could we potentially do it next year?

Matt Lawson: If we were to stop this bid, someone else will get it. We could not report in the next year. We could try again in two years, but not this year.

Jay Young: There has been lots of talk about engaging the general population. If the movers could detail how they have addressed the general population?

Matt Lawson: No, people who I have talked to are people from CIRQUE and council who I consider my friends, but all of the feedback I have gotten is really good. For those who I talked to that are my constituents, I have also gotten support.

Meredith Raddysh: I understand that we are dropping out of ESSCO and CFES, and I know we always pride ourselves in being well-developed. I think that exposing other schools to us could be really positive for them and for us as well. I personally support it. Finances aside, with the Dean’s approval, I think it is a positive step to take.

Alice Wang: CEC is a really amazing competition and it is super beneficial. It will benefit students greatly. The prizes for CEC include lots of money and exposure to companies. I feel like many engineering students don’t even realize that CEC exists, so bringing it here would make people realise how serious and great it can be for their development.

Mitch Wasson: This event would be covered under things that develop our Queen’s community.

Sam Crème: I 100% support the competition itself and think that it would be great to see us host it one day, however I don’t think it’s the right time right now given that the bid has to happen in the next few days. As well, we were talking about the financial contribution to the society. What worries me most however is the huge amount of liability that we would be taking on. We can’t guarantee any of that money is coming in, and we don’t have that type of money to cover that. Getting that money is a hard thing to do, which is just another hesitation I have.

Holly MacNeish: In the presentation there was talk about liability. In terms of the scale of the conference, have we ran anything this big before, and will our insurance cover it?

Matt Lawson: Yes, Frosh week and Sci’ formal are as big, and I see them as more hazardous insurance wise. This event is a lower scale, higher funding event.

Jay Young: There is a vetting process that involves meetings and many hours to see if it would be covered under our umbrella insurance. It does take a long time to get these together and I think it would be foolhardy to proceed with a bid before getting that all laid out. Wrongful death suits can start at 20 million and other liabilities can be hundreds of thousands of dollars that we do not want to be liable for.

Alex Wood: I have been working through some numbers and we are looking at $12,000 of value for us. I think this is a great place to utilize the extra money that we have.

Peter Davidson: What plans are there to involve everyone that isn’t on the committee or a volunteer?

Matt Lawson: I can’t speak to that specifically, but some ideas would be having a job fair and opening that up to the queen’s community, as well as to RMC. There are things like getting SQ, WISE and QEC coming in to give their part. This provides opportunities for them and opening up opportunities for the general public.

Mark Godin: There has been some talk about cost. The major consideration that needs to take into consideration is the cost of time though. The last conference that we hosted was the ESSCO AGM and it took up a lot of the summer executives’ time as well as Jay’s that costs a lot. There has also been some talk about involving the Queen’s community. Last year and this year we had 4 competitors going so there would be little participation. I think there are other ideas that we could implement to involve more people. I think this is a valuable idea, but I don’t think it is the right time to do this. Maybe we could re-evaluate in a few years, but I do not support the bid at this time.

Lowell Rose: What is the timeline of the competition?

Matt Lawson: It starts on a Thursday, with an overview of the competition, Friday is build time and innovation presentations, Saturday is judging, and Sunday is usually when people start to leave. There will be complications with room space and stuff like that.

Doug McFarlane: I am a huge supporter of CEC and there isn’t anyone here that can say that having it here wouldn’t be a good thing. But, there is not enough time to get everything in order before the bid is due. We are also going through a lot with the restructure and it will just be too busy of a time. I think that we should take the year and see if we would like to make a bid in the future.

James Gibbard-McCall: For sponsorship, frosh week is not really the same setting. I think it is doable for Queen’s to get this money together. I think this is a valid option for getting people involved with the money we are not using. Whatever year we commit to this it is going to be challenging, but I think at this point you would have to hire a really responsible committee to do this. I think it is a really great thing for Queen’s and I support it.

Michael Blair: With the revelations brought forward by the exec and the general manager, I have a question. If we do go forward for this, how long will it be before we are confirming our bid? If we find out that we are not eligible for insurance, can we pull out?

