

###### Council Minutes

Thursday, November 24th, 2016

6:00pm, Dunning Hall 27

Speaker: Avery Cole

Secretary: Allison Kondal



*Council begins: 6:03 pm.*

*Seth Davis proxies for Abby Holland.*

*Nat Wong proxies for Julianna Jeans.*

*Lauren Babington proxies for Ryan Kealey.*

# 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 almost winter break;

& whereas: this will be the last Council of 2016!

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council approve the agenda of Council meeting of Thursday, November 24th, 2016, as seen on the Engineering Society website.

Moved by: Lianne Zelsman

Seconded by: Avery Cole

***Motion passes, 6:04 pm* (30, 0, 0)**

# III. Adoption of the Minutes

##### Motion 2

Whereas: Last Council was long;

& whereas: the minutes were even longer;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

Council approve the minutes of the Council meeting of Thursday, November 10th, 2016, as seen on the Engineering Society website.

Moved by: Allison Kondal

Seconded by: Lianne Zelsman

***Motion passes, 6:04 pm* (25, 0, 0).**

# IV. Speaker’s Business

Avery Cole: Moving quickly onto Speaker’s Business, which is my business. Please address the Speaker when you are raising a point.

Lianne Zelsman: I can’t guarantee that any of this candy is nut free, except for the Skittles and Starbursts. It’s 25 cents a piece, as always.

# V. BREAK

*Council breaks, 6:05pm.*

*Council resumes, 6:09pm.*

*Julianna Jeans reclaims her vote.*

# VI. PRESENTATION

##### OUSA MEMBERSHIP

Liam Dowling: Hello everyone, my name is Liam, and I’m the Commissioner of Environmental Affairs for the AMS, and last year I was an ASUS rep. I sat on the External Alignment Committee last year, so I’m sitting ex-officio on it this year.

Leah Brockie: I’m Leah, and I’m the Commissioner of Academic Affairs for the AMS.

Liam Dowling: Tyler Lively, the AMS president, is on his way; he’ll join us shortly. We’re here to gauge your opinions and understand what the student’s base is regarding OUSA. So for background, the Ontario University Student Alliance consists of eight undergraduate universities from across southern Ontario, and it is a lobbying group regarding specific policies relating higher education. In the brief, you can see the other universities that are a part of this. As for the historical influence of Queen’s, we were a founding member in 1994, then we left and came back in 2004. Last year, the External Alignment Committee was struck to determine the value of maintaining a membership with OUSA. Last year, there were certain technical issues that delayed us, with finding members and whatnot, so we put forth the recommendation to continue the review.

Leah Brockie: For a little bit of background on our involvement, every full-time student pays a membership fee to $2.99 to OUSA, which amounts to about $50 000 from Queen’s. Another $15 000 is paid by AMS Assembly for travel costs, delegate fees, and other costs incurred. I spend 30 days out of office working on this, the president spends about 10 days, and my volunteers spend various amounts of days on it, too. So apart from the money, there is an opportunity cost as well for our time, when we are out of office. There is a lot of time on top of what we already, in terms of preparation, for OUSA. I wrote a paper this semester for OUSA which took quite a bit of time. We wanted to gauge whether or not this it is beneficial to stay engaged in OUSA. You can see some of the advocacy priorities inclue tuition framework revision, sexual violence prevention and response, data collection, student support services and other things like that. I’d be happy to take questions. Whether or not you think it’s worthwhile.

Taylor Sawadsky: So for context, OUSA is the University’s equivalent of Engineering Students Society Council of Ontario, which we’ve been evaluating our relationship with, as well. That’s what we elected people on ExComCom to do. So the Committee on External Alignment is like our ExComCom.

Loralyn Blondin: If we were to leave, how would it affect OUSA and how they work?

Leah Brockie: Queen’s tends to be a dissenting voice in OUSA. Our approach to advocacy is different than that of other schools. We are more focused on pragmatic goals, and a lot of other schools tend to lobby more ideologically, so I think discussion and debate would be harmed by us leaving. We facilitate discussion with our dissenting voice. That would affect OUSA policy changes and their stance on many issues. Obviously, our membership fee is sizeable, even though we’re not the largest school. That would inevitably affect their operations.

Emma Howard: Could you briefly explain what OUSA does for students or how it contributes to the student experience?

Leah Brockie: The paper that I wrote was on auxiliary fees, which is all of the fees that pay that are not in tuition. So we write policy papers which then are lobbied by their 5 staff. He can lobby on those policies that we have paper stances on. On Sunday, the VPUA and I are meeting at the park. Then on Monday through Wednesday, we have meetings about the priorities. That can kind of affect government policy. A big win for OUSA was lowering tax credits. That’s some of the deliverables.

Evan Dressel: Just for context, can you let us know where other schools like U of T are placing their lobbying?

