

TP: okay. Let's get this show on the road. Calling meeting to order at 7:01 pm on Thursday feb 9. It is the 9th meeting of the 16/17 year of ASUS.

Motion 1

TP: any amendments to the agenda?

MK: we're just going to add a couple of motions in terms of committees to be struck – 8, 9, and 10 (get names). The specific policy of that I'm going to put in the appendix of the living agenda and brian is sending out the specific right now.

TP: any other amendmetns to the agenda? Seeing none

I: all

O: none

A: n/a

Motion 2

TP: MK, do you have any amendments to the minutes?

MK: no

TP: any amendments to the minutes? Seeing none

I: all

O: none

A: n/a

Speaker's business

TP: I will begin with the land recognition statement. _____. Welcome back everybody I hope you've all enjoyed our month away from assembly. Congrautlations to those who ran and those who won in the various elections that occurred on our campus in the last 2 or 3 weeks. List of things to remind everyone of: just a remind about the follow up question rule, in the past people have used fu to ask unrelated questions. The purpose of fu is to gain clarity of the question you asked , no to pose a new question. I will be going down a speakers list so everyone will get an opp to ask questions. Another remind that's been an issue in the past, when you address assembly please rise, state yoru name surface and position. After the scribe takes down you can state your business, all while standing. Given the room we're in it is large and echoey and can be hard to here and hard for the scribe to catch every word being said. Just a remind for everyone to speak loudly and clearly in this room. Apart from that I don't believe I have any other reminds or comments, so we will move on to our first guest speaker

GS

Ryan moore – financial report

TP: normally our guest speakers are strictly allowed 15 minutes but given the importance of this presentation I will not time you. I think everybody has the financial statement brains just sent around, so you can use your laptops to follow along if you choose

RM: this is our fourth year working with asus and fourth year of the review. Each year we get a little more familiar with each other. Thank you for having us even though leanness not hear she's answered all our questions. Sometimes we work really hard to give to the bottom of all of our questions. It's all for review that's in front of you. You can certainly ask questions as long as you're not breaking any code or something or just save till the end. I sent brian a copy there was a small notational error. If you see draft subject to change on the top, that's the old version. The one brian sent around before assembly is the final one. There's just a small error on the number. Page 2 – important page. This is where we issue our review engagement report. This is not an audit but we do perform analysis inquiry and discussion in order to make sure these statements are fairly statements. We have no reason to believe that they are not fairly stated. Everything here is cleanly presented. Page 3 – statement of financial position. Looks at your standings at a point in time – april 30, 2016 – prior administration's finances. The cash is down a bit which reflects the deficit that was run by asus, but nothing alarming. It's down about ~ 15000, investments also down ~7000 – due to a draw as well as a minor fair market adjustment from mutual funds you hold from montreal. One of the nice things we look at is the current ratio, you don't need to worry about due from... you wanna see your cash and short term investments and how they match up with the amount short term payable. You are a very liquid... potentially to start a new initiative that one council may have. For the incoming council, the last administration left finances in very good standing. Go to page 5 – statement of operation. This is really to show whether you ran a surplus or deficit in the previous year and why you've done so. I'm just gonna go over the line that go over big swing as best as I can. Camp revenues down about 50000 dollars. There are a lot of camp offerings at the new arc. That created a lot of conflicts with the camp that asus runs which really bit into your revenues. Jacket sales and orientation both went up. Which makes sense because with an increase in membership you should get an increase in both. That's not only due to more membership but also due to getting the word out there with the way you're offering it was a very successful year. Other than that, fundraising revenues looks like they fell off but that's not the case. Money that are funded for a particular cost are held in trust and then forwarded to that charity directly. The fundraising efforts of the previous council was very much in line with years past. Student council had very revenue generating activities. It's up about 16000. The expenditures are also up. Whatever they generated from revenue also went back to their respective programs for students. Overhead ... was up. Offices incurred... you guys actually have a credit balance with them. There was a swing up in that. you guys had printing .. with them. That's why it's up but other than that it's pretty normal. Outside of that, you saved a tremendous amount of money with jackets last year. You switched vendors for jackets and they offered bulk discount, and you made 15000 dollars. From a margin standpoint that was tremendous. In the year before they did not make that much. Outside of that, there weren't too many alarming changes that didn't reflect the changes in revenues. The student council expenses were up but the revenues were also up. We look for anomaly. So if you have an increase in revenue and there's no increase in expenses, we will look into that, but as you see, there is nothing like that. other than that as a big overall you ran 22000 dollar deficit. That's not too bad. You have a 45000 dollar surplus and about a 20000 dollar deficit before that. so it all breaks

even. So for a non-profit org like you guys, the goal is to break even. Looking at the trends from the past three years, it's in line with that the organization is breaking even. On the next page it shows where your cash is generated and where your cash is spent. Our and Shinerama continue to generate a large amount of money for the org. I know you guys did well in using that to broaden your horizons, in the years we've been here, it's gained some steam. Hopefully you continue that stream, and on that note I welcome any questions.

TP: I will begin a speaker's list. Are there any questions?

