

PRESENT	ABSENT
<p>Soleil Chahine, Chairperson Oliver Jacob, Deputy Chairperson</p> <p>Samantha Sproule, President Brianna Jarvin, VP Academic Andrew Grant, VP Finance Ted Higa, VP Programming Samantha Nielsen, VP Communications</p> <p>Carter Bobbie, Councillor Brandon Giacchetta, Councillor Calum McCracken, Councillor Emily Cross, Councillor Sean Porter, Councillor Jessica Elliott, Councillor Julie Bernier, Councillor</p> <p>Colin Mitchell, Arts Senator Lucas Coxhead, Science Senator Senewa Sena, Professional Studies Senator Ryan Myers, Equity Officer</p> <p>Molly Murphy, Board of Governors Rep</p>	<p>Eileen Haskett, Graduate Studies Adviser</p> <p>Susan Mesheau, Administration Anna Kieffe, Faculty Representative Vacant, Board of Governors</p>

ALSO PRESENT
<p>Grace Hamilton-Burge, ASU Sustainability Officer and 2017/2018 President (incoming) Samantha Nixon, 2017/2018 VP Academic and External (incoming) Malcolm Anderson, 2017/2018 VP Events and Promotions (incoming)</p>

1. Call to Order

The Chairperson called the Regular Meeting of Council to order at 5:02 pm and welcomed those present.

1) Roll Call

The Chairperson called the roll, with all SRC Members being present, except Eileen Haskett (Graduates Studies Adviser), Susan Mesheau (Administration Representative) and Anna Kieffe (Faculty Representative).

2) Approval of Agenda (Additions/Deletions)

Resolution No. 032-17

Moved by: Brandon Giacchetta, Councillor

Seconded by: Andrew Grant, VP Finance

Be It Resolved That the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of the Students' Representative Council dated Tuesday, February 28th, 2017 be adopted.

Resolution CARRIED

3) Approval of the Minutes

Resolution No. 033-17

Moved by: Samantha Sproule, President

Seconded by: Ryan Myers, Equity Officer

That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Students' Representative Council listed under Item 4(a) on the Agenda, be adopted (Tuesday, February 7th, 2017).

Resolution CARRIED

4) Roundtable Correspondence and Communication

Soleil Chahine, Chairperson, asked all members to provide a short update on their activities since the last Regular Meeting of Council including any committee work, project progress and plans going forward.

a. Board of Governors Representative Update (Molly Murphy, BoG Rep)

Molly Murphy, Board of Governors Representative, provided an overview of the February Board of Governors meeting. The Board is happy to have received notification of a 6-year national certification for Acadia's cooperative education program as well as the approval of a new coop option for Environmental and Sustainability Studies (ESST) students. She also reported that the Acadia Innovation Pavilion project is continuing as planned and technology services has improved the security of our system to protect against the threat of hacking. Finally, there will be a

Presidential Gala on May 26th, 2017 in Halifax, Nova Scotia to celebrate the work that President Ray Ivany has done here at Acadia over the past nine years. There may be ticket reductions announced for student attendees as well.

b. Presidential Search Committee Update (Sam Sproule, President)

Samantha Sproule, President, shared that the search for Acadia University's new President is progressing well with the first and second interviews completed and reference checks being conducted at this time. The top candidates will be invited to campus in March, which will be followed by a formal recommendation from the committee. The new President will hopefully be installed before President Ivany leaves at the end of June 2017.

c. Executive Board Update (Sam Nielsen, VP Communications)

Samantha Nielsen, VP Communications, shared that one member of the Executive Board will be providing an update to Council at each meeting to ensure accountability of the decisions made at the Executive Board level. She shared that the Executive Board has been discussing drug education and prevention campaigns for events (i.e. Cheaton Cup), the restructuring of full-time staff positions, and how to move the A.S.U. towards effective decolonization of the Union and finding solutions that will bring constituents together.

d. Students Nova Scotia (SNS) Update (Brianna Jarvin, VP Academic)

Brianna Jarvin, VP Academic, shared that the Cape Breton University Students' Union (CBUSU) has unofficially notified Students Nova Scotia (SNS) that the results of the referendum indicated that CBUSU would leave SNS. She shared that she will bring forward a more detailed update after a SNS Board Meeting later this week.

e. Decolonization Panel Update (Ryan Myers, Equity Officer)

Ryan Myers, Equity Officer, shared that the Decolonization Panel had been a very successful open dialogue among a group of approximately 60 students and faculty. He said that the main ideas included;

- a) More indigenous courses within all faculties and bringing indigenous viewpoints into non-traditional courses (science and math).
- b) Building on the Indigenous Education course offered in the Faculty of Education and make it more interdisciplinary.
- c) Looking into flying the Mi'kmaq flag on University Hall permanently

5) Question Period

Taylor, Constituent, brought forward an incident involving Axe Radio for consideration by Council. There were derogatory comments made by one of the hosts on an Axe Radio show concerning sexual orientation. The response initially provided by Axe Radio was that the actions of radio hosts were covered under the legal principles of free speech. She, along with several other members of the audience, requested that Council consider the creation of a policy to regulate the conduct of Union media contributors.

