



Voting members present:

President – Brennan McCracken
Financial Vice President – Zoë Brimacombe
Student Life Vice President - Lianne Xiao
Communications Vice President – Cassie Hayward
External Vice President – Marie Dolcetti Koros
Board of Governors Representative – Julia-Simone Rutgers
Board of Governors Representative – Daniel Whitten
First Year Representative – Izzy Ortner
Journalism Representative – Kaila Jeffers-Moore
Science Representative – Aeriana Narbonne
Residence Representative – Heather Velthuis
Day Student Representative – Cédric Blais
Arts Representative – Adrianna Vanos

Non-voting members present:

Chair – Charlotte Sullivan
Scribe – Michael Greenlaw
The Watch Magazine – Kristen Thompson
Services and Campaigns Coordinator – Michaela Sam
Member – Clare Workentin
Member – Paisley Coppieters
Member – Danna Deutsch
Member – Isabel Ruitenbeek
Member – Olivia Huynh
Member – Cameron Lowe
Member – Chris Tully
Member – Beth Hawco
Member – Rachel Colquhoun
Member – Kate Ashwood
Member – Charlie Friesen
Member – Jessica Cholette-Baur
Member – Sarah Thays
Member – Keenan Livingstone
Member – Clare Sully-Stendahl
Member – Hannah Sparwasser Soroka
Member – Katerina Cook

Regrets:

Member at Large – Chris Pearse

Meeting was called to order at 10:06 A.M.

The Chair recognized that the meeting took place on unceded, traditional Mi'kmaq territory.

1. Adoption of Agenda

Rachel Colquhoun said that action item 6.1 voted upon last meeting on December 2nd, *BIRT the KSU apologizes to Rachel Colquhoun and SNARC for miscommunications*, that the apology voted upon last meeting was not sent to her.



Brennan McCracken said that he might have had the wrong email. He said that he did send the apology and apologized that Rachel did not get it.

The agenda was adopted.

2. Approval of Minutes from December 3, 2017

Daniel Whitten asked Scribe Michael Greenlaw to look at page 14 of the minutes from December 3rd to confirm if that is indeed how he recorded them.

Michael Greenlaw responded that in the second last paragraph of the 14th page, there was a sentence that was different to how he recorded the minutes. The original sentence which the Scribe typed read “[Brennan McCracken] said that he can't believe accountability is more important than doing actual equity work to support racialized students on campus,” whereas the copy of the minutes which council was currently voting on read, “[Brennan McCracken] said that considering this context is important, especially when doing actual equity work to support racialized students on campus.”

Daniel Whitten asked who would have edited the minutes to make this change.

Michael Greenlaw responded that once he has typed the minutes, he sends them to Communications Vice President Cassie Hayward and Services and Campaigns Coordinator Michaela Sam.

Zoë Brimacombe said that these are very long minutes and that she would like the opportunity to read through them thoroughly before passing them.

*Zoë Brimacombe moved to table the Approval of Minutes from December 3, 2017.
Seconded by Kaila Jeffers-Moore.*

Kaila Jeffers-Moore said that her page 12 did not accurately reflect what she said. Kaila said that rather than what the minutes say, “[Kaila Jeffers-Moore] said that she is thinking of other ways to fix this toxic power structure,” the minutes should read, “[Kaila Jeffers-Moore] said that we should be thinking of other ways to fix this toxic power structure.”

Brennan McCracken said that he agrees that these minutes are long and worth looking over considering the conversations at the last meeting were nuance in a lot of ways and that looking through the minutes and making sure what the minutes say accurately captures what people said. Brennan said that if anyone has any edits, that they can send them to Communication Vice President Cassie Hayward and then vote upon them at the next meeting.

Cassie Hayward said that she can bring two copies of the minutes next time for approval. One copy being the current copy which council is voting on, and the second being one that people have sent their edits on. She said that there are 15 pages of the minutes to go through and that Scribe Michael Greenlaw was the one to record them on the spot as well as he could.

Cédric Blais said that he said that he was never emailed a copy of the minutes from the last meeting. He said that because he was not emailed the Minutes that this morning is the first time he has seen them. Cédric asked that he be added to the emailing list.



Daniel Whitten said that he is concerned with the process of the minutes. He says that he wants to raise awareness that the language has been watered down. Daniel said that he wants to know why that process is done and what the reasoning behind that is.

Cassie Hayward said she edits the Minutes after Scribe Michael Greenlaw does. She said that because the minutes are verbatim, meaning that they are not word-for-word what people say, that sometimes things need to be worded-down for the protection of the union. She said that sometimes if people use strong language, or if people say things that they don't actually mean, that watering the minutes down is necessary. Cassie said that the wording can be changed without changing the meaning of what was said. She said that this is why we go through the process of approving the minutes so that people can look through them on their own time and make amendments if they think that they do not accurately reflect what they said during council.

Daniel Whitten said that he argues very strongly against altering the wording of what people say. He said that he is concerned with the editing process of the minutes.

Zoë Brimacombe said that edits can be made to the minutes before next council and reminded council that there is currently motion to table the minutes.

Julia-Simone Rutgers said that she is concerned about the process of watering down what people said for the protection of the union that it's not clear what exactly that means. She said that the counselors should be aware that this is happening. Julia-Simone said that the difference from what President Brennan McCracken said in council and what it says on the minutes is very different in her opinion. She warned members to be cautious about how we are accepting the watering down process in favour of the union.

Cédric Blais said that he is curious whether there are specific guidelines or regulations while making those edits and what protecting the union means.

Daniel Whitten said that in his experience, justifications for editing minutes is a regular process.

Chris Tully asked if there was a policy that the union goes through with how the minutes are edited on the biweekly basis.

Charlotte Sullivan responded that it is in the KSU's governing documents and that it has been a practice for the past several years.

*Lianne Xiao called to question.
Seconded by Marie Dolcetti Koros.*

Question was called.

Motion was tabled.

3. Oral Reports and Goals of Councillors

Aeriana Narbonne said that on January 23rd she will be attending a science student's reception in the president's lodge. She said that on January 28th she will be attending the Canadian Federation of Students – Nova Scotia Annual General Meeting.



Heather Velthuis welcomed those who were not regulars to council meetings. She said that she is continuing to be bettering the residence committee.