QG: just wondering reading this report, what would be seen different if this was an audit

RM: we do more transactional testing, dive into the books to make sure there are no checks being written in an odd trend, checks being skipped... we're not looking for fraud but we're more likely to catch a fraud. We will make sure payrolls are approved by assembly. The depth of evidence you would see... in terms of the actual numbers you see just to make sure everything lines up. In terms of going down to transactional detail on a line to line item.

QG: which of these numbers will be subject to change compared to an audit

RM: we couldn't speculate. If we issued a clean audit opinion we would say all the numbers would stay the same. Review is discussion analytics inquiry. We look at averages. If we saw a spike in wages in 20000 dollars but there are no employees hired, and if there are only a few people on the payroll we would dig deeper. Say if you have a payroll of 100, do a sample of employees and make sure assembly approve what everyone is paid. We need to report if anyone is over- or underpaid. The review is more of an assurance of you. It's in the breadth and depth of evidence. Just for you to have the next level of confidence.

TP: any other questions

BM: we'd like to thank Ryan and this team for the work they put into this. We look forward to working with you. As well as a shoutout to business manager Leanne she's put in most of the legwork for this. We look forward to working with you again

TP: any more questions? Seeing none. Thank you so much for coming

CRO

TP: I'll give you the fifteen minutes and I'll open it up to questions

CRO: I'm SL. I manage elections, elections team, events that happen. Overall it was a fun year for us. We had almost 100 candidates go through our elections process. Over 50 positions. We started off with fall byelection. We're happy to say that there was a great deal of competition. 5 teams for 2020 reps, etc. 20.8% turnout which doesn't sound good. Last year was 20.3% which wasn't that much better, for that election. We did a lot of class talks and boothing and promoted the asus elections page more. We found that was successful. We promoted the winners alongside the asus office. We had 3 teams for asus executive which was really contested. It was great to have that amount of interest. A lot of other positions went unfilled. 2020 and 2018 didn't have running. I think that happened because elections happened to early in my mind. Package was released in the first week and most people were still in

winter mode and syllabus week. Most people weren't interested in a position that wasn't asus exec. That was disheartening but we extended the election campaigning period which was good. In the end it became does this work with policy and all of that, we're doing review for policy now and wanna work on the complaint and appeal policy. That generally you want to believe in the good spirit of the elctoin and a holistic method. Policy change is something to look forward to. Policy review will come after reading week. We finished with those elections with a turnout of 36.9% which was higher than last year. I wanted to hit 40% but it was good to build up the presence of elections. Most recently was the DSC elections. There were tricky. 28 DSCs and 27 ran through us. What's kinda hard is that we had to market them individual and also DSC elections as a whole. Next year I wanna bring the DRO position to a DSC and CRO position to work more with DSC and have more department interest. For major studnets turout wen from 25.55 to 17.9 medials: __. Policy review will be updated soon. A lot of things I wanna change in policy such s DSC charter and _____. When there's a lot of teams it gets congested and harder for us to work as a team. That's it from me.

TP: open up to questions. Thank you for your presentation

QG: the turnout numbers are disappointing and disturbing because this is ASUS and we are struggling to make it about 30% turnout. Engsoc hit 60%. Comsoc hit 50% with uncontested races. What would you recommend that could be done to change that. not just to have contested races because that's not htei ssue with comsoc

SL: that's the hardest thing with asus. I think it's because there's just so many studenets. If you look at comer and eng their classes are so much smaller. Our percentage doesn't affect that as much. It comes down to overall interest and engatmetn with asus. It's hard for a lot of studnets to be engaged at all. A lot of student sa re on ehxhancge. It's easier for a society to have 500 people and have better turnout

QG: how does it... side by side of what the other societies spend on this ...

SL: I can find those number sand present them to you. My deputies are on the class talks which you'll see the most drastic increase. Comes to student engagement in the society. Ads – we had a lot of graphics we put on facebook. I can show you stats for that. it's a tricky situation. Most students don't understand what reps snd senators would do. If our friends ask you to vote that would be more important for asus elections team asking you to vote. My recommendation would be along the lines of telling people about the positions and more engagement. Each student rep and how the average student population would see that. if you wanna know more about what I like to think about the breakdown, I do have a lot of recommendations with the next person, I can submit that to elections policy report

QG: I would be favorable to the idea of passing some kind of resolution to say and taking that and match it to them. To have an imperative ratio for the society to have a good turnout. Develop that into policy and I hope that will bring us to the goal that we are all working towards.

SL: yes I can do that. either next assembly or when we submit our policy.

TP: BJ

BJ: thank you so much for your hard work. Question – are you of the viewpoint it is candidates that drive turnout or marketing that drives turnout

SL: at first I thought it was candidates, but now I think marketing on how you're presenting election is important. I think a lot of people had the voter apathy that the society doesn't do anything, which is not the case at all. That's something we need to look at. I wouldn't say it's just those two sides. I think it's the marketing that's more important. In the end it comes to what the voters think asus does and how it benefits them. We do have more people. We get 300 people to vote vs commerce getting 300 people to vote – that is very different and for us it would have a smaller impact.

TP: just remember this is an information session, not a debate. This has the potential to get very heated.

