Called to Order at 5:06pm

CALL OF THE ROLL

Present
Anbalagan, Bengizi, Cole, Dales, D’Souza, Flowers, Hsu, Inigo, Kula, Lee, Lightstone, MacDonald, Martin, McBride, Mertens, Monaco-Barnes, Oliver, Phung, Pita, Ragnanan, Robinson, Rudge, Shingleton-Smith, Threndyle

Absent Excused
Almeida, Areghan, Baiden, Beley, Eom, Farah, Long, Nadarajah, Ngo, Quinn, Sehrawat

Absent

Late

Others Present
Mahfuzur Muhith (EWB), Steven Nightingale (EWB), Patricia Kousoulas (MSS), Sadiyah Jamal (OPIRG), Jonathan Patterson (OPIRG), Annie Yu (Incite), Sunny Yun (Incite), Jason Lau (Incite), Lauren Garfield (Incite), Yelena Banjavcic (Finance Commissioner), Victoria Liu (EA Commissioner), V. Scott (Recording Secretary)

Chair
Genya Oparin

TERRITORY RECOGNITION

- The SRA would like to recognize today that we are situated on traditional Haudenosaunee and Anishnaabe territories through the ‘Dish with One Spoon Wampum Treaty’.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Oliver, seconded by MacDonald that the Assembly adopt the agenda, as presented.

Amendment
Moved by MacDonald, seconded by Oliver to add “Open MSU Seats for Awards Committees”, and “Open SRA Seats for Awards Committees” to Business.

- MacDonald stated that these seats need to be opened, and will close at the next meeting.

Vote on Amendment

Passes Unanimously

Amendment
Moved by Lightstone, seconded by Shingleton-Smith to add the following motion to Business “Moved by Lightstone, seconded by Flowers that the terms of the Athletics and Recreation fee increase referendum be changed so that all mentions of $1.97/unit be replaced with $54.33/year, and all mentions of $3.95/unit be replaced with $108.94/year.”

- Lightstone stated that this was important to the Engineering Caucus to discuss and that it warrants discussion.
- MacDonald asked if it could be added before Delegation from the Floor.
- The Speaker responded that they would need to amend the amendment.

Amendment to the Amendment
Moved by MacDonald, seconded by Robinson to amend the amendment to the agenda to read: “Moved by Lightstone, seconded by Shingleton-Smith to add the following motion to be discussed prior to Report Period:
“Moved by Lightstone, seconded by Flowers that the terms of the Athletics and Recreation fee increase referendum be changed so that all mentions of $1.97/unit be replaced with $54.33/year, and all mentions of $3.95/unit be replaced with $108.94/year.”

- MacDonald stated that the President and Vice-President Education have to leave to attend Lobby Week for OUSA, so it was important to have the discussion early on in the meeting.

Vote on Amendment to Amendment

Passes Unanimously

Vote on Amendment

Moved by Lightstone, seconded by Singleton-Smith to add the following motion to be discussed prior to Report Period “Moved by Lightstone, seconded by Flowers that the terms of the Athletics and Recreation fee increase referendum be changed so that all mentions of $1.97/unit be replaced with $54.33/year, and all mentions of $3.95/unit be replaced with $108.94/year.”

In Favour: 19 Opposed: 2 Abstentions: 2
Opposed: Oliver, Hsu
Abstained: Monaco-Barnes, MacDonald
Motion Passes

Amendment

Moved by Oliver, seconded by MacDonald that presentations from the Bylaws & Procedures, External Affairs, Operations, Services, and University Affairs Commissioners to be added to Delegations from the Floor.

- Oliver stated that Nadarajah had circulated this earlier, and that the purpose was that Commissioners only present twice a term. She added that it was so that questions could be fielded now and not at the end of the year.
- The Speaker reminded the Assembly that the proper time to do this was during Report Period, but if the Assembly willed it could be added.

Vote on Amendment

In Favour: 19 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 4
Abstained: Threndyle, Anbalagan, Lee, Cole
Motion Passes

Amendment

Moved by D'Souza, seconded by Lee to add “Open one MSU Seat on Elections Committee” to Business.

- D'Souza stated that a member dropped their seat and it needs to be filled.

Vote on Amendment

Passes Unanimously

Amendment

Moved by Bengizi, seconded by Hsu to add “Open one SRA seat on University Affairs Committee” to Business.

- Bengizi stated that she dropped her seat, and it needed to be filled.
- Hsu stated that it will be closed at the next meeting.
Vote on Amendment

Passes Unanimously

Amendment
Moved by Lee, seconded by Robinson to add Bylaws & Procedures Report to Report Period.

