



Student Representative Assembly Meeting 150
Sunday, February 21, 2016 at 5:00 pm
Council Chambers, GH 111

Called to Order at 5:02pm

CALL OF THE ROLL

Present

Almeida, Caramento, Clayton, Dales, D'Angela, Gillis, Guarna, Hsu, Ibe, Krause, Kula, McDougall, Mirza, Muramatsu, Mutoigo, Nadarajah, Nestico-Semianiw, Oliver, Osazuwa, Pakkal, Pita, Pour-Bahreini, Stegmaier, Sun, Yazdankia

Absent Excused

Burke, Cao, D'Souza, Enriquez, Ngo, Tambakis

Absent

Late

Ali, Jama, Manning

Others Present

Sean Burak (SoBi Hamilton), Peter Topalovic (City of Hamilton), Alex Wilson (TAC/Maccess Coordinator), Aly Khalifa (MSU Member), Christine Yachouh (Advocacy Coordinator), Nishan Zewge-Abubaker (Diversity Services Director), Preethi Anbalagan (MSU Member), Hayley Regis (WGEN Coordinator), Labika Ghani (MSU Member), Gilbert Kobina Baiden (MSU Member), Carter McInnis (Bylaws & Procedures Commissioner), Desmond Flowers (MSU Member), Aqeel Anas (MSU Member), Mishaol Oazi (MSU Member), Aquino Inigo (MSU Member), Priya Gupta (Chief Returning Officer), Issac Oakie (MSU Member), Zhaoyun (Jack) Zhang (MSU Member), V. Scott (Recording Secretary)

Chair

Inna Berditchevskaia

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Ibe, **seconded** by Yazdankia to adopt the agenda as presented.

Amendment

Moved by Ibe, **seconded** by Dales to add "Open MSU seat on Elections Committee" to Business.

- Ibe stated that they need someone to fill the seat.

Vote on Amendment

Passes Unanimously

Amendment

Moved by Krause, **seconded** by Oliver to add "Leave of Absence" to Business.

- Krause stated that he needs to take a leave to run for the SRA, and he will talk more to this in Business.

Vote on Amendment

Passes Unanimously

Amendment

Moved by Stegmaier, **seconded** by Gillis to move the Services Commissioner report to number one in Report Period.

- Stegmaier stated that he needed to leave early but would like to be able to speak to the report.

Vote on Amendment

Passes Unanimously

Vote to Adopt Agenda

Moved by Ibe, **seconded** by Yazdankia to adopt the agenda as amended.

Passes Unanimously

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

- The Speaker welcomed everyone back and hoped that they all had a restful and productive Reading Week. The Speaker asked that everyone in the back to please sign the Observer's List.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Nadarajah, **seconded** by Dales that the Assembly adopt the minutes from SRA meeting 15N – February 6, 2016, as circulated.

In Favour: 23 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 1
Abstained: McDougall
Motion Passes

DELEGATION FROM THE FLOOR

Moved by Gillis, **seconded** by Stegmaier that the Assembly set parameters for the Delegation From the Floor to be ten (10) minutes.

Amendment

Moved by Gillis, **seconded** by Stegmaier to amend the motion to read: "**Moved** by Gillis, seconded by Stegmaier that the Assembly set parameters for the Delegation From the Floor to be ten (10) minutes for presentation and ten (10) minutes for questions."

- Gillis explained that he meant to give them more time to answer questions.

Vote on Amendment

Passes Unanimously

Vote to Set Parameters

Motion Passes by General Consent

1. Sobi Presentation – Sean Burak presented

- Burak summarized the presentation.

Moved by Osazuwa, **seconded** McDougall to extend the presentation by five minutes.

