



Brock University
Students' Union

Brock University Students' Administrative Council

Meeting: 2
Date: July 26, 2015

Speaker: Chris Ventura
Deputy Speaker: Kayleigh Munro
Recording Secretary: Kaitlyn Daw

OVERVIEW

Opening Procedures

| | Description |
|---|----------------|
| 1 Call to Order | |
| 2 Approval of the 2015-2016 Standing Orders | Administrative |
| 3 Approval of the Agenda | Administrative |
| 4 Adoption of the Minutes (Meeting 1) | Administrative |
| 5 Open Question Period | |
| 6 Notes from the Speaker | |

Presentations

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 7 CASA (Matthew Rios) | Information |
| 8 Student Life Fee (TBD) | Information |

New Business

| | |
|---|----------------|
| 9 BUSAC Dates Approval | Administrative |
| 10 AGM Date Approval | Administrative |
| 11 Election – Clubs Policy Committee (2 Members) | Administrative |
| 11 Election – Elections and Referenda Committee (3 Members) | Administrative |
| 11 Election – Environment Committee (2 Members) | Administrative |
| 11 Election – External Affairs Committee (3 Members) | Administrative |
| 11 Election – Hiring Committee (4 Members) | Administrative |
| 11 Election – Internal Affairs Committee (3 Councillors) | Administrative |
| 11 Election – New Building Committee (1 Member) | Administrative |
| 11 Election – Referendum Implementation & Levy Review (3 Members) | Administrative |
| 11 Election – Student Life Advisory Committee (2) | Administrative |
| 12 Resignation of Adam Zoccoli | Administrative |
| 13 Transfer of Powers to Board of Directors | Administrative |

Reports

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| 14 Governance Committee | Information |
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| 16 VP Student Service | Information |
| 17 VP External Affairs | Information |
| 18 VP Finance and Administration | Information |
| 19 President | Information |

Question Period

- 20 Close Question Period
- 21 Information and Reminders

Adjournment

1.0

Call to Order

2.0

Approval of the 2015-2016 Standing Orders

Motion to amend formalizing CRO position on BUSAC and prohibiting phones during presentations at BUSAC.

Eady, Sufi

Sergi: Is this something that needs to be explicitly put into the Standing Orders, or is that more of a common sense thing to do?

Speaker: That conversation came up yesterday, and the general consensus was that it had to be formalized, especially since I saw a few people on their phones already this morning.

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| BIRT BUSAC approves adding the two amendments to the 2015-2016 Standing Orders |
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| 27-In favor 0-Against 1-Abstain |
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| BIRT BUSAC approves the use of the 2015-2016 Standing Orders |
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| 27-In favor 0-Against 1-Abstain |
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3.0

Approval of the Agenda

Rose: Strike the presentation for the student life fee.

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| BIRT BUSAC approves the agenda for the July 26, 2015 meeting |
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| 28-In favor 0-Against 0-Abstain |
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4.0**Adoption of the Minutes**

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| BIRT BUSAC approves the May 3, 2015 minutes |
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| Fuller, Kayitaba |
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| 22-In favor 0-Against 6-Abstain |
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5.0**Open Question Period**

6.0**Notes from the Speaker**

Please move your nametag off to the side of your microphone on the desk so we can hear you when you talk. Also, if you have a laptop you may want to pull down the screen when you want to talk so we can hear you clearly and loudly. These are just things to keep in mind.

When you're voting on something, can you please extend your elbow all the way up? When your arm is bent it's hard to see you and differentiate whether you're voting or not. So please, keep your elbows up so we can count accurately. You may hold your nametag in hand as well if you wish.

Just to remind everyone of the Standing Orders that was just passed, if you are on your cell phone during a presentation I will hit the gavel and ask you to put your phone away in front of everyone and your fellow presenters. It's common sense and respect that you listen and quietly pay attention to the presentation at hand. It's really disheartening when you're trying to give a presentation and no one is paying attention to you and everyone is looking at their phones.

There will be information coming throughout the rest of the summer about orientation week and how BUSAC councilors will be involved in that. Please check your BUSAC email accounts

regularly and the Facebook group. If you do not know how to access your BUSAC email account, please see us after this meeting because we send you a lot of emails and you need to be able to access them. There will be a survey going out shortly online from yesterday's orientation. Please fill that out because your feedback helps shape the next retreat.

