



## Brock University Students' Administrative Council

### Meeting: 2

Date: July 24, 2016, 10:00am

**Speaker:** Istafa Sufi

**Deputy Speaker:** Jeremy Steinhausen

**Recording Secretary:** Raagave Maheswaran

### OVERVIEW

#### Opening Procedures

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1 Call to Order	
2 Approval of the Standing Orders	Administrative
3 Approval of the Agenda	Administrative
4 <a href="#">Adoption of the Minutes (Meeting 14 – 2015/2016)</a>	Administrative
5 <a href="#">Adoption of the Minutes (Meeting 1- 2016/2017)</a>	Administrative
6 Open Question Period	
7 Notes from the Speaker	

#### Presentations

8 BUSU Division One Budget Review	Information
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#### New Business

9 <a href="#">BUSAC Dates Approval</a>	Action Item
10 <a href="#">BUSU Election Dates Approval</a>	Action Item
11 <a href="#">BUSU AGM Dates Approval</a>	Action Item
12 <a href="#">Election – Governance Committee (1 Member, 3 Councillors)</a>	Action Item
13 <a href="#">Election – Elections and Referenda Committee (3 Members)</a>	Action Item
14 <a href="#">Election – Referenda Implementation &amp; Levy Review (3 Members)</a>	Action Item
15 <a href="#">Election – Hiring Committee (4 Members)</a>	Action Item
16 <a href="#">Election – Internal Affairs (3 Councillors)</a>	Action Item
17 <a href="#">Election – Information Tech &amp; Infrastructure (1 Member)</a>	Action Item
18 <a href="#">Election – Environment Committee (2 Members)</a>	Action Item
19 Ratification of Election Results	Administrative
20 <a href="#">Transfer of Power to the Board</a>	Action Item

#### Reports

21 <a href="#">General Manager</a>	Information
22 <a href="#">VP Student Services</a>	Information
23 <a href="#">VP External Affairs</a>	Information
24 VP Finance & Administration	Information
25 <a href="#">President</a>	Information

#### Question Period

26 Close Question Period	
27 Information and Reminders	

## Adjournment

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1.0

### Call to Order

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2.0

### Approval of the Standing Orders

BIRT BUSAC approves the use of the 2016-2017 Standing Orders for the July 24th, 2016 meeting.
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Verrier, Hejazi
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<i>Passes by general consent</i>
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3.0

### Approval of the Agenda

BIRT BUSAC approves the agenda for the July 24th, 2016 meeting.
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Sehgal, Haidon
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<i>Passes by general consent</i>
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4.0

### Adoption of the Minutes (Meeting 14 – 2015/2016)

BIRT BUSAC approves the minutes from Meeting 14, 2015/2016.
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Foster, Hejazi
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8 -In favor
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0 -Against
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11-Abstain
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## 5.0

### Adoption of Minutes (Meeting 1 – 2016/2017)

BIRT BUSAC approves the minutes from Meeting 1, 2016/2017.
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Banava, Demachkie
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<i>Passes by general consent</i>
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## 6.0

### Open Question Period

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## 7.0

### Notes from Speaker

**Speaker:** Thank you to all of those who attended our retreat yesterday. It was successful. Thank you for all of your enthusiasm, especially in the second part of the day. It was great to see. We will be announcing the winners of the scavenger hunt later today.

Total Voting Members = 19

Quorum:

- 50% + 1 = 11
- 2/3rds = 14

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## 8.0

### BUSU Division One Budget Review

*VP of Finance & Administration presents the Incomes of the Division One Budget Review.*

**Vrysen:** What was the Ombuds line? You said that it was from a student levy, yet there is no Ombuds Levy.

**Green (General Manager):** The Ombuds line for \$20,000 are contributions from the University and Graduate Student Association. We have two contracts in place. One with the Graduate Student Association that pays for graduate students to use our Ombuds services and the other is contributions from the university that cover part of it.

