

## Assembly Meeting (#6): Tuesday, February 15th, 2022

*Assembly is called to order at 7:03 pm, EST.*

### **Motion #1 –Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Kristen Sutherland

Seconded by: Alyth Roos

Questions: None

*Vote: Motion carries*

### **Motion #2 – Approval of the Minutes**

Moved by: Kristen Sutherland

Seconded by: Alyth Roos

Questions: None

*Vote: Motion carries*

### **Speaker's Business**

**Speaker Callum Robertson:** It's nice to see everyone, I'm always glad when there are lots of people here. First I'll start us off with a land acknowledgement. We are currently situated on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples. I recognize that this privilege comes only from a history of colonialism in which these lands were stolen from the Indigenous Peoples who first inhabited them. As a settler, it is important to me to acknowledge the privilege that I have to be able to learn, live and meet today on this land here at Queen's. We recognize that ASUS as an institution, in addition to Assembly, have been colonial spaces in the past, and we recognize the importance of using our roles to engage in indigenization and reflection. It's also important to take a moment to think relative to your position in ASUS and outside and to think and learn about how best to decolonize this space and others. Moving on, in terms of general business I think we have a pretty decently full agenda and it is also great again to see everyone. I heard that Alicia did a wonderful job last assembly in my absence.

### **Discussion Period**

[Return to In-Person Instruction](#)

**President Alyth Roos:** I just kind of wanted to open the floor up a bit, we only have about a week or so until we actually return. The clock is ticking I know, but it's also pretty exciting. I just wanted to reach out and see what resources we can help provide or what things are a major concern for students that you guys have heard of. Also if you have nothing and only feel that students are excited that's also great to hear. I've been involved in a lot of conversations with the faculty about the return and so want to know what anyone has been hearing and sort of the overarching stuff from students.

**Academic Representative Flynn Eves-Welch:** I guess for me, I received an email around two weeks ago from one of my professors who's teaching an elective course saying that professors are being encouraged or told not to post recorded lectures or even record them. As far as she understood it was because the ArtSci faculty is discouraging hybrid options. Even prior to COVID, a lot of professors recorded their lectures and posted them and while the return to campus is as safe as possible, it is inevitable that some people will get sick. So the easiest option to me it seems is to record but I don't know if that's something professors aren't allowed to do anymore. Yeah, that's my main concern with coming back to in person classes is that weird attitude towards making lectures less accessible for students.

**Academics Commissioner Tiffany Yung:** I can speak a bit to that. The faculty at least in ArtSci has ensured that professors have the jurisdiction to upload if it doesn't require additional effort that would be too much. So if they want to record lectures and post them, they can. It's overall making sure the professors are being protected in terms of workload by the union. I do encourage everyone to reach out to their professors to chat and encourage them to record and post their lectures.

**Academics Representative Eves-Welch:** Alright, I'll reach out to her and tell her that. I was pretty sure it was just a bit of miscommunication so I'll reach out and see what options she comes up with.

**President Roos:** I think Tiffany hit the nail on the head. I'm very glad you raised that Flynn, I think it's definitely something to emphasise and push with the faculty. Make sure they know that posting content doesn't mean that they're running a hybrid course. Students will still be getting sick and so I don't want to have a scenario where someone doesn't get tested to ensure that they don't miss any content.

**Senator Robert Hughes:** Something to speak briefly on is that this has been a focus for the senate. Professors are not allowed, to our knowledge, make courses that were planned to be either fully in person or fully online, hybrid courses in the middle of the term.

**President Roos:** On that note if anything else comes up please do let us know. Especially if there's any resources or ideas that you guys think should be amplified. I'm just a slack or email away.

### Assembly Feedback

**Governance Officer Kristen Sutherland:** This is our last assembly meeting before writing my transition manual for the next Governance Officer. It's kind of crazy but also very exciting. I wanted to open the floor to any feedback that you can give for the next Governance Officer. Things you enjoyed and of course anything that you think could have been done better. I'm open to any feedback to better assembly for the next year. I'm also happy to take private messages in chat or you can email me after too if you don't feel comfortable saying it out loud.

**CESA Representative Lexie Ingoldsby:** I was just going to say I really enjoyed the breakout rooms. It's not been a thing in other Student Governments I've been in and I do hope Assembly's not online next year. But it could also be a fun thing to do in person too.

