



---

## Agenda

MEETING OF THE CONCURRENT EDUCATION STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION COUNCIL  
September 29, 2009 7:00 pm  
Dunning Hall, Room 11

---

1. Adoption of the Agenda [Motion 1]
2. Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting of March 29, 2009 [Motion 2]
3. Business Arising from the Minutes
  - a. Credit and Grading Changes – Appendix A [Information]
4. Speaker's Business
5. Guest Speakers
  - a. Vice Presidential Candidates' Forum
6. President's Report – Appendix B
7. Vice President's Report
  - a. Vice President (Internal)
  - b. Vice President (External)
8. AMS Representatives' Report - Appendix C
9. Senator's Report
10. Statements by Members
11. Question Period
12. New Business
  - a. Ratification of the Clerks of Council [Action – Motion 3]
  - b. Selection of CESA's Representative to the AMS Equity Caucus – Appendix D [Action – Motion 4]
  - c. Preliminary Budget Proposal – Appendix E [Information]
  - d. Tentative Redistribution of Executive Duties – Appendix F [Information]
13. Discussion Period
  - a. Positive Space & Sensitivity Training
  - b. Issues surrounding the weekend of September 26<sup>th</sup> - Appendix G
14. Adjournment



---

## **Motion Sheet**

MEETING OF THE CONCURRENT EDUCATION STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

September 20, 2009 7:00 pm

Dunning Hall, Room 11

---

1. Moved by: Michael Brinkworth  
Seconded by: Katie Shifman  
That the agenda for September 20, 2009 be approved as circulated.
2. Moved by: Katie Shifman  
Seconded by: Michael Brinkworth  
That the minutes of the meeting March 29, 2009 be approved as circulated.
3. Moved by: Michael Brinkworth  
Seconded by: Katie Shifman  
That Ahmed Himada and Noelyn Selvanayagam be ratified as Clerks of the Council for the 2009/2010 school year.
4. Moved by: Katie Shifman  
Seconded by: Michael Brinkworth  
That \_\_\_\_\_ be CESA's representative to the AMS Equity Caucus for the 2009/2010 school year.

## Appendix A – Credit and Grading Changes

In May, the University Senate passed the following two motions.

Be it resolved that Queen’s adopt a credit unit system that assigns weights in a scale where normally a 0.5 credit course translates to a weight of 3.0 credit units and a 1.0 credit course translates to a weight of 6.0 credit units, with provision for variation of assigned weights (e.g., 1.0 through 12.0) within the scale.

Be it resolved that Queen’s adopt an official grading system of letter grades with Grade Point Average (GPA,) as depicted in Appendix 1. Faculties and Schools may choose not to assign all of the grades in the full scale which will be so noted in the legend of the official transcript. A top GPA of 4.0 will correspond to the highest achievable grade of A+, with the accompanying descriptor that A+ denotes exceptional academic achievement.

**Proposed Official Grading System**

	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Percentage (%)	Descriptor
Queen’s	A+	4.0	90-100	Exceptional; significantly exceeds the highest expectations for course work.
	A	4.0	85-89	Outstanding; meets the highest standards for the assignment course.
	A-	3.7	80-84	Excellent; meets very high standards for the assignment or course.
	B+	3.3	77-79	Very good; meets high standards for the assignment or course.
	B	3.0	73-76	Good; meets most standards for the assignment or course.
	B-	2.7	70-72	More than adequate; shows some reasonable command of material.
	C+	2.3	67-69	Acceptable; meets basic standards for the assignment or course.
	C	2.0	63-66	Acceptable; meets some of the basic standards for the assignment or course.
	C-	1.7	60-62	Acceptable; while falling short of meeting basic standards in several ways.
	D+	1.3	57-59	Minimally acceptable.
	D	1.0	53-56	Minimally acceptable; passing grade.
	D-	0.7	50-52	Minimally acceptable; lowest passing grade.
	F	0.0	0-49	Failure
	P			Pass; no grade assigned
	H			Pass with honours; meets the highest standards for the assignment or course.
AUD			Audit	
TR			Transfer Credit; no grade assigned	

The first motion passed without much opposition. I voted for the first motion, after being assured that concerns with the credit system in some other faculties were addressed.

The second motion passed 20 – 16 with 4 abstentions. I voted against the motion. While I understood it was “now or never”, I wasn’t convinced that now was better than never. I was not convinced that adhering to a deadline for monetary reasons was in the best academic interests of the university. I felt that the process was far too rushed, and the concerns of many were simply not addressed. In fact, I continue to think concerns have not been addressed. One of the largest problems is that the GPA and letter system doesn’t offer adequate mark granulation. Under this system, there is no difference in GPA between those who achieve an 85% and 100%. This is of particular concern when awarding scholarships. How is the university supposed to award, for example, the Prince of Wales Prizes to the top Arts and top Science graduating students when everyone with averages between 85 and 100 appear to have the same mark?