7.0

Presentation - CASA

Matthew Rios and Maria-Helena Pacelli present to BUSAC about CASA and Federal focus on post secondary education.

Craig: I'm just going back to your topic about mental health. For a university with a limited budget, how do you step in to ensure that the needs of the student organization are addressed? For example, if the university or federal government does not have appropriate funding to start a program for students, what resources would you provide us with?

Rios: Our role is not necessarily to be a sort of funding provider for those types of issues. Our job is to ensure that the Federal government knows about the issue and that they are prioritizing it. Last year one of our Federal asks was to renew the mental health coalition, and we got their mandate renewed for 10 years. That was something that we did. We take the narrative from student leaders and transfer those interests to the government so that they can free up money or empower provincial governments or other stakeholders to engage with these issues.

Pacelli: We also advocate directly with stakeholders. Should the membership identify them as issues in any given year, we take that to all of the stakeholders we can meet with. There are a lot of invisible successes that happen in terms of advocating directly with stakeholders and then putting those issues on the map for them. The stronger the voice of CASA members is on a given issue, the more we have to bring to stakeholders to make things happen on campus, for example.

Fuller: Since you're from the East, I'm not sure if you heard about this, but a university student—I can't remember what university they were from—created an app where you could put in where you are—for example, you could say I'm in St. Catharines and indicate what your riding is, and all of the polling information in Canada would be available. I think it's such a good idea to have an app like that, and I was just wondering if you had heard of it.

Rios: I hadn't heard about that specific case, it's interesting. We're working very closely with Elections Canada. I don't know if many of you are following some of the changes that have happened to the Fair Elections Act, but some of their [Elections Canada] ability to help students find polls has been reduced. We've taken it upon ourselves to do that for them. Our entire campaign—again, I wish I could spend all day talking about our campaign—but a significant portion of our campaign is the technological infrastructure, including a tool similar to the one you just mentioned. The entire basis of our campaign is very much focused on supporting micro campuses. We'll have messaging consistent across the country—but each respective campus will have the ability to communicate

information to their students, whether it be via text messages, email, or telephone, as well. You will be able to actually identify poll updates, where you need to go, and what you need to know.

Sergi: One of the things one of our peer schools is focusing on is an interfaced website that provides a breakdown of platforms and explains why it's important to vote and participate. I know that some schools have devices similar to the app you mentioned, where you can put in an address and it directs you to where the local polling station is. We are looking into launching a Brock votes website or app for our students. The engagement piece with messaging and texting will not only act as a reminder for students, but also a resource for gathering important information.

Eady: What can you say to those who say, "Well, CASA is doing good stuff, but why do we need to keep paying for membership when they can keep doing this stuff without us?"

Rios: That's a tough question. First and foremost, I'm glad that you've made the decision to remain with CASA. These are questions that we grapple with all the time. I was reflecting on this the other day, and it's easy to get stuck in a space of "someone else is going to do it" and that someone else will take on that responsibility, but without you acting as a representation, you're risking someone telling you what your priorities should be. My job is to deliver results when you ask for them. It's your council's responsibility to determine how you prioritize the different needs of the student body. At the end of the day, be objective and remember what your mandate is: you're here to represent your students.

Pacelli: I think it's important to recognize that CASA is an organization that was created by student councils coming together because they wanted to make this happen. That energy and flavor has been put into CASA from the beginning and has been around for twenty years, and is comprised of students who really believe in what we're doing and want to be a part of that. Ultimately, not every school will be able to invest in a membership with the organization, but the schools that do are what make us able to do what we do. We are happy to work with anyone who wants to get on board. To the students who aren't sure, or need a little more information or background to that decision, we're happy to put you in touch with our current members who are willing to make that investment. We have some members who are willing to invest even more than they already are despite our fee structure. It's always a balancing act, but if you wanted to talk to any of our members to learn more about that decision making process, feel free to reach out to us.

Kayitaba: Going back to the mental health issue you mentioned before, if I'm a student suffering from mental health—this is also directed at you Antonio--what kind of services does CASA provide through the school that a student suffering from mental illness would have access to?