Tyler Lively: They’re part of the CFS – the Canadian Federation of Students, which had its weeklong general meeting just last week. My sources tell me nothing happened. The CFS is more of a national body, so I’m unsure if you have to be a member of one or the other, or if you can be in both. That’s the only other comparable organization. They tend to take more divisive stances, like pipeline development, and Israeli apartheid, which are things that Queen’s students tell us they don’t want us taking stances on. There is a lot of difficulty with leaving the CFS. They actively sue anyone that tries to leave. It’s not a viable alternative for Queen’s, and I would recommend against it.

Loralyn Blondin: You said that we have left in the past. Why did we leave in the past, and why did we rejoin?

Tyler Lively: AMS left in 1995. My understanding, through research, is that they left for financial reasons. I’ve heard a few different things, and I’m not really sure what’s the truth, but I think it was fairly soon thereafter, that Queen’s realized it was bad decision to leave. I read something that said it was mostly just a personality conflict. We tried to rejoin, and there were active campaigns against it, mostly by sympathizers with CFS. It took us three tried to rejoin in 2004. We rejoined for the same reasons we joined in the first place, because Queen’s has pragmatic objectives, not activist approach.

Tyler Snook: Thank you for coming in. My question is, because we’ve had similar discussions about ESSCO, what is the real tangible benefit that the average student sees?

Tyler Lively: It’s difficult to measure, in that in engineering you can measure forces and things. You can’t say for every $1 we put in, we’ll get $3.50 in benefit. It really is a subjective decision. We’re getting real access to decision makers, and we can define OUSA’s policies. Those policies are having an impact on the government regarding stances on higher education. You’re talking about billions of dollars spent every year that we are having an influence on. Things like the Ontario Student Grant proves they do have an influence.

Tyler Snook: So we left the engineering equivalent of OUSA, and we are now just members in the Ontario-wide Engineering Competition. We’re still there on Canadian level. If we were to leave, what’s the worst case scenario here?

Leah Brockie: We wouldn’t really lobby provincially. It would just be us, one student union going alone to Queen’s Park. We won’t do much on our own.

Loralyn Blondin: Could you scroll up to the accomplishments and goals?

Tyler Bennett: You spoke about the Ontario Student Grant being a revent success – what successes has OUSA seen in the past five years?

Leah Brockie: The mental health innovation funding was a big win in the eyes of OUSA. I haven’t been around that long, but about I can speak more to the Ontario Student Grant program little bit more. As to other lobbying accomplishments, the policy paper we just passed calls for very specific things from the provincial government, like mine was about auxiliary fees. And those don’t necessarily ask for money, but just changes in the axilliary fee guidelines. Those are smaller scale things that are more feasible for OUSA to win.

Tyler Lively: The government is re-evaluating their funding framework for all Ontario universities, and at the moment, probably about 95% of funding is based on per student allocation, but they’re moving towards performance funding, so maybe 5-15% of that will be allocated to measurable outcomes of student success. OUSA has been very vocal, and a report came out, that’s been helpful in guiding that discussion. They’ve said that a University needs to care about more than putting people in classes, because that just incentivizes people to push up enrollment. This is my fifth year, and I’ve seen a lot more people now than in first year.

Connor McMillan: Do you know what you would do with the $65 000, if you’re not giving it to OUSA?

Leah Brockie: So the student fee of $2.99, or about $50,000 total, would be back in the pockets of students. The fee is collected specifically as an OUSA fee. The $15 000 would just be in the general ops budget.

Tyler Lively: In terms of academics, you could, for example, hire a student on 8-month research position, which might only cost $10,000. You would free up Leah’s time to talk to senior admin and faculty, and to create more proposals for internal change. We could be assisting faculty societies in their academic advocacy. These are tangible things, for sure. Thanks for being engaged and giving us your feedback.

# VII. New Business: Motions 3-4

##### MOTION 3

Whereas: The Tea Room has $38,251.78 of debt with the Engineering Society;

& whereas: the internal debt model no longer fits with the Capital Fund model within the Services;

& whereas: this debt does not play a role in the operational budget of the Engineering Society;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

 Council absolve the Tea Room of their $38,251.78 debt.

Moved by: Tyler Bennett

Seconded by: Tyler Snook

Bennett, Opening: We had a discussion about this at the last Council. Currently, this sum sits as an accumulated debt for the Tea Room, which is a sum of the original starting debt, and a few loans that have been accumulated along the way. We’re at the stage, right now, with the Capital Fund initiative, that pools money annually, regardless of the prior year, and where this debt no longer fits. This is the last loose end with the implementation of the Capital Fund. We’ve absolved debt for Clark on the order of $35 000 before. So that’s a brief overview of what happened. Let me know if you have any questions.

