

ASSU Executive Meeting

Minutes

Monday, May 13, 2024 5:00 PM

Present: Firdaus Sadid (President), Farida Kayed (Executive), Mia Rodrigo (Executive), Michelle Wong (Executive), Safia Zaman (Executive), Gavin Nowlan (Secretary to the Executive)

Called to order at 5:12pm

1) Approval of the Agenda MOVED (Kayed/Wong) “To approve the agenda as presented”

CARRIED

2) Approval of the Previous Minutes – April 3rd, 2024 MOVED (Kayed/Rodrigo) “To approve the previous minutes as present”

CARRIED

3) Introductions

F. Sadid asked members of the team to introduce themselves and their year of studies and let the team know their plans for the summer.

4) Report of the President

F. Sadid introduced the organization and welcomed new members of the team. Sadid talked about some of the roles of the team in the past, some inititans that appear every year, and some of the ways in which the Execs can work with the Dean’s office. They talked about the roles and responsibilities of the Exec and their time commitments. F. Sadid also talked about one of the projects he wants to take on this year

5) Report of the Staff

G. Nowlan reported on a number of issues that have come up regarding academic misconduct and petitions. These issues are not time sensitive and they can be discussed later in the term . J. Seto sent their regrets as to why they were not there, the TTC had a complete shutdown of the Subway in the east end.

6) Election of ASSU Treasurer

F. Sadid asked for members of the Execs to nominate themselves. F. Kayed self-nominated

MOVED (Mia/Wong) “To appoint F. Kayed as Tresusur for ASSU for the 2024-2025”   
  
CARRIED

7) Executive Orientation

F. Sadid talked about the upcoming one-day orientation planning for the upcoming year and the dates for the Exec to do their retreat. The tentative dates are June 7th-9th for the retreat and June 15th for the orientation.

8) Other Business

M. Wong gave an update on the Arbor journal. It’s in the final layout process and the Design editor is doing the final editing of the journal. Timeline for publishing is by the end of May.

S. Zaman brought up the issue of whether the Executive should put out a statement in support of the People’s Circle for Palestine. Zaman said that even if the Exec were not going to put out a long statement, they should say something about UofT students having the right to protest on their own campus regardless of the issue. Zaman emphasized that they do not want to see the police response seen in other campuses be replicated here.

The Exec discussed the current condition of the encampment and what recent communication has come from the University about the discussions between the leaders of the encampment and the University.

F. Kayed talked about how the admin is currently waiting on a statement from the Exec based on how they responded to the earlier statement in October.

S. Zaman reiterated that the right of students to protest on our campus is an integral part of our academic freedom and that silence on this issue is a negative for the Executive.

F. Sadid said that it was a stretch to argue political advocacy was part of the mandate of the organization. And the University is currently letting students express themselves by setting up on front campus for almost two weeks. Sadid said that if there comes a time where the University removes these students, then that will be an issue the Exec can take up.

F. Kayed said that the earlier statement from the Exec from October still stands and they do not need to put a statement out for this current situation.

MOVED (Rodrigo/Zaman) “For the Executive to write a statement on the student occupation on campus”

NOT CARRIED

9) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:59pm

Firdaus Sadid

President

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