**Community Outreach Commissioner Emily Armstrong:** I was going to say the same thing. I think even if things are in person, having more interaction between people. I wasn't on Assembly last year but I enjoyed the less formal feeling of this year, I think it made it easier to talk.

**Year Representative Alicia Parker:** Echoing all the positive things. I did want to say that elected representatives can get a bit isolated and as far as I'm aware we aren't on the Slack and so can be a bit unaware of the updates especially for newsletters and getting our events in there. I hope all of us read the updates and plan but it's not something in the job description and so I think it would be nice to find ways for us to be more fully incorporated.

**Academics Commissioner Yung:** Just echoing all the great things and also to add onto Alicia's point. I would love to be in more breakout rooms with elected representatives. I think it would be great to get additional perspectives and assist their integration. It's been something that has been pretty effective in DSC assemblies as it can help spark a better discussion because a lot of people aren't comfortable speaking with around thirty people on call.

**Governance Officer Sutherland:** Thank you all for the feedback. Alicia, Tiffany, that's something I definitely want to get incorporated with the representatives next year. Everyone, feel free to send me an email if you have any ideas on what we can do better.

## **Executive Reports**

### **President Report**

**President Roos:** Hello everyone. Happy week six, it's wild we are already halfway through and shocking as always to hear how fast time is flying. I've mostly been welcoming our new executive team and we've jumped right into the transition period, they all have incredible ambitions and great energy. A lot of focus has also been on the return to campus and making sure students are supported. A lot of things have been surrounding academics and making sure students are aware of the masking, and health and safety guidelines. We've also been communicating with the AMS for the AMS events and to make sure our events get sanctioned. There's been a lot of plans at work for making sure formals and all other events get to take place unlike the last few years. We have a lot of different opportunities as council hiring is open and active. As well, the Mark R. Wilson award is out for people to apply to. The SVPR taskforce is working to make policy more accessible and doing outreach to empower survivors. I'm excited to be welcoming everyone back and opening up the reflection room again. We've received our painting from Portia Chapman and as always any thoughts or ideas my email is always open.

### **Vice-President Report**

**Vice-President Brandon Aldworth:** It's nice to see you all and a pleasure to be here. I hope you are all taking care and managing well, we're almost at reading week. An exciting update is with the jackets team, we were able to allocate the financial awards and bursaries to everyone that applied including being able to retroactively award them. We're looking forward to continuing that in the future. Grants also open officially tomorrow, I know lots of people are in sibling societies and these are open to any students in ArtSci and some committees. The due date is March 16th so make sure to get those applications in. We had a quick meeting yesterday with the faculty about the masking guideline changes and are collaborating with the faculty to make sure the masks are distributed. As well, I'm excited to welcome team YEA and congratulate them on their successful bid and election. We've started working on the big picture hiring and so I'm looking forward to the next few months with the transition. In regards to the financial institution change to the Royal Bank of Canada. It's a very administrative thing but it will lead to a lot of good things for the Society and for the future. If anyone has any questions please do not hesitate to reach out and I hope you all have an amazing reading week.

## **Society Reports**

**Community Outreach Commissioner Armstrong:** I wanted to do a quick plug for the supper series happening right now. You can order from Tommy's and tonight the proceeds will be going towards the Canadian Cancer Society.

## **Other Reports**

### **Dan School Undergraduate Society Report**

**Dan Vice-President Hamish Hutchison-Poyntz:** I'll just give a quick verbal update. The DSUS has been working hard to support students online and with the online updates. I know everyone in the performing arts is very excited to return to in-person and so we're doing a lot of the prep work for shows so that they can hit the ground running.

### **Business of the Senate**

**Senator Hughes:** From the Senate the biggest concern right now is making sure student voices are heard. Especially so that people know when and to isolate and the available accessibility options for if they get sick.

### **Natural and Physical Sciences Society**

**Natural and Physical Sciences Representative Mathie Smith:** Just wanted to deliver the Natural Physical report. Everything is going quite well, we got a good turnout for Major Night, I know I was impressed by some of the first year questions. Everyone has been preparing for the return to in-person. I know several DSC's have gotten their event sanctioning forms handed in again and the logistics are beginning to be planned out.