**Motion Passes: 6:25 pm (28, 0, 0)**

##### Motion 4

Whereas: Bursaries provide important financial aid to students in need;

& whereas: the Committee on Bursaries is looking for new members;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

 Council elect Julianna Jeans, Loralyn Blondin and Korrah Bland to sit on the Committee on Bursaries for the 2016-2017 term.

Moved by: Taylor Sweet

Seconded by: Allison Finer

Taylor Sweet, Opening: So, for a recap, the mandate of this committee is to evaluate current practices for awarding bursaries, how to best select bursary recipients. Raise funds to supplement bursary allotment, so no student goes without the opportunity to be in frosh week, attend a conference, or get a GPA.

Matt Whittle: As for the best practices, is there any thought if this committee will become the decision making body, distributing these bursaries? That way, the rest of the volunteers across the Society are not responsible.

Taylor Sweet: I like that concept, I didn’t want to give them that power off the bat because it’s new, and we need put some effort in deciding that. I would like to see them put forth recommendations. From there, the results can be discussed, and we can move forward with best possible practices. We can transition the responsibility of awarding to that committee.

Julianna Jeans: Can we get a refresh on the composition of people we want to be voted in during this election?

Lianne Zelsman: At least three non-executive members from Council, and at least three non-Council hired people afterward.

Avery Cole: This is open to anyone without a pink name tag. We will now take nominations.

*Tyler Snook nominates Sam Grant’s dog. Sam Grant’s dog is not a voting member of Council, and is ineligible.*

*Evan Dressel nominated Max Lindley-Peart, who humbly declines the nomination.*

*Lauren Babington nominates Loralyn Blondin, seconded by Clare Buttler. Loralyn Blondin accepts the nomination.*

*Tyler Snook nominates Charlie Renzoni, seconded by Taylor Sawadsky. Charlie Renzoni respectfully declines the nomination.*

*Taylor Sweet nominates Julianna Jeans, seconded by Alan Goodman. Julianna Jeans accepts the nomination.*

*Tristan Brunet nominates Alan Goodman, seconded by Clare Butler. Alan Goodman respectfully declines the nomination.*

*Alan Goodman nominates Cole Mero, seconded by Tristan Brunet. Cole Mero happily declines the nomination.*

*Clare Butler nominates Laura Essak, seconded by Taylor Sawadsky. Laura Essak respectfully declines the nomination.*

*Felix LeClair nominates Tristan Brunet, seconded by Clare Butler. Tristan Brunet respectfully declines the nomination.*

*Evan Dressel nominates Hazik Ahmad, seconded by Taylor Sawadsky. Hazik Ahmad respectfully declines the nomination.*

*Tyler Bennett nominates Connor Kapahi, seconded by Taylor Sawadsky. Connor Kapahi respectfully declines the nomination.*

*Taylor Sawadsky nominated Tyler Snook. Tyler Snook respectfully declines the nomination.*

*Cole Mero nominates Seth Davis. Seth Davis is not a voting member of Council, and is ineligible.*

*Ann Ferguson nominates Korrah Bland, seconded by Emily Townshend. Korrah Bland accepts the nomination.*

Avery Cole: Is there anyone that was not nominated, but is interested in running? Seeing none, the nominations are now closed. We will allow 2 questions from Council following a 30 second intro.

Loralyn Blondin: Last year, I was the Director of Conferences, and I realized how flawed and arbitrary our system is towards the end of my term. I have some awesome ideas, and I’ve talked to other people at Queen’s to see how they implement their bursaries.

Julianna Jeans: I was the Director of Internal Affairs, so I know a lot about writing policy, and I want to make sure that when we write the policy for this, it looks good and there are no problems with it.

Korrah Bland: As a person who has received bursaries, I know where these people are coming from.

Avery Cole: We will now take 2 questions from Council.

Taylor Sweet: I’d like to know why do you think this is important, and before this is successful, what you think will be the biggest obstacle.

Julianna Jeans: I think this is important, so we can standardize this in the most efficient and best way possible for students. I’m not sure what biggest challenge is going to be. I think looking at how other places in the University give out bursaries would be beneficial.

Korrah Bland: I think it’d be good to see how other bursaries are distributed, both in other clubs and the University itself.

Loralyn Blondin: I think the current issue is that there is no way to quantify what financial need is, and there are no guidelines, so you have to just choose whatever you feel is most deserving. It’s going to put people in tough situations, it’s going to be difficult finding those guidelines.

Tyler Snook: Taylor asked my question, and I couldn’t think of a new one.

Avery Cole: We are now going to move into a vote of confidence.

Lianne Zelsman: When I point to a name, raise your hand if you are confident that they will do good job.

*All members voted in*, 6:36pm.

Taylor Sweet: That was a little bit of an apathetic election. I’m very excited with the individuals we had run. I know they’re going to do a great job. Stay tuned for great things.