Cédric Blais introduced himself and thanked those in attendance. He said that he is happy with the turn out. He said that this is how the democratic process should look and hopes that this continues in the future. Cédric reported that the DSS is going to be having a long meeting to discuss future events and activities. He said that there will be a trivia night on Tuesday. He said that the DSS will be looking forward to a trip to Sugar Moon Farm, and that they will have the dates for that within a week and a half.

Julia-Simone Rutgers introduced herself and thanked union members for attending. She reported that she was unable to attend the BOG meeting in December. She said that she and Daniel Whitten will be meeting with elders at Dalhousie in the upcoming week to do more planning and consultation in preparation for the BOG meeting in March, and the motion that they put forward to support indigenous students on campus by flying the Mi'kmaq flag on the flagpole.

*Daniel Whitten motioned to go in camera.
Seconded by Cédric Blais.*

*Council went in camera at 10:29 A.M.
Council resumed at 10:42 A.M.*

Daniel Whitten said that said that the BOG meeting on December 6th was short but significant. He reported that they spent some time talking about tri-bays radiators and that sometimes they spew oil on individuals. Daniel reported that he shared a personal story at the BOG meeting to underscore the importance of tuition and how it is difficult for people who can't afford presents and trips home during the holiday season. He said that he moved and passed a motion that the Mi'kmaq flag be flown on campus. He said that President Brennan McCracken and he worked hard to make the point that this was a motion that was well overdue. He said that they drove the importance that their motion should act as a reminder of where we need to go as a campus. Daniel said that the President of the BOG meeting said that because it was approved unanimously, they are just waiting for approval and the procedure from the Grand Council.

Kaila Jefferd-Moore thanked and welcomed members for attending the council meeting. She said that she is still planning to host the coding workshop, which has been postponed to early February. She said that there will be a Journalism Society meeting on January 18th.

Adrianna Vanos said that she has been having great conversations with Arts students. She said that she will be having a DAS meeting coming up next Tuesday and that she thinks it will go great.

Izzy Ortner said that she is working on the FYP tee-shirts. She is reaching out to students on Facebook, and on campus to see what quote they want on the shirt. She said that she is looking for students who are good at design to help out and contribute with the tee-shirts. Izzy said that she is constantly checking in with racialized students on campus.

4. Reports of the Executive Committee (Attached)

4.1. Report of the President

4.2. Report of the Student Life Vice President



Daniel Whitten asked if Student Life Vice-President Lianne Xiao could talk more about section 1.1 in her report.

Lianne Xiao responded that King's President Bill Lahey presented a report in December outlining the specific launch that the project was taking on. She said that he will be working with a lot of professors and students to talk about the best ways to discuss King's history in connection to slavery, and creating space for racialized students on campus.

4.3. Report of the Financial Vice President

4.4. Report of the External Vice President

Daniel Whitten asked if whether or not the KSU will be involved in the process with the Nation Student Advisory Committee and if there are any plans to become involved with the Cornwallis statue. Daniel said that he would love to get involved to support students vocally.

Marie Dolcetti Koros responded that no, not now but stances like this come from our organisation and that the KSU's stance comes from meetings like this. She said that if there was vocalized and public interest in taking on any of the movements, that that can come from the strength of working together as a collective. She said that if anyone wants to release a statement that she is open to talk about it.

4.5. Report of the Communications Vice President

Cédric Blais asked about what the issues were regarding the new referendum policy.

Cassie Hayward responded that they discussed bylaws for the executive positions and that the last CRO had no bylaws to work under. She said that it's good to have them out as soon as possible in case people want to do a referendum check before or during the election.

4.6. Report of the Hospitalities Coordinator

Services and Campaigns Coordinator Michaela Sam delivered the report on Hospitality Coordinator Jennifer Nowoselski's behalf.

4.7. Report of the Services and Campaigns Coordinator

5. Action Items

5.1. BIRT Christopher Tully be expelled from the King's Students' Union. (*special resolution*)
Moved by Chris Tully

Chris Tully said that the KSU does not have an opt-out policy, in addition he said that there are noting in the bylaws or the governing documents that allows a member of the union to leave at their own free will. He said that although the wording of this action item may seem dramatic, he found that this is the only way for him to leave the union. He said that he wants to leave because he feels uncomfortable with actions that have been taken by the union over the course of the past semester. He says that regardless of the reasoning, he believes that it is in his rights as a



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member of the union to leave the union. He believes that he should not be put in a situation where he is forced to be a member of something that he does not wish to be a member of.

Cédric Blais thanked Chris Tully for coming to council today. He said that expelling oneself from the union is sad. He said that after having conversations with Chair Charlotte Sullivan that first off we are all students, not union members. Cédric said that by the current bylaws that this request is a completely acceptable request. He said that Chris Tully is making a legitimate use of this bylaw. He said that as voting members, it is their responsibility to uphold the bylaw in this circumstance. Cédric said that he hopes that the vote will go through for the following two motions. He said that Chris has the right to request this motion.

Daniel Whitten is sad to see this motion go up on the agenda. He said that it's the goal of student unions to stand in solidarity with the decisions of other students and to support each other. He said that with that being said, he stands in solidarity with this motion. Daniel said that we, as a union, have not lived up to Chris's expectations of the union. He said that he does not think we should force people into something they don't want to. He said that through his research, that resignation is a typical protocol in society's terms and conditions. He said that the fact that the KSU does not have an opt-out option is an oversight in the bylaws. He said that we should respect that Chris does not consent to be a part of the union. He said that he supports this motion.

Paisley Coppieters asked what it means to be expelled from the union and what that exactly that means.

Brennan McCracken responded that he is sad to see these motions being brought forward and that he understands that a lot of the actions in the last semester may have caused a lot of discomfort for some people. He said the reason that he is not in favour of this motion is that because it is unprecedented in the history of this student's union. He said that other student's unions do not have resignations or an opt-out policy. He said that he is not sure what it would mean to be a Kings student but not a union member. Brennan said that there would be complications about how a non-union member student would operate outside of the KSU services and the unions disciplinary bodies on campus, specifically the King's Disciplinary Board. Because this has never happened before.

Daniel Whitten said that there are two bylaws, 1.4 and 1.5 as ways to "opt-out".

Brennan McCracken said that he was speaking to specifically the bylaw that the union was currently voting on.

Lianne Xiao cautioned members to be conscious as to who is speaking the most and least at this meeting and the dynamics that that can uphold.

