

## Concurrent Education Students' Association Council Minutes

The meeting of the Concurrent Education Students' Association was held at 7:00 pm on November 2, 2008, in the John Deutsch University Centre.

### 1 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA [Motion 1]

Amendments: scratch discussion of Jacob Mantle's comment from discussion period – questions will be saved for question period, to be addressed in president's report.

Elected task force rep motion added. Motion 6, nomination of a task force representative, added to the agenda.

The motion to approve the agenda was moved by Lois Adamson, seconded by Mike Brinkworth.

The motion was put and passed unanimously.

### 2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES [Motion 2]

Amendments: "4<sup>th</sup> year students" changed to "final year students."

Section 8.1.4 "Canadian" changed to "Queen's."

Discussion 12.1, the third last statement was said by Matt Parker, not Mike Brinkworth.

The motion to approve the minutes was moved by Janice Young, seconded by Ludmila Nair.

The motion was put and passed unanimously.

### 3 SPEAKER'S BUSINESS

#### 3.1 General Business

3.1.1 Passing around attendance sheet, sign or initial

3.1.2 Statements by members will be passed around

3.1.3 Discussion period – discussing the possibility of submitting reports in the agenda, to act as a summary of evidence for the evening, in order to make meetings go more quickly.

### 4 GUEST SPEAKERS

There are no guest speakers.

### 5 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

#### 5.1 General Report

5.1.1 Incident where Jacob Mantle, president of AMS, made a derogatory comment on a Facebook picture. Ignorant and hurtful comment; triggered a lot of uproar on campus, lots of reactions. Todd made a statement as a member of AMS, not as a CESA rep. Making an example = losing respect.

Todd Ormiston's Statements to the AMS:

Dear Mr. Speaker, Assembly and assembled students,

Before I begin, I want to make clear that I speak to you tonight as Todd the Arts and Science student, and not in my capacity as President of the Concurrent Education Students' Association.

Student leaders are and should be held to a higher standard, as they represent both themselves and our constituents. Regardless of intention, their words can easily be construed as reflections of the beliefs of their societies.

Whether or not what Jacob did was right or wrong is not the issue. Let me clearly say that Mr Mantle's comment was hurtful and ignorant. Hopefully we can

all acknowledge the wrongness of his actions. Jacob as an individual capable of growth should, however, be considered on the issue of him remaining as president.

Jacob Mantle is certainly not the first person to have made a mistake while in a leadership position and while this mistake is fundamentally different in nature than other recent events, this all needs to come to back to the issue of being able to realize that our leaders are not perfect, capable of mistakes, and CAN be forgiven, and improve themselves.

In anti-oppression training we learn that when faced with oppression we should first determine intent and treat the situation accordingly. In this particular case the statement was not made from a place of ill-intent, but rather ignorance. It is too late for us all to wish that Jacob had not been ignorant, because that time has past. It is time to focus on the future. I believe that learning from his mistakes will only serve to make him a better individual and leader.

His resignation would be the easy way out of this situation. Disposing of Jacob does not dispose of the issue. A forced, or suggested, resignation is destructive, rather than constructive. This will not put an end to the issue. If anything it leaves it blatantly unresolved.

As an educator, I know that by making an example of one person for a mistake, you can easily lose the respect of all. This happens time after time in the classroom. And what is this school, than just a large classroom rife with diverse, challenging tests that we may not also get 100% on.

Yes it'll be harder for him to stick around. But just because it's harder doesn't mean it's not the right recourse. It's not enough to be simply punished. This is not fair to the students affected by these comments. He MUST do his best to redeem himself in the eyes of Arts and Science students. Jacob must be given the real opportunity to regain the trust of the constituents he has offended. If Jacob remains as president, this consideration will certainly be in his mind in all matters. This experience will certainly make him a better representative

His resignation will be seen as Queen's making him a scapegoat for the issue. We should not allow outside pressures (like external media outlets) force our hand on how we react to this internal issue.

Arts and Sciences students should have the final say in this issue. While I do not agree with the impeachment process as it stands, the mechanisms are there for a reason. If students feel strongly that Jacob should resign, then they should engage in the process. This ensures discussion on the issue by all parties who are invested. A referendum campaign will give Mr Mantle the opportunity to show remorse, and to begin to regain the trust of his constituents. It will give an opportunity for students to argue for his removal if they so wish. Ultimately, the decision will be made by those to whom we are all accountable, the students at large.