Matt Lawson: We can put the bid forward as soon as we get the Dean’s approval, but I don’t know what the contingency would be for the insurance. We could retract our bid at any point within the 27 days. This motion and this bid is last minute. I originally had this idea at congress, and I have been collecting information and communicating with the current exec and with the new exec and with Jay. There has been some work put into this. No doubt that the sponsorship is a massive task, but no one has had problems with this in the past. I think we could definitely do this in two years. In terms of the exec transition, they will know that coming in, they will have two years to plan for this. I don’t think that the transition period is even a bad thing. As much as two weeks over the summer is a long time, if the co-chairs and the committee is hired correctly, I don’t see this as a problem. It comes down to where we want to prioritize the time of the summer executive, like with the Engenda, I guess needs to be talked about.

Alice Wang: I guess the problem is that not enough information has been gathered, but we do have two years to plan for this. I would suggest that you work hard on this for two weeks and maybe see where it is then.

Jay Young: Could the movers please detail their conversations with the current exec as it would be their time being taken up, and about the space in this building as in march it is at a premium. Could you also expand on involving other people and what type of crowds will be coming out?

Matt Lawson: I don’t mean to call anyone out, but with Peter, the cost was something he needed to address. Alex sounded on board, but he also needed to know more about the cost and to see how the rest of council was feeling. Carolyn I didn’t talk to about this. I talked to all of the old exec as well as Jay about this though. I did offer to go to the old/new exec meeting but they did say they would have a conversation about this. On the slides I made it clear that we do have the facilities. I doubt that we would actually use the ILC completely, we have lots of other buildings at our disposal. Whether there is a room charge associated, we could incorporate that into the budget. All of the rooms also wouldn’t happen at the same time. It would be more like give or take 30 at a time, 50 in total. We would try to put forward a strong media presence. No, general student body doesn’t generally come to these events, but we would like to change/improve that and have them coming in to watch and job fair.

Sam Anderson: This is a really large event and it is more than just a regular event. It would be more like a capitol project. It is a really long term and the faculty would also likely have lots of involvement. UoIT did it with a smaller and younger society, so I feel that we can no doubt pull this off. I think it comes down to something like is this something we like the idea of. We would be hiring people and getting more people involved with this, so I don’t think that we have to rely on the exec so much. We have talented people that can pull this off.

Eric McElroy: To be in support of CEC is to be in support of CFES. Most people in this room have spoken in support of CEC, but we have to take that in consideration while considering CFES. This is a great way to show that we still want to be involved with other schools, but use this to evaluate CFES as well.

Emily Fleck: With regards to the money that is freed, that money has not been specifically placed anywhere yet. The purpose of freeing up this money is so the summer exec has time to think about where that money should go. My second concern is with hiring, this is directly affected by the bid. When we held the ESSCO AGM on campus, it directly affects the exec over the summer, but this would affect all exec during March and take a lot of time. The last concern I have is that funding is going down, so that is a concern.

Matt Lawson: The reason I saw value in posting this bid this year is so that our year can see this come to fruition. I think this comes down to having a group of people that are determined to see it happen, which I think there is. For hiring, I was told that the VPSA has the right to bypass hiring policy if need be, but when discussing when to have this presentation, it was mentioned to me that hiring could still be facilitated.

Alex Wood: This is touching on Matt’s points here. I know where the exec is coming from and seeing this as a faculty. I feel I have to vote yes to this so that people in my year can have the opportunity to be involved.

Chris Reid: I’d like to address the issues with Dean and AMS. Would it be at all possible to say if this passed have it be pending on insurance, could we have a back-up school, or is that possible?

Matt Lawson: I suppose that we could stipulate that in our bid, but they would have to consider our potential to drop out.

Mark Godin: The faculty money that is available is way, way, way down. The issues with space in March is a very real one. I also think approving this now renders our new external communications committee useless. I think it’s important to do some kind of real cost-benefit analysis. What is the real cost of hosting this in money and time, and to what extent is the benefit? It is a very large magnitude event. These conferences have been proven to be very intensive in organizing. I think the debate proves that we are not necessarily sure that we are ready to do this. I am not sure the constituents would be on board. I don’t think we are ready and I don’t think it’s the time

Peter Davidson: I have two perspectives on this. On the executive side, issues need to be ironed out. As of this moment however, I am representing Sci’ 16. If this does not go through this year, we couldn’t be a part of it, so I will be voting yes.

Michael Blair: I think this is one of the strategic long term capital investment issues, could I get the opinion of the chair of the board?

