



Brock University Students' Administrative Council

**Meeting: # 8**

Date: December 5, 2018 – 6:37pm

**Speaker:** Niveditha Manju Sethumadhavan

**Deputy Speaker:** James Hall

**Recording Secretary:** Emma Evans

**OVERVIEW**

**Opening Procedures**

- |   |                                      |                |
|---|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Call to Order                        |                |
| 2 | Territorial Recognition              | Administrative |
| 3 | Approval of the Agenda               | Administrative |
| 4 | Adoption of the Minutes (Meeting #7) | Administrative |
| 5 | Open Questions Period                |                |
| 6 | Notes from the Speaker               |                |

**Presentations**

- |   |  |             |
|---|--|-------------|
| 7 | Brock Ontario Public Interest Research Group | Information |
| 8 | Club Funding Request – Concurrent Education  | Information |

**Old Business**

- |   |                             |             |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 9 | BUSU Office Capital Request | Action Item |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------|

**New Business**

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|----|--|-------------|
| 10 | Clubs Policy Committee Report                              | Action Item |
| 11 | Referenda Quality Assurance Committee Report               | Action Item |
| 12 | Discussion on the Campus Free Speech and Expression Policy | Action Item |
| 13 | Governance Committee Report                                | Action Item |

**Reports**

- |    |                               |             |
|----|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 14 | General Manager               | Information |
| 15 | VP Student Services           | Information |
| 16 | VP Finance and Administration | Information |
| 17 | President                     | Information |

**Questions Period**

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|----|---------------------------|--|
| 18 | Close Question Period     |  |
| 19 | Information and Reminders |  |

**Adjournment**

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1.0

**Call to Order**

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2.0

**Territorial Recognition**

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3.0

**Approval of the Agenda**

BIRT BUSAC adds Discussion on the Campus Free Speech and Expression Policy as Item 12 on the agenda.
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<i>Motion Passed by Consensus</i>
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BIRT BUSAC adds Governance Report as Item 14 on the agenda
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<i>Motion Passed by Consensus</i>
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BIRT BUSAC approves the agenda for the December 5 <sup>th</sup> meeting.
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Mover: Hibma
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Secunder: Bedawed
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<i>Motion Passed by Consensus</i>
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4.0

**Adoption of the Minutes**

BIRT BUSAC approves the minutes from November 21 <sup>st</sup> 2018 (Meeting 7).
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Mover: Legros
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Secunder: Bedawed
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<i>Motion Passed</i>
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Yes: 17
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No: 1
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Abstention: 2
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**5.0****Open Questions Period**

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**6.0****Notes from the Speaker****Total Voting Members = 19****Quorum:**

- 50%+1= 10
  - 2/3 Majority= 13
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**7.0****Brock Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG)***Brock OPIRG email read:*

Tomorrow OPRIG will be hosting the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women and attend a panel on Intersectional Approaches to Police Violence. Thursday, December 6th, 12 pm - 2 pm in South Block STH 203, Brock University. Featuring: Anti-Black Racism, Policing and the Negative Impact on the Black Community, OmiSoore Dryden, Visiting Professor at Ryerson University 2017-18 The McArthur Murders: Advocating Against Official Indifference to Institutional Change, Haran Vijayanathan, Executive Director, Alliance for South Asian AIDS Prevention. Overpoliced and Underprotected: Indigenous People and Colonial Policing, Robyn Bourgeois, Women's and Gender Studies, Brock University. Moderated by Leela MadhavaRau, Director, Human Rights and Equity, Brock University. Event co-Sponsored by: the Centre for Women's and Gender Studies, Human Rights and Equity Office, Tecumseh Centre for Indigenous Research and Education, Brock Student Justice Centre, OPIRG Brock, OSSTF, Brock University Faculty Association, and Brock University Graduate Students' Association.

In addition to the event tomorrow, OPIRG is hosting 2 more workshops before the end of the year, and currently doing a callout for workshop facilitators for next semester, and for collaborators for the upcoming project The Coming Out Monologues. All of the information can be found on the OPIRG Brock website and social media.

