

###### Council Minutes

Thursday, January 24, 2019

6:00pm, Dunning Hall 27

Speaker: Andrew Farley

Secretary: Natalie Arpin

*Council begins, 6 pm.*

# I. ATTENDANCE

Andrew Farley: Welcome back to council everyone!

# II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

##### Motion 1

Whereas: Council is back in session;

& whereas: let’s get going;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Council approve the agenda of the Council meeting of Thursday, January 24th, 2019, as seen on the Engineering Society website.

Moved by: Emily “I bundled up to be here” Varga

Seconded by: Andrew “It’s not cold enough for a coat” Farley

**Motion passes, 6:05 pm**

# III. Adoption of the Minutes

##### Motion 2

Whereas: Some things happened last council;

& whereas: there’s a record of it;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Council approve the minutes of the Council meeting of Thursday, January 10th, 2019, as seen on the Engineering Society website.

Moved by: Emily “Talk fast” Varga

Seconded by: Natalie “Type fast” Arpin

**Motion passes, 6:05 pm**

# IV. BREAK

*Council breaks, 6:05 pm*

*Council resumes, 6:07 pm*

# V. Speaker’s Business

Andrew Farley: Welcome to council. I would like to acknowledge that Queen’s sits on traditional lands Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe nations.

# VII. Speakers motion

None

# VIII. New Business: Motion 3

##### MOTION 3

Whereas: The Agnes Benidickson Tricolour Award is the highest honour in The Alma Mater Society;

& whereas: we need a new representative from The Engineering Society to decide who wins the award;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Council elect Andrew Vasila as the Engineering Society representative for the Agnes Benidickson Tricolour Award selection committee.

Moved by: Carson “Gold, Blue” Cook

Seconded by: Emily “and Red” Varga

**Motion Passes, 6:14 pm**

Carson Cook: We did elections before but they are busy that weekend. The weekend of Feb 9th will be the weekend that the applications are looked at and decide who gets the most prestigious award in the AMS.

Jamil Pirani: Are there any restrictions on if it’s a voting or non-voting member.

Carson Cook: No.

**Nominations: Andrew Vasila, Isabelle Clark**

Carson Cook: What would you look for in a successful applicant?

Isabelle Clark: Highly involved in school, makes a positive impact in the community. Has good leadership qualities and is respectful.

Andrew Vasila: Not just impact in one area of their career at Queen’s but their impact over 4 years. The lasting impact of them being at Queen’s. Their mindset, goal and if they followed through on that.

Tristan Burnet: Can you describe a time you made a difficult decision and how you make a choice.

Andrew Vasila: Not something off the top of my head but making a pro con list and looking at its quality. Looking at leadership, lasting impact and dedication.

Isabelle Clark: Have the future in mind and keep where you see Queen’s going. How this goes along with the betterment of the queen’s community.

Kaija Edwards: Do you like Cats or Dogs

Isabelle Clark: Dogs

Andrew Vasila: Dogs

**Andrew is elected.**

Carson Cook: Send me your net ID.

##### Motion 4

Whereas: Hiring policy hasn't been updated in a while and was missing things;

& whereas: it needs to be brought up to date with current practices;

& whereas: Kodie has spent many hours in coffee shops fixing hiring policy;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Council approve the changes to Policy γ: Section B - Hiring Policy and Policy η: Section O - Hiring, as seen in APPENDIX "LET’S GET HIRING".

Moved by: Kodie “Poli-see” Becker

Seconded by: Carson “Poli-see the sea” Cook

**Motion Passes, 6:17 pm**

Kodie Becker: The presentation I gave last time, that outlined the changes. I also mentioned I was changing one policy but I scraped the section and left a line which I moved up into hiring policy.

Tayo Oduyemi: What is the hiring policy for EngSoc?

Kodie Becker: What I have done is updated the process behind it regarding all hiring that we do. It outlines the hiring policy that needs to be followed. There will be more coming later. Hopefully this works out and more changes are coming to future councils.

##### Motion 5

Whereas: Council passed the last referendum question;

& whereas: We should clarify what "services" means;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Engineering Society runs a referendum to increase its student fee, with the question being: "Do you agree to an increase in the Engineering Society's fee (mandatory for engineering undergraduate students) from $62.64 to $80.00, an increase of $17.36, in order to keep events such as Orientation Week, services (Clark Hall, Tea Room, EngLinks, etc.) and other Society functions running in their current form?" Yearly expenses can be seen in APPENDIX “EXPENSES”.