**Tonyclinton:** You said that we rent that place, so do we pay BrockTV \$1000 or do they give us \$1000?

**Hejazi (VPFA):** BrockTV pays us.

**Green (General Manager):** That covers parts of their insurance because BUSU holds a liability insurance as well as process to payroll for BrockTV. Most companies use ADP and they charge per person. They also pay a rental fee for the space downstairs. The same is used for insurance, payroll, and some contributions for the facility that they have.

**Rashid:** I just wanted to ask about three points. Could you elaborate on the Interest Income?

**Green (General Manager):** Any of our restricted funds that we collect, any of our retained earnings over the year, collects interest through very low risk investment funds that the Board manages, that's what we project to be in the Interest Income for our general bank account.

**Rashid:** What does the Safety Fee cover?

**Green (General Manager):** It's a 25 cent levy that was passed by referendum. It covers the cost of our Safety Services Coordinator. Also, it now covers our Drive Home program, the Exam Drive Home shuttle and the additional cost for having security at our events. You will see that the fee is absorbed through our Safety Services Coordinator and the services just mentioned.

*General Manager presents the expenses of the Division One Budget Review.*

**Rashid:** Under what heading do the Club Funding expenses come in?

**General Manager:** Club Funding is its own division. It's a Student Fee, so it's under a completely different budget.

**Rossetto (Clubs and Governance Manager):** The way that the budget works is a \$2 per credit fee that students pay to and 40% of that fee, about \$64,000, is dedicated for funding. The 60% is for operations and clubs. Part of my salary and the VPSS salary as well as all the Clubs Coordinators salary. Also cover all the events BUSU puts on for clubs throughout the year. As well as supplies for clubs like t-shirts.

**Green (General Manger):** You would see the clubs' funding budgets regularly. They will show the budget.

**Senator:** So this is the operating BUSU budget?

**Green (General Manger):** Division One is the BUSU operating fund. All the businesses have their own separate budgets. Isaacs, General Brock, Union Station have separate budgets. They are all broken down into significantly more detail. All restricted fees like capital, deferred maintenance, health plan, and buss pass, all those have separate budgets. What the Board and what BUSAC look at are the Division One Operating budget.

**Tonyclinton:** What percent of our school fees go to BUSU?

**Green (General Manger):** I would have to do some significant amount of calculations. We are only one piece that collects the fees. The Athletics collect fees, Health Services, the university,

we are only a piece of it. We break it down showing how much it is per credit. To see what percentage of your fees are for this budget, I would probably say around 20% of what you are paying to the university. It is all based on how many credits you take. Every student will be slightly different; it depends on the program.

*General Manager presents information from the Student Fees page on the busu.net website.*

To see how much percentage is being used, depends on who you are as a student and how many credits you are taking. You are paying about \$85 a year. For some reason the way Brock evolved is that everything got its own separate fee and not put in one spot. That's why you see 40 cents here 20 cents there.

**Rashid:** Is "Food Salaries" a revenue?

**Green (General Manger):** Last year the Board approved Fed Up funds to cover a Food Bank Coordinator. We have to show it as a revenue because it's money coming from an external source that cannot come from student fees. So we need to show that is as a revenue in our books and then we show it as an expense for what we haven't paid for as Salaries. We have to show where we got the \$8000 to pay for the salaries. Any money that is coming to us that is not from student fees, we are required to show as a revenue or an income.

**Verrier:** This \$15,000 that the President used to have in their Student Funding, what is it for?

**Green (General Manger):** That's been around for five to six years now. I think it came around in 2008/2009. We had a problem where we had a lot of groups that weren't clubs, they couldn't get insurance because of whatever reason. Some of them athletic related, some of them were just one-off events. So they set aside funding to be able to pay for one-off events for students and new initiatives on campus that might not be through a club or, may not make sense for an organization to be doing it. It is available for students to access to bring new programs, new services or to go to things on campus. There was an expense last year for a group of nursing students who wanted to go to a conference for an accreditation. They couldn't get it through their faculty, they didn't fit into one of our clubs. So the executive at the time was able to approve \$3,000 for the nursing students to get the accreditation. It's for undergraduate students only.