**Motion passes, 6:37 pm (24, 0, 2)**

##### Motion 5

Whereas: Elections are very important;

& whereas: we should ensure that our By-Laws reflect the needs of the Society;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

 Council approve the second reading of the changes to By-Law 3 – Elections, as seen in APPENDIX “ELECTION-CHANGES”.

Moved by: Lianne Zelsman

Seconded by: Felix LeClair

Lianne Zelsman, Opening: Basically, if you’ve been an exec or a senator, you cannot run for the same position again.

Emily Townshend: I’d like to propose an amendment, that under B2, it will read “Should a vacancy occur within the Engineering Society Senator Team as described in F.2, a member that has previously served one two-year term as Senator will be eligible to stand for election for the vacant Senator position. A member that has previously served one one-year term to fill a vacancy as described in F.2 will be eligible to stand for election for a two-year term as Senator. “

Lianne Zelsman: Unfriendly, for the sake of discussion.

Emily Townshend: This serves to tie up lose ends if someone quits halfway through their term. For example, if Brandon wanted to run again, this policy would make that okay.

Avery Cole: We will now enter debate specifically on specifically this amendment.

Julianna Jeans: My question is - if someone is leaving their senator position, like what happened two years ago, then we re-elected someone for that position. The new senator started the day after that election. We can’t have one person fill two positions.

Avery Cole: If a senator leaves during the summer?

Julianna Jeans: The senator term runs from September 1st. What happened was, they left immediately after being elected. In that case, the person that filled the 2-year position role, would have been two senators at once.

Emily Townshend: In the case where someone is leaving, you have a compressed timeline. In the instance when there is no time left on the senior’s term, provided there is at least some time… I’m less concerned. I’m concerned that there is never not a mentor to get someone through their first few meetings.

Tyler Bennett: Correct me if I’m wrong, but once the two years has been over, they can run again. Does it not say that, in part b?

Taylor Sawadsky: I’m going off what Tyler said, would that be a whole year after they finished, that they run?

Emily Townshend: The term starts in September. As long as their term ends before a new term begins, it’s fine.

Lianne Zelsman: Essentially, it’s what Emily said. As long as term ends before, it’s fine.

Avery Cole: Any debate on this amendment?

Emily Townshend: While I agree with the up and out aspect, I just want to plan for the worst case scenario, because Senate is already so biased against students.

*Amendment passes, 6:44 pm* (26,0,2)

Avery Cole: Any debate on the original motion?

**Motion passes, 6:44 pm (27, 0, 0)**

# VIII. Executive reports

##### i) President

Taylor Sawadsky: So the big news from my portfolio, is that we’re officially OEC members of ESSCO, so we can send people from QEC to OEC. Then they can go to CEC. Lora and and the ExComCom did great job with this. Fall reading break is still in discussion. We drafted a letter that summarized everything you said last Council, and passed it on to Senate. We sent students to the Conference on Diversity in Engineering. Sci Formal is still wrapping up. As for the position descriptions, the emails are going out tomorrow, so watch out for your inbox. In light of my report, anyone that’s represented Queen’s externally, you lead the hymn.

*Council signs the Engineering Hymn.*

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

Evan Dressel: My FYPCO had a meeting with Friesans- the Engenda suppliers – and we’ve moved from software to an online website. We are transitioning the digital signage to faculty so we can move it into ILC. They need to be able to notify student if there is a shooter on campus. With regards to probation, we need another meeting or two to file out the details. As for compost, we have a couple meetings set up with the faculty and the Tea Room to see what they’ve done, as a pilot project. With ticketing – I set up new software on a website called Ticker Up, and you can put custom forms on it, so instead of an external survey, it’s all one system. Come to the carol service this Sunday!

##### III) vice president of operations

Tyler Bennett: The majority of it is in my report. A couple things that happened after last Council are that General Motors visited. The second fall open house also occurred. We are in full shipping mode in the lounge, with lots of boxes. Finance world implemented a new system, and there’s a little form to reconcile the month end. The front end of the online system was updated as well. Tristan has been transitioning as the new Director of Science Quest. The Advisory Board met on Monday. The finance committee is reviewing the budget. The carol service will be in Grant Hall this Sunday.

# IX. Director Reports

##### i) Academics

Daniel Tamming: That’s the fourth time I’ve used that meme. Thanks for everyone who went to the BED Fund submission day. We have two consistent high school “tutees”. EngLinks is gearing up for finals season, with more workshops than we’ve ever had. We had the fall term break meeting this past Wednesday, and the survey results will be published once finished. With fall term break, there’s a feeling that the voices the University is hearing tend to be the student leaders, which would be somewhat unfair, but Lynann reminded them that over 75% of engineering students try to become FRECs. Engineering isn’t two separate classes of student leaders and students – it’s all mixed together. The fall term break discussion is going well.

