

Minutes for KSU Council of Students

King's Students' Union 2015-2016

Sunday, January 24, 2016, 10:00am

Wardroom, A&A Building

Voting Members

Alex Bryant
Sofia Zaman
Hannah Kaya
Alex McVittie
Kristen Thompson
Aidan McNally
Ryan Kavanagh
Benn van Ryn
Liam Compton
Zoe Brimacombe
Taylor Saracuse
Nate Winsor
Melina Zaccaria
Brennan McCracken

Non-Voting Members

Charlotte Sullivan
Emma Morris
Gwendolyn Moncrieff-Gould
Mary Innes

1. Call to order

2. Recognition of unceded traditional Mi'kmaq territory

3. Adoption of Agenda

Sofia Zaman strikes out the approval of minutes because the document sent out this week was not compatible with all computers. We will work with the agenda that we have physical copies of at the meeting.

4. Oral Reports and Goals of Councillors

Kristen Thompson apologizes for her absence at the last council. Over the break, a few students and professors worked towards having advanced photojournalism and other multimedia classes in J-school. She wrote the proposals, and right after that found out that they would happen anyway. This provides a ton of options for journalism students. Since then, she has had a meeting with the Journalism society and is working on the J-school social. There will be drinks and other journalism related activities. She's also been planning for the talk about scab labour, and people should come out and support the talk on that.

Ryan Kavanagh doesn't have a whole lot to report on, but there has been a little bit of complications with King's Talks. That will be either resolved or decided in the coming hours. He has to do some research to answer a few people's questions.

Benn van Ryn has been working on King's Talks as well, which has not been going as well as they had hoped. They are struggling to find speakers but do have the goal amount, which is seven people. The event was meant to be next week so they're thinking of moving it to either February or cancelling. He also met with Sam Leger, who talked about hosting another hockey tournament. In the past it was an annual event.

Liam Compton says the DSS had their semester planning meeting last week, and they postponed the GM to February on the date of the formal meal. They have a society credit card now, and it will be a lot easier for the DSS to make purchases now. Cheques are very expensive so they're cutting costs. They have put aside \$2000 in their budget for credit security. They are limited in what they're doing event wise because of this, and have updated their winter budget to reflect this. They are still working on the budget and are rewriting the constitution, which is a big process. Liam Compton has talked to everyone about this plan to have day students more involved before they become day students, so during the recruitment process, have them talk to the registrar's office and get them aware of the DSS and the KSU at that stage. Alex Bryant says that he needs to talk to Liam Compton about recruitment.

Zoe Brimacombe says things have been slow in her life, but she did some tabling for Reject the Reset last week and that was a very successful event. Everyone should sign up for tabling. There have been Senate Disciplinary Committee meetings coming up, and she and Taylor Saracuse are finding it very interesting. The information is confidential, but they would love to chat about the process. Taylor Saracuse will also discuss this, but they had a meeting to talk about a survey for the student body.

Taylor Saracuse says the focus of the survey is to ask students about their relationship to the board and getting information to the board on what students might like to see in their positive relationship to board members. They hope to launch that survey midway through spring break and close it two weeks after that date, presenting a report to the Board a few days later.

Nate Winsor got feedback about the Meet a Scientist event. One student provided two professor recommendations. One of those professors is a woman. This will probably happen after reading week. Nate Winsor says that the professors are interested in having these lunchtime talks. He updated some things, did office hours, asked science students about the Dal Science Society minutes, and will keep posting a link to them so they are accessible. He also put out an ask for an Ask an Upper Year event when the timetable comes out on March 7th. It would be useful for upper year science students to talk about what they do with some food as well. This is also something Hannah Yaphe did while she was science rep. The Dal Science Society GM only took half an hour last time. He asked them to set up end times for their meetings now. The major thing going forward is the academic advising event, which he wants done before reading week. Sofia Zaman asks if economics is a science. Nate Winsor says you can do it as a BA or a BSc, and can find out more at the next meeting.

Melina Zaccaria says there was a long DASSS meeting on Wednesday. There is a tuition reset within the university that might affect arts. There was a vague conversation so she doesn't know the details, but there will be a concerning hike beyond the 3% increase per year. She will keep us posted. The dean search within FASSS is going really well, and people can send in their feedback, so this will come out really soon. She will send emails about this, but the DSU will also change some bylaw/constitutional stuff. That was a two hour long conversation and she will follow up. The DASSS president might no longer be as involved in the DSU and they will now have an arts rep. On February 12th, Melina Zaccaria is helping plan a Dal Academic Boyfriend Breakup Study, where people write breakup letters for Valentine's Day. She hasn't met society heads in a while, but will get on that in the next couple of months. Sofia Zaman asks if the breakup letters is through SNARC, and the answer is yes. Aidan McNally says that she heard the tuition reset was departmental, so engineering might be getting an increase. She is curious if there are things about FASSS not being in the clear. Melina Zaccaria says that this is all we know and no one has been specified yet, although this might happen and would not be shocking. Hopefully they will not be targeted. Kristen Thompson asks if journalism falls under arts if the reset happens. Alex Bryant says that it's not by department, but by faculty. Journalism is its own faculty, completely contained within King's, so there will be no tuition reset.

