



**Student Representative Assembly Meeting 21E**  
**Sunday, June 13, 2021 at 12:00pm**  
**Remote Meeting, Microsoft Teams**

This meeting was done remotely through Microsoft Teams, due to the unusual circumstance laid out by the response to COVID-19.

**Called to Order at 12:06pm**

**CALL OF THE ROLL**

**Present:** Baig, Chan, Della-Vedova, Devarapalli, Dhiloon, Fleming, Jayachandran, Khan, Liu, McCauley, Mehta, Pereira, Sajid, Sharia, Sheikh, Song, Teel

**Absent Excused:**

**Absent:** Agaiby, Behravan (LOA), Chelverajah (LOA), Chen (LOA), Choi (LOA), Chui (LOA), Fernandes (LOA), He (LOA)

**Late:** Balassone, Laing

**Others Present:** David Kanter Eivin (Hillel), Sydney Wisener (Hillel), Sneha Wadhvani (AVP PFA), Hannah Silverman (Hillel), Atara Lipetz (Hillel), Hargun Kaur (AVP UA), S. Ziad (SPHR), N. Emad- (SPHR), Josh Arbess (Hillel), V. Scott (Recording Secretary)

**Chair:** Zoe Tsai

**Territory Recognition**

- The SRA would like to recognize today that we are situated on traditional Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe territories through the 'Dish with One Spoon Wampum Treaty'.

**Adoption of Agenda**

**Moved** by McCauley, **seconded** by Dhiloon that the Assembly adopt the agenda, as presented.

**In Favour: 15 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0**  
**Motion Passes**

**Adoption of Minutes**

**Moved** by Teel, **seconded** by Chan that the Assembly adopt the minutes of SRA meetings 21A – April 10 & 11, 2021, 21C – April 25, 2021, and 21D – May 16, 2021, as circulated.

**In Favour: 17 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0**  
**Motion Passes**

**Announcements from the Chair**

- The Chair welcomed everyone to SRA meeting 21E. They hoped everyone was well and having a great summer. The Speaker reminded every to please mute themselves if not speaking, and to please turn on video when they were. They added that non-SRA members would need an SRA member to cede their time if the non-SRA member would like to speak to a motion or ask a question. The Speaker asked that everyone please fill out the Observer's List.

### **Special Orders of the Day**

#### **1. Recess for Meetings of MSU Incorporate and CFMU Incorporated**

**Moved** by Della-Vedova, **seconded** by Dhiloon that the Assembly recess for the meetings of MSU Incorporated and CFMU Incorporated.

- Della-Vedova stated that they had some items to do in MSU and CFMU Inc.

#### **Vote on Motion**

**In Favour: 18 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0**  
**Motion Passes**

**Recessed at 12:19pm**

**Called to Order at 12:58pm**

#### **CALL OF THE ROLL**

**Present:** Baig, Chan, Balassone, Della-Vedova, Devarapalli, Dhiloon, Fleming, Jayachandran, Khan, Laing, Liu, McCauley, Mehta, Pereira, Sajid, Sharia, Sheikh, Song, Teel

**Absent Excused:**

**Absent:** Agaiby, Behravan (LOA), Chelverajah (LOA), Chen (LOA), Choi (LOA), Chui (LOA), Fernandes (LOA), He (LOA)

**Late:**

**Others Present:** David Kanter Eivin (Hillel), Sydney Wisener (Hillel), Sneha Wadhvani (AVP PFA), Hannah Silverman (Hillel), Atara Lipetz (Hillel), Hargun Kaur (AVP UA), S. Ziad (SPHR), N. Emad- (SPHR), Josh Arbess (Hillel), V. Scott (Recording Secretary)

**Chair:** Zoe Tsai

#### **2. Close Nominations for MSU members to Standing Committees**

- **Finance (2)**
- **Internal Governance (2)**
- **Municipal Affairs (2)**
- **Provincial and Federal Affairs (2)**
- **Services (2)**
- **University Affairs (2)**

**Moved** by Della-Vedova, **seconded** by Chan that the Assembly close nominations for MSU members to Standing Committees as listed.

