



AGENDA
MSU General Assembly 2017
MCMASTER STUDENTS UNION
Wednesday, March 22, 2017, 4:00pm
Burridge Gym

PROCEDURE

Announcements from the Chair, Adoption of Agenda, Report Period, Business, New Business, Adjournment

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Welcome / Quorum | Genya Oparin |
| 2. Rules and Proceedings | Genya Oparin |

REPORT PERIOD

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. President's Report | Shaarujaa Nadarajah |
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BUSINESS

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. MSU General Meeting | Kathleen Quinn |
| 2. Advocate for Universal Tuition Free Access | Kathleen Quinn |
| 3. General Assembly | Maxwell Lightstone |

MOTIONS

1. **Moved** by Kathleen Quinn, **seconded** by _____, that the MSU hold a General Meeting first semester to engage with membership previous to any at large referenda or elections.
2. **Moved** by Kathleen Quinn, **seconded** by _____, that the MSU acknowledge education as a right and advocate for universal tuition free access.
3. **Moved** by Maxwell Lightstone, **seconded** by _____ that the following statement be adopted:

Whereas the General Assembly is the highest governing body of the MSU;

Whereas the GA only occurs once per year in general;

Whereas the majority of Faculty Societies have General Assemblies once per academic term;

Whereas Faculty Society General Assemblies have a high rate of participation and student interaction;

Whereas other student unions at major Ontario universities have general assemblies more than once per year;

Whereas resolutions passed by the GA are only binding with 3% of students in attendance;

Whereas quorum at the general assemblies of other student unions in Ontario have a lower count for quorum;

Whereas quorum has only been met three times in the last 22 years;

Be it Resolved That:

The MSU be directed to hold one General Assembly per term in the 2017-2018 academic year; and

Measures be investigated to allow motions passed at the General Assembly to be binding on the Union with an attendance below 3% of the population; and

The Internal Governance Committee investigate that resolutions that pass at GA with 2/3 majority and at least 1% of MSU membership present be binding upon the MSU upon ratification by the SRA.



McMaster Students Union
General Assembly
March 22, 2017 at 4:00pm
Burridge Gym

This was a non-quotate meeting of the General Assembly. Any motions made are non-binding on the organization.

Chair: Genya Oparin, MSU Speaker
Recording Secretary: E. Ferguson, Corporate Secretary

Called to Order at 4:32pm

Members Present: 11

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

- The Chair welcomed everyone to the General Assembly. General Assembly is open to all MSU members, that is, full-time undergraduate students of McMaster University. The event is live streamed through the MSU live stream account.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by, Kathleen Quinn **seconded** by Scott Robinson that the agenda be adopted as presented.

In Favour: 9 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 1
Motion Passes

REPORT PERIOD

1. **President's Report – Shaarujaa Nadarajah presented**

- Nadarajah went over the presentation with the General Assembly.

BUSINESS

1. **MSU General Meeting**

Moved by Kathleen Quinn, **seconded** by Ezekiel Areghan, that the MSU hold a General Meeting first semester to engage with membership previous to any at large referenda or elections.

- Quinn stated that the attendance was abysmal. She discussed her disappointment in the lack of engagement. Quinn explained that having a general meeting at the beginning of the year could be part of the solution to create better engagement and ensure students are aware of services available to them. She stated that the SRA would be able to discuss the logistics.
- Areghan agreed that a general meeting would be a great idea to engage students, especially first year students.

Vote on Motion

In Favour: 7 Opposed: 4 Abstentions: 0
Motion Passes

2. Advocate for Universal Tuition Free Access

Moved by Kathleen Quinn, **seconded** by Sasha Dhesi, that the MSU acknowledge education as a right and advocate for universal tuition free access.

- Quinn stated that the current generation is becoming increasingly indebted, leaving many at risk because they are unable to pay off their loans. She stated that 'band-aid fixed' are not working and if tuition free access is not the end goal it will never happen.
- Dhesi agreed that it was something that needed to be discussed.

Vote on Motion

In Favour: 7 Opposed: 3 Abstentions: 2
Motion Passes

3. General Assembly

Moved by Maxwell Lightstone, **seconded** by Kathleen Quinn that the following statement be adopted:

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- Lightstone stated that having a general assembly once per semester would increase the rate of student participation and potentially allow quorum to be reached. He stated that he wanted the MSU to investigate reducing the quorum due to the fact it had only been met three times in 22 years. He stated that if the motion passed he would be bringing it forward to SRA 16Q.
- Quinn applauded Lightstone for bringing the motion forward and addressing the issue.

Vote on Motion

**In Favour: 5 Opposed: 8 Abstentions: 0
Motion Fails**

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Kathleen Quinn, **seconded** by Maxwell Lightstone that the meeting be adjourned.

**In Favour: 9 Opposed: 4 Abstentions: 0
Motion Passes**

Adjourned at 5:02pm

/ef