



Student Representative Assembly Meeting 16N
Sunday, February 5, 2017 at 12:00pm
Council Chambers, GH111

Called to Order at 12:04pm

CALL OF THE ROLL

Present Almeida, Anbalagan, Areghan, Baiden, Beley, Cole, D'Souza, Eom, Farah, Hsu, Kula, Lee, Lightstone, Long, Martin, McBride, Mertens, Monaco-Barnes, Nadarajah, Ngo, Phung, Pita, Quinn, Ragnanan, Robinson, Rudge, Shingleton-Smith, Threndyle

Absent Excused Robinson, MacDonald, Flowers

Absent Bengizi, Flowers, Inigo, Oliver, Sehwat

Late Dales

Others Present Amanda Abrams (MSU Member), Yelena Banjavcic (Finance Commissioner), Emma Ferguson (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 Hsu, **seconded** by D'Souza that the Assembly adopt the agenda, as presented.

Amendment

Moved by Eom, **seconded** by Shingleton-Smith to amend the agenda to include "Open one (1) SRA seat on Elections Committee" and "Open (1) MSU seat on Elections Committee" as Business items #2 and #3.

- Eom asked everyone to please advertise to their constituents.

Vote on Amendment

Passes Unanimously

Vote to Adopt Agenda

Passes Unanimously

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

- The Chair asked for members in the back to please sign the Observer's List.

ADOPTION OF SRA MINUTES 16M

Moved by Threndyle, **seconded** by Ragnanan that the Assembly adopt the minutes from SRA meeting 16M – January 22, 2017 as circulated.

In Favour: 25 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 1
Abstained: Nadarajah
Motion Passes

REPORT PERIOD

1. First Year Council - report attached

2. Nursing Caucus - Ragnanan presented

- Ragnanan summarized the report.

Questions

- Shingleton-Smith asked about Goal 6: Improve awareness about mental health through a joint campaign with theHealth Sciences Caucus. Ragnanan stated that there were details on the campaign in her previous report.

3. Science Caucus - Baiden presented

- Baiden summarized the report.

Questions

- Nadarajah asked if he had thought about any strategies to help accountability. Threndyle responded that before the break everyone went through their platforms and categorized what had and had not been completed to get a clear picture of what to focus on going forward.
- Baiden reported that there would be the first MSS Presidential meet and greet on Tuesday, February 7.

4. Social Sciences Caucus - Farah presented

- Farah summarized the report.

5. External Affairs Commissioner - report attached

6. Finance Commissioner - report attached

7. Operations Commissioner - Anbalagan presented

- Anbalagan summarized the report.

8. Executive Board - Nadarajah presented

- Nadarajah summarized the report.

9. Vice-President (Education) - report attached

10. President -no report submitted

- Monaco-Barnes stated that he would have his report prepared for the next meeting. He explained that since coming back from his leave he had been off sick and wanted to give himself time to create a comprehensive and useful report.

INFORMATION PERIOD

- Martin informed the Assembly that it is the choice of an individual to stand for the territory recognition just as it is a choice to stand for the national anthem. She stated that members should only stand if they agree with the treaty and feel like it is important to them. Those who do not stand would not receive

judgement. Martin encouraged members to take it upon themselves to become educated on the Wampum Treaty and its meaning.