- Della-Vedova stated that this was a good time to do this.

#### **Vote on Motion**

**In Favour: 17 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0**  
**Motion Passes**

#### **Set Parameters**

**Moved** by Baig, seconded by Fleming to set parameters for MSU Member Standing Committee elections to be two minutes for statements to be read out.

- Baig stated that this will help move the meeting along.
- Della-Vedova asked if two minutes would be enough.
- Baig responded that when they were doing other committee elections it was limited to two minutes, so it seems like a decent time.
- Scott stated that the Speaker will try their best to fit the statement in the two-minute time window.

#### **Vote on Motion**

**In Favour: 16 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0  
Motion Passes**

#### **Finance Committee Election – MSU Members**

##### **Nominees**

- Nicholas Lum
- Muhammadhasan Nasser
- Harasees Singh
  
- The statements were read out by the Speaker
- The Assembly voted by secret ballot

<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Vote</b>
<b>Lum</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Nasser</b>	<b>14</b>
Singh	5
Abstained	0
Spoiled	0

- Nicholas Lum and Muhammadhasan Nasser won the MSU Seats on the Finance Committee.

#### **Internal Governance Committee Election – MSU Members**

##### **Nominees**

- Taaha Hassan
- Zena Shamli Oghli
- Harasees Singh
  
- The statements were read out by the Speaker
- The Assembly voted by secret ballot

<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Hassan	5
<b>Shamli Oghli</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Singh</b>	<b>12</b>
Abstained	0
Spoiled	0

- Zena Shamli Oghli and Harasees Singh won the MSU seats on the Internal Governance Committee.

#### **Municipal Affairs Committee Election – MSU Members**

#### Nominees

- Saif Alam
  - Moiz Lakhani
  - Zia Mawani
  - Harasees Singh
  - Lyndsey Zhang
- 
- The statements were read out by the Speaker
  - The Assembly voted by secret ballot

Candidate	Vote
<b>Alam</b>	<b>9</b>
Lakhani	7
<b>Mawani</b>	<b>15</b>
Singh	5
Zhang	3
Abstained	0
Spoiled	0

- Saif Alam and Zia Mawani won the MSU seats on the Municipal Affairs Committee.

#### Provincial and Federal Affairs Committee Election – MSU Members

#### Nominees

- Saif Alam
  - Kiran Bassi
  - Moiz Lakhani
  - Muhammadhasan Nasser
  - Harasees Singh
  - Aisha Waseem
  - Lyndsey Zhang
- 
- The statements were read out by the Speaker
  - The Assembly voted by secret ballot

Candidate	Vote
Alam	2
<b>Bassi</b>	<b>11</b>
Lakhani	8
Nasser	4
Singh	1
<b>Waseem</b>	<b>9</b>
Zhang	4
Abstained	0
Spoiled	0

- Kiran Bassi and Aisha Waseem won the MSU seats on the Provincial and Federal Affairs Committee.

#### Services Committee Election – MSU Members

#### Nominees

- Grace Cheung
  - Justin Phung
  - Harasees Singh
- 
- The statements were read out by the Speaker
  - The Assembly voted by secret ballot

Candidate	Vote
<b>Cheung</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Phung</b>	<b>17</b>
Singh	4
Abstained	1
Spoiled	0

- Grace Cheung and Justin Phung won the MSU seats on the Services Committee.

#### University Affairs Committee Election – MSU Members

#### Nominees

- Saif Alam
  - Emily Brewer
  - Taaha Hassan
  - Moiz Lakhani
  - Harasees Singh
  - Lyndsey Zhang
- 
- The statements were read out by the Speaker
  - The Assembly voted by secret ballot

Candidate	Vote
Alam	5
Brewer	4
Hassan	7
<b>Lakhani</b>	<b>9</b>
Singh	5
<b>Zhang</b>	<b>8</b>
Abstained	1
Spoiled	0

- Moiz Lakhani and Lyndsey Zhang won the MSU seats on the University Affairs Committee.

**Moved** by Chan, **seconded** by Liu that the Assembly recess for 15 minutes.

- Chan stated that they'd been in the meeting for two hours and they were entitled to a break.

