

**Arts
and
Science
Undergraduate
Society —
Assembly**

Annual General Meeting (AGM)
Meeting 8

GUEST SPEAKER

Dr. Jenn Stephenson, Associate Dean (Academic)

Hello everyone! Thank you for inviting me to the assembly and allowing me to come talk to you. My portfolio is based around regulations. There are 3 main categories of regulations: admission, academic, and appeals. Regulations are living documents that are regularly changed. Every year we take in new ideas about regulation modifications.

This year's batch of proposed regulation changes will be unveiled on the 24th of March and will become part of the calendar in May. They will take effect going forward but are not at all final. The slide deck being presented is an overview of the changes.

Our main priority is to focus on the integrity of a Queen's degree. We wish to be authentic and transparent with students whenever possible. We will prioritise regulations that impact the overall student learning experience.

We seek out any potential barriers that have been built into the regulations and thoughtfully remove any of these invisible barriers. For instance, we used to charge students \$50 to make an appeal. Our goal is to ensure that the appeal process is as seamless as possible. We will explore what other universities like us are doing to see if there are any positive regulations that we may be able to implement.

We will consult with ASUS executives and assembly, as well as undergraduate chairs and assistants. The student services leadership team is also encouraged to share their perspectives. Lastly, we hope to have more communication with Commerce and the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science.

Regulation 7.2.3

This regulation is designed to maintain the idea that there should be no exams before exam period. De facto exams are not permitted and students should not be tested with major assignments. These new regulations essentially define what is a de facto exam. It includes any testing type activity that is not an essay, seminar, or group project.

Regulation 7.2.4

Professors are able to apply for exceptions regarding the de facto exam policy.

However, not many exceptions are made.

Regulation 10.3.4

This regulation clarifies how much work has to be done in a course to be assigned an incomplete. There is a rule that says if you are an IN it automatically becomes an F at the end of the winter term. Students are able to appeal to have this process extended. We clarify that instructors should post the C and await the rest of work if the situation applies.

Regulation 13.8

Every May we run progressions that look at every student's GPA. Certain groups of students under 1.6 are automatically placed on probation. However, the vast majority are in good standing. Students in 3rd or 4th year that are under 1.9 are not eligible to receive honours. They will be assigned to a general degree and the honours door closes.

Regulation 13.8 proposes that these students will get moved into general but it is not permanent. It is at the discretion of the undergrad chair and it is possible for them to move back to honours if their grades recover. They are able to request a change of plan back into honours. It does affect that many students but it is still an important change regardless.

Regulation 17

Regulation 17 is about misconduct in an academic or nonacademic setting. It is placed under student affairs and faculty policies need to be removed.

Regulation 3.3.1.7

This is a petitionable regulation regarding students in 3rd and 4th year who wish to study abroad. We believe those 3rd and 4th year courses are really valuable and students should stay at Queen's if possible. However, 6 units for the year does not require permission. Any more units require students to ask the department and associate dean. They must have extenuating circumstances or an exceptional academic opportunity. They are not allowed to finish elsewhere simply because it is convenient.

Other revisions

We are beginning the process of thinning some regulations. Instructions or examples will be cut out to simplify the regulations.

Question period

Layla: For the proposed changes to the regulation about professor discretion, how are they going to keep up with what changes are made?

Professors are encouraged to go to the faculty board as part of the motion. Furthermore, all regulations are published and placed in the Faculty of Arts and Science calendar.

Colleen: How would a student approach a situation where regulations are involved? Are there ways we can make regulations more accessible?

We are stripping the regulations to be more streamlined. "Student friendly guides" are also available. They are one page simplified versions of regulations, almost like an FAQ. Students are not expected to know the regulations so they are encouraged to speak with academic advisors who will point them in the right direction.

Thank you everyone!