### **Statements by Members [None]**

#### **Question Period**

**President Roos:** Something I wanted to open up to more of the Assembly is the recent developments regarding mask disbursement. There's been specific mask requirements especially in regards to the type of mask and the University is currently planning on helping the disbursement. Currently it's being housed internally to the faculties and not ASUS but the ArtSci faculty did reach out to see if we had any ideas or were able to help. I wanted to know your guys' opinions on what the best places would be, to be the most accessible and also the most logical places.

**Equity Commissioner Yara Hussein:** I would say specifically for ArtSci, I would recommend where there's a lot of ArtSci courses. Off the top of my head I can think of BioSci and Dunning lecture halls.

**Dan Vice-President Hutchison-Poyntz:** I imagine that any large common spaces, the libraries, the ARC. I would also love to request some at the Isabel Bader, there are large chunks of students who only go there and don't cross the main campus.

**CESA Representative Ingoldsby:** I would echo the ARC. Even if students don't use the facilities I know it's somewhere that's easy to cut through.

### **Old Business [None]**

#### **New Business**

**Motion 3:** That ASUS Assembly formally approve the changes to the President Policy Manual as seen in Appendix A: President Policy Manual Changes - Wellness Director.

Moved by: Emily Ross

Seconded by: Alyth Roos

**Wellness Director Emily Ross:** I just wanted this to echo some of the changes already made. I've moved away from the focus on mental and physical health only and towards a broader scope for overall health and wellness. That's the overarching idea behind this change. As well we currently have two general coordinators and the change allows for an increase to five with the potential addition of three to five volunteers but that will be left to the discretion of the wellness director and dependent on the capacity and needs of events.

Questions: None

*Vote: Motion carries*

**Motion 4: That ASUS Assembly formally acknowledge the successful election of Team YEA (Team Yara Hussein as President, Emma Farrell as Vice-President Society Affairs, and Aloka Wijesundara as Vice-President Operations) as the 2022-2023 Arts and Science Undergraduate Society (ASUS) Executive.**

Moved by: Alyth Roos (2021-2022 President)

Seconded by: Brandon Aldowrth (2021-2022 Vice President/Cfo)

**President Roos:** This is the kind of formal affirmation of the Executive team following their successful election. They ran an incredible campaign and did wonderfully in the debates. It's traditional to have a question period with I believe three questions. Brandon and I are so excited to be welcoming them and the three executive structure.

Questions:

**Academics Commissioner Yung:** My question would be what is your favourite either ASUS or campaign memory?

**Equity Commissioner Hussein:** I would say that my favourite ASUS memory is from getting involved in my second month as Queen's and getting ratified for the ASUS representative. My favourite campaign memory was definitely working on the platform and all the long and late nights that I didn't quite expect to be so frequent.

**Emma Farrell:** My favourite ASUS memory is definitely the first day at the welcome ceremony, it was such an incredible experience. My favourite campaign memory was when we found out that we were forming a team together on the seventeenth.

**Aloka Wijesundara:** My favourite ASUS memory was also during orientation, I had a great group and incredible gaels. My favourite campaign memory was honestly probably everyday but if I had to narrow it down when we were filming videos and the bloopers we got.

**Community Outreach Commissioner Emily Armstrong:** My question is that if you were a bagel what type would you be?

**Equity Commissioner Hussein:** I just had the CoGro top secret cheddar with cucumber bagel and I have to say it's very powerful.

**Farrell:** Definitely sesame seed with cream cheese.

**Wijesundara:** Toasted cinnamon raisin with butter.

**ASUS Camps Director Caroline Jarrett:** I'm relatively new to this but if you had to make an ice cream sandwich what flavour of ice cream would you use and what type of bread would you use, like real bread.

**Equity Commissioner Hussein:** Oh wow, I have no clue where to start. I guess whole wheat with vanilla.

**Farrell:** I think sourdough with mint chocolate chip for me.

**Wijesundara:** I think a good white wonder bread with mint chocolate or Mio Gelato has a good cappuccino flavour.

**Vice-President Aldworth:** This is a quick administrative announcement to let the record state that the official rights and responsibilities will begin May 1st, 2022.

*Vote: Motion carries*

**Motion 5: That ASUS Assembly formally ratify Caroline Jarrett as the ASUS Camps Director (Operations) for ASUS Summer Camps of 2022.**

Moved by: Alyth Roos

Seconded by: Kristen Sutherland

**President Roos:** So for the next few motions it's the ratifications of the new Camps Directors. They work full time over the summer to run the summer camps for the Kingston youth. A couple words on Caroline Jarrett, who will oversee the logistics, she blew it out of the water completely with her wonderful ideas. We are incredibly lucky to have her on board.