I do not detract from the fact that the path ahead of us will be difficult; but I believe the difficulty is good because it will make us question the way we do things, how this happened and how we can all be more conscious of all of our statements and our biases, and work to make this school the most inclusive place it can be.

We must move forward together to begin the process of forgiving the individual and moving on to tackle the very real issues of oppression and discrimination that exist at our school.

-Todd Ormiston, Con-Ed '09 and Arts and Science Student.

Statement 2:

It may seem to some that we are a community divided.

I don't want anyone here to leave thinking that we question whether we condemn the words of Mr Mantle.

I hope, and believe that we here are UNIFIED in the fight against oppression and discrimination; we just differ on the way we wish to proceed at this juncture.

Let me repeat. Let us all leave here with a reinvigorated desire to do our part in this very important fight, UNIFIED as students.

The impeachment process currently requires that both executive members be removed simultaneously. Working on getting 10% of Arts & Science students to sign a petition for impeachment; then it will go to vote. Very difficult and tense situation for most people at the AMS assembly. There was a lot of anger and hate; graffiti appeared on campus, creating a climate of fear as well. Sarah Dall is going to be our ASUS representative for the closed session on Thursday; all members are encouraged to read the AMS assembly minutes.

## **6 VICE-PRESIDENTS' REPORTS**

### **6.1 Vice President Internal – General Report**

6.1.1 Thanks to Steven Mueller for working with the website.

6.1.2 Thanks to Jaclyn Murdoch; arranged for a music meeting for music con-ed students, asking for students' input.

6.1.3 Lots of discussion about the Task Force; we have yet to receive the manual about the Task Force. So discussion will be put off for that; we'll elect a representative to the Task Force later tonight.

6.1.4 Nitpicking about the constitution; students spoke about issues surrounding homecoming. Possibility of graduating with a Master's degree in gender issues and gender educations; dealing with predicted budget cuts for next year. Motion that failed; speaker is supposed to be a non-biased party, but speaker can pass a vote to fail a tied motion.

6.1.5 Review committee chair meeting on Wednesday.

6.1.6 Lots of discussion about the Jacob Mantle issue. Met with him personally on Saturday to show support; if anyone has questions, you can ask. Thinks that his dismissal will not solve the problem. He has received both negative emails and supportive emails; confusion as to how people feel. The ASUS meeting is on Thursday at 7; all Arts and Science students have a vote, and it's important to attend. It might be in the McLaughlin room in the JDUC.

6.1.7 ASUS ratified the Heal Gael.

### **6.2 Vice President External – General Report**

6.2.1 Thanks to Cait and Sarah for the workshop.

6.2.2 Thanks to Cait and Sarah for open mic night.

6.2.3 Thanks to outgoing teach exec.

6.2.4 Council clothing is coming. The details still have to be decided, information to come at next meeting.

## **7 AMS REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT**

### **7.1 AMS General Assembly**

7.1.1 Most motions were deferred.

7.1.2 Non-academic discipline; choose community service; approved several funds grants.

7.1.3 AMS council as a group asked for the resignation of Jacob as president of ASUS because his comment was a breach of trust; they don't feel that he can rebuild that trust in the time left in his term.

## **8 STUDENT SENATOR'S REPORT**

### **8.1 Senate**

8.1.1 Oct 23 meeting: anticipating a \$2-3 million cut in the budget (at least)

8.1.2 An email was sent out to alumni regarding the Aberdeen street party during Homecoming; it's an issue that people feel strongly about, they received 300 responses within a few days. Because the municipalities are hurt by Ontario's new budget, the city of Kingston will not want to spend the money on the Aberdeen party, which costs them a lot.

8.1.3 Academic integrity review: first appeal goes to the faculty of the course; the second goes to the faculty you're registered in. Concern about different procedures in different faculties; going to review this.

8.1.4 Changing of terms of reference of SOARB, saying that the Dean of Student affairs is the authority responsible for frosh week, effectively placing the Dean above SOARB. Many student senators feel that this gives the Dean the authority to override SOARB; we don't feel that's right. This was based on a statement by Principal Hitchcock, which no one could produce. This motion passed.