Cédric Blais said that he is confused with how the societies act plays out. He said that he would like to bring awareness to the fact that this is the second time that members of the executive have shut down a motion put forward by a union member and that they are specifically using the governing bylaws.

Brennan McCracken responded that he was not speaking directly about the bylaws. He said that he was speaking towards that the bylaws do allow members to bring this forward to the agenda. He said that having this on the agenda today, and the fact that council needs to vote on this



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today. He said that he was speaking towards why he was going to be voting a certain way, not against the bylaws because there are no mechanisms in place if this motion were to be passed. Brennan said that he recognizes that this motion is being brought forward from a place of concern and that he is open to other options for Chris and is willing to talk about finding a solution. He said that he does not feel comfortable with what would happen as a result and what the implications would be. Brennan said he has the obligation to think about the organization as a whole. He is not telling people how to vote, just how and why he is voting.

Daniel Whitten said that an institution is usually hesitant to vote on something owing to the unprecedentedness of it, but that should not be a reason to vote against a motion. He said that it is permitted to request this motion and that the follow up of that should not be questioned.

Marie Dolcetti Koros said that it is sad and concerning to see this motion being brought forward. She said that she is open to having conversations or other alternatives regarding Chris's reasoning's. She said that because this is unprecedented and because a union is a collective and membership towards an organization that this conversation is something we are all a part of. Marie said that she is willing to have these conversations to discuss how to move forward.

Izzy Ortner said she believes that this is quite a symbolic action to might merit resentment towards the union, and asked for specific reasoning behind this motion.

Chris Tully responded the specific reasoning is that he does not agree with specific actions of the union, specifically their wiliness to ignore governing documents and bylaws. He assured that this is not a statement of resentment. Chris said that he feels uncomfortable with how the union has been running and does not feel that there should be reasoning if he is requesting to opt-out. He said that he does not feel that he must stay a part of the King's Student Union against his rights. He said that on the King's Theatrical Society, you're allowed to leave, and that the KSU is much larger, but one should still have the choice whether to stay or not. He says that as a member of the union, he has the right to ask to leave.

Kate Ashwood said that it would be great to figure out what this would mean is the motion passed. She asked Communications Vice-President Cassie Hayward is there was any way to address this to the Bylaw Review Committee. She said that in the last few meetings there are thing needed to be brought forward.

Cassie responded that she agreed that there were a lot of bylaws that the Bylaw Review Committee had to seriously look at.

Julia-Simone Rutgers said that the word unprecedented is being used a lot as an excuse to vote against this motion. She said that it is incredibly encouraging to see that when these bylaws were written that something was included so that an explosion could be an option but being not prepared for self-expulsion should not bring up concerns. She said that unprecedentedness is something that should not hinder a vote. Julia-Simone said that there was a big conversation to be had about how people distrust the union enough to leave it and not be willing to seek other options of resolution. She said that that could fix some of the problems brought to council in the past semester so things do not become messy, personal and ugly. She said that we need to respect the rights of theses members to leave. She said that resolutions that they were talking about have not been working in the past and that things have to change. She said that we need to have more collaborative conversation to move forward.



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Daniel Whitten cautioned members that it is inappropriate to be having this conversation in a public space. He said that people are coming forward who are uncomfortable with an association and want to leave. He commended Chris Tully and Beth Hawco for coming forward in a public space to have this action item passed but there are no other options for them. Daniel asked people to be conscious and respect that this will result in a very personal effect.

Zoë Brimacombe said that she hears the discontent and unhappiness resulting in this motion. She said that she is interested and concerned with how she can actual listen to this and the way that people feel that they are not being respected or that union members are not representing them properly. She said that the power of a student union is that they are membership driven and that they have the option to evoke change and influence in that union. She said that she speaks against the motion. She said that the reason being is that there is no way for a union like this to exist. Zoë said that if someone is no longer apart of the union, there is no way for them to be represented properly. She said that the will not be represented at the BOG, the KSU, but that they would not be represented in a disciplinary sense.

Daniel Whitten asked if it was true that they would no longer be represented.

Charlotte Sullivan responded that it would be up to the KSU to elect someone to represent non-union students so that they would still be represented.

Brennan McCracken responded that he spoke to someone from the university the other day regarding this and that they had uncertainty whether or not this would happen.

Zoë Brimacombe said that this is the reason she cannot vote in favour of this motion because of her obligation as a director to vote in a way which she believes upholds organization and the best interest of every member.

Hannah Sparwasser Soroka said that she speaks in favor of this motion. She said that a membership driven organization should provide its members the right to leave. She said that there has to exist an option to leave an organization. She said that the fact that this motion is unprecedented should not be the reason to vote against this motion, but we should create a framework for members to leave the organization and still be a Kings student but still receive support in disciplinary hearings. She said that these two recognize the fact that by leaving the KSU, you're ceding your rights to be represented. She said that she is sure that in institutions around the country and around the world that this situation has been resolved without forcing people to be members.

Adrianna Vanos asked what this might look like for the students if this motion were to fail or if council were to table this motion.

Chris Tully responded that if he would no longer be a KSU member he would no longer pay membership dues. He said that the fact that student fees are due before the next meeting, and this motion were to be tabled and then fail, he would have to pay late fees and have to deal with holds on his account until he pays into an organization he does not wish to be a part of. Chris said that he does not want to table this owing to the financial penalty that may result. He said that he just hopes to leave the union.



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Lianne Xiao said that it is disappointing that this is an extreme action to be taken for this union. She said that she is disappointed that members feel although that they cannot come to the open office hours of the union members to discuss their concerns. She said that having this round-about way to deal with this situation in a public space is hard and difficult for everyone. She said that this could affect the KSU's future executive members for years to come. Lianne said that although the positions will remain the same that people switch out of them and that expelling oneself from the union directly affects future executive members. Lianne said that she is frustrated that the KSU offers health plans, societies, sexual health products and that someone would seek satisfaction in leaving all the options that the KSU offers. Lianne is confused about all the services would operate if Chris or Beth were to leave the union and what would happen with Chris's involvement with the King's Theatrical Society.

Chris Tully said that there are currently no societies mandate to be a member of the KSU, speaking specifically to the KTS in general. He said that a number of years ago the president of the KTS was a NSCAD student. He said that he respects and appreciates the opportunities that the union provides and that he does not intend for this motion to be a slap in the face for the union, but he does no longer feel comfortable being a part of this organization.