Secondly, I was unhappy with the decision to bring this to the May meeting of the Senate, when many student senators were unable to attend, and in fact neither was the Principal. This is two years in a row that the Senate has passed motions of extreme importance and impact on students in either the April meeting when students are writing exams, or in May when students have left.

At our first meeting in March, we had an extensive discussion about this issue, and I just wanted to update Council on what has transpired since, and how I approached the issue in my last meeting as CESA’s Senator.

Cheers,

Michael Brinkworth

## Appendix B – President’s Report



### President’s Report

Council,

Welcome back! It’s been a long and lonely summer in the office, and it has been fantastic seeing you all again and experiencing a lively office for a change. I am extremely excited to begin the year, and we’ve gotten off to a great start. I will begin with an update of my summer and then move into what’s happened recently.

#### AMS Workshops

In May I accepted an invitation from the AMS to join them in a series of workshops provided to the AMS executive, commissioners, directors, managers and other society presidents. I received training in financial planning, media relations, long-term planning, alumni relations, campus security and much more. I think these workshops were a fantastic learning experience for me, and allowed me to meet many of the people I will be working with this year on AMS Assembly.

#### New Accounting System

After attending an AMS workshop on financial planning and recordkeeping, I decided that it was time to move away from Microsoft Excel as the program used to manage the finances of CESA. After much searching and downloading demos of every possible brand of accounting software available, I decided on QuickBooks to manage the finances of the Association.

QuickBooks allows us to budget more accurately, track income and expense rather than simply profit or loss, compare actual vs. budgeted income and expenses with the click of a mouse, and reconcile our bank statements and much more. It also makes reporting finances to Council far easier (see Appendix D).

I spent a couple of weeks setting up the software, have used it all summer and gave Jenny a crash course this week. I want to thank her for her patience while we went through how to use the program. So far so good.

#### Saving Money

I received the bill for Formal last spring and discovered that we could save money on taxes if we paid Event Services with our Queen’s account instead of by cheque or other form of payment. I approached Conference with this discovery and I am happy to announce we will be using our Queen’s account to pay for the Event Services costs of Conference to save them money on taxes as well.

I along with Jason approached the Head Gael this summer to work out a deal to use the tent on Agnes Benedickson Field for the Buddy Picnic once again. Unfortunately, last year CESA was billed \$600 for the use of the tent due to a communication problem. This year, Jason

and I were able to negotiate its use for free. Huge thanks to Jason, the Head Gael Kelsey Newhook, and the EngSoc Orientation Executive.

### **New Funding for Conference (and maybe CESA too)**

I met with the AMS General Manager Claude Sherren this summer to inquire about getting tax receipts for companies donating to Conference, something donors in the past have been looking for. I was able to work out a deal with him and the Office of Advancement to allow for this to happen. Many other conferences and clubs have a similar arrangement with the AMS and Office of Advancement.

Big thanks to Linzi for asking me to ask around about this. It seems we've been missing out on some extra funding since we weren't able to provide receipts in the past, so it's fantastic that she saw an opportunity for growth and made it happen.

I am also in contact with the Office of Advancement to see how we can work with them to reach out to Con-Ed Alumni and perhaps secure some donations to CESA.

### **Website**

A big shout out to Jody for her amazing work on the website. She worked long and hard to get the page design right, to create all the pages we require and post all the information Con-Ed students need to know. The website should be a cornerstone of our communications strategy, and I think we finally have a site that can do the job.

### **Procedures**

Now that we have a brand spanking new Constitution and Policy Manuals, the one thing missing was procedures. Yes, procedures. Until now, there have not been clear cut procedures outlined for members of Council on day-to-day operational requirements for the Association. Oftentimes, "how CESA works" is based on a combination of what happened last year, what you are told by other members of Council, what is written on notes on the desk or wall in the office, etc.

The Executive felt that it was time to outline clearly from day one what the expected procedures to follow were for the coming year. I spent a great deal of time this summer working on these procedures. They include office duties, how to plan and advertize events, how to request funds for an initiative or event, how to handle bursaries in the office, etc. I will be going over most of these procedures following the meeting.

### **Camp**

A huge thank you to Alli, who continued to plan Con-Ed Camp until September 1<sup>st</sup>. What you will see and do and experience at Camp will mostly be the product of her vision for Camp. Since she has stepped down, Katie and I have taken over the planning of Camp and we look forward to the final stages of planning with the new Vice President when he or she is elected next week.