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**7.0****Club Funding Request – Concurrent Education (CESA)***Club funding presentation for Concurrent Education presented by the President and Vice President of External Affairs.***Gilhula:** What did you charge last year?

**CESA:** I believe it was in and around \$20.

**Gilhula:** What was the justification of dropping the price if your attendance is growing?

**CESA:** To grow more. In order to attract more people we need a lower ticket price to grow.

**Gilhula:** Have you looked at external partnerships?

**CESA:** We have. We have a sponsorship team that has efforts all over the region but getting sponsorship is very difficult. People are much more inclined to donate when there is a child on another side of that like outreach programs. We do try our best to find a lot of sponsorship

**Gilhula:** Is this just internal?

**CESA:** Not really. If someone would like to come we could try to find it out but it isn't really feasible for other schools to be here.

**Jalib:** Is this open to all students or just Con-Ed?

**CESA:** We have a marketing team that works to promote everything we do. We also encourage our own team to invite their friends and that is how we get the word of mouth out there. We also use email. Many older students like us who are in 4<sup>th</sup> year have gone

**Jalib:** Who is this open to?

**CESA:** Everyone. They are targeted to a con-ed focus but we do have many CHYS students join us and people who are just interested in working with kids.

**Kaminsky:** What is the biggest takeaway from the conference?

**CESA:** That there is a spot in the field and profession of education for everyone. No matter what interests or skills you have we try to make the field specialized but broad enough where everyone has a spot. It helped show me spots where I fit.

**Bedawed:** Have you thought about extending the invite to other programs?

**CESA:** We have thought about it a little bit. The closest concurrent program could be Queens which is about a 4 hour drive so the probability of it being successful for a one day conference I think isn't as high when they have their own 3 day conference. We are looking to build our conference up to a multi-day one to grow.

**Gabriel:** Just as a comment. I know over the border at Niagara University they may be an avenue to consider coming if they can get over the border.

**Kerr:** I know you said you got feedback from the last conference did people say it was too high?

**CESA:** In conversation I know people said it was very difficult to come up with that extra money to spend since they also have to arrange their schedule to make this happen.

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## 8.0

### BUSU Office Capital Request

BIRT BUSAC approves \$2265.61 from Capital in its second reading for replacement Booster Juice blenders.
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Mover: Retes
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Secunder: Khouzam
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<i>Motion Passed</i>
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BIRT BUSAC approves \$5514 from Capital in its second reading for two subway fridges.

Mover: Hasan  
Secunder: Beaupre

*Motion Passed by Consensus*

BIRT BUSAC approves \$10,000 from Capital in its second reading for Booster Juice franchise fee.

Mover: Gilhula  
Secunder: Khouzam

*Motion Passed by Consensus*

## 9.0

### Clubs Policy Committee Report

BIRT BUSAC approves \$4,000 as a grant to the Concurrent Education Student Association from clubs funding.

Mover: Khouzam  
Secunder: Hibma

*Motion Passed by Consensus*

**Khouzam:** This is amazing opportunity for not only our Concurrent Education students but students thinking of joining the teaching profession. This club models everything we want out clubs to model they have a philanthropic side but also professional development side. All of the revenue they make does go to their charity and community efforts which represents our school very well. Running this conference is a great opportunity for those running it and attending it. The Queens conference is a \$90 ticket so if our students would like to go to something similar to this it would be a big expense so we want to make it as affordable to our students as possible.

**Gilhula:** I just have a concern in terms of lowering the price. The \$5 I doubt will make a huge difference. Lowering the price will devalue it later. If we keep it at the \$20 it will be easier to jump up the cost for a longer conference. I don't think we need to change their grant regardless but I think lowering the price may be a concern.

**Khouzam:** That is a fair suggestion. That is probably one to suggest with CESA themselves if it won't impact the amount we approve for them.

**Hibma:** I think this is an amazing opportunity that perfectly meets our mission statement to enhance the learning experience of our students. Maybe another way to look at your suggestion

would be to go from 15-30-60 but I do think it is I am in full support of voting in favour of this for our students looking for work integrated learning and working with professionals to show them where the opportunities are heading not just where they are.