#### Vote on Motion

**In Favour: 16 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0**  
**Motion Passes**

Recessed at 2:02pm  
Called to Order at 2:18pm

**CALL OF THE ROLL**

**Present:** Baig, Chan, Balassone, Della-Vedova, Devarapalli, Dhiloon, Fleming, Jayachandran, Khan, Laing, Liu, McCauley, Mehta, Pereira, Sajid, Sharia, Sheikh, Song, Teel

**Absent Excused:**

**Absent:** Agaiby, Behravan (LOA), Chelverajah (LOA), Chen (LOA), Choi (LOA), Chui (LOA), Fernandes (LOA), He (LOA)

**Late:**

**Others Present:** David Kanter Eivin (Hillel), Sydney Wisener (Hillel), Sneha Wadhvani (AVP PFA), Hannah Silverman (Hillel), Atara Lipetz (Hillel), Hargun Kaur (AVP UA), S. Ziad (SPHR), N. Emad- (SPHR), Josh Arbess (Hillel), V. Scott (Recording Secretary)

**Chair:** Zoe Tsai

**3. Close Nominations for MSU members to other Committees**

- **Child Care Centre Advisory (2 MSU/SRA)**
- **Clubs Advisory Council (5)**
- **Elections (5)**
- **General Assembly Planning Committee (1)**
- **MSU Sustainability Education Committee (2)**
- **MSU Governance & You Committee (minimum 2)**
- **Teaching Awards (minimum 4)**
- **University Book Store Committee (3 MSU/SRA)**

**Moved** by Della-Vedova, **seconded** by Devarapalli that the Assembly close nominations for MSU members to Other Committees, as listed.

**Amendment**

**Moved** by Della-Vedova, **seconded** by Jayachandran that the Assembly amend the motion to the following:  
“**Moved** by Della-Vedova, **seconded** by Devarapalli that the Assembly close nominations for MSU members to Other Committees, as listed with the exception of the University Bookstore Committee.”

- Della-Vedova stated that they need to amend the motion to close the other seats.

**Vote on Amendment**

**In Favour: 14 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0**  
**Motion Passes**

**Main Motion**

**Moved** by Della-Vedova, **seconded** by Devarapalli that the Assembly close nominations for MSU members to Other Committees, as listed with the exception of the University Bookstore Committee.

**In Favour: 14 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0**  
**Motion Passes**

**Acclamations**

- The Speaker read out the following acclamations:
  - Emily Brewer and Aiman Dhiloon won the seats on the Child Care Centre Advisory Committee by acclamation.

- Muhammadhasan Nasser, Diya Ahmad, Harasees Singh, Justin Phung, and Grace Cheung won the MSU seats on the Clubs Advisory Council by acclamation.
- Harasees Singh won the MSU seat on the General Assembly Planning Committee by acclamation.
- Christina MacDonald, Zena Shamli Oghli, and Harasees Singh won the MSU seats on the MSU Governance & You Committee by acclamation.
- Nirmay Shah, Umair Tahir, Harasees Singh, Justin Phung, and Grace Cheung won the seats on the Teaching Awards Committee by Acclamation.

### **Set Parameters for Elections**

**Moved** by Baig, **seconded** by Devarapalli to set parameters for MSU Member Other Committee elections to be two minutes for statements to be read out.

### **Motion Passes by General Consent**

#### **MSU Elections Committee Election – MSU Members**

##### **Nominees**

- Diya Ahmad
  - Grace Cheung
  - Moiz Lakhani
  - Muhammadhasan Nasser
  - Justin Phung
  - Harasees Singh
- 
- The statements were read out by the Speaker
  - The Assembly voted by secret ballot

<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Vote</b>
<b>Ahmad</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Cheung</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Lakhani</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Nasser</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Phung</b>	<b>10</b>
Singh	4
Abstained	2
Spoiled	0

- Diya Ahmed, Grace Cheung, Moiz Lakhani, Muhammadhasan Nasser, and Justin Phung won the MSU seats on the Elections Committee.