Assembly is called to order 7:48 at PM EST

MOTION 1 - Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Governance Officer Caitlin Sankaran-Wee

Seconded by: President Yara Hussein

Questions: None

Vote: *Motion carries*

MOTION 2 - Approval of the Minutes

Moved by: Governance Officer Caitlin Sankaran-Wee

Seconded by: President Yara Hussein

Questions: None

Vote: *Motion carries*

SPEAKER'S BUSINESS

Speaker Christian Luchin: Speech

Hello everyone! Today's assembly is a special one as everyone can vote on motions, so feel free to participate.

DISCUSSION PERIOD

ANONYMOUS SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES AND STUDENT FEEDBACK

Speaker: Yara

This discussion period surrounds how useful social media pages can be. We find that social media acts as a space where students can share concerns.

Do we see these pages as being productive? What would you like to see as faculty engagement?

Speaker: Hannah

It's clear that students just want to be heard and feel heard. Social media is an area for students to discuss things with us. Just having that accessibility is important.

How can we improve our ASUS initiatives on social media? How can we accept this feedback and forward it to executives?

Speaker: Alice

When Frankie and I were running our information booth we were talking to a lot of people from across different years. A lot of people didn't know where to raise their concerns so having a social media account provides an easy way for people to do so. It is a very accessible and easy way that it is advertised to them.

Guest Speaker: Yasmine

Social media is an easy way to express how one feels when they don't know where to go. I think their voices can be heard through you guys.

Guest Speaker: Santiago

In residence last year there was a labour strike and students raised their concerns on social media

Speaker: Yara

I appreciate all the feedback and social media will continue to be part of the marketing strategy moving forward.

WHERE DO YOU HOPE TO SEE ASUS IN FIVE YEARS TIME?

Speaker: Yara

This is a little philosophical but will be highlighted in executive reports. The Faculty board meeting is happening on March 24th. ASUS will highlight their vision and the executive team will meet with the dean's council. We will introduce our large projects or improvements.

Speaker: Aloka

I found that ASUS is at a crossroads where a lot of people confuse us with AMS. In some ways we are more comparable with AMS than other societies. We should keep redefining the vision of ASUS and serve students no matter how large we become. It all goes back to students so we need a lot of innovation to make use of the growth that's happening.

Speaker: Layla

We hope to have more engagement in the following years and more interfaculty collaboration. ASUS should be a collaborative effort with all of Queen's participating. Lastly, ASUS should create a more welcoming space for students so when they walk past the ASUS house they recognize that this is the home of our faculty.

Speaker: Monica

I think that there is a lot of room to foster long term engagement. The passion for ASUS faded during COVID so we must work to bring back the passion for our faculty. ASUS should be an organisation that brings people together.

Speaker: Alicia

I think that it is really exciting that ASUS is growing. It serves a huge student population and we do not want volunteers to continue being the blood, sweat, and tears of ASUS. We must be weary of what we are asking of volunteers to ensure it is a positive experience for everyone.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

PRESIDENT REPORT

Presented by **Yara Hussein**, President

President Yara Hussein: Speech

This will be a lengthy report today so I thank you for your patience. It is my last official report in this position. The ArtSci Cup basketball raised an estimated \$20,000 for the Canadian Cancer society. I would like to personally thank the council for their tireless efforts and I hope to see the event continue on for years to come.

Lately I have focused on highlighting Indigenization. There will be increased additions to the reflection room to expand Indigenous influence. Hopefully it will be presented before the end of April. Black advocacy has also been an emphasis as of late. I am working on building a stronger horizontal relationship with ASUS and Black-led clubs.

The Mark R. Wilson award is the highest attributed award within the society. It is part of the ArtSci undergrad research fund. So far over \$33,000 have been given out for student projects. You can apply on our site if you are interested in creating a summer research project.

The life after ArtSci 23 event will take place in Ottawa on March 22nd. I invite you to check out tickets which are going on sale soon. St. Patrick's Day merch will be released next week with all proceeds going to the Canadian Cancer Society.