After significant discussion and a review of the Constitution, it was recommended that Samantha Nielsen, VP Communications, would work with Axe Radio to create a policy that would govern future instances of discrimination in Union media. It was mentioned that the A.S.U. would be liable for anything that is connected to it, which includes radio shows, and that Axe Radio should be more careful with its promotion of potential liabilities in the future. It was further suggested that a formal apology be issued on Axe Radio and that punitive measures be taken to discipline the host who had made the discriminatory comments.

6) Discussion Period**a) Co-Curricular Transcript (Oliver Jacob, Deputy Chairperson)**

Oliver Jacob, Deputy Chairperson, brought forward the issue of the co-curricular transcript for consideration by Council after providing a brief introduction to the program and its components. As a member of the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Community Engagement, he asked if Council had any ideas to improve the program.

Council and audience members made the following comments and suggestions on the future of the co-curricular transcript;

- There should be some advertisement of the program as there is still interest among members of Council and audience members for the program.
- It could be useful to conduct surveys among the student body to see if the co-curricular transcript would be used if it were more widely recognized.
- Members of Council have had students contact them after being unable to go through the website to have questions answered. There appears to be an issue with the email address that the website identifies as it does not exist anymore.
- Some graduate schools have required a co-curricular transcript (or equivalent document) as an entry requirement so removal of the program should not be considered.
- A partnership with the Acadia Students' Union for promotion could be useful to get to more students.

b) Voting Rights for Coop Students (Oliver Jacob, DCRO)

Oliver Jacob, Deputy Chief Returning Officer, brought forward the issue of the voting rights of cooperative education students after providing information from constituents

to SRC in the Facebook group. After multiple complaints were made to Election Officials, it was discovered that cooperative education students were not able to vote in the 2017 General Election as they could not be considered members of the union (coop students do not pay membership fees during the term that they are in placement).

Council and audience members made the following comments and suggestions on the issue of voting rights for coop students;

- Since graduating students are eligible to vote for leaders who will lead the A.S.U. when they are no longer Acadia students, it would not be fair to prevent cooperative education students who will be returning from voting.
- It would be good for Council to look into the possibility of voluntary payment of student union fees through the Office of Student Accounts, where cooperative education students had the option to pay student union fees if they wished to participate in the Union.
- The lack of student union fee payment is the only reason that cooperative education students are prevented from voting; however, it is important to maintain the payment system and to not make exceptions for only certain groups of students. Such exceptions could irritate other groups of students.
- The Acadia Students' Union does not have the resources to institute an opt-out policy; however, it could prove beneficial to negotiate with the university to operate an opt-in policy for cooperative education students.

Council informally directed that the matter be internally studied by members of Council and Committees and that any solutions will be brought forward to Council for consideration. There needs to be a greater discussion on Union membership in the future.

c) University Credit Card Payment (Sam Sproule, President)

Samantha Sproule, President, provided an overview of the current plan of Acadia University to eliminate the credit card option for Student Accounts. She shared that the issue concerns the high cost of maintaining the system and the potential security implications of credit card information records. Acadia University is the only post-secondary institution in Nova Scotia to still offer a credit card payment option.

Most of Council expressed its discontent with the decision of the university and identified the following concerns;

- Some students use a credit card to pay student fees to get points and other rewards, that they then use for travelling home to visit family.
- Credit card use can help to build a good credit rating for university students.
- Some international students have to use credit cards as it is not always possible to pay student fees by cash or internet banking (bringing \$30,000 in cash to Student Accounts is not a viable option).
- The leniency of Student Accounts must be maintained as credit card payment is sometimes the only option that students have to pay for fees.

- Perhaps PayPal or another secure transaction system could be an option that the university should investigate.

7) New Business

Closed

8) Notice of Motion

Closed

9) Announcements

Ted Higa, VP Programming, shared that the application period has opened for the 10 Internal Organization Coordinator positions and will be open until March 13th, 2017. Information is available on the ASU website and social media.

Samantha Sproule, President, shared that the International Banquet is happening on March 18th, 2017 and that she encourages non-international students to get more information and to purchase tickets at the Wong International Centre.

Soleil Chahine, Chairperson (on the request of Colin Mitchell, Arts Senator) provided an update to Council on the SRC clothing order status. The two final designs will be posted in the SRC Facebook group for only the current cohort and more information will follow by email in the coming days.

10) Closed Session

None

11) Adjournment

Resolution No. 034-17

Moved by: Brandon Giacchetta, Councillor

Seconded by: Brianna Jarvin, VP Academic

That the Regular Meeting of Council dated Tuesday, February 28th, 2017 be adjourned at 6:51 pm.

Resolution CARRIED