BJ: thank you very much. A few years ago, student union conducted a report. Number of findings implemented to drive turnout – extending campaigning into voting days helped a lot. There was a spike in turnout. There were recommendations in driving turnout.

SL: I applaud the amount of research you've done

DB: I just wanna frame things in a different light. It was disheartening despite of having 3 vocal campaigns. 20% 2000 students. Eng also just shy of 2000, com just shy of 1000. Given the sheer numbers we are doing quite well. 28.8 percent is a commendable feat, is all I have to say.

TP: just in the interest to steer discussion, why don't we turn the steer

MK: it was actually 36 percent.

DB: proves my point

CC: thank you for your hard work. I'm impressed that all the numbers went up. To steer the convo in a different direction, I heard there were threats made to two teams. I don't know if you can address these, but that would be worrying. 3 parts – 1) can you comment on this 2) what's the process for dealing with these 3) what can we do to stop that

MK: 1) we can't really. It's confidential info. If you wanna know you can email ceo@asus.queensu.ca. 2) complaint submitted to Jacob and there will be a ruling based on that. see if the claims are true and look at the different situations to see if they are true 3) it is a tough one. It's something we'll look into when we do our review. We don't want elections team to be overreaching. If someone if not a candidate or a campaign member it is really hard for the elections team to do anything. Maybe non academic conduct

SL: complaints come to me and forward to Jacob the ceo. All complaint and rulings come to his office. His rulings are subject to perc.

TP: if anyone else wants to ask a question, now's the time to do it.

CC: what are the penalties?

MK: tools vary depending on time of election. It could be anything from a warning letter to disqualification. Tools get significantly less nearing election days. We can dock reimbursement... depends on what point it's caught

CC: thank you

TP: LW

LW: what was your favorite part acting as cro here

SL: 2020 year rep election. I thought it was cool. Such enthusiasm from the first years. It was incredible. Those are the people that are leading us for the next four years. Like callum and Kianna, they are here now!

TP: any more questions?

SL: elections wouldn't have been possible without marketing office and rona. Her graphics looked fantastic. Also the elections team and dro worked hard all year. They didn't see as much spotlight but they worked hard. Also Abigail, the intern. She worked hard too

TP: thank you CRO Langley. I know from personal exp how hard it is to manage elections and how much time it takes planning for elections.

Executive reports

DB: in my written report I said I'd be releasing the grading transparency survey. The person responsible for this is at a conference this week. Chair fair to promote first years and second happens on the Monday after reading week. Congratulate jasmine and Stefan. We have begun the transfer process

BM: also congratulate jasmine and Stefan. Also congratulate calin palmer, new _____. Asus ballot referendum of asurf. Passed with 75 percent. Students are willing to contribute to research. at the next assembly I will present something about honoraria. That was brought forward in late December.

TP: any questions about the p's report? Vp? Seeing none.

Business of the senate

BJ: we had a late evening. Major applications and certificate of business applications. You can continue your CIB after you've left queen's. now if you have graduated from queen's and have gone off to work in professionals, as long as you have a degree and you can now return and take it. it is now online. No need to worry.

TP: any questions? Seeing none

Business of the ams

CC: we were super busy. Approved the candidates for the election. Dissolved the environmental affairs commission. We shuffled some things around. Approved peer support _____. Commit for inclusion. Confidential... option 1 for fall reading week – move everything back a week. Happy to take questions.

TP: any questions?

SBM

TP: this is the chance for a member of assembly to make a 1 minute statement.

DB: I'd also like to congratulate VC on winning the student trustee elections

TP: congratulations trustee elect chappell

QP

TP: this is your chance to ask a member of assembly a question about a report, an upcoming event or motion, feel free to ask away. Any questions? Seeing none

Old business

TP: there is no old business

Motion 3

BM: in relation to the presentation ryan just made, I welcome any questions about the report before he makes it official

TP: any questions? Seeing none

I: all

O: none

A: n/a

Motion 4

DB: I'd like to congratulate Rachel tung on winning the senate election. We appointed her because she approached us.

TP tell us why you wanna be on the senate.

Rachel: I recently ran for senator for asus. I met with tara and she had to step down. I will follow in her footsteps and bring to the table the diverse student voice hopefully fulfill the big shoes of tara mcdonald

MA: on the issue of fall reading week, are you in favor or pushing it back or second option

R: I personally voted for first option one to keep the cohesion of ow together. And to get to know about the school and my peers

BJ: as a student senate caucus... will you attend?

Rachel: I would love to attend senate caucus. I'm interested in learning about what goes on there.

JT: what do you think your biggest challenge will be in this position

Rachel: voter turnout. Hard to engage with all the students in such a big faculty. It's hard to reach out to every student and fulfill our mandate to serve all students. In my term I'll reach out to these students and raise their voice

TP: we'll do a hands up vote.

I; LL

O: none

TP: motion is unanimous and you can clap. The senator can now take her position at the back or front of the room. Congratulations senator.

I: all

OL none

A: Rachel Tung

Motion 5

BM: time commitments approximate 3 – 5 hours. Date is use on the availability of select individuals. Post reading week Cool opp to see what students bring about in terms of research.

