



Student Representative Assembly Meeting 23E
Sunday, July 23, 2023 at 10:00am (EDT)
Remote Meeting, Microsoft Teams

Called to Order at 10:07am

Call of the Roll

Present: Ahmad, Arora, Dawdy, Dodd, Ellis, Hannan, John, Masudi, Popovic, Samuels, Suganthan, Sugumar, Thusyanthan, Wang, Yang, Yao, Zakkar
Absence Excused: Abbott (LOA), Batusic (LOA), Begun (LOA), Forbes (LOA), Khandelwal, Pacheco (LOA), Qannam (LOA), Shouldice (LOA), Su (LOA)
Absent: Fellman, Mohammed
Late: Gono
Others Present: Maheera Choudhury (AVP Finance), Claire Patterson (MMB), Adam El-Kadi (VP Administration candidate), Sefa Otchere (VP Finance candidate), Luke Schuurman (VP Finance candidate), Sunehra Mehrun (EWB) Mahira Rahman (EWB), D. Stajcer (Recording Secretary)
Chair: Aiman Dhiloon (MSU Speaker)

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 Samuels, **seconded** by Popovic that the Assembly adopt the agenda, as presented.

Amendment

Moved by Popovic, **seconded** by Sugumar, that the Assembly amend the agenda to move Business Item # 2 - Ratification of Pass-Around Motion to Special Orders of the Day - Item #1.

- Popovic said that the ratification should come before the VP elections.

Vote on Amendment

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

Amendment

Moved by Ahmad, **seconded** by Zakkar that the Assembly amend the agenda to add the Kinesiology year plan to Business Item #12.

- Ahmad said that unfortunately the year plan was not circulated on time, but should still be approved.

Vote on Amendment

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

Amendment

Moved by Ahmad, **seconded** by Hannan that the Assembly amend the agenda to remove “Waive sections 3.1.3.1 and 3.2.3.1 of Operating Policy - Vice-Presidential and Speaker Elections.”

- Popovic explained that these sections of the policy speak to candidates leaving the room when the other is being questioned. He noted that breakout rooms would be used, so that candidates leave the call and enter a separate room.

Vote on Amendment

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

Vote to Adopt

Moved by Samuels, **seconded** by Popovic that the Assembly adopt the agenda, as amended.

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

Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Popovic, **seconded** by Ahmad to adopt the minutes of SRA meeting 23B – April 16, 2023 and 23D – June 25, 2023, as circulated.

- Popovic said everyone should have had a chance to review the minutes.

Vote to Adopt

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

Announcements from the Chair

- The Chair welcomed everyone to meeting 23E. They said that they had a long agenda and to prepare accordingly for the day. They encouraged those speaking to turn on their cameras when speaking. They asked Assembly members to contact her if they are having connection issues. They also asked non-Assembly members to fill out the Observer’s List.

Special Orders of the Day

1. Ratification of Pass-Around Motion

Moved by Popovic, **seconded** by Sugumar that the Assembly ratify the following pass-around motion: "**Moved** by Popovic, **seconded** by Samuels that the Assembly open nominations for Vice-President (Administration) and Vice-President (Finance) for the 2023-2024 term.

In Favour: 25 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 4
Abstained: Forbes, Shouldice, Mohammed, Popovic

Motion Passes"

- Popovic noted this was just making the vote official.
- Sugumar said the results were good.

Vote on Motion

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

2. Waive sections 3.1.3.2 and 3.2.3.2 of Operating Policy - Vice-Presidential and Speaker Elections

Moved by Popovic, **seconded** by Ahmad that the Assembly waive sections 3.1.3.2 and 3.2.3.2 of Operating Policy - Vice-Presidential and Speaker Elections.

- Popovic said these sections speak to candidates not being permitted to use personal electronic devices during questioning periods. He added this was not possible in a virtual setting and should be waived.

Vote on Motion

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

3. Election of Vice-President (Administration)

Moved by Popovic, **seconded** by John that the Assembly close nominations for the Vice-President (Administration) 2023-2024.

- Popovic said this was open via pass around motion and was looking forward to the election.

Nominations

- Adam El-Kadi
- Samrit Rull - withdrew their nomination

Vote on Motion

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

- The candidate spoke within the allotted time.
- The Assembly voted by open ballot.