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## 10.0

### Referenda Quality Assurance Committee Report

BIRT BUSAC approves the Ombuds levy question and memorandum of understanding and sends it to referendum for the February election cycle.
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Mover: Legros Secunder: Retes
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<i>Motion Passed by Consensus</i>
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**Hilson:** What an OMBUDS person does is to act as they key pillar in student appeals. For example if someone is accused of cheating but they know for a fact they haven't. And I am in first year with a full course load and an academic scholarship. OMBUDS acts as a support piece for all of our undergraduate and undergraduate students. We have come to realize when this service was first introduced the case load was 450 cases but now it is 750-800 cases per year. On average one OMBUDS person can handle 450 cases per year at full quality. Our quality of service isn't what it once was which is negatively impacting the experience of students. Currently we are funding it out of Division 1 budget but we believe the best solution to raise our quality of service is the students having their own fee. I hope that explains what the situation is, problem is and our suggested solution.

**Hilson:** 12 years ago 136 cases but last year we were 698.

**Gilhula:** Did we not hold an OMBUDS levy last year as well?

**Hibma:** Yes we did and it passed with overwhelming success but something we did not notice was that we said it was \$20 for this but did not specify it was \$20 per credit and it was for the entire Social Justice Center. We then did it again but it was voted down.

**Gilhula:** Out of these cases was there a theme that continued to appear and something we can tackle or are they all separate cases?

**Hibma:** First off I do think it would be nice if we could act proactively but also 12 years ago the population of our university was much smaller than it is now and we continue to be growing at a larger rate. Part of this growth is from international students and we find there are certain complexities from these cases due to language barriers for example. I think having two individuals is the best model to go with, having one lead and one supplementary. The institution is also looking to help support this more as we currently are the primary funder but other schools it is a split between the university and students. I think with all the institutional changes and new president and other actors that there will be more attention to this. But if other parties don't increase their buy in we will be faced with a problem.

**Hilson:** Just some points of information. The referendum that went up last year was much more comprehensive it was \$4.88 per credit for a wider range of things. But this referendum will be \$1.29 cents and it is focused solely on Ombuds support. In order the number of cases that are seen 1) academic integrity and meeting preparation, support and debrief for appeals 2) course

grade and exams appeals 3) required withdrawals, suspension, disbarment and support appeals 4) accommodations for students with disabilities 5) accommodations for students with exceptional circumstances. With the increased number of cases and current funding an Ombuds person may meet with you and say “this is how you should prepare for your hearing” but what use to happen was they would sit beside you in the meeting. She can sometimes now but not always anymore. We found 400 is that sweet spot for ideal cases per worker but we will now be clipping 700 if not 800 and we are almost at double capacity and as institution as a whole we’ve more than doubled in size so we are stuck playing a bit of catch up.

**Gabriel:** When we were speaking with Carol she also told us there is a wait time issue and is operating with a triage system mentality. She is hoping with the support of another person wait times will be decreased. She did say many other universities have 2-3

**Johnson:** I would also like to note as stated in the Memorandum of Understanding some of this fee will go towards marketing so students understand the supports they have especially international students.

**Bedawed:** I’ve personally experienced the waiting times and it is a very long wait. Is there anyway of students being able to book these appointments online.

**Hilson:** When you read the MOU part of this funding will go towards software to build up the gaps in our service. That extra resource and person can help significantly help.

**Gilhula:** Are we still not playing catch up if we are only adding one person? If 400 is the ideal number are we going to need another person soon? Is it more beneficial to allocate the funds for two now?

**Hilson:** Our hope is that most universities already have a stake in this. Carleton University for example funds it between their schools, undergraduate student union and graduate student union. We have had some dialogue with the university administration. We are hoping they will add funding as well as it meets their best interest as well to have a blended funding model. We aren’t doing much on the proactive side either so we want to expand that when we don’t just have to manage this caseload.