- Lee stated that it was circulated through email.

Vote on Amendment

Passes Unanimously

Amendment
Moved by Lightstone, seconded by Dales that Business Items #1 and 2 be moved to be before Delegations from the Floor.

- Lightstone stated that there was a lot on the agenda, and it would be nice for the MSU members to have this first.

Vote on Amendment

In Favour: 22 Opposed: 1 Abstentions: 1
Opposed: Anbalagan
Abstained: Robinson
Motion Passes

Amendment
Moved by Dales, seconded by Hsu to add the following motion to Business: “Moved by Dales, seconded by ___ that the SRA commit the Bylaws & Procedures Committee to review and amend relevant bylaws to foster gender inclusive nomenclature”

- Dales stated that a member asked for this to be brought forward.
- Hsu argued that she was unsure that this should be tasked to the Bylaws Committee as this was included in the policy that was brought up at the last meeting.
- Lee asked for more clarification.
- Dales responded that the student asked him if a review of the bylaws could happen, and change any wording to make it more inclusive.
- Oliver stated that she was against adding this to the agenda today, as she would have loved to see a memo with the motion. She explained that she would have preferred to been able to review this before.

Vote on Amendment

In Favour: 11 Opposed: 9 Abstentions: 3
Opposed: Monaco-Barnes, MacDonald, Oliver, Lightstone,Threndyle, Hsu, Anbalagan, Shingleton-Smith, Cole
Abstained: Ragnanan, Lee, Martin
Motion Passes

Vote to Adopt Agenda
Moved by Oliver, seconded by MacDonald that the Assembly adopt the agenda, as amended.

Passes Unanimously
ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

- The Chair asked for members in the back to please sign the Observer’s List. The Chair asked for the Assembly to please arrive on time for the meeting, as the sooner they get started the sooner they can leave. The Chair also kindly reminded the Assembly to please ask any procedural questions before the meeting so that they don’t delay the start of the meeting.

BUSINESS

1. Open one (1) MSU seat on Governance Ad-Hoc Committee

Moved by Lightstone, seconded by Robinson that the Assembly open nominations for one (1) MSU seats on the Governance Ad-Hoc Committee.

Passes Unanimously

2. Close one (1) MSU seat on Governance Ad-Hoc Committee

Moved by Dales, seconded by McBride that the Assembly close nominations for one (1) MSU seats on the Governance Ad-Hoc Committee.

Nominations

- Dales nominated Chukky Ibe – accepted

Vote on Motion

Passes Unanimously

- Chukky Ibe won the MSU seat on the Governance Ad-Hoc Committee by acclamation.

DELEGATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

Set Parameters

Moved by MacDonald, seconded by Bengizi to set parameters for Delegations from the Floor #1, 2, and 3 to be 15 minutes for presentation, and five minutes for questions.

- MacDonald stated that these were the same parameters that the other groups had.

Vote to Set Parameters

Passes Unanimously

1. Engineers without Borders – Steven Nightingale and Mahfuzur Muhith presented (presentation attached)

- Engineers without Borders went over their presentation with the Assembly.

Questions

- Threndyle asked for EWB to speak to their outreach to the McMaster community. Nightingale responded that they advertise to the entire student body, and that information sessions are held around campus. Muhith added that they send emails to faculties, but wasn’t sure how many are actually forwarded on. He explained that they do their best to highlight that it’s not just for engineering students.
Anbalagan asked if they were collaborating with other student groups for their conference. Muhith responded that they are collaborating with med life.

Lightstone stated that there was an empty line in their budget for membership fees. He asked if there were previously membership fees. Muhith responded that members are only required to pay fees if they attend the national conference.

Lightstone asked why this was included in the budget. Muhith responded that the line was created as they don’t know who would be going to the conference.

2. **Incite Magazine – Jason Lau, Sunny Yun, Lauren Garfield, and Annie Yu presented (presentation attached)**

Incite Magazine went over their presentation with the Assembly.

**Questions**

Lightstone stated that this was a great presentation. He asked how they publicize their submissions. Yu responded that they have signups at ClubsFest, and that the information is on Facebook.

Banjavcic asked if they were working with two cheques this year, and what would they be doing next year to work within the budget. Yun responded that this year there were costs of re-branding. Lau added that they wanted to invest in the re-branding and that in the future they will explore fundraising as they don’t charge anyone for the magazine.

Threndyle asked if they had the numbers on how many magazines were printed compared to how many get picked up. Yun responded that they are currently printing 750 per issue. Lau explained that their distribution sites are all across campus, and that he thought that this issue will be all picked up.