- D'Souza announced that OUSA GA applications were closing on February 6 at 5pm. She stated it was a great way to be more involved in policy work and to message Oliver with any questions.
- Cole announced that Relay for Life would be coming up soon but the date had yet to be finalized. Cole explained that the tradition was for the Board of Directors to get pied in the face but they wanted to extend the invitation to SRA members. Cole asked for those interested to send him a message.
- Hsu stated that she was very disappointed in the actions of the SRA member who went on exchange and refused to drop their seat. She stated that a lot of people ran for these seats, and refusing to drop the seat took away an opportunity from another student. She explained she wanted this situation to be taken into consideration when revising the attendance bylaw. Hsu stated she had heard complaints from constituents who have noted some SRA members are consistently absent either mentally or physically. She would like to see more engagement and conversation moving forward.
- Lightstone congratulated Chucky Ibe for winning the MSU President election. He commended all the candidates for their campaigns.
- Pita announced that tickets for McMaster Music Theatre's production of Pippin were on sale. The production runs from February 24, 2017 to March 4, 2017.
- Baiden announced that positions including DRO, Diversity Services Director and Peer Support Line Coordinator were on the MSU jobs portal, and asked members to encourage constituents to apply. He reminded the Assembly that part of their job is outreach.
- Robinson announced that online voting for Battle of the Bands started on February 13, 2016.
- Anbalagan expressed concern that reports were not being completed for their due dates. She stated that the Assembly had not heard a report from the President since November, and found it disappointing to have to wait until the next meeting.
- Nadarajah reiterated that a lot of jobs were open on the MSU website. She stated that there were a lot of resources on the jobs tab; including how to write a resume and cover letter, and what the interview process looked like.
- Areghan asked everyone to advertise that rep applications were opening for most faculties.
- Monaco-Barnes stated that he was not attempting to disrespect the system by not having his report prepared for the meeting. He explained he had been off sick from work.
- Hsu announced that MSU Policy Con will be on Saturday, March 11, 2017. She asked the Assembly to please reserve the date as they would all be voting on the policies. The policy topics include indigenous students, food security and first year transition.
- Areghan announced that SRA nominations were open.

QUESTION PERIOD

- Shingleton-Smith asked about the hierarchy diagram in Oliver's report. He questioned why there was no line connecting the Marketing and Communications Director to the Vice-President Education, and if this position would fall under administration. Nadarajah responded that the position would likely fall under the Communications Department but Oliver could clarify when the full proposal was complete.
- Lightstone asked Nadarajah if there was a requirement for commissioners to attend SRA meetings when they have a report due. Nadarajah responded that she would be following up with the commissioners who had not been attending.
- Areghan asked if it was mandatory for SRA members to attend Policy Con. Hsu responded that the policies are used to shape the advocacy efforts for the next three years for the MSU, and the Assembly would be the ones voting the policies in. She stated that no, it was not mandatory to attend, but it was highly encouraged as the event was one of the platform points Oliver ran on.
- Farah stated that to her understanding the MSU takes a stance on merit versus need based scholarships and bursaries. She asked how much this had been advocated to the University and how much money

would be allocated. Monaco-Barnes responded that they had been advocating to all levels of government and the University all year and that Oliver would have more information on it.

- Baiden stated that he heard concerns from some of the PTMs that they did not feel supported during the two weeks two board members took leaves of absence and Executive Board didn't meet. He asked if the Board of Directors had any suggestions to mitigate that in the future. Nadarajah responded that typically two members would not take a leave of absence at the same time and this had been a unique situation and unlikely to happen in future years. She explained that each board member is allocated two weeks' vacation, so at an organizational level it is believed that the organization can run without that support for that length of time. She stated that PTMs knew that she would be away, she had MacDonald briefed prior to her absence, and multiple full time staff members were available to help. If PTMs did not feel supported they likely did not reach out to the resources at a full time staff level or did not communicate enough in advance.
- Shingleton-Smith asked what experts were consulted for the resources on writing resumes and cover letters. Nadarajah responded that they had reached out to the Student Success Centre, as well as using the Operations Coordinator as a resource, who has formalized training as a CHRP. She explained that they also suggest for applicants to reach out to the current PTM as they can provide a lot of perspective on the process and skills necessary to be successful.
- Anbalagan asked if there would be any follow up to the updates on the Workplace Violence Policy. Nadarajah stated that the next steps were to bring it to the Board of Directors meeting to approve and then present it to the Assembly.
- Lightstone how the Arts & Science caucus ensures constituents are able to get in contact with them when the email that is listed on the SRA website is not the email in use. Almeida responded that she maintains regular mailing schedules with constituents which get sent from the account she uses. She explained that due to the nature of the small program it is easy to reach out and not come across issues.
- Anbalagan asked Monaco-Barnes if there were any plans or progress on the SACHA satellite location. Monaco-Barnes responded that he would provide an update later in the term.
- Hsu stated that she understood how the Arts & Science caucus could handle using a personal email, but questioned when Baiden would access the SRA Science email. Baiden responded that he currently had access.
- Lightstone asked Y. Banjavcic to summarize her Finance Commissioner report. Y. Banjavcic summarized the report that was submitted.
- Farah noted that some student unions in Canada had taken a stance on the recent international events targeting Muslims. She asked whether the MSU planned to take a stance. Nadarajah responded that the SRA could take on a spirited motion. She explained she would discuss this further with the full Board of Directors.
- Anbalagan asked about the progress of Human Resources training for the Vice-President Administration. Nadarajah responded that with the help of the Operations Coordinator she was compiling a list of workshops that would be pertinent to the job and available for future individuals in the role to take. She stated that a lot of Human Resources training is experiential based which is not feasible for the scope of the role so they are focusing on short term opportunities and workshops that address competencies relevant to the Vice-President Administration role. It is currently not mandated to take the courses but it could be in the future.