Shane Dibblee: This wouldn’t be under the purview of the board, it would just be under the exec and the committee.

Matt Slavin: I think that everyone’s concerns have been heard so I am going to call the question.

Sam Crème: How many people are on the cue?

JT: Four.

**Motion to Call the Question**

Moved by: Matt Slavin

Seconded by: Shane Dibblee

Motion fails 7:54

Matt Lawson: With the Dean funding issue, in the past, the dean’s funding has been helpful, but it can be done without it. Again, any relationship that we have with them is important, which is why this motion is pending the dean’s approval. I don’t think the external relations committee would be undermined. I think it strengthens it and allows people to make connections.

Jay Young: Your guys’ role here is yes to represent your constituents, but I would urge everyone to think about the long-term life of the society as well.

Alex Wood: Considering we get approval for insurance for things like frosh and formal, and since this is mostly an academic event, I would think that the AMS would provide us with the insurance.

Jay Young: This also has to do with any of the social events during the evening time where drinking may or may not be involved.

Alexander Rey: This is a national conference that has been run and can be done so successfully. I think we need to take under consideration that we would have a lot of experience to pull from. This is a really amazing opportunity.

Sam Crème: I personally have a moral problem with us bidding on something right now for people who have a personal interest in seeing this happen at the school. We need to focus on the society as a whole and not a specific year.

Alex Sheik: Passion is what gets things done. I think that is something that shouldn’t go unnoticed in this case.

Eric McElroy: Part of this bidding process is having a group of people that are passionate about having it come to fruition over their time here. That is something to consider that we have people that are interested in having this come to fruition.

Kristy Tu: I attended NICWE which is a conference on a similar scale. Basically the whole organization was on the co-chairs and the committee and not on the ED.

Sam Anderson: I think our discussion is going in an interesting place, some people want it more than others. I don’t think we can say for sure that we can do it, but I like what the Director of IT said about trying to work on this more, looking at funding, and voting on this when we have some more information.

**Motion to Table the Motion**

Moved by: Michael Blair

Seconded by: Alex Cavaliere

Stephen Martin: There were some mutterings of what that means, could you please clarify?

Alex Savides: Tabling the motion means that it would be brought back next council.

Matt Slavin: There will be new voting members next council, and we have had some great discussion this council already, so that is something to keep in consideration.

Sam Anderson: I think this warrants a special council.

Jay Young: Could a constitutional guru please go through the process of what happens if it gets defeated?

Doug McFarlane: If a motion gets defeated it can be brought back in the next session of council, which is after the AGM.

Motion Fails: 8:06

Emily Fleck: I would like to bring everyone’s attention to the hiring issue I brought up. We do have advertising and policy in place that we cannot administer interviews during the exam period. With the changing of the hiring, that was contingent on having the dean’s approval tonight. There simply isn’t enough time to get the hiring done.

Meredith Raddysh: Could we potentially hire the two or however many co-chairs this semester and hire the rest of the committee next year?

Matt Lawson: The initial plan was to do just that. They could start the planning process and hire the committee in September. There is only that one round of hiring that needs to be done.

Emily Fleck: This isn’t to have the whole committee hired, it is just to go through any hiring process. My concern is that given the current time frame, it is really cutting it close.

Meredith Raddysh: Could we potentially advertise the positions ahead of time pending dean approval?

Doug McFarlane: Technically, yes we could do that.

Leslie Chaplin: I have a new point. We want to have the people who are going to be doing this to be the most passionate people doing this. There are people who are already in positions that may have preferred to do this, so I support having this brought back another time.

Kristy Tu: Are there major drawbacks in hiring them in September?

Matt Lawson: We could do it, you would just miss out on however many months of potential work.

Mark Godin: That would give them 18 months to organize it, compared to 12 months for a regular conference.

Steph Van Raay: I think this is a great idea… for next year. They could properly plan with more time, iron out more details. I think the only push to do it now is for the people who are here now. I think it will be as good of an opportunity for future years.

Lowell Rose: Are there potential concerns for delaying it? I’m wondering if there is a larger possibility that we wouldn’t get the bid in future years vs. this year?

Matt Lawson: Not generally, usually there are only 2-3 bids. That being said, you could put a whole year of work into a bid and not get it. I’m not saying that we should do it this year, I would like to be co-chair, but if it is not the right time for the society, then it’s not.

Jay Young: Would the up and out policy apply to this new position?