### **The Office**

Big thanks to Katie, Mike Thaler and Nick for cleaning and rearranging the office with me before Frosh Week. The feedback on the new layout has been nothing but positive, so thanks everyone for that. I hope it creates a more inviting space for Con-Eddies.

**Sidewalk Sale and Other Fundraising**

A HUGE thank you goes out to Mikaila and Jocelyn for the fantastic job they've done thus far. To date, they have had over \$800 in revenue and almost \$400 in profit, meaning they're already about 2/3 of their way to their budgeted profit for the year. Did I mention this all happened before classes began? I'm so proud and impressed with the work they've done thus far, and I can't wait to see what they have in store for us next.

**Smoker**

Another huge thank you to Théa and Emily for organizing an amazing smoker on Monday. Everyone had a great time and we had a strong turnout. A great start to the social calendar.

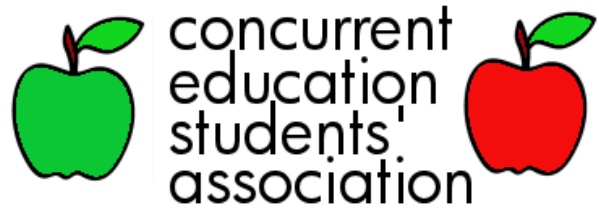
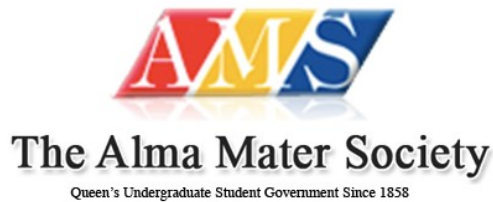
**Intramural Signup Night**

Ben and Laura were busy this week signing up Con-Eddies for intramural sports. We are fielding lots of strong teams this year and turnout for signup was fantastic. Thanks to both of them for all their work, and for dealing with some of the hiccups that came with the changes to intramurals this year.

Cheers,

Michael Brinkworth

## Appendix C – CESA Rep to the AMS Report



### **CESA Representative to the AMS Report**

Dear Council,

Welcome back to Kingston and to Queen's! I hope you all had a very restful summer and are enjoying the hustle and bustle of being back in school.

There have been two AMS meetings since my last report – one from last school year held on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, as well as the first one of this school year, which happened this past Thursday. Included in this report are pertinent issues from our most recent meeting, as well as updated information on news brought up at the April meeting.

At the meeting, we had the privilege of having Daniel Woolf, the current principal of Queen's, come to speak to us. He rushed back to AMS Assembly after meeting with Premier Dalton McGuinty, in order to share with us his hopes for Queen's, and the issues he sees as most pressing for the university.

One of the first orders of business was the approval of the addition of an Equity Caucus, which will consist of members from various faculty societies. It is to serve as a forum and an advisory body on equity and anti-oppression. It will also be looking to implement different initiatives in an attempt to create a more equitable campus.

We also discussed and approved a message that all students will be receiving regarding the Aberdeen Street Party. This message will be distributed to all of Queen's via email, so look for that in your inboxes.

Other points to note at assembly include the presentation of the 2009 AMS Native Students' Award, the delay of the Queen's Centre opening until late November, and the dates of the fall and winter referendum. We also endorsed the installation of a plaque in commemoration of the history of the Student Memorial Union Building, which makes up part of the building we now know affectionately as the JDUC.

With regards to QUASR (Queen's University Administrative Systems Replacement), it has been confirmed that the university has decided to change to a 3/6 credit weighting system. More detailed information about changes in grading system will come later.

News from AMS hiring – all volunteer and IT positions are open to students of all years, while part-time paid positions are open to 1<sup>st</sup> years, work-study students, as well as those returning from exchange, or who are here at Queen's on exchange. Applications are due on September 30<sup>th</sup> by 4 pm to the AMS Office. Application forms can be found online in the AMS Office in hard copy or online at [www.myams.org/getinvolved](http://www.myams.org/getinvolved).

Last but not least, we discussed the dates for the Winter exam schedule. Because of this year's late start, Winter exams next term will actually proceed until May 1, which is later than usual. All efforts are being made to remedy this issue, as we know such an arrangement may create complications with housing and such.

