

MASU Students' Administrative Council Meeting Minutes

The Students' Administrative Council met on October 27th, 2022, beginning at 7:04pm in AVDX 111.

Call to Order: (7:04pm)

- 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 Park) that the Thursday October 27th Agenda of the Students' Administrative Council be approved.
 - Fix the spelling of Councillor Shelly's name
 - Fix the spelling of Councillor Blakney's name

Approved by MAJORITY

Approval of the Minutes

- **BE IT RESOLVED** (moved by Councillor Jollimore, seconded by Councillor Nelson) that the Thursday, October 13th minutes of the Students' Administrative Council be approved.
 - Fix the spelling of Councillor Shelly's name
 - Fix the spelling of Councillor Blakney's name

Approved by MAJORITY

Reports

Note: The chairperson asked the councillors to only comment if they have additional information that is not written in their reports.

- **Councillor Minocha-Mckenney**
 - Nothing to add.
- **Councillor Warr**
 - Due to the success of the cup for a cup event, there will be another one this month. Furthermore, Councillor Warr is looking at holding this event monthly beginning next semester.
- **Councillor Lesser**
 - As part of the HR reform, Councillor Lesser and Councillor Warr have been looking at the size of the VPSL portfolio. The VPSL portfolio is large as it handles entertainment, clubs and societies, resident life, athletics, and multiple advocacy points. Furthermore, the VPSL portfolio includes overlooking six staff members. Due to the size of the VPSL portfolio, transition reports from past VPSLs state that this took a mental toll on them as they were consistently unable to complete every aspect of their role.

Discussion:

- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: There are some job design issues with the position. We are lucky to have Mitch because he can help in shaping that. We're also waiting for Joy to come back from vacation. Thus, there may be more to report on this next week

- **Councillor Mittal**
 - Councillor Mittal noted some issues they made in reporting their hours. Specifically, Councillor Mittal noted that they should have reported the last section and made a mistake concerning reporting surplus hours.

- **Councillor Huynh**
 - There is an upcoming municipal election; therefore, we are looking for volunteers to aid in this process. We are also exploring ways to make voting more accessible to students.

Discussion:

- Councillor Keleher: The Pols/IR society would love to help with the volunteering. As well, there's an upcoming talk with Dr. Levesque and Micheal Nolan concerning voting on the 31st that may interest you.
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: What issues came up in the meeting today with the town concerning voting?
- Councillor Huynh: Today we realised that the polling station is no longer the civic centre because they have a hockey tournament at the time of voting. So, they are struggling to find a polling station. The location they are looking at for a polling station is a ten minute drive from campus; thus, is inaccessible to students.
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: We will talk after about what's going to happen because that will clearly stop students from going to vote.
- Councillor Park: I have never voted in this area so I do not know the answer, but have we ever held polling stations on campus.
- Councillor Huynh: I am trying to reach out to get a polling station on campus.
- Councillor Mittal: There is a pushback from the locals on students voting in the election, which is something to keep in mind. I am not sure who precisely the pushback is coming from, but apparently, it is something that is occurring.

- **Councillor Chun**
 - Nothing to add.

- **Councillor Amsdr**
 - There is nothing to add to the report; however, Councillor Amsdr stated that they missed a meeting for the finance committee and are unsure whether they are still on the committee.

Discussion:

- Councillor Lesser: Yes, you are still on the committee, as there is more than one meeting to participate in.

- **Councillor Hiebert**
 - Nothing to add.

- **Councillor Shelly**
 - Nothing to add.

- **Councillor Blakeney**
 - Councillor Blakeney noted that it is difficult to hear the councillors through the zoom call.
 - Moreover, Councillor Blakeney elaborated on his target as a councillor this year, which is to increase food security on campus, through the growth and destigmatisation of the food bank.

Discussion:

- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: The MASU does allocate some funding in the budget to initiatives for food security.
- Councillor Blakney: I remembered looking at our budget and seeing money put aside for food security initiatives; however, I don't believe that enough people know about and take advantage of our foodbank. Rather, I have heard of people using the Sackville foodbank, which I don't believe should be necessary. Instead, we should find a way to take care of our own.
- Councillor Lirette: Paddy Musgrave plays an important role in the food bank, have you been in contact with her?
- Councillor Blakney: I plan to meet with her tomorrow.
- Councillor Amsdr: The arts building has a small kitchen that has food in it that anybody can use- I don't know if other buildings have things like that too.

- **Councillor Park**
 - Nothing to add.

- **Councillor Jollimore**
 - I heard from one of my committees and have a meeting for it next month.

- **Councillor Nelson**
 - Nothing to add.

- **Councillor Krueger**

- Nothing to add.
- **Councillor Keleher**
 - No comment on the report; however, they noted that they will forward the information of the elections talk to the SAC email.

Business Arising from the Minutes (no business)

New Business

Governing Procedure 7004 – Green Investment Fund (w/motion)

- Minor edits have been made to the language in the document concerning the Green Investment Fund for the purpose of modernising it and making it a Governing Procedure rather than an operating procedure.

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Lesser, seconded by Councillor Jollimore) that Governing Procedure 7004 - Green Investment Fund be approved as presented.