Anbalagan asked how long each contributor got to submit items. Yun responded for their first issue they gave writers around three weeks for writing. For the second issue they wanted to experiment with the deadlines to try and make things easier for the editors, but since concerns were expressed they will be extending the deadline for the next issue.

3. **OPIRG – Jonathan Patterson and Sadiyah Jamal presented (presentation attached)**

OPIRG went over their presentation with the Assembly.

**Questions**

MacDonald stated that this was a great presentation. He asked about the opt-out process, and why it wasn’t an online process. Patterson responded that if the opt-out happened online it would have to be done with the University as they don’t have a list of students who were charged the fee. He explained that when it’s done in person the student can come into the office and see what they do. Patterson added that they advertise in the Silhouette and online to make sure it was accessible.

Hsu asked how they determine what becomes a working group and what doesn’t. Patterson responded that they bring together a panel of current working group members, along with panel and board members. They look over the items, make sure they follow the guidelines, and then look at the issues.

MacDonald asked if they had a planning process for risk management on campus. Patterson responded that they have the same procedures as the MSU does. He explained that the staff maintains the process.

**Set Parameters**

Moved by MacDonald, seconded by Robinson to set parameters for Delegations from the Floor #4-8 to be five minutes for presentation, and five minutes for questions.

MacDonald stated that hopefully it won’t take longer than five minutes each.

**Vote to Set Parameters**

In Favour: 23 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 3
Abstained: Bengizi, Anbalagan, Lee
Motion Passes

4. University Affairs Commissioner – Hsu presented (presentation attached)
   - Hsu went over the presentation with the Assembly.

5. Services Commissioner – Kevan McDougall presented
   - McDougall reported that the committee meets weekly on Mondays. The Committee was currently working on tasks from Executive Board, which they’ve been working together by updating documents and reviewing items. He explained that they met with the PTM of SHEC, and they’re looking into a peer support survey for January. McDougall added that they are looking at all peer support services and will also be organizing a Macademics and Mac Bread Bin survey. McDougall reported that they are just getting the idea on how services operate, and that there have been issues with navigating the delegation of tasks.

   Questions
   - Nadarajah asked McDougall to highlight the changes of sitting on Executive Board and being tasked with items. McDougall responded that he was just beginning to understand what goes on at Executive Board, but the committee has been using the documents to get an idea about the services.

6. Operations Commissioner – Anbalagan presented (presentation attached)
   - Anbalagan went over the presentation with the assembly.

   Questions
   - Bengizi asked how BDS was being handled. Anbalagan stated that the investment portfolio has been given the proper recommendations. Anbalagan ceded the rest of her time to MacDonald. MacDonald stated that it wasn’t as if the MSU wasn’t actively choosing their funds. He explained that they have an investment portfolio manager, and they have been told what was appropriate. MacDonald added that they have been told that the MSU is being compliant with the restriction, and if that if anyone had any concerns he would be happy to chat with them.

7. External Affairs Commissioner – Vicky Liu presented (presentation attached)
   - Liu went over the presentation with the Assembly.

   Questions
   - MacDonald asked Liu to go over objective nine. Liu went over the objective with the Assembly.

8. Bylaws and Procedures Commissioner – Lee presented (presentation attached)
   - Lee went over the presentation with the Assembly.

Moved by McBride, seconded by Oliver that the Assembly recess for 15 minutes

In Favour: 23 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0
Motion Passes

Recessed at 7:14pm
Called to Order at 7:30pm
CALL OF THE ROLL
Present: Anbalagan, Dales, D’Souza, Flowers, Hsu, Inigo, Kula, Lee, Lightstone, MacDonald, McBride, Mertens, Monaco-Barnes, Oliver, Phung, Pita, Ragnanan, Robinson, Rudge, Shingleton-Smith, Threndyle
Absent Excused: Almeida, Areghan, Baiden, Beley, Cole, Eom, Farah, Long, Nadarajah, Ngo, Quinn, Sehrawat
Absent: Martin
Late: Bengizi
Others Present: Yelena Banjavcic (Finance Commissioner), V. Scott (Recording Secretary)
Chair: Genya Oparin

BUSINESS
3. Amendment to Athletics and Recreation Referendum

Moved by Lightstone, seconded by Flowers that the terms of the Athletics and Recreation fee increase referendum be changed so that all mentions of $1.97/unit be replaced with $54.33/year, and all mentions of $3.95/unit be replaced with $108.94/year.