Summed up below are important dates to note for the upcoming months:

- September 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>** Clubs Night
- September 26<sup>th</sup>** 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Educational Pow Wow
- September 28<sup>th</sup>** Queen's Model Parliament (QMP) applications due  
Alfie's first Jazz Night
- September 28<sup>th</sup>** All AMS position applications due
- October 1<sup>st</sup>** Bader Performing Arts Centre groundbreaking
- October 3<sup>rd</sup>** Dedication of the Robert Sutherland Building
- October 17<sup>th</sup>** Capture the Faculty

There is a lot covered in this one report, so I encourage you to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

That's all for now!

Catherine Lee

CESA Rep to the AMS 09/10

## **Appendix D – Equity Caucus Motion as proposed to AMS Assembly**

### ***M) Equity Caucus***

#### **Mandate**

The caucus will work in solidarity with students on issues of marginalization to serve as a standing committee of AMS assembly which aims to:

Offer lobbying support, and foster a more cohesive understanding of both oppression and equity at AMS assembly and on each faculty council

Serve as a forum for dialogue, and provide an advisory body for consultation on issues of marginalization and equity

Implement independent initiatives that aim to create a more equitable campus

Where requested, bring forth responses and recommendations on assembly items through discussion and debate

#### **Decision Making Process**

The caucus will operate on a consensus decision-making process in order to encourage dialogue, and a better understanding of the varying opinions. This will follow a simple structure to attain each decision. The item will be discussed with the objective of identifying viewpoints, and gathering information on the issue. The general direction of the caucus and possible proposals for action will be identified here. The discussion will lead to a proposal. It will be followed by a call for consensus. Each member of the group must actively state their agreement with the proposal by raising their hand. If consensus is not achieved, each dissenter presents their concerns on the proposal, potentially leading to another round of discussion to address the concern. The proposal may be amended, or re-phrased in an effort to address the concerns of all members. The process then returns to a call for consensus and the sequence is repeated until an agreement is reached. Upon agreement, the caucus will lobby for the concluded proposal, or implement it as an action item where applicable.

#### **Independent Projects and Action Items**

The caucus will also conduct independent projects that will strive to proactively encourage equitable policy and procedure within Queen's student leadership. This includes creating drafts for the creation of new policy and updates for what already exists. These will also go through the process of discussion and consensus but unlike other items will also include the delegation of which action items will be completed by which member. The chair and vice-chair will complete all action items unless otherwise determined.

## **Membership**

### *Voting members:*

Applied Science  
Arts and Science  
Commerce  
Concurrent Education  
Computing  
Nursing Science  
Physical and Health Education  
Medicine  
MBA

### *Ex-officio members:*

Social Issues Commissioner  
Society of Graduate and Professional Students  
Education Students' Society  
Law Students' Society

## **Duties and Responsibilities**

The Social Issues Commissioner will be responsible for:

1. Coordinating the list of members, and date for the first meeting of each school year
2. Reporting to the caucus all relevant information concerning the Social Issues Commission, as well as any changes to the social climate towards marginalized students at Queen's
3. Serving as a representative on AMS assembly to provide updates, and information on reached decisions

The position of Chair will be appointed by the caucus from within the membership list, and will entail:

1. The preparation of an agenda for all meetings
2. Ensuring that the caucus meets biweekly throughout the fall and winter terms, beginning no later than September, and January, respectively
3. The completion of all actionable items with the vice-chair, unless otherwise delegated
4. Ensuring that the reference source for all points of order to procedure should be Bourinot's Rules of Order, revised in its most recent edition

The position of vice-chair will be appointed the caucus from within the membership list, and will entail:

1. Recording the minutes
2. The completion of all actionable items with the chair, unless otherwise delegated

Each member of the Equity Caucus shall be responsible for:

1. Going through an anti-oppression workshop, positive space program training, and any other relevant training sessions as decided by the chair and vice-chair.
2. Attending meetings, or sending a proxy representative if unable to attend
3. Reporting to the caucus all relevant information on the activities of the represented organization and any changes related to its social environment

## **Appendix F – Tentative Redistribution of Executive Duties**

The Executive have decided to redistribute the duties of the Vice President (Internal) as follows. The duties of the President and Vice President (External) remain unchanged.

- Katie and Mike have taken over the planning for Con-Ed Camp.
- Mike will become CESA's Representative on ASUS Assembly.
- Mike will act as meeting chair in the absence of the Executive Administrator.
- Katie and Mike will take over the Sidewalk Sale responsibilities.
- Katie and Mike will be responsible for the Awards (Captain CESA, Year Challenge, etc.)
- The Fundraisers, Social Affairs Commissioners & Athletic Sticks will become members of the Presidential Umbrella.
- The Year Representatives and the Music Representative will become members of the External Umbrella

## Appendix G – Proposed Statement from Faculty Society Presidents

Queen's Homecoming, originally scheduled for the weekend of September 26<sup>th</sup>, was moved to the spring. Despite the efforts of the University and student groups, it is becoming increasingly apparent that a street party will take place on the weekend of the 26<sup>th</sup>. The AMS has written a letter to students, endorsed by the faculty society presidents, offering information regarding the safety of those who might attend such a street party. The letter is not intended to tell students what to do, but rather to give them the information available to student leaders and allow students to make educated decisions for themselves.

