

ARTS & SCIENCE STUDENTS' UNION

COUNCIL MEETING 2023-24

MINUTES

Friday, September 29, 2023
Sidney Smith, Room 2117

4 pm

Attendance:

A. Abisye (ASCU), L. Idris (ACSU), R. Crowley (USAS), C. Gilliland (USAS), Y. Wu (ASA), R. Van Leeuwen (ASA), E. Shore (AU), V. Mak (BUSS), E. Chen (BUSS), M. Jakobsen (BMSSA), L. Ji (BMSSA), L. Wang (BPSU), M. Gangji (BPSU), K. Abian (CANSSU), L. Hong (CSBSU), C. Liu (CSBSU), N. Boehmer (CSCU), M. Murray (CSCU), A. Li (CSU), V. Huang (CINSSU), T. Fan (CINSSU), T. Mladin (CLASSU), T. Delaney-Girotti (CLASSU), S. Im (CASA), P. Santos (CASA), M. Alim (CSSU), A. Gautam (CSSU), H. Yin (CASSU), E. Qin (CASSU), M. Gagnon (CESSU), D. Radenko (CESSU), E. Abraham (CRIMSA), N. Persaud (CRIMSA), A. Joshi-Dave (DTSU), L. Vahed (DTSU), N. Katz (SUDS), Z. Uzunel (UESA), M. Roland Marun (UESA), K. Wang (EASSU), D. Rodrigues (EASSU), S. Peters (EEBU), J. Bullock (EEBU), P. Kumar (ESA), J. Joseph (ESA), N. Joseph (ESU), M. Cheng (ESU), J. Sun (ENSU), S. Roy (ENSU), S. Pesikan (ES&LSA), A. Zavaleta (ES&LSA), M. Keli (ESSA), I. Goheen (ESSA), S. Abboud (FCU), S. Taylor (FCU), S. Hoiseth (TUGS), T. Streibel-May (GSSU), A. Lee (GSSU), W. Wynne (HSSU), E. Porter (HSA), A. Rans Kolakovi (HSA), C. Leong (HASA), K. Zhang (HASA), A. Spurr (HPSUS), M. Wong (HBSU), G. Lin (HBSU), J. Scott (IMMSA), S. Varughese (IMMSA), J. Akbari (IRHRSA), Z. Zhou (IRHRSA), A. Lysenko (IRS), P. Vij (IRS), L. Xu (LMPSU), D. Su (LMPSU), S. Chow (SLUGS), H. Khan (SLUGS), S. Merchel (LCTSU), J. Bona-Landry (MU), H. Luo (MU), M. Sun (MGYSU), I. Li (MGYSU), S. Zehra (NMCSU), A. Firouzi (NMCSU), J. Arsenault (NAUS), J. Pablo Escorcia (NAUS), V. Yin (NSSA), C. Huang (NSSA), M. Stafrace (PCJS), O. Li (PCSU), S. Ziadat (PCSU), Z. Zhuang (PTSA), M. Kattimani (PTSA), R. Xu (PCU), Z. Yu (PCU), S. Lakerdas-Gayle (PhySU), A. Zhang (PhySU), H. Chang (UPSA), K. Seo (UPSA), G. Yang (APSS), S. Mulla (APSS), H. Xu (PSA), A. Hu (PSA), A. Saleh-Singh (UPPSA), A. Sherry (UPPSA), K. Klanreungsang (RUSA), T. Atkinson (RUSA), H. Henderson (ARS), J. Yuen (USSU), L. Watson (SSU), Y. Chen (SSU), M. Bin Samion (URSSU), R. Sacco (URSSU), S. Indran (WGSSU), H. Batchoun (WGSSU), S. Lopez (ASSU Executive), A. Madhusudanan (ASSU President), D. Smith (ASSU Executive), G. Nowlan (Chair), J. Seto (Secretary)

Observers:

B. Ramadan (CRO), Y. Abdelhafez, F. Kayed, A. Raiban Martinez, A. Regmi, E. Seo, M. Shorosh, E. Singh, M. Xing, S. Zaman

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:19 pm

1) Land Acknowledgement Statement

G. Nowlan acknowledged the land that we are meeting on today.

2) Approval of the Chair

MOVED (Khan/Lysenko): "That Gavin Nowlan be appointed the Chair of ASSU Council for the 2023-24 year."

