

Students' Council Minutes

Date: Sunday, February 3rd, 2012
Time: 12:30pm
Place: SLC MPR
Speaker: Andre Magalhaes
Secretary: Andrés Fuentes

University of Waterloo
Federation of Students
Students' Council Meeting

Attendance

Councilors

Ahmad Bin Asad (Math), Andrew Noble (President), Brandon Berlingieri (Applied Health Studies), Christina Romualdo (Arts), David Collins (Environment), Stephanie Niesner (Renison), Nicollette Zaptse (Science), Lauren Harrison (Science), Nikki Domanski (Science), Adam Garcia (VP Education), Alex Russell (VP Internal), P. Kumar Patel (VP Administration and Finance), Andrew Noble (President), Chanakya Ramdev (Engineering) (1:27p.m.) Jesse McGinnis (Math), Robert William Savoy (Environment),

Societies

Math Society – Elizabeth McFaul

Coordinators

GLOW Coordinator - Lauren Stephenson

Agenda

Approval of the Agenda

1. Motion: Be it resolved that Council approves the agenda for this meeting.

Consent Agenda

2. Motion: BIRT Students' Council approves the January 13th meeting minutes of Students' Council.

3. Councillor Reports

- a. Architecture
- b. Applied Health Science
- c. Arts
- d. Engineering
- e. Environment
- f. Kitchener
- g. Math
- h. Renison
- i. Science
- j. St. Jerom's

4. Committee Reports

- a. By-Laws, Policies, and Procedures
- b. Budget
- c. Internal Administration
- d. Internal Funding
- e. Education Advisory
- f. President's Advisory
- g. Election
- h. Election Appeals

Regular Agenda

5. Executive Reports

- a. Vice-President Administration & Finance
- b. Vice-President Education
- c. Vice-President Internal
- d. President

6. Old Business

- a. Board Member Election

7. New Business

- a. Removal of Councillors

- b. Discussion on Open Council Seats and councillor acclamations
- c. Discussion on Fee Increase - removed
- d. CECA Systems Strategy Presentation (new jobmine) - 1:30
- e. Path Between Lester and Philip
- f. Bylaw and governance improvements. Consultation and preliminary endorsement.
- g. update from the Student Safety Programs Committee
- h. IAC council seat
- i. Glow letter writing proposal
- j. left over council budget
- k. GRT sms fee

8. General Announcements

9. Adjournment

Call to order 12:37 pm

Motion: BIRT Council approves the agenda for this meeting. Moved by McGinnis and Romualdo.

Speaker: Any amendments to the agenda?

Savoy: I would like to add something about the GRT SMS fee.

Amendment: Add discussion on GRT SMS fee. Moved by Savoy and Garcia.

Speaker: Any objections to the amendment? Seeing none amendment is approved unanimously.

Unanimous Approval

Speaker: Any objections to approving the agenda? Seeing none the agenda is approved unanimously.

Unanimous Approval

Motion: BIRT Students' Council approves the January 13th meeting minutes of Students' Council. Moved by

Speaker: Any objection to approving the minutes?

Noble: I would like to table the minutes.

Motion: BIRT Students' Council tables the January 13th meeting minutes of Students' Council. Moved by Noble and Garcia

Speaker: Any discussion on tabling the minutes? Savoy

Savoy: Why weren't they sent out?

Speaker: Do you object to tabling the minutes? No

Unanimous Approval

Speaker: Savoy

Savoy: Why weren't they sent out?

Noble: Takes a long time to take the minutes the way she is doing the right now, in terms of like 30 pages, and she was sick. She was trying to catch up but obviously she isn't here today and Andrés.

Savoy: So is she re-listening to them and doing them word for word? Is that what we want?

Noble: No

Speaker: Any further discussion on the consent agenda? Seeing none; moving on.

Speaker: Can I get a mover to appoint Andrés as Secretary for this meeting?

Speaker: I see Noble and seconded by Jesse.

Motion: BIRT Students' Council appoints Andrés Fuentes as Secretary for this meeting of Students' Council. Moved by Noble and McGinnis

Speaker: Any objections?

Speaker: Seeing none, moving on.

Unanimous Approval

Speaker: Regular Agenda. Executive reports. Do any of the executives have additional items to report?

Noble: I have a presentation, can we do the presentation first and then do report?