I have endorsed the letter and will be attaching my name to it, along with all faculty society presidents. I have provided the letter below (as it was approved at AMS Assembly). I am looking for constructive feedback on the letter, as well as an opinion on how to distribute the letter to students. We can have it come solely from the AMS President Michael Ceci or concurrently from myself as well. I look forward to your input.

Cheers,

Michael Brinkworth

---

Outline:

- The AMS and your faculty societies believe that students are adults who make their own decisions
- Our most pressing concern is student safety
- If there is an Aberdeen street party this year, it will be treated completely differently than it has been in the past
  - There will be no street closure
  - The Red Hat volunteers, who offered water and exchanged bottles for cups, will not be present because of safety concerns
  - Many of the safety precautions students have been able to rely upon in the past will not be in place this year
- As our primary concern is student safety, we ask students to be safe and aware of their surroundings

Please read below for further information.

To the Students of Queen's University:

As what would have been Homecoming weekend (Sept 25-27) draws near, the AMS and your faculty and residence societies would like to address the safety concerns that led to the cancellation of this Queen's tradition for at least the next two years. We are not here to defend or oppose the University's decision. As your student government leaders, we want to share the information we have with you.

To begin, we would like to express our belief that students are adults who are capable of taking care of themselves and making their own decisions. However, we want to ensure that you have all of the facts presented to you so that you can make your decisions for this weekend accordingly.

We are sure you are aware that the most important issue raised about the Aberdeen street party has been the risk to student safety; this party was incredibly unsafe. Students at the street party regularly assume that the people surrounding them were other Queen's students and alumni. Although students and alumni attended the unofficial event, so did thousands of people with no links to the university. In fact, 75% of those arrested in past years have not been Queen's students, and an informal study last year showed that approximately two thirds of the attendees had no affiliation whatsoever with Queen's. Kingston residents, high school-age and older, and students from other universities also attended, whether or not they had friends at Queen's, with no institutional reputation at stake and no consequences for their actions. In such a tightly packed and dangerous atmosphere, it is important to realize that many people had no connection to you and your school, and probably had different reasons for attending the event than you or your fellow students. Of most concern were those participants of varying ages with criminal records who flocked to Aberdeen with questionable intentions.

From public information released by Queen's administration, the City of Kingston, and Kingston Police, we know that if there is a party this year, it will be responded to much differently than in the past.

For the past several years, the AMS has requested a street closure from Kingston City Council in the interest of student safety. This meant the street would be legally closed, and those on it would not be arrested or fined for being present. There will be no street closure this year. Last year alone, the city and the university spent about \$300,000 trying to keep the unsanctioned party as safe as possible. Between 300 and 350 police officers were brought in from other Ontario units to watch the crowd. This year, police say they will act to "protect community safety." We do not know exactly what this will fully entail, but we have been advised that the street will not be a safe place for our volunteers. Our expectation is that the police will be responding more directly to unlawful activity than they have in the past.

In past years, "Red Hat" volunteers –students, alumni, and staff -- handed out free water and exchanged plastic cups for bottles. When everyone left for the night, these volunteers cleaned up the street. Because the street has been deemed too dangerous for them this year, they will not be present as we cannot in good conscience ask them to be there.

In past years, St. John Ambulance graciously kept a first aid tent open so that students with minor injuries could be tended to immediately. In addition, Frontenac Paramedics added five extra ambulances to their team so that if anyone was injured, he or she could be rushed to the hospital. This year, many of these precautions will not be in place.

As your student government leaders, our primary concern is your safety. You now know what we know about this weekend. If an unsanctioned street party develops, please be mindful of the many safety risks inherent with this kind of event, and remember that the safety net you may have relied on in the past will not be there due to the increased dangers to our volunteers. With

this in mind, we ask you to please be careful and aware of your surroundings if you choose to drink and go out this weekend and this year.

All the best for the fall and we wish you a successful year.

AMS President  
All Faculty Society Presidents

For questions, please contact Libby Shaker, the Municipal Affairs Commissioner, at [mac@ams.queensu.ca](mailto:mac@ams.queensu.ca)