VOTE	
ABBOTT, Jazzlyn	ABSENT (LOA)
AHMAD, Malaikah	CONFIDENCE
ARORA, Parth	ABSENT
BATUSIC, Simon	ABSENT (LOA)
BEGUN, Isaac	ABSENT (LOA)
DAWDY, Craig	ABSTAIN
DODD, Olivia	ABSTAIN
ELLIS, Chelsey	CONFIDENCE
FELLMAN, Brennan	CONFIDENCE
FORBES, Liam	ABSENT (LOA)

GONO, Sinead	NO CONFIDENCE
HANNAN, Paige	NO CONFIDENCE
JOHN, Priya	ABSTAIN
KHANDELWAL, Arin	ABSENT
MASUDI, Abdullah	CONFIDENCE
MOHAMMED, Raj	ABSENT
PACHECO, Natalie	ABSENT (LOA)
POPOVIC, Jovan	CONFIDENCE
QANNAM, Fares	ABSENT (LOA)
SAMUELS, Abigail	CONFIDENCE
SHOULDICE, Hannah	ABSENT (LOA)
SU, Cloris	ABSENT (LOA)
SUGANTHAN, Nelosha	CONFIDENCE
SUGUMAR, Vithuyan	CONFIDENCE
THUSYANTHAN, Vibooshitha	CONFIDENCE
WANG, Zimo	CONFIDENCE
YANG, Kerry	CONFIDENCE
YAO, Michael	ABSENT (LOA)
ZAKKAR, Leen	CONFIDENCE

- Adam El-Kadi was elected with confidence as the Vice-President (Administration) for the 2023-2024 term.

4. Election of Vice-President (Finance)

Moved by Popovic, **seconded** by Ahmad that the Assembly close nominations for the Vice-President (Finance) 2023-2024.

- Popovic wanted to close the nominations and move forward with the election.

Nominations

- Sefa Otchere
- Luke Schuurman

Vote on Motion

In Favour: 19 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0
Motion Passes

- The candidates spoke within the allotted time.
- The Assembly voted by open ballot.

	FIRST CHOICE	SECOND CHOICE
ABBOTT, Jazzlyn		ABSENT (LOA)
AHMAD, Malaikah	OTCHERE	SCHUURMAN
ARORA, Parth	SCHUURMAN	OTCHERE
BATUSIC, Simon		ABSENT (LOA)
BEGUN, Isaac		ABSENT (LOA)
DAWDY, Craig	OTCHERE	SCHUURMAN
DODD, Olivia	SCHUURMAN	OTCHERE

ELLIS, Chelsey	SCHUURMAN	OTCHERE
FELLMAN, Brennan	SCHUURMAN	OTCHERE
FORBES, Liam	ABSENT (LOA)	
GONO, Sinead	OTCHERE	SCHUURMAN – NO CONFIDENCE
HANNAN, Paige	SCHUURMAN	OTCHERE
JOHN, Priya	SCHUURMAN	OTCHERE
KHANDELWAL, Arin	ABSTAIN	
MASUDI, Abdullah	SCHUURMAN	OTCHERE
MOHAMMED, Raj	SCHUURMAN	OTCHERE
PACHECO, Natalie	ABSENT (LOA)	
POPOVIC, Jovan	OTCHERE	SCHUURMAN
QANNAM, Fares	ABSENT (LOA)	
SAMUELS, Abigail	OTCHERE	SCHUURMAN – NO CONFIDENCE
SHOULDICE, Hannah	ABSENT (LOA)	
SU, Cloris	ABSENT (LOA)	
SUGANTHAN, Nelosha	ABSTAIN	
SUGUMAR, Vithuyan	OTCHERE	SCHUURMAN
THUSYANTHAN, Vibooshitha	SCHUURMAN	OTCHERE
WANG, Zimo	OTCHERE	SCHUURMAN – NO CONFIDENCE
YANG, Kerry	OTCHERE	SCHUURMAN
YAO, Michael	ABSENT (LOA)	
ZAKKAR, Leen	OTCHERE	SCHUURMAN

- Sefa Otchere was elected as the Vice-President (Finance) for the 2023-2024 term.

Delegation from the Floor

Set Parameters

Moved by Hannan, **seconded** by Popovic to set parameters for Delegations from the Floor to be ten minutes for presentations and five minutes for questions.

- Hannan felt this amount of time was sufficient for the introductions.

Vote on Parameters

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

1. Engineers Without Borders

- Sunehra Mehrun and Mahira Rahman summarized their presentation.

Moved by Sugumar, **seconded** by Arora to extend the presentation time by five minutes.