Motion Passes by General Consent

Questions

- Mirza asked about if they have negotiated space on campus. Burak responded that they have been talking to MACycle, though the conversation is a bit premature. He explained that the time frame will be, if this was voted through, an October referendum which if it passes will have the plan in place for the 2017/18 academic year.
- Pita asked how good the access to SoBi on the mountain was. Burak responded that they took out the hubs for the winter, but they have spoken to Mohawk College about a partnership to allow more hubs. He added that they are working with Mohawk to get a discount for their students as well.
- Hsu asked about what the part-time staff would be doing on campus. Burak responded that they would be doing bike maintenance and rebalancing. He added that the staff can flag a bike for repair on campus since they want the bikes up and running right away.
- D'Angela asked about concerns of going over the allocated time limit as some students might be worried they won't have enough money to access the bikes. Burak responded that the standard yearly pass gives 60 minutes a day, and most users ride 20-30 minutes on average. He explained that the account will have the credit already on it so that access won't be taken away. Burak added that most people will stay within their limit.
- Pita asked Burak to expand on the opt-in system if the referendum passes. Burak responded that if the motion on the table passes and the question goes to referendum then they will give the students the opportunity to buy into a severely reduced pass. He explained that they will allow the students to opt-in this coming year, and if the referendum passes then it will turn into an opt-out system.
- Nadarajah asked where they got the opt-out rate from. Burak responded that they looked at other opt-outs with a similar price range. He stated that most of them had around four to five percent opt-out so they rounded it up to ten percent as they don't know for sure.
- Oliver stated that one of her constituents can't ride a regular bike, but can use a hand cycle or trike. She stated that the student was concerned about a service being on campus when a service was denied to them. Burak responded that they sometimes get requests for other bikes, but that was a challenge because they don't own the bikes and the manufacturer does not make other bikes. He explained that if they had these bikes in the system they don't know who would need them, and then the hop on point to point doesn't work. Burak stated that he does recognize the challenge and stated that unfortunately the best option would be to opt-out and work through other services.
- D'Angela asked about how the overages worked. Burak responded that everyone will have individual logins and are given a \$15 credit. He explained that if a student runs the credit down to zero and they keep going over then they would have to opt-in to add a credit card to their system or work with SoBi to add funds. Burak stated that the idea was that most people will stay within their limit and even if they run it down they will be fine.
- Almeida asked how the opt-out would be advertised. Burak responded that they hoped to make it part of their campaign.

Moved by Ibe, **seconded** by Gillis to exhaust the Speaker's list.

Passes Unanimously

- Osazuwa asked how the opt-out will be done. Burak responded that it will be managed the same with as with other programs, during the month of September. He added that they will have an extended opt-out in-house for students registered with SAS.
- Ibe thanked Burak for working with them on this. He wondered how this fits if the President's Advisory Council for Transportation and Parking (PACTP) hasn't met about this. He asked if they will be seeing a similar plan for downtown. Burak responded that they have worked with others to enhance the service, and have relationships with several departments to bring hubs onto campus. Burak stated that they have already been given a preliminary green light on a campus wide parking plan.
- Pita asked what will happen if a student messes up locking up the bike the first time and is charged. Burak responded that the student can email SoBi and they will reverse any charges. He added that they will be getting new firmware in the next few weeks that will beep at the person if it isn't locked properly.

- Gillis asked if they have looked into traffic congestion. Burak responded that they are hoping that the passes will students to re-think taking the bike instead of waiting for a bus to pick them up. Topalovic stated that the City was aware of the congestion and that's where the hubs are placed. He explained that hubs are matched up with bus stops in the Westdale area but it's not like that downtown because they want everyone to use the B-line.
- Kula asked if helmets would be available. Burak responded that they do have an agreement with an initiative of selling helmets at cost.

REPORT PERIOD

1. Services Commissioner – Stegmaier presented

- Stegmaier summarized the report.

Questions

- Nestico-Semianiw asked Stegmaier to talk about what has been accomplished for his YearPlan for this semester. Stegmaier responded that the presidential election threw him off and therefore had a late start for the committee. He explained that he decided to focus on creating a foundation for doing reviews and getting members working on items.
- Oliver asked about the CLAY service review and stated that Stegmaier was going to bring it forward in September. Oliver asked what the status of that was. Oliver asked about the reviews for WGEN and Spark. Stegmaier responded that in terms of WGEN and Spark, it wasn't going to happen. He explained that he chose to focus on the other services designated by the previous commissioner. Stegmaier stated that there was a common consensus that Spark and WGEN were operating flawlessly and it wouldn't be a good use of time to review them this year. Stegmaier stated that as for the other service reviews, unfortunately some things came up. He explained he didn't see it being a problem of the service reports being reported.
- Yachouh asked if there was any framework set for doing reviews. Stegmaier stated that operating policies have been popping up all year, and while he may be working on reports the service could be asking for the operating policy changes right away. Stegmaier stated that by creating a transition report he is hoping to give the incoming commissioner an idea on how to make sure the reports get done.
- Hsu asked if PTMs wanted to update their operating policies would they be going straight to the Operations Committee. Stegmaier stated that the Services Commissioner won't be updating policies next year and will be doing service reviews and reports.
- Clayton asked how Stegmaier planned on wrapping everything up and finishing before end of year. Stegmaier responded that he will be making sure that the Executive Board will receive the reports that have been made, and setting the foundation for the next Commissioner.