- Lightstone explained that since the referendum motion was passed there have been some intense discussions with the MES and SRA Engineering. All revolved around the fact that the fee was per unit, and they believed that it didn’t make sense to have a cost being connected to the units a student was taking. He felt that they shouldn’t be charged more because they were taking more classes. Lightstone explained that this amendment will make sure the fee was distributed equally between all MSU members, and that it was more equitable. He stated that the numbers were calculated by using the current amount of students and the projected equivalents that was presented to the Board of Governors. He explained that it was the exact same amount of money that they were hoping for in the end. He felt that the calculations would remain the same and then the fee would be distributed more equitably.

- Flowers stated that the current model was based on the units that a student was taking, and that at any given year they may be paying more than the average student. He added that any subsequent year there were no guarantees that students would be taking more units to make up for it, and that this wasn’t accessible. Flowers stated that it would be more appropriate to have a flat fee.

- MacDonald argued against having this be a flat fee. McMaster has a lot of per unit fees, and felt that there should be a better model to addressing student fees. While they realize that someone taking more than 30 units won’t be charged, as it was designed to protect the engineering students, but this cap was in place because the engineering students wanted this cap. He explained that they’re asking for students to pay more proportionately. He gave credit for the engineering caucus for coming up with this as they do pay more because they’re taking more credits. MacDonald explained that no fee could be done perfectly, and added that there will be less than ten dollars savings versus the other students being charged for taking a longer period time. He added that if this motion passed this would take them back to the drawing board to get approval, and it wouldn’t be able to go forward to the upcoming election period.

- Oliver stated that later that night she and Monaco-Barnes would be going to Toronto to talk about per credit billing to be instated into campuses across province, and they have per credit billing for ancillary fees. She explained that students are taking five and five to graduate in four years, but those taking three and three shouldn’t be paying the same as them. Oliver stated that she voted against this being added to the agenda as documentation was only circulated the night before.

- Lightstone apologized for only circulating the documentation the night before, but he wasn’t able to use electricity between Friday sundown to Saturday night. He also had tests and mid-terms to get ready for. He explained that this was important for them to represent their students, and they have a responsibility to their constituents. He added that if they could delay the referendum in order to have a better deal for students, then it would be worth it. Lightstone stated that the amount of time a student was attending school they should be paying the same amount as every other student, regardless of how many years it took to complete their degree.
Nadarajah felt that a lot of the points had been touched on, and they recognize that the caucus was working hard to represent their students.

Hsu stated that she agreed with MacDonald and Oliver, and that she would be voting this down as it would damage the science students. She explained that the average was 30 units, but if they took a reduced course load it would take longer to complete the degree and they shouldn’t pay more because of that.

Kula ceded to Liam McDermott. McDermott stated that he was the VP Academic for MES, as well as a student registered with SAS. He explained that this wasn’t fair for SAS students to pay more as they would be taking a while to get their degrees.

Kula stated that they have had a lot of important conversations and a lot of constituents have asked for the referendum to be taken off completely. She felt that this was a good compromise. She added that the engineering students will have their own student centre and don’t want to be paying for something that they may not use as much, but they were willing to pay something that was equal for all students.

Lightstone thanked everyone for taking the time to listen to their concerns as he knew that this was late and that a lot of people worked on this.

Bengizi stated that it felt that the engineering students were trying to guilt them into not having to pay more for the building. She explained that it wasn’t fair as a humanities student as they pay for items they don’t benefit from.

Lightstone stated that engineers would be using the building the same amount as everyone else, so that’s why they should be paying the same amount regardless of faculty or classes. He clarified that they aren’t asking for engineering students to not pay for this, just that everyone contributes equally.

Moved by Robinson, seconded by Pita to Call to Question

In Favour: 21 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 3
Abstained: Lightstone, Flowers, Kula
Motion Passes

Vote on Main Motion
Moved by Lightstone, seconded by Flowers that the terms of the Athletics and Recreation fee increase referendum be changed so that all mentions of $1.97/unit be replaced with $54.33/year, and all mentions of $3.95/unit be replaced with $108.94/year.

In Favour: 2 Opposed: 15 Abstentions: 6
Opposed: Monaco-Barnes, Nadarajah, MacDonald, Oliver, Threndyle, Hsu, Anbalagan, Bengizi, Rudge, D’Souza, Ragnanan, Eom, Lee, Phung, Mertens
Abstained: McBride, Dales, Flowers, Inigo, Robinson, Shingleton-Smith
Motion Fails

REPORT PERIOD

1. First Year Council – report attached

2. Nursing Caucus – Ragnanan presented

   Ragnanan summarized the report.

3. Science Caucus – no report attached

   Nadarajah requested that one be circulated.
   Hsu reported that they have been working on the diversity conference that was happening in January. They have been collaborating with the MSU Governance and You Committee, working with the caucus yearplan, working on workshops for the conference, and working on the newsletter.
Threndyle reported that they have been working on podcasts, and they have compiled a bunch of lists of who has podcast materials and overlaps, and submitted them to the Associate Dean of Science.