In Favour: 14 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 2
Abstained: Dodd, Hannan
Motion Passes

Questions

- Hannan asked what the group is doing to plan for the next meeting in terms of transparency and to ensure things are running smoothly. Mehrun answered that last year, they were completely new and did not receive adequate support. They said they have everything they need to get going and believe they are fine. Rahman said they had a brainstorming session to come up with a journal plan for the year to determine what resources/sponsorships they may need. They added they are both on the same page with goals for the year and are more prepared than last year.
- Yang asked about the CIAF fellowship in Uganda and what the \$12,000 going to fund a student doing a fellowship in Uganda. They asked what the impact is on the community or what the student is doing there. Mehrun answered it is a four-month stay, doing rotations between the city and in the village with a home-stay family to learn more about the community. They added that when the fellow is in the city, they get training on how to deal with being in the village. When back in the village, they're assigned a project on a specific topic, in which they interview people (locals, government officials, police) to see what the community needs and what they expect from the fellowship. Mehrun added that they are getting a lot of recognition and exposure being from the McMaster community. They added that McMaster is the leading group for the projects, whereas others are not as developed. Rahman added that it is a great educational opportunity for the fellow and the students following the trips can see what is happening/what changes McMaster is making.

Moved by Popovic, **seconded** by Dawdy that the Assembly recess for 20 minutes.

- Popovic felt 20 minutes was a fair amount of time.

Vote on Motion

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

Moved by Yang, **seconded** by Wang that the Assembly extend recess by five minutes.

Vote on Motion

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

Recessed at 2:17pm

Called to order at 2:45pm

Call of the Roll

Present: Ahmad, Arora, Dawdy, Ellis, Fellman, Gono, Hannan, John, Khandelwal, Masudi, Mohammed, Popovic, Samuels, Suganthan, Sugumar, Thusyanthan, Wang, Yang, Zakkar
Absence Excused: Abbott (LOA), Batusic (LOA), Begun (LOA), Forbes (LOA), Pacheco (LOA), Qannam (LOA), Shouldice (LOA), Su (LOA), Yao (LOA)
Absent:
Late: Dodd

Others Present: D. Stajcer (Recording Secretary)
Chair: Aiman Dhiloon (MSU Speaker)

Moved by Zakkar, **seconded** by Sugumar, that the Assembly postpone the McMaster Marching Band presentation to SRA 23F.

- Zakkar said it should be pushed to the next meeting as they were unable to present today.

Vote on Motion

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

Report Period

- 1. President – Popovic presented**
 - Popovic summarized the report.
- 2. Vice-President (Administration) – Sugumar presented**
 - Sugumar summarized the report.
- 3. Vice-President (Education) – report not circulated**
 - Samuels summarized the report.
- 4. Vice-President (Finance) – report circulated**
 - Dawdy summarized the report.
- 5. Executive Board – Wang presented**
 - Wang summarized the report.
- 6. OUA Conference Report – report not circulated**
 - Popovic summarized the report.
- 7. CASA Foundations Conference – report not circulated**
 - Popovic summarized the report.

Information Period

- No information was shared.

Question Period

- Popovic asked for an update on the Business and Engineering SRA caucus year plans. Ellis answered that the Engineering caucus leader was kicked of the SRA and the year plan was unfinished, so they are picking up where they left off.

Business Arising from the Minutes

- 1. Close Nominations for MSU Members to Other Committees:**
 - **Teaching Awards (minimum 2)**

Moved by Popovic, **seconded** by Arora that the Assembly postpone the following motion to SRA 23F:
"Moved by _____, **seconded** by _____ that the Assembly close nominations for MSU members to Other Committees, as listed. "

Vote on Motion

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

Business

- 1. Recess into a meeting of MSU Incorporated**

Moved by Popovic, **seconded** by Sugumar that the Assembly recess into a meeting of the Full Members of MSU Incorporated.

- Popovic said there were things that needed to get done.

Vote on Motion

In Favour: 19 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0
Motion Passes

Recessed at 3:26pm

Called to Order at 3:41pm

Call of the Roll

Present: Ahmad, Arora, Dawdy, Dodd, Ellis, Fellman, Gono, Hannan, John, Khandelwal, Masudi, Mohammed, Popovic, Samuels, Suganthan, Sugumar, Thusyanthan, Wang, Yang, Zakkar
Absence Excused: Abbott (LOA), Batusic (LOA), Begun (LOA), Forbes (LOA), Pacheco (LOA), Qannam (LOA), Shouldice (LOA), Su (LOA), Yao (LOA)
Absent:
Late:
Others Present: D. Stajcer (Recording Secretary)
Chair: Aiman Dhiloon (MSU Speaker)

- 3. Proposed changes to Bylaw 12 – First-Year Council**

Moved by Masudi, **seconded** by Ahmad that the Assembly approve the proposed changes to **Bylaw 12 – First-Year Council (FYC)**, as circulated.

