

Brock University Students' Administrative Council



Meeting: 7

Date: November 18, 2015, 7:00pm

Speaker: Chris Ventura

Deputy Speaker: John Pappas

Recording Secretary: Kaitlyn Daw

OVERVIEW

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Adjournment

1.0

Call to Order

2.0

Approval of the Agenda

Motion to add the first reading of the External Affairs Bylaw.

Hashmi, Berryman

Hashmi: It was presented to governance and we made some clerical changes to it. We thought it was ready for the first reading.

BIRT BUSAC approves the agenda for the November 18, 2015 meeting as amended.

33-In favor 0-Against 1-Abstain

3.0

Adoption of the Minutes

BIRT BUSAC approves the November 4, 2015 minutes.

33-In favor 0-Against 1-Abstain

4.0

Open Question Period

5.0

Notes from the Speaker

Some of you may have heard that I will be leaving at 11 tonight. I have several events to host this week and will be starting work tomorrow at 8:00AM so I'm not going to be staying past then. If the meeting goes beyond that point John can take over as per his role as Deputy Speaker. Hopefully we're done by 11, but if not, John is going to jump in.

I want to remind that your end of term councilor reports are due at the December 2 meeting. I've only received one from Miss Budgeon, so a gold star goes to her for being the first one to submit her report three weeks in advance. If it's not done by then, we will be taking ten minutes at the beginning of the meeting for you to write it, so if you don't want anyone else to be disgruntled about making the meeting unnecessarily longer, please submit your report on time. It's only one or two paragraphs explaining what you did and what you want to do next term as a councilor. Everyone is required to do so as per the BUSAC councilor bylaw.

We should have the results from the governance survey for you next week.

I'd like to talk to you all about social media use over the past few weeks or days from some student councilors that have raised some concerns. We did discuss this in the summer, but to reiterate, now that you are all elected representatives it is hard for people to differentiate between you, the individual, and you, the councilor. Please be aware that you now represent a group of students, so when you post things they reflect on the groups you represent. There's nothing we can do to stop you, and we're not able to police what you post, but it's important for you to keep in mind. Just look into statistics and numbers to ensure what you are sharing is that may purport something incorrect.

Madi has put around a survey about her business that she's working on the side, so feel free to pass it back to her when you're done.

If it's a political view held widely, that's totally fine. We're not trying to police what you're ... just be aware of what you're sharing.

6.0

Presentation – Club Funding Request (BNMUN)

BNMUN presents their club funding request to BUSAC.

Sufi: What sort of fundraising have you done so far?

BNMUN: We're restricted with fundraising because we can't have any sponsors. We have realized that sponsorships are a really good opportunity for teams to be able to get support in the future. We found out that we can put sponsorships at the end of our videos. What we're planning on doing is, before going to different people to see how much they're willing to sponsor us for if we include them in the video, the problem we've had is figuring out how to get the video out to as many people as possible to make it worth their time. We realize with the support of Brock TV we'll be able to get that video out pretty quickly. The problem is that we don't know how much these companies will be willing to give.

Another problem with fundraising that we've had, for example, is that for \$650, which was the previous amount that was going to be paid for students, it will come to about 47.7 hours for the person to work individually to pay for that. Outside of that they are expected 3 hours in class mandatory to be with us, and they need to study 2-3 hours outside of class getting ready for that. On top of that they need to spend about the same amount of time practicing for the actual country we are doing, which is Poland, and they will be expected to write a two-page essay that will have to be submitted to the NCCA. We talked to CPC for about 20 minutes about possibly having a two-tiered system, which we think is a good idea. The only problem is trying to get people to join our club, since not many people want to necessarily listen to policy conversations for three hours and spend time outside of class to study for those policy conversations. We have some people who tend to leave once they find out they won't be able to come to the conference. If we get the cost down it will help get more people out.

Verrier: In your fundraising does that include what members pay?

BNMUN: That fundraising includes what we're paying right now. Out of pocket it will be 778 per person, which, if you times it by 24 equals \$18672.

Verrier: Whatever you do fundraise people won't owe? In other words, the more you raise the less people pay?

BNMUN: Yes.

Aggarwal: Why are you staying 6 nights in the hotel when the conference is only 5 days?

BNMUN: When we show up to the hotel we've had some issues getting into the hotel room at the right time. In the past we've gotten in at 6 o'clock when we supposed to get in at 3. This will not be used as a night to socialize and visit New York City. From the point we get to the hotel we're going to get the competitive edge by studying and preparing for the next day, because we do go right into competition the next day. The reason we've worked it out like this is because of the low cost of the transportation and working in the extra day we still come out \$200 on top of what we paid last year for transportation. With that we do need the extra day because we show up at 5AM, so we will need to spend a night there.

Sufi: I'm glad you're looking into sponsorship opportunities, but have you looked at other things such as Boston Pizza's (BP) dine for a cause or something like that?

BNMUN: We have asked people if they have any ideas to please share them with us. BP has been brought up by a couple of delegates. The only problem was that we don't know how much we're going to make from that upfront. When we do the fundraising we're hoping to make quite a bit of money, but we really have no idea how much we're going to get.

Horvath: You keep talking about fundraising, but what have you actually done?

BNMUN: There are a lot of restraints. United Nations doesn't allow us to do sponsorships, so what we've done is look into how we can get those sponsorships

and present it to the school. It is a definite process and we've been talking to people about the possibility of bottle drives and all that kind of stuff. It is something we're going to have to start working toward now, and then next semester we'll hopefully have something.

Horvath: You continue to say that you've talked about it, but you physically haven't put any energy into the actual fundraising?

BNMUN: We haven't actually gone out to do the fundraising now, but we have fundraised 18,000 out of our pockets, so we have actually done some fundraising. Now we're trying to work on top of that \$18,000 for personal fundraising to make it more affordable. We're looking for means outside of the student pocket.