BJ: PL

LC

Decline

QG: LC

PL

Accept

BJ: RT

PL

Accept

BM: AR

CC

Decline

PL: VC

CC

Accept

BJ: CL

QG

Accept

BM: motion to close nominations

CC

I: all

O: none

A: n/a

TP: four nominees, come on up to the front, please. Give each of you a very brief 30 seconds rapid fire of why you should sit on the committee

CL: we all know how much year reps do on assembly. My favorite part of being 2020 rep is these committee. I sat on a committee last time with BM and it was fantastic

VC: I sat on student grants committee last year. I was amazed and I'd love to see what's going on this year

LC: last year I sat on the groups grant committee. This year I wanna see what studetns can bring

RT: I've benetifs from asus grants myself. I see how crucial this is. I would love to see what studnets will bring

TP: questions

JA: llamas or alpacas, which is the better beast?

Llamas, llamas, llamas, alpacas

TP: we'll ask nominees to step outside and vote

VC: OK

LC: OK

RT: OK

CL: OK

TP: congratulations to everyone. We will vote to stike the committee

I: all

O: none

A: 4 elected

Motion 6

BM: this is the group grants committee. This is same time commitment around the same time as the student grant. Approximately 2 to 3 hours depending on how many apps we get. It is for sibling society grant and asus committee grant.

PL: QG

BM

Accept

LC: NM

PL

Accept

CC: LW

BM

Decline

PL: CC

DB

Accept

PL: JG

CL

Accept

TP: any other nominations? Seeing none. nominations are now closed. I'm going to limit your speech to five words.

QG: what else can I say?

CC: I like giving out money

NM: I like what he said

JG: I would really like to.

TP: any questions?

PL: why would you like to serve on the committee in more than 5 words

QG: I've been on a different number of granting committees. I've been very aware of the fact that this is the last time I will be on this organization. I will try to make this a very successful granting period. Give it to people who need them. Ensure there is no bias in the disbursement of funds

CC: I know this isn't a club thing but as someone who's run clubs. I know how hard it is to run something with a limited budget. I wanna see more students doing what they wanna do. It's a shame when you have a great idea but you just don't have the money

NM: I think it's a good experience. I sat on the student grants and honoraria committee last year. Money is hard to come by if we can help I will

JG: I got voted to one last week but I didn't get called or messaged. This will be my first committee. I'd love for people to bring their ideas to fruition. Innovation is key

JA: pineapples on pizza for or against

QG: people can put whatever they want even if it tastes disgusting. If you enjoy it go ahead

CC: I'm for it

NM: for it

JG: no

Proxy lunetta: hot dog is a sandwich?

JG: yes

No

Yes

No

QG: OK

CC: OK

NM: OK

GO: OK

TP: everything's unanimous. Now you clap. Congratulations to the members of the committee. I hope you enjoy giving out lots of money. Keep in mind there is a very broke speaker.

I: all

O: none

A: 4

Motion 7

DB: it's the equivalent of tricolor award in the asus. Description... time commitment depends on the number of applicants. Applications open from now till middle of reading week. First week after reading week or after.

TP: nominations are open

CC: AC

No seconds

Decline

NM: AR

PL

Decline

JG: JS

QG

Accept

BJ: KL

PL

Accept

BM: JA

No seconds

Declined

PL: JG

QG

Accept

JG: CL

QG

Accept

PL: motion to close

QG

I: all

TP: invite 4 nominees to come on up to the front. This time I will give you ten words to let us know why you should sit on the committee

CL: I really love committees. They are sweet. Alright arlghith

KL: never heard of this award before it sounds really cool

JS I would really love to sit on this committee cause yeah

JG: I think sitting on this committee would be really cool

Lagundija: what's an experience that you'd think would help you the most with this committee

JG: being someone who's involved, it's good when people recognize what you're doing at school. It's a good asset in helping to choose the perfect member for thi award

JS: it's cool to see what studnets are involved in and what the clubs are doing

KL: being in first year I think it's fun to be on a committee like this.

CL: the popularity of our campaign has really connected us with a lot of people at queen's. in first year, at parties, and upper years, that's a great experience.

DB: seeing you are all in first or second year, how will you create an impact on the ueen's community

CL: reaachign out to people and making connections

KL: being there and being present. Reachin out to the first year

JS: not much else to say

JG: reaching out and trying to get involvement within our year and others

TP: third and final question

JA: bees?

JG: if it was about beyonce having twins, i'm in favor

JS: bees are endangered

KL: I really love honey yeah

CL: bees are bros, i'm totally for it

TP: i'd like the nominees to step outside

KL: OK

JS: OK

JG: OK

CL: OK

TP: excellent. Let them in. congratulations

I: all

O: none

A: 4

Motion 8

DB: the asus scholarship is to be awarded to any graduating student who has exemplary extracurricular and academic records. Same time commitment and time.

TP: is it one 2017 representative or both reps?

DB: both

TP: one asus senator

BM: QG

CC

Decline

BJ: LC

PL

Accept

AMS

CC: AR

No seconds

Decline

CC: NM

VC

Accept

QG: motion to close noms

Vc

I: all

TP: invite the two nominees to come forward. Limit it to 30 seconds tell us why you would want to be on this committee.