Brennan McCracken says he had a Finance Committee meeting, and Aidan McNally brought donuts. It was in the Wardroom because they recommended funding for them and did a proposed redesign of the society funding sheet. He also did tabling for Reject the Reset and can vouch for the aesthetic pleasure of the postcards. He attended an X action committee meeting, and is planning a kind of KD cookout. They talked about the Halifax Typographical Union reps coming in for the event that Kristen has been working on.

5. Reports of the Executive Committee (attached)

5.1 Report of the President

There are no questions.

5.2 Report of the Vice-President (Student Life)

Taylor Saracuse asks if Alex McVittie is planning on doing midterm reports for societies. Alex McVittie says smaller societies require midterm reports, and that she sent out an email about this in December. The end-of-year reports will happen around April.

5.3 Report of the Vice-President (Financial)

Ryan Kavanagh asks if there is a difference between taking an ambulance on campus or off campus. Aidan McNally says it only differs on the basis of whether you're a resident of Nova Scotia or not, and otherwise is a flat rate.

Ryan Kavanagh asks what he can do if he is unable to afford the ambulance in question. Hannah Kaya says the university and Union will do their best to figure this all out. Sofia Zaman adds that Alex Hall has little taxi funds they can give to go to the hospital. Mary Innes says that students only pay when they get into an ambulance, not when they call. Kristen Thompson says that ambulance fees are higher and they don't get covered at certain universities, and Hannah Kaya says that the CFS has a lot of research about that. Alex Bryant says the money for students who can't afford an ambulance always comes from someone's budget and not from the universities. He also says the Union should provide rates and

information for people who are international students vs. Nova Scotia students and Canadian students. Aidan McNally says only some people are eligible under our health plan for some coverage because of where they are from.

Emma Morris asks to clarify if the health plan covers a portion of the fees, and Aidan McNally confirms this. She says there have been medical issues within the last few months where students hesitate to get proper attention because they are afraid of ambulance fees, and this also leads back to the student who died in residence at Dal.

Zoe Brimacombe asks who organized the meeting on alcohol related harm, and Alex Bryant says the AAU did. Many universities including CBU, St-FX, Dalhousie, NSCC, Sainte Anne, and Acadia came.

5.4 Report of the Vice-President (External)

Kristen Thompson mentions that she will be at the rally at the Chronicle Herald tomorrow morning and invites everyone to come out with her.

Aidan McNally asks about the Dalhousie Mental Health Services, and wonders if we have any materials that overview their resources. Hannah Kaya says we don't. Aidan McNally says that you can get meetings on the spot as "emergency meetings". Alex Bryant says that they can make information materials about those resources. Sofia Zaman mentions the blue folder. Aidan McNally encourages people to go to Dal Health if they need it.

5.5 Report of the Vice-President (Communications)

Zoe Brimacombe says she feels like she is not getting Sofia Zaman's emails. Sofia Zaman says she has been sending them to the KSU mailbox, and they agree to talk after the meeting.

Nate Winsor asks if office hours will be advertised. Sofia Zaman says she'll put them on the bulletin board, sent via email, and put into TWAK. She asks that everyone sends their updates.

Ryan Kavanagh says that many people haven't been getting TWAK. Sofia Zaman says to go to ksu.ca/twak and they can subscribe there.

6. Reports of UHPs

Alex Bryant will be doing these reports because Jen Nowoselski and Chris Parsons could not be present at this meeting. Alex Bryant proposes moving action items forward, and doing these reports after. This motion passes at 7:02pm, and we move to action item 7.3.

We return to this item at 7:08pm.

Ryan Kavanagh asks when the Wardy is open over the summer, and Alex Bryant says surprisingly often, mentioning that we were open during Grad Week and the election debates last summer.

We move on to Chris Parsons' report (also attached).

Kristen Thompson asks if the CFS works directly with ISIC cards. Alex Bryant says yes.

Ryan Kavanagh asks if we can put ISIC card information on the website, and Alex Bryant says yes.

Zoe Brimacombe asks if we've thought of a free program similar to photoshop. Alex Bryant says Chris Parsons prepared a two page report on things like this, but they are still in the range of \$1000. As an organization, we need to get an organizational membership with Photoshop.

7. Action Items

7.1 BIRT the King's Chorus receive \$1145 in non-contingent funding to fund social activities,

binders and purchasing music for the Winter term.

Finance committee recommends approval.

Aidan McNally hopes this is the last ever funding request from the Chorus now that plans have given the Chorus a position unaffiliated with the KSU. They've looked at what to fund, which will be things directly impacting the students. The music will cost \$800. Binders are \$3 each and there are 15 of them. Activities include pizza and snacks. All four sections of the Chorus get \$75 each for the pizza and snacks. Altogether it adds up to \$1145. In the fall they funded \$1300, and the second concert of the year is put on this semester. They're also having auditions soon. Alex Bryant says we love the Chorus so much, but they are excited not to deal with these requests anymore, though. We move to a vote. The motion passes.

