

SSC Meeting Minutes: February 11^h, 2018
NCB Room 114 – 6:30 p.m.



Absent: Victoria Forcina, Mark Grinberg, Jeremiah Joseph, Shamez Kachra, Evie Kapur, Nareesa Karmali, Manraj Khurana, Rachel Lacroix, Alex Ly, Natasha Mathew, Suvarna Moharir, Daniel Oltaneau, Elliot Polster, Dan Sequeira, Eric Sun, Parker Thomlinson, Tristan Tsvetanov, Andrea Wang, Riley Young, Kevin Zhang, Andrew Seto, Marco Herrera, Cleo Chalmers

Motion to call to order by Frank, seconded by Ayma

Motion to approve the agenda by Frank, seconded by Bahar: Motion carries.

1) Governance Announcements

- Transition reports need to be submitted by February 28th, one per position so if there are many people holding one position, submit **ONLY** one.
- Upload to Dropbox on OWL

2) Member Announcements

3) Presentations to Council

4) Western Song

5) Land Recognition

6) Council Business

- Motion 1: **Motion RE: Dep. Rep. Reform**
 - o Motioned by Cheryl. Seconded by Elyse.
 - o Cheryl: Changed the cap to 3 people, instead of 4, biology was the most affected. Everyone suggested this.
 - o Seth: Everything Cheryl said. Everyone made great comments and the most resounding comment was that a ceiling of 4 was too high, so changed that to three. Everyone is getting at least one representative, 19 dep reps and 5 first year reps.
 - o Victoria: Wording, would the 3 bio reps encompass second year students?
 - Seth: Yes
 - o Victoria: Looking at the constitution, change the HBA1 in the constitution and this document.
 - o Vak: Good change.
 - o Seth: Changing what he said earlier. 24 dep reps and 5 first year reps. 29 in total.
 - o Victoria: Motion to change the constitution to encompass first year reps in the department representatives
 - Seconded by Bahar
 - o Amar: It is 24 and 5 respectively because the election process is different between the two
 - Unindent the line and make it 24 and 5 separately because that is how it is written in the constitution ****Friendly Change****
 - o Amend to write 5 first-year representatives and 24 department representatives
 - Amendment passes
 - o Back to debating on the actual motion about changing the structure
 - Frank: What is the rationale for keeping the first-year representatives at 5 and not making them proportional?

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- Seth: Because we are already having issues in engaging first years, they are an important demographic to target. By keeping the rule we already have, we can try to address representation problems in the future
- Teo: Most competitive position on council, do not drop it down because it would draw people away
- Max: Compared to my role as second year, first year rep's understanding of the council is limited in terms of advocating --- balancing act vs. including people for the sake of it
 - Not detrimentally hurt by reducing the number from 5 to 3
- Rishika: More of an issue of changing the role vs. amount of people available for the role, makes sense to have 5 first-year representatives
 - Need more training as well as more of a mandate to have them run more than one event – they have the advantage of spreading themselves out in residences, important for reach
 - Smarter to change the role than having less people and conceding that we won't have that great of a hold on first-years
- Bahar: Agreed, no other opportunities to get actively involved, ¼ of the faculty of science and committees do not come into meetings and vote
- Shane: Important to have 5 people because the first-year community is big and spread out
- Victoria: Social Science does it based on residence, just echoing all the points. Speaking to what Rishika said, redefine the role and hopefully they are a group that learn a lot and then come back and contribute more in later years.
- Frank: If we want to keep the 5 for first years and balance keeping it proportional, if we go with the 31 (2 more than what we have now) model, it'd be 310 students per representative with 5 first year reps and the only other changes would be 3 IMS and 4 Bio Reps
- Victoria: We capped the positions, not the first-year reps.
- Seth: 31 applies if the cap is 4 not 3
 - That was the model I was initially happiest with. Yes while we do make first-years technically proportionally, we always make biology 4x more represented. The three model, we put a heavier weight to the smaller departments.
 - First-years are not proportionally represented
- Frank: Motion to change to 3 IMS reps instead of 2 and 4 Biology reps instead of 3.
 - Seconded by Montana
 - Cheryl: We discussed this last meeting, we had a full debate because everyone felt that 4 Biology reps was a lot and this was agreed upon on the Facebook thread. Having 2 IMS reps would not be any harm because we do have our 2nd year Medical Sciences Reps. Seth has calculated this all.

