

MASU Students' Administrative Council Meeting Minutes

The Students' Administrative Council met on November 17th, 2022, beginning at 7:06 pm in AVDX 111.

Call to Order: (7:06 pm)

- 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 RAP Minocha-Mckenney, seconded by Councillor Huynh) that the Thursday, November 17th Agenda of the Students' Administrative Council be approved.

Approved by MAJORITY

Approval of the Minutes

- **BE IT RESOLVED** (moved by Councillor Keleher, seconded by Councillor Lirette) that the Thursday, November 3rd minutes of the Students' Administrative Council be approved.

Approved by MAJORITY

Reports

- **Councillor Minocha-Mckenney**
 - Concerning strategic planning, in the winter semester, there will be a strategic planning session with the council. Moreover, the strategic planning committee will be meeting this Friday to discuss questions to bring to council.
 - Concerning the municipal polling stations, a letter has been sent to Elections NB to aid in getting a shuttle to the polling station. This is not a long term solution, but is the immediate compromise.
 - The NBSA has released their Advocacy document. This year that document features themes such as EDI, housing, international student costs and financial support.

Discussion

- Councillor Krueger: Your report says you met with Jade Lister. What was the intention behind this meeting?
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: It was an introductory meeting because I thought it would be a good idea to establish relations. She is also involved in EDI and arranging accommodations for students.
- Councillor Lesser: Did Jade have any thoughts on the EDI advisory position?
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: This is not something that we had discussed.
- Councillor Amsdr: Are we communicating to students the EDI aspect of her aid?
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: I do not think the university has made it very clear. However, we could recommend that to the university. Perhaps I will mention this to Anne Comfort when she comes back from her leave.
- Councillor Warr: I had thought that this could be an interesting thing for the IEDI committee to look at.

- **Councillor Warr**
 - Wellness week is currently underway. Two specific events that Councillor Warr brought attention to were the cooking video and Cup for a Cup as both events appeared to have gone well.
 - Concerning the ADHD testing, the president of the university is on board and is ready to support the initiative.
 - Lastly, Councillor Warr brought attention to the fact that they sat in on an entertainment committee meeting, and it went very well. Moreover, they announced that the committee is on track for Winter Carnival and Sac Vegas.

- **Councillor Lesser**
 - Councillor Lesser announced that the Governance Committee and the BOR Committee are up and running. As well, Councillor Lesser stated that HR policies and Job descriptions are underway for the next meeting.

- **Councillor Mittal (Verbal)**
 - In today's meeting, Councillor Mittal announced that the MASU Herald's next issue will be released soon, the Allisonian is complete and has been submitted for printing, and that Marketing Plan research is underway.

- **Councillor Huynh**
 - Recently, Councillor Huynh has been focused on making preparations for the upcoming municipal campaign, as well as NBSA and CASA advocacy.

- **Councillor Chun**
 - In their report, Councillor Chun announced that the BOR Academic Affairs Committee and the MASU Academic Affairs Committee have both recently met for the first time this year.
 - Moreover, Councillor Chun announced in their report that Senate decided to mandate the use of masks in the Winter Semester.

- **Councillor Amsdr Item**
 - Councillor Amsdr expressed to council that they intend to create a portfolio allowing students to say what accessibility means to them and thus, wants feedback on the best way to go about this, logistically.

Discussion:

- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: We can discuss how to go about the logistics however I think that this could be a cool campaign to do next semester. I think that now may be a hard time to get people engaged because of exams, but we can do the planning now so that we will be ready for next semester.

- Councillor Hiebert: I want to hear more about your project, and would love to help you with it.

Business Arising from the Minutes (no business)

New Business

Repeal of OP-07 (w/ motion) (no attachment)

- In last week's meeting we accepted Governing Procedures 7004, 4001, 7002 and 7003, so now we can repeal the Operating Procedure as it is covered by all of these new Governing Procedures.

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Lesser, seconded by Councillor Hiebert) that the SAC repeal OP-07 - grants and awards .

Approved by MAJORITY

Governing Procedure 6000 – Clubs & Societies (w/ motion)

- Through consultation with various clubs and societies, Councillor Lesser has revised this procedure to make it accurately reflect the actions clubs and societies are currently practising, as well as improve upon the training clubs and societies receive by making executive training a Moodle course that must be completed before the club is viewed as legitimate. Furthermore, Councillor Lesser has created a Dropbox for all the club constitutions to go, that way they will not become lost in an email inbox.

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Lesser, seconded by Councillor Hiebert) that the SAC at the recommendation of the Governance Committee approve Governing Procedure 6000 - clubs and societies.

Discussion:

- Councillor Mittal: Friendly amendment: I believe there is a word missing in the title section.
- Councillor Park: Would you require current clubs and societies to go through this process?
- Councillor Lesser: Not this year - I don't think we need to pretend that old constitutions do not exist.
- Councillor Warr: I am confident that, if this passes, I'll still get emails with the old constitution- in which case I will give leeway.
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: Thank you for your hard work. However there is one section that I am unsure if it is needed - section 6.1.4. This section states that if any exec wishes to resign they must inform the VPSL and the Chairperson.
- Councillor Lesser: It is important to note the "upon notice" stated at the beginning of that section. I understand how that could be confusing - but the chairperson is technically the one in charge of the paperwork regarding the paperwork.

- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: Another thing, I would like to motion to remove the ability of a member at large to make a motion against a club or their executives at the SAC. I fear this power may be misused.

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney, seconded by Councillor Jollimore) that the SAC amend section 6.1 to remove a student-at-large's ability to make a motion against a club or their executive to the Students' Administrative Council.

Discussion:

- Councillor Warr: I am concerned that not everybody has a connection to the SAC that can make their motion for them. Moreover, I fear that this amendment might deter students from feeling that their voices are being heard. As well, I have yet to experience a student bring a frivolous motion to the SAC- and on top of that, I don't see how we have the right to decide what is frivolous.
- Councillor Krueger: I agree. I do not see why a student would come to the SAC unless in an extreme situation. In which case I think we should give them a direct voice.
- Councillor Lesser: I've decided I agree with Councillor Warr and Councillor Krueger. I think that we may not be very approachable, and should therefore give people the opportunity to speak for themselves.
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: A student could come to open forum if they wish to talk to the SAC, in which case it will go through an officer of the SAC.
- Councillor Lesser: Point of Information: the person's motion would still have to be seconded.
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: I don't think it necessarily reads that way. I think we could be giving ourselves the bad end of the stick.
- Chairperson Nowlan: I do not believe a student-at-large can be a seconder
- Councillor Warr: I think by taking this away we are limiting students' voices.
- Councillor Hiebert: I agree with Councillor Warr. Before I became a part of the SAC I was feeling many of the ways that they expressed. Moreover, I feel that many students may lack the knowledge of putting names to faces of the people on the SAC. Thus, people may find it difficult to get in contact with the SAC.
- Councillor Mittal: Keep in mind that we do not completely understand the capacity of a student under Roert's Rules at this time. So, I think we should spend some more time figuring out the wording to make it future proof. As well, I'd like to make a friendly amendment to change the wording of "denounce and disaffiliate". It does not make sense to denounce, thus we should remove the word.

Vote on Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney's amendment

Approved by MAJORITY

Discussion:

- Councillor Lesser: It appears to me that we are not going to come to an agreement on the wording on the procedure tonight, thus I would like to make a motion to send the procedure back to the Governance Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Lesser, seconded by Councillor Hiebert) that the SAC send back procedure 6000 - clubs and societies to the Governance Committee for reevaluation.

Discussion:

- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: I do not believe we need to send it back to the Governance Committee. We can make the necessary changes here at this time.

Note: Councillor Lesser retracts motion.

Vote on Councillor Lesser's initial motion including the amendment and the friendly amendments discussed above.

Approved by MAJORITY

Proposed Amendments to General By-Laws - Executive Mandates (w/ Motion)

- The size of the VPSL's portfolio needs to be downsized and more focused
- Need to change the name of the the VP of Academic Affairs and University Affairs because it is confusing
- Minor changes need to be made to all of the portfolios so that they properly reflect what the executives do.

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Lesser, seconded by Councillor Warr) that the Students' Administrative Council consider the amendments to the Executive Officer Mandates as presented by referring them to the Executive Board for review

Discussion:

- Councillor Warr: The position is overwhelming and it feels like a catchall. This is not only a feeling that I am feeling, but has been a consistent theme in previous VPSL transition reports. It is an advocacy based role that also includes entertainment and clubs and societies which spreads the person in the role too thin.
- Councillor Huynh: I agree with Councillor Warr. However I do have a small concern that if we change the title of the role to include the term "advocacy," people may confuse our two positions.
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: This is a discussion we can have if this gets taken to the Executive Board.
- Councillor Lesser: One observation Mitch had was that we have a lot of advocacy roles. In fact, he almost told me to merge them before I told him all the stuff they do. We have three roles for what is traditionally one role in other unions.
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: It is a catch all position, therefore we have to pull some things away from it. While she does a fantastic job at handling the role, changes are needed to make the position more accessible.
- Councillor Warr: Not only is the VPSL role stacked but it is detrimental to students because when a VPSL's focus is on one aspect of the portfolio - the other aspects get lost. The two parts to the role are different skill sets.
- Councillor Lesser: As well, there will be changes beyond the VPSI's portfolio.

Approved by MAJORITY

In-Camera:

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

Approved by MAJORITY

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

Approved by MAJORITY

Open Forum:

- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: The COVID-19 MTA working group has met to talk about masking on campus. I made the motion to bring more masks to campus. This motion was made to be more considerate of the entire community.
- Councillor Shelly: Are masks going to be put in places they are needed? Like Jennings?
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: Not Jennings but yes the library and student centre.
- Councillor Lesser: Are they also going to be put in academic buildings?
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: We chose to put them in central locations; however, I do not know where exactly those will be yet.

Reminders:

- Councillor Lesser: Submit funding applications.
- Councillor Shelly: Please do the first year survey.
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: Also, please fill out the survey that I recently emailed to everybody.

Adjournment:

- The Chairperson adjourned the meeting upon the completion of the agenda at 8:33pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paige Meisner

Secretary (Deputy Chairperson)