##### ii) Communications

Heather Simmons: I’ve been working with my FYPCO for campaign on social media, called “Your GPA, Your Story”, so let me know if you’d like to be featured. We peaked at 8 viewers on the live stream.

##### iiI) Community outreach

Emma Howard: It’s been exceptionally hype, what with the Santa Clause Parade float through the External Relations Committee. My FYPCO is also killing it – the outreach guide within the AMS will soon be ready to roll out onto EngSoc website. Furthermore, on Remembrance Day, we donated to the Veterans’ Fund, and they made a wreath with EngSoc on it.

##### iv) conferences

Taylor Sweet: The Queen’s Engineering Competition happened last weekend. I’ve been meeting with chairs, so that’s all progressing well. Most of the conferences occur in the January or February timeline, so we’ve been getting the delegate applications and online payments up. Most delegate applications are open now and closing soon, between late November, and early December. A reminder that the external conference bursaries are live, and you could use them to attend the Women in Science and Engineering conference in Toronto. Lastly, I’ve been working with my FYPCO for performance feedback.

##### v) Design

Max Lindley-Peart: In the design bay, the QEC competition used the space last weekend, and this week it was the Santa Clause parade float, which was running while the pre-frosh were touring. On Monday, the faculty hired people to clean it out and remove toxic dust. There are entire new surfaces that haven’t been seen in 10 years. The emergency first aid session happened. I published a new logo bursary, because the Director of Design is given a bursary to put the EngSoc crest on design team merch, but it was a bit of a sketchy process, so I fixed that. We hosted GM Canada, and they had networking sessions with the design teams where they sat in the cars and played with planes, which he later said was this favourite part of the day. We’re working with FYC on a survival guide, and we’re going to get the teams out there to make frosh join.

##### vi) Events

Evan Dressel: Battle of the Bands is happening tonight at Clark, and it’s going to be a great time! The Festival of Carols is Sunday at 7:30pm, and Santa will be there – it will be Snook’s grandfather. Movember is having a pancake breakfast before the carol service. EngVents is hosting Chutes and Lattes this Wednesday. The December 6th memorial service is on December 6th.

##### vii) Finance

Connor McMillan: The past two weeks were calm. I finished up the October monthly stuff. Evan, for the third time, has updated the online ticketing system. If you have questions, ask me, Evan or Tyler Bennett. I’ve been working hard with Sara to update the budget actuals. I will upload them to website after this Sunday.

##### viii) First Year

Alan Goodman: It’s been a busy few weeks. Thanks to those who helped in running the discipline event. A lot of people found it very helpful. Midterms were great. Physics cookies went well, though the midterm, I hear, did not. As for FYC – Keshav killed it, and the ticket sales are going great. Sci ’20 has been helping out with the purpling kits. Coming up, FYC will be taking up most of my time. I’d like to quote my FYPCO, regarding the photo: “There are two pillars in that picture: one is a pillar of the ILC, and the other is a pillar of the community.”

##### ix) Human Resources

Rachel McConnell: I don’t understand the names. The main thing was the hiring town hall, which my FYPCO organized. We spent $200 in drinks. I’m still working on the position database, which will be easier once we have position descriptions. The surveys are done, and nothing bad happened. I’m now working on the little sides of my portfolio, like hiring and probation policy. I’m working on the application system with Robert. I updated my training manual and position manual.

Avery Cole: The names were directly plagiarized from Julianna’s agenda last year.

##### x) Information Technology

Robert Saunders: Shoutout to the IT team. Stay tuned for some cool stuff after beak.

##### xi) Internal Affairs

Lianne Zelsman: Elections planning is underway. The meet and greet was a success. Nominations for elections begin on the first Monday back. Council will be the first week back, on January 12th.

##### xii) Professional Development

Nathaniel Wong, Opening: The photo is Whittle. There is not too much going on right now. We’ve been in the planning phase for the alumni networking summit. Ticket sales are in the ILC atrium, until February 4th. There are 150 tickets, and it’s awarded on a first come, first serve basis. The cost is $50. Gael’s Den applications coming out soon. It’s an event through QYEA, which they’ll be hosting. It’s where design teams, clubs and conferences pitch an idea for a project to get money for it. Aside from that, I’m heading down to Toronto on Saturday to check out the venue.

##### xiii) Services

Tyler Snook: This week has been a good week. Thank you for forgiving the Tea Room debt. I’ve been working with transitioning Tristan. There have been lots of meetings with the FYPCO. CEO is having sale on Thursday and Friday in week 12, and volunteers are needed. We would love to have help the sale. You can buy an old table from Clark, and some other things, for $50.

# x. Question Period for ED team

Taylor Sawadsky: Alan, why is the level of hype for 171 significantly lower than 111?