4. Social Sciences Caucus – report attached
   - Shingleton-Smith summarized the report.

Questions
   - MacDonald asked if Shingleton-Smith considered applying for SLEF funding for the lighting in MUSC, or did Lori Diamond indicate that it was something that could be done within the operating budget. Shingleton-Smith responded that they would be going through SLEF.

5. Externals Affairs Report – report attached

6. University Affairs Commissioner – Hsu presented
   - Hsu summarized the report.

7. Executive Board – report attached
   - Nadarajah summarized the report.

Questions
   - Hsu asked why the Food Collective Centre wasn’t running. Nadarajah responded that it wasn’t running due to Health and Safety concerns. She explained that there were cockroaches in the space, and that while they were working with Hospitality to get exterminations, it just wasn’t compliant.
   - Anbalagan asked if Mac Bread Bin had any upcoming events that were planned on their own. Nadarajah responded that in term 2 they will be doing ‘feed the bus’.
   - Hsu asked if they could speak to the FCC Coordinator and if they were still being paid if the space wasn’t operational. Nadarajah responded that they cannot talk about employment matters at the SRA level.
   - Hsu asked what would happen with the space for the Community Kitchen. Nadarajah responded that this has been one of the challenges as Mac Bread Bin thought that they would be getting space in MUSC, but it wasn’t a viable space. She added that currently the focus will be coming up with healthy active eating, creating videos, and working with Spark and Residence until space is a viable option.

8. Vice-President (Administration) – Nadarajah presented
   - Nadarajah summarized the report.

Questions
   - Pita asked if they had any ideas which parties would be leading the strategic approach for Welcome Week. Nadarajah responded that the strategic themes are mandated through the Welcome Week committees. She explained that it will go through the evaluation survey, with feedback received in respect to this past year’s. Nadarajah added that they would like to focus on how to get more student participation, and thought that the MSU running these events might help bring in more students.
   - Anbalagan expressed concern about the job postings having the wages and hours listed as ‘under review’. She asked how they would go forward with this and be transparent to students applying for said jobs. Nadarajah responded that when they offer the job there will be the same wage that was assessed previously, as any new wages would be as of May 1, 2017, but they will make sure the student will be adequately compensated. MacDonald added that the goal will be to have them in place before offering a contract, but the reality was that they wouldn’t be able to get them all done before posting the jobs.
Anbalagan added to her question and asked if not knowing the expectations of the commitment would cause an issue to those applying. Nadarajah responded that it does pose a barrier, but they will be using last year’s wages as a benchmark.

9. Tuition Task Force – Oliver presented

Oliver summarized the report.

10. OUSA General Assembly – Oliver presented

Oliver summarized the report.

11. Federal Advocacy Week – Oliver presented

Oliver summarized the report.

12. Bylaw & Procedures – Lee presented

Lee summarized the report.

Questions

MacDonald asked what he saw as the next steps in the terms. Lee responded that he would like to do further work on this as implementing changes requires bylaw or constitution changes.

Hsu asked if there was a specific timeline on when the changes would have to come to the SRA. Lee responded that he was hoping to get more information to present in second term.

INFORMATION PERIOD

Oliver reported that the Participatory Budget Advisory Committee for Ward 1 was open. She explained that $1.5 million has been put aside for ideas and improvements in the Ward 1 area. She asked for the Assembly members to please promote to constituents.

Martin reported that this week she had a student approach her about something that she wanted brought forward. She explained that the student felt that the SoBi referendum was held wrongly despite her concerns about accessibility, and that she deserved an apology from the MSU and SRA. She asked if there was someone who could address this as she wasn’t aware of the issue until now.

Hsu stated that while it’s a busy time of year for everyone, Bylaw 3/A section 6.1 clearly states that members are expected to attend all SRA meetings. She felt concerned as they were missing quite a few members around the table at today’s meeting. Hsu stated that she understood that meetings are long, and not that accessible, but members knew when running for these positions that this would happen. Hsu explained that they convinced the student population to vote for them, and yet certain constituents weren’t even being represented by their caucus. Hsu pointed out that the Arts & Science and Kinesiology caucuses were completely missing, and that only half of Social Sciences was in attendance. Hsu pointed out that as a constituent she would be concerned that her voice wasn’t being addressed. She also pointed out that currently the attendance wasn’t being posted on the SRA webpage, and this was something she was hoping to get enforced.

Anbalagan expressed her concern that hours and remuneration were currently under review for job descriptions, and that this posed a large barrier. She explained that this calls to question whether the pool of candidates who applied knows what they’re applying for.