**Verrier:** How does one go about getting that?

**Green (General Manger):** Send an email to the executive. The executive will take a look and ask the person to come in for a presentation and share their budget to see if it fits in the terms. If it does, then they can approve the funding.

**Hollard:** For the past six years, how much of it has actually been used?

**Green (General Manger):** I would say all of it and then some. In the last two years all of it has been used.

**Banava:** Personally I have seen so many students applying for the Student Initiative Fund. It has been very helpful. And students have gained a lot of experience and had opportunities that they otherwise wouldn't. I wish we even more money to support them. It is a very good fund.

**Green (General Manger):** And anytime we have to make any significant change to the budgets there are policies that allow us to go to the board to make a case to move some money around in the budget.

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**9.0**

**BUSAC Dates Approval**

BIRT BUSAC approves the meeting dates as presented for the 2016-2017 year.
Sheikh, Saleem

<i>Passes by general consent</i>
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**10.0**

**BUSU Election Dates Approval**

**Green (General Manger):** Do we have any current seats we need to fill by election?

**Rossetto (Clubs and Governance Manager):** We have to fill the extra faulty BUSAC seat as well as a two year Senate seat

BIRT BUSAC approves the election dates as presented for the 2016-2017 year.
Campbell, Bathish

<i>Passes by general consent</i>
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**11.0**

**BUSU AGM Dates Approval**

BIRT BUSAC approves the annual general meeting dates as presented for the 2016-2017 year.
Demachkie, Banava

<i>Passes by general consent</i>
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**Election – Governance Committee**

**Foster (President):** Given the nature of governance and student engagement right now, there is not a lot of trust in the way the BUSAC Governance Committee is run. How do you intend on making sure you're representing the students' voices and opinions when you are on the Governance Committee?

**Banava:** As you probably would have noticed, even with Facebook posts I try to connect with students. Every time I need information I approach students who I know who can give me good feedback. They know what's going on and they are willing to come to me and voice their opinion. For example, as a Political Science representative, I had the opportunities to sit on various interviews for professors, in some cases for promotions. I always mention to students that if I never took a class without a professor, I would ask them, what do you think the professor has done wrong or right? Would you promote that professor? What is your opinion about it? I know I can do the same exact thing for this committee.

**Sheikh:** I think Facebook is definitely a viable way of communicating with the students. I think an even better way to engage them would be to do presentations in front of first year classes. Just letting them know who you are and I think that would engage them more.

**Campbell:** Two things. Given the opportunity to make a decision, I would think of myself. First off, I am a student so what is the first thing a student would want? Secondly, what I try to be as a councilor, being a senator, and all these different responsibilities they have, is to talk to friends who may not be interested, and try to make them interested. That should really be our first jobs as councilors, not just the Governance Committee. I think that we have a lot of opportunities such as social media. I think the AGM would probably be a great opportunity to show off, what the Governance Committee and various other committees are doing in BUSAC. I think that if we post a video on Facebook, a brief video about what the student Governance Committee is doing and why you should care. Try and open up a dialog conversation.

**Verrier:** Since before my first year as councilor, I've been all students form any faculty what it is that they need. In my first year of school, not my first year of being councilor because I didn't start until my second year of school, I found out a lot of people were having trouble with buses. So I actually went and I changed two bus routes in my first year. I went in, I talked to Christopher the VPFA at that time, and I got some changes done to bus routes. I've now changed five St. Catharines transit routes since my first year, with all the different VPFAs. I also have a Facebook page going on right now. It's called Brock University Questions and Concerns. Every now and then somebody will send a question in and I, or someone else from the council, or one of the executives would be able to answer it. I've been doing that for the past three years. My fun fact I sent in for the BUSAC retreat is that I love student voice. Sufi didn't think that was specific enough, so it didn't make the list. But it's just really why I am here. The only reason why I wanted to be the Representative of Humanities is that I recognize the fact that with our new building downtown, we got a lot of people there that maybe aren't getting their voices

heard. Me being a voice and that because I am in Educational History, I am on campus. I can go to anybody on campus, anybody downtown. I know people, I am a very social guy. I am a drama student so I am able to talk to literally anybody without getting shy the slightest. Although maybe I should be sometimes. I love talking to people, I love making people happy, and that's what I can do on Governance, make some real change.