- Masudi reviewed the memo with the Assembly.

- Yang thanked Masudi for making the edits. They asked for clarification on Section 6.2. Yang ceded their time to Masudi. Masudi answered it meant that first-year reps who are a part of those societies listed have voting membership status on First-Year Representative Society (FYRS), not that they have voting status on the academic societies.
- Popovic said this was something well-reviewed and appreciated all of the consultations that went into it.
- Yang asked what the difference is between FYC and FYRS. Their concern was that there might be an oversaturation of councils that target first years.
- Samuels agreed that there might be oversaturation, which could potentially lead to less applicants. They asked if there has been any discussion on timing and possibly staggering it. Samuels ceded their time to Masudi. Masudi clarified that the roles of FYRS members is an automatic membership, should the academic societies choose to partake in FYRS. They added that FYRS is meant to be another perspective for FYC to have, as the perspective one can get from different academic faculties can be very valuable. They added that FYC members are elected by residence which might limit perspectives brought to FYC. Masudi believes that the addition of FYRS is a great way to bring the perspective in and further promote the integration between different faculties. They added that this is the first year FYRS is implemented, to see if it is successful. They said the members of FYRS will review how it operated and look at successes/challenges. Masudi said FYC will also do a review of these changes and changes made last year that weren't reviewed, to see if any changes need to be made.
- Arora asked what the rationale is for meeting once per week, as first-years have a lot on their plate. Arora ceded their time to Masudi. Masudi said this amendment reflects what is already happening this year and this section speaks to the core executives (Chair and Vice-Chairs) who meet more regularly than the others. They added that this was discussed with other members, who felt it was appropriate. They clarified that the attendance requirements do not apply to core executives.
- Suganthan asked what stands out about FYRS, compared to the first year councils within other societies. Suganthan ceded their time to Masudi. Masudi said the benefit of FYRS compared to others is a connection to the MSU through FYC to make more institutional changes they may not be able to do in their own academic society. They added it's another option that first years have.
- Yang asked if Masudi has consulted any of the societies. Yang ceded their time to Masudi. Masudi answered that they've only discussed it with the president of the McMaster Science Society who was very on board and was on the same page as getting more involvement from first year reps. Masudi added that the plan for the other societies is to have the incoming FYC Coordinator reach out to them, to inform them about it and the benefits of it. They added this will happen before FYC is elected (August/early September).
- Arora asked for clarification on two reps being elected for those off-campus or commuting. Arora ceded time to Masudi. Masudi said there is not much of a distinction and that those living off campus would be considered commuting. They felt two reps was an appropriate number.

Vote on Motion

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

4. Proposed changes to the Elections Department

Moved by Dawdy, **seconded** by Ahmad that the Assembly approve the proposed changes to the Elections Department, which includes **Bylaw 7 – Elections, Bylaw 7/A – Electoral Procedures, Operating Policy – Elections Department, and Operating Policy – Elections Committee**, as circulated.

- Dawdy reviewed the memos with the Assembly.
- Sugumar said that previously, the Elections Department doesn't really have anyone overseeing them and said it made sense to have someone specific oversee them. They added that it is a complicated

department with not much oversight, and with all of the turnover, it makes sense for someone with historical knowledge to oversee it.

Vote on Motion

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

5. Open one (1) seat on Executive Board

Moved by Samuels, **seconded** by Popovic that the Assembly open nominations for one (1) Executive Board seat.

- Samuels wanted to move forward with the election.
- Popovic informed the Assembly that EB meets every two weeks and needed a replacement as a seat was just lost. They added if someone was looking to contribute on a larger scale, to nominate themselves.

Vote on Motion

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

6. Close one (1) seat on Executive Board

Moved by Sugumar, **seconded** by Samuels that the Assembly close nominations for one (1) Executive Board seat.

- Samuels wanted to proceed with the election.

Nominations

- Ahmad nominated themselves
- Samuels nominated Hannan - declined

Vote on Motion

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

Set Parameters

Moved by Popovic, seconded by Gono that the Assembly set parameters to be: 30-second opening statement, five minutes for questions, one minute for response time, and one minute for closing statements.

- Popovic was confident this was almost in line with what was set in the past, and felt it was enough time for the candidate to speak.
- Gono felt this was a fair amount of time.

Vote on Motion

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

Candidate	Confidence	No Confidence
Ahmad	18	0
Abstained	0	
Spoiled	0	

- Ahmad won the seat on Executive Board with confidence.

Moved by Dawdy, **seconded** by Sugumar that the Assembly adjourn.

Vote on Motion

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

Adjourned at 4:28pm

/ds