Speaker: Yes, any discussion from councilors about the executive reports?

Savoy: Can we go through them like we usually do?

Speaker: Yes, VPAF report.

Patel: There was no report.

Speaker: Doesn't mean that you can't talk about it. No? Okay, Education.

Garcia: One thing I just wanted to bring to everyone's attention, I have been working with Rocco Fondacaro from CECA. Both of us have been concerned with the number of grievances that have been going through CECA lately. A lot of students have been assigned failed work terms because of trying to pull out of jobs, which as many of you know as co-op students is referred to as reneging on a job application. If students do this they are automatically assigned a failed work term. So him and I have been trying to brainstorm a couple of ideas on how to make that process, really finding out what the root issues are there. Why have there been so many of them over the past 8 months as well as some potential solutions. What I suggested to him is perhaps students in co-op should be given at least one or two free job sign offs. A sign off would be that if after an interview you realize that the job is not necessarily for you and so you can pull yourself out of the process and could not be matched with the employer. Ideally it would encourage us to take a couple of more risks and try to interview the employer back within the interviews, maybe this job doesn't have all the skills and applications that I want to get out of a job but I want to give it a try. If it ends up working out that's great. Rocco did get back to me after we had a meeting and said that that is something he felt good about and would take back to his management team. It is not something that will roll out this term but there is potential for this going forward.

The other thing that I wanted to highlight was as many of you know I have been working on the Ancillary Fee protocol. I had a meeting with the Graduate Students Association and we got some good common ground. So we have something that we can take back to the administration and hope to make some progress over the next couple of months.

Speaker: Any further discussion on the VP Education? Savoy.

Savoy: At the March General Meeting last year I proposed that we switched the EAC, like the membership, from one year to one term to incorporate more people. Now that you've had like a year in this position, I am just wondering if you would support that switch today, like in March.

Garcia: So, I still think that the twelve month term is helpful for the Education Advisory Committee. What it allows, what I found it allowed me to do is do some really strong training early in the term, during the summer term and it really helped to lay a really good foundation for folks that went through. The education portfolio clearly has a strong learning curve just because of how diverse it is and how many issues there are to deal with. So that is my perspective. I found the members of EAC

demonstrated to me that they learnt a lot of and are actually able to go and deal with issues on their own. So I think the 12 month period works really well. Perhaps that is a question that you might want to ask to some of the other members of EAC and see what they think.

Speaker: Any further discussion? Seeing none, we move on to VP Internal. And discussion on that report, yes VP Russell.

Russell: Just a couple of staffing updates, we are almost fully staffed so we are really excited to have all these staff in the department.

Speaker: Any further discussion? Yes, Savoy.

Savoy: So we still haven't received a report from UWSP and I'm just wondering what exactly is going on with them because we haven't even heard anything from the fall term either. Like what are they working on?

Russell: I will edit the fall term report and get it to you guys. There was like some information that I was trying to remove but hadn't gotten around doing it by the last council meeting and forgot. Next one, I promise.

Speaker: Any further discussion on the Internal report? Seeing none, Presidents report. Yes President Noble?

Noble: I am going to start with my slideshow

Presentation attached as Appendix 1

Noble: One thing, reminder this is the elections right now; if you haven't seen the posters and all that. I would encourage you just to tell people about the elections. Just link to the vote.feds.ca saying check out the candidates, learn about them, learn about their platforms. Message the candidates directly, even yourselves if you are not running, think about like really talk to the candidates running and ask them what their thoughts are. Be really engaged and I encourage you to do that and encourage other people to be engaged in the elections. The more that we as Feds ambassadors are promoting that around campus the more that people will be engaged with Feds all around.

Speaker: All right, Christina.

Christina: So I have a few questions. First of all for first year council, is it possible for us to attend just to see what they are talking about? Also in terms of the mental health initiative, is it possible, how can students get involved?

Noble: The first question, yes. It is totally open; we are still trying to figure out when the next meeting is based on the availability. But that is definitely okay; I can put you in touch with the people who run it.

And the second question, mental health initiatives how can students get involved. It is very early, so just send an email to Alex and she can forward you to the staff or students guiding this.

Speaker: Yes, Savoy.

Savoy: I'm assuming the timeline for the by-election is the March General Meeting.

Noble: Correct.

Speaker: Any further discussion? Moving on.