**Hejazi (VPFA):** I think it is important to have your own opinion and stands on issues that may arise. However as elected councilors by the university population, your job is to advocate the needs and wants of the students, and to respect their voices, not your own. How do you make sure you to remain impartial when making decisions on the Governance Committee and to make decisions based on the students' voices and not your own?

**Campbell:** I am a firm believer that Governance is a lot of sensitive issues that can be very divisive. I always tend to think that despite my own opinion that any concern no matter how small should be taken to the number one priority. I plan to take every single concern even the smallest concern and take it to heart, and make sure that we make the best decision that can benefit the largest number of the student population.

**Banava:** By constant communication with the business students. I am planning on being very approachable and always being there for them. Nick and I, as Goodman School Business students, we are planning on holding meetings together to see what students want. We already spoke with the Dean, and we planning on doing that again sometime soon. So that is our plan for the Goodman School of Business.

**Sheikh:** For everybody who knows me, I guess you know that I am a pretty reserved guy. Don't really speak out a lot. Unless it is absolutely necessary, unless I see something that something is not being done right. So I think that's really what would help me to speak for the students.

**Verrier:** On the Facebook group I made, Brock U Questions and Concerns, those questions and concerns that arise to me I don't take any sort of personal stands on those questions. If there is a question that directly influences me and I think that there would be a conflict in answering it, I pass it. I don't believe in lying, cheating, any sort of backwards kind of thinking. I don't like putting myself in a situation where my decisions can be seen as impartial or influenced by anyone, whether a person or myself. I don't like putting myself in a situation where my decisions can be seen as based on favouritism or opinionated in that way. Student voice is what matters most to me since I got to Brock. I didn't know how much it meant to me before I got to Brock. But now that I am here, it's all I ever talk about, my girlfriend does not like it very much. I'm really a fan of just making sure that everybody is heard. I guess I am a student but my voice comes last because it's the students that require the most attention.

BIRT BUSAC elects Sheikh, Campbell, and Verrier to the Governance Committee for the 2016-2017 year.
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**Campbell:** A lot of the times, candidates can be your friends. How will you use good judgment to make sure that you don't let personal conflicts or personal relationships affect your decisions?

**Rashid:** There is your professional peer and then there is your personal peer. In my opinion these two should not colloid what so ever. Outside the office we can be friends, but inside we have to follow and adhere to the rules of conduct that are outlined by the council itself.

**Mac:** I agree with Rashid. I think personal and work should be separate things. I've been in the position many times before, for example as the Vice President of the Con-Ed Association, I've done a lot of hiring and interviews. And a lot of the students we hired are my friends. So I have been in the position where you had to acknowledge that yes this is someone I know, but you have to be impartial, and value that if their experience is no more valuable than someone else you don't know. I've had to make decisions like that before. I've proven that I can and will be able to in the future.

**Saleem:** Agreeing with Ms. Mac, I have been in the position where I needed to be impartial. It is a matter of being professional instead of being personal on these fields. Having to elect my vice-president, there were multiple offers. Many of them have been my friends and many of them being second and third year students. It was a tough decision but I had to be impartial. So I know what to do in those types of positions.

**Cousins:** I believe that a person is a person no matter what. Just because I know someone's favourite colour or favouite food, if I know them personally, it really doesn't matter if they are running an election. I still have one vote. I am still going to make that vote to someone who I think is going to do the best job for the position that they are running for. In terms of disciplinary action, I am the same way. Just because I know someone personally, does not mean that they get off when they did something wrong. A rule is a rule. Once again, I was elected to the Academics Committee because I said the same thing, a rule is a rule, doesn't matter who breaks it. I will follow through with the disciplinary action, no matter who the person is, friend or not.