MacDonald reported that tomorrow there will be the MSU Open House. He stated that a lot of graphics were printed out that breaks the fees down to students. He encouraged Assembly members to sign up to help answer questions.

Bengizi thanked everyone for a great year with the SRA. She stated that she will be leaving on exchange in January.
Nadarajah explained her reasoning behind having Commissioners do a delegation from the floor as opposed to in Report Period. She explained that they have been swinging through reports without questions asked, so this was to highlight what was happening so far for the year, and so that Assembly members could be mindful of what was going on. She added that it was the SRA who holds the SRA accountable.

QUESTION PERIOD

Pita asked Oliver to elaborate on her earlier comment during report period regarding re-evaluating the place of the Tuition Task Force in the MSU. Oliver responded that just because something wasn’t a committee doesn’t mean it would not get addressed. She explained that the VP Education will always be doing work on tuition and accessibility. She gave the example that while they don’t have a task force on mental health, it will still fall under her portfolio. Oliver laid out that the meetings end up being updates on what everyone was working on, and that this was something that could have been given to the External Affairs Committee.

Shingleton-Smith asked Oliver about the possibility of washrooms in MUSC being gender neutral. Oliver responded that she spoke about this in her last report. She explained that this started when she was the UA Commissioner, and an audit was done on the buildings on campus, not everything was complete but she was having her research assistant to look into cleaning up the report. She added that she has been talking with the Equity and Inclusion Office about this and is hoping to use another group on campus to start talking about it. She explained that they wanted to come up with signage that was inclusive and would like something consistent to use across campus before changing just MUSC.

Anbalagan asked Oliver why it took three months to call the Sustainability Education meeting, as the Committee was mandated to do one event pert term. Oliver responded that they could not discuss employees in open session. She explained that she spoke to the Advocacy Coordinator and they have expressed discomfort with the current operating policy. She added that she has asked them to start the meetings and that they can have further discussions on this.

MacDonald asked the Engineering Caucus if they would be open to having an open forum meeting to clarify any questions about the proposed Athletics and Recreation fee going to referendum. Flowers stated that it would be valuable.

Hsu asked the Speaker if they could inform the Assembly on the current attendance status for members, and which ones were close to losing their seat. She stated that it would be good for the constituents to know. The Speaker read out those who were close to losing a seat: Alemidia, Areghan, Baiden, Bengizi, Cole, D’Souza, Long, Ngo, Quinn, Rudge, Shingleton-Smith

Lightstone asked Monaco-Barnes to give some advice to those who were considering running for President of the MSU. Monaco-Barnes responded that they should be themselves, and to make sure that their platform was representative of who they were and what they want.

MacDonald asked his fellow Board of Directors members if they were interested in sitting down and talking about their positions in the future. They all said that they were.

Moved by Anbalagan, seconded by Nadarajah that the Assembly recess for five minutes

In Favour: 23 Opposed: 1 Abstentions: 0

Opposed: Lightstone

Motion Passes

Recessed at 9:31pm
Called to Order at 9:37pm

CALL OF THE ROLL
Present Anbalagan, Bengizi, Dales, D’Souza, Flowers, Hsu, Inigo, Kula, Lee, Lightstone, MacDonald, Martin, McBride, Mertens, Phung, Pita, Ragnanan, Robinson, Rudge, Shingleton-Smith, Threndyle
Absent Excused: Almeida, Areghan, Baiden, Beley, Cole, Eom, Farah, Long, Monaco-Barnes, Nadarajah, Ngo, Oliver, Quinn, Sehrawat

Absent:

Late:

Others Present: Yelena Banjavcic (Finance Commissioner), V. Scott (Recording Secretary)

Chair: Genya Oparin

BUSINESS

4. Committee of the Whole – Engineers without Borders

Moved by MacDonald, seconded by Threndyle that the Assembly move into Committee of the Whole to discuss the Engineers without Borders presentation.

Passes Unanimously

Moved by MacDonald, seconded by Anbalagan that the Assembly move out of Committee of the Whole and to Rise and Report.

Passes Unanimously

Rise and Report

- MacDonald reported that the Assembly had a discussion with respect to the value of the EWB fee in terms of funding a junior fellow, and if it was valuable to students at large. MacDonald stated that they need to look into the referendum question/petition to see if it was meant just a junior fellow or for the organization. MacDonald reported that if the findings come out to be for the organization that they would like more information on what they do to benefit students as a whole, and to see if they could move resources to benefit students. MacDonald reported that the Assembly was happy with the financials presented, and that the VP Finance will provide an update to the SRA in January.