My other direct report Charlotte is in the final stages of her report on food security. It will be part of the ASUS panel. The panel will highlight the accomplishments and successes of the ASUS projects this year.

My final word is a huge thank you to ASUS assembly for their willingness to engage in discussion. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with you. ASUS volunteers are a driving force and truly the heartbeat of this society. Thank you to my Vice Presidents and everyone in this room for building an ASUS that we love.

VICE PRESIDENT OF SOCIETY AFFAIRS REPORT

Presented by **Emma Farrell**, Vice President of Society Affairs

Vice President of Society Affairs Emma Farrell: Speech

In terms of ArtSci Cup updates over \$20,000 has been donated to CCS. Final invoices from that event will be released shortly. Heart and Stroke is wrapping up their campaigns and Community Living is preparing their exam care packages.

Hiring is coming up with a lot of positions opening on March 3rd. It will be a staggered hiring and I encourage all to apply. We really want to see a strong applicant pool this year. Applications for camp counsellor positions will close tomorrow at 4 PM. Please apply to those positions ASAP.

We met with David Patterson from Queen's Camps to discuss health and safety regulations. Registration will open in late March for kids in the Kingston community.

Today we had another deputy caucus meeting and we are really excited to see how that event goes. The wellness guide was released today on Instagram and I highly recommend that you check that out. There will be a series of different events for wellness week.

Watch out for the Sustainability Cup event which will occur on March 15th. I collaborated with the Commissioner of Sustainability. Exec transition is underway and individual transition meetings are also underway.

I thank everyone for being here and having assemblies in person again makes them a bit more exciting. Thank you to the council for all the hard work this year and if you have any questions please let me know. Have a great rest of the semester if I don't see you!

VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS REPORT

Presented by **Aloka Wijesundara**, Vice President of Operations

Vice President of Operations Aloka Wijesundara: Speech

It is crazy to think that we are almost done this year. I know everyone is feeling a mixture of just wanting everything to end and wanting to take it all in. Teresa will start soon and I have been having 1 on 1 chats with her.

We have learned some lessons from the transition period and we are feeling more prepared for next year.

Services support has been helping the formal team. Formal will occur on April 1st and 2nd. There is a separate budget line for formal. We really hope that incentivizes people to come.

Our director Sophie has been working really hard in changing the orientation communication to Microsoft Suite. It is a big project with years of work that are in those Gmail accounts.

Dylan has also given our online store an entire new look that is way more accessible. The accounting directors have been working hard on closing the budget for the next assembly. We are working to close the camps and orientation budgets as well.

Nate, our Payouts Accounting Director, has changed his job description because of the influx of grants.

Our receptionist team is working on the experiential learning project. I come in with the budget for both of those. 2023 budgets will be unveiled at the next assembly.

I am really happy that we have seen an uptick in financial assistance applications. We have introduced some new ASUS awards that not many people know about. I have worked with Emma and Dean Crow on sponsoring some of the costs for the ArtSci Cup.

Lastly, I encourage you all to take in the next few months as university is a special time that you will remember fondly.

Society Reports

Speaker: Alice Brisbin (ACS Commissioner)

I will quickly reflect on things we've done this past year. I acknowledge that people don't really know about ASUS so holding an information booth was an effective way of informing the wider Queen's community.

Thank you to everyone for all the hard work this past year and I wish the best of luck to those of you who are graduating.

Speaker: Hannah Slowikowska (CESA Representative)

As a small society we take what we can get so we are grateful for the funds that ASUS has provided to us. We are excited to give our first grants as a society this year. Overall, it is very nice to give back to our students.

We also have our Tims with Profs event coming up soon. Furthermore, workshop week will be taking place shortly. There is a new workshop about mathematical education if anyone wishes to participate.

Our formal will occur on March 24th and we are very grateful for the grant that we've received from you. Our executive team has officially been elected and our council hiring will begin soon.

There is a Women's Day event taking place on March 8th at 6 PM at Dunning. It will surely be an awesome event so please come out. Lastly, we have an inter-year dodgeball event on Friday. It is the only inter-year event on the calendar.