Motion: Whereas Bylaw 8.C states “Vacancies on the Board of Directors, however caused, shall be filled by a voting member of Students’ Council. The method used to select new Directors shall be left to the discretion of Students’ Council.”

BIRT _____ be appointed Board member for the remainder of the 2012-2013 academic year. Moved by Noble and Patel.

Speaker: Any discussion on this item? Discussion includes nominations.

McGinnis: I would like to nominate Councilor Romualdo.

Speaker: Do you accept?

Romualdo: Yes

Harrison: I would like to nominate Councilor Domanski.

Speaker: Do you accept? Okay, any other further nominations?

Garcia: I would like to nominate Councilor Niesner.

Speaker: Do you accept?

Neisner: Yep

Speaker: Any further nominations? Going once, going twice. Kind of a big deal guys. No? So, we have an election, three names one blank. Can I get someone to be the scrutineer.

Motion: BIRT that Pratik and Devin be appointed as scrutineers for this meeting.

Speaker: Any objections to appointing Pratik and Devin as scrutineers? No? Awesome.

Unanimous Approval

Speaker: First Niesner, a one minute speech.

Niesner: I put my name forward for the last time there was a seat open on board, so I think this might be a little bit repetitive. But, I feel that the people on the board are the best informed of what is going on during council and I feel like that is the most effective way to be truly involved. I have experience being on the Renison Board already, so I understand the issues surrounding confidentiality.

Speaker: Okay, great. Romualdo.

Romualdo: So, I also ran for Board last time as well. The reason why I want a seat on the Board is because having done the new building negotiations and I feel that a lot of the stuff that I know will be helped by learning more from Board. That is really the big reason why I want to run; I want to negotiate more effectively by having that information that is only available to Board. I'm currently on BPP and Presidents Advisory, so I have experience on Feds committees.

Speaker: Okay. Domanski.

Domanski: I didn't run last time because I knew when the meetings were and I could not make that commitment. I was working during those times. Now I believe the meetings are on Thursday night so I can make that commitment. Science has been pretty proactive behind the scenes in meeting with the Associate Dean, at last council we told you guys that for the verification of illness form it was established in Science that only those from Health Services would be affected. Another thing that we were pushing for was to get course evaluations available to students and now at our last meeting he told us that it was approved by one of his committees. So I think that having the opportunity to sit on Board will allow me to be even more proactive with my constituents and with like staff. So it's a real cool opportunity and I can learn a lot.

Speaker: Any questions?

Garcia: Can I motion for a ranked ballot?

Speaker: A ranked ballot? Yes you can. So what this means now is that you write the candidates' names in order. Just make it clear what the order is. One, two, three or just one, you don't have to order them. What happens if you top choice isn't, is in last place then they take your second choice.

Speaker: Any questions about the ranked voting?

Noble: Yes. So when they count do they just count all the first place and then go with it first and then if there is a tie count the second choice?

Speaker: No. They count all the first place and if there isn't a majority then they drop the third place person and take the second choice on those ballots.

Collins: Who motioned for that?

Speaker: VP Garcia, it is a privilege of Roberts Rules that you can choose how to vote. You can also choose roll call, which would be weird for this.

Nicollette: I was going to ask each of the candidates to describe what they think board does.

Speaker: Okay, we will go backwards. Domanski.

Domanski: It is like Students Council but a little less formal, you are dealing with issues that can't be discussed here. I am assuming it is because none of these have been really finalized, to me it's like a brainstorming session. I don't know, not sure if that is right.

Speaker: Romualdo.

Romualdo: As I understand it, the first thing that comes to mind are HR issues, staffing issues, financial issues as well. It is like the administrative part of council or feds rather. Like the business side of things.

Speaker: Niesner.

Niesner: I was under the impression that Board dealt with issues that council could not. So obviously if it's confidential I don't know what it would be but that is why I want to be involved.

Noble: This is a question I was asked when I ran for Board and got it incorrect, so don't feel bad if you do. When making a decision at board, are you trying to figure out what is in the best interest of students or are you trying to figure out what is in the best interest of the corporation of the Federation of Students?

Speaker: Okay, we will start with Romualdo this time.

Romualdo: What is in the best interest of the Corporation.

Niesner: I would also say the best interest of the corporation but, we should also be considering the interest of students.