Sergi: I think it speaks to Kelsey's original question in terms of CASA acting as an advocacy service for every institution. Every institution has different resources available and different needs, but what CASA provides is a seat at the table where

we can voice or highlight student priorities to the association, and the trickle down effect from that is having those associations come on campus. I sit on the national advocacy team, Kyle is on the national policy team, and we've been able to incorporate the Brock perspective into the way that we approach our advocacy efforts not only with local representatives and associations, but also our advocacy with students and letting them know the resources that are available to them. It's increased the number of wins we've had the past few years, and this is the kind of service that they provide. So in terms of where the actual result on campus is, it's more behind the scenes unless it's advocacy.

Rios: So, similar to BUSAC, we don't provide services on campus. Your dollar is going towards having your voice passed on to the Federal government. So we don't provide services, but what we do is ensure it's a priority for the government. As Maria-Helena said, we also make sure Universities Canada address these issues as well. Our role is more so being your spokespeople at the Federal level, ensuring this is an issue people are talking about and prioritizing it in an adequate way.

Smaiya: Are we the last university in Ontario on CASA?

Rios: One of the dynamics of this organization is the ebb and flow of membership. We started with 9 schools, and we've been up to around 22-25 for the past 4 years. In Ontario, in the current context, we have 2 schools and there's another that's looking to join in the next couple of months. You're currently the representative of current Ontario undergrads.

Campbell: I think you guys do a really good job. I wanted to ask what improvements do you want to make to CASA in the next five years? What kind of projects do you really want to take on that you haven't done yet?

Pacelli: It's a tricky answer to that question because it's determined by our membership. We have a strategic plan that was put together by the membership over the past year that will go from 2015-2018, and determines the tone of the organization. But in terms of the advocacy priorities and the projects we will carry forward, that's something that is determined by the membership every year. I would say if you want to be a part of that conversation, then please keep your seat at the table. Beyond that, there are things that we do every year. For instance, research papers, lobby week where we have meetings with MPs on the hill, we have four meetings of membership throughout the year that address advocacy priorities from our membership, and so forth. In terms of the more nitty-gritty so to speak, that is more determined by our membership on a yearly basis.

Rios: I'd like to add to that. You always have to be careful when you ask someone "what would you like to do" when your newly hired boss is right beside you, so I'll be hesitant about what I want for the organization, but what I can also tell you is that key milestones are going to be happening this year. We have an election October 19, and we are in uncharted territory. I appreciate the profane language I can use to describe the absolute Alice in Wonderland of world we live in right now, where very realistically it could be any three parties in any type of minority, coalition, majority—it's an absolute open landscape in terms of what we

can be working with next year. That is fascinating. It's also really exciting. So when you talk about what we want to do, we want to work with whatever the next government is and have a stack of ready-made advocacy asks for them when they walk into office. That's a reason why we work with all parties. We don't just work with one party, we don't just work with the opposition; our job is to be loved by all parties, and that's something we do quite well. This is reflective of the meetings we're able to get with all different parties. So in terms of milestones, that's something we're really excited about. Often times when there's new government, there's change and new programs. When the Conservative government came in they dismantled a program called "Millennium Scholarship Fund", which at that time was the Federal financial aid program. They then instituted the Federal Grants program. Both of those programs, CASA was at the table creating. Who knows what the next program might be.

Hashmi: You mentioned in your presentation something in regards to labour marketing counsel, where it gives information about job postings and availability. Could you go into more detail on that?

Rios: Absolutely. This is an area that I am really interested in. Youth unemployment is a significant issue. Youth unemployment rates are about 17% nationwide, double the national average. It's a significant issue especially because we are out of a recession, although we may be teetering down into another one, but it is something that we as an organization want to represent not just young people, but students across all age groups are concerned about. Students that are investing, often their own dollars, into post secondary education, sometimes want to know "okay, how do I pay this off?" One of the pieces we want to focus on is pathways to employment. Labour Market information essentially means, in the way that we use it, having a really good understanding of where the workplace needs are. We hear all about this skills shortage, but now it's sort of being reframed as "it's not a skills shortage, it's a sort of skills mismatch". They're not actually getting the people who have the education into the jobs that they are hiring for. Labour Market information is meant to sort of connect the gaps, and that's an area that we've been strong advocates on that we think students will care about. How many high school students, when they're trying to make difficult decisions about what programs they want to get into, would love to know what the employment outcomes are for certain programs? The student taking English Literature might be told they don't have a plethora of employment opportunities, but at least they know. It's important to show what the pathways are so that they [students] can make well informed decisions.