Fuller: The official team was just made, too.

Ambrosio: Given the fluctuating exchange rate, do you have a contingency plan in place?

BNMUN: We tried to do the exchange rate at 75 cents. We've seen it hopefully getting better. Our contingency, if that should happen, would be to go to the students and explain to them that there will be an increase in costs since it's so much money.

Campbell: Why don't they allow sponsorships?

BNMUN: They don't want us putting sponsorships on "swag", but they've allowed us to include sponsorships at the end of videos. Personally, I think they don't want outside influences brought into the competition. You're representing a country, not a company.

Campbell: Do you think this barrier restricts you from fundraising?

BNMUN: No, I don't think it restricts us from fundraising, but we don't know how much we can get. Presenting a cost to people right now is extremely important because right now we're asking people to make a serious financial commitment. We can't guess what we'll be able to bring that amount down to. We seriously hope we'll be able to bring that cost down for them, but because it's such a large trip, there's really only so much we can do for fundraising. If we can only get a couple thousand dollars it would make more sense for the students to pick up a few extra shifts at work and pay that money out of pocket since they'll be putting the same amount of effort and time into fundraising as they would at work. Fundraising is an awesome opportunity and we're going to take advantage of it, but because the cost is so high it will likely, in part, come out of student pockets.

Eady: How does your club benefit Brock as a whole?

BNMUN: Myself and other executives feel so strongly about this because it's an unprecedented experience for Brock students. We believe that not only does this bring benefit to Brock University as a whole, the students who attend this are able to come back with a set of skills too. It really helps expand our horizons. We get out our name, and the experience and opinions that students bring back help make a more well rounded school. It's an incredible opportunity.

Verrier: There was talk about how the US dollar is operating. If you were to put a number on a safety net, what would that number be?

BNMUN: About \$1300. We have had a talk with our delegates. We've had some concern because the cost has gone up quite a lot since last year. We've explained that there might be a larger amount to be paid with the exchange rate, but we've made it very clear.

Verrier: If we were to bring up a loan for \$1300, would that help your club?

BNMUN: The thing about the loan is that it would have to be paid out of the student pockets eventually. We would probably ask the students to pay for it directly because it's going to be something they will incur no matter what.

Aggarwal: How can you justify (to the students of Brock University) paying \$450 for each of your delegates?

BNMUN: Out of the club funding, we're offering an experiential learning opportunity, and it's an opportunity to put this on their resume. I personally can't think of any other clubs that offer an opportunity like this. We want to offer this experiential learning opportunity to anyone wanting to try out for the team competitively. The club funding is setting that standard of the cost that we can get it down to, and getting people involved. The reason I can justify the cost is because it's beneficial to any student that joins. It's extremely beneficial opportunity that can't be replicated anywhere else. It's a chance to expand the school's horizons.

Berryman: Have you looked into any fundraising opportunities other than sponsorship? Have you considered crowd funding?

BNMUN: We get a lot of connections with different head delegates and their crowd funding, from what they've told me, doesn't gain much revenue. It's something we considered doing, but we wanted to get a more solid means of raising funds. It would be something we're interested in looking into though, for sure.

Berardocco: I'm in a similar situation where I'm attending a conference. When I didn't receive all of the funding that I requested I did look into other avenues available at Brock for funding. I'm not sure if you're aware, but a portion of the President's fund is specifically there to use for supporting students going away on conferences, symposiums, and stuff like that. In the case that you don't get the funding you're asking for, that is another avenue you can potentially explore.

BNMUN: That's awesome information to know for sure. We are generally a new club. We have been in talks with our Political Science Department, and we're hoping this turns into something sponsored more by faculty in the future. It's generally something students have a lot of help to do. We're run by students, and we've come so far by our own commitment. We've gone a long way from where we started.

Craig: Just for clarification, as per the events mandate your choice of accommodations are mandatory or else you will incur additional fees, is that right?

BNMUN: We will incur a cost of \$50 per person and it will be up to us to pay for the different costs such as Internet for each of the rooms. We'll also incur travel expenses depending on how far it will be. We are going to New York, one of the largest cities of the world. It is scary enough to walk around New York when you don't know the area, but it can be a bit much for the delegates to take in as well. Incurring those additionally fees to ensure the safety of our delegates is worth the extra charges.

7.0

Presentation – Club Funding Request (Brock Dance)

Mady DeLuca and Krystal Morgan present the Brock Dance funding request.

Jaberi: It says you usually sell 706 seats, right?

Brock Dance: We've never held the benefit here before since we've always held it at Dhowes. Since they've moved we've had to relocate. The only theatres that they offer are 306 seats and 706 seats, and we usually sell out our benefit show at Dhowes, which has 550 seats. We decided to go with a bigger theatre because we will be involving more students, kids, and families so we expect to sell more tickets.

Jaberi: Your budget says you will sell 550 seats, but there are 706 seats? I'm confused.

Brock Dance: That's because we usually sell out for the benefit show, which used to be in Dhowes that holds 550 people.

Campbell: Why didn't you get a smaller theatre?

Brock Dance: We have two shows as well. It's a smaller figure, so for cost it makes more sense to have that theatre. We usually sell out at Dhowes, so it's more beneficial to do downtown.

8.0

Presentation – Speaker Report

Chris Ventura presents the Speaker's Report regarding the length of BUSAC meetings.

Eady: How big of a reduction do you think would be effective?

Speaker: I don't know if there's a number, all I know is that I've done some research in conjunction with governance committee on our model in comparison to others. I believe we passed around some information during the July meeting as well. We did a bar graph with the number of full-time enrolled students versus number of student councilors and compared 15 organizations who reported back to us. Brock and Western had a spiked ratio. I think there's some research behind it, but I don't think there's a magic number that indicates what is an ideal number

for a student council. Out of the 15 schools from coast to coast that we heard from, we are the highest number of councilors. Most councils range between 15 and 25 voting members, and we're obviously double that. Governance committee has taken a very research based approach to it. What does it mean to have a large, engaged council, and what are the impacts if we decided to reduce the size of council and change the composition? It's a big thing for sure.