Domanski: I would say corporation.

Noble: So just to clarify you are right. It is the corporation because a Board of Directors is set up through the corporations act to look after the interest of the corporation.

Speaker: Seeing no more questions, go ahead and vote.

Motion: WHEREAS By-Law VIII subsection J stipulates that if a councillor has been absent and/or more than 30 minutes late for two or more meetings without being excused, shall be deemed to have relinquished his/her seat and

the seat shall be vacant, subject to ratification by a simple majority of Students' Council.

WHEREAS Councillors have been reminded of this rule on a number of basis. WHEREAS the Councillors that are up for removal have been informed and encouraged to come to the meeting or send a statement to be read on their behalf for their defence.

BIRT Students' Council ratifies the removal of the following councillors due to attendance, as prescribed in by-law VIII.J.1 and VIII.J.2:

Kristin Flannigan (St. Jerome's)

Moved by Patel and Savoy

Speaker: Before we begin discussion, I am just going to read a statement by Kristin. "Hello council. I realize that I have missed the total amount of meeting before being removed from council. The first meeting I missed was because I was unclear of the rules around missing meetings and did not inform Andre prior to the meeting that I could not attend. The second meeting I missed was because there was a religious conflict which I notified Andre about. The third and fourth meeting I missed was due to the fact that my mother was in hospital and very ill. I would love to continue to be a part of council, if it is allowed."

Noble: Just on those last two instances, you as speaker can allow that?

Speaker: She did not tell me ahead of time so I contacted her after the first one that it was un-excusable, same with the second time and I told her that she would be up for removal and then she contacted me with this statement. Under those circumstances I would have, but she would still have four absences.

Savoy: did she say where she is today?

Speaker: No she did not.

Niesner: Was one of the reasons a religious conflict?

Speaker: Yes, when we went to Cambridge she couldn't make it back in time to reach the bus because of her church service.

Motion Carries - 11-2-1

Speaker: Can I get a motion to un-table the motion? Yes, Mathsoc and Zapstsos.

Speaker: Domaski is the winner, congratulations. So we will fill in the blank and vote on the motion.

Unanimous

Speaker: Can I get a motion to destroy the ballots.

Motion: BIRT the ballots be destroyed. Moved by Patel and the Mathematics Society.

Speaker: Any objections? Seeing none.

Unanimous

Speaker: Discussion on empty seats and acclamations. Two different councillors wanted this discuss, so we have this item.

Zapstsos: I brought up the councilor acclamation part. The fact that we could not promote enough student involvement, it doesn't look good. We could make this a proactive discussion. How can we make this more appealing, or not happen next

time. It is a really good experience from my time here. Not a lot of people are here today which also adds to how I feel.

Harrison: I was trying to think of ways that we can get our names out there more. In science we are running a science unconference, calling it sound off. We are trying to get people to know us and to find out issues. Another thing, at western they had tea time with the senators. I think we can have that in the SLC, just have it really informal so people know who we are.

Noble: So I'm like thinking the tea time sounds cool, do we want to do it this term?

Speaker: Does anyone want to make a motion on that?

Motion: BIRT the President is tasked with organizing a council event, tea time with council in the SLC. Moved by McGinnis and Domanski.

Savoy: It is the SLC right. So my constituency are not going to come here, Engineering is not going to come here. I think it be a better idea if they were specific to our faculties. A location more central to our faculties, rather than the SLC.

Romualdo: I agree, can we make it something that can be decentralized to the faculties. Can we make it part of your council duties to host one of these in your faculty?

Domanski: I kind of disagree; you can be proactive enough to promote it to your constituency. Even if we are just there talking to students, I think it will be a step in the right direction. Another question that I have is Feds doesn't have like a Feds week or day? That tea time could go along with something like that.

Collins: One of the reasons people aren't involved is because they feel that there is too much work involved. And that they simply don't have enough time, so having an extra event would not help out. It would add more of a time commitment.

Zapstses: I just want to respond to what Collins just said. The people we want on Students Council are the people who want to put in the extra time. I don't think that we need to focus on the other people. Having an event would be really cool, because people legitimately don't talk about us. If I talk about being a councilor people don't know what we do. It is the same for Feds, we need something to bring awareness.