BIRT BUSAC tasks BUSU with running the Ombuds referendum with Aidan Hibma as the campaign chair.
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Mover: Khouzam Secunder: Gabriel
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<b><i>Motion Passed</i></b>
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Yes: 18
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No: 0
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Abstention: 1 (noted Hibma)
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**Hibma:** With appointing me as the chair, it is also taking place in February when BUSU executive elections are taking place. I have no intention of running again for an executive election so I can be 100% committed to this.

**Gilhula:** Are you overseeing any other referendums in the February period?

**Hibma:** As it currently stands this referendum and the executive election will be the primary focus and I will be solely looking over the referendum.

**Yendt:** Tonight is the last meeting where we can send something forward to February referendum so procedurally this is the last chance.

**Hilson:** Brock Radio's intention is to go forward in the February period but it may be they are going forward after they were unable to go forward by October.

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## 9.0

### Discussion on the Campus Free Speech and Expression Policy

BIRT BUSAC adopts the university Campus Free Speech and Expression Policy until such time that BUSAC creates their own policy.
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Mover: Gilhula Secunder: Kerr
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<i>Motion Passed by Consensus</i>
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**Yendt:** For those who don't know the Ford government directed universities to develop Free Speech and Expression Policies by January 1<sup>st</sup> tied to a threat of removing funding. The university is currently drafting a policy which will go forward at their senate meeting next week. BUSU has yet to have the time to consult for developing a policy. We can't exist in a place that is grey and not implement any policy, we are suggesting adopting the university policy until we have time to develop our own.

**Hibma:** The interesting thing about this is if you look up Brock University's draft policy on freedom of speech or expression the first thing you will note is you can't find a version of it as these meetings are done in private as it is a private committee. What you can find is the most recent draft version let out to the public. When it gets brought to senate you will find the newest version. The reason we feel it is important to bring it here is structurally the board will also have to pass hopefully all what you will all pass here as the board deals with policies and BUSAC deals with bylaws and policies trump bylaws. Our hope in doing this is getting it passed both by the board and council to keep it transparent. I hope this explains why we are bringing a policy to BUSAC although we are tasked with bylaws.

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## 9.0

### Governance Committee Report

**Johnson:** We are continuing our process to do everything we can to craft a policy that addresses all students concerns on this matter. We have been addressing matters from a special election that has been ongoing.

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## 11.0

### Report – General Manager

*General Manager, Mr.Hilson presents report.*

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## 12.0

### Report – VP Student Services

*VPSS, Ms. Khouzam, presents report.*

**Kerr:** I was thinking 11:30 may be a good time since many buses do end at 10.

**Nyambiya:** Is this for Niagara as well?

**Khouzam:** It is locally for now as Brock University taxi has certain flat rates available which we are covering. Usually students coming from Niagara drive already however if anyone ever stuck we can figure it out after as we do not want to leave students stranded.

**Jalib:** I agree with Christina and think 11:30 is a good start time.

**Gilhula:** I think 12 is a good time as it can still be students who just missed their last bus ride to use this service. As much as I agree it will get more use at 11:30 I think those aren't the students we are specifically targeting but rather students staying much later.

**Bedawed:** I agree with Kerr and Jablib as I know personally my bus ends at 10 and the other buses available are far walks which as a women at night may not be ideal.

**Hilson:** I just want to acknowledge the work Joyce put into the Christmas party.

**Jalib:** So BUSU will be covering students going to Niagara falls?

**Khouzam:** Yes but no. We don't want to leave students stranded but we also don't want to advertise that as it will drain the money that is limited.

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## 13.0

### Report – VP Finance and Administration

*VPFA, Mr. Khan, presents report.*

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## 14.0

### Report – President

*President, Mr. Hibma, presents report.*

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## 15.0

### Close Question Period

**Legros:** For Hilson, you mention they are rebuilding Decew and a new housing area. They are going to be renovating Decew and with respect to the new residence the current title is building 8.

**Hibma:** If I were the administration I would wait till we are further down the road with the director of donors to encourage individuals to make a donation for the building to be named after them.