Fuller: This summer I actually worked with a government relations firm, so we do a lot of things with provincial government for trades. What's your process to get these meetings? I know it's difficult to get onto the schedule of MPs and ministers, so do you have a specific process that you take?

Rios: I like to call it the art of seduction. It's multi-faceted. Any government relations firm is going to tell you it's a number of things, one being reputation.

Your door is going to be closed immediately if you don't have a good reputation. I won't tell you what our reputation is, but it somehow got us into those meetings, so I would hope that it's good. Ottawa is a small bubble, I actively work to foster those relationships. It's not networking in the way you see it on Suits, we're not wheeling and dealing, but you do meet with people and get to build those relationships. With Federal politics, it's important to have those long term relationships. The process for us is mismatched. I've made connections on a soccer field, in different meetings or consultations, or in a media press release where we're doing an interview and someone says to us "Hey, I didn't know you cared about that issue. We would love to work with you." That's kind of our process., and we never turn anyone down. You have to have a really good reason not to go to a meeting with someone.

Sergi: Also, if I can just build on that as well, when CASA delegates get together and all of the board members sit around the table, there's a program called Base Camp that allows us to follow up and keep a track record of different members of parliament that they've met. CASA compiles that information together, so when an issue comes up, they know which MPs they've already approached, what was talked about, what they saw as next steps, and where they saw room for more support. Being able to share not only best practices for what we do, but also key information about our lobbying efforts that are universal Coast-to-Coast is what really sets us apart and is another added value component to our membership. We get access to years of experience and what issues and progress has been made.

Smaiya: What makes you different from other federal lobby groups?

Rios: In terms of student voice?

Smaiya: Yes.

Rios: Good question. There are now three Federal organizations that represent student voices in different ways. I think at the end of the day, our principle position is that we're working with students. I'll use the analogy I was talking to Maria-Helena about earlier. When our organization was created twenty years ago, we were created to be a BMW. We were not created to be an off road vehicle, we were not created to do a number of different things, we were created to be a high-end advocacy organization with a focus on research. We were not built to be the best at campaigning. We were not necessarily built to be the best at getting onto every single campus and meeting with students day in and day out. That's not necessarily how our organization was built. We can change that way if our membership wants us to. What our organization was built to be was the best at advocacy and research. That's what we've been focused on, and I wouldn't necessarily say that the other organizations don't do that, but I can tell you that that's our focus and scope. We change as our membership directs us to, but that's what CASA is and I think we've been successful at that. Again, that goes back to our reputation. If you were to ask an MP "What is CASA?" they would tell you "Strong research and strong

Sergi: If I can build on the member drive component as well, something that separates CASA from some of the other lobby groups is the ebb and flow of

membership. We have seen members leave, new members come, and some old members come back, so there's no long term, drawn out battles of membership and non-membership. We're able to contribute very diverse issues but also produce educated solutions.

Campbell: Could you tell me some of the projects you've done for aboriginal students?

Rios: We have a policy manual that is the size of a Harry Potter book. I know that as a student leader, I wasn't like Kyle who is diligent and has gone through all of our policy manuals. I was a little more hesitant. We have a significant amount of policy focused on aboriginal and First Nations students. It is the fastest growing population in this country in terms of youth. That is significant because we want to ensure that those youth have every opportunity to be successful. In our opinion, post secondary education is a key piece to that success. We want to ensure that those youth are successful. Whether it's PTSP or AFN it's important to interact with them. Our job is to ensure that we are providing the right solutions. To answer your question, the past federal budget we had three projects centered on aboriginal affairs. One was that all students who needed funds, were getting funds, another piece was around youth employment, and another piece specifically to mental health. We're going to be renewing that mandate and will be doing a research paper on those areas.

Hashmi: You mentioned that if someone were interested in a specific research area, could you go over the process involved with that? Would we email you? Could you give us some information on who to talk to and what steps to take?