LW: can you tell us more about the amount of money given out and why we're giving it to a graduating student and not a student who will continue their education

DB: 2000 dollars in 3 cohorts, humanities, social sciences and natural sciences. As to why it's to a graduating student, I don't agree with that either that's why it's on the table for discussion tonight.

NM: I'm interested in seeing what their applications look like. We wanna help students before they graduate.

LC: I'm looking forward to acknowledge students who've made their contribution to the society.

TP: one question

MA: given the nature of scholarship that involves academics and extracurricular, how do you balance both? Some departments get higher grades easier than others. What are some things you are looking forward to

LC: I'd like to learn more about the award before we can fully answer that question. For now, look at the application and how it's presented and learn about that.

NM: LC summed that up. Wouldn't know what to look for before seeing the application. I wouldn't really worry too much about faculty. Just see how it goes.

TP: ask you to leave the room.

NM: OK

LC: OK

TP: congratulations, gentlemen.

I: all

O: none

A: 2

Motion 9

BM: just to frame this discussion, this came out of a philosophical discussion DB and I had combined with electoral outcomes. The new president elect of compsa is the currently the high tech. for asus, head gael directly reports to the asus exec. It's one of the very few positions that has overlap. There is nothing that stops the current head gael from running for asus exec. And if they win, it would be hard for them to resign but if policy says they can, they will report to themselves. In September we will write it in policy that we will not allow the current head gael to run for the current asus exec. That nominees for asus exec cannot be the current head gael or the current orientation chairs to prevent head gales and ocs from running for asus exec. This is only for current members and not former members. And it's only limited to asus exec.

MA: is there a reason why we limit ocs?

BM: they have a large time commitment. Losing one of them would be highly detrimental. Given the timeline it would be hard to run. We talked to one of the committees and they said that would be a hindrance

NM: are there anything else

BM: current human resources officer is not allowed to run for exec, governance officer and bulk of elections team. There's a conflict of interest if they were to win. It's written in policy

TP: any other questions?

QG: what is the main conflict of interest of head gael?

BM: eg jasmine and Stefan will be working with conor who is head gael. As per current policy he would either have to resign for head gael or he could put two positions, in which they would be reporting directly to themselves. To avoid the predicament in compsa we will

QG: the alternative approach though would be to move the timeline

BM: timeline for head gael is set in stone. Election is September. January to april is time for them to organize for ow. This is the only position within the society that operates on this timeline. It does limit the asus exec

QG: is there a precedent of a lot of people that typically come from this position. If so do you think that would be a problem to remove that option

BM: this has never been an issue. For head gael it has to be going into another year. Usually a 3 year going into 4th year and they don't run for asus exec because that means they'd have to take a fifth year.

DB: during that discussion there was a little hole in the policy in that the head gael may choose to run after they've served their term. I'd like to make amendment. Motion to recess for 5 minute

Second BM

I: all

TP: mr. pres you had the floor to pose an amendment. That amendment can be found at the bottom at the google doc

DB: the amendment will be made to section 2 of the appendix A _____

Seconded by: BM

Amendment found friendly and adopted

TP: questions comments concerns debat?

MA : do you think this should also extend to OCs ?

BM: there is historical who join oc and then resigning to join other committees. The effect of one leaving the committee is not as insurmountable as the chairs. So we'll only leave it to those postions

CC: would it be an issue for ORT?

BM: ORT is purely a central body for insurance?

CC: should they also be barred?

BM: that is entirely up to the AMS.

TP: JA?

JA: so should this amendment affect the head gael applying to other positions

BM: as it currently stand within policy, individuals of the asus cannot hold two positions at the same consecutive time. This stops them from running in the first place

LW: I do believe this is a good change. We've already hired a good chunk of the orientation team. When will this policy come to effect? Will it affect this team?

BM: affects next head gael and their orientation committee

TP: any more questions? Seeing no debate

I: all

O: none

A: none

Discussion period

TP: DP is designed to last for about 30 minutes. At that point I will have to call for extension for that topic. Sometimes the issues covered in our discussion period can be contentious. Please keep respectful. I will not hesitate to rule defamatory or otherwise inflammatory statements out of order. That covers the ground rule for the discussion period

Surface

Lily: if anyone hasn't had the chance to look at it, I do have 4 copies in print. I hope everyone had the chance to overlook the policy. For context, this summer we cleaned out asus offices, we found surface, which was published by equity in the 80s/90s. I became consumed by their content. it was about history of equity and all 7 commissions. This newspaper had institutional memory. I want to bring this back. We began some heavy consultation. We had a conference call with the asus president of 1989. He gave us a backstory as to why surface was discontinued. There was some structural errors. Students were using false names because they were afraid to write for surface. At this time the equity commission did not exist. It is about 4 years old. This is a very exciting time for us, we have opp to build our foundation. We received a lot of constructive feedback. I had the pleasure of seeing QEC being one of the pillars of this movement. Ideally what I see surface of becoming is the second pillar of the equity commission. We want to have students who are underrepresented to have their voices heard. The voices have always been there. The equity committee... and the student body at large. As sen. Tung said, being external to asus it's hard to know what we do. We should be more transparent in what we're doing and make this info available to students. We should use this newspaper to make it known to students what we do, not just equity. Financial assistance fund, journal of indigenous studies, PIC. With any free press, there are risks and threats associated with that. I'm looking forward to your feedback.