Questions:

**Vice-President Aldworth:** What is your favourite summer camp memory?

**ASUS Camps Director Jarrett:** Mine is definitely going on a Portage trip with a group of girls I'm still friends with, it was fun but kind of challenging.

**Academic Commissioner Yung:** If you had to have one song on repeat for the rest of your life what song would it be?

**ASUS Camps Director Jarrett:** I've been going through an intense kick of Danke Schoen recently so I'll have to go with that one, plus it puts me in a good mood.

**Services Commissioner Tina Hu:** If you could bring three items to let's say the Lotus Hotel, so wifi and food are taken care of, what items would they be?

**ASUS Camps Director Jarrett:** I'd probably bring my cat, a box set of Gilmore Girls and a fresh pair of air forces.

*Vote: Motion carries*

**Motion 6: That ASUS Assembly formally ratify Olivia McElrea as the ASUS Camps Director (English) for ASUS Summer Camps of 2022.**

Moved by: Alyth Roos

Seconded by: Kristen Sutherland

**President Roos:** So on this front Olivia also underwent a similar process so a first round and then group interviews. Her portfolio is on activities, both virtual and hopefully in-person. She brought so much energy and enthusiasm and honestly I'm a little bit jealous of all the kids.

Questions:

**Vice-President Aldworth:** Livi, if you could plan the ideal excursion what would it be?

**ASUS Camps Director Olivia McElrea:** If there were no boundaries, I would take everyone on a submarine and take them through oceans and the lakes.

**Community Outreach Commissioner Armstrong:** What is your favourite camp song?

**ASUS Camps Director McElrea:** Princess pat definitely, I don't know how many people went to camp but definitely that one.

**Equity Commissioner Hussein:** If you could do a wildlife camp experience what people would you bring along with?

**ASUS Camps Director McElrea:** I have to say Leah and Caroline, I think it has to be the trio.

*Vote: Motion carries*

**Motion 7: That ASUS Assembly formally ratify Leah Smithson as the ASUS Camps Director (French) for ASUS Summer Camps of 2022.**

Moved by: Alyth Roos

Seconded by: Kristen Sutherland



**President Roos:** Similarly Leah is the third Camps Director. She is the first French director in ASUS Camps history as we are adding the French subset to the Camps which we've absorbed from the French camps in Kingston. Her French interview tested her skills both in writing and speaking. We're happy to have her on board, she brings an empathetic leadership style and plenty of new ideas.

Questions:

**Governance Officer Sutherland:** If you had to pick a camp song similar to the O-Week song, what would it be?

**ASUS Camps Director Leah Smithson:** Like Livi said, Princess Pat or Book Chicka Boom.

**Vice-Principal Aldworth:** If you could have any name or nickname at camp what would it be?

**ASUS Camps Director Smithson:** I got called Nemo at camps before, which was fun because I got incorporated into a game. I'm hoping this summer I can find a new Disney name.

**Marketing and Communications Officer Katie Hunt:** I've got to ask what is your favourite TimBiebs flavour?

**ASUS Camps Director Smithson:** I have to be honest they all kind of taste the same but I think the sour cream one stood out the most.

*Vote: Motion carries*

**Motion 8: That ASUS Assembly formally acknowledge that ASUS will be moving to the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) as the Society's primary financial institution.**

Moved by: Brandon Aldworth

Seconded by: Alyth Roos

**Vice-President Aldworth:** So this is a very administrative change but also for Assembly's awareness. Huge thanks to our general manager Sean Thompson he's been really helpful in this endeavour. The reasons behind the bank change are threefold. The first is the cost savings, we'll have no monthly fees and unlimited E-Transfers. As well, the customer services relationship is a lot better with RBC and we will have new financial tools which consist of combined reporting and the potential for virtual credit cards. This will take place over the next six to twelve months and we hope to have the transition mostly completed before Aolka has to take over. I'm happy to take questions but this won't really impact the student operations.