8.1.5 Queen's department of mining and resources; naming a faculty after someone; details not disclosed.

8.1.6 Sat on the university student appeals board, spent 4.5 hours on one appeal.

## **9 STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS**

### **9.1 Jenny Goodwin, WIC Athletic Stick**

9.1.1 BEWIC signup happened this week. 60 people signed up. 25\$ due in CESA drop box by Tuesday 2 pm. January 16-17.

### **9.2 Cindy Liu, BEdSpread editor**

9.2.1 Articles due for the BEdSpread by November 17.

### **9.3 Katlynd McLaren, Community Affairs**

9.3.1 Coffee House was a big success, raising \$100 in 2 hours. Thanks to everyone who came out, especially the tons of first years. "Cover your crest" isn't going to happen until spring because of the risk of snow. Tree of Life – more details to come. Thanks to everyone who helped with Teach Exec interviews.

### **9.4 Janice Young, Head Teach**

9.4.1 New Teach Exec has been picked. Thanks to Todd and Erika for sitting in on all the interviews all weekend. Teach Exec will be announced on Wednesday.

### **9.5 Cait Treadgold and Sarah Taylor, Workshops Coordinators**

9.5.1 Thanks for coming out to the first workshop and the fundraisers at Ale House and Coffee House. Certificates still available for "Kingston to Kingston" workshop. Next workshop is this Tuesday, in the McLaughlin Room, 6:30 to 8 pm. 2\$ at the door, plus we're accepting donations.

### **9.6 Leora Jackson, Student Rector**

9.6.1 At Alfie's tomorrow night, there's a charity event, with proceeds going to Almost Home.

### **9.7 Matthew Parker, ESS rep to CESA**

9.7.1 5<sup>th</sup> years will be back at Queen's on Monday. ESS working on relationship with AMS. ESS does not appear on the AMS website; ESS members are eligible to vote, but were away on

practicum during the AMS referendum. We were told that changes won't affect us because we'll be gone next year anyway. Writing a letter to raise awareness.

#### **9.8 Alex Benarzi, Academic Affairs Committee**

9.8.1 Talia did issue an apology for the ESS students missing the referendum, and they are trying not to do this in the winter term.

9.8.2 OUSA general meeting last weekend; Undergrad Students' Association – if you're interested in hearing about it, talk to Alex. Discussed tuition: the average university pays 45%-50% of tuition, and the government pays the rest. They are trying to bring this down to 30%, with the government paying 70%. They also discussed equity for international students, making sure universities don't overcharge international students.

#### **9.9 Trevor Lin, Treasurer**

9.9.1 We're still good; a more detailed report will come at this year's final meeting, with the analysis of the updated spreadsheet.

#### **9.10 Alison Camire, Conference Chair**

9.10.1 Jan 23-25 is this year's conference. Nov 24–Jan 12 is the registration period. Several changes have been made to conference. This year's theme is sustainable education for a global world, trying to make it a "green" conference, speaking about global education. Keynote speakers coming up from Massachusetts.

### **10 QUESTION PERIOD**

Alex Benarzi: Is the conference website up yet?

Alison Camire: No.

Katlynd McLaren: With regards to the Task Force – it's really awful that they're ignoring Sarah this way. It's outrageous that they haven't responded to you.

Sarah Dall: the email may have been sent to the wrong person, so we shouldn't expect a response yet; the next meeting won't be taking place till the end of November.

Vanessa Floras: The other faculties, like commerce and applied science, were all very concerned about what happened to CESA from the Task Force.

Erika MacRae: At the Board of Education meeting, we'll bring the task force issue up – email Erika if you have other issues that you want addressed at this meeting.

Katlynd McLaren: I'm very concerned that no AMS reps are present this week – especially with tension on campus about Jacob's comment.

Todd Ormiston: No other official statements made by CESA reps. My statements were in response to accusations of racism. We all recognize the major issue on campus with Islamophobia but it seems as if we are divided based on how we react to Jacob Mantle's actions. Two of the three AMS reps were supposed to be here.

Brooke Mackenzie: Will CESA be making a statement at the AMS assembly about our opinion?

Todd Ormiston: We've decided to re-add that to the discussion period. We'll have an informal vote about how CESA council feels about JM's position.

Nicole Zeit: Are they voting on impeachment? How do our votes work?

Sarah Dall: During the first hour [closed session], only I have a vote. We don't know for sure. We haven't been sent the agenda yet; it will probably just be discussion period. There is also the possibility of impeaching Jacob by a two-thirds vote following an announcement (2 weeks prior). We expect that changes will be made at the 6 pm closed session to the process of impeachment.

Mike Brinkworth: Who called for the closed session?

Sarah Dall: I don't know.

Jenn Peirce: if anyone wants a neutral exec member to come talk to, exec admin is available for that.