5. Committee of the Whole – Incite Magazine

Moved by MacDonald, seconded by Robinson that the Assembly move into Committee of the Whole to discuss the Incite Magazine presentation.

Passes Unanimously

Moved by MacDonald, seconded by Lightstone that the Assembly move out of Committee of the Whole and to Rise and Report.

Passes Unanimously

Rise and Report

- MacDonald reported that the Assembly had concerns that they would like rectified immediately, which was to post statements and the budget publicly. MacDonald reported that they also expressed concern about sustainability regarding their budget was a concern, and that moving forward it may be difficult to maintain their set-up with the current fee structure. The Assembly urged Incite to use the money collected and to look into long-term implications, and the possibility of sponsorships. MacDonald added that the VP Finance will reach out to provide support.
6. Committee of the Whole – OPIRG

Moved by MacDonald, seconded by Robinson that the Assembly move into Committee of the Whole to discuss the OPIRG presentation.

Passes Unanimously

Moved by MacDonald, seconded by Dales that the Assembly move out of Committee of the Whole and to Rise and Report.

Passes Unanimously

Rise and Report

- MacDonald reported that the Assembly discussed the value of the fee to students, as well as the opt-out process. MacDonald reported that they were concerned about the high level of admin costs, and in the budget there is a breakdown for ‘admin’ and ‘additional administration’ which represents $145,000 of the $180,000 received from students. MacDonald reported that there were also questions on the value of the decision making process for working groups on how they were chosen and operate. MacDonald reported that the Assembly would like to see the opt-out process be moved online, and that there was a discussion on the possibility of having the MSU giving resources to advertise this. MacDonald reported that they would like to see the balance sheet to see where finances were at, as well as see how many opt-outs were received. MacDonald reported that there was a discussion about sending this fee to referendum, but decided that it would be brought forward at a future meeting as it was imperative to invite OPIRG to the meeting to answer any questions.

7. HSR Referendum

Moved by MacDonald, seconded by Lightstone that the Assembly call a Referendum to send the HSR fee to students coinciding with the 2016 Presidential Election, of which the finalized fee will be presented at SRA meeting 16L.

- MacDonald went over the memo with the Assembly. He explained that while he didn’t feel comfortable putting this motion forward without finalized details, they have to call it now in order to have the referendum coincide with the presidential election. MacDonald stated that the reason why he was bringing it forward was that every three years they need to renew/re-evaluate the HSR agreement. He added that he wished he could have brought it up sooner but the process has been frustrating, and that they should know the finalized fee on December 19. MacDonald explained that he was going to bring all the details to the January meeting but admin pointed out that due to bylaws they wouldn’t have had enough time for nominations and such for presidencies.

- Lightstone stated that he had concerns about this, but spoke to MacDonald and agreed that this was what they had. He explained that they don’t have the opportunity for a February referendum, and the ability to get around Hamilton is an important part of student life. Lightstone thought that this was the best possible option, and that there is an opportunity to see what the fee will be in January. He added that if they didn’t like the finalized fee they could scrap the referendum. Lightstone felt that this wasn’t the best situation, but the best option presented.

- Dales stated that he would like to put this forward so that the VP Finance could get the best value for students.

- MacDonald stated that students would still have the opportunity to sign up for a side after the January SRA meeting, as nominations would be open until January 12, 2017. He explained that historically there hasn’t been a yes or no side, and that it would usually pass by 85% or more.

- Pita felt that this should be put forward, and was interested in partnering with Metrolinx. She asked if the student discount would be the same.
• MacDonald stated that they would have the same discount if they used it elsewhere, but for Hamilton it would show up as the McMaster pass.

Vote on Motion

Passes Unanimously

8. Open MSU Seats on Awards Committees

Moved by Nadarajah, seconded by Pita that the Assembly open nominations for MSU members to the following award committees:

- Honour M (1)
- Rudy Heinzl Award of Excellence (1)
- MSU Merit Scholarship (1)
- J. Lynn Watson (1)
- MSU Sprit (1)

Passes Unanimously

9. Open SRA Seats on Awards Committees

Moved by Bengizi, seconded by Rudge that the Assembly open nominations for SRA members to the following award committees:

- Honour M (1)
- MSU Merit Scholarship (1)
- J. Lynn Watson (1)
- MSU Sprit (1)

Passes Unanimously

10. Open one MSU Seat on Elections Committee

Moved by Nadarajah, seconded by Shingleton-Smith that the Assembly open one (1) MSU Seat on the Elections Committee.

Passes Unanimously

11. Open one SRA Seat on University Affairs Committee

Moved by Hsu, seconded by Pita that the Assembly open one (1) SRA seat on the University Affairs Committee.