Aggarwal: How is BUSAC going to say, "let's go ahead and do this" logistically?

Speaker: Restructuring the club funding model would require a bylaw change. It would have to go through governance and CPC. I've heard some things said about changing the amount of funding provided by CPC to \$1500, but I personally don't think that addresses the issue. Other universities and unions have different funding models. This group would set the rules of funding, and there would be a committee that deals with all of the funding. Brock Dance would only come to present to CPC and CPC would be empowered to fund them based on our recommendations from BUSAC. That completely changes the way we model club funding. I think it's a discussion that needs to go on for a little bit to flesh out the pros and cons, since everything we change has repercussions that affect something else down the line. Changing the size of council will be a bylaw change and will require a change to the elections bylaw as well. Empowering committees is bylaw stuff. Revisiting roles and responsibilities is an ongoing conversation piece. We're spending 90% of our time on 10% of the issues. What are we not doing currently? I think those are conversations we need to have for sure. Combining the opening and closing question periods is another bylaw change. Creating time limits for questions would be a Standing Orders change. None of this is impossible, and not all of this needs to happen to make things better. I think most of these work well with each other and they aren't necessarily dependent on the others.

Campbell: I like the idea of committee centered council. I think that if we have most of the business dealt with committees and they bring in a motion to us it would save us a lot of time. I think that we should increase roles of committees. I'm not sure meeting weekly would always be feasible, maybe with the approval of all council we could have a special meeting when needed?

Speaker: You can actually call a special meeting already, that wouldn't have to be formally changed. I think the Senate reporting structure is a good idea. Senate works, there are 8 committees and those 8 committees are empowered to do work in that area. If those changes need to go to Senate, Senate briefly discusses it and votes on it. That's essentially how everything would come to BUSAC if this were to be done.

Sufi: Just clarify, for the open and closed question periods, did you say it would have to be a change to the bylaw? Or will it be a change to the standing orders.

Speaker: I believe it is in the BUSAC bylaw for some reason. I don't know how it made its way up into a bylaw, but it's there.

Hashmi: Do we all want to discuss this now, or do we want to reach a consensus on things we want to investigate into?

Speaker: This has no motion attached it to. Someone would have to open the agenda and refer it to the governance committee if that's the will of council. It doesn't mean that you're saying this is something you want to do, it would just start the conversation around this. If you think something should be added or removed you can do that as well. You guys can do whatever you want with these recommendations.

Fuller: If we wanted to refer this to governance, we would have to open agenda?

Speaker: Yes, but we don't have to do that right now. We can finish discussion first.

Jaberi: I would recommend that we meet next week to take a quick hour or two to go through and talk about this. Everyone would be more informed by then to talk about it.

Speaker: Sure.

Verrier: In that respect would someone have to make a special meeting for next week?

Speaker: I would say no, and here's why. A special meeting of BUSAC would enforce the rigid structure of rules we have. I think a town hall or forum would be more informal for discussion about these issues.

Verrier: How would we go about doing that?

Speaker: Just say it. We don't need a formal motion for it. I can post it in the Facebook group and we'll look for another space if this room is already booked. If we are going to do that, the model I would recommend is doing what we did at Senate when we were discussing strategic planning directives. We can set up four smaller subgroups to rotate around the room focusing on different topics.

Campbell: I would like to recommend that we include our recommendations in our councilor reports based on the presentation for the end of the semester.

Speaker: That would be great. I want to hear about your ideas and it's a great space to express them.

Motion to open the agenda to add "BIRT BUSAC refer the Speaker report to Governance Committee."

Hashmi, Fuller

Add to the agenda: "BIRT BUSAC refer the Speaker report to Governance Committee."

34-In favor 0-Against 1-Abstain

Item is added to the agenda.

9.0

Clubs Policy Committee Report (Club Funding)

BNMUN Funding Request

Horvath: They are taking so much money. We simplified our reasoning in the paragraph in the report. Our recommendation is \$4,240.56, and that pays the delegate fees. They talked about how it is an incredible experience, which it is for them, but to justify us spending that money. I feel that looking at our club budget, we have \$21,000 left.

Verrier: With that, we can also look at that for Brock Improv in the way we sent them out to different meetings and conferences. They take on a lot of the expenses themselves. They represent Brock but it's not for us per say, but it is a representation of Brock. We are paying for their experience. In respect to that, I don't feel it is a good enough reason to take the money away.

Fuller: Saying it's only good for UN makes no sense. As someone who went last year, we go there and put Brock on the map. The Political Science Department is thinking about making this as a course, that's how amazing this is. Improv has an open choice for people to come and not have to pay, model UN opens it up and if you don't make the team they still allow them to come.

Budgeon: I'm going to explain the rationale a bit more. First of all, both clubs changed their request. Both of our recommendations are made based on what was presented to CPC, not what they presented to BUSAC. The reason we chose that amount is because we felt that, first of all that is their delegate fee to help them enter the model UN for all 24 people who want to go. The \$13,335 they originally asked for, the reason we cut back so much—I would love if we could give every club what they ask for, since that's what the money is there for—unfortunately this year we can't afford to do that. At the bottom of your report you will see there is about \$21,306 left in the club funding budget for the entire year for all clubs. We just approved funding this Tuesday for some other clubs, so we're actually down to \$20,864.09. We asked for all of the clubs to submit their club budgets for this year and there are 59,000 in asks outstanding for this year. Whatever you decide to do tonight, please keep these numbers in mind and remember that we need money left over for the other clubs waiting to come to CPC.