2. Arts & Sciences Caucus – Almeida presented

- Almeida summarized the report.

3. Business Caucus – Krause presented

- Krause summarized the report.

4. Engineering Caucus – Mirza reported

- Mirza apologized for not submitting a report. She stated that they don't have any milestones to report on, except that they are hosting an event and working with the Science Caucus.

Questions

- Nestico-Semianiw asked if there will be a report coming soon. Mirza stated that it would be submitted soon.
- Nestico-Semianiw asked when it was going to be submitted. Mirza responded that it would be tonight.
- Nestico-Semianiw asked what the caucus members have been up to. Dales responded that the big goal was to get MES more involved with the MSU. He explained that they have been going to MES committee meetings and bringing forward new ideas. Dales stated that he wasn't around when the YearP lan was made but there is a Humans of Engineering page coming out soon to connect with students.

5. Bylaws and Procedures Commissioner – McInnis presented

- McInnis summarized the report.

Questions

- D'Angela asked if the GA bylaw that was circulated was looked over by the committee. McInnis responded that the committee had already looked it over and stated that he was accepting feedback from anyone in order to fast track the process.
- Clayton stated that before they did the accountability bylaw McInnis wanted to wrap up the House Leader bylaw and put it to bed, but hasn't heard anything about it. McInnis responded that there were conversations earlier on about House Leader but the accountability bylaw was going to be a surrogate. He explained that he was doing his best by prioritizing timely issues that arose and that was why it hadn't been focused on yet.
- Gillis stated that the ground work was laid out for McInnis for the House Leader and accountability bylaw and now the commissioner has waited until March even though bylaw changes were already proposed. He asked if one month will be enough to do all these changes. McInnis responded that he didn't have a transition report to work off of and that there wasn't any ground work already laid out for him. McInnis stated that he decided to address the committee with his own priorities and directions, and with respect to finishing up in the last month he stated that it wasn't a super timely issue. McInnis explained that he will help the new commissioner in their role if things aren't wrapped up by end of term.

6. Operations Commissioner – Clayton presented

- Clayton summarized the report.

7. Executive Board – report attached

- Osazuwa summarized report.

8. Vice-President (Administration) – Guarna presented

- Guarna summarized the report.

Questions

- Almeida asked when hiring would be happening for the Training Resources Research Assistant position. Guarna responded that she would like for it to happen before May, and wants it done before exams. Guarna added that she was hoping to get it done before Western University does their transition.
- Almeida asked what Guarna was looking for them to learn. Guarna responded that Western has a peer support centre, and would like the TRRA to see how the volunteers work and the general interaction in the space.
- Wilson asked what specific items they were looking for in terms of issues of space. Guarna responded that they don't know what will be happening yet and what kind of space they need. She explained that there will always be kinks and she realized that they don't do well enough, as only just three years ago there was only one service that had peer support and now there are five. Guarna stated that the key thing is to

figure out what is needed to be a good peer supporter. Guarna added that guidelines are set out for that but they keep changing, so she was hoping to have a look at Western's model which has University buy-in.

Amend the Agenda

Moved by Gillis, **seconded** by Osazuwa to move Business Item #4 to be after Report Period.

- Gillis stated that it makes sense to do it in this order as there are people waiting at the back.

Vote on Motion

Passes Unanimously

BUSINESS

4. SoBi Referendum

Moved by Gillis, **seconded** by Osazuwa that the Assembly send the SoBi Fee of \$16.95 as proposed, to referendum.

- Gillis stated that they have seen a lot of information on how this would be beneficial to students, and it made sense to put this to a referendum.
- Osazuwa stated that he was impressed that SoBi took the recommendations that the SRA gave them, and felt that it was fair to send this to referendum.
- Krause stated that SoBi has been proactive on who they reached out to, and he felt that this was a positive proposal.
- Ibe wanted the MSU to work with Facility Services to get an audit on space and demographics before sending the question to referendum. He stated that he also wanted to have conversations with the other universities to see if they have had any challenges and to gain feedback. Ibe added that he would also like to hear from John McGowan as he hasn't been in the office during this time.
- Gillis stated that SoBi has taken the time to meet with the representatives and they have reached out to the MSU and given a lot of information. Gillis felt that the referendum won't preclude any conversations from happening.
- Sun asked Ibe to explain what he meant by an audit. Sun ceded the rest of his time to Ibe. Ibe responded that he was just proposing that the BoD and GM have a separate conversation with Facilities to fact check and make sure the plan fits within the McMaster and MSU plans.
- Yazdankia asked Ibe why he was raising questions and issues now when they had the email from the SoBi rep and could have contacted them. He explained that if Ibe reached out to SoBi the questions could have been answered. Yazdankia ceded the rest of his time to Ibe. Ibe stated that he made recommendations to the BoD to have meetings with Facility Services.
- D'Angela asked if they will be making a recommendation to the future SRA.
- The Speaker responded that if the SRA resolves to call the referendum it will then be given to the Elections Department and will be scheduled within the next referendum cycle.
- D'Angela stated that the motion didn't include inflation. He asked if this is something that SoBi wanted to see.