#### **MSU Sustainability Committee Election – MSU Members**

##### **Nominees**

- Kiran Bassi
  - Emily Brewer
  - Moiz Lakhani
  - Harasees Singh
- 
- The statements were read out by the Speaker
  - The Assembly voted by secret ballot

Candidate	Vote
Bassi	15
Brewer	12
Lakhani	7
Singh	7
Abstained	0
Spoiled	0

- Kiran Bassi and Emily Brewer won the MSU seats on the MSU Sustainability Committee.

### Delegation from the Floor

#### Set Parameters

**Moved** by Della-Vedova, **seconded** by Dhiloon to set parameters for Delegations from the Floor to be 20 minutes for presentations, and 10 minutes for questions.

- Della-Vedova stated that they felt that this was fair and both groups would have the same amount of time to delegate.

#### Vote to Set Parameters

**In Favour: 18 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0**  
**Motion Passes**

#### 1. **McMaster Hillel - Josh Arbess, Hannah Silverman, David Kanter Eivin, Atara Lipetz, Sydney Wisener presented (presentation attached)**

- McMaster Hillel summarized the presentation.

#### Questions

- Teel asked Hillel what they would like the MSU to keep in mind moving forward. Silverman responded that it was stated in the presentation, and that they would like SRA members to look at the resolutions as is and take recommendations from the last slide of the presentation.
- Della-Vedova thanked Hillel for their presentation and asked if there was any advice to SRA members on how to educate themselves. Arbess thanked Della-Vedova for the question. They stated that just the MSU asking what they can do was an amazing first step. Arbess explained that they appreciated the interest of what the MSU could do to make Jewish students feel a greater part of the union. They explained that the Israeli-Palestine conflict was a complex issue and it needed nuance and understanding from either side. Arbess mentioned that if the MSU was interested on commenting on this or any other issue, it would be great for the MSU to reach out to stakeholders that may be involved to understand the full side of the story. They explained that this could take the format of a working group, online meeting or email.
- Baig stated that it was a great presentation and asked about the movements of anti-Zionism. Kanter Eivin responded that different groups had different ways of anti-Zionism, whether the intention was to target as the identity or not, the effect was that Jewish people bore the brunt of the anti-Zionism movement. They stated that leaders might suggest that it focused on the material effects or the legitimate criticisms of the state of Israel, those are anti-Semitic. Kanter Eivin added that it became that if someone used that rhetoric to target Jewish people and assumed they're Zionists. They stated that there was the presumption and profiling of someone who would be visibly Jewish and assumed to be Zionist, then getting attacked which then becomes anti-Semitic.
- McCauley thanked Hillel for coming to speak. They stated that they shared the concern that Jewish students needed to feel safe on Campus and that the MSU had a role in combating this. McCauley stated



that BDS for the MSU was putting pressure on businesses who materially supported crimes against humanity. They stated that they weren't sure what Hillel thought the MSU's position should be. Arbess thanked McCauley for the insightful question. They stated that they appreciate the empathy with their lived experiences. Arbess stated that the issue with the MSU's approach to BDS, and the BDS movement as a whole, was that it put everything under a blanket. They stated that no country was perfect and would challenge everyone to find one country that doesn't have some issue in its founding, operations, or business dealings. Arbess explained that there was a great sense of pain for various human rights violations happening around the world, but when the MSU released a motion singling out Israel and ignoring other countries, it was problematic. They stated that putting in an ethical purchasing policy and analyzing the impacts from multiple sources on human rights would be amazing, but when the MSU said apply BDS to Israel and Israel only, it was singling the country out. Arbess stated that Hillel would appreciate a broader ethical purchasing policy as other universities have done.

**Moved** by Dhiloon, **seconded** by Devarapalli to extend question period by five minutes.

- Dhiloon stated that they wanted to give others a chance to ask questions.

