

ARTS & SCIENCE STUDENTS' UNION

FIRST COUNCIL MEETING 2016-17

AGENDA

Monday, October 3, 2016
OISE Auditorium, G162, 252 Bloor St. W.

5:30 pm

- 1) Land Acknowledgement Statement
- 2) Approval of the Chair
- 3) Approval of the Agenda
- 4) Approval of Previous Minutes – March 31, 2016
- 5) Executive Summer Report
- 6) Striking of the Elections Appeals Board
- 7) Executive By-Election
- 8) Summer Financial Statement
- 9) Proposed Budget 2016-17
- 10) Striking of the Budget Review Committee
- 11) Proposed Constitutional/By-law Amendments
- 12) ASSU Fee Referendum
- 13) Striking of the Referendum Appeals Board
- 14) Question Period
- 15) Other Business
- 16) Adjournment

Ondiek Oduor
President

NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Agenda Item #6

MOVED (Oduor/Chen): "That the Elections Appeal Board be struck in accordance with the Fall 2016 election procedures."

Agenda Item #8

MOVED (Chen/Gao): "That ASSU Council accepts the Summer Financial Statement from May 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016 as presented."

Agenda Item #9

MOVED (Chen/Sharma): "That the ASSU Budget, for the period of May 1, 2016 to April 30, 2017, be accepted as presented."

Agenda Item #10

MOVED (Moragia/Chen): "That the Budget Review Committee (BRC) be struck to review Course Union budget requests as per the ASSU constitution."

Agenda Item #11

MOVED (Oduor/Chen): "That ASSU Council accept the proposed changes to the ASSU by-laws."

Agenda Item #12

MOVED (Oduor/Chen): "That a referendum be held on Wednesday, November 2, 2016 and Thursday, November 3, 2016, in accordance with the ASSU Referendum By-law, to increase the ASSU fee by \$3.00, from \$9.50 to \$12.50 per academic term for full-time Arts & Science undergraduate

students registered on the St. George campus, commencing Fall 2017 and to also add an annual cost-of-living increase to the ASSU fee.”

Agenda Item #13

MOVED (Oduor/Chen): “That the Referendum Appeal Board be struck in accordance with the ASSU Referendum By-laws”

APPENDIX

Agenda Item #11 - PROPOSED CHANGES - REFERENDUM BY-LAWS

Replace:

IV. Only members of the Union, as defined in the Constitution, shall be eligible to vote. Eligibility shall be determined by a Returning Officer upon the presentation of a registration card or upon the presentation of a statement signed by a member of the Executive confirming the member's status.

With:

IV. Only members of the Union, as defined in the Constitution, shall be eligible to vote.

Replace:

VI. Voting Procedure and Conduct of Polls:

i) Voting shall be by secret ballot.

ii) All ballots must be retained by the Union for at least two (2) weeks after the final voting date. The ballots shall be open to scrutiny by any member of the Union.

iii) The Chief Returning Officer shall receive and act upon any written request for a recount or written allegation of election misconduct. The Chief Returning Officer must report his/her findings to Council at the next Council meeting for final disposition of any requests or allegations.

iv) Each Deputy Returning Officer is responsible for the conduct of his/her polling station:

(a) She/he shall ensure that all campaign materials within sight of the polling station are removed and that no person performs any act of campaigning in the general area of the polling station.

(b) A maximum of two (2) people including the Deputy Returning Officer, may be allowed to sit at the polling station for the purposes of administering the vote.

(c) A minimum of three (3) polling stations shall be set up, one (1) of which shall be in the lobby of Sidney Smith Hall.

(d) Two (2) days and only two (2) days shall be allotted for the casting of ballots. Polling stations shall be in operation for a minimum of six (6) hours and a maximum of eight (8) hours on each of the polling days.

(e) A voter must present to the Deputy Returning Officer, at a polling station, proof of eligibility as in section IV. The card or statement shall be appropriately marked by the Returning Officer and the voter will then receive a ballot, initialled by the Returning Officer. The voter will then mark his/her ballot and deposit it in the ballot box.

(f) All ballot boxes shall remain sealed until the conclusion of balloting. The ballot boxes shall be opened by the Chief Returning Officer and counted by the staff of the Chief Returning Officer in the presence of an independent scrutineer, who is not a member of the Union. The scrutineer shall be appointed by the Chief Returning Officer.