Izzy Ortner said that she thinks it is ridiculous that a motion like this should not be tabled so that more of a conversation to happen. She said that we need to know exactly how this is going to be handled after approving this motion. She said that there needs to be more of a conversation that does not happen in just one meeting.

Chris Tully said that a lot of the issues would be his own problem not the KSU's. He said that he is okay with removing himself from the union and the services which they provide and is comfortable dealing with the ramifications of this choice. He said that he believes that this action item does not require further deliberation because the consequences will affect him rather than the KSU as a whole.

Hannah Sparwasser Soroka said that from what Chris is saying that it stands as evidence that this is not something he's taking lightly. She said that both Chris and Beth Hawco have decided to leave despite the supposed consequences.

Heather Velthuis said she is concerned about how this motion will impact the KSU as a structure.

Katerina Cook said that she is getting a sense that the conversation is taking on a "we know what's best for you" mentality. She said that the councilors need to respect the rights of Chris Tully in his choice to leave as an autonomous human being.

Kristen Thompson said the way in which this motion affects the Union is irrelevant. She said that this conversation should be primarily focused on Chris leaving the Union and not whether or not the KSU will suffer repercussions.

Julia-Simone Rutgers said that unfortunately we are not talking about how this will affect the union, the question on the table is that a member of the union wants to leave and that we are still not listen to students who are bringing motions to council. She said that it is upsetting that students are coming to council and voicing their concerns and that the KSU is telling them that "you have to do it our way." Julia-Simone said that although there may be complications that arise from passing this motion, although tabling this motion is not going to do anything



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different, nor is it going to bring any new information. She said that President Brennan McCracken has spoken to Bill Lahey and confirmed that they have received all the information they are going to receive. The question is not if we like that Chris is doing this, the question is if he has the right to do so and he does.

Kaila Jefferd-Moore said that she agrees with what Julia-Simone Rutgers has said. She said that we do need to listen to students and that this is a point in council where we have acknowledge that the union has gotten to a point where students want to leave the organizing. She said that we need to start thinking about how to fix this. Kaila said that we need to include an opt-out option in our bylaws. She said that she is in favour of this motion. She said that the union needs to start listening to the students, and that students want to leave because the union is not doing that.

Danna Deutsch asked Chair Charlotte Sullivan to read the bylaw to which Chris Tully's motion is using.

Charlotte Sullivan read bylaws 1.4 and 1.5: "1.4: Council may expel any member for non-payment of the Students' Union Fees. Union membership will cease if a member fails to pay the Fees set by the Union at the time, and in the manner specified, unless the member makes suitable arrangements with the Union. And; 1.5: Any member of the Union may be expelled from the Union by Special Resolution."

Chris Tully said that he appealing to specifically bylaw 1.5.

Cédric Blais said that he understands the concerns that there are very little grounds to work with following up from this motion being passed. He said that those problems are secondary to the fact that this council has a body that holds power on campus, and that the union has the responsibility to uphold the rights of its members. He said that even though resolving the difficulties that would result from this motion would be difficult-which is secondary to the fact-that two weeks from now, the deadline would be passed to pay union fees. He said that it is not fair given the time span to have Chris Tully and Beth Hawco pay in to an institution which they don't want to be a part of. He said that although this is unprecedented, that this is a move that council has the power to do. He said that this is not just passively taking account the structures on campus, but as a body, we need to uphold and create infrastructures to support the students. Cédric said that something unprecedented is taking place and that it is the best inters for the union to rise up the challenge.

Zoë Brimacombe said she wanted to respond to the use of the word "individual autonomy" versus the good of the institution. She said that she agrees that Chris Tully has done a lot of thinking about how this motion would affect him, but those at the meeting who are councilors need to think about the collective responsibility that they're representing all students. She said that it is fine that the bylaws have the option to expel a member, and that's what they are debating now, to discuss doing just that. Zoë said that we should distinguish the right to leave vs expulsion. She said that they have discussed the implications for Chris Tully leaving, she said that we should be thinking beyond the individual and taking up the responsibility to think as the whole student body as a whole. She said that one's student's dues can pay for the whole councilor's fund to run events for a year. She said that she is no trying to equate people to money but that that would be the repercussions of this motion looking at the bigger picture. She said that when they vote on this, councilors should think beyond how this will benefit the individual and rather consider how it would affect the organization.



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Daniel Whitten said he speaks against tabling this motion, he said that the bylaws do say that expelling someone from the union takes time and that's why they've had a week to prepare for this motion. He said that the only way council is going to figure out what happens next is for council to vote through this motion. He said that in the past, this council has tabled things that have caused damage, or as a means to put off responsibility for it. Daniel said that in this special resolution, that council has all the information in order to make a vote.

Lianne Xiao said that she wants to think about the implications for Chris but also how this will affect future students, and executive members. She said that it is her duty to not allow this to affect future students. She said that she is emotional exhausted about having conversations about accountability when she could be doing better work for this school.

Isabel Ruitenbeek said that she has been thinking about what this would say about the KSU as a whole if this motion is passed. She said that it would reflect that the Union has listened to someone and acknowledged that things got really messed up. She said that this won't say anything bad about the union.

Hannah Sparwasser Soroka said that as a member of the union, she does not want to use services that other students, who do not want to pay for, are paying for. She would feel more comfortable if people were paying their due to the union if they were excited about what that money was going towards.

Lianne Xiao motioned to recess.

Seconded Brennan McCracken.

Council recessed at 11:56 A.M.

Council resumed at 12:14 P.M.

Cédric Blais said that by now he has enough information to vote on this motion.

Cédric Blais called to question.

Seconded by Daniel Whitten.

Question was called.

Motion failed.

5.2. BIRT Beth Hawco be expelled from the King's Students' Union. (*special resolution*)

Moved by Beth Hawco

Beth Hawco said that she is close to graduating. She said that she has spent the entire last semester diplomatically resolving situations and issues she had with the union. She said that after meeting with executive members, they were not willing to meet her where she was at to have positive resolutions, and if they did, they were subversive afterwards. She said that she does not trust the executive to act ethically on behalf of all students. Beth said that she is emotionally exhausted about talking about the hypocrisy and the ridiculousness of last semester. She said that she wants to leave the union so that she can just be left alone so that she can deal with her last semester.



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Keenan Livingstone said that he has been under impression that his involvement in the union is his choice but he sees now that that is an illusion. He said that he does support the Union and that he typically supports their decisions, but he is disappointed and disagrees with how the system operated today. He said that he did not realize that when he signed up to be a student at Kings that he was signing up to be a member of the student union for life.