Alan Goodman: I’m biased towards 111, as a student in EngPhys.

Evan Dressel: For Tyler Snook, are the new tables another reason to go to Battle of the Bands tonight?

Tyler Snook: Yes.

# Xi. Faculty Board Report

Matt Whittle: Because of the fall reading week discussions, it was long. They are updating the library system, because all of the money is being withheld by publishers. So that’s shifting slowly. We got the Dean’s report, from Dean Woodhouse, and they’re looking to aggressively extend the faculty. They want to hire 12 new profs in 3 years. They’re hired 15 in the past 5. She was really excited. There was a discussion about the research proposal, some more exciting stuff. Dean Lynann Clapham told us that the admission for Sci ‘20 was 719 students, with a target of 730 students, which is definitely better than being way higher. As for fall break, we heard a lot of interesting perspectives. There were interesting ideas, some surrounding the amnesty week, followed by a discussion on how the faculty would implement it. I can talk more about this later.

Dressel: It was Brandon Jamieson.

# XIi. Alma Mater Society Report

Isabelle Wright: Patrick wanted to give this, but he’s getting foot surgery. We talked about the benefits of bystander training, and we might initiate that into our respective societies, early next semester. We talked about fall reading week, and every faculty will prepare a report on what they think should happen. Campus is icy.

Tyler Bennett: Patrick did go to surgery, and is watching on the livesteam.

# XIII. Senate Report

Emily Townsend: Senate will meet on Tuesday, and I’m sure it will be a fun time. The principal and provost give have reports on the Truth and Reconciliation task force. We are renaming a bunch of Stauffer student rooms to increase the visibility of the indigenous community at Queen’s. We reviewed SCAP, which involves academic procedures. We talked about the confidentiality of exams, and that we only need to keep them on the exam bank for 10 years. We finally put the nail in the coffin of function 10, relinquishing Senate’s oversight of non-academin misconduct. We had a 20 minute discussion on the fall term reading break. An equity committee will discuss the topic of profs of colour.

# XIV. Engineering Review Board Report

Emily Varga*:* We summarized the peer reviews. The board met to review policy changes coming to Council today.

# XV. Advisory Board Report

Sam Anderson: Haven’t met yet.

# XVI. Club Reports

##### I) GEOLOGICAL

Mary McLaughlin: The Christmas potluck is next Friday.

##### ii) CHEM ENG CHEM

Orthmane Rtel Bennani: 200 people came to an event of ours. The department is trying to change the curriculum, and basically they tried to add more courses, and we said if you add more courses, we will burn out. We’re trying to change 470, because it’s a pain. We managed to get some food - free food as motivation so students don’t starve. Merch is coming.

##### iii) APPLIED MATHEMATICS

Stuart Fowler: We had 3 town halls, and 70 people came out. Students from second to fourth year came and talked about workload, and Prof Mansouri was receptive. People were positive about it. We’ll see what comes from that. We’re rolling out merch soon.

##### iv) CIVIL

Kieran Grekul-Somerville: Right now, we are planning out another civil social. We designed a new civil crest. The only other thing is a report to give to civil profs to address needs that aren’t being met.

# XVII. Year Reports

##### I) Sci’17

Charlie Renzoni: We locked down the iron ring venue. Year merch has been finalized. No one knows how to access our website. The yearbook team is killing it. There is a Sci ’17 social tonight.

##### XI) Sci’18

Loralyn Blondin: There’s not too much, we’re just finalizing the merch design. Stickers coming out soom. Super semi is having a theme contest, so send your ideas our way. One thing next semester is an Undies takeover with Sci ’19.

##### XII) Sci’19

Clare Butler: There’s not a lot going on, next Tuesday is the Clark takeover. Merch is in. We have big plans for the Undies takeover.

##### XII) Sci’20

Cooper Midroni: Over the past two weeks, we assembled purpling kits. We will not use them in residence. Due to the event conflicting with midterms, the EngComm Dodgeball Tournament will be postponed. First years found discipline night really useful or really scary.

# XVIII. Statements and Questions by Members

Sam Grant: This is for Charlie Renzoni. Is the Sci ‘17 crest back up in Clark yet?

Charlie Renzoni: No, but CEO has a bunch of crests available for when we find a date.

Kieran Grekul-Summerville: I have to leave for a bit, so I proxy to Carter Tate.

Evan Dressel: I just like to extend a thank you for compiling the ED peer reviews.

Tristan Brunet: Sci ’20, with those wonderful voices, they should try carolling.

Loralyn Blondin: Speaking as the chair of ExComCom, during the last week of Christmas break, we are sending four delegates to a conference. If any of you have questions you want to ask, please see me after Council.