With:

VI. Voting Procedure and Conduct of Polls:

i) Voting shall be by on-line ballot, utilizing the approved Office of Student Life voting portal.

ii) The Chief Returning Officer shall be responsible for ensuring that the online voting system process is begun at least two weeks before the date of the referendum, and that all Office of Student Life guidelines are followed.

iii) The Chief Returning Officer shall receive and act upon any written request for a recount or written allegation of election misconduct. The Chief Returning Officer must report their findings to Council at the next Council meeting for final disposition of any requests or allegations.

iv) At the discretion of the Chief Returning Officer, physical voting stations may be set-up during the referendum period to encourage voter turnout. These polling stations shall be run by a Deputy Returning Officer

v) Each Deputy Returning Officer is responsible for the conduct of their polling station:

(a) They shall ensure that all campaign materials within sight of the polling station are removed and that no person performs any act of campaigning in the general area of the polling station.

(b) A maximum of two (2) people including the Deputy Returning Officer, may be allowed to sit at the polling station for the purposes of administering the vote.

(c) If physical polling stations are used, there must be at least one (1) station in the Lobby of Sid Smith Hall.

(d) Two (2) days and only two (2) days shall be allotted for the casting of ballots. Polling stations shall be in operation for a minimum of six (6) hours and a maximum of eight (8) hours on each of the polling days.

(e) Voting at these polling stations shall be by computer, configured in such a way as to preserve the anonymity of votes cast using the on-line voting system approved by the Office of Student Life.

Agenda Item # 12 – PROPOSED REFERENDUM QUESTION

ASSU Student Society Fee (Part A)

“The Arts & Science Students’ Union (colloquially known as ASSU) is the largest academic student union in Canada. Despite this, ASSU currently has one of the lowest student society levies at the University of Toronto – currently collecting \$9.50 per full-time A&S student per term (fall, winter, and summer). While ASSU acts as an umbrella organization that funds (over \$165,000) and governs over 65 Student Course Unions in departments and programs, it also produces and organizes several events, programs, and academic reforms around campus.

ASSU has brought speakers such as Wab Kinew and Ta-Nehisi Coates to UofT, and organized coffee houses and ‘Exam Jams’ as de-stressers for students. Additionally, ASSU continues to run its Project: Universal Minds—a free tutoring program that matches volunteer UofT tutors with local high school students who are struggling with their studies. Most recently, ASSU gathered the campus to vote YES on a referendum seeking to extend Fall Reading Week into an entire week. ASSU works with the Dean’s Office, ensuring that Faculty rules, regulations and policies are fair and in line with what students want. ASSU also regularly supports students - advising students on their personal academic grievances and fighting for their rights both inside and outside the classroom. ASSU offers over \$40,000 in bursaries, scholarships, and awards; and funds over \$21,000 in grant money for undergraduate research and travel to academic conferences.

Your academic Student Union is requesting a \$3.00 increase per term (fall, winter, and summer) to the ASSU fee so that we can continue our existing projects, including bringing in more academic speakers, and funding the expansion of our course unions and their work. We want to continue to ensure that students that are able excel academically and have access to equitable opportunities towards success.”

Do you approve a \$3.00 increase, from \$9.50 to \$12.50 per term (fall, winter, and summer), in the ASSU direct levy on full-time Arts & Science undergraduate students on the St. George campus, commencing in the Fall 2017?

YES

NO

ABSTAIN

ASSU Student Society Fee (Part B)

If the Arts and Science Students' Union (ASSU) Fee increase is approved, the ASSU is also seeking consent from its members to allow annual cost-of-living increases to the Arts and Science Students' Union Fee. The increase would be based on the Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI) measured by Statistics Canada (December-over-December) as of December 31 of the previous year. If approved, the ASSU will be authorized to request annual cost-of-living increases, based on the December over December Ontario CPI to the designated Society Portion of the Fee, through a majority approval of ASSU Council at a regularly scheduled Council meeting.

() **Yes** I am in favour of allowing an annual cost of living increase to the ASSU Portion of the Fee, as determined by the December over December Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI), as described in the preamble above.

() **No** I am not in favour of allowing an annual cost of living increase to the ASSU Portion of the Fee, as determined by the December over December Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI), as described in the preamble above.

() **Abstain**

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