Questions: None

*Vote: Motion carries*

**Motion 9: That ASUS Assembly formally approve the changes to the Vice President (Society Affairs) Policy Manual, as seen in Appendix B: Vice President (Society Affairs) Policy Manual Changes - ASUS Camps Restructuring.**

Moved by: Brandon Aldworth

Seconded by: Alyth Roos

**Vice-President Aldworth:** So these policy changes are reflective of the Summer Camps change so that we now have the policy backing the three directors. These changes reflect the structure and also the portfolios and new responsibilities alongside a few administrative cleanups.

Questions: None

*Vote: Motion carries*

**Motion 10: That ASUS Assembly formally approve the changes to the ASUS Assembly Policy Manual as seen in Appendix C: Assembly Policy Manual Changes.**

Moved by: Caitlin Hayes

Seconded by: Kristen Sutherland

**Governance Officer Sutherland:** Essentially Caitlin and I have been going through a pretty large project to clean up the policy manual and fixing the policy and positions that needed revisions. Especially in the Year Representatives and making sure what they actually do is reflected in policy. Overall everything should be more clear and easier to understand.

Questions: None

*Vote: Motion carries*

**Motion 11: That ASUS Assembly formally approve the changes to the Governance Policy Manual as seen in Appendix D: Governance Policy Manual Changes.**

Moved by: Kristen Sutherland

Seconded by: Caitlin Hayes

**Governance Officer Sutherland:** This is the same project and idea as the previous motion. We revised the governance policy manual. There was one entire section that made reference to administrative tasks that the Governance Officer doesn't do anymore that's been struck through. As well we updated the position descriptions and amended the references to policy that no longer exists.

Questions: None

*Vote: Motion carries*

**Motion 12: That ASUS Assembly formally approve the changes to the Community Outreach Policy Manual as seen in Appendix E: Community Outreach Policy Manual Changes.**

Moved by: Emily Armstrong

Seconded by: Brandon Aldworth

**Community Outreach Commissioner Armstrong:** No crazy changes, just a few things that were outdated and didn't reflect the mandate of the committee. I focused on the descriptions so that it's relevant to what people are doing now.

Questions: None

*Vote: Motion carries*

**Motion 13: That ASUS Assembly formally approve the changes to the Academics Policy Manual as seen in Appendix F: Academics Policy Manual Changes.**

Moved by: Tiffany Yung

Seconded by: Alicia Parker

**Academics Commissioner Yung:** This is actually a massive restructuring that I'm doing with the positions. Academics is already quite large and is continuing to grow. Having only two deputies isn't sustainable and both of mine are overworked. As such, this change involves a three deputy structure to make more niches and to make it more accessible. As well, it will significantly lighten the workload and give room for the commission to grow. I'm happy to chat more if there are any questions.

Questions: None

*Vote: Motion carries*

**Motion 14: That ASUS Assembly formally approve the changes to the President Policy Manual as seen in Appendix G: President Policy Manual Changes Part 2.**

Moved by: Alyth Roos

Seconded by: Brandon Aldworth

**President Roos:** So this is the first few changes I've made to the president and Constitutions to make sure that the ideas we sent forward are reflected. I consulted with the QNSA to make sure students had compensation and to make sure we are not overburdening them and reducing burnout. As well, there will be a swap to a fixed role that will have different members of the team to give students different opportunities to meet and talk with us to reduce the burden. But overall this is to make sure policy reflects what is happening in practice.

Questions: None

*Vote: Motion carries*

**Motion 15: That ASUS Assembly formally approve the changes to the ASUS Constitution as seen in Appendix H: Changes to the ASUS Constitution.**

Moved by: Alyth Roos

Seconded by: Brandon Aldworth

**President Roos:** This is one of the edits made by the Equity Director who has been going through the policy manuals to make sure they reflect equity mandates. This is our highest document and so we need to make sure it reflects our values. We've had consultations to make sure to compensate equity based labour alongside hirings. As well, we made a brief change to ensure that the Reflection Room is a source of Indigenization and to make sure the Constitution is holding itself to the ideas and values of ASUS.

Questions: None

*Vote: Motion carries*

## **Speakers Last Word**

**Speaker Robertson:** Thank you all for participating. It always means a lot. We only have a couple of these meetings left which is kind of mind boggling. Enjoy reading week and try to catch up while also taking some breaks. Hope to see you all at the next assembly.

### **Motion: To adjourn the meeting**

Moved by: Brandon Aldworth

Seconded By: Kristen Sutherland

*Vote: Motion carries*