Rios: There are a number of different ways. You have Antonio and Kyle to bring your priorities to CASA. Obviously Kyle sits on the policy committee, so that's a very advantageous committee to be on because it actually affects the policy of the organization. If this is just a piece meal thing you can phone us. There are a number of different pathways. Use the voices that you have, but if this is an interest that you have, call us because we never turn down a phone call. You can call us, or one of our other members. We love talking to our members.

Sergi: Using us as a resource is great, as well as Alex, but if something comes up that you think hasn't been covered, we're more than happy to network with you folks and connect you in the ways you need to ensure that you see the return you want to see.

Rose: That's exactly why we were elected to be on the committees we are on now. That topic is specifically in Spencer and I's platforms and we're working on creating programming to make this happen on campus for students. If you're interested in getting involved, just let us know.

Banava: Back to the elections, what are the expectations of CASA for us councilors?

Rios: We are going to ask our delegates to select what their goal is. It's up to you. All we're asking for is investment and engagement. Anything could happen, and

this could be an amazing opportunity for students to actually have an impact, and that's significant.

Eady: I was just curious, how many schools do you represent with how many students approximately in how many provinces?

Rios: We represent 21 members of campuses, soon to be 22. We represent over 250, 000 students. I want to say 7 provinces. I'll confirm that with you. I'm pretty sure it's 7 though.

Smaiya: Have you ever had a conflict of interest in terms of what they're advocating for on a certain subject?

Rios: There's a lot of conflict. Conflict is good. There's a lot of conflict about what the priorities should be. We have a conference that typically informs our entire year called Policy and Strategy. It informs what our strategy is for the year. There could be contention between undergraduate and graduate, a school in Ontario that has an issue important to them and a school in British Columbia that has an issue important to them. We are a consensus-based organization so we try to find consensus. We don't have to get the vote counter out every single time we vote on an advocacy priority. I can't think of anything that's been overly contentious in the last three years. There's a healthy debate. We often try to find consensus despite different motivations. We're here to represent students, and when you can ground yourself back in that you can typically find consensus.

Pacelli: We also help you with that to do the research and come back with information about what the current topics are, what are the inroads we think we can have with the government currently in office, what are the data available in any given topic that will help us make relevant asks on any given topic. You have the support of staff in terms of bringing in relevant information so when the membership meets you have that information available when the deliberation takes place.

Rios: We have very structured sessions to hold these deliberations.

Rose: I also want to convey that it has been in my experience with certain schools in terms of writing a policy and stance that doesn't fall exactly in the main focus of the overall group.. we still get supported and there's a wealth of knowledge and resources available to us.

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Presentation—Student Life Fee

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BUSAC Dates

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| BIRT BUSAC approves Wednesday at 6pm for the dates of BUSAC |
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| Amin, Banava |
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| 21-In favor 1-Against 3-Abstain |
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10.0

Approval of AGM Date

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| BIRT BUSAC approve the AGM dates |
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| Banava, Campbell |
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| 23-In favor 0-Against 2-Abstain |
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11.0

Approval of Election Dates

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| BIRT BUSAC approves the election dates |
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| Banava, Verrier |
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| 24-In favor 0-Against 1-Abstain |
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11.0

Election – Clubs Policy Committee (2 Members)

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| BIRT BUSAC elects Hejazi and Hashmi to the Clubs Policy Committee for the 2015-2016 term |
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| -In favor -Against -Abstain |
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11.0

Election – Elections and Referenda Committee (3 Members)

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| BIRT BUSAC elects Hobbs, Stewart, and Irandost to the Elections and Referenda Committee for the 2015-2016 term |
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| -In favor |
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| -Abstain |

11.0

Election – Environment Committee (2 Members)

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| BIRT BUSAC elects Sufi and Nguyen to the Environment Committee for the 2015-2016 term |
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| -In favor |
| -Against |
| -Abstain |

11.0

Election – External Affairs Committee (3 Members)

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| BIRT BUSAC elects Singh, Banava, and Campbell to the External Affairs Committee for the 2015-2016 term |
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| -In favor |
| -Against |
| -Abstain |

11.0

Election – Hiring Committee (4 Members)

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| BIRT BUSAC elects Sufi, Coetzee, Berardocco, and Sergi to the Hiring Committee for the 2015-2016 term |
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| -In favor -Against -Abstain |
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11.0

Election – Internal Affairs Committee (3 Councillors)