DB: just to build off lily's introduction, this project continued for 20 years before it was discontinued. Equity has had no pillars until now, the QEC. We'd like discussion but also ask everyone to be respect

MA: I love this idea. I think it's a great opportunity. It's great for people to express themselves especially the underrepresented voices. But did you consult with current students aside from consulting with the 95 exec?

LC: I have brought it forward to the equity caucus they were very much on board. There really isn't anything that compares to what surface can offer to equity. Surface is digital and will have very little financial cost. From what I know there is little conflict.

BM: purely for info, as the the faculty societies agreement regarding insurance. The asus does provide media insurance. We do have to submit a request to the VP operations to see if this is covered by AMS. We will update assembly when we hear back

BJ: it said its similar to equitable queen's.

Lily: there are aspects that are similar to equitable queen's. but there's different policies to complaints and grievances. They are very different in structure, but in the actual operations and policy they are different

BJ: primary concern – equitable queen's was cut because of the enormous liability it placed. On the blogs there were baseless claims driven from ideological perspectives

Lily: that's something I'd not like to have happen. I'd like any input on how we can ensure accountability.

QG: questions about liabilities and insurance ball park, what would that cost as a percentage and what would it look like going into the equity commission

BM: isn't necessarily increased. We don't pay a premium... I will talk to Dave to see if it will increase. In the event this does occur, it will be good to make sure this doesn't happen

BJ: editorial economy... individual advisory boards they report to... obviously will this be within cochairs that work with equity commissioner? Not so much an independent actual...

Lily: from my understanding, I think golden words does operate in the engsoc offices.

BJ: in terms of accountability, there are several regulations. Operationall it should resemble something journal

Lily: that is something I will look into further

QG: would there be space for this publication for advertising? Profit?

Lily: funds G 407. We do hope there will be small websites associated with surface. But the goal...

QG: if this is going to be... it would be really fantastic...

DB: in terms of the website, we don't foresee them to be any more than what we have for the asus website. Its at most 20 dollars a month. It's not print and it's gonna stay that way for long time. We saved a lot from switching our host

BJ: level of autonomy of editor in chief of what goes into publication. What individuals will you give to dissenting views? Say if someone is critical of an equity viewpoint, would that be published?

L: that's a very interesting question. Like all co-chairs and equity, we will do our best because it is free press. I welcome all opinions

DB: your concerns are noted. Given that equity circles tend to overlap, I do think most of the leadership and contribution will remain in that sphere, but I do foresee the surface project as a pillar for other committee to go around...

CC: I'd like to voice my full support for this. I like that it will be cost... I like that it's online. I like that it's collaborative and accountable. Great job for starting the conversation. Although it may end up being controversial, but I don't think that's a bad thing. And that's a good way for you guys. You have people who are exposed to these conversations, online may not be the best medium but they are at least having the conversation. Will you guys be working with the new indigenous journal in addressing issues of intersectionality?

L: thank you for your support. I would definitely welcome collaboration. They are different in the nature. Surface is more journalistic whereas ais is more academic

LW: I'd like to voice my full support. I think it's great for students who've not had their voices heard now having it. I think we need to work with ams to tell them how important this journal can be. I hope we tell the ams how important this is. I have a couple minor problems with the policy it is still in work. Editorial chief – deputy commissioner... process wise and operations wise, is it better to have a spring hiring, September and October hiring is good for first years to come in who are passionate about these issues. If you could reply to that maybe

L: I looked at that. I'll definitely look it over more.

QG: is there anything in here that outlines the policy for removing editor in chief?

L: that is well received and we will factor that in.

QG: all effort should be made... true author and email. What if somebody wishes to remain anonymous

L: read the clause right after. It says if requested...

QG: does the editor actively seek to find out the identity of the person who submitted something?

L: it's just the wording, I'll look into that

RT: how do you guys look to attract a more diverse body? A lot of times it's people who care.

L: that is kind of the overarching difficulty in the equity commission. There is a merit to it having it online. It can circulate on people's facebook pages. That's a question I ask myself everyday

LW: is currently asus exec or equity commissioner advertising for this? Getting beyond the audience of who cares is difficult. Budget?

BM: as for standard budgeting, once eic are hired, it reflects... next VP

QG: in the editorial section I see that the final rule is that... shall be supported by fact based arguments. I find that to be a strange clause for editorials. Given the subject matter of what's gonna be political

ideology and feeling. Things might not be supported by existing facts but people's experiences. Accusations of what people have done... I find it to be strange.

TP: I need a motion to extend

CC

JA

I: all

L: thank you for that. I agree with you. There should be rewording around that. thank you.

MA: can someone explain to me the issue of liability

BM: as with any news publication, there is liability for slander. Because the content of any given publication does have... facts that may not representation... irrespectively of whatever or not it's valid...