#### **Vote to Extend**

**In Favour: 18 Opposed: 1 Abstentions: 0**  
**Opposed: Della-Vedova**  
**Motion Passes**

- Sajid thanked Hillel for their presentation. They stated that from their point of view, this wasn't a religious matter, it was a human rights issue. They stated that Palestinian lives were being thrown under houses and didn't think that there was a certain religion to be blamed for it. Sajid stated that everyone deserved to have a place to live and be safe in it. They asked why Hillel was showing that this was a religious issue when it was a human rights one. Silverman stated that it would be nice if it was just black and white and be able to put out an ethical purchasing policy. They stated that it didn't matter what their political opinion was on the matter but that it was hard to separate being targeted for political versus religious matters. They stated that the BDS movement was infiltrated and that leadership had anti-Semitic views, which brings religion into it.
- Khan stated that they appreciated the presentation and thought it was insightful. They asked how Hillel would recommend Palestinians resist and speak out against the oppression they're facing. Arbess stated that Hillel believes, as well as most Israelis and Palestinians, the way to resolve this would be through peace agreements and dialogue. They stated that ultimately, they do believe that violent resistance and discriminatory resistance was the wrong way to go and didn't support war or violence from anyone to solve conflict. Arbess added that they would like peace, dialogue, and mutual understanding to have a two-state solution.

#### **2. Solidarity for Palestinian Human Rights - S. Ziad and N. Emad presented (letter attached)**

- S. Ziad and N. Emad went over the open letter to the SRA that was circulated earlier.

#### **Questions**

- Khan thanked SPHR for their presentation and stated that they learned a lot. They asked that the open letter be forwarded to all of the Assembly.
- Della-Vedova thanked SPHR for the presentation and asked how they would advise the SRA to better educate themselves and get feedback on the topic moving forward. Emad responded that they would appreciate it if everyone gave Palestinians the benefit of the doubt when facing this, as well as advocating on the right of Palestinians being anti-Zionist being just as legitimate as Zionists.

- Mehta ceded their time to Sydney Wisener. Wisener asked what solution did SPHR think BDS would lead to for the Jewish people in Israel. They stated that UofT, York, and Ryerson didn't promote anti-Semitism and yet all three have had a rising of anti-Semitism due to the BDS resolutions in recent years, as BDS didn't recognize Jewish people as being indigenous to the lands. Wisener added that rhetoric was used in the presentation, such as calling Israel a "white supremacist regime" despite the fact that around 60% of Jewish Israelis were non-white shows that SPHR were not providing nuanced and sensitive views. Wisener asked what steps SPHR had taken within their organization and in communications to condemn anti-Semitism in all forms and ensure that those who see SPHR's posts didn't take it as a license to engage in harassment and targeting of Jewish students. Emad appreciated the questions and stated that they could only answer a few. They stated that Israel discriminated against Black and Arab people and that it was very racist. They stated that they visited Israel and it was horrific. Emad explained that right now Palestinians were suffering, and it would be disrespectful of SPHR to give anyone else the floor right now, and it hasn't even been a couple of weeks since everything started again. Emad stated that they're saying there is a tie between BDS and anti-Semitism but there is a direct link between Zionism and anti-Palestinian. Emad added asking about peace, there won't be peace until Palestinians are all equal on the land. Ziad added that while writing the letter, they took the time to speak with Jewish members and it was delegitimizing of the views of who showed their support of Palestinians.
- Teel asked what the key takeaways from the presentation were and what would they like to see from the MSU. Ziad stated that they would like to see the SRA and MSU support BDS and going through and making actionable change.
- Baig asked what SPHR would suggest for the SRA to implement to ensure the safety of students on campus. Emad responded that they should be taking students seriously when they claim that they're being targeted for speaking out.

**Moved** by Jayachandran, **seconded** by Devarapalli to extend questions by five minutes.

- Jayachandran stated that this will give more opportunities to ask questions.

#### **Vote to Extend**

#### **Motion Passes by General Consent**

- Jayachandran thanked SPHR for taking the time to present to the SRA and appreciated the information. They explained that the BDS movement had been adopted in the past and the MSU had divested away from more than just the four companies mentioned in the open letter, and hoped to update the website in the meantime to reflect which ones. Ziad stated that transparency was the biggest issues as they didn't have a way to get this information. They stated that it was important to have access to this information for solidarity on campus.