BIRT BUSAC elects Mac, Cousins, and Saleem to the Elections and Referenda Committee for the 2016-2017 year.
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## 14.0

### Election – Referenda Implementation & Levy Review

**Cousins:** If we are in the middle of an election in one committee and we find out we made it onto another, are we allowed to resign from the election we are currently being a part of?

**Speaker:** Yes

BIRT BUSAC elects Vrysen and Hollard to the Referenda Implementation & Levy Review Committee for the 2016-2017 year.
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### Election – Hiring Committee

**Haidon:** What is your mental process for ruling out bias, say when one of your friends comes in for an interview?

**Banava:** I face that difficulty about two weeks ago. Some resumes are better than others. Some people are better than others, they have more experience. Obviously you are going to hear from everyone but at the same time, you want to make the best possible choice. And you want to select the best candidate for the position aside friendships and personal relationships.

**Price:** While you're doing the hiring, in the interviews there are certain boxes that you can check off. So if your friend doesn't have as many boxes checked off as another candidate has, then obviously your friend isn't right for the position. There are obviously policies and procedures in place that need to be taken.

**Cousins:** I believe the hiring process is pretty objective, like what Mr. Price just said. If they don't have what it takes like what another candidate does, then unfortunately sorry friend, not this time. I have faced this personally, when I was part of the supervisory team of one of my past employment places. Where I had a friend and I read their resume, and it was good. The management decided to bring them in for an interview. I did not sit in that interview because I believed that my personal bias would have gotten in the way. So I know when it's my time to conduct an interview and I know when my bias might get in the way.

**Bathish:** I believe I would be able to separate personal relationships when making a decision so I feel like I can be impartial. When the main goal is to hire the best for BUSU, I feel that I can work towards that, in every decision I make.

**Mac:** Kind of building off everyone's answer; your ultimate goal is to hire someone who is best for the position, and that's what you are here to do. By doing my job, I have to be impartial. Like Riley was saying, I have been in this situation before where I had to interview my friends for positions. I have to think about what kind of experiences do they have? Do they have the right characteristics that will fit this position? If they do, I am going to have to make a decision on that, whether they are my friend or not.

**Rashid:** Would you hire the most qualified candidate or the candidate who is the best fit?

**Price:** Obviously you want to go for the most qualified, but also you want to build a good team. So in that situation, you would be going for the most qualified but with the best fit for your squad.

**Cousins:** In my past experience for the hiring process, it's great to have someone who is super qualified, hopefully not overqualified of course. That's great, that proves that they have experience, that they are confident in their skills. But you also want a good team. You want

someone who is going to fit well within BUSU, you want someone who has got the right energy. Because that team atmosphere is really what's going to help the company to grow and it's what helps everyone to work together. So qualifications are great, but it has got to be a mix a both. So ideally you would be looking for someone who is perfectly qualified, but fits awesome as well.

**Banava:** I agree with what Ms. Cousins has said, but I think it really depends on the position and the person as well. In some cases, you just want the most qualified, because the most qualified is going to do the best job. And sometimes you need the better fit, based on the position. I think it depends on the case.

**Bathish:** I have to say that, once again, it is a mixture of both qualifications and fit for the job. When it comes down to it, I believe that fit overcuts qualification just because BUSU's atmosphere is so much like a team. So you have to make sure that everyone within the team fits perfectly with each other just like a perfectly working machine.

**Mac:** It is very situational. You can find someone who is very qualified but not best fit, and vice versa. But in the end it is going to be up to you and your best judgment along with your team; which is why we are going to be nominating certain candidates for that team. So just depending on the situation, position, and candidates that are presented to you, you are going to have to use good judgment to make the best decision possible.