Moved by: Carson "We back" Cook

Seconded by: Emily "Back again" Wiersma

**Motion Passes, 6:24 pm**

Carson Cook: This was passed last council but it’s the same question. We added the bracket containing what services mean.

Paige Maxwell: Is there any concern about the fact that the premier said that we can’t have mandatory student fees.

Carson Cook: Yes. We have a discussion period later. It likely won’t be in affect next year and is not in affect at the moment. Right now, it is mandatory.

Jonathan Corbett: Under some of the expenses there is appreciation for FC, etc. It might be misleading that it says it helps Orientation Week function while having these expenses listed. Is there clarification on the wording?

Carson Cook: We have increased appreciation but Orientation Week is a very large event and we cannot maintain the event based on the deficit that it runs without the increase.

Tayo Oduyemi: What is the process to delay the vote to be after the discussion on the premier.

Andrew Vasila: Those won’t come into effect until next year.

Carson Cook: The fee is still mandatory as of now. There is only an announcement as of now. We have to specify this in the question that it is mandatory so the discussion period does not have an effect.

Andrew Farley: You can table it.

Jamil Pirani: When you table a motion, it can be brought back at any time. In Ford’s statement, fees used to fund major campus services and those for health services are allowed to be mandatory. If it will be seen as mandatory is still to come.

# VII. Executive reports

##### i) President

Carson Cook: First I want to congratulate the first year J-section rep on their election. We have all heard about OSAP so we have a discussion period. Reminder about election voting and please vote and make an informed vote. We are running a Yes campaign for the fee increase and we would appreciate the support. We have our first big hiring wave coming up so start thinking about how you want to be involved.

*Council sings the engineering hymn.*

##### II) Vice president of operations

Carson Cook: All in the report.

##### III) vice president of student affairs

Emily Wiersma: Last week was all EngWeek. Battle of the bands went well at least. Elections are next week and there is a rumor about a CEO gift card. Please vote and be informed.

# Viii. Director Reports

##### i) Academics

Sidney Picco: All in the report. We are trialing a new feedback application. If you have feedback, let me or the academic feedback officer now. We want to give direct feedback to the professor. If you have an academic concern or issue, please let me know or fill out the survey. Let me know if you are interested in Director of Academics.

##### II) Communications

Alexander McKinnon: All in the report. Starting Humans of the ILC, coming up on Sunday. Ordered quarter zips and finally got lanyards. I want to shout out to 2 team members at the focus film festival this week.

##### iII) conferences

Sam Roper: Conferences are in full swing. QGEC went well and GBBT is coming up and Queen’s space conference after that. My FYPCO and I have been working on out project and working on transition manual.

##### IV) Design

Hatem Dawaghreh: All in there.

##### v) Events

Emily Wiersma: EngWeek happened. Engineering-Nurse skating is coming up.

##### VI) External Relations

Carson Cook: Working on an event with FYPCO for mental wellness day for high school students. Working with Ex Comm Comm. Planning how we are going to make recommendations at the Annual General Meeting and how to interact with ESSCO. We won our OEC bid. The junior team one and the debate team came in second so they get to go the nationals. Communication won for technical skills.

##### viI) Finance

Tristan Burnet: Lots of cheques. Finance is cool but the services are better.

##### viIi) First Year

Emma Prairie: Congrats to Izzy for being elected. Sci ’22 has a website. The all discipline night happened.

##### IX) Human Resources

Kodie Becker: Meeting and policy. I got a few emails from the AMS about digitization and COMMSOC is interested in Dash. I also fixed joint hiring policy. Applications for directors should be up soon.

##### x) Information Technology

Brandon Tseung: Resetting passwords and working on our archives. Let me know if you want to be Director of IT.

##### xI) Internal Affairs

Emily Varga: All in the report. Elections are underway. Vote on Monday and Tuesday. If you have questions about Director of Internal Affairs, let me know.

##### xiI) Professional Development

Juliana Brown: Summit is this weekend. If you have feedback on career services, let me know. Faculty wants to know.

##### xiiI) Services

Max Karan: All in the report.

# Ix. Question Period

Chas Meadows: If I was to run a director position, which should I apply for.

Brandon Tseung: You should run for one in the operations pod.