Brooke: Sarah, are you voting for your personal beliefs or for CESA council?

Sarah Dall: I'm voting to represent you; that's why we'll need to discuss this to know your thoughts.

Mike Brinkworth: The nature of a closed session is that you receive info that other people don't have; there is a certain element of your personal decision-making.

Théa Pel: How does the vote actually happen? All ASUS members can vote, using their student cards.

## **11 NEW BUSINESS**

11.1 Motion to re-add discussion on Jacob Mantle's situation, moved by Todd Ormiston, seconded by Erika MacRae, passed. Replaced to original position in the agenda.

### **11.2 Motion 4**

Moved by Mike Brinkworth; seconded by Jenny Goodwin.

Whereas it is understood that all members of CESA receive Career Services updates in emails from their respective faculties,

Whereas CESA Council understands the importance of concise email correspondence with all members of CESA,

We move,

*That CESA Council not allow the Executive Administrator of CESA to include nonessential Career Services announcements in the weekly email sent to all members of CESA effective immediately and until at least the beginning of the 2009-2010 academic year.*

Opening statement by Mike: Career Services emails are received several times. People scroll through very quickly, miss other announcements.

Amendment to delete the original motion and replace with: *"That CESA Council ensure that Career Services announcements appear at the bottom of the weekly email sent to all members of CESA, effective immediately and until at least the beginning of the 2009-2010 academic year."*

The amendment was passed with opposition.

Motion passed unanimously.

### **11.3 Motion 5**

Standing motion moved by Alison Camire; seconded by Todd Ormiston

*That CESA Council approve the creation of the Conference Liaison position as seen in Appendix A.*

Opening statement by Alison: created a new conference position with the growth of conference. We have a candidate to hire, but we want the position to be a council position, otherwise we'll just create a committee.

Discussion: the candidate doesn't know that he/she is the candidate. This person will be sitting on council meetings with us. The conference clause regarding quorum will apply to this position: if they are present, they are part of quorum; if they don't attend, they aren't. We'll try to give them an office hour as well. The job description is in Appendix A. They would be the same as other conference members; voting rights, office hours, transition manuals. It would be more welcoming to the candidate to include him/her as a full council member with voting rights. This could lead to a discussion about how we add positions to council. In future, we could give the Conference Exec the power to do this themselves.

Motion passed with abstentions.

### **11.4 Motion 6**

Moved by Todd Ormiston; seconded by Erika MacRae.

*That CESA Council endorse the statement of the Queen's University Muslim Students' Association (QUMSA) found in Appendix B thereby joining their 'Campaign for a Hate-Free Campus'.*

Opening statement: In light of what's been happening on campus, we should address this issue.  
Seeing no discussion: The motion was put and passed unanimously.

**11.5 Motion to extend by 30 minutes, passed.**

**11.6 Motion 7**

*That CESA council elect a representative for the Task Force.* Time commitment is uncertain; read all submissions; meeting on Nov 30; Thursday morning 8:30 to 9:30 was the last meeting. Nominees: Katlynd McLaren (respectfully declined), Théa Pel (accepted), Mike Brinkworth (accepted), Vanessa Flores (accepted), Sarah Dall (accepted).

Statements by nominees

Questions for nominees

**Motion** for vote by secret ballot moved by Todd Ormiston, seconded by Claire Vindel-Brown.

Passed unanimously. Secret vote elected Vanessa Floras.

The motion was put, passed with one abstention.

12 DISCUSSION PERIOD

**12.1 - Discussion of the Conference Liaison position**

No discussion.

**12.2 - Discussion of the recent remark made by ASUS President Jacob Mantle and of the responses made by the recent AMS Assembly**

Important thing for all students to learn about; accountability, racism, and prejudice. Still deciding best avenue of action.

Katlynd McLaren: This is a serious issue. People need to show up and fulfil the jobs they signed up to do.

Brooke Mackenzie: It's important to separate the individual from the president in the case of Jacob Mantle. He is a representative of the student body. There is lots of anti-Muslim sentiment on campus, so he should not be made a scapegoat. But he is part of the problem, it's not fair to students to keep him as leader. It would be a positive decision for him to resign.