Speaker: Catie Austin (Vice President of Student Affairs - COMPSA)

Most of what COMPSA is working on is continuations of things that we have been working on for most of the semester. There will be a formal on March 30th at Grant Hall. We will release our formal grant applications on that day.

We have begun the second round of tech hiring. There are a few more spots open for orientation leadership. By midnight we will have all of our final votes in for candidate selection.

We are wrapping up our policy work for how we structure finance. We want to make sure that we have all of the structures that we want in place.

Lots of different events are going on. Our trivia night is coming up as well as our Bob Ross paint night. We recommended that everyone check us out on Instagram @COMPSA.

We really enjoyed having the support of ASUS this year and I would like to thank everyone for all their hard work.

Speaker: Natalie (Vice President - PHEKSA)

We had our executive elections for PHEKSA. Hiring for assembly is also coming up shortly and should be done by mid-April. Our full orientation team has also been hired.

Midterm care packages are currently open for sign up. They include snacks and self-care products. The Kin water bottle sale will also begin in a few weeks. All proceeds go to an organisation associated with sustainability.

Finally our formal is less than a month away and will take place on April 1st. We are super happy for all that we've accomplished this year and I would like to thank everyone for all their support.

Speaker: Anisha Chaudhary (Social Sciences Academic Representative)

We will be having another curriculum meeting tomorrow where more information will be shared by me.

Speaker: Colleen Tordoff (Natural and Physical Sciences Academic Representative)

The details for our inter-faculty cluster event will be coming soon. It will be somewhat of a larger event due to the sheer size of my cluster. It will be an opportunity for students to talk to someone in a potential career that they are interested in.

Speaker: Dillon Chicoski (Humanities Academic Representative)

Trivia night has been cancelled. We are looking to host another event soon. Our primary goal is to provide research opportunities for students in the humanities.

Speaker: Leo Yang (Senate Representative)

In terms of the senate I will keep my report short. I have a senate retreat this Saturday. It will be based around the topic of research. The Vice Principal of Research will attend. I would like to say thanks to all members and especially the executives for all their help this year.

QUESTION PERIOD

NONE

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

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MOTION 2

Motion to Amend the Agenda

Moved by: President Yara Hussein

Seconded by: Equity Commissioner Layla Haddard

Vote: *Motion carries*

MOTION 3

That ASUS Assembly formally approve the changes to the Marketing and Communications Office Policy Manual as seen in Appendix A: "MarComms Policy Amendments."

Moved by: Marketing and Communications Officer Monica Szalajko

Seconded by: Vice President of Society Affairs Emma Farrell

Speaker: Monica

This motion is focused on making a broader social media team. We hope to include one more director. A lot of small vocabulary changes have been made as well.

Questions: None

Vote: *Motion carries*

MOTION 4

That ASUS Assembly approve the reallocation of unused grant funding from the Fall Professional Development grant to the Winter Sibling Society Grant.

Moved by: Vice President of Operations Aloka Wijesundara

Seconded by: Vice President of Society Affairs Emma Farrell

Speaker: Aloka

Essentially in the Fall we had a grant that was given to us that did not end up being used so we decided to move it to the Winter Sibling Society Grant.

Questions: None

Vote: *Motion carries*

MOTION 5

That ASUS Assembly approve the reallocation of unused grant funding from the Winter DSC grant to the Winter Professional Development Grant.

Moved by: Vice President of Operations Aloka Wijesundara

Seconded by: Vice President of Society Affairs Emma Farrell

Speaker: Aloka

For this term we did not receive any DSC grant applications. However, there has been an influx of professional development grant applications so we moved it over there.

Questions: None

Vote: *Motion carries*

MOTION 6

That ASUS Assembly approve the distribution of the ASUS Professional Development Grant Winter semester allocation, as seen in Appendix B: "Winter PD Grant Allocation."