Tyler Snook: I apologize in advance, because this is serious. As much as I appreciate you forgiving the Tea Room debt, there was not much discussion on the matter. This has been an issue throughout the year. I totally get being afraid to speak up at Council, but people want everybody to talk. If they just wanted to pass their motion, they would go through poicy and find a way. We want to hear from you, the people who were elected to represent the people of the Engineering Society. We want to make sure that the deciisons that are made, are made for everyone. Please ask your stupid questions. Let’s start better discussions. We need to talk about the stuff we’re bringing forward. I know that long Councils seem like they suck, but they are important.

# XIX. DISCUSSION PERIOD: APPROPRIATE SOCIETY SPENDING

Emma Howard: The context here is that the Director of Community Outreach is brand new, and has a brand-new budget with initiatives and events. To give a bit of direction to this position, I’ve evaluated how and how much money is spent in the Society, and there are three broader categories: events, such as the Ferry Fox Run, and Battle of the Bands; community sponsorship like the minor league hockey team, and other things like donating to the Veteran’s Fund. There are three different ways for us to gain visibility and traction within the Kingston community. I want to gauge how this could most appropriately be conducted. I have some guiding questions up there.

Taylor Sweet: Something I want to mention is that I know your portfolio and budget are new this year, and in determining what is suitable, and what is acceptable in terms of allocating student funds to these chartable things, we need to consider other things we run, like the Santa Clause parade. I would argue that we have been spending student dollars on comminute initiatives, just to show that we are participating. The External Relations Committee already has this built into their budget.

Emma Howard: I am well aware that we have spent money on community initiatives. I want to know how you guys think this is best done, and to establish best practices.

Loralyn Blondin: Early last year, the AMS had a discussion about student fees that are mandatory being donated to charities. I’m not sure what the result of that was, but look into it.

Sam Anderson: They moved all fees that were non-essential to optional fees.

Tristan Brunet: I truly do believe that EngSoc having a positive image is important, since we are members of this community and the City of Kingston. I do believe that the most effective ways of doing this are educating Kingston about how engineering works, basically that same idea of getting people interested in what science is, and why we’re so inspired. Going with the design teams, we should have an open house to show the community what they do. We can show them that this is what we’re doing inside the engineering building, and we want to share that with them.

Seth Davis: I’d like to point out that I did Fix ‘N Clean, and that was a very positive experience. It’s important to realize the effect of events like these on the community.

Cooper Midroni: In terms of the questions, coming from the first year perspective, the best way to reach out is to get in touch with frosh groups, so that the leaders can reach out to us in a comfortable way, and to have the maximum number of people out there.

Julianna Jeans: I guess this would be about the first question, I’m in favour of giving students the opportunity to donate time, like Fix ‘N Clean, and to make the active choice to donate money, but I’m not in favour of us choosing to donate student fees. That’s not most approximate way to spend student dollars.

Sam Grant: If there is a certain amount of money, but there’s no use for it yet, where does it go?

Connor McMillan: The budget is $12 000, approximately. That can be looked at as entirely donations.

Emma Howard: Actually, that budget includes ERC and Fix ‘N Clean, and there is a fair bit of student experience built into it, with a bit of donations.

Clare Butler: I have a positive experience with outreach, and I think there is more opportunity to get more outreach there. We have lots of ideas, but also ask other students in engineering what they want. I don’t know how I feel about spending student money without their opinion. There are a lot of ways to get involved in Kingston.

Tyler Snook: If there was some sort of natural disaster, like Fort McMurray, where there would be an opportunity to help a lot of people, we could bring a motion to Council, about whether it’s appropriate to use funds to donate. As for the Poppy Trust Fund, we’ve been donating for the past 10 years. A lot of cool stuff happens in Kingston community, like my grandfather is the president of a transplant advocacy association. If we involved members of the Kingston community, we could get those contacts to let Queen’s people know about other events outside of school.

Connor Kapahi: With regards to charitable things, not only are we members of the community, but we abuse it, too. Things like frosh week destroy City Park. We do more harm than good, so opportunities to give back can be seen as us making up for the things we do sometimes.

Sophie Campbell: As someone who grew up in Kingston, we’re not seen as the best people. As students, we have more time than money, so if possible, more things like Fix ‘N Clean would be good. My frosh group planned on it, but spots filled up to quickly.

Emily Townshend: I’m going to rip off the Vlog Brothers, who organized a Project for Awesome where a bunch of people donate money into pot, and it is distributed among the top 5 or 10 charities. You would have different members pitch Kingston charities, and say the top 5 chosen each get a percentage of the pot. You can also donate art instead of money. I think giving money to charity is good, but not without them having a voice. I’ve had many members of Kingston say you don’t need to improve your reputation if you stopped being idiots.

Tyler Bennett: Tyler Snook mentioned the Poppy Trust Fund, and I agree with Julianna, it’s not our place to pick and choose charities. These are things we do to actively involve students more. The Poppy Trust Fund is an outlier. It’s a $90 donation every year.