Mike Brinkworth: His comment was inappropriate, but some responses have been equally so, including accusations, threats, and graffiti. There have been one and half years of vandalism to the QUMSA office. Where was the outrage then? Now, we have a name and a face, but pinning the backlash of 1½ years on him isn't fair to him. I'm disappointed that the reaction to threats and vandalism is increased calls for his resignation. This is not appropriate. Resignation in light of threats means he's giving in to inappropriately expressed pressure. Death threats are not an acceptable way to solve a problem. This creates the appearance of a solution, but real problems need real solutions. Jacob Mantle expressed willingness to deal with this issue. He has done great things for Queen's. This momentary lapse of judgement is leading to character assassination. We should support Jacob in his attempts to reconcile what he did. The proposed constitutional change is alarming.

Sarah Dall: [in response to Katlynd] We'll send out an email reminding everyone that attendance at CESA Council meetings is mandatory. Jacob's evaluations were outstanding, he works so hard. Someone who has had this experience has a valuable perspective; it's important to model steps that should be taken to rectify the problem. Emotionally, Jacob is in a mess. The fact that he wants to continue acting as president is admirable. The Journal is not handling this well.

**Motion to extend the meeting indefinitely; the motion was put and passed with abstentions.**

Sarah Wolinsky: It might not be right for him to resign, but it might be necessary, given what the Journal has posted. The Internet is a public space. He's responsible but not the only one responsible.

**Point of Information:** This discussion is in order to allow Sarah to know our opinions for the closed session on Thursday.

Cindy Liu: The incident is affecting how Queen's is viewed nationally.

Todd Ormiston: I was hesitant about speaking at the AMS assembly. Fights broke out outside, I was scared for my personal safety. Jacob's resignation sends a message that this is okay. We shouldn't have to be scared to voice our opinions. Jacob is the best student politician I've ever met. It's his life as well as his career on the internet.

Nicole: I disagree. To hear a racial slur passed off as a slip of the tongue is wrong. He shouldn't have faced death threats. We should assess his behaviour, not the reactions to it. The ASUS president represents each of us. He no longer represents the values that we hold for ourselves. The decision about his behaviour shouldn't be based on emotions or repercussions. We need to make sure that the voice of CESA is heard at the AMS assembly on Thursday.

Sarah Dall: I'm representing you, not my own opinions.

Janice Young: The lives of the people he hurt are equally damaged. Even if we believe he'd still be a good leader, a lot of people have lost confidence in him. His comment hurt more people than just that group. If he doesn't resign, those people are going to be hurt even more. I don't see why he couldn't do just as much good, in terms of making up for his actions, as a general member.

Alex Benarzi: The meeting at 7 pm on Thursday is an AGM and everyone has a voice. Sarah should represent herself at the AGM, and all of us at the closed session. Jacob also hesitated, not on whether to make an apology, but on whether to make a public or private apology.

**Point of information:** Jacob's apology was read aloud, as sent to all members of ASUS.

Alex Benarzi: Jacob's hesitance was attacked by the Journal.

**Point of Information:** Jacob thought he should speak directly to complainants, but couldn't because of anonymity requests.

Alyson: Please don't use, "This could happen to anyone."

Katlynd McLaren: We expect the Journal to be biased. It has misrepresented the situation to a disgusting degree. I believe that Jacob should resign. Racism on campus is a big problem. Death threats are not an appropriate response. He is the voice of the students. Minority groups' voices are further silenced. People have lost faith in their president. That isn't a good representation of our identity.

Katie Domen: Are there any actions to deal with the student body's reaction?

Sarah Dall: The intention is to create a forum for concerns to be heard.

Todd Ormiston: The Journal is the only available source of information.

Ludmila Nair: Sarah should allow us to send her personal emails about how we feel on the issue.

Brooke: Jacob Mantle is unsuited to be a leader. There is a case of the individual versus the student representative, but his behaviour is still not correct or acceptable. I don't believe that his resignation is a "band-aid solution." Impeachment is inappropriate, but it's Jacob's decision whether or not to resign.

Sarah Dall: I believe the term "slip of the tongue" was meant to indicate that it was a comment made out of ignorance, not that it's right. I feel like I'm being denied the right to express how I feel. I am not going to misrepresent Con-Ed at the ASUS meeting.

Vanessa Flores: I am upset with the Journal, and I appreciate hearing the information from here. Facebook is not necessarily a safe forum.

Todd Ormiston: This is a problem with student representation: representatives are torn between inaction and misrepresentation. We have a shared belief that people can change and

grow. Representatives are human, too. We can sometimes be afraid of making the wrong statement.