**Hejazi (VPFA):** In a theoretical situation you have eight people apply for a particular job at BUSU. After conducting group interviews, and then individual interviews, you firmly and strongly believe that none of the candidates that applied are a strong fit for the position. What do you do in this scenario?

**Bathish:** I believe at that point you would have to run on who is more passionate about this position. And see who is more willing to learn and mold into that position. I would probably have to go to the person who fits that.

**Banava:** If we all agree, the entire committee, that none of the candidates are a good fit, I think we should run another job ad, and find a better candidate. If we still don't, I think that we will go with the most passionate or someone who is willing to learn, someone who is open minded, and someone who makes us believe that at the end are good for the position.

**Mac:** If there really isn't someone that we believe that is good for the position, there is always an option to run an ad, ask for more candidates. If that is not possible then you are going to have to make a decision on who is the next best candidate. Someone who is going to learn, and is passionate enough that they could grow to be that person that we all hope they will be.

BIRT BUSAC elects Bathish, Mac, Price, and Cousins to the Hiring Committee for the 2016-2017 year.
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**Hejazi (VPFA):** Thank you to all the candidates that expressed interest in working with me on this committee. I am excited to see that there are a lot of people interested in the role. Last year we had a minor issue with the attendance on the Internal Affairs Committee. We had members that were elected who seemed extremely interested in the role and position, and just didn't show up. If elected for the Internal Affairs Committee, how dedicated will you be to attend the meetings and collaborate with the committee to work on new ideas?

**Verrier:** Last year I was consistently asking Mr. Dawson to meet with me, never did he throughout the year. But I was always asking for a meeting with him. I am very dedicated to it. Ask him, his email was full because of me. He was way too busy to meet with me anytime. I am very dedicated to this. This is why I joined the council, so I am going to be there.

**Rashid:** In the worst case scenario given the chance that the person can not make the meeting, even though there are more meetings in the year, there is still technology. There are ways that a person can still attend a meeting. There is Skype, there is Facetime. There are all sorts of technology that we can incorporate and more technology to come. And also you have to look at the numbers on the screen and talk to the VPFA and the rest of the board. I myself am very committed. Whenever there is a meeting, I am right there.

**Demachkie:** I would like to build off on the idea that I had a consistent level of involvement. I've worked on elections while studying at the same time. I've been to almost every single BUSAC meeting with the exception to the elections at the time and during the beginning of the summer. Which number one, I had to fly back to see my family, and number two I had to take absence in order to help out with the elections. When I found out that there was a Board of Director position that was available for a temporary job. I quickly stood up, wanting to be apart of this processes. I was also present in every single meeting. With every time I've been volunteering at the table, I believe that there is no such thing as "I don't have time for something." I will be there if I say I will be there. You can count on that.

**Sehgal:** I am very dedicated. I really want to fix the issue with the busses. I am always on time. Even if I am not on time, I'm early, never late for anything.

**Campbell:** So I believe that when you agree to join a committee it's as important as your council qualifications. I've been on council for three years. Besides running an election, I have never missed a meeting. I've sat on three committees this year. I took the roles very seriously. So I believe that there is nothing I despise more than people who don't show up. You won't have a problem with me, I promise.

**Hollard:** This is the first time reaching out beyond the Goodman School of Business as far as involvement goes. I've been involved for the last three years; this is my fourth year at the university. There have been times I've represented 10 students, 20 students, 100 students. And this year within the Goodman School of Business, I represent 2,700 students. Within that time I've never missed meetings. We have Goodman Student Advisory Board meetings, which are Board of Director meetings, and I attended all of those. And I intend to do the same here, representing a much larger scale of students. Furthermore, we look logistically into the policies

and procedures that underlie all of our committees. I do recognize that individuals can be removed from these committees. And I am a firm believer that people who are not meeting expectations of the other committee members, more importantly the students who depend upon these committee members, I do believe that they should suffer the fullest consequences, for a lack of a better term, and be removed and replaced with someone who is dedicated to that role. Because these are important positions, and those who run for the positions and hold these seats should take them seriously, attend the meetings, and fulfill their duties.