Daniel Tamming: In a way, it’s a forced donation if it’s from student fees. Small donations have good community outreach effects. It’s a great face for us. Sometimes, we don’t have the best face.

Max Berkowitz: I just wanted to draw attention to Go Nutz. At least within my group, there were lowkey opinions coming from FRECs, that you might not want to go to Go Nutz. Maybe that’s because frosh were exhausted, even though acknowledging the importance is important. I noticed a lot of taxis were lined up, and I was wondering if we lost money on those that weren’t used.

Connor Kapahi: They’re volunteers from the Rotary Club, so they cost nothing.

Taylor Sawadsky: Typically, we have more students than volunteers with cars. About half to two-thirds of students are sent. I wanted to note on picking and choosing charities, because any of the charitable donations we do are listed in the budget, and these comments would’ve been cool if you read the budget and talked about it when it was first brought to Council.

Heather Simmons: On behalf of Jamil Pirani from the livestream, student dollars should be spent on the student experience, and charitable donations should come from donations, not mandatory student fees.

Stuart Fowler: With Go Nutz, there is a sense that people are tired, but as much as it isn’t inherently obvious, it aims to instill a few things. The primary thing is going into the community and helping out. I went to Go Nutz, and when I left, I wasn’t like it was my favourite, but it definitely sat with me. There is a lot of unappreciated value with that event. It instills the value of community outreach.

Matt Whittle: During frosh week, we advocated that everything is optional, and yet Go Nutz is kept a secret. I want to change that to be more transparent. I’m aware that it plays an important role, but coming out of it, it sat with me as well. We’re looking at it, because as it stands, Go Nutz is in a precarious position. When we get to difficult discussions, the argument for keeping Go Nutz will be difficult.

Tristan Brunet: I just want to reiterate that it’s important to get student feedback, so if ERC wants to organize a pitch competition, that’d be cool. Or any method on getting their opinions.

Loralyn Blondin: I’m just going to talk about the minor league hockey team, which is a donation, but it’s also students going to games and cheering them on. It was an amazing time that was during a busy period, but it was really uplifting, and it felt so good afterwards, to see the younger kids happy to see us. It was an emotional connection. It’d be awesome to continue doing that.

Julianna Jeans: Two points – I’m not in favour of saying that people should speak up against the donations, because if students don’t agree, they won’t voice that opinion in Council. My second point is that it is more valuable if we set up a way to donate their own funds, like Cover the Crest. As long as it’s not in a mandatory student fee.

Connor McMillan: My position pivoted in the past 20 minutes. I realized that not everyone votes on the budget. I think, in retrospect, it’s unfair for us to be designating their student fees to these things. I’m not sure the ops budget is the same. The student fee that other societies implement is in a much more fair way. We could incorporate something like the BED Fund. If we’re going to ask for a student opinion, open a poll.

Tyler Bennett: Jamil’s point resonated with me. Every line in our budget should come to tangible benefits for our students. It’s difficult to quantify the benefit of the Poppy Trust Fund. I’m not saying it’s not valuable, but I’m saying find a better way to quantify that.

Emily Townshend: A lot of where I was coming from, was that donating money as a group has a bigger benefit, without forcing charity on students. While I’ve had amazing involvements in outreach, a guy threatened to call the cops on us during Go Nutz. When we talk about having students out in the community, students need to be looked out for, and have an actively positive experience. Keep in mind the safety and comfort of students. It’s just as important that students have a positive experience, as for the community to have the same.

Daniel Tamming: Assuming that the current system is unfair, would you prefer a system where we collected funds and where opinions are expressed? Or no collection and no donations?

Evan Dressel: I am personally advocating for where we don’t donate funds, but we can provide events for students to donate funds. We can put in an initial amount of money so students can go to a BBQ, or a battle of the bands, or yoga. It gives students the opportunities to donate to causes they’re passionate about, and makes sure students feel comfortable with donations. One student might be passionate about Terry Fox, because it hits closer to home, but not as passionate about the Veterans’ Fund. I see the benefit in students picking the charities they donate to. Fun events benefits students.

Charlie Renzoni: I don’t think student fees should be put towards donation. We have a great mechanism set in place - the EngSoc services are an excellent outlet, and maybe they can donate a certain percentage of profits to go to charity. That way, students can participate while doing things they would regularly do, like buy a pitcher or a coffee.

Emma Howard: Thank you for your comments. I’m glad we got a good discussion.

Lianne Zelsman: In terms of creating a holiday, a day of mourning for Pat’s broken foot was the best.

##### Motion to Close:

Moved by: Julianna Jeans

Seconded by: Emily Townshend

**Motion Passes: 7:51 pm (28, 0, 0)**