Neisner: I like the idea of tea time and I like the idea of doing it at our local constituency but I don't have a budget and I don't want to do it out of my pocket. I think the issue of people not being interested in running is to do with how we promote it, I think there was also a poor turnout to people meeting the candidates last week.

Romualdo: I would like to point out that there is 800 dollars in unspent council money. Can we use that to do this?

Noble: Yes

Speaker: Any further discussion?

Savoy: Can we not do it in the MPR.

Noble: Yes, I would try to book the Great Hall so that it is more students walking by.

Patel: There are students who want to be involved and students who don't care. We can't force them to be involved. WE should be focusing on building stronger relationships with other student leaders, be it Dons or leaders in athletics. You have the one thousand or so out of the thirty thousand we have who get involved.

Niesner: I kind of disagree; there aren't just two kinds of students. I was given a really good opportunity to get involved and I did. But I don't think I would have looked for an opportunity to get involved in the University.

Patel: We want to still keep opportunities open, but we should focus.

Niesner: We don't want to peg someone as the student who doesn't want to get involved and just ignored them.

Domanski: Can we do like a mixer event almost. Invite all the involved groups, Students Council, Societies, and Dons and advertise it as a mixer. Then you can get those not involved to come out and talk to us personally and we can encourage them to get involved.

Patel: I had this idea yesterday. How to get key influencers out and I was thinking breakfast with champions to get every influencer out. Anyone else could also join like a mixer.

Domanski: I think that at the end of the day, even if you don't get any other students you still have club presidents talking to us and finding out more.

Garcia: I wanted to highlight that councilor Neisner got involved because someone approached her. I think that there is an importance to mentorship, it's not just talking about it but identifying those that might be good and building a relationship.

Noble: to wrap up discussion, this is all goo. I have a President's Advisory Meeting next week on the 11th at 5:00pm in my office or I can book a bigger room. So if we want to talk the specifics of this event I will bring it to this group.

Savoy: Is there a motion on the table?

Speaker: Yeah there was, but I feel like it was just withdrawn.

Savoy: So in the future if councilors set up a booth during Clubs and Services Days as well as when they have their meeting.

Math Soc: Go to your society meetings, that is were a lot of people are involved. If we don't go then they don't know anything about you.

Domanski: We do, like we attend our society meeting and they just don't seem interested. I have been going to every single society meeting and when I asked for a signature he was like, what is a councilor?

Math Soc: Then there is a next step that needs to be taken. I guess it depends on the society.

Domanski: I think that we obviously should be going to our council meeting but this mixer thing is something fun, something that get you engaged.

Councilor Chanakia arrives - 1:27 p.m.

Speaker: So let's amend the current motion to task the president to run some sort of social event for leaders on campus, as well as ensuring that Clubs and Services Day has some sort of booth, and informing council of Clubs Presidents meeting. Is that friendly?

Amendment: BIRT the President is tasked with running a social event for leaders on campus, as well as ensuring that Clubs and Services Day has a council booth, and informing council of Clubs Presidents meeting.

Neisner: I have a question, so are we agreeing to use that extra money that was in the budget for this?

President: It will still be under the presidents jurisdiction to spend the money.

Speaker: Is everyone okay with this amendment?

Unanimous

Speaker: Any further discussion on the motion?

Unanimous

Speaker: It is 1:28p.m. but we are going to start early because I assume that CECA is here.

Garcia: This is Amy Warrack and she is with CECA and specifically with communications. She is here to talk about replacing JobMine.

Presentation

Speaker: do we have any questions?

Savoy: I think having an online discussion that is there over time, that students can check a month later is good. But I want to see you guys in the vendor alley collecting feedback.

Warrack: In the SLC there? One of the big things we get told is come to the students. The Tatham Centre is good because students are there, but you are right.

Noble: On the feds.ca we have a place for students to have discussions, so you can use that.

Warrack: Do students log in to go there or is it just anyone? That sounds good, would I be able to access it? We are also making a sharepoint.

Savoy: What is the expected completion date?

Warrack: I hesitate to answer that. So once contract discussions are finalized, in say March or April then it will be about a year for the development and implementation. So 2014 launch.

Chanakya: How is the new system an upgrade?

Warrack: The new system is not an upgrade; it is a whole new system. We have taken all the complaints and we are going to have a whole new interface and functionality. There is going to be resume templates, PDF resumes won't be a problem, potentially social media integrations and eventually employer profiles.