Julia-Simone Rutgers said that “you all heard me laugh”. She said that what this past motion says is that when we talk about the collective values of this union we talk about societies and clubs and whatnot. She said that we have created a precedent that members are not democratically capable separating themselves from what an individual wants; she said that that is going to say more about the Union then allowing Chris to leave. Julia-Simone said that we have another chance to undo a wrong and maybe make something right. She said that it is disheartening to see the union sidestepping accountability to their members. She said that this is a member asking something from its union and that they have valid concerns, regardless if we agree with those concerns or not. She said that we have just said “No, you can’t exercise your right in this union” because there is a group of people who vote in a block and that that is troubling for the union.

Danna Deutsch introduced herself. Said that with conversations she has had, she was under the impression that these meeting were closed meetings. She said that she is frustrated with the lack of communication and transparency surrounding these meetings. Danna said that she is reconsidering her membership as well because of the decisions being made at this council meeting.

Chris Tully said that the decision that council just made, they made for him, and about his life without respecting his wishes. He said that the KSU has made a decision about his autonomy as an individual, his financial obligations, a decision which has impacts on him without listening or respecting his wishes. Chris said that for an organization that preaches consent and respect of people’s wishes, the KSU did not reflect that today. He said that he is extremely upset. Chris said that there is an opportunity to make the right step in this action item. He said that he hopes the KSU can respect people’s individual autonomy and not make decisions for other people.

Kaila Jefferd-Moore said that the Student Union represents the students and not the executives and that that is an important conversation in and of itself. She said that what council has been talking about has not been representative of the students and what their wishes are. Kaila said that she is disappointed at how this has devolved. She said that coming into the KSU under the impression that it is for the students, and finding out that the KSU is not actually listening to the students is quite frustrating. She said that there is a lack of representation for students so that a member can say that they are representing them to the best of their ability.

Marie Dolcetti Koros said that she voted the way she did because of the obligation she has to represent the entire student body. She said that this conversation affects all of us. She said that more conversations needs to be had to unpack everything that has been going on. She reminded council that all of these elected positions are open to folks to run.

Cassie Hayward walked in with donuts.

Daniel Whitten motioned for recess.

Seconded by Brennan McCracken.



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Council recessed at 12:26 P.M.

Council resumed at 12:31 P.M.

1:38:33 – 1:02:39

Beth Hawco said that she respects that this is a personal and emotional experience for council members but she does not feel like this is a big deal for her as she just wants to leave the KSU. Most of the executive she could have worked with while a member, but words from the press and external press made her uncomfortable.

Kate said that in the two years that she has been involved, repetitive situations and things come up, what does accountability mean. She hopes that things change and that these situations don't happen again. Address institutional issues. Everything that is being said does not reflect what this student wants.

Kristen said that this "affects everyone" is not true and that this is an individual issue. People are having these concerns because people are not doing their jobs correctly.

Cedric disagrees that this is on the good of the collective, that collective action has to be meaningful- "it is not up to you to be a part of it." Meaningful experience on campus.

Daniel said that he received an anonymous message "If the interest of the students.. ASK"

Aeriana voted the way she did because it happened quickly, she is deciding to vote FOR this time because if we want to fix the problem, we have to work with the issues.

Rachel said that a lot of the discussions; public. She is frustrated. She didn't want to leave the union in fear of her speaking right. Exec stop hiding behind redempt, do their jobs, this union as a collective space. Difference of opinion, their job to respect other's rights and opinions.

Marie said that she voted the way she did because as it stands right now, that's the only way to uphold accountability. Does not take her position lightly. Feels as though she has to explain herself.

Beth said that she hopes to end her ties with the executives, she hopes that they do not make her next semester stressful which is different to what the fall semester was for her.

Zoe said that she wants to represent all students in this space. Expelling someone is the worst way to listen, because you are cutting them off from their voice. Be mindful what expelling someone means.

Beth said that she feels as though that if she felt comfortable speaking about that... She thinks that the resources are valuable. Does not want to pay people to not be diplomatic.

Cassie apologizes on behalf of the exec where they felt personally attacked. Comended Beth for being here. She said that as an exec she cannot vote for this brings into question should this union exist. If as an exec that does not put the union in question, She said that she cannot vote in favour of the opinion that this institution should not exist. No compromising is an issue. This will be going to the bylaw review committee.



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Kristen said that you don't have to justify voting decisions, personally targeted is not happening.

Chris said that he agrees with that he doesn't feel personally slighted to the decision making process. He is unhappy but cannot hold anyone responsible for the outcome of his vote.

Daniel said that it is important to how we are framing this conversation. New structures in the union. "This is what I want" and we are telling them what they need.

JS said that their duties as councillors, is to the collective membership. Someone who has thought this out and is asking to leave should. Automatic vs democratic. She says that someone saying that they don't want to be represented by an individual and asking to leave is a question of someone's rights. They are exercising the bylaws. Consider as a council.

*Julia-Simone Rutgers called to question.
Seconded by Daniel Whitten.*

Question was called

Motion failed.

- 5.3. BIRT the Contemporary Studies Society receive \$1074.68 in non-contingent funding to finance the Hinge Journal printing and release party in late March 2018.

Moved by Zoe Brimacombe

Finance Committee recommends approval

Zoë Brimacombe said that Paisley Coppiters can speak better to this motion than she can. She said that Contemporary Studies Society will be using the funding for printing and snacks.

Rachel Colquhoun said that the Contemporary Studies Society are doing a great job.

Motion passed.

- 5.4. BIRT the Contemporary Studies Society receive \$699.68 in non-contingent funding to put on the CSP Conference Spectacle from February 9-10th 2018.

Moved by Zoe Brimacombe

Finance Committee recommends approval

Zoë Brimacombe said that CSP Conference Spectacle Student Panel are looking for local scholars and artists to feature at the conference. She said that they are seeking funding from the CSP department and will probably not be using the full amount in this motion.

Motion passed.

- 5.5. BIRT the Contemporary Studies Society receive \$171.95 in retroactive funding to cover money owing to the Wardroom and overdue banking fees.

Moved by Zoe Brimacombe

Finance Committee recommends approval



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Zoe said that this is retroactive funding, separate situation, has signed the society processing form which reoutlines the policies surrounding retroactive funding.