# X. Faculty Board Report

Blake Wisniewski: This year’s frost week was good. One thing that was brought up was bars on jackets. The Dean has been working with exec about depending on the crest or bar, you may not be able to present your jacket or receive a position in EngSoc and includes design teams. There is no list and it supposedly starts now. There will probably be new APSC 100 and 200 pilots. There may be changes to upper year ones. There is a new student services incentive reaching out to students based on their grades that brought j-section enrollment from 80 to 60 percent this year. There were 4% more applications to Queen’s with 12% as a first-choice school.

# Xi. Alma Mater Society Report

Jamil Pirani: This past assembly was pretty short. We approved a second reading of changes to constitution for gender neutral wording. Candidates came in, Tyler Macintyre and the team for AMS. We approved referendum fees, one was for a $2 increase to journal fee. Some people had problems with an AMS service fixing systemic issues with a fee rather then looking at their expenses. It went though. We have to vote on the fees based on due diligence not if we like it. The Ontario Undergraduate Student Association came on the same day the OSAP was announced and there were advocating for that. They are looking at how to work to change the policy. Remember to vote.

# XII. Senate Report

Sam White: The first meeting is next Tuesday.

# XIII. Engineering Review Board Report

Rebecca Leblonde: Policy looks good, hiring this week.

# XIV. Advisory Board Report

Jamil Pirani: We meet on Monday and it was a good discussion period.

# XV. Equity officer Report

Kodie Becker: Since last 2 weeks, distributed bursaries, looking at revisiting this. Looking at consent training and had mental health training.

# XVI. Club Reports

##### I) ENG Phys

Jonathan Corbett: Since last update, we posted a merch catalogue. We have to wait on ASUS stores. We have an intermural team, submitted a bed fund report. Had our discipline night last night. Having another pool with profs. Tutorial for Canada wide physics exam.

##### ii) ece

Andrew Farley: Getting events organized. Had WGUR for academic feedback. 2nd year pancake breakfast is next week. ECE formal is being organized. Events being planned.

##### iii) MECH

Thomas Wright: We don’t have a rep showing up. We had a discipline night and are planning our banquet.

##### iv) Minning

Ryan Kealey: We are working on out discipline night and out competition teams. 3-4th year students are in Arizona coming up. Submitted Bed Fund reports. Working with women in mining for Fur cup.

# XVII. Year Reports

##### I) Sci’19

Jordan Pernari: Not too much. Working on small details for iron ring. You can sign up for your iron ring ceremony. Sign up by Feb 15th. Going to need 3rd years to run iron ring afterparty. We will pull from next years year exec. Working on thank you gift. Let me know if you have any ideas. If you have pictures send to [sci19yearbook@engsoc.queensu.ca](mailto:sci19yearbook@engsoc.queensu.ca)

##### II) Sci’20

Chanel Tossounian: We are trying to get out of debt with a bake sale. Stickers and old shirts for sale.

##### III) Sci’21

Chas Meadows: We had our crest hanging last week. We made half of ritual in half the time. We are working on a few things. We are not in debt.

##### IV) Sci’22

Julia Takimoto: We have a website at sci22.ca. We are ordering merch.

# XVIII. Statements and Questions by Members

Carson Cook: So, to address faculty board. There were discussions about bar culture. We care about representation and professionalism when representing the society. Nothing is set in place.

Blake Wisniewski: Next faculty board is during reading week and is anyone here who wants to go. If someone wants to go, let us know.

Jonathan Corbett: I am not sure who this applies to but this morning I walked down Albert and I feel as though the city is neglecting plowing the sidewalk in the ghetto. If someone could voice the high traffic and that it is very icy.

Csaba Nemeth: I don’t know if it’s the city, it might be the landlord.

Sam White: Campus is done by PPS and then outside of that, it’s the city.

Jamil Pirani: There is a commissioner of municipal affairs at the AMS.

Jonathan Corbett: I did mean the off-campus part, not the one campus part.

# XIX. Discussion Period – Ontario Tuition/OSAP/Fee policy announcement

Carson Cook: I’m sure most people have heard that there is a 10% cut on tuition, OSAP funding is being restructured and student fees not under campus wide services, health services are non-opt out. The policy is not out yet. We can start with questions and then the societies response.

Sam White: For the OSAP, they are reducing everything or is it variable on income. What effect is the deduction going to have on tuition?

Carson Cook: For OSAP, an increased share of funds to low income students, increase of grants to low income students with family income of less then $50 000. Reduced thresholds of family income for grants. The grant to loan ratio is at least 50% loans. My understanding is that very low-income families get more, but more loans instead of grants. For those in the middle section, they will be hit very hard as the grant limit is being lowered and more loans instead of grants. For the cuts, it will have an impact as the cut is significant.

