

MASU Students' Administrative Council Meeting Minutes

The Students' Administrative Council met on December 1st, 2022, beginning at 7:05pm in AVDX 111.

Call to Order: (7:05)

- Chairperson Nowlan called the meeting to order.

Land Acknowledgement

- The land acknowledgement was done by Chairperson Nowlan.

Approval of the Agenda

- **BE IT RESOLVED** (moved by Councillor Jollimore, seconded by Councillor Lesser) that the Thursday, December 1st Agenda of the Students' Administrative Council be approved.

MOTION CLEARLY PASSES

Approval of the Minutes

- **BE IT RESOLVED** (moved by Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney, seconded by Councillor Nelson) that the Thursday, November 17th minutes of the Students' Administrative Council be approved.
 - Councillor RAP Minocha- Mckenney wants to specify which Minocha- Mckenney is being referred to in the agenda from this point onward.

MOTION CLEARLY PASSES

Reports

a. Councillor Minocha-Mckenney

- In relation to strategic planning, there has been a survey circulating that asks for input on what students would like there to be a focus on in the document. This survey has had a good level of engagement.
- The NBSA has just finished their advocacy week. It has taken up a significant amount of Councillor Minocha-Mckenney's time, and internal matters within the NBSA are expected to continue taking up a significant portion of Councillor Minocha-Mckenney's time going forward.

b. Councillor Warr

- Nothing to add to report

c. Councillor Lesser

- Everything in Councillor Lesser's report will have to go through Governance Committee before coming to council, so the contents may change with time.
- Councillor Lesser would be happy to temporarily add people to Governance Committee if you are interested in learning about it

d. Councillor Huynh

- Councillor Hyun stated that the CASA advocacy week went better than expected as it was well received.
- Councillor Hyun also acknowledged that there were issues with the election voting and takes responsibility for not doing more work to engage students.

Discussion:

Student-at Large-Aidan Tomalty: Student-at Large-Aidan Tomalty gave the following speech:

To say you dropped the ball on the election is an underestimation, to say that this is human error is understandable but this was an issue of a lack of proper management and poor planning. Therefore an apology for human error is not acceptable. Through this election, I have seen first-hand the sheer inability of the MASU as in the lead up to the election you asked me, one week in advance, to help coordinate the debate for the student body. This is not enough time. Moreover, I was also asked to find a suitable moderator which was a task that took a significant amount of time. Furthermore, I made the itinerary for the night and when I asked for aid in creating discussion topics and questions for the event, I received none. I combed through a years worth of Town Council minutes and talked to students to create the topics for the debate.

I cautioned the MASU not to have a “half-assed” election, which I felt was occurring. As well, last Wednesday, I received a text from the VP External Affairs about a meeting at 7 pm that I showed up to, and nobody was there. It turns out that the meeting was rescheduled and I felt upset that my time had been wasted.

Concerning the actual election day, there was no email sent out to students in the morning. When I asked about it, they said that they would “probably send one out by the end of the day.” The email was sent out to students at 2:14 pm and did not include the time the polls opened and closed and proper documentation required to vote.

The MASU’s response to the situation was inadequate and shows an incapability of the MASU to be trusted with elections. Now, I want to know what policy you will be implementing to ensure that this never happens again.

Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: Productive is what I am going to go for. I am happy to work and talk with you further about what we should do, because a lot happened that has to not be repeated in the future. Thank you for voicing your concern. We are very sorry that this happened

Student-at Large-Aidan Tomalty: So what are you guys planning on doing?

Councillor Krueger: Thank you for coming in Aidan, you have clearly done a lot of work on this election and so I motion to refer this issue to the External Affairs Committee to go over the issues that happened throughout the election and the candidates debate as well as create recommendations for the GOTV campaign.

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Krueger, seconded by Councillor Lesser) that the SAC refer the issue of the 2022 Tantramar municipal election to the External Affairs Committee, and extend an invitation to the CRO to perform a review of the MASU’s involvement in the election, and produce a report with recommendations for future MASU GOTV campaigns. The report should be presented to the SAC within the next two council meetings following the 2022-2023 winter break.

Discussion:

Councillor Amsdr: I respect what you (Aidan) have to say; however, I think that it is important to keep in mind that a part of the responsibility for the MASU’s response to this election must be placed on the town of the Sackville for their role in taking measures to exclude students from the vote.

Student-at Large-Aidan Tomalty: None of what I am saying is concerning the measures the town took but what the MASU did. It would have only taken a quick google search to verify the times the polls were open.

Councillor Amsdr: But we must keep in consideration the additional factors the MASU had to contend with during this election, which made it more difficult than previous years.

Councillor Huynh: First, I would like to say thank you for voicing the experience of the students; second, I am appologizing for he experience you went through. At this point, I was overwhelmed by all of the work that comes along with being the VP External Affairs and my own school work, and so I was not communicating very well to everybody. I would like to talk directly to the POLS/IR Society to offer an apology.