Doug McFarlane: No, Matt was hired before that was put into place so there would be no conflict.

Alex Savides: Last call for debate on the motion.

Closing (Matt Lawson): Great points and new issues have been raised. However, I believe that for any obstacles that do come up, we have the potential to overcome them. I did this now because they need someone to host and it is a great opportunity. However, this really does need the support of the exec and all of EngSoc. I have upmost faith in our society that we can make this happen and I would really like to see this motion go through.

Motion Passes: 8:18

**Motion to Open the Agenda**

Moved by: Mark Godin

Seconded by: Emily Fleck

Motion Passes: 8:18

Mark Godin: It has been brought to our attention that our speaker Alex Wilson is taking a leave of absence and that our deputy speaker is going to have a vote at next council, so we would like to add a motion to elect a new deputy speaker.

Sam Crème: I will second this motion.

JT: That is friendly.

**Motion to Close the Agenda**

Moved by: Eric McElroy

Seconded by: Matt Slavin

**Motion 8**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council elect \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as the new Deputy Speaker to hold the position until the new session of Council.

Moved by: Mark Godin

Seconded by: Sam Crème

Opening (Mark Godin): This is just for the AGM, so if you want to be the speaker or deputy for next year, don’t run tonight.

Matt Slavin: In general, if you want to have a say in anything at the AGM, don’t run.

Lowell Rose: Is there any way Savides could be in this position until he is put into power?

Doug McFarlane: I believe Alex took over last year because it was a combination of the AGM that transitioned into a regular council.

Leslie Chaplin: What is the date of the AGM?

JT: March 11th

James Gibbard-McCall: What is the AGM?

Mark Godin: The new exec team says an oath, the new director team is ratified, and the new board of directors are elected.

Matt Slavin: Last year we did a vote to ratify a slate of people that would stand at the QUESSI AGM as well.

Alex Savides: The floor is now open to nominations.

Matt Slavin: I nominate Shane Dibblee.

Shane Dibblee: I respectfully decline.

Doug McFarlane: I nominate Neil Pandya.

Neil Pandya: I respectfully decline.

Steph Van Raay: I nominate Lowell Rose.

Amanda Brissenden: I second.

Lowell Rose: I accept.

Meghan Brunner: I nominate Alex Cavaliere.

Doug McFarlane: I second.

Alex Cavaliere: I accept.

Alice Wang: I nominate Cole Halenda.

Cole Halenda: I can’t.

James Gibbard-McCall: I nominate Michael Blair.

Sam Anderson: I second.

Michael Blair: I accept.

Doug McFarlane: I nominate Alex Rey.

Alex Rey: I respectfully decline.

Doug McFarlane: I nominate Nick Hetherington.

Nick Hetherington: I respectfully decline.

Alex Savides: Everyone please enter into the womb of love and we will answer one question.

Matt Slavin: My question is very simple. Why?

Lowell Rose: I would like to do this because I believe I was in a position where I have seen the past AGMs and in being kind to other people, I am a fourth year and I am not going to run for anything else.

Michael Blair: The AGM will hold a number of substantial motions that will affect everyone. I believe I can do this and keep conversation concise and important.

Alex Cavaliere: I believe I can do this as well. I don’t currently, nor will not have a vote on council after the AGM. I have some experience, but I will not have a role and would not necessarily participate significantly anyways, which gives others the opportunity to speak on the many motions.

Alex Savides: Congratulations Lowell Rose.

Motion Passes: 8:33 (Lowell Rose abstains)

1. **Break: 8:34**

End of break: 8:41

1. **Executive Reports**
2. President

Emily Fleck: I don’t have too much to report upon. Just for interest sake, tomorrow is the QUESI planning meeting. We are looking this year at the future of education. If you have any ideas or videos or anything, please let me know. We are working on wrapping up and I am sad that this is my last council. Would any incoming directors please lead us in the engineering hymn?

1. VP (Student Development)

Mark Godin: It’s actually been oddly busy. Queen’s eco vehicle team is making a splash, which is pretty cool. CEEC is coming up, it is full but it looks really exciting. QFCT is excited to go to their competition, and they are in a flurry of last minute prep. Spark labs has moved into the design team space. My transitioning is starting, but there is not really anyone to transition, but kind of three at the same time. Other than that, I have a few last things to wrap which is a little terrifying.