Amendment

Moved by Osazuwa, **seconded** by Hsu to amend the motion to read: "**Moved** by Gillis, **seconded** by Osazuwa that the Assembly send the SoBi Fee of \$16.95 as proposed, subject to inflationary increases every year by CPI, to referendum."

Vote on Amendment

Passes Unanimously

Vote on Main Motion

Moved by Gillis, **seconded** by Osazuwa that the Assembly send the SoBi Fee of \$16.95 as proposed, subject to inflationary increases every year by CPI, to referendum.

In Favour: 23 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 1
Abstained: D'Angela
Motion Passes

Moved by Osazuwa, **seconded** by Oliver that the Assembly recess for 10 minutes.

Motion Passes by General Consent

Recessed at 7:09pm

Called to Order at 7:24pm

CALL OF THE ROLL

Present	Ali, Almeida, Caramento, Clayton, Dales, D'Angela, Gillis, Guarna, Ibe, Jama, Manning, Mirza, Muramatsu, Mutoigo, Nadarajah, Nestico-Semianiw, Oliver, Osazuwa, Pakkal, Pita, Pour-Bahreini, Sun, Yazdankia
Absent Excused	Burke, Cao, D'Souza, Enriquez, Ngo, Stegmaier, Tambakis
Absent	
Late	Hsu, Krause, Kula, McDougall
Others Present	Alex Wilson (TAC/Maccess Coordinator), Aly Khalifa (MSU Member), Christine Yachouh (Advocacy Coordinator), Nishan Zewge-Abubaker (Diversity Services Director), Preethi Anbalagan (MSU Member), Hayley Regis (WGEN Coordinator), Labika Ghani (MSU Member), Gilbert Kobina Baiden (MSU Member), Carter McInnis (Bylaws & Procedures Commissioner), Desmond Flowers (MSU Member), Aqeel Anas (MSU Member), Mishaol Oazi (MSU Member), Aquino Inigo (MSU Member), Priya Gupta (Chief Returning Officer), Issac Oakie (MSU Member), Zhaoyun (Jack) Zhang (MSU Member), V. Scott (Recording Secretary)
Chair	Inna Berditchevskaia

INFORMATION PERIOD

- Oliver reported that Mac Talks starts tomorrow, and there are a lot of events planned.
- Mutoigo reported that the Nursing Caucus has been working on getting peer feedback, and that every Friday they will launch a survey before the meetings. She explained that they will give out major topics to receive feedback on them. This week they covered the SoBi referendum and VP Elections. Mutoigo added that they are looking to improve the survey and get more responses, and if any other caucuses want to be involved they could do an SRA wide survey.
- Guarna reported that the Programming Council came up with an interfaculty event, which will be tubing. Guarna stated that it will be \$35 and that includes transportation and three hours of tubing. She added that they will have the whole park to themselves so if anyone was interested they can grab the information from her or the faculty societies. Guarna reported that this year there will be an incentive for Commissioners to get their transition report done before April 30, and it will be an additional two weeks pay.
- Pita reported that the MMT is putting on a show called "The Drowsy Chaperone".
- Nestico-Semianiw stated that hopefully each faculty has reached out to the SRA valedictorian representative about selection. He asked for those members to let him know if they haven't been contacted yet.

- Ibe reported that the International Students Open House happened. He stated that there was a small turnout but the event was still valuable. Ibe thanked Nishan Zewge-Abubaker and Nadarajah for doing a session. Ibe thanked Guarna for helping organize.