7.2 BIRT YAS receive \$615.60 in non-contingent funding to fund band payment and security for the YAS ball.

Finance committee recommends approval.

Aidan McNally says that the YAS ball is coming up on January 30th, and is the annual ball put on by the Young Alexandra Society. The ball is a fundraiser for the Halifax refugee clinic. It happens at the Lord Nelson Hotel, and there is pizza at the end of it. It's a big community event and they are very excited about the bands: Back Pocket Material, among others. Part of the cost is to compensate the musicians, who will be paid \$150 for each. Because of the alcohol being sold, they need security. That's only \$165.60 for the night. Tickets are \$35 each. This event has a financial barrier to accessibility already so they don't want the price to go up anymore. If they can pay for some extra costs through society funding, that keeps the costs low. They're asking for \$615.60. It's an exciting event with cool bands. We move to a vote. The motion passes.

7.3 BIRT HOST society receive \$400 in non-contingent funding to put on undergraduate conference on Feb.27th.

Finance committee does not have a recommendation.

Aidan McNally says she got a funding request from HOST society, where they will have a faculty panel, a place for students to propose their papers, etc. She says that the conversation with Brynn Staples, who provided the funding request, included talks with Sodexo about how many people to expect. They have formally agreed to table this motion and take it up at the next council.

Mary Innes says that she is excited to do HOSTCon, which will be a full day convention. The faculty panel will be in the morning where profs talk about their experiences in the field, and then student panels will occur in the afternoon. They have put up the call for submissions. The issues with the budget is the surprisingly high quote from Sodexo and correctly judging the number of people who will attend.

Nate Winsor asks when the next Council is, and Aidan McNally says it will be February 7th. Nate Winsor says he's been absent on the convention front since he's been dealing with journal management. If the understanding was that this would be brought up at the next Council, he wonders why we have to discuss this today. It's on record that Mary Innes is vouching for this. He says that Bryn Shaffer and Mary Innes have been very helpful about getting this done and they will be very clear on budgeting going forward.

Aidan McNally moves to table this motion.

Alex Bryant says that the Union's credit card can be used in conjunction with contingent funding where we can allow them the high cost quoted by Sodexo. They can negotiate based on this. Aidan McNally says they aren't pursuing the Sodexo quote anymore so the budget is up in the air.

Item 7.3 is tabled until the meeting on February 7th.

7.4 BIRT Bryson Morris and Charlotte Sullivan be hired as Grad Week coordinators for “Grad Week 2016”.

Moved by Aidan McNally.

Aidan McNally says she is excited about this. The hiring committee has a large membership and the turnout for interviews was great. She motions by recommendation of the committee to fill the blanks with Bryson Morris and Charlotte Sullivan. They had both applicants come forward. The interviews were full of energy and it sounds like some exciting events will go forward. By hiring in January, they are still ahead of last year. We can make it a bit more of a grad week and do more fundraising that didn't occur as much last year because of timing issues. The first meeting is next week. Both individuals are great and she highly recommends that Council votes them through so we can get the ball rolling. The motion passes to amend this motion with the names. We move back to the main motion. We move to a vote. The motion passes.

7.5 BIRT Allison Graham receive a \$750 honorarium for the completion of her work as Orientation Week Coordinator.

Moved by Alex Bryant.

Alex Bryant moves to consider items 7.5 through 7.8 in omnibus. We pass this motion.

Alex Bryant says that all of the coordinators were great. Many people here were involved with orientation week in some way. The week itself ran very smoothly, and these three were a pleasure to work with. They left their positions while leaving behind more structure and better records for future coordinators, and we also owe them some gratitude for doing a great job. Alex Bryant brings out the O-week coordinators report. We all share the struggle with the technical skills required to do this job. Allie Graham had some trouble with the tech involved, and there is going to be skills training now to do better changeover. They still did an incredible job. They have a description of advertisements in the handbook, the noise bylaw exemption, the move-in day, which was perfect (apart from having more students sign up than expected, so they ran out of frosh packs), and George and Tia Cooper attended the quad carnival. The week was awesome. We move to the vote on these items. The motion passes.

7.6 BIRT Meg Collins receive a \$750 honorarium for the completion of her work as Orientation Week Coordinator.

Moved by Alex Bryant.

The motion passes in omnibus.

7.7 BIRT Robin Brace receive a \$750 honorarium for the completion of her work as Orientation Week Coordinator.

Moved by Alex Bryant.

The motion passes in omnibus.

8. New Business

Alex Bryant moves to include motion 8.1 and reintroduce the Smash Bros society. There is more of a consensus regarding this motion now, so we can vote on it.

8.1 BIRT the “Super Smash Bros” be ratified as a society for the 2015-2016 school year.

Moved by Alex McVittie.

Nate Winsor asks about concerns about the name of this society that were brought up last time this society was debated over at Council. Alex McVittie says these concerns have been resolved insofar as they are not an issue. We move to a vote. The motion passes. Ryan Kavanagh abstains.

9. Adjournment

Alex Bryant moves for the meeting to go in camera. Ryan Kavanagh seconds this motion. We are in camera.