Eady: We're debating the \$13,000 right now?

Speaker: Yes.

Hobbs: I was the founder and president of this club. Before I continue, I won't be recommending anything or saying anything is good or bad, and I will not be voting yes or no. I have heard a lot of questioning about how this benefits everyone else, and how we can justify spending this much money in general. When we were in the UN great hall, the speaker on the stage took a moment and told us to "think about where you are right now." An hour later in front of 2500 students from 250 universities from 38 countries around the world, Brock University stood up in the UN great hall and was recognized as being one of the best delegations in the entire world. This is the largest conference of its kind in the entire world. When we're asking how this benefits all students, the majority of universities there did not know who Brock University was, but I guarantee you that everyone who was there then knows who we are now. One of our papers that was passed, was actually adopted by the United Nations and the contents of that paper was tabled as a discussion topic at the UN. That's just something to consider. It literally puts us on the map.

Irandoost: I wanted to let you know that I think it is a good experience because it promotes Brock internationally. This is my first year on UN, I know what they do but I can only imagine how many students don't know what they do since there are limitations to the type of marketing they can do.

Hashmi: Obviously model UN is a fantastic club, I have a huge amount of respect for them and they literally do put Brock on the map. Where we're coming from is if we give them their entire funding request, you're literally asking us to leave \$9,000 in the club funding budget which takes 50% of the the funding for the rest of the year. You are depriving other clubs who still have to be ratified. We're not saying it's not a fantastic club, that's not what we're discussing at all. It's not sustainable for the rest of the clubs at Brock.

Sufi: Just speaking to that, again, we have \$21,000 left in the budget after the first ratification period, which means we have 13 new clubs that have had no opportunity for fundraising just starting out. Please keep this in mind.

Aggarwal: I think it would be extremely irresponsible to leave 6000 left in club funding, so I would ask that the next person on the speaking turn to please make a motion to amend.

Campbell: The Presidents initiative funding, would UN consider that as well? Talking to the university to get funding?

Hobbs: Yes that's something that's been done in the past. How those funds are given is not usually in the spirit of what happens here. It usually goes to students themselves in need rather than the club itself.

Hejazi: In my opinion, BNMUN is probably one of the best clubs at Brock. If we had more money in our budget to give them the full amount, I would be more than

happy to do it. We have 18,500 students paying into this fee and our recommendation came from the fact that 24 students to go there, yes it is important and they are representing Brock, but you're also going to the event for yourself. You're making networking opportunities, you're learning more, you're writing policy papers. Going off of Verrier's point, we did help Brock improve out, however, they did make an attempt to raise funds. For two of their trips they are staying at residences, so they went out of their way to minimize costs. Unfortunately BNMUN hasn't gone above and beyond to accommodate costs. The president's enhancement fund is also there. This is our recommendation made off of the \$21,000 that was left in the budget.

Rose: This is pretty much going to echo what's already been said. They're awesome and do great things, and in terms of increasing student reputation it does a bunch of great things. I see merit in attending this competition, but what's troubling me isn't just the fact that they're asking for more money than we can give them in a financially prudent way. My issue is the tangible outcomes of any efforts to obtain sponsorship funds that are reflective of them being successful in what they advertise. I don't think they've done enough to utilize the resources on campus to reach that goal. If we knew about this weeks, or even months ago, they could have put a request in earlier and they could have at least come to the executive. I think there are more proactive ways they could have gone through to raise some of the funds that they currently need.

Eady: I just wanted to say that this club is saying they're willing to cover over half of their costs themselves, and anything they fundraise will go towards the costs of the individuals going on the trip. They are saying the \$18,000 is how much they are going to pay plus fundraising, which is well over half the amount of money that the trip is going to cost. I don't think it's unreasonable for us to pay more than \$4,240. I would recommend moving that closer to \$10,000.

Fuller: Echoing Calvin's point, the thing with sponsorships that they mentioned in their presentation, since it's organized by UN it limits how much the club can get in sponsorships. The club just made its official team two weeks ago too. We have to follow a timeline. We literally just had the first meeting. Since it's half of what they got last year, I'm not trying to bash what was recommended, but it seems crazy how their request was split completely in half.

Verrier: We had how much in club funding?

Budgeon: \$20,864.09.

Verrier: How much did we start the year with?

Budgeon: \$63,543.25.

Irandoost: We should consider the funding going to other clubs, not just the UN. We should consider what we're really giving. We're only in November and we have more clubs.

Kayitaba: I completely agree with what Sarah is saying. Unfortunately because of the current budget situation, the budget that will be remaining is going to be almost half of what there currently is. I have no doubt that BNMUN is great club. I think we should be more responsible in how we manage the funds. We unfortunately can't take the money out from somewhere else and I think we should be more conservative to other clubs.

Hashmi: It's not that we're biased and have been giving other clubs their full funding, it's because of the amount this club is asking for and the funding we have left, and the amount of clubs that will be coming to CPC. Model UN is amazing, I love international health policy so I get it, but it's not fair.

Hejazi: We have over 100 clubs at Brock, to give 20% to one club is not justifiable. We're working for the students. Say a club wanted to go to Mexico, where do we make the cut off?

Rose: I want to make the point of the fact that even though the amount is half of what was asked for last year, I don't think should be considered more favourable. Last year it was towards the end of the semester. It was far enough along in the year that I was very uncomfortable that that much money went. Then there's the fact that it was in American dollars is a huge factor as well. There hasn't been consideration of that at all other than what was brought up in that presentation. I would hesitate people bringing last year into their decision making logic. I wasn't okay with the amount that was given. Furthermore, going off how much money is being asked for, although they weren't able to have a confirmed idea of what the prices would have been, I think there's enough of a learning curve in getting as much money as they did last year to start earlier.

Jaberi: How much should we make the recommendation?

