

ARTS & SCIENCE STUDENTS' UNION

FOURTH COUNCIL MEETING 2025/26

Minutes

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Sidney Smith Hall, 2117

Attendance:

I. Ismail (ASCU), N. Sokoloff (USAS), M. Szpigiel (AU), M. Chen (AU), M. Wong (BUSS), J. Anirisaihan (BCBSA), M. Wong (BMSSA), M. Cerna (BMSSA), J. Pham (BPSU), E. Wing (BPSU), C. Stipelman (CANSSU), C. Han (CSBSU), M. Mundhra (CSBSU), O. Leng (CSU), A. Karaoglan (CINSSU), M. Mastrouk (CASA), A. Arora (CASA), C. Sa (CSSU), R. Aiyama (CASSU), E. Pau (CASSU), E. Palaypay (CRESA), J. Parsons (CRESA), C. McNeil (CRIMSA), K. Hudziec-Leiva (CRIMSA), A. Yoo (DTSU), M. Kotikela (DTSU), Z. Graham (UESA), L. Bonner (UESA), E. Ward (ESU), N. Lalla (ESU), S. Rahim (ESSU), I. Yang (FCU), M. Sukhbaatar (TUGS), J. Yin (TUGS), V. Streibel-May (GSSU), R. Qin (GSSU), J. Apolinario (HSA), S. Kimchand (HPSUS), S. Li (HPSUS), E. Moo-Penn (IMSSA), R. Bhura (IRHRSA), M. Guo (IRHRSA), T. Cheh (IRS), D. Geng (LMPSU), O. Zuokang (LMPSU), S. Rosenberg (SLUGS), K. Cheung (SLUGS), S. Dodson (LCTSU), A. Grzyb-Reed (MCSSU), I. Hamid (MU), L. Castiblanco (NAUS), E. Martin (NSSA), W. Lee (PCJS), J. Bouramia (PCJS), J. Wu (PTSA), M. Kamran (PCU), A. Teixeira (PhysSU), H. Nunes (PhysSU), A. Bhandari (UPSA), F. Amancio (UPSA), R. Furtado (APSS), I. Poisson (APSS), S. Park (PSA), B. Chan-Long (PHSU), C. Tang (PHSU), J. Wang (UPPSA), M. Grynevych (UPPSA), H. Considine (RUSA), M. Alinur (RUSA), L. Okazaki (SDSSU), H. Sucee (USSU), W. Yang (SSU), O. Cao (SSU), P. Gorn (URSSU), K. Chan (URSSU), A. Hussain (WGSSU), S. Bannon (WGSSU), L. El-Dakhkhni (ASSU Executive), Q. Liu (ASSU Executive), S. Kodikara (ASSU Executive), D. Tessaro (ASSU Executive), Z. Nettey (ASSU Treasurer), F. Kayed (ASSU President), J. Seto (Secretary), M. Ramos (Staff)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:14 pm.

1) Land Acknowledgement Statement

J. Seto acknowledged the land that we were meeting on.

2) Approval of the Agenda

MOVED (Wong/Kamran): "That the agenda be accepted as presented."

*CARRIED

3) Approval of Previous Minutes – November 13, 2025

MOVED (Lee/Sa): "That the minutes of November 13, 2025 be accepted as presented."

*CARRIED

4) Executive Reports

F. Kayed explained the Second Attempt for Credit policy, answered questions regarding the policy, and asked for council members' feedback. One council member said that having a failed course as "Extra" encourages students to improve; doesn't understand why anybody who isn't affected would be opposed. Another council member expressed that it makes sense to allow it for failed courses, but mentioned that it might incentivize students to purposely fail a course they aren't doing well in so that they get the opportunity to retake it and potentially receive a higher grade.

F. Kayed proposed hosting a Course Union Trivia Social. A council member said PHYSU, HBSU, ESU, and TUGS hosted a trivia tournament and that it was a success. Everybody seemed to be in favour.

D. Tessaro reported that the AI Roundtable event is coming up on January 21st; will be held in a Bahen lecture theatre.

S. Kodikara reported that they are working on internal documents for Arbor to train the editorial board. They also expressed that they want to use Arbor to help support other student publications, and requested that council members fill out the online form (QR code on the door) to provide feedback about course union/ program-specific student publications. They noted that there were over 28 submissions in each category, but only 7 articles are published. They want to redirect authors whose Arbor submission wasn't accepted to other student journals.

Q. Liu reported that URC acceptances will be sent out near the end of January. They requested feedback from council members regarding making it mandatory to have 0.5 credit in Indigenous Studies and wants to reach out to different professors.

L. El-Dakhkhni reported on their food waste initiative and said that some dining halls have a lot less food waste after shifting to an "all-you-care-to-eat" model. They also brought up the Mehdi Hasan event on March 5th and asked council members if they had any interesting professors in mind who can speak alongside Mehdi Hasan. They mentioned the Open Mic on March 19th and to look out for registration soon.

5) Financial Statement

MOVED (Nettey/Kayed): "That ASSU Council approves the Financial Statement for the period of May 1, 2025 to January 12, 2026 as presented."

*CARRIED

6) Striking of the ASSU Scholarship Committee

MOVED (Tessaro/Johnson): "That ASSU Council strike the ASSU Scholarship Committee in accordance with ASSU Policy."

*CARRIED

J. Seto requested a volunteer to sit on the ASSU Scholarship Committee and review awards applications. Ifrah (ASCU) volunteered and was selected.

7) Other Business

J. Seto announced that the next Council Meeting would be on February 2nd at 5 pm. She noted that if a CU has lost their funding, they must plead their case at this meeting.

There was a question about Special Projects Funding.

8) Course Union Matters - none

9) Question Period - none

10) Lucky Draw

J. Seto drew names and gave out t-shirts and tote bags.

11) Adjournment

MOVED (Giluly/Teixeira): "To adjourn at 5:55 pm."

*CARRIED

Secretary to Council

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cupe 1281