Noble: In terms of scope, is this just take Jobmine and make it better?

Warrack: Orbis already has a system that is working at other institutions. So their out of the box system plus our customization will be what we have. They have LinkedIn that they can incorporate, I know some students don't like that because it gives an unfair advantage but to me that is like to bad. So we will see.

I am going to be attending VP Education meetings across campus.

Motion: Whereas the Federation of Students is committed to the safety of students; and

Whereas a large portion of the student population has a pedestrian commute to school; and

Whereas the large block bounded by Lester Street, Columbia Street West, Phillip Street, and University Avenue presents a barrier for students walking between the Northdale neighborhood and the commercial buildings to the west; and

Whereas the Northdale Land Use and Community Improvement Plan recommends extending pedestrian access between Lester and Phillip.

BIRT Feds encourages the City of Waterloo to create a pedestrian connection between Lester St. and Phillip St that includes appropriate safety measures for both pedestrians and residents.

Moved by Noble and Patel.

Noble: Does everyone know where this is or do we need a map?

Right now, as the map loads, you can walk around Columbia Street or University Avenue to get to the University. So if you are living in Northdale there is no direct way to get here. The city is considering a link there. The Municipal Affairs commissioner is working on it and I thought it be helpful to bring it here. I think it is a great idea as we have students living in that area and it would be easier to make it here.

Chanakya: I actually live on Lester Street and I know the exact location and there are actually houses being built on the exact spot so I don't know how feasible it is.

Romualdo: What is being discussed?

Noble: I believe it is the zoning, changing the zoning so that they cut put it in there. The implementation would come later.

Garcia: The city can appropriate land from a developer, they can legally do it if they set a priority.

Romualdo: Can we add some language around making it safe and friendly to pedestrians.

Savoy: I know WCRI was concerned about safety, having people walk through there.

McGinnis: I would like to move for a 5 minute recess.

Motion: 5 minute recess. Moved by McGinnis and Noble

Speaker: Any objections? No.

Unanimous

Recess - 1:50p.m.

Call to order - 1:56p.m.

Amendment - BIRT that "that includes appropriate safety measures for both pedestrians and residents" be added to the end of the BIRT. Moved by Noble, Romualdo.

Noble: This seems to accommodate all concerns that we discussed.

Unanimous

Garcia: I just want to say that this should be a good meeting with the city, Jeff Henry, who is our councilor, was in favour of this.

Unanimous

Motion: Whereas Students' Council advised the Board of Directors to refer the proposed bylaws to BP&P for further exploration in October 2012, Whereas no bylaw amendments or revisions were made at the November 2012 General Meeting, Whereas Feds must update our bylaws to correspond to the new Corporations Act by July 1st,

BIRT Students' Council endorses further exploration of a bylaw revision to be brought forward by the next meeting of Students' Council.

Moved by:

Noble: Can we strike second whereas, we did make amendments.

Amendment: Strike the second whereas. Moved by Noble and Garcia.

Speaker: Any opposition or discussion?

Unanimous

Noble: Here is the proposed timeline. Right now we are looking for you to endorse the process. Would be looking to work with the incoming president to work on this. Over the course of the elections we are looking to do an imprint article, a blog and question in the exit survey. Potentially also some sort of feedback session on the day the elections are done, so it be a pretty busy day but there are thoughts to do that. During reading week we would be looking to get feedback from students and get the lawyer to look at them. Late February we would bring them to the Board of Directors and post publicly to get feedback. And then in March bring them to council to see if clarity was met. I will talk about the 5 objectives shortly. Then late March at the General Meeting we hopefully pass new bylaws.

It is a full review with 5 purposes – simplify our bylaws, clarify our bylaws. For example right now it says that Council has the power to create committees and that is all it says about the power of council. Thirdly to organize our bylaws, make sure there is no overlap. The fourth point is to update them to reflect the corporations act. And lastly to implement any improvements to our governance as seen necessary by students; for example adding the society presidents to our council in a formal manner.

This is just a discussion on the scope and process of the review.

Chanakya: I like that we are bringing the process before council, but why can't BP&P just do it.

Noble: I just wanted to present this because people do not read my report. In my January report I gave a free bubble tea to anyone that emailed me. There was one individual who will receive a bubble tea. So I wanted to make sure people saw this.