**Sheikh:** He can expect me to be present at each and every meeting. And I already spoke with Mr. Hejazi about a couple of bus routes. And I am going continue advocating on behalf of the students until the remainder of my term.

BIRT BUSAC elects Hollard, Campbell, and Demachkie to the Internal Affairs Committee for the 2016-2017 year.
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**17.0**

**Election – Information Tech & Infrastructure**

BIRT BUSAC elects Berryman to the Information Tech & Infrastructure for the 2016-2017 year.
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**18.0**

**Election – Environment Committee**

BIRT BUSAC elects Danaher and Haidon to the Environment Committee for the 2016-2017 year.
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**Motion to Open the Agenda**

BIRT BUSAC opens the agenda
Banava, Cousins

<i>Passes by general consent</i>
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**19.0**

**Election – Environment Committee**

**Motion to Ratify Committee Election Results**

BIRT BUSAC ratifies all committee election results.
Verrier, Sheikh

<i>Passes by general consent</i>
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**20.0**

**Transfer of Power to the Board of Directors**

BIRT BUSAC transfers powers to the BUSU Board of Directors until the September 14, 2016 meeting.
Sheikh, Berryman

13-In favor 0-Against 2-Abstain
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*Motion Carries*

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**21.0**

**Report – General Manager**

*General Manager presents report.*

**Sheikh:** What budget is the biodegradable cutlery cost coming out of?

**General Manager:** The Green Levy. The internal BUSU Green Levy projects are approved by the board. External Green Levy projects by students, or clubs, or non-organizational, come through the BUSAC Environmental Committee.

**Speaker:** They have to go to the Environmental Committee first than they go to the board.

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**22.0**

**Report – VP Student Services**

*VP Student Services is absent from meeting.*

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**23.0**

**Report – VP External Affairs**

*VP External Affairs is absent from meeting.*

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**24.0**

**Report – VP Finance & Administration**

*VP Finance & Administration presents report.*

**Tonyclinton:** I just wanted to say good job. Keep it up.

**VPFA:** Thank you.

**Vrysen:** I was wondering who is the senator that was assigned to Academic Review.

**VPFA:** I am.

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**25.0**

**Report - President**

*President presents report.*

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**26.0**

**Closed Question Period**

**Hollard:** This is in reference to what was written in on Jad's report, unfortunately he is not here. I had a few questions regarding the barbershop. I would wait till the next meeting; unfortunately, the next meeting is not until September. I would like to potentially have my concerns voiced prior to a lot of development taking place within the next month and a half. Would it be possible to mention that to Mr. Hejazi, Foster, and Green? I was looking into it and as you know I asked a question to Mr. Nasser yesterday regarding the barbershop and how it would work financially. Also I've took some time to look into it myself. My main concern is that I look at what's being done in Mr. Foster's portfolio. For example, you are doing a lot of things with inclusivity, focusing on more food affordability, inclusivity, and diversity such as with the Aboriginal community. But I feel that when focusing on a barbershop it is exclusively excluding a large demographic, that being females. In doing that I understand that yes it's a profitable business hypothetically. But when we are dedicating resources of the university such as a room and obviously Mr. Nasser's time is quite valuable as well. His time is absolutely a cost of the student union; coming from the students paying for him to put out a service for less than 50% of the students. Unless it is seen as a profit driving item, which Mr. Nasser said yesterday would not be. But then said that he would cover his cost in two years, which is actually contradictory in and of itself. I'm just really not seeing how this is an intelligent move on behalf of the student union to exclude a large portion of the demographic, and also be doing so is a way that actually isn't providing money to increase programming or add benefit for that other gender that is exclusively being excluded by the initiative.