Berardocco: We do need to set some parameters for how the funding is distributed. For example, for clubs that are coming to request funds to attend conferences, should we not be allocating a justifiable amount that is fair and equal for every club? I think the recommendations that CPC has made is fair and justifiable in that the delegate fee will be covered instead of paying for their transportation and hotel. I had a great conversation with Abby about this today because I do know that other clubs will be coming to us with similar asks. Where do we draw the line between us giving them funds to represent Brock University and us giving them funds to cover every cost incurred? It's important to keep that in mind.

Speaker: That's a good primer for next Wednesday's discussion to talk about club funding.

BIRT BUSAC approve \$13,353.24 as a grant from Club Funding to the National Model United Nations.

Horvath, Hashmi

-In favor
-Against
-Abstain (Budgeon)

Motion to amend to \$8,000.

Craig, Verrier

BIRT BUSAC amend the club funding request to read
“BIRT BUSAC approve \$8,000 from Club Funding to the
Brock National Model United Nations.”

Craig: Looking at the logistics, the official team just being formed and them having to stick to a timeline, I think it’s a little unfair for them to receive \$4,500. I do think that \$13,000 is too much, but \$8000 is enough to get their feet off the ground for now. As a club that funds themselves, I want to ensure they’ll have enough funds to help the delegates.

Horvath: It’s a great opportunity for these individuals who will be representing the school, but at the same time you referenced that the team was only selected two weeks ago. In two weeks you knew the cost of the trip, so why not start to fundraise right away? Also, you’re staying in the Sheraton in downtown New York and your main justification is mostly because it’s convenient. Did you guys talk about how you have to stay up late and get up early? Welcome to what everyone at BUSU did during O-week. A large percent of each of the club funding is going to each of these students when it should be spread out among everyone else.

Eady: Part of the recommendation was that they stay outside of New York which is very unreasonable because you’ll have to pay for transportation everyday which won’t be any cheaper. It’s not just the travel expense, it costs more than what the organization has arranged.

Regier: Although I appreciate your comments I feel as if you’re being a little disrespectful in a sense. At the expenses I have shown, we have changed from what our delegates have asked for. It’s not that we don’t want to wake up at 5am, it’s about ensuring security. The hotel we’re staying at is where the conference is happening and it will have extra security because of the UN. If we wanted to stay in New Jersey and Brooklyn of course it will be cheaper, but we will have to pay the organization more money. There are 4 executives and 20 people we’re responsible for and if we board elsewhere we will have to pay for a phone plan for each person and transportation, which is another extra expense added to the pocket of the student.

Kayitaba: What's the extra fee?

Regier: The portage hotel fee is an additional fee they ask for. If you stay at the Sheraton, you have to pay a fee per person. If you stay at another hotel you have to pay \$50-\$60 more.

Verrier: I think if that is the most we are willing to give this club I am fine with that number, I just don't like the justification for that number. I don't think that's an appropriate excuse to limit these funds. We shouldn't be punishing them for how frivolous we've been. We should be looking at this with a more critical eye. It's not their fault.

Hashmi: When you guys elected us, we meet certain hours a week. We have these clubs present to us and we spend a good 15 to 30 minutes going over the numbers afterwards. We try to think of a good fair number to give to these clubs. I think it's a little bit rash that \$8000 came out of nowhere; we think and work hard to make sure these numbers are fair and come from a justified place. Maybe staying outside of New York City is not the safest way. We can have them come back to CPC and see if they can reduce their costs. If there's financial need and that one member can't make it, they can look into student initiative funding. It doesn't seem fair on our part that we're going to be paying for them staying there and they're transportation. Initially it came to \$1,200 per person, which is a lot of money, but if there is financial need there is initiative funding and fundraising you can do for students as well. Pulling \$8000 out of nowhere is disrespecting what we do.

Budgeon: To say that our money was frivolously spent is not true at all, since half of them have come to BUSAC. We didn't sit in the board room to spend frivolously. The model UN trip is a ginormous number: it's \$1206 per person for a week in New York, which is not very expensive for a week there. Not all of us work, and it is a lot of money personally, but it is a pretty good deal. It takes \$135 from each student, so it brings it down to roughly \$1,000 per student. You guys have said it's not a good excuse to cut down their request significantly, but there are other clubs that need to come for funding and one of those clubs we are going to be approving after this. We're only halfway through the year and I really ask that you look ahead.

Sergi: I think that this issue speaks to a bigger factor of the system we have and our committee structure. I commend them on their deep analysis and it isn't a simple task. I share the concern over how we reach a number of \$8,000, and trying to find a mid way point. I think the best thing to do would be to send this back to CPC. I don't think we're ready to make a firm decision with a number attached to it.

Hanula: Is it not true a large number have been given as loans?

Budgeon: There are loans outstanding. The biggest loan was given to Brock Musical Theatre, but what we looked at was we're planning to go into January with \$10,000. We will be approving \$10,000 in that month.

Hanula: What happens if we run into a situation where all the funds are used up?

Speaker: We have no more money.

Budgeon: There is a contingency fund due to the fact that there's more clubs every year. More clubs means less money.

Sufi: Speaking to ideas of sending it back to CPC, we're already short funds today, and there are already 3 more clubs coming here for the next meeting. I just want everyone to keep in mind that the longer we put them off, the less money there will be to give them.

Horvath: How much is transport for the subway? How much is a hotel, motel, airbnb, what is the difference in phone charges, is it not a good experience travelling? Is the safety for your well being or other individuals?

Coetzee: I hate to sound repetitive. You've clearly identified the benefit, but in terms of your external efforts there's been no reciprocity for that benefit.

Fuller: Just about the comment of using another hotel, honestly if you knew what I went through last year at model UN, if we go to another hotel that's not there I'm not going. It is a safety issue, terrible things happen to people when they are walking the streets in New York.