Savoy: Who is exploring it, I am assuming it is the potential incoming President and BPP?

Noble: It would be under my portfolio, so BP&P.

Savoy: Did you already look into the timeline for the General Meeting?

Noble: Yes, it fits within the timeline.

Unanimous

Speaker: We now have update from Student Safety Program Committee. It is a discussion item. Is there an update someone wants to make?

Neisner: We have talked about sending out surveys, we didn't want to rely on the councilors own opinion on student safety. We also don't want you to just ask people because of the sensitive nature of it. So we are going to be asking you guys to be circulating surveys and they will be anonymous. Just wanted to keep you guys updated on that.

Ramdev: Can council task the committee to provide and update?

Noble: I think sometimes you can only get so much done in a month and reporting can take longer. You can follow up on your own and contact people involved in the committee.

Motion: BIRT _____ be ratified as council member of the internal administration committee for the remainder of the winter 2013 term.

Moved by Russell and Ramdev

Russell: - Councilor Berlingieri had to step down, so we are looking for another council member. It is super fun. Meetings are Tuesdays 4-6. If you can make that it is even better.

Garcia: I nominate Devin.

Speaker: Devin do you accept? Yeah. Okay, any further nominations?

Unanimous

Motion: BIRT Students' Council endorses a letter writing campaign, initiated by The Glow Centre for Sexual & Gender Diversity, to advocate against the discriminatory Canadian Blood Services policy that bans men who have sex with men and women who have had sex with a man who has sex with men from donating blood. Moved by Chanakya

GLOW: We are proposing to do a letter writing campaign as part of health and sexuality week. We are going to write to Canadian Blood Services as well as the Minister for Health addressing the fact that men who have sex with men and woman who have sex with men who have sex with men are banned from donation blood. Also their discriminatory attitudes towards trans individuals. We would be joining a list of 16 organizations who have endorsed this including Memorial University

Savoy: Why did this come about, the policy?

Glow: Originally having to do with the AIDS epidemic. They were trying to prevent infected blood from entering the system, however the policy is now outdated as queer men are not the only ones who are infected with HIV anymore.

Savoy: Is this part of a bigger problem, like is there. Actually I don't know where I am going with this question, never mind.

Chanakya: Do you want us to pass a motion?

Glow: What I have been told is that Feds does not have a policy on letting services do a letter writing campaign so the hope is that we will be allowed to do it/

Russell: We don't have a policy specifically against this, and with GLOW running a letter writing campaign we are endorsing the position.

Collins: Since this was sent out so late I have not talked to students, I would be more comfortable with it being signed by GLOW not all students.

Glow: Absolutely, the idea is to hold an event to talk about it and then anyone who wishes to can sign a letter. It is not on behalf of the University.

Collins: Okay, I'm sorry. I thought that you had said you would like to sign it on behalf of the Federation of Students.

Niesner: As the Federation of Students one of our principals is to create an equal campus. So regardless of what your constituency say it is our responsibility to create decisions that create an equal campus.

Chanakya: Can we pass something.

Motion: BIRT Students' Council endorses a letter writing campaign, initiated by The Glow Centre for Sexual & Gender Diversity, to advocate against the discriminatory Canadian Blood Services policy than bans men who have sex with men and women who have had sex with a man who has sex with men from donating blood. Moved by Garcia and Russell.

Noble: My understanding is that it is discriminatory and there is a segment of the population because of certain practices are higher risk and because of this Canada Blood Services does test. But the test are not 100% so that is why they don't allow it. Just to talk about the other side. But I think this is about empowering students so I am in favour.

Motion Adopted 9-0-8

Abstentions to be noted: Patel, Romualdo, Asad, Collins, McGinnis, Noble, Ramdev, Domanski.

Motion: Whereas there is approximately \$800 of unspent money budgeted for council.

BIRT Students' Council approves \$_____ of the remaining \$800 to be spent towards _____. Moved by Ramdev,

Patel: It is bad practice to spend money for the sake of spending money, just because we have it. However we have ideas on how to spend it but it is the Presidents budget so he decides how to spend it with his advisory council.

Chanakya: I would disagree by saying that it is money that was allocated to us and I know Noble has to be part of the conversation but it was kind of like an appreciation. Council has been working hard and deserves it, I will be happy with whatever we decide.