QUESTION PERIOD

- Osazuwa asked the Speaker how many Assembly members were close to being kicked off. He explained that Attendance has gone down and it isn't fair to the constituents. The Speaker responded that one SRA member already lost their seat. They explained that any Assembly member who is close to losing their seat will be notified via email.
- Osazuwa asked the Speaker what happens to those seats. The Speaker responded that they are now past the point to re-elect members.
- Osazuwa asked the Bylaws & Procedures Commissioner if the matter of the MSU seat on the committee was resolved. McInnis responded that it was resolved, and they now have a full committee.
- Osazuwa asked the Assembly who had the medals.
- Ibe asked if the last recipients could please hand the medals out soon.
- Dales asked Gillis to please accept the medal for working with Krause about the SoBi initiatives. Gillis responded that he would.
- Mirza asked Guarna about MSU member status, and what would happen if someone were to go on co-op in January but be registered in 18 units. Guarna responded that from her understanding if they are registered in 18 units then they would be a MSU member. Guarna ceded to D'Angela. D'Angela asked if they were talking about students who were registered in 30 units at the beginning of the year and then dropped because they received a co-op. He explained that they would no longer be a MSU member at that time but they would be able to run for SRA the following year.
- Mirza asked about MSU membership being based on taking 18 units and not paying the fees. D'Angela responded that if the student paid the fees and it's beyond the add/drop period the fees won't be refunded, and therefore they won't be taking away access to the bus pass or MSU plans. He added that in terms of membership if they register for more than 18 units, but then chose to drop below that number they won't be an MSU member.
- Guarna asked for someone to correct her if she was wrong, but asked if the issue was brought up because this issue was brought up to begin with as many students who go on co-op can't run for SRA or have MSU jobs. Krause responded that for Commerce when they go on internship they pay the MSU Health and Dental fee but they are allowed to run for the following SRA election.
- Hsu asked Mirza about her report, which was just circulated via email, and to go into more detail about the Women in Eng events. Mirza responded that she wasn't talking about the divisions that were outlined in the YearPlan, she was talking about re-branding. She explained that they have been hosting events, and have been in contact with Hsu and other Science members to distribute information through MSS.
- Hsu asked Mirza to explain what the NEM Facebook page was about. Mirza responded that it was National Engineering Month in March.
- Nadarajah asked the Engineering Caucus if there was any more movement in building relationships with MES this year. Dales responded that they have collaborated on a few things. Dales ceded to Kula. Kula responded that she and Cao have been planning on doing something, and that things have been a lot better now than in the past few years.
- Gillis asked Yazdankia if he felt that if it would be more productive to have someone like a House Leader to be about accountability instead of asking questions to shame members of the Assembly. Yazdankia answered in the affirmative.
- Nestico-Semianiw asked Ali what projects the Engineering Caucus was up to. Ali responded that he has been helping write a proposal for food accessibility.

BUSINESS

1. Close SRA Seat on Finance Committee

Moved by Krause, seconded by Clayton that the Assembly close one (1) SRA seat on the Finance Committee.

Nominations

- Almeida
- Dales
- Almeida withdrew her nomination

Vote on Motion

Passes Unanimously

- Dales was acclaimed to the SRA seat on the Finance Committee.

2. Open SRA seats on Operations Committee

Moved by Clayton, **seconded** by Nadarajah that the Assembly open two (2) SRA seats on the Operations Committee.

Passes Unanimously

3. Close SRA seats on Operations Committee

Moved by Clayton, **seconded** by Dales that the Assembly close two (2) SRA seats on the Operations Committee.

Nominations

- Hsu nominated Sun – declined
- Kula nominated Almeida – accepted
- Nadarajah nominated self

Vote on Motion

Passes Unanimously

- Almeida and Nadarajah were acclaimed to the SRA seats on the Operations Committee.

5. Open MSU seat on Elections Committee

Moved by Osazuwa, **seconded** by Hsu that the Assembly open a seat for one (1) MSU member on the Elections Committee.

Passes Unanimously

Nominations

- Osazuwa nominated Yazdankia – accepted
- Oliver nominated Nishan Zewge-Abubaker – accepted
- Yazdankia nominated Magas Yusuf
- Yazdankia withdrew his nomination

6. Leave of Absence

Moved by Krause, **seconded** by Dales that the Assembly grant Jethro Krause a leave of absence as Finance Commissioner from February 28, 2016 at 12:00pm to March 8 at 5:00pm.

- Krause explained that he would be taking a leave to run for the SRA and that Sun will be taking his place as interim commissioner. He added that a few pressing projects have been completed and submitted.
- Osazuwa asked if this should be done through Executive Board.
- Krause responded that if that's the case then it should be something to look into changing. Also, the CRO said it was okay to go through the SRA.
- Jama asked if going on a LOA twice will affect the integrity of the committee this term.
- Krause responded that he didn't think so as he was making sure that the tasks set out during his absence will be successful. He thanked Jama for bringing this up.
- Gillis stated that they need to start considering why some are required to take a leave of absence when other SRA members aren't. He felt that Krause shouldn't be penalized for being a commissioner.