Councillor Lesser: I would like to echo what other councillors have said by saying thank you for coming and voicing student concerns: it is clear that you and the POLS/IR Society have done a lot in this election. So, in regards to Councillor Krueger's motion, I was wondering if you or anybody in the Society would like to be involved in the process? We could add you into the motion.

Student-at Large-Aidan Tomalty: I do not want to be a part of the process, but I will because of the clear incompetence that has been demonstrated here.

Councillor Krueger: I would like to restate my previous motion with the inclusion of one or more representatives from the POLS/IR Society.

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Krueger, seconded by Councillor Jollimore) that the SAC refer the issue of the 2022 Tantramar municipal election to the external affairs Committee, and extend an invitation to one or more members of the POLS/IR Society as well as CRO to perform a review of the MASU's involvement in the election, and produce a report with recommendations for future MASU GOTV campaigns. The report should be presented to the SAC within the next two council meetings following the 2022-2023 winter break.

MOTION CLEARLY PASSES

Student-at Large-Aidan Tomalty: Is it possible to create an Ad-hoc Committee that would be external to this?

Councillor Lesser: Yes we can, but I think it may make more sense to go to the External Affairs Committee because of the inclusion of people from the POLS/IR Society.

Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: One thing I can recommend is that nothing official has to be struck to do this, we can continue to talk without an official committee.

Student-at Large-Aidan Tomalty: I disagree - I think that something official has to come out of this because this because of the clear incompetence that has been demonstrated.

Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: Please stop calling my team incompetent.

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by the Chairperson, seconded by Councillor Lesser) that the SAC take a ten minute recess.

MOTION CLEARLY PASSES

Student-at Large-Aidan Tomalty: I am not trying to hurt anybody specific, but the process was inadequately done so there has to be a solution. But I am sorry if I hurt anybody.

Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: Thank you for your apology. Mutual respect is required for working together.

Councillor Huynh: I partially accept the apology, but I am still hurt.

e. Councillor Mittal

- Councillor Mittal stated that they have attached an advocacy report that they recommend all Councillors take a look at. This report includes what the MASU Executive did this summer. As well, the final draft of the Allisonian cover has been attached for everybody to look at.
- Councillor Mittal also apologized for the role they played in the election.

f. Councillor Chun

- Nothing to add to report

g. Councillor Hiebert

- Nothing to add to report

Business Arising from the Minutes (no business)

New Business

a. Advocacy Report for Summer 2022

Councillors are asked to take a look at this document.

b. Repeal Operating Procedure 06 – Clubs & Societies (w/motion)

- Last council meeting we passed Governing Procedure 6000 which replaces everything that is contained in Operating Procedure 06. Therefore, there is no longer any need for this Operating Procedure.

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Lesser, seconded by Councillor Jollimore) that the SAC repeal Operating Procedure 06 - Clubs and Societies.

Discussion:

Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: Thank you very much for your hard work Councillor Lesser, this has been six months in the making.

MOTION CLEARLY PASSES

c. PowerPoint Society Constitution (w/motion)

- The purpose of this society is to build public speaking and presentation skills. It has no fees and will take place on campus once a month.

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Jollimore, seconded by Councillor Nelson) that the SAC approve the PowerPoint Society as a MASU club.

MOTION CLEARLY PASSES

Open Forum:

- Councillor Jollimore: I had my first committee meeting and it went well.
- Councillor Shelley: First year caucus is meeting December 6th for the second time this semester.
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: I hope that everybody has a great and relaxing break.
- Councillor Amsdr: The “defining accessibility portfolio” is on track for next semester.
- Councillor Lesser: I know I had a lot of Human Resources reform that I unfortunately was not able to be pushed through this semester, but I hope to do so next semester.

Reminders:

- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: MASU entertainment is hosting a gingerbread house night this Sunday at the pond. As well, Sac Vegas is coming up on Thursday December 8th. Tickets will go on sale for ten dollars, or you could volunteer to run the games.
- Councillor Warr: There are also a of couple walk home slots for that event that are open to anybody with Seeds of Change training.

In-Camera:

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Lesser, seconded by Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney) that the SAC move in-camera.

MOTION CLEARLY PASSES

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Lesser, seconded by Councillor Chun) that the SAC approve the Round 2 allocation of the Academic Enrichment Fund as decided by the Finance and Administration Committee.

- Amendment: the surplus from this round will be added to the next round of funding.

MOTION CLEARLY PASSES

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Lesser, seconded by Councillor Shelley) that the SAC approve the Round 2 allocation of the Clubs & Societies Fund as decided by the Finance and Administration Committee.

- Amendment: the surplus from this round will be added to the next round of funding.

MOTION CLEARLY PASSES

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Jollimore, seconded by Councillor Mittal) that the SAC move out of in-camera.

MOTION CLEARLY PASSES

Adjournment:

- The Chairperson adjourned the meeting upon the completion of the agenda at 8:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paige Meisner

Secretary (Deputy Chairperson)