Jasmine: accountability and ideology. Honoraria... you're working with a volunteer provided... with volunteers that could be challenging to navigate. Accountable... ideology of the editors in chief and editorial. Queen's journal of ueen's alive on campus. How do we make sure this is accountable and at the same time express dissenting opinions

L: as for accountability from chairs, I very much welcome that. I have found that chairs are some of the most dedicated of the people I work with. I'd love to work on that and meet with you.

Jasmine: given it's an equity paper it will be left leaning in nature. And given comments are open

L: It will be in line with the Canadian charter of rights and freedoms... that's a line we have to tread carefully

DB: when discussing equity issues the issue of respect should always be number 1. Issue of tone... editorial board. Political specturms... a bit left leaning or somewhat left leaning. Through proper reeling... those issues can be avoided as long as... outlined by president in 95. Communication was a main issue which wasn't very strong.

JA: voice my absolute and full support of this. I think it's a fantastic idea. It's improtatn to give more space for marginalized studnets to have voices. I think this is fantastic. My question is in regards to the types of people who are traditionally opposed to issues of equity, who have a history of being aggressive, I know that last year the queens gender studieds department had to move to onq early because there was another geneder studies in antoehr school that got attacked online... our favorite racist party. Has there been any thought given to protecting writers fro the publication from personal attacks that can be scary

L: with the policy on comments, we do fae dficcctl when things are circulated online. We will extend that if requested for anonymous. There is always resistance. That's the type of work we sign up for. We do what we can.

BJ: second JA's idea. I do think it's important regarding the lack of mechanism for appeals that does not turn into an echo chamber. It doesn't have to be a hostile of equity, you can have a critical view of

abortion rights and trans rights. That doesn't make you a bad person. But my question, it has to do with timelines. Getting into hiring...

L: timeline: up in the air. I welcome feedback.

DB: I share a lot of the same concerns, even within equity circles there comes a lot of disagreement on hand. This is what we come to university for. This is an opp for us to be exposed to these issues. When it comes to equity I don't think there is anymore more critical than people within equity.

LW: just to touch on prior concerns. Dissenting opinions. The reason journals like this are required is because we've critiqued the mainstream media for the past decade. We agree there should be dissenting opinions. What would be the actual timeline for publications editorials, blog?

L: I foresee surface as a continuous regular blog post of sort. Once the team is hired they will have the opp to create the policy

CC: I think the issue of ideology is important. This will probably be left leaning. Within equity, there is so much dissent if there isn't already. White vs. black feminism and silent or verbal protest or ... I don't think there would be a problem. I think that if you're looking at it through the window of criticisms and that dissent coming from someone who's against equity altogether. I think following the rules of assembly, fresh and furthers the discussion. For timeline, why don't you follow the timeline for hiring first year interns? They are very inclusive...

DB: thanks for your concern. There is already an equity intern. There would be merit to having first year designations.

QG: whether or not publications will become an echo chamber. Stipulate a particular place for members coming from different programs of study within asus. I think there are a lot of people who write for these that come from gender studies, development, and politics, you can have people who are in the sciences to be able to express themselves. By speaking to people who don't typically engage in these circles...

L: I welcome that

Jasmine: brand and implications it has on asus. Eg. if a piece is published, asus regardless of the branding will be in a way endorsing these ideas. Students will be intelligent that this is a volunteer... equitable queen's? asus did not put their name on it and it was shut down within a year

DB: wrt branding it would be useful to have a disclaimer that asus gives the opportunity to students but we cannot read every single article. Asus does have an equity commission, that in itself engages with political things. That's why Brian and I are elected individuals. They weren't necessarily overseen.

Jasmine: increased tenure track for profs... how do we juggle between a piece written critically and asus putting out a statement, how do we make sure they are not contradictory. Nuance such as tenure track

DB: it is an endemic issue.

TP: any other debate? Seeing none.

LC: thank everybody so much for the feedback. I wanna end by referencing the asus const and that this is a great way for us to return to everything we stand for: _____ 4 pillars of the society. Thank you very much everyone.

DB: we'll be posting a google doc of the policy in the assembly group where you can post your comments. If you'd like to meet myself and lily, feel free to email us

Asus AGM

MK: I just decided as most of you should know the asus AGM is a meeting that happens once a year around march where the public is allowed to come in, typically when the exec does their report. We permanently do the year rep... mark I Wilson award. Main reason why is that corum for AGM is 2% of the society, which is about 200 people, last year at the AGM was the current assembly and incoming. Essentially my concern is what we should do with the AGM. How should we go forward. Should we have town halls. How do we get more people to show up.

MA: scrap the AGM entirely. No one really comes, no one really cares. If a certain group cares really an issue, they can bring in 40 people that controls the vote. If they wanna do this they can reach out to members of assembly. There's always facebook and the email list the executives send out.

JG: I think we should still have the AGM, that is the students one chance of getting their opinions out. It's a chance for us and them to integrate their ideas before we leave

QG: would it take place on the regular schedule of the night

MK: it's normally supposed to happen in the second week of march. Monday or Tuesday in the in between weeks because the AMS has their assembly.