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| BIRT BUSAC elects Hejazi, Ambrosio, and Hanula to the Internal Affairs Committee for the 2015-2016 term |
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| -In favor -Against -Abstain |
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11.0

Election – New Building Committee (1 Member)

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| BIRT BUSAC elects Berryman to the New Building Committee for the 2015-2016 term |
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| -In favor -Against -Abstain |
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11.0

Election – Referendum Implementation & Levy Review Committee (3 Members)

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| BIRT BUSAC elects Sufi, Hobbs, Sergi to the Referendum Implementation & Levy Review Committee for the 2015-2016 term |
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| -In favor -Against -Abstain |
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11.0

Election – Student Life Advisory Committee (2)

BIRT BUSAC elects Berryman and Berardocco to the Student Life Advisory Committee for the 2015-2016 term

-In favor
-Against
-Abstain

12.0

Resignation of Adam Zoccoli

BIRT BUSAC approves the resignation of Adam Zoccoli

24-In favor
1-Against
2-Abstain

13.0

Transfer of Powers to Board of Directors

BIRT BUSAC transfers its authority to the BUSU Board of Directors until the BUSAC September meeting

26-In favor all
0-Against
1-Abstain

14.0

Report – Governance Committee

15.0

Report – General Manager

16.0

Report – VP Student Services

17.0

Report – VP External Affairs

Fuller: Are you accepting volunteers anymore?

Sergi: We are taking on volunteers on a per campaign basis. At the moment we're looking for O-Week volunteers to advocate for the "Dear First Year Me" campaign. As the year progresses, that's where we can evaluate where people's interests lie with different campaigns.

Eady: My question is about advocacy volunteers. Are Board of Director members not allowed to be volunteers for the Advocacy team this year?

Sergi: That was something that we were discussing. There is a policy in terms of Board of Directors that prohibits them from having employment with BUSU, so a conversation that we have been having is comparing and contrasting what that commitment looks like, and if there are similarities and differences. At this time there is no policy that prohibits them from doing so.

18.0

Report – VP Finance and Administration

19.0

Report - President

20.0

Closed Question Period

Eady: I don't really know who to direct my question to, so whoever wants to answer can. My question is regarding the black face incident last year. BUSU said they were going to be doing stuff about that going forward, so I'm just wondering what's being done this year to ensure something similar to that doesn't happen again this year.

Prouse: In my report you will see that we rolled out a diversity training workshop that went out to all full time staff. We will be doing a follow up with all of the coordinators and then our support staff and the student justice center and the advocacy team to educate students. In terms of Halloween, we're putting together a list of absolute "no-no's" that are disrespectful. I'd rather come at it from an educational perspective than I would the finger waving perspective of the evening.

Banava: I would like to ask the executives something. I know you have a lot of projects going on. If I, or anyone else, wants to get involved should we contact you via email, Facebook? What would you prefer? I feel like Facebook is the best one, but it's very unprofessional. What would you prefer?

Executive: Email would be best.

Smaiya: What I know about CASA is we pay through Division 1. The previous year there was a lot of controversy about why we are paying them this way and not through a different division. Do you have any plans on changing that, or is it the same as previous years?

Sergi: I wouldn't say that one of the contentious parts about our membership with CASA would be Division 1. That's where the fee was implemented when we became a member. Division one for those of you who may want clarification about what we're talking about, is the main pool of funds that we use to separate priorities. Everything under the External Affairs portfolio comes from Division 1, just on different lines and different segments. It's something we can re-examine and look at. The budget will be presented I believe on September 16 at the first meeting of BUSAC for the school year. That may be more appropriate time to bring up that specific line. In the meantime I can try to gather more context about that.

Dawson: Division 1 is our operating budget, so everything that we need in order to operate in our position falls under that division. Does that answer your question?

Smaiya: Yeah.

Sufi: Just to let you know as well, RILRC's review of CASA looked into this as well.

Speaker: If you need to find the location, send us an email. It's all on the BUSU website though.

Sergi: Can I ask a follow-up question? As a new councilor, I really appreciate that you're trying to find out more information and that you're engaged. I'm wondering why you thought that was the most contentious part of our membership?

Smaiya: I heard from watching the previous BUSAC meetings, it was one of the issues that was brought up and talked about.