Eady: I think safety is a valid concern. They are all leaving at different times in the night, and many people may be travelling back by themselves at night. It's a very valid safety concern and I don't think that should just be brushed off.

Regier: I'm not making this personal, it just felt disrespectful. Going back into the expenses, I would love to go back to CPC but the thing is we need to make payments by certain dates. I need you to keep this in mind. Another reason we didn't start earlier is because we needed to do tryouts to figure out how much money needed to be raised. There was a whole month and a half of tryouts. From there we built the numbers. We need to know how many people are committed to going and there aren't many people who can afford it. When you have 24 people going to an event like this you can't use something like air bnb.

Speaker: When is the first payment?

Regier: The first payment is tomorrow which has been paid.

Speaker: When is the next payment that you need to make?

Regier: In January. I mentioned that the people that are coming are paying everything else, and are paying half of the hotel fee. Which is why we set it to \$10,000.

Kayitaba: If we are to give you guys an extra \$6,000, what is the absolutely necessary costs you need covered?

Regier: If we do get the \$10,000 students have to pay \$788 each. Every student will have to pay up to \$800-\$900.

Kayitaba: That price includes the hotel?

Regier: The fundraising we're having will pay for the delegate fee, half hotel, and portage fee.

Hanula: When in January do you have to make the next payment?

Public: January 16.

Hanula: That gives you two months to fundraise or your members to work extra hours. I feel like that's ample time to fundraise in general to reduce the cost. Is there any way we could assure the necessary funds get paid for, and "x" gets fundraised for?

Speaker: We don't have a mechanism to hold them to that stipulation. I don't think we can enforce it.

Budgeon: There isn't one that I know of.

Regier: We are already fundraising \$18,000 out of our own pocket. If you think about that, we need to take into consideration final exams. We're not saying we're not considering fundraising. It seems as if there is a miscommunication. We will try to do that. We're trying to get at least \$500.

Banava: I heard earlier, if they had come earlier in the year things would be different. Coming at the end of December shouldn't make any difference. Can someone explain it to me?

Motion to amend: BIRT approve \$6500 to fund BNMUN.

Sufi, Craig

Sufi: It seems like there's people saying \$4000 isn't enough, and \$8000 is too much. I think it's a good common ground.

Eady: I do think it shouldn't matter when a club comes. It shouldn't matter when they come, because they shouldn't be penalized for not being able to have a presentation earlier in the year. We ask them to give a yearly budget, so we should be allocating money throughout the year accordingly. I don't think they should be punished because we're running low on funds. As far as the \$6,500, I think we should vote no because the original ask that was made was significantly higher.

Coetzee: How do you justify that number? Are we going to keep tossing arbitrary numbers around?

Sufi: It's the same as the \$8000.

Kayitaba: About punishing the club, it's not about punishing clubs based on past allocations—we're preserving further punishment. I think the issue is that it should go to CPC to have the end number reanalyzed.

Call to question

Verrier, Eady

Passes by general consent.

BIRT BUSAC amend the club funding request to read
“BIRT BUSAC approve \$6,500 from Club Funding to the
Brock National Model United Nations.”

3-In favor
18-Against
10-Abstain (Smaiya, Fuller, Hobbs, Irandost, Craig, Regier,
Budgeon)

Motion is defeated.

BIRT BUSAC amend the club funding request to read
“BIRT BUSAC approve \$8,000 from Club Funding to the
Brock National Model United Nations.”

20-In favor (Verrier, Banava, Eady, Irandost, Regier,
Craig)
3-Against
10-Abstain (Hobbs, Fuller, Budgeon)

Motion passes successfully.

BIRT BUSAC approve \$8,000 from Club Funding to the
Brock National Model United Nations.

8-In favor (Eady)
18-Against (Hashmi)
7-Abstain (Hobbs, Fuller, Irandost, Regier, Kayitaba,
Budgeon)

Funding request is not approved.

Motion to open the agenda

Eady, Bezaire

Add to the agenda: “BIRT BUSAC refer the BNMUN
funding request to CPC. BIFRT CPC report back within 2
BUSAC meetings.”

Eady, Sergi

Motion passes by general consent.

Brock Dance Funding Request

Budgeon: They want to make a charitable donation, so we added up all of the costs they would incur and compared it to the money they expect to have coming in. There was still a surplus of roughly \$6000, so they would still have a large donation to give. If we pay for their show, the \$1230 is for their competition fees. We'll give them the money to get into the event, but the rest is up to them. We didn't want them to walk away with nothing.

Motion to amend to CPC's recommendation of a \$1,230 grant.

Hanula, Sufi

Motion passes by general consent.

BIRT BUSAC approves a \$1,230 grant from Club Funding to Brock Dance.

Horvath, Kayitaba

21-In favor

0-Against

8-Abstain (Budgeon, Irlandost, Regier, Eady)
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10.0

Student at Large Approval

Hashmi: We received these applications and read through them. Their blurbs reflected that they were quite knowledgeable about the committees they were interested in. They seem like quite committed folks. We also need to fill the committees with SALs that have empty seats.

BIRT BUSAC approves the Student at Large members.

Motion passes by general consent

11.0

Committee Election (Internal Affairs)

BIRT BUSAC elects David Berryman to the Internal Affairs Committee.

-In favor
-Against
-Abstain

12.0

CASA Referendum

Eady: This was one of the recommendations from RILRC, it's just been changed a little bit to send it to referendum to create an ancillary fee for it. This was one of the possible recommendations, and I preferred this one out of all of them. This would be asking RILRC to draft a question to draft an ancillary fee for CASA. If barring any other commitments.

Sergi: I understand the spirit of where this is coming from. I think examining this is a good accountability measure. It makes us review the effectiveness of this fee to all students and I think that's overall what we're trying to do here. To be honest, I would like to look at this a little further after experiencing the policy and strategy side of things, and even my understanding of the organization as whole. Our next BUSAC meeting is during our provincial lobbying week where we're meeting with MPPs we've been in communication with thus far, and I would like to have more time to contribute to RILRC after having a chance to talk to them.