Vote on Motion

In Favour: 25 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0
Motion Passes

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. OPERATING POLICY 1.9.10.2 - VICE PRESIDENTIAL, SPEAKER, & COMMISSIONER ELECTIONS

Moved by Clayton that the Assembly approve changes to OPERATING POLICY 1.9.10.2 - VICE PRESIDENTIAL, SPEAKER, & COMMISSIONER ELECTIONS as circulated.

- Clayton went over the memo with the Assembly.
- D'Angela suggested going over the document piece by piece to get feedback and consensus as there was a lot of new changes and he would hate to see this be brought back to Operations Committee without them knowing what to change.
- Nadarajah stated that she liked the changes for the shorter time limits, as a precedent had been set about meeting with others. She explained that members can be asking questions and reading platform points up until they walk into the room, and now that the meeting will take place over two days she was in favour of limiting the time for presentations.
- Ibe felt that the problem at the previous election meeting wasn't the time limit but the ability for the SRA to extend the time.
- Clayton stated that this was something they spoke about, limiting the SRA's ability to amend the time, but left the onus on the members to keep within the time limits and not ask silly questions.
- Guarna stated that she will be voting in favour of the policy as presented. She felt that Clayton did a great job on getting feedback and integrating into the policy. Guarna explained that they will be doing a slow cultural shift of getting this process to be as efficient as possible by splitting this up over two days. She added that most of the time questions have been asked not to help someone make up their mind, but to try and sway someone else's opinion. Guarna announced that for this year they will be putting together a meet and greet and hoping to have a true formal debate. She explained that they've done their best to put all the recommendations they've received into this and she can't wait to see how it impacts the elections.
- Gillis stated that he was in favour, but his concern was that last year's Speaker ran for a Vice-President seat and in the operating policy it states that the Speaker will be handling the questions. He asked if it was possible to get someone who wasn't the Speaker in that position. Gillis ceded to Clayton. Clayton responded that this was something they also thought of, and it falls into the category of avoiding surprises. She explained that everyone should be declaring that they are running, especially if they are the

Speaker as they have a big role in making sure things run smoothly. Clayton added that she can't guarantee that someone can't run at the last minute as they can't mandate human behaviour through policy.

- Krause stated that booth questions should be accessible to the Assembly as they may want to compare the candidates side by side during questions. Krause ceded to Clayton. Clayton responded that the reason for limiting booth questions is that members of the Assembly can ask them during the individual question period or on their own time, as the members should be taking their personal business to the candidates and asking questions that each candidate need to hear. Clayton stated that booth questions take the most time and their goal is to keep the meeting flowing smoothly.
- Oliver asked what would happen if these elections meetings are split over two days during exams. Oliver ceded to Guarna. Guarna responded that it's not in the operating policy to split the days, but it's what they are recommending on how to go forward. She explained that this is a unique opportunity to try it out as it is right before exams and that by splitting up the meeting it will help people split their questions. Guarna added that the set up of the meeting can be done on a year by year basis.
- Mutoigo stated that her constituents would like to see the Vice President elections be staggered and to have a longer time frame for in depth hiring. She asked why would this be a two day election, and if there was a way to get feedback from students. Mutoigo ceded to Guarna. Guarna responded that the two days is a unique circumstance, but there are not enough hours in the day. She explained that they had to split the election and felt having it over two days in the same weekend would be best. Guarna ceded the rest of her time to Clayton. Clayton stated that for feedback they could set something up. She added that she did do some outreach about the policy and received some feedback about it, and would love to set something up.
- Krause wanted to follow up about the booth questions and stated that time-wise it may be the best approach but maybe not the best way for making decisions. He stated that it could be valuable to the process as asking questions could be harder on the new SRA members. Krause ceded to Clayton. Clayton responded that she doesn't like booth questions and nothing was stopping members asking each candidate the same question and reporting back to their caucus. She added that she was hoping that after the end of the first day everyone will be communicating with each other.
- Gillis stated that he had two issues for members signing their ballots. He explained that in section 3.5 could be interpreted that it happens before the election as it doesn't specify that it has to happen at the meeting. Gillis asked what if someone signed another name to the ballot.
- The Speaker stated that it can't be specified unless they sign their own ballot.
- Wilson asked about the validity of rebuttals and why they weren't included. He explained that true debates have rebuttals for the candidates to distinguish themselves. He asked what was preventing an unofficial rebuttal when answering a question. He also asked why it was only for 20 minutes. Wilson ceded to Clayton. Clayton responded that they decided to against it as it was only styled as a debate, it wasn't actually one. She added that 20 minutes is still 20 minutes for studying or other items. She explained that rebuttals weren't included as there will be rotating answers and the candidates will always get a chance to speak. Clayton stated that candidates could something in their closing statements if they felt that way.
- D'Angela agreed with Krause about the booth questions. He felt that members should be allowed to ask the style of question they want. D'Angela stated that there might be a reason on why the question was being asked. D'Angela added that he likes all the changes to limiting the times, especially to answers.
- Gillis asked if in terms of abstentions if someone votes for themselves does this invalidate the election. Gillis ceded to the Speaker. The Speaker responded that they don't have the answer and that was a slippery slope as they can't take away an Assembly member's right to vote.
- Gillis asked why electronic were banned for just the Vice President elections. Gillis ceded to Clayton. Clayton responded that they felt it was more important to have that be limited.
- Hsu stated that she agreed with Wilson about rebuttals. She explained that if candidates can't rebut it won't be helpful, and added that students could base their questions on the rebuttals given. Hsu stated that electronic devices should be allowed as platform points are intensive and they won't be able to remember every single one. She felt that it would be valuable to have electronics as she doesn't feel comfortable printing every single thing out. Hsu ceded to Clayton. Clayton responded that they brought