They have been expecting changes and they have been planning on this. Some of the money for grades will be more needs based. Title scholarship for equity that are needs based. They are advocating so that students know how much OSAP they get.

Kaija Edwards: I was reading online, and there was something online about free tuition for certain incomes. Is being removed. Is there support for these students?

Carson Cook: With the reallocation of entrance scholarships. With changes in OSAP, it removing only having grants and adding loans. I am unaware of support, bursaries are there to help but they are in flux. EngSoc strives to be accessible but we are in a state of flux.

Jordan Pernari: One that stood out to me is when you receive independent student status from 4 to 6 years. Up to 6 years after you graduate, they will consider your family oncome. If you are expanding your education, this will change and affect your graduate studies.

Carson Cook: The 6-month grace period is being removed. The day you graduate you may have to pay interest.

Emma Prairie: Do we know how this will affect AMS fee, they have a bursary program that was heavily advertised.

Carson Cook: For our fee increase and the AMS JDUC, this was news after the marketing started. As for the AMS, its very much in flux. They have about a 33% opt-out of the $90 that students can opt-out of. They were expecting 30-50% cuts. The meeting was more about advocacy then about spending.

Tayo Oduyemi: Does the university have services in place to connect students with jobs.

Carson Cook: Queens has a Career services and an internship program as well. The engineering faculty is starting their own career services and we have a great professional development team. These were in place already.

Sam White: I was wondering for anyone at AMS assembly, was there anything of note that happened there.

Carson Cook: No.

Jamil Pirani: Last night, the AMS posted a statement about the changes. It outlines the changes. Its on myams.org on the news tab. It makes it very clear and says what the AMS will for to advocate for students.

Kaija Edwards: Is there any chance this will not go forward? Even if the government changes or be vetoed by the federal government?

Carson Cook: In 2012, Quebec suggested similar things and there was backlash. It did not happen. This is the time for advocacy. The AMS feels there will be changes but we can work to make changes.

Jamil Pirani: For changes of power. The premier has 4-year terms so there are 3 ½ years left before a power change. He also has a majority. This comes into effect in the 2019/2020 period.

Carson Cook: For the student fee, if we get the increase, we are in a stronger position with opt-out fees. We would have to scale somethings back. We have ways to maintain what we are doing. In what we want to do, OESC released a letter, CFES will support them. The AMS is using their connections and working with the Ontario version. We might want send a letter out as well. I will read a draft of it now.

Carson reads the letter.

This is the direction I am thinking off, let me know if you have feedback.

Jordan Pernari: Maybe find a way to work in some numbers as it can strengthen the letter.

Jamil Pirani: I was wondering if you want to mention OSAP funding for low-income students.

Tayo Oduyemi: I was going to say the same thing, advocacy for those affected by the OSAP changes.

Kaija Edwards: You mentioned an opportunity to meet, what would that look like? The council or representatives of the society?

Carson Cook: It would be addressed to the Kingston MPP and the Premier. This is similar to Ryerson. A meeting with the 3 executives to discuss these issues and show our views. Reiterating these points but going into more detail.

Tayo Oduyemi: Is it the position for the executive to advocate on how this affect the society or is there space on how this effects students?

Carson Cook: We routinely advocate for members for the society, this is part of the role of the president and society.

Jonathon Corbett: To advocate for engineering students, this is one of the more expensive degrees and this could limit those who are in engineering from academics to those who can afford it.

Csaba Nemeth: How much discussion has there been with other EngSoc’s and are there common arguments?

Carson Cook: The regional ESSCO, they have released the letter and in our communications with other school, letters are being drafted so this a similar. Most societies are focusing on students’ fees but we can add OSAP.

Tayo Oduyemi: If the meeting does happen, would you be willing to accept a list of questions form council?

Carson Cook: Yes.

Jordan Pernari: As Carson mentioned, the Ontario AMS, they are looking for student stories. They attached a google document from to their statement. If you want your voice addressed explicitly, I would start there.

Carson Cook: Thank you for your thoughts and opinions, please reach out. I will provide relevant information when it comes. We will send out the letter before it is put out.

Andrew Farley: Please vote, voter turnout was low last year

##### Motion to Close:

Moved by: Andrew Vasila

Seconded by: Thomas Wright

**Motion Passes: 7:24 pm**