1. VP (Academic)

Chris Reid: The BED fund things are finally in and done. I have been getting ready for EngLinks workshops, teaming up to helping with computer things. On a general topic, namely to the first year curriculum committee, they are planning on making the workload a lot more even, decreasing stress, trying to address that and make it better.

1. VP (Operations)

Sam Crème: I have been working with service managers with day to day issues. I have mostly been doing transitioning things and getting things ready for Peter. I finished the finances for 2012-2013, so the financials are up to date for the first time ever, I will give you guys an update at the AGM. Also, our credit limit will be going up and we are getting an extra card for Alex. Other than that, lots of end of year things.

1. VP (Society Affairs)

Doug McFarlane: My update is kind of along the same idea. I will save all the sappy stuff for the AGM. I have a few more IT things to wrap up, but other than that, just getting Alex ready for the New Year. Congrats to all the directors. Thanks to listening to me for the year.

1. **Director Reports**
2. Communications

Neal Hougham: Same as usual, I have just been doing regular work. I am super excited to start transitioning with Stephen.

1. Events

Elizabeth Prendergast: A huge congrats to Kelly MacGillis. Over the break I was working on a few smaller projects. Not too much going on for events. Fungineering is having a coffee house and EWB is working on their national engineering month activities.

1. External Communications

Matt Lawson: UBC put together an inclusivity letter to CFES. Thanks for voting that way on CEC. FYIC was a huge success, remorse is not our future for going. I also met with the EngCan president to talk about making engineering societies more inclusive.

1. Finance

Amanda Brissenden: I was done my transition manual, then my computer crashed, so now I am almost done. A big congrats to Erin. On a completely different note, there was an American bill in the council candy, and we do not accept American money. Other than that, I have just been getting ready to transition.

1. First Year

Stephen Martin: Congrats to Ryan on being the next director of first year. I also went to the FYIC, thanks Matt. It was a little but different for me, but I picked up some great stuff that I can pass on. The froshies are all starting to grow up and I have been getting a lot of emails about disciplines, which is great.

1. Information Technology

Alice Wang: Congrats to Eric, I am excited to be working with him. My big thing is that I’m going to go forward with decreasing the server load by adding another one. It’s going to be great.

1. Internal Affairs

JT: Following suit, congrats to Eleanor, you are going to have an absolutely awesome year. She has my new operations manual which is updated for the first time in years, sorry Lowell. The AGM is March 11th before the new session on March 13th. There will be an email sent out. Everyone who comes to AGM has a vote. I wrote that nominations would be available, but we are re-evaluating the Bews and Wick awards and I am meeting with Beth White to see if we can fix that.

1. Professional Development

Holly MacNeish: First of all I apologize for not congratulating Kristy in my report. AutoCAD ran really well, and the next one is 75% full if anyone is still interested. Also, there is an official time and date for the MBAs for engineering which is March 25th at 5:30. PEO is going to be having a bunch of events, we are planning a tech talk, as well as a student paper night, so if you are in a thesis class or a design class, you read a paper and the top prize is something like $6000. They have launched their FB page, so go like it. We also worked out the alumni relations position and it will be coming to the AGM.

1. Services

Cole Halenda: Following suit, congratulations to Mike, he has my operations manual which now looks really, really pretty. We have started transitioning, so he is learning the ropes. As for me, I am finishing stuff up with regards to staff and manager hiring, because that is all on the new teams side now. Assistant manager apps are due the Wednesday coming up. I’ve got staff apps up now, and for the first time ever, science quest is running school year programming, so those instructors are included in that hiring. There are a few paid positions for golden words, but keep in mind that the rule is that you can’t be in a paid position for more than one service. For how it works, you fill out the application that you want for the services, but you also fill out the staff preference form and indicate which ones you are applying for.

Doug McFarlane: It can be found under the services department part of the website.

Cole Halenda: If you have any questions, send me an email and I will walk you through it.

Alex Savides: The services list was replaced by a form that says what is your first choice, what is your second choice, etc., just for everyone’s information.

1. **Question Period**

**Motion to Extend Council by One Half Hour**

Moved by: Doug McFarlane

Seconded by: Chris Reid

Motion Passes 9:02

1. **Faculty Board Report**

Chris Reid: The new federal budget is really favourable to students, the Dean talked about Neknominations, and the engineering faculty is hiring someone to support hiring from services. There was also some talk about research. The entrance average is up to 92%. I am also super psyched for Sam Anderson to be the new Director of Academics.