Paisley said that the society applied for funding all at once, LISTEN here 2:02.00!!

Paying for pizza, oversight, there is a balance due to the wardroom, overdue banking fees. Difficult to get ahold of people at the Scotiabank. Hopes that this passes so they do not have to pay out of pocket.

Cedric said that he speaks in favor of this motion. The Scotiabank has been difficult to communicate with as DSS.

Daniel said that he speaks in favor, society training needs to be had to have that awareness.

Zoe said that in looking at this funding request, looking into bank fees. Looks into society training. Here to support societies.

Claire said that this instance was because of a miscommunication where there was an oversight from a previously executive. Happened because of a quick thought, impulsive decision from experienced decision.

Kaila asked if the bank should refund those fees.

P – someone got a promotion and was not alerted of this, made contact with a new person taking over this portfolio. When she first realized, she went to Michala right away and is dealing with it seriously.

Motion passed.

5.6. BIRT Sodales, the Dalhousie and King's Debating Society receive \$520 in non-contingent funding to send two delegates to the McGill Winter Carnival on January 19th-21st 2018.

Moved by Zoe Brimacombe

Finance Committee recommends approval

Zoe said that since travel bursaries have shifted. 2:10:00. If there is travel related to an event, \$100 was typically what should be done. They have a significant amount of funding to use, using this money in full is a special circumstance. Cannot be depended on in the future. Over \$3,000 remaining even if all these requests were approved.

Olivia Huynh said that the funding would really help them out.

Daniel Whitten said that he speaks in favor of this motion and that travel is important to fund.

Cédric Blais said that he has friends who work for that society and that he speaks in favor.

Motion passed.



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5.7. BIRT the King's Journalism Society receive \$42.86 in contingent funding to purchase pizza, chips, and soft drinks for their January meeting on January 18th 2018.

Moved by Zoe Brimacombe

Finance Committee recommends approval

Zoë Brimacombe said that this is a wholesome and lovely event.

Motion passed.

5.8. BIRT the King's Early Modern Studies Society receive \$2650 in non-contingent funding to cover the costs of the 6th Annual Conference of the Early Modern on January 26-27th 2018, including catering and two receptions.

Moved by Zoe Brimacombe

Finance Committee recommends approval

Zoë Brimacombe said that they discussed that this is more funding that other societies have received. She said that the King's Early Modern Studies Society is the largest society on campus and they reach a large demographic of students.

Hannah Sparwasser Soroka said that they are getting support from departments to help, great panalists, great opportunities to exchange scholarships and be social.

Daniel Whitten obtained.

Motion passed.

5.9. BIRT the King's Early Modern Studies Society receive \$30 in non-contingent funding to purchase drinks and snacks for a Workshop for Conference Presenters on January 17th 2018.

Moved by Zoe Brimacombe

Finance Committee recommends approval

Hannah Sparwasser Soroka said that they want to do a wokshop. Open event, come join, tips and tricks are welcome. Snacks would be great.

Brennan McCracken said that this is a great idea.

Motion passed.

5.10. BIRT WUSC receive \$406.03 to send one refugee student to the WUSC Annual Assembly from January 19-20th 2018 in Ottawa.

Moved by Zoe Brimacombe

Finance Committee recommends approval

Zoe said that travel funding is a grey area. WUSC brings a refugee student to study here every to years. All of the WUSC levy goes towards the cost association for being here. This is a neat idea. WUSC has not sent a deligate to this conference before. Share insight and experiences, flight hotel, food, services.

Marie Dolcetti Koros said that she speaks in favor of this motion.



Motion passed.

- 5.11. BIRT be hired to the Union Hired Position to support racialized students for the 2017/2018 academic year.

Moved by Marie Dolcetti-Koros

Marie said that this position ; Ask her to send the report.

Search committee lots of experience, passionate and caring, lot of experience in organizing work, transfer student interesting perspective, great collectives Ellora Sundhu.

Marie recommends ____
Seconded by Brennan

Kristen speaks in favour, sat on a union for racialized students, year abroad in Chicago, lots of experience representing people of colour.

Blank was filled with ____

Daniel said that he is happy to see these positions, research and this one,

Marie said meeting logistics, and that the other one is uncharted territory, person in this position will be directing their work.

JS said that the racialized student collective was born out of the WuTang issue last year as a FB group. She asked what oversight the KSU would have, limiting students power, collective born out of something not to be governed by the union.

Marie said that these positions, they will payed to do the work that they do, she can't speak to what this would do.

Brennan said that this person will not oversee, just conversations with the collective, book rooms and make sure the meetings happen.

Motion passed.

6. New Business

- 6.1. *Election dates for the 2018 Executive and BOG Representative Positions*

Nominations for the 7 positions will open on January 26, 2018 and close at 7pm on February 1, 2018. Voting will occur from 9am-7pm on February 14, 2018 and February 15, 2018 outside of Prince Hall.

- 6.2. *Next Council* - January 28, 2018 at 3pm in the Boardroom

Izzy Orner said that she does not want to speak on behalf of the other first year students, feels very disconnected on how to vote and what to think. Weird to feel as though she is a part of the establishment. More work to be done to included first years in the conversation. How everyone feels although they need to take sides



Aerianna agrees

Kaila also feels this confusion, brought up before, wishes there was more clarity and communication between executives and councillors.

Paisley said that we should be gentle about how we occupy space and on campus and media. Students paying to be on this campus. We need to go to school tomorrow. Don't stress out about who's around you and where you are on campus.

Chris said that the motion he brought caused a lot of tension and that was not his intention, no sore feelings only respect. Even though he disagrees, he respects.

Beth said that things discussed should stay here. She has larger problems

Brennan said that he appreciates everyone, and that people are coming from a place of care. Reaching out to students that he is, to the best of his ability, willing to talk about things. Moves to a place of resolution.

Marie said that she is committed to having these conversations. Go get coffee to talk

Kristen said people should not go on twitter and talk about it. Reach out to peer support.

- 6.3. BIRT the Executive Committee send an email to the "This Week at King's" mailing list retracting and apologizing for the "KSU Membership Advisory" sent on 4 December 2017.

Moved by Daniel Whitten

Seconded by Cedric

Council recessed at 1:39 P.M.

Council resumed at 1:44 P.M.