the electronics issue up as it was to help keep individuals focused as members have already had a full day of seeing everything. She explained that she will change the policy depending on what the SRA says. Clayton explained that rebuttals could be added in, and that she will do a straw poll to see what changes should be made.

- Osazuwa felt that Hsu had a good point about the electronic devices and that they should consider it.
- Nestico-Semianiw stated that by not allowing members to vote for themselves would be setting a huge precedent. He explained that he understood the rationale behind it, but of course they will be biased. He added that as Arts and Science is a one person caucus, what if that member chose to run for a position and couldn't vote that now means that the program was going to receive zero representation.
- Sun explained that the onus should be on the SRA member for abstaining or not. He stated that they shouldn't be obligated to vote or not vote. Sun ceded to Clayton. Clayton stated that abstaining was in the policy as someone who votes for themselves gives an edge to those who cannot. She explained that if the member chooses to run and they vote for themselves they are choosing themselves over their constituents.
- D'Angela stated that they shouldn't be limiting the votes as members should be able to vote for who they want. He added that there was an open process and if someone told their constituents that they voted for candidate 'x' but instead voted for 'y' then the member should be held accountable. D'Angela felt that this open process would hold them accountable and that they shouldn't be taking away anyone's ability to vote.
- Almeida agreed with Nestico-Semianiw. She explained that with Arts and Science if that person wanted to run for a position they would be taking away a vote from 250 students. Almeida stated that the accountability and onus is on the Assembly member. Almeida asked what would happen if there was a tie, would they be re-voting immediately. She asked what would happen if someone stated they voted for someone but changed their answer on the ballot. Almeida asked how they would deal with those issued. Almeida ceded to Clayton. Clayton responded that if there was a tie then a re-vote would be done immediately. She explained that they wouldn't have electronics because voting wasn't over but there wasn't anything stopping members from picking up their phones and putting something out there. Clayton stated that it would be up to the member to tell their constituents why they changed their vote during the re-vote.
- Jama stated that it was just respectful to have electronic devices shut off, except for the live stream.
- McDougall stated that not abstaining gives an unfair advantage to those running.
- Nadarajah would like the Assembly to consider taking the onus of them doing the right thing when it comes to abstaining, rather than have it be mandated. She explained that she felt uncomfortable taking away an SRA member's right to vote. Nadarajah stated that as for booth questions, members should just be asking the questions anyway.
- Mutoigo stated that if they eliminate booth questions the Assembly doesn't get to see how the candidate responds, she felt that there would be a way to streamline the process. She suggested having a limit per candidate. Mutoigo asked what other options were considered. Mutoigo ceded to Clayton. Clayton responded that if someone asks a question they would hopefully share the answer with others. She felt that would be a good precedent to set. Clayton added that there was nothing stopping members from asking the exact same question during the individual question period.
- Clayton added that she would like to see commissioner candidates abstain as well.
- Nadarajah asked if they were an individual voting for themselves based on a platform that they ran on, wouldn't they be representing their constituents. She added that if they ran for commissioner and vote for themselves they are representing their constituents as the candidate would be representing their faculty.
- Hsu asked if there was going to be a meet and greet for commissioners. Hsu ceded to Clayton. Clayton responded that when it comes to commissioners it was not mandated through policy. She explained that they are just upping the engagement on Vice President elections.
- Caramento stated that she was not a fan of the open ballot as if there was already vote whipping happening, then it would be stronger with the open ballots. She explained that if someone expects a member to vote a certain way no one will know the difference if it was a secret ballot, and having it open would hugely affect how voting happens.