BUSINESS

1. Recess for meeting of MSU Incorporated

Moved by Monaco-Barnes, **seconded** by Lee that the Assembly recess and move into Corporate Meeting of MSU Incorporated.

Passes Unanimously

Recessed at 1:20 pm
Called to Order at 1:22 pm

CALL OF THE ROLL

Present	Almeida, Anbalagan, Areghan, Baiden, Beley, Cole, D'Souza, Dales, Eom, Farah, Hsu, Kula, Lee, Lightstone, Long, Martin, McBride, Mertens, Monaco-Barnes, Nadarajah, Ngo, Phung, Pita, Quinn, Ragnanan, Robinson, Rudge, Shingleton-Smith, Threndyle
Absent Excused	Robinson, MacDonald, Flowers
Absent	Bengizi, Inigo, Oliver, Sehwat
Late	Dales
Others Present	Amanda Abrams (MSU Member), Yelena Banjavcic (Finance Commissioner), Emma Ferguson (Recording Secretary)
Chair	Genya Oparin

2. Open one (1) SRA seat on Elections Committee

Moved by Eom, **seconded** by D'Souza that the Assembly open nominations for one (1) SRA seat on Elections Committee.

- Eom stated that she was dropping her seat because she has a night class that conflicts with the meeting times.
- Anbalagan asked when the meetings were.
- Eom stated that the mandatory fines meeting is March 9 at 6 pm but other meeting times can be scheduled based on new members.
- Baiden asked if he could be running an election outside the MSU and be on election elections committee.
- Hsu clarified that elections outside the MSU were fine.

Vote on Motion

Passes Unanimously

3. Open one (1) MSU seat on Elections Committee

Moved by Eom, **seconded** by Ragnanan that the Assembly open nominations for one (1) MSU seat on Elections Committee.

Passes Unanimously

TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Sunday, February 26, 2017
5:00pm
Council Chambers, GH 111

CALL OF THE ROLL

Present	Almeida, Anbalagan, Areghan, Baiden, Beley, Cole, D'Souza, Dales, Eom, Farah, Hsu, Kula, Lee, Lightstone, Long, Martin, McBride, Mertens, Monaco-Barnes, Nadarajah, Ngo, Phung, Pita, Quinn, Ragnanan, Robinson, Rudge, Shingleton-Smith, Threndyle
Absent Excused	Robinson, MacDonald, Flowers
Absent	Inigo, Oliver, Sehwat
Late	

Others Present Amanda Abrams (MSU Member), Yelena Banjavcic (Finance Commissioner), Emma Ferguson (Recording Secretary)
Chair Genya Oparin

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Phung, **seconded** by Almeida that the meeting be adjourned.

In Favour: 27 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 1
Abstained: Lightstone
Motion Passes

Adjourned at 1:26pm

/ef