Moved by: Vice President of Operations Aloka Wijesundara

Seconded by: Vice President of Society Affairs Emma Farrell

Speaker: Aloka

We will briefly introduce the amount of money given through the grant:

- \$498 to Sophia
- \$400 to Katya
- \$300 to Lauren
- \$250 to Lucy
- \$600 to Jordan

Speaker: Sophia

This money will help me as I will be studying for the MCAT this entire summer and will not be able to have a job. The grant will alleviate the impact of me not working this summer.

Speaker: Katya

I am grateful to receive this funding and it will cover my travel fees to the Atlanta conference. Thank you to ASUS for all their help.

Speaker: Lauren

I need money for canvas and paint. I'm in my fourth year and this money will help me finish my thesis. There will be an art show on April 24th at Ontario Hall and you are all welcome to attend. My thesis is about childhood trauma and memories.

Speaker: Lucy

I wanted to thank ASUS for their assistance in my funding.

Speaker: Jordan

This funding will give me the amazing opportunity to travel abroad to Botswana this summer. It will help me gain some more experience and skills.

Questions: None

Vote: *Motion carries*

MOTION 7

That ASUS Assembly approve the distribution of the ASUS Student Initiative Grant Winter semester allocation, as seen in Appendix C: "Winter Student Initiative Grant Allocation."

Moved by: Vice President of Operations Aloka Wijesundara

Seconded by: President Yara Hussein

Speaker: Aloka

We have two recipients for this:

- \$450 to Matt for NATO Field School
- \$550 to Queen's Arab Student Association

Speaker: Matt

The field school is run by Simon Fraser University in British Columbia. I will be able to travel to NATO institutions throughout Europe. Thank you everyone for their time.

Speaker: Yasmine

We want more people to learn about Ramadan and Islam and we believe this funding will help us in that journey. Thank you ASUS for all your help.

Questions: None

Vote: *Motion carries*

MOTION 8

That ASUS Assembly approve the distribution of the ASUS Committee Grant Winter semester allocation, as seen in Appendix D: "Winter Committee Grant Allocation."

Moved by: Vice President of Operations Aloka Wijesundara

Seconded by: President Yara Hussein

Speaker: Aloka

Two recipients:

- \$400 to Kids for Kids
- \$600 to ASUS Orientation

Speaker: Natpi (Kids for Kids)

We will work directly with the Child Life Specialist at KGH to distribute the money effectively. Part of grant funding will go to toy drives for kids.

Speaker: George (ASUS Orientation Head Gael)

Part of the funding will go to the costs in regards to OC uniforms. This will help promote financial accessibility within the Queen's community.

Questions: None

Vote: *Motion carries*

MOTION 9

That ASUS Assembly approve the distribution of the ASUS Sibling Society Grant Winter semester allocation, as seen in Appendix E: "Winter Sibling Society Grant Allocation."

Moved by: Vice President of Operations Aloka Wijesundara

Seconded by: President Yara Hussein

Speaker: Aloka

- \$500 to CESA for Formal event
- \$1300 to CESA for orientation
- \$200 to CESA for International Women's Day vent

Speaker: Maddy

Thank you for this opportunity to make ConEd orientation as accessible as possible. We are hoping that this grant lowers the cost for student fees. It will also provide more accessible clothing, such as a larger sizing range. We hope to translate the values that CESA and ASUS want.

Maddy

Questions: None

Vote: *Motion carries*

SPEAKER'S LAST WORD

Speaker Christian Luchin: Speech

ASUS this year has been graceful in getting all their work done. Truly you guys have put in lots of effort to demonstrate that representation is important.

These are the classiest people I know and the ArtSci community would be proud. For those who are graduating, we can only hope that we top you guys. Overall, thanks everyone for a great year and it has been a pleasure to work with you.

MOTION 10: Adjournment

Moved by: Speaker Christian Luchin

Seconded by: Humanities Academic Representative Dillon Chicoski

Vote: *Motion carries*