Daniel Whitten read the following letter to council:

"I want to apologize in advance for the length of these remarks, but I have been asked by various individuals to share their words here, and I ask that due time and consideration be given to these, as well as to my own motivation for this motion. I want to first draw a distinction between the remarks I have been asked to share and my own remarks. The remarks from others are those that were sent to me by anonymous members of the King's community following both the Membership Advisory regarding the Wall of Women and the Watch article on the same topic. They were not given explicitly in motivation for this motion, and I was asked only that they be shared with Council. I believe this to be the most appropriate time to do so, but I do not want any intentions to be misconstrued here. Further, to contextualize these remarks, I had posted on Facebook and Twitter that I would always be happy to anonymously share someone's words in relation to a KSU matter if that person did not feel comfortable sharing them themselves, given fear of social or other repercussions. Many of the responses refer to the incident wherein the Hospitalities Coordinator mentioned Hitler and Cornwallis in relation to the Wall of Women. I want to be clear that I communicated with the individuals who mentioned this incident the circumstances of those remarks, as I understood them. That is, what was later reported in the Watch, that they were made in regards to how images can make students feel



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uncomfortable in shared spaces, and that the Hospitalities Coordinator later apologized as part of the Chair's report for the "language and specific examples." All of the individuals chose to keep the references in their responses, but some changed the specific wording.

"With that said, I would like to read the responses I have been asked to read. I think the problem is that the union is unable to recognize that it exists as a power structure. I'm really troubled by their lack of hesitation to lie and misrepresent what happened. I'm upset that they cannot unequivocally apologize for their wrongdoing. Because what they did was wrongdoing. I'm deeply troubled by the fact that I have not seen an apology for the comments made comparing the wow to Hitler and Cornwallis, which I (as a Jewish student) perceived as unsafe for Jewish and Indigenous students. I'm especially troubled that this happened at a time when a professor who was put on leave for anti-Semitic comments is returning to campus (an issue the union has utterly failed to address in any way).

"For me this whole thing boils down to 3 points that disturb me the most: 1) Way back in October, this could have all been resolved had the exec contacted SNARC and said "hey, we have some problems with WOW. Would you be free to talk?" Had they done that, SNARC could have addressed everything immediately without any of the gossip or multitude of opinions. They could have had an open dialogue where everyone could learn! And share perspectives! And disturbs me immensely that they did not allow for that to happen, whether intentionally or otherwise. Universities should be a place for growth.

"2) I don't see how the KSU exec could not see the timing of the publishing of the advisory as an abuse of power. First of all, they have access to the greatest audience, so can say whatever they want and it can basically be taken as gospel for people who only have superficial knowledge of what's going on. And SNARC doesn't have that access (at least potentially until the next TWAK, however that strikes me as very unlikely) which is unfair. Plus it's exams! We're students! Trying to learn!

"3) If visual representation of women from a variety of backgrounds isn't the first step to starting conversations about how to improve curricula, what is? What could be? Especially on a campus as small as King's, with the limited funds and bandwidth of students?

"As a woman of colour, I honestly feel completely let down by the KSU exec for undermining the actual institutionalized racism that happens at King's in the way that they are co-opting the trauma of striving for equity so that they can silence a conversation about accountability. They're literally furthering the marginalization the few racialized voices on campus and it is completely unacceptable. Also who the hell thought it would be okay to compare the wall of women to Hitler and Cornwallis?

"I wonder if part of the issue at hand, which the KSU has not so far publicly acknowledged, is that the Wall of Women project became a kind of proxy for an underlying struggle between the KSU/Wardroom management and the University Administration over who has the right to make decisions about the Wardroom space. When the Wardroom renovation began, there was a feeling among Wardroom management and the KSU that the Advancement Office's role in



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refashioning the space posed a threat to the control over the space that the KSU/Wardroom management/student body has had for many many years, and deeply cherishes.

Understanding that SNARC, who had been working together with Advancement, was caught in the middle of this underlying struggle over who gets to make decisions about the Wardroom helps to explain the KSU's contradictory communication. As distance grew between SNARC and the KSU, SNARC moved deeper into collaboration with Advancement, and in return the KSU became more hostile, until this whole thing became public and they began doing damage control.

“It’s frustrating seeing the absolute lack of accountability shown by the KSU. As the elected executive of the student union, they’re expected to be accountable to their constituents and frankly, I’ve had quite a few issues with how things have been run lately, not only surrounding the issue that’s blown up the past couple days but even how the referendum was dealt with last year as well as candidate elections and I’ve kept my mouth shut because I didn’t want to be ostracized. Honestly, regarding how they’ve been treating SNARC is utterly disgraceful. Word choice matters, and when they apologized for a miscommunication instead of a bylaw violation, which the Chair ruled they violated, that shifts some of the blame onto SNARC. Equity is important, but so is accountability from the executives of the student union. If they’re going to be able to get out of something as simple as an apology (because frankly, that’s not a huge consequence for violating their own bylaws) solely because the bylaw falls under a specific student from a marginalized group, that sets the precedent that certain bylaws can be ignored and the KSU won’t be held accountable for them based off of who is holding the position. Equity should not be used as a way to avoid being accountable.

“Also, regarding the Wall of Women, clearly SNARC has been trying to address the issues brought up and actually communicating with them would’ve solved most, if not all, of this. I’m not on the TWAK mailing list and I’m also quite tired and I might’ve missed the reference to Hitler or Cornwallis, but comparing the Wall of Women to them? I feel like portraits of women who have contributed to our university isn’t comparable to their crimes and it’s blatantly offensive, especially to members of the groups targeted.

“So first, the wall of women was compared to Hitler, and then Cornwallis. This is completely inappropriate and particularly offensive to both Jewish and Aboriginal students. There are almost no situations in which you can compare ANYONE to Hitler, and absolutely not a well meant attempt to include women in an overwhelmingly male institution. Secondly, I think that it is irresponsible and extremely unprofessional for the KSU to fight against apologizing for breaking their own bylaw. It makes them look far worse than if they had just immediately apologized and moved on with things. Accountability is necessary for our student body to trust the KSU to represent us, and I don't feel that, in this incident, they have been properly representing all students. Thirdly, I'd like to point out that King's as an institution is fundamentally colonial and a part of the male hegemony and that the KSU works within that system as a student government. Our bar is the HMS King's Wardroom -- literally named after a part of the military that completely excluded women. It is nonsensical to me that the KSU would fight against a project to include more women in such a space. SNARC, given the chance, could have tried to include more diverse women, but I also believe that if there were not openly non-binary or non-white women who were available to be part of the project, that isn't



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SNARC's fault and the project should not be condemned. It frankly makes me really sad that our union decided that the Wall of Women was the battle that they wanted to fight. If not 100% perfect, the Wall was an attempt at inclusion and progress. Fight your enemies, not your friends. I personally have lost my faith in the KSU because of this.