• Hsu stated that she would really like for someone to run for this seat.

Vote on Motion

Passes Unanimously

12. Gender Inclusive Nomenclature

Moved by Dales, seconded by Bengizi that the SRA commit the Bylaws & Procedures Committee to review and amend relevant bylaws to foster gender inclusive nomenclature.
Dales stated that there was a policy written a few weeks ago about this, and that a MSU member wanted this to be brought forward.

Lee stated that he reviewed the bylaws and wasn’t sure what the MSU meant about gender exclusive language, as he didn’t see any.

Hsu stated that she did a review and in some instances there are sections that say his/her, and that items like this should be changed.

Robinson explained that regardless of this existing they should be tasking them to look into this anyway.

Hsu stated that she felt that this probably could have just been brought up to the Commissioner as this would be in line with what was passed at the previous meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Moved** by Hsu, **seconded** by Anbalagan that the Assembly consider the following motion for New Business: "**Moved** by Hsu, **seconded** by ___ that the Assembly move into Committee of the Whole to discuss formally tasking the Bylaws & Procedures Committee with a review of Bylaw 3/A section 6 (Attendance)."

- Hsu stated that she wanted to bring this up before the new term. She wanted to emphasize that it was about anyone who missed any meeting, and that it should be addressed this term.
- Anbalagan added that they’re not trying to single anyone out, but they have seen a lot of SRA members step out and not come back within 30 minutes.

**Vote to Consider**

**In Favour: 17 Opposed: 3 Abstentions: 1**

Opposed: Bengizi, Kula, Rudge
Abstained: Almeida

Motion Passes

1. **Committee of the Whole**

**Moved** by Hsu, **seconded** by Anbalagan that the Assembly move into Committee of the Whole to discuss formally tasking the Bylaws & Procedures Committee with a review of Bylaw 3/A section 6 - Attendance.

- Hsu stated that she wanted to drive this home this meeting, and they should discuss this.

**Vote on Motion**

**Passes Unanimously**

**Moved** by Hsu, **seconded** by Pita that the Assembly move out of Committee of the Whole and to Rise and Report.

**Passes Unanimously**

**Rise and Report**

- Hsu reported that the SRA discussed attendance issues, and reasons why people were not attending meetings. She stated that there was concern about people attending first and final roll calls and being deemed present, even if they missed the middle of the meeting. She added that the SRA discussed additional measures, and about the possibility of members having to be present for three-quarters of the
roll calls before being absent. Hsu reported that there was precedent in previous versions of this bylaw that members needed to meet every roll call or be considered absent. Hsu reported that the SRA also discussed leaves of absences in the summer, as they are missing 4 months of possible meetings and trainings. Hsu reported that another discussion brought up was the possibility of re-evaluating losing seats and having the member ask for leniency.

Moved by Hsu, seconded by Dales that the Assembly consider the following motion in New Business: “Moved by Hsu, seconded by ___ that the Assembly formally task the Bylaws & Procedures Committee with a review of Bylaw 3/A section 6 – Attendance based on the discussion from SRA 16K.”

- Hsu stated that she would like to see this happen.
- Rudge felt that this was something that should be clarified in the future as they don’t need to formally task them.
- Hsu explained that she wanted to have the discussion at the SRA level, and that they had already previously adopted policy statements for inclusive language in previous motions.

Vote to Consider

Passes Unanimously

2. Review of Bylaw 3/A section 6 - Attendance

Moved by Hsu, seconded by Lightstone that the Assembly formally task the Bylaws & Procedures Committee with a review of Bylaw 3/A section 6 – Attendance based on the discussion from SRA 16K.

- Hsu stated that she would like for the Committee to work on this.

Vote on Motion

Passes Unanimously

TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Sunday, January 8, 2017
5:00pm
Council Chambers, GH 111

CALL OF THE ROLL

Present
Anbalagan, Bengizi, Dales, Flowers, Hsu, Inigo, Kula, Lee, Lightstone, MacDonald, Martin, McBride, Mertens, Phung, Pita, Ragnanan, Robinson, Rudge, Singleton-Smith

Absent Excused
Almeida, Areghan, Baiden, Beley, Cole, Eom, Farah, Long, Monaco-Barnes, Nadarajah, Ngo, Oliver, Quinn, Sehrawat

Absent
D’Souza, Threndyle

Late

Others Present
Yelena Banjavcic (Finance Commissioner), V. Scott (Recording Secretary)

Chair
Genya Oparin

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by McBride, seconded by Hsu that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Passes by General Consent
Adjourned at 11:53pm

/ vs