**Motion** that comments be solicited from CESA members prior to the ASUS meeting, to be sent to Sarah Dall before 2:30 on Thursday. The motion was put and passed.

### **12.3 - Creation of the Operations Review and Constitutional Amendment (ORCA) Standing Committee as described in Appendix C**

Todd Ormiston: Exec supports the creation of this committee. The Constitution has been inadequate in terms of what's happened recently with re-elections and resignations.

Janice Young: We'd also like the committee to address the role of Teach Exec during Frosh Week as it's currently described in the constitution.

Alex Benarzi: The size of the committee will change its effectiveness.

Todd Ormiston: Incoming and current Exec will only be on the committee (together) for a short time.

Mike Brinkworth: Most work would be individual, then brought together to compare. The first draft will be released early for people to see.

### **12.4 - Written Reports Submitted with the Agenda**

Sometimes we spend time at CESA Council meetings going around in circles; written reports included with the agenda would make us more prepared.

Théa Pel: I agree with this.

Katlynd McLaren: Maybe we should revisit this at the next meeting.

Matt Parker: Who exactly would submit written reports?

Jenn Peirce: Mainly Exec would submit reports.

Mike Brinkworth: Any members who can should submit written reports.

Sarah Dall: We should revisit this at the next meeting.

Todd Ormiston: I agree with Katlynd, we should save this for the next meeting. Written reports sound like a good idea, but it requires the commitment to read them.

## **13 ADJOURNMENT [Motion 8]**

Motion that CESA Council do now adjourn, moved by Kat Gross, seconded by Eric Donatelli. The motion was put and passed unanimously.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **QCE Job Description** **“CONFERENCE LIAISONS”**

- a) Will attend all Conference Executive meetings.
- b) Will attend C.E.S.A. Council meetings at the discretion of the Conference Chair.
- c) Will coordinate with Conference Communications to organize volunteers for the Conference weekend.
- d) With the help of the Conference Chair, will ensure that all social events abide by AMS insurance policy, and fill out an AMS sanctioning form, ensuring to get approval from Queen’s Student Constables, Queen’s First Aid and the AMS Vice-President (Operations) for appropriate events.
- e) With the help of the Conference Chair and Conference Communications, will draft up-to-date sponsorship proposals and work as the liaison for corporate and local sponsors before and after the Conference weekend.
- f) With the help of the Conference Chair and Conference Communications will coordinate all meals and snacks for the Conference. This includes filling out necessary Food and Beverage forms to comply with AMS insurance policy.
- g) Will provide support to other members of the Conference Executive as needed.

## **APPENDIX B**

## **QUMSA's Statement "Campaign for a Hate-Free Campus"**

In light of recent, hateful anti-Muslim acts including defacement of posters, threats, and harassment of hijab-wearing women, we felt it wholly necessary to voice our profound concern and unequivocal condemnation of manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. We would like to express our keen solidarity with the greater Muslim community at this troubling time. When hatred of Muslims and other minority groups is allowed to flourish, our collective human rights are called into question. Racism in any form is an affront to the dignity of all humankind. We call upon all members of the Queen's community including faculty, staff, and students to combat ignorance and hatred through education and open dialogue.

### **APPENDIX C**

#### **Background**

In light of some recent events that have occurred surrounding Council, in particular surrounding Council positions, as well as some events external to our Council; we have looked to our Constitution more often than usual to determine proper procedures in dealing with these events. In doing so, it is becoming increasingly apparent to some, perhaps many, that the CESA Constitution as it stands is inadequate in many respects. What is proposed here is the formation of a committee to review the Constitution, to determine what works, what doesn't work, and finally what's missing. The idea here is that a review of our current Constitution as well as analyzing the Constitutions of other similar student associations at Queen's, a new Constitution can be put in place to better serve the needs of the Association.

The current proposal is as follows. Next meeting, we will officially approve or disallow the formation of the committee. Should the committee be formed, nominations can be taken at the meeting. The committee will meet before the end of term to set a specific agenda going forward. By reading week, the committee should release a first draft of the proposed new Constitution. Between the release of the first draft and the final CESA meeting of the year (before AGM), comments will be sought after on the new Constitution. A second draft will be presented to Council as a Notice of Motion at the last meeting and a vote to ratify the new Constitution will ensue at the AGM.

It is important that the current CESA Executive be involved in this process, and that the CESA Executive-elect be involved with the process when they are elected in the winter term. It is also important for the Executive Administrator to sit on the committee to provide an impartial voice and an expert opinion.