“Re: the wall of women article. I'm on finance committee and was told the reason that the SNARCon funding request wouldn't be at council on Nov. 16 was because Zoe and Brennan would be away (in Ottawa at the Canadian federation of students agm) and wanted to be at council to debate that funding request. Finance committee never saw the funding request and wasn't notified that it was on the agenda for the nov 16 council before it occurred or since.

“As a Jewish student on this campus, I am deeply hurt and disturbed by the comments concerning Hitler and Cornwallis, which are not only baseless and ridiculous, but also fail to create a safe space on campus for Jewish and Indigenous students. That particular incident takes the KSU's already indefensible stance and makes it incredibly hypocritical. It is hard to hear about tokenization when the KSU is tokenizing the oppression of Jewish and Indigenous people for the benefit of their power plays over dissenting students. While I appreciate the desire to make the Wardroom a safe space for all, I now do not feel that the Wardroom is a safe space for me as Jewish student, knowing that it is being operated by someone who believes those comments are appropriate. And while I'm not sure an apology from the Hospitality Coordinator would even be enough, I am shocked that they need to have the president make vague apologies for them.

“I have also been asked to include the following response, which is not anonymous. It comes from alum Rachelle McKay, BA Hons. '15, CSP & Sociology, who recently graduated from UVic with an MA in Indigenous Governance and is currently a PhD Candidate at McMaster: I'm Indigenous King's alumni. I was a student at King's in 2014 when the wall of women was introduced and as a student who frequented the wardroom it was disappointing not to see more diversity represented in it. Now, there's a plan to put an Indigenous woman's picture up and it gets shut down? While the project somehow gets compared to Cornwallis and Hitler? To my knowledge, this would be the first time that there would be any Indigenous representation on the walls of King's apart from the drum my dad made for the NAB. This should be important to the Union and to all of you. As someone has already pointed out, King's as an institution is fundamentally colonial. King's is currently situated on unceded Mi'kmaq lands of the Mi'kmaq nation who prior to colonial intrusion, had widespread multivalent conceptions of gender. Decolonial struggles and the struggles of non-binary peoples are not misaligned, get it together KSU.

“Those are all of the responses I have been asked to share at council. I would like to also add my own motivation for this motion. I would first like, in reference to these response, to recognize that many students do not feel safe raising concerns about their Union's conduct publicly, and certainly not to the Union itself. This is shameful and a situation I hope all of us



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reflect profoundly on. I also hope it explains my actions in collecting and publishing these responses as requested of these individuals. I understand, though no complaints have been communicated to SNARC, that this email originated out of concern raised by some folks about the Wall of Women project. I applaud the executive for taking these concerns seriously, as they absolutely should have. However, now that many community members, including those who hold various marginalized identities, have expressed the negative impact of this course of action, these concerns deserve to be considered with equal weight.

“SNARC members have repeatedly asked for an articulation of any concerns about the Wall of Women: in public discourse, in Rachel’s official complaint submission, and in Rachel’s minuted motivation before council on December 3rd. Instead of providing this to SNARC, and indeed instead of apologizing as directed by Council’s resolution on December 3rd, the Executive unilaterally decided to send an email detailing their perspective on the issue to the entire TWAK mailing list. The email was sent to a mailing list compiled from information submitted for “This Week at King’s,” a publication that is mandated under bylaw 3.7a to be sent out every Sunday of the academic year by the CVP. While using this mailing list, the communication that was sent out was irregular and not TWAK, specifically, it was a “KSU Membership Advisory,” for which there is no provision, and was therefore sent to a recipient list that vastly surpasses “KSU Membership.” The email was signed by all members of the Executive. I am concerned that the information entrusted to the KSU for a mandated purpose was used in a way that the Executive should have expected to be contentious, especially doing so without the direction of Council. This is a point I hope the CVP will address, as it clearly falls under that portfolio.

Further to the use of this personal information is the wholly inappropriate recipient list for such a contentious and internal communication. Before raising these issues with the executive members of SNARC, the KSU Executive chose to raise them with the vast majority of the student population, countless alumni and community members, and faculty currently instructing the students involved. We spoke a lot last council about the impact of council proceedings on the reputation of members as they continue their careers. Nevertheless, within a day of this discussion the same Executive sent out an email to students, faculty, and prominent community members that effectively brands a society and its member’s racist. This can be seen as nothing less than a gross misuse of the power entrusted by our members to the KSU Executive.

The issues raised in the email are clearly important and relevant issues for our community to discuss. But that is the form this should have taken, community discussion. Meetings with the SNARC Executive about the composition and process of the wall. A panel discussion.

Collaborative consultation, etc. A unilateral denunciation from a power structure on campus, a denunciation that does not even address the specifics of the proposed project, yet has the audacity to characterize it nonetheless, is beyond inappropriate for the situation, and shines a disreputable light on the functions of our Union.

“Given the content, context, and circumstances of this communication, the only appropriate rectification is for Council to direct the Executive Committee to send a communication to the same mailing list apologizing for and retracting its previous email.”

Brennan McCracken said that he recommends tabling this motion. He said that owing to an executive member who is mentioned in the letter, who is not in the room, that we should allow them to be in the room for the conversation. He said that council needs to rest and maybe address this at an emergency council meeting to be held within the next ten days at a time agreed upon by council.

Brennan McCracken moved to table.



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Kaila Jefferd-Moore seconded.

Zoë Brimacombe said that she speaks in favour of this motion.

Julia-Simone Rutgers said that we are all tired and need a break.

Cassie Hayward said that we need to have this conversation when we are at 100% and in a way that is meaningful. She said that the executive values this criticism and that this is important to respond to and address.

Heather Velthuis said that she would love an emergency council meeting and that one is in order.

Daniel Whitten said that he likes the idea of an emergency meeting. He said that he had promised to bring this letter forward and have it spoken about at this meeting.

Marie Dolcetti Koros thanked Daniel for sharing these concerns and that they should be addressed as soon as possible.

Motion was tabled.

7. Adjournment

Daniel Whitten moved to adjourn

Seconded by council.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:03 P.M.