Eady: This question is for Mr. Sergi. Do you think it is appropriate to pay for CASA's membership solely through Division 1 and not through an ancillary fee?

Sergi: I'm not sure I understand the question fully in terms of 'fairness'. It is our operating budget that we've used in the past as the norm. Our membership with CASA is about having affordable representation for the students.

Smaiya: Do you have any updates regarding OPIRG?

Rose: With respect to what?

Smaiya: Any new developments?

Sergi: Developments in terms of? Their organization? Their structure?

Smaiya: In terms of your relationship with OPIRG. Any developments on that?

Sergi: As far as I'm aware we're separate entities.

Prouse: What exactly are you getting at? Is there anything that you would like to know specifically?

Smaiya: Never mind.

Eady: This question is directed at Sergi. You say that keeping it in division 1 would make sure that the fee doesn't increase. My question is how would making it an ancillary fee would make it more likely to be increased, without proper oversight compared to Division 1? What would the difference be?

Sergi: Again I would have to make reference back to the findings of RILRC. We trusted that committee to fully evaluate our membership as well as the way we pay into it. I trust their findings. Once the budget is submitted to council this may be a conversation to have then. We want to keep costs as low as possible for students to receive high quality representation.

Verrier: I think the main issue that is being discussed here is that with it coming out of Division 1, it hinders BUSU's ability to do other things with less funds in the budget. I have noticed there have been concerns with us not doing as much during the school year—correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe it's around \$20,000 that we are paying out of Division 1 for our membership?

Prouse: More than that.

Sergi: A little more.

Verrier: So it is a big sanction that we are having on our ability as a students' union to do things for our students. Having it as an ancillary fee will allow us to stay a member and leave us more money in our budget to do more for our students.

Sergi: Working with this executive team, as well as our staff in the office, we've taken on a lot of ambitious endeavours. We've seen the expansion of roofs, plans for an amazing O-week, we've seen the continuation of Entrepreneurship Week and a plethora of resources. I can confidently say that having it in that portion of the budget hinders any student opportunities. I think that an ancillary fee would place a little more oversight for council, however, it allows the person who is predominantly responsible for our membership into CASA being included in the conversation. Again, it's our operating budget and I think we make the best use of our funds that are available. The amount that we pay for CASA is a representation of the amount of students that we have. Universities of different sizes will pay different amounts. It's the way that we've done it since we joined in the late 90s, and despite our increase in student population we haven't seen any drastic increases in membership costs. Once the budget is submitted it would be best to discuss this once you see all of the things we have planned for the year so you can evaluate whether it's truly hindering any student opportunities.

Rose: In terms of accountability, the executive that come together to form that budget were elected by the entire student body, and henceforth are the primary accountability mechanism. This budget also gets submitted to the finance

committee, to you folks at BUSAC so we are a credible. It also gets submitted to BUSAC and the Board of Directors. I would first of all, familiarize yourself with that. I would second of all, familiarize yourself with RILRC's report, and third, for further context in order to get a deeper understanding, I highly recommend setting up a meeting with Sergi.

21.0

Information and Reminders

Rose: Isaacs army is the new volunteer group on campus, not just for showing your school spirit at games and events, but for philanthropic and volunteer acts. During the Saturday of orientation week we'll be having Brock Cares Day that Brian was talking about, we'll also be doing a lot potentially before and after Spencer has his international student pick up service that has been established this year. If you want to be involved with this let us know.

Sergi: Everything is outlined in my report. Please don't hesitate to ask me any questions by emailing me to schedule a meeting.

Dawson: Volunteers for the airport pick up. It's a huge initiative and it would be awesome if you guys could lend a helping hand.

Horvath: We have some great things coming or orientation week. We're going to be jet boating, there'll be a huge slide and watery fun, but what's really important is that we show up for the Brock Cares Day to show how beneficial students are for the community, especially when we're opening up a new location downtown.

Speaker: Kayleigh and I will try to coordinate something on our end as well for Brock Cares. We can submit a team as BUSAC to pick and choose what we want to do as an activity. We can put up a poll on the Facebook group.

Sufi: I just want to take this opportunity to remind you all that with o-week coming, this is a great way to introduce yourselves to your constituents.

Verrier: Just a reminder for everyone to share the hashtag BUSAC and Istafaisbae.