**Hasan:** About transit. Is there a tentative date?

**Hilson:** In short no. It is just a strategic plan for the university that passed Thursday last week however we as BUSU participate regularly in transit meeting throughout the region and in the last meeting the president sat next to. Go Transit should be running to Grimsby

**Yendt:** It is important to note within the past week the Ford government has however thrown a wrench in those plans for the train to be extended and it may no longer be doing so as the Ford government is looking to do more consultation because it doesn't think this would be financially viable for the government to go here. While the bus does seem very realistic for the future the train has been put into limbo.

**Nyambia:** Has anyone considered adding Sunday services?

**Hibma:** Yes, just as we did with the Summer however the largest issue is there just isn't money within the budget. We are the largest contributor to transit in the region currently. It would likely need to go back to referendum in hopes to increase the necessary funds.

**Hilson:** With transit we can really look at the math and numbers of when students are getting onto and off of buses which is helping us learn exactly what demand levels are.

**Kerr:** There is a plan to have more parking spaces do you know where?

**Hilson:** As the student union we don't oversee parking however in terms of the parking that is planned its over by the village parking area but I don't know the total number.

**Yendt:** With respect to the new arenas and facilities will there be a land transfer and will Brock maintain the land?

**Hilson:** With respect to the land transfer that is in discussion with the University and the Canada Summer games and Niagara region. Our arrangement with land is that Brock owns the land that the student and alumni association are on. We license it from them for 99 years renewable 99 times. It is a tri party agreement.

**Yendt:** I am just wondering how this fits with the 3<sup>rd</sup> university entrance.

**Hibma:** The discussion from the committee is that if we do decide to move forward with the legacy buildings. I think the access of the 3<sup>rd</sup> party entrance is dependent on the legacy buildings.

**Yendt:** I think the issue is in the past it has been shown the university is unable to evacuate in a time effective way with only two entrances and cannot actually evacuate the campus well at 5pm even not under duress. So I'm just wondering if the university is ready to commit to the necessary funding.

**Hibma:** Yes especially when there is sporting games congestion can get furthered which is why I think the loop would be a good idea.

**Hilson:** Point of information there will be 327 parking spots added.

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## 16.0

### Information and Reminders

**Yendt:** The holidays often offer us the opportunity to spend time with family and those we care about and a good opportunity to take some rest time for your mental health. I haven't done that before and I know it has been bad for me so even though I

**Gilhula:** The BSA is hosting a women in business conference on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March. We don't have a ton of details worked out yet but you are all invited to come. Our organization is sending numerous students to conferences outside of Brock 80 students 4 conferences in the first 2 weeks of January.

**Kerr:** It has been a great semester on council Merry Christmas and happy holidays to everyone.

Gabriel: Just a reminder the faculty math and science council will be continuing in the new year so if you are interested email [brockufmsc@gmail.com](mailto:brockufmsc@gmail.com) and for the golden key honours society golden key we are also holding a conference in January and are looking for volunteers if you are interested in coming our email is [brockugoldenkey@gmail.com](mailto:brockugoldenkey@gmail.com).

**Nyambia:** Good luck on exams.

**Hibma:** Be safe and make responsible decisions that will keep you safe but have fun and be with those you care about the most and help encourage your friends to practice self-care.

**Khouzam:** Shoutout to SPMA council for having a very successful trivia night they did amazing. Don't forget to vote and encourage your friends to vote and get informed voting closes tomorrow.

**Hilson:** To our group at the front who are flying solo today you did a wonderful job so I commend you for that.

**Jalib:** Issacs final tonight so make sure to come out and take a break.

**Speaker:** As Joyce mentioned please do vote and encourage all your friends to vote. Your councilor requirements are also due they were due by the start of the meeting if you haven't yet submit them by the 12<sup>th</sup> when your end of semester councilor reports are due. If you have any questions feel free to talk to me I would be more than happy to help you all. Happy holidays to everyone and thank you so much for all your amazing work. Thank you for an amazing first semester I am looking forward to another amazing semester in the new year. Thank you to James although he isn't here today, Emma for being here constantly, Wendel for everything, and of course Kayleigh we all love her I cannot stress this enough.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:22

**Mover:** Khouzam