1. **ERB**

Alexander Rey: There was nothing particularly exciting, we were just reviewing policy that came in advance and one that came through tonight.

1. **Alma Mater Society Report**

Michael Blair: We met prior to reading week. We ratified the new commissioners, managers and officers, and ratified the questions to be put forward to the AGM. All of them are in Mark’s Report if you would like to know them. That took a long time, but we also had a brief talk from the SOARB chair, and if you have any specific questions, talk to Emily Townshend.

Mark Godin: Alex Savides said the word echo at AMS, and the CUPID motion got passed, which was really important to them. A lot of things were passed and some things barely scraped through. AMS AGM is really poorly attended, so if you care about this, please consider coming out.

Eric McElroy: Yes it will be painful, boring and dry, but the journal wants to increase their fee, QTV, CFRC, and the AMS want to increase their fee. Do you want this? Yes or no, if you want to vote, please come out. It is on March 18th, typically in Ban Righ, so please come out.

1. **Senate Report**

Meghan Brunner: We met on Tuesday. The industrial internship field for a masters in Eng was passed. There was a presentation on student health survey feedback. Here are some key points: common illnesses include back pain and strep throat, we are not meeting national standards for eating and exercise, students feel exhausted, and females generally feel safe during the day, but only 50% do at night while not on campus. There are also committee vacancies for senate committees, so check those out!

1. **Board of Directors Report**

Shane Dibblee: We have a meeting on Monday. This is not my last council, but I would like to say that this council has matured very well over the year and I have been happy to see it all.

1. **Club Reports**
2. **Geological**

Meredith Raddysh: We have been really busy. We had beers with the profs, which was super successful, I think we made the money back in 20 minutes. A bunch of people went on awesome reading week adventures. We also have a bowling trip planned before iron ring and we finally got our merch in which I have been trying to hand out.

1. **Chemical**

Chris Fitzgibbon: Next Friday is ChemEngChem takes over ritual. Our banquet is in week 12, which is a huge attendance event. Merch orders of snapbacks and steins will be coming in the next few weeks. We are also thinking of a civil vs. chem paintball event. We got our bed funds approved including a new bioreactor.

1. **Applied Mathematics**

Mitch Wasson: Not too much is going on, we are planning a get together with the profs, and starting to think about electing our reps for next year. Please inform me if you have any ideas about how to run a good election, last year it was done through email.

1. **Civil**

Kristy Tu: We have our bonspiel next Friday, and the civil chem paintball thing on April fifth, tentatively at least. Our discipline patches are coming in soon and we are planning our end of year banquet. Cathy is retiring this year so we are planning some great stuff for her.

1. **Year Reports**
   * 1. **Sci’ 14**

Steph Van Raay: We are planning our iron ring after party, tickets will be on sale soon. Also, if you are not already in the Sci’ 14 alumni group, please join it.

* + 1. **Sci’ 15**

Matt Slavin: We had a gym booked to do floor hockey, but we had to cancel. We want to go check out the Brooklyn for funk night next Thursday, and we are also talking about doing a Sci’ 16 event with them.

* + 1. **Sci’ 16**

Nick Hetherington: We had an event at Clark called P.S I Love Clark, which was a great success. On St. Patties we are doing a ‘not’ pub crawl.

* + 1. **Sci’ 17**

James Gibbard-McCall: We got our merch in and we are selling that. We also have our elections coming up, and we are looking into doing another event before classes are over.

1. **Statements and Questions by Members**

Amanda Brissenden: A reminder to anyone here who represents a group who signs out cash boxes, please check up on them to make sure that everything has been deposited and to look into that.

Matt Lawson: You mentioned vacancies, where do I find those?

Meghan Brunner: They are on the University secretariat website and you go to the senate tab.

Emily Townshend: Where in the world in your GPA exists, please get everyone to send us pictures. Even the prettiest site is only as cool as the content.

Alex Savides: Thanks again for having me as speaker once again. Thanks for everyone who sat in today to learn the ropes, it was great to have you.

JT: We asked for what the best song ever was in the attendance book. The funniest one was anything by Pitbull.

**Motion to Close:**

Moved by: Matt Slavin

Seconded by: Chris Reid

Motion Passes: 9:20 (Cole Halenda hypothetically abstains)