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- Frank: This is more proportional than we had now and although it gives Biology 4 more reps, they have more than 4x the people than a department like Math.
 - Giving people more representation on council
- Seth: Agree with Frank's point and in favour of the amendment.
- Amar: What division factor did you use?
 - Frank: 313.5
- Victoria: If we increased Biology to 4, does that increase the cap on all positions?
 - Seth: Yes, CRO can adjust it if there was a surge of enrollment in certain departments.
- Amendment does not pass. (11 for, 14 against)
- Max: IMS is not a department
- Cheryl: IMS is considered a department based on the Schulich School of Medicine Website
- Montana: With the current structure, changing Medsci/Bio to just Medsci and upping Biology. Problems associated with doing so because proportionality switches. Could technically have 3 second years in biology representing ALL of biology, what is the rationale?
 - Seth: If you ITR into Biology, you are in the Department of Biology whereas if you ITR into BMSc, you are second year basic medical sciences.
- Cheryl: Second year biology students take the same courses and second year medical sciences – not an issue
- Montana: More concerned about courses not events, 2nd years do not take the same courses as upper year biology reps so the same perspective
- Cheryl: We are amending that in the constitution and splitting them up
- Amar: It'd be nice to have upper year reps
 - Seth: It is hard to distribute that equitably across big and small departments and we should elect people who are suitable for the position, not because they sing well. Cannot judge what the faculty wants, just make an informed decision.
- Frank: Point of order, was this discussed at the last meeting?
 - Yes
- Max: Year of enrollment is important to consider.
- Call to question. Motion passes as is.
- Motion 2: **Motion to adopt new Constitution**
 - Karnig: Changes are highlighted on the Facebook group
 - Amar: This is to enact the 2019 Constitution.
 - Victoria: Can we change the font?
 - Karnig: Yes
 - Karnig: Motion for recess. Seconded by Elyse.

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- Amar: Hope everyone was able to get a copy of the 2019 Constitution with the changes.
 - Constitutional Changes:
 - Minor: Spelling, grammar, punctuation changes
 - New Table of Contents which includes links to exactly where
 - Links within the document as well
 - New Headers, Preamble and Core Constitution, Appendices are back in
 - Added in all motions that were passed on council floor
 - HBA1 was put in
 - Section 1, Part A – removed
 - List of voting members changed before the dep rep changes.
 - Changed name of Statistical and Actuarial Rep
 - As per Daniel's suggestion, move Senators from non-voting to ex-officio
 - Frank: Does this go against our MOU with the Senators?
 - Defines them as being non-voting members of council, not ex-officio
 - Section 3, Part E. One meeting per month was updated to a minimum of 8 per year
 - Section 4B and 7F – Council member cannot hold a position on the committee or have 2 positions on committee or council
 - Removed section on nominations
 - VP candidates cannot campaign more than 7 days in advance
 - New section for Speaker of Council
 - 19 Part A, Part 7 – President should be apart of all standing committees as ex-officio
 - First Year Reps under guidance of VP Academics not President
 - Changed participate in check-ins with advocacy and VPA whenever deemed necessary from twice a year
 - 48-hour rule for agenda to be put up, as well as submitted regrets
 - Orientation should be Head Soph or designate
 - Motion Riley brought up about office hours, office hours only for specific purposes, i.e. advertising Purple Fest or Elections
 - Dep reps available for academic concerns
 - Changes to the "The Current" policies
 - Change publication dates to minimum biweekly
 - Publish hardcopy at the beginning or orientation week
 - Change to 2 senior editors and 1 senior designer
 - Frank: Issue with printed hardcopies. More economic to have USBs – don't want to limit distribution. Amend it to publish it doing o-week, don't specify to hardcopy.

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- Amendment passes.
- Peter: Motion for honorary caucus. Motion withdrawn.
- Peter: Head soph point, take away head soph, so anyone on the science soph team can be a designate
 - Frank amends this, seconded by Peter
- Frank: Move Senator from ex officio and put back to non-voting
 - Amendment passes
- Peter: Motion to remove USC President from Non-voting members part of constitution
 - Seconded by Cheryl
 - Amendment passes.
- Amer: In most legislative bodies, speaker has voting rights. Have we given thought to this?
 - Frank: Roberts' Rules state that you need 50+1 For a motion to pass, 50/50 fails
- Max: Maybe speaker should have more training?
 - Bahar: Anyone could learn, during summer training especially
 - Amar: Maybe have it so that speaker sits on council for a year
- Amar: Addressing nominations. Hard for first-year reps sometimes to get 5 names. Not a huge mechanism, not a great reason.
 - Victoria: Speaking against. Students should make the effort to talk to people. Not a great filtering mechanism, but form of initiative. Implement an online form with a name and a student number possibly. Making nomination forms clearer, especially with first-year reps (i.e. you can nominate on more than one form)
 - Montana: Can use a Google Form, like we did for by-elections
- Frank: Call to question on the entire constitutional change
 - Motion passes.

7) Executive Reports

- a. Vice-President Academic
- b. Vice-President Communications
- c. Vice-President Student Events
- d. Vice-President Finance
- e. President

12. Senate Reports

- a. Science Senator

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b. Schulich Senator

13. Commissioner Reports

- a. Advocacy
- b. Charity
- c. Communications-at-Large
- d. The Current
- e. Internet
- f. Research and Policy
- g. Orientation
- h. Videography
- i. Photography
- j. Student Events-at-Large
- k. Student Services
- l. Student Support

14. USC Report

16. New Business

17. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn meeting by Frank. Seconded by Montana.
- Meeting Adjourned: 8:51 p.m.