*CARRIED

3) Approval of the Agenda

MOVED to AMEND (Boehmer/Mladin): "To move agenda line items 8, 9, 10 to right after the Summer Reports."

*AMENDMENT CARRIED

MOVED (Lysenko/Abian): "To approve the agenda as amended."

*CARRIED

4) Approval of the Previous Minutes

MOVED (Persaud/Yin): "To accept the minutes of March 24, 2023 as presented."

*CARRIED

5) Executive Summer Reports

A. Madhusudanan addressed Council. She reported that our office fully opened in May, the first time in over 2 years. The Executive have made some changes to give back to students – free printing, increase in funding to awards and bursaries, travel grants, CU funding and a new deferred exam fee grant to protest UofT’s charge for deferred exams because of sickness. The Executive have been focusing on three main issues: fighting the changes to the Absence Declaration policy; opening up Robarts or SS Commons for extended study hours; and making sure the Dean’s office follows through with their promise of a permanent SS prayer space. This year, ASSU will also be looking at updating our Constitution and creating new student awards. She encouraged members to drop by the office during her office hours if they had any questions.

S. Lopez reported on ASSU’s Executive orientation over the summer. She will be this year’s co-director for the Undergraduate Research Conference (URC), along with D. Smith. The applications for the Selections Committee are due today and Abstract Submissions will open on Monday. She asked for Council’s help in sharing the info. She and D. Smith are also working with J. Seto on the Hiring Committee to hire a p/t front desk person.

6) Summer Financial Statement

A. Madhusudanan presented the Summer Financial statement to Council and answered questions.

MOVED (Smith/Lopez): “That ASSU Council accepts the Summer Financial Statement from May 1, 2023 to September 28, 2023 as presented.”

*CARRIED

7) Proposed Budget 2023-24

A. Madhusudanan presented the Proposed Budget to Council and answered questions.

MOVED (Madhusudanan /Smith): “That the ASSU Budget, for the period of May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024, be accepted as presented.”

*CARRIED

8) Striking of the Budget Review Committee

MOVED (Lopez/Smith): “That the Budget Review Committee (BRC) be struck to review Course Union budget requests as per the ASSU constitution.”

*CARRIED

The Chair declared the following acclaimed to the Budget Review Committee:

T. Mladin (CLASSU), P. Vij (IRS), A. Zhuang (PTSA), H. Xu (PSA) and K. Klanreungsang (RUSA)

9) Striking of the Elections Appeals Board

MOVED (Madhusudanan /Smith): “That the Elections Appeal Board be struck in accordance with the Fall 2023 election procedures.”

*CARRIED

The Chair declared the following acclaimed to the Elections Appeal Board:

L. Xu (LMPSU), K. Wang (EASSU), M. Kattimani (PTSA), H. Batchoun (WGSSU) and N. Persaud (CRIMSA)

10) Executive By-Election

G. Nowlan introduced Basmah Ramadan, CRO, and turned the meeting over to her.

Candidates each addressed ASSU Council and answered one question. CU representatives voted via paper ballots, they were counted by the CRO and 2 scrutineers from Council.

B. Ramadan declared the following elected to the ASSU Executive:

F. Kayed and S. Zaman

MOVED (Bullock/Khan): "To recycle the paper ballots after 2 weeks."

*CARRIED

11) Question Period

There was a question about where the samosas were purchased from – South Indian Dosa Mahal at Bloor and Lansdowne.

There was a question about changing signing officers – J. Seto explained the process and just asked CU's to email her.

There was a question about travel grants.

A question about if CU funding had been increased – yes.

There was a question about when they could hand in the Budget Requests – give them to J. Seto now.

There was a question about how to contact other Classics students groups on the other campus.

12) Other Business

A. Madhusudanan announced that there would be a pizza party following the next Council Meeting on October 4th.

13) Lucky Draw

We gave our 10 ASSU t-shirts and 10 ASSU tote bags!

14) Adjournment

MOVED (Lin/Shore): "To adjourn."

*CARRIED

Secretary to Council

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