**Foster (President):** So this is actually a misunderstanding. We have discussed this among other things. It's been our communication problem that we do need to move away from calling it the "barbershop." "We are working on a barbershop; we are building a barbershop." We don't want to build a "barbershop," we want to build a "hair salon." Me, Jad, Julia, and Faisal have sat down and talked about the inclusivity part of this. And we do want it to be a hair salon where both males and females can get their hair cut. So we are not looking to build a barbershop on campus, we are willing to go get affordable cuts for students on campus.

**Green (General Manager):** Similar comments came from the staffing perspective as well, on the idea of inclusivity. We had a big discussion in our management retreat as well. So the concerns are not unnoticed. There have been adjustments made in the business plan that I developed to ensure that all males, females, or whoever wanted to use Hair Grooming Facility, whatever you want to call it. Whether you call it a Barbershop, Hair Salon, Scissors and Hands, the intention was never to have an exclusionary service. And to say that it's purposefully exclusionary service is a bit of a stretch from the councilor. The point is well taken and it has been addressed. I don't think there was any intent on making it an inclusionary service.

**Hollard:** This question is for Mr. Green. First I would like to say that "Hair Grooming Facility" is a very funny way of saying it. Follow up the actual question, as it seems you are fairly knowledgeable about the relevant business plan. Do you have any ideas on timelines or developments on getting the barbershop going?

**Green (General Manager):** The first thing we looked at was the business option of what it would look like if we run it ourselves. And we looked internally within our executives and said "Do anyone of us have experience doing this?" and all of us said "No." So we thought when in doubt what do we want to do? What's the goal of this project? Mr. Nasser's goal has always been to provide a spot on campus for people to get affordable cuts as well as try to create a campus culture and excitement for introducing a new service. When we reestablished that those are the goals, how are we going to do this? The answer we came up with was, let's go find a third party company that does this for their living, that this is their specialty, and that they can do this. So right now Jad is talking to Niagara College, which has a trade school for salon and barber cuttings, to say that we are interested in running a program with them as a third party. We are going to one of the local vendors downtown or the Pen Centre to see if they want a satellite office or a satellite location. The one concern with the business model is the initial cost because of the construction, plumbing, and insurance. We said it would come somewhat in the range of \$30,000 to \$50,000 to renovate the space. To do that, our hopes are that if we find a third party company, they will take on those business costs. Much like we did when we brought in Burrito Boys. They shouldered the cost of the renovations to make that place suitable for themselves and to fit their business model. If we are unable to find a partner like that, I think we have to relook at what the program is. Right now the goal of that is to find a partner. We have meeting with Niagara College this coming week to talk their Dean about how the program might work as a co-op or a trade-off position.

**Haidon:** I will address this to Mr. Green. I know you can not speak on Jad's behalf, but I know part of his platform is to create more study space. Wouldn't it be better cost wise, and for students, to make this hair salon space into a study space instead?

**General Manager:** If we to have a space allocated to us on campus, we would probably only get about four students to study in them. You're looking at probably an 8' by 10' or 10' by 10' space. It's not going to be a massive space. The study space is already being accommodated through other means such as Faisal's platform with library hours. We are working with the administration. We are in a meeting to talk about space in the library as well. If we find space on campus, it won't be an enormous space. It will be at max a 10' by 10' or 12' by 12', which is maybe going to get three or four students studying in it. You are looking at one or two chairs for a cutting station and that is what is available right now on campus without any major construction.

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### **Information and Reminders**

**Speaker:** If you haven't gotten the chance to do so already, please make sure to sign the Code of Conduct waiver that was handed out to you. It shows that you've read the Code of Conduct and that you understand what it says. There is an extra faculty seat available on BUSAC which will be going to election in October. So if you know anyone who can qualify for the extra faculty seat, please encourage them to apply and run in the October by-election. Congratulations to all the people elected into the committee. Please remember that you have to meet with your committee and elected Chair and Vice-Chair. Thank you very much to BrockTV for coming in on a Sunday and live stream the meeting.

*Meeting adjourned: 12:55 p.m.*