Sufi: This does not meet RILRCs mandate anymore. Their mandate is to review levies and fees. There's no point sending it back to us because all you're going to get is the same recommendation again.

Smaiya: I don't understand why we have to send it again.

Hobbs: Would it be okay if I explained to everyone what exactly that recommendation was? As of right now CASA is part of Division 1. It's not its own separate fee and is ingrained in BUSU. The way it was passed the first time, this would make it its own fee so in doing so it becomes a lot more accountable to students. It would no longer live within the organization in BUSU. That's what the new portion of the recommendation is. It's not about charging more to students; it's about separating the fee.

Eady: I think sending it back to RILRC would be a complete waste of time. We talked about it at BUSAC last year and we referred it back to RILRC and here we are again. There is no point when we have active political policies. That's exactly what's going to happen. Sending this to RRPOC is not saying it's going to referendum for sure, it's just the start of the process.

Rose: As everyone knows, CASA is a part of Division 1. There's a reason why we didn't bring it up to referendum, that's why it isn't on the menu for this year. While I do support the idea of being critical and opening up funding from BUSU

for other initiatives, I think a more informed decision could have been made and sending it to RILRC is a complete waste of time because they already made the recommendation. It's up to the members of BUSAC to make educated moves. I think consultation with the executive is the first step, and then BUSAC as a group.

Sergi: I just wanted to speak to the motion itself. I do agree that it should be moved from Division 1 to an ancillary fee, it would give us a better accountability measure. The way it is divided up is based on the final enrolment numbers. If it were to be moved it would be charged at the beginning of the year. Our numbers may change at the beginning of the year though. We do trust council to review this and hash it out to make a decision. I would vote against at this point in the process. By reviewing some of the strong policy this institution has created, I just don't think the timing is right.

Rose: We're talking deeper than the framing of the question. It would be one thing if you had gotten 1800 signatures that said this is what students are passionate about, but to come at this without meeting with the executive without gathering that rationale and for BUSAC as a whole being educated enough to make a logical, informed decision on this is why I'm uncomfortable with this happening right now.

Eady: I just want to speak to the points Sergi and Rose brought up. This is a motion that I put on the agenda specifically in relation to the presentation at the last meeting, which included all of the recommendations, but also the presentation that we received from CASA at the beginning of the year. There has been plenty of opportunity to become informed, and I think they have the ability to make a logical decision. I don't think we need to hold off on this because it wasn't sent through petition. I think it's better to bring it up to discuss as a group, rather than gathering signatures.

Rose: With regards to BUSAC being educated enough to have a conversation around it, I agree that they are ready to have that conversation, however, the executives aren't. This isn't the best time to have this conversation, although the motion is made and we knew the conversation was going to be had. I don't think that is enough time for consultation to send it without the backing of the entire council in an informed discussion or the petition signatures. I'm just trying to illustrate if the question had been posed to students and it was presented as a student "want" then I would be dealing with it differently.

Verrier: We aren't looking at this as sending this to referendum. We're not in any way talking about sending it to referendum—we're just drafting a question MOU about the possibility. In this way we are being responsible as representatives of our constituents so we can make an informed decision when that time comes.

Kayitaba: I agree with what Mr. Verrier had to say. I think to remove this fee, or replace it from the original Division 1 budget that we have it in. I would like to keep it in mind that this is something we can talk about to better serve students.

Smayia: It's important to mention that when Fed Up was brought to referendum, the executive never actually consulted us. When they went to gather petitions, they never consulted us so why are we complaining about consulting the executive?

Horvath: I don't know why we're talking about Kyle bringing the petition. It was in the best interest of the students so that was a back up plan.

Eady: When all of us were elected, Fed Up going to referendum was not discussed at all. CASA was not mentioned in March, but was in February. I was very aware of Rose and Sergi's stance, and I didn't feel the need to consult them because I knew what their response was going to be and that the meeting would end with the exact same opinions. We've all been on council before and know each other's opinions.

Rose: While we didn't talk about sending fed up to referendum early in the year, we did have a few conversations before we sent it to referendum. As I explained, the signatures were only used as a resource for BUSAC to know it needs to be done for students. I explicitly stated that in my presentation.

Sergi: My biggest concern with sending this to the committee at this point is that I feel there is a bigger concern about what happens to the BUSU fee in and of itself and the funds that would normally be allocated to CASA. To be honest, I would have liked to be a littler more involved with a motion like this. If council decides to go through with tasking this committee to draft this question, I think it should be explicit within the actual motion that it be taken from the Divison 1 budget into an ancillary fee.

Piovesan: We already talked about this when RILRC presented and this is not the last discussion we will have about this, so we shouldn't act that this is the end-all-be-all.

Sufi: The BUSU fee is decided by our Board of Directors. They should know that much already.

Verrier: It's been said we need to have a greater conversation, that will happen on December 2nd when the committee presents the drafted question to BUSAC. Right now we are just discussing whether or not we should discuss it. We're just talking about whether or not we should talk about. You need to be given the option before you make the choice.

Administrative amendment: specify "ancillary" for clarity.
Pappas, Verrier

BIRT BUSAC tasks RPPOC with drafting a question and MOU to send CASA to referendum for the purpose of creating an ancillary fee for the December 2, 2015 meeting.
Eady, Verrier

18-In favor (Sufi, Berryman, Eady, Verrier, Kayitaba)
4-Against
2-Abstain

13.0

Governance Report

BIRT BUSAC tasks the governance committee to draft legislation mandating a governance review of BUSAC and BUSU within 5-year periods, ensuring that the end of such period marks the compilation of collected data within a final report left to review, beginning in 2016.