QG: people don't go to AGM because it's off regular schedule. It doesn't fit with the momentum of the entire year. In the future AGM could take the slot of assembly date, maybe it'd be easier for people to ocme out to it. it's useful. It's supposed to be representative of student body

MK: doesn't have to be that option if at all, some sort of way to get members involved

CC: not a fan of scrapping it altogether. Pizza is good. I like the idea of a town hall. It'll be very political. Info session? Here is what we do for you guys. If you have grievances, come rant to us. A lot of people wouldn't understand what assembly is. With the understanding that this is scary but it's good for you.

BJ: as a former chair of the AGM, it's brought out quorum has to be met. Theh community outreach commission was almost cut. There was a group of individuals who came to cut community outreach I have faith in the AGM. I think it's important that the society does this thing. We offer studetns the opportunity to come, if they don't, I still appreciate the democratic value in this. If it continues... I think there carries symbolic value whether or not quorum is received.

DB: I agree with BJ. The lack of attendance at AGM has been quite a concern. I think quorum should be lower substantially. Given the final asus assembly. It's important to denote that students cant come to assembly anytime. But given the sake of efficiency

BM: I think there definitely is philosophical debate as to what it means to be a member of asus.... Direct buy-in to the society. What comes from being a member of the society. If you pay the fee you are entitled to apply for positions in asus, come to speak in assembly, run in elections, it completely severs the tie with paying asus. If you pay you are guaranteed to be able to vote in AGM.

CS: my question is just who's mandated to attend the AGM

MK: it is everyone. It's still an assembly meeting, it's just that members of public can vote

CS: cesa:: all incoming and outgoing and extended council need to come. And people can bring their housemates saying I'm coming to this meeting, you have a vote

MA: I still think we don't need an AGM. I think we're doing a fine job online. I would just show up for the pizza. If it's not mandatory to show up and there's no clear incentive, why do you wanna go? Clearly there's not a lot of people who are interested in this. I still think that it's a good idea to scrap it. I can guarantee you no amount of pizza no amount of anything will get people to come. Even if you pay people... you see where this is going?

BJ: you don't call yourself a transparent society

MA: like other students mentioned, students can already attend this, I'm just not sure what is the point of this one meeting of the year

BJ: you could vote

QG: I think that on a procedural basis the points that are being made against the AGM... get out of the AGM. Procedurally it's a part of representative society. I have assessed myself... that's kind of... I think that a better conversation must be... I don't think we should be thinking about moving that debate

RT: I agree with QG. I think it's important to show that it's our willingness to reach out to students. Symbolically it's important for students to know that we are transparent. It's our job as senators to represent students

NM: when is the AGM? Is there an assembly after the AGM?

MK: It won't be us, it'll be the next

NM: keep the AGM but address the issues of binding votes, we could figure that out. Outline some things that can be binding. If quorum is reached, ... little safety net

MK: right now there is something in place. If something gets 100 signatures, it can be challenged and it goes to perc then. Can be overturned or kept.

LW: the general sentiments of assembly seems to be that AGM is important. My personal suggestion would be to change policy asap. My general policy understanding is that if quorum is not met, we are trying to give students votes, the votes are useless. As well a suggestion if for previous AGM if we've been engaging in active outreach. Reach out to various ASUS groups

MK: just to clarify what I said about quorum and challenging decisions. If quorum is not reached, then it's you get 100 signatures. If quorum is reached you cannot overturn it. active outreach – what's

generally done normally there's gonna be free pizza and you should go. It's not aggressive marketing. It's more like a notice.

JG: I support QG and BJ's sentiments. We have something to protect us. How did it fail?

BJ: you can get students... if quorum is met, everything is binding. When do you go from ensuring there's a check on AGM to patronizing students? What you do, do not allow...

TP: unless somebody has something new to add

RT: how we're gonna attract more people

DB: motion to extend

BM

I: all

O: none

RT: how we're gonna attract more people – include DSC copresidents, won't get us to quorum but it'll have more diverse voices'

MK: reform rather than getting rid of AGM. We will clarify challenges, and rules of general public, lowering quorum, changing the day to a Thursday, making the same like any other assembly, councils and assemblies to attend. That's all I've got

JA: to respond specifically to the suggestion that we make it mandatory for DSC cochairs to attend AM, as a rep I disagree. We are busy. It does become a lot of work for us. That would be read as potentially unfriendly.

AC: at the end of the day, you are a rep of student, you are expected to go. I think AGM is important. You are there to represent students

JH: even if you have representative from DSC, doesn't have to be a cochair

JA: I hear what you're saying. I agree that to serve as a voice of the students is valuable. I don't think that making that mandatory is appropriate especially considering that I don't think that it is wise to place DSCs in a position where they can express further frustration with ASUS and I'm going to be speaking with Mitch about this tomorrow. There is a great deal with that. I wouldn't want to place more on top of it.

LC: thanks MK for bringing up this discussion. I disagree that we should lower the % for quorum. That is to hijacking the assembly and having a binding. It still needs to be overturned.

ASUS Scholarship

DB: I'm gonna be tabling the discussion

CC

I: all

O: none

A: n/a

Speaker's last word

TP: an excellent assembly, thank you to MK and LC for bringing their discussion topics forward. I made some points this evening that were inappropriate but they were good for the purpose of discussion. We will see you all march 9

Motion to adjourn

BJ, PL