See motion below.

Discussion:

- Councillor Krueger: Is there a reason that the Green Investment Fund focuses on carbon emissions rather than just being a “green project”?
- Councillor Lesser: I agree with the point; however, we are limited by the original language used.
- Councillor Krueger: Is there a way to ensure that the recipient of the Green Investment Fund reports to the SAC concerning their progress?
- Councillor Lesser: Question: When did the funding from last year go out?
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: In the beginning of summer.
- Councillor Lesser: Thus, that would make it so the recipients would have to report their progress to the next council.
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: I believe that it would be a good idea to be given a progress report.
- Chairperson Nowlan: Point of information: We could table this motion for now and come back to it when we have a clear idea on what to do.
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: We could also move to make a friendly amendment. It won't take long but we would have to agree on where this amendment would go and the specific wording.
- Councillor Lesser: I am not comfortable doing this using a friendly amendment as it means that Council will pass the Governing Procedure with significant uncertainty about its wording. The needed change is outside of the scope of a friendly amendment.

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Krueger, seconded by Councillor Hiebert) that Governing Procedure 7004 - Green Investment Fund be committed to the VP Finance and Governance, to come back to the SAC at a later date.

Approved by MAJORITY

Open forum:

- Councillor Warr: How is the Zoom account set up? Do we have to let them in or are they automatically let in? I think there is a waiting room and if so how do we eliminate that?
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: There is a way to remove it if I put a password on the call. So, I can change that. And FYI, later this week, I will send out an email to council that the NBSA has committed to a campaign called “more than tuition” and we will be looking for volunteers.
- Councillor Shelly: I have put together an orientation survey that I haven't sent out. I was wondering how I should go about this
- Councillor Lesser: Lostically, you can send it out whenever, but you may wish to run it by a committee or the SAC first.
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: It doesn't have to go through a committee but if you want feedback you could bring it to the SAC or first year caucus. But, rules wise, you can send it out whenever you'd like - but I'd try to run it by first year caucus.
- Councillor Shelly: If I want to bring it next week, when would I bring it up in the meeting?
- Chairperson Nowlan: In open forum.
- Councillor Warr: In regards to distributing the survey, you could reach out to house presidents, they have access to large amounts of first year students.
- Councillor RR Minocha-Mckenney: You could also make posters with a QR code.
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: Question: this year we've been doing more surveys than usual, has anybody been hearing anything about that?
- Councillor Warr: I don't know if the volume of surveys is the problem but I have heard talk of frustration concerning the amount of emails.
- Councillor Amsdr: Last year we would get a weekly summarization email and we don't get them anymore, what is the reasoning for that? It was nice.
- Councillor Jollimore: I think the Touchpoint Tuesday emails were more so concerning Covid , and were from the university's president.
- Councillor Nelson: I think there was talk about getting those emails back up again.
- Councillor Chun: There was another weekly email as well. I know what you mean but I don't know what it is.
- Councillor Kruger: I think the name Tina Warren rings a bell.
- Councillor Amsdr: I brought it up because I wished to promote an event and thought that would be a good way to do it.
- Councillor Mittal: Events are not traditionally promoted that way. But there are other ways of promoting events.
- Councillor RAP Minocha-Mckenney: Tina Warren is the admin assistant for student life. I can mention that students miss these emails and ask what happened.

Reminders

- Councillor Chun: A survey went out to the first year students concerning midterms - please encourage them to answer the survey
- Councillor Shelly: Was this an email?
- Councillor Mittal: The email never went through therefore nobody received it. I only realised this yesterday and am currently trying to get the approval to resend it.
- Councillor Shelly: Please notify me when the survey is posted and I'll tell everyone I know.
- Councillor Mittal: It is already on instagram.
- Councillor Shelly: I'll tell everyone I know.

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

Approved by MAJORITY

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Lesser, seconded by Councillor Jollimore) that the SAC approve the Round 1 allocation of the Clubs & Societies Fund as decided by the Finance and Administration Committee.

Approved by MAJORITY

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Lesser, seconded by Councillor Warr) that the SAC approve the Round 1 allocation of the Academic Enrichment Fund as decided by the Finance and Administration Committee.

Approved by MAJORITY

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Lesser, seconded by Councillor Keleher) that the SAC approve the allocation of the Jeff “Skip” Fraser Memorial Scholarship as decided by the Finance and Administration Committee.

See motion below

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Krueger, seconded by Councillor Hiebert) that the SAC commit the allocation of the Jeff “Skip” Fraser Memorial Scholarship back to the Finance & Administration Committee for re-evaluation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the VP Finance and Governance be given permission to disclose information about the current in-camera discussion to the Finance & Administration Committee.

Approved by MAJORITY

BE IT RESOLVED (moved by Councillor Krueger, seconded by Councillor Jollimore) that an Ombudsperson be consulted regarding the interpretation of Governing Procedure 7003 – The Jeff “Skip” Fraser Memorial Scholarship.

Approved by MAJORITY

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

Approved by MAJORITY

Adjournment:

- The Chairperson adjourned the meeting upon the completion of the agenda at 8:51pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paige Meisner

Secretary (Deputy Chairperson)