Hashmi, Craig

23-In favor (Sergi)
0-Against
2-Abstain

BIRT BUSAC tasks the governance committee to use the data collected by the governance staff in conjunction with input from councillors to assess and address areas of improvement for BUSAC by the January 13th meeting

Hashmi, Sergi

25-In favor
0-Against
0-Abstain

BIRT BUSAC approves the changes to Bylaw 101 (Legislation of the Students' Union) its first reading.

Hashmi, Sufi

24-In favor
0-Against
1-Abstain

BIRT BUSAC approves the changes to Bylaw 602 (The Governance Committee) in its first reading.

Hashmi, Craig

22-In favor

0-Against

3-Abstain

BIRT BUSAC approves the changes to bylaw 103 (BUSAC) in its first reading.

Hashmi, Eady

24-In favor

0-Against

1-Abstain

Hashmi: I feel like the funding requests under \$1500 are well planned out; usually the ones above that are more complicated. We figured it would be more efficient this way.

Eady: I'm curious as to the exact statistic, how many were approved between \$800 and \$1,500?

Budgeon: I can get you that number tomorrow, I don't have those statistics right now.

Motion to table item.

Eady, Verrier

Eady: I would like more information before voting on this. I would like more statistics in comparison to CPC's recommendations and what BUSAC gave them, if it's exactly what Hashmi said than I am totally in support of that.

BIRT BUSAC tables discussion around the approval of changes to bylaw 609 (CPC) in its first reading.

Eady, Verrier

8-In favor (Eady)

6-Against

12-Abstain (Rose, Dawson, Sergi)

Motion to table is defeated.

BIRT BUSAC approves the changes to bylaw 609 (CPC) in its first reading
Hashmi, Berryman

15-In favor 5-Against (Eady) 4-Abstain (Budgeon)
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BIRT BUSAC amends the standing orders to Limit Question Period to 45 Minutes
Hashmi, Sufi

25-In favor 0-Against 0-Abstain

Eady: Just curious as to why the first question period is limited to 5 minutes?

Hashmi: The rationale was to make the question period more productive for people to ask questions at the beginning.

BIRT BUSAC amends the standing orders to add a public question period following Presentations to be limited to 15 minutes in duration and limit the opening question period to 5 minutes.
Hashmi, Craig

-In favor -Against -Abstain

Motion to amend: remove “limit the opening question period to 5 minutes.”

Verrier, Eady

Verrier: We are responsible primarily to them, and I feel if they want to ask something they should have the opportunity to do it. It’s logical to have it take as long as it needs to because it is the primary reason we are here.

Eady: It would save us time because we wouldn’t have to motion to extend and save time. It’s a short amount of time.

Speaker: After the few discussions with Fed Up of inviting the public to speak as a cohesive unit, we came to the conclusion that it would be prudent to include a public question period in those presentations. They would have a specific time carved out for them instead of having people on council giving up their speaking

turns to let the public speak. It makes it more accessible for members of the public to speak. The language gives enough grey to permit some flexibility. It helps involve outsiders without purposely cutting them out. It leaves it wide enough to work within that scope.

BIRT BUSAC amends the motion to read: “BIRT BUSAC amends the standing orders to add a public question period following Presentations to be limited to 15 minutes in duration.”
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24-In favor (Verrier) 0-Against 0-Abstain

Motion passes

BIRT BUSAC amends the standing orders to add a public question period following Presentations to be limited to 15 minutes in duration.
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Hashmi, Bezaire

23-In favor 1-Against 0-Abstain

Craig: What exactly was the function or what was the mandate for the external elections committee?

Sergi: That was a committee that was struck five or six years ago that dealt with awareness and engagement with the conduction of provincial and federal elections.

Craig: Did it have any implications regarding policies on representation for our governing bodies in terms of parties at all? Did it have any mandate as how we ourselves regulate proper party representation?

Speaker: Its ideal mandate was promote elections and get a polling station on campus. We were handing out get out the vote buttons, like how we run our own elections. BUSU facilitates political parties of all types. This sub committee was just getting people out to the polling stations.

Eady: I was wondering why this information wasn't sent out before council?

Hobbs: It came up at our regular committee meeting this week. We went through bylaws one at a time as they were looked over. This one was looked over on Monday and we thought it was ready so we brought it to you early.

Eady: So, this was approved on Monday, so why wasn't it emailed out?

Hobbs: I am not in charge of that. It might have been sent to Kayleigh, or it was and she wasn't able to send it out to council.

Speaker: We can add it to the agenda with that kind of rule.

BIRT BUSAC approves External Affairs bylaw change in its first reading.

Hashmi, Hobbs

21-In favor

1-Against (Craig)

3-Abstain

14.0

Refer Speaker's Report to Governance Committee

BIRT BUSAC refer the Speaker report to Governance Committee.

Bezaire, Hobbs

24-In favor

0-Against

1-Abstain

15.0

Refer BNMUN Funding Request back to CPC

Campbell: It would be more fair to have them answer by the next meeting.

Eady: I put within two BUSAC meetings. I figured I would make it more up to CPC depending on their load the next two weeks. It's best to keep that vague.

BIRT BUSAC refer the BNMUN funding request back to CPC. BIFRT CPC report back within 2 BUSAC meetings.

Eady, Verrier

17-In favor

1-Against (Sufi)

6-Abstain (Craig Hobbs, Hashmi, Hejazi Budgeon)

16.0

Report – VP Student Services

Eady: That menu looks great; I'm really excited. Are you able to elaborate more on the thing you were talking about vaguely about what you did but didn't want to do?

Horvath: That's an HR issue, so I'm not going to speak to it.

17.0

Report – VP External Affairs

18.0

Report – VP Finance and Administration

19.0

Report – President

20.0

Closed Question Period

21.0

Information and Reminders