Noble – It is not for volunteer appreciation, it is for special projects. There is a separate line for volunteer appreciation. This is for initiatives that council wants to do, for ideas like a survey. It was set aside so that I didn't spend it in my special projects line.

Zapsts: So we are supposed to be Non-for profit right, what does that mean? What do we do with any extra money left over?

Patel: That money it sits in a bank account and next year we can budget a deficit to make up for the surplus this year.

Jesse: I was going to say the same thing as Noble, I don't think we should spend the money on anything that is a party for council it just looks bad. So I am speaking against this motion.

Domanski: Could we take money for our unconference? Say we wanted a hundred dollars do we need to bring it to council or how do we do that?

Noble: So I set aside this money and I didn't set up a process and you can come to me.

Chanakya: My suggestion was not to burn it out at Rev or something like that; my suggestion was to use it with the next council as a transition thing.

Savoy: I just want to thank Chanakya for raising awareness of this. It is still February so there is time to use it.

Speaker: Any objections to withdraw the motions? Seeing none the motion is withdrawn.

Speaker: Now we have a discussion on the SMS.

Savoy: At the debate Adam brought up the fact that GRT will be charging for SMS and it perked my ears. It seems like we don't have a lot of room to negotiate, but I know that I abuse it. I text even when I know when it comes but there is also safety. I just wanted to bring it up for discussion.

Patel: They are talking about it, but I don't think it is going to happen. The carrier rates will cost more than what they will get.

Speaker: Any announcements?

Savoy: I am reading this on behalf of Berlingieri because he doesn't have a voice. I am supposed to be on co-op but I couldn't find a job, so I went to get a job on my own. They didn't want me just for one term so I offered them a year and they said okay. I was supposed to start on the 20th and I withdrew from school and from co-op. However the bank just reneged on the opportunity. I still need to see if I can register for the spring term and I guess I will have to apply then. I can out of respect to council and to ask your advice on how I can be a councilor again.

Speaker: You can still be on council. Each fulltime undergraduate student who is not registered in the current term but was registered in the previous term and has shown intent to register in the next term. So you are a member still.

Patel: Council appreciation - we got Superbowl tickets for today's game at bomber. You get free nachos with the ticket.

Speaker: Who is playing?

Patel: It is the Baltimore and San Fran.

Nobel: Please encourage people to vote. And to be aware of all the candidates, obviously if you are running you are doing that.

Patel: Somewhere around march 3rd and 4th we are going to the annual food show, I will send an email for the exact date. If you are interested in coming just shoot me an email. We take some staff members and students to sample some items and see what we could bring to campus.

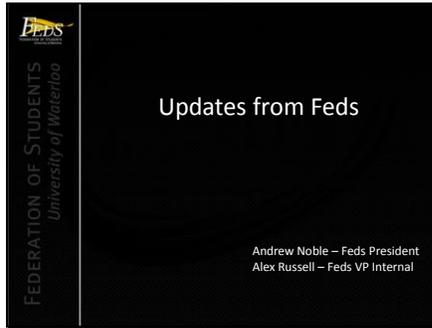
Speaker: Can I get a motion to adjourn?

Motion: Adjourn. Moved by Collins and Zaptses.

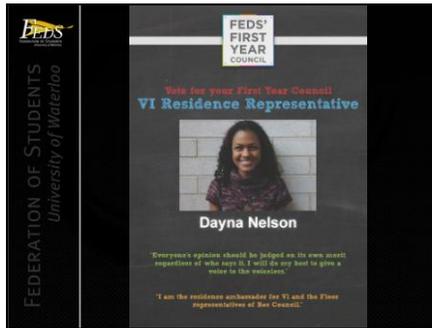
Meeting Adjourned - 2:13p.m.

Appendix One – President’s Presentation

Slide 1



Slide 2



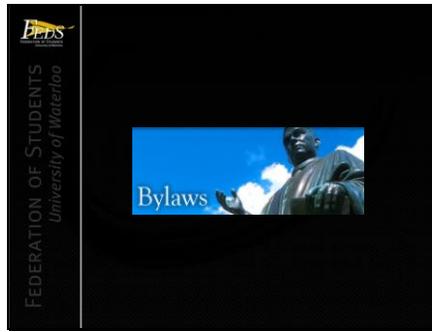
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