- Clayton stated that she has received the feedback on the open ballot and felt that they should be able to work together and share opinions. Clayton stated that they were elected to this position and they should be transparent to their constituents which supersedes what other members want.
- Guarna explained that this was a tamed down version of what some people wanted, which was a roll call vote. She felt that this way they will still be held accountable but no one will be staring them down while voting.
- Jama stated that constituents want them to be accountable, and see who they are voting for. Jama felt that students shouldn't be kept in the dark. She added that if they don't for certain people it's not like they can't work together in the future.
- Almeida stated that while she understood where Clayton was coming from, she was in line with Caramento. She explained that she would like to believe that they should all act a certain way, but that's not how things work in real life. She explained that it will come down to the few votes that could swing either way, and then whipping and coercion will come into play.
- Nestico-Semianiw stated that they're saying with the open ballot SRA members are strong enough to be objective and do the right thing, but forcing them to abstain from voting shows that they can't. He felt that this was a big contradiction. He explained that they know whipping occurs and is just as powerful as them running for a position. He felt that this has a real impact. Nestico-Semianiw explained that if they think that students can't vote and trust members to be objective and transparent, then they can't say that members can be objective with their vote.
- Gillis stated that this is the first time vote whipping has been openly acknowledged, and students don't know that it happens. Gillis stated that there should be an open ballot so that students can what was going on. He explained that they need to give the students the tools they need to vote them in.
- Clayton addressed the comment from Nestico-Semianiw about having an open ballot was contradictory. She stated that the open ballot was about transparency, but the abstaining was about equity. Clayton added that this would be showing the constituents that they aren't shoving their views on them.

Moved by Sun, **seconded** by Yazdankia to Call to Question.

Vote on Call to Question

In Favour: 20 Opposed: 3 Abstentions: 2
Opposed: Gillis, Clayton, Pour-Bahreini
Abstained: Osazuwa, Almeida
Motion Passes

Vote on Motion

Moved by Clayton that the Assembly approve changes to OPERATING POLICY 1.9.10.2 - VICE PRESIDENTIAL, SPEAKER, & COMMISSIONER ELECTIONS as circulated.

In Favour: 9 Opposed: 15 Abstentions: 1
Opposed: D'Angela, Nestico-Semianiw, Manning, Pour-Bahreini, Pita, Nadarajah, Caramento, Mutoigo, Sun, Oliver, Almeida, Kula, Dales, Krause, Hsu
Abstained: Osazuwa
Motion Fails

TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Sunday, March 6, 2016
5:00pm
Council Chambers, GH 111

CALL OF THE ROLL

Present Ali, Almeida, Caramento, Clayton, Dales, D'Angela, Gillis, Guarna, Hsu, Ibe, Jama,

Absent Excused
Absent
Late
Others Present

Krause, Kula, Manning, McDougall, Muramatsu, Mutoigo, Nadarajah, Nestico-Semianiw, Oliver, Osazuwa, Pakkal, Pita, Pour-Bahreini, Sun, Yazdankia
Burke, Cao, D'Souza, Enriquez, Ngo, Stegmaier, Tambakis
Mirza

Chair

Alex Wilson (TAC/Maccess Coordinator), Aly Khalifa (MSU Member), Christine Yachouh (Advocacy Coordinator), Nishan Zewge-Abubaker (Diversity Services Director), Preethi Anbalagan (MSU Member), Hayley Regis (WGEN Coordinator), Labika Ghani (MSU Member), Gilbert Kobina Baiden (MSU Member), Carter McInnis (Bylaws & Procedures Commissioner), Desmond Flowers (MSU Member), Aqeel Anas (MSU Member), Mishaol Oazi (MSU Member), Aquino Inigo (MSU Member), Priya Gupta (Chief Returning Officer), Issac Oakie (MSU Member), Zhaoyun (Jack) Zhang (MSU Member), V. Scott (Recording Secretary)
Inna Berditchevskaia

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Osazuwa, **seconded** by Pita that the meeting be adjourned.

Passes by General Consent

Adjourned at 9:38pm

/vs