**Moved** by Baig, **seconded** by Della-Vedova that the Assembly recess for five minutes.

- Baig stated that they could all use a break.
- Della-Vedova agreed.

#### **Vote on Motion**

#### **Motion Passes by General Consent**

**Recessed at 4:20pm**

**Called to Order at 4:27pm**

### **CALL OF THE ROLL**

- Present:** Baig, Chan, Balassone, Della-Vedova, Devarapalli, Dhiloon, Fleming, Jayachandran, Khan, Laing, Liu, McCauley, Mehta, Pereira, Sajid, Sharia, Sheikh, Song, Teel
- Absent Excused:**
- Absent:** Agaiby, Behravan (LOA), Chelverajah (LOA), Chen (LOA), Choi (LOA), Chui (LOA), Fernandes (LOA), He (LOA)
- Late:**
- Others Present:** V. Scott (Recording Secretary)
- Chair:** Zoe Tsai

### **Report Period**

- 1. President – Della-Vedova presented**
  - Della-Vedova summarized the report.
- 2. Vice-President (Administration) – Devarapalli presented**
  - Devarapalli summarized the report.

#### **Questions**

- Baig asked how it would work with courses being offered in-person and online. They stated that the Faculty of Science released a statement about labs being in person. Devarapalli explained that everything was specifically about Welcome Week. They explained that in terms of courses and labs, that's something the University decided. Devarapalli stated that they were trying to make Welcome Week inclusive to those who would be living outside of the province.

- 3. Vice-President (Education) – Teel presented**

- Teel summarized the report.

#### **Questions**

- Baig asked if there was anything about pushing for vaccines or vaccinating on campus to encourage everyone to safely come back to campus. Teel responded that McMaster is going with the idea that to 90% will be vaccinated, and that it won't be different than the general population. Teel stated that there were talks with Student Wellness about having vaccines on campus and that something was in the works with the City and hopefully Student Wellness can take on a leadership role with that.
- Baig stated that in Kinesiology there was a course not conducive to social distancing. They asked who they could speak to about getting vaccines for those international students who may not be vaccinated so that the course could happen. Teel responded that they could schedule a meeting to figure out who the best person would be to contact.

- 4. Vice-President (Finance) – Jayachandran presented**

- Jayachandran summarized the report.

### **Information Period**

- Della-Vedova stated that it was their hope to craft a whereas statement about BDS and the ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine. They asked the Assembly to reach out to constituents and to loop them in.

### Question Period

- Baig asked the President how they would like the feedback. Della-Vedova responded that they will receive the information in any way is felt that is best.

### Business

#### **1. Open one (1) SRA seat on Services Committee**

**Moved** by Teel, **seconded** by Della-Vedova that the Assembly open nominations for one (1) SRA seat on the Services Committee.

#### **Motion Passes by General Consent**

#### **Nominations**

- Fleming

#### **2. Close one (1) SRA seat on Services Committee**

**Moved** by Della-Vedova, **seconded** by Dhiloon that the Assembly close nominations for one (1) SRA seat on the Services Committee.

#### **Motion Passes by General Consent**

- The Speaker announced that Fleming won the SRA on the Services Committee by acclamation.

### Time of Next Meeting

**July 18, 2021**  
**12:00pm**  
**Remote Meeting, Microsoft Teams**

### CALL OF THE ROLL

**Present:** Baig, Chan, Balassone, Della-Vedova, Devarapalli, Dhiloon, Fleming, Jayachandran, Khan, Laing, Liu, McCauley, Mehta, Pereira, Sajid, Sharia, Sheikh, Song, Teel

**Absent Excused:**

**Absent:** Agaiby, Behravan (LOA), Chelverajah (LOA), Chen (LOA), Choi (LOA), Chui (LOA), Fernandes (LOA), He (LOA)

**Late:**

**Others Present:** V. Scott (Recording Secretary)

**Chair:** Zoe Tsai

### Adjournment

**Moved** by Della-Vedova, **seconded** by Fleming that the meeting be adjourned.

#### **Motion Passes by General Consent**

**Adjourned at 5:03pm**

/vs