



Athabasca University
Students' Union

Athabasca University Students' Union

Special Council Meeting Minutes

Approved March 14, 2017

Tuesday, March 7, 2017

5:30pm MST

Meeting Called By: Shawna Wasylyshyn, President
Type of Meeting: AUSU Council Meeting
Minutes: Donette Kingyens, Communications and Member Services Coordinator

Participants

Council: President Shawna Wasylyshyn, Vice President External and Student Affairs Julian Teterenko, Vice President Finance and Administration Kim Newsome, Councillor Robin Bleich, Councillor Andrew Gray, Councillor Scott Jacobsen, Councillor Amanda Lipinski, Councillor Brandon Simmons

Staff: Executive Director Sarah Cornett, Communications and Member Services Coordinator Donette Kingyens

The meeting was called to order at 5:39pm MT.

Agenda and Minutes

- 1.0 Approval of Agenda** All
- Motion:** BIRT Council approve the agenda as presented.
S. Jacobsen / B. Simmons **Approved 8/0**
2017-03-07 Special Council Agenda.pdf
- Note:** There are no minutes to approve at this meeting.

Action and Discussion Items

- 2.0 Executive Election** S. Wasylyshyn
- President Shawna Wasylyshyn introduced the election process for the executive officers including President, Vice President External and Student Affairs (VPEX), and Vice President Finance and Administration (VPFA).
The Chair was handed over to Executive Director Sarah Cornett to preside over the election.
- 2.1 Election of President** S. Cornett
- 2.1.1. S. Cornett opened the floor to nominations for President. Previously declared candidate S. Wasylyshyn confirmed her intent to stand. Nominations from the floor were called three times. No other candidates came forward.
2.1.2. Nominations for President were closed with one candidate: S. Wasylyshyn.
2.1.3. The candidate addressed the council for a maximum of 5 minutes.
2.1.4. No questions were asked by council.
2.1.5. Voting was conducted by secret ballot using the on-line Simply Voting system. As there was only one candidate, AUSU followed the acclamation procedure by which the ballots contained a "yes" or "no" option for the candidate.
2.1.6. The results were announced. Shawna Wasylyshyn was unanimously elected as President receiving 8 "yes" votes.
- 2.2 Election of Vice President External and Student Affairs (VPEX)** S. Cornett

- 2.2.1. S. Cornett opened the floor to nominations for VPEX. Previously declared candidate J. Teterenko confirmed his intent to stand. Nominations from the floor were called three times. No other candidates came forward.
- 2.2.2. Nominations for VPEX were closed with one candidate: J. Teterenko.
- 2.2.3. The candidates addressed council for a maximum of five minutes.
- 2.2.4. Questions were asked by council and answered by nominees.
- 2.2.5. Voting was conducted by secret ballot using the on-line Simply Voting system. As there was only one candidate, AUSU followed the acclamation procedure by which the ballots contained a “yes” or “no” option for the candidate.
- 2.2.6. The results were announced. J. Teterenko was unanimously elected as Vice President External and Student Affairs receiving 8 “yes” votes.

2.3 Election of Vice President Finance and Administration (VPFA)

S. Cornett

- 2.3.1. S. Cornett opened the floor to nominations for VPFA. There were no previously declared candidates. Nominations from the floor were called three times. S. Jacobsen declared his intent to run.
- 2.3.2. Nominations for VPFA were closed with one candidate: S. Jacobsen
- 2.3.3. The candidate addressed the council for a maximum of five minutes.
- 2.3.4. Questions were asked by council and answered by the nominee.
- 2.3.5. Voting was conducted by secret ballot using the on-line Simply Voting system. As there was only one candidate, AUSU followed the acclamation procedure by which the ballots contained a “yes” or “no” option for the candidate.
- 2.3.6. The results were announced. S. Jacobsen was unanimously elected as VP Finance and Administration receiving 8 “yes” votes.

The Chair was returned to President S. Wasylshyn for the remainder of the meeting.

3.0 Committee Seats

3.1 Awards Committee

Motion: BIRT council approve the following appointments to the awards committee:

Robin Bleich as Chair	Amanda Lipinski
Julian Teterenko	Kim Newsome
Executive Director Sarah Cornett ex-officio (non-voting)	

J. Teterenko / A. Lipinski

Carried 8/0

Note: per AUSU policy 8.02.08, the awards committee shall be comprised of the executive director, ex-officio, non-voting, and a minimum of 3 and maximum of 5 voting members which must include one member of the executive committee.

The committee was filled with one vacant seat, which a councillor can opt to fill at a later point if they choose.

3.2 Finance Committee

Motion: BIRT Council approve the following appointments to the finance committee:

VPFA Scott Jacobsen as Chair	Julian Teterenko
Brandon Simmons	Robin Bleich
Andrew Gray	
Executive Director Sarah Cornett ex-officio (non-voting)	

A. Gray / B. Simmons

Carried 8/0

Note: per AUSU policy 8.01.08, the finance committee shall be comprised of the VP finance, the executive director, ex-officio, non-voting, and a minimum of 2 councillors and maximum of 4 councillors. A maximum of 2 seats not filled by councillors shall be made available to members at large as per policy 2.07.

3.3 Member Engagement and Communications Committee

Motion: BIRT council approve the following appointments to the member engagement and communications committee:

VPEX Julian Teterenko	Scott Jacobsen
Amanda Lipinski	Shawna Wasylyshyn
Executive Director Sarah Cornett ex-officio (non-voting)	
Communications and Member Services Coordinator Donette Kingyens (voting)	

R. Bleich / A. Lipinski

Carried 8/0

Motion: BIRT council offer current member at large member Jody Waddle a one-year extension on her term on the member engagement and communications committee.

J. Teterenko / S. Jacobsen

Carried 8/0

Note: per AUSU policy 8.04.09, the member engagement and communications committee shall be comprised of the VP external, the executive director, ex-officio, non-voting, the communications and member services coordinator (voting) and up to 4 councillors. A maximum of 1 seat not filled by councillors shall be made available to members at large as per policy 2.07, as the membership must consist of a majority of councillors as voting members as per policy 2.11.

This committee does currently have one member-at-large representative. As not all vacant seats were taken up by council, council agreed to offer a one-year extension on the term for the member-at-large. A maximum of two (2) term extensions may be granted by motion of council per policy 2.07.23 and 2.07.24.

Question & Answer Period

4.0 Question & Answer Period

S. Wasylyshyn

Attendees are encouraged to participate in the Question & Answer period.

Participants are also invited to contact the AUSU office with any questions that arise from the meeting at ausu@ausu.org, 780.497.7000, or 1.855.497.7003.

A question was raised about when the committee seats change over. It was clarified that the committee seats change as of the executive changeover meeting on April 11, 2017. The executive and staff will develop a transition plan outside of the meeting.

The executives met with the Minister of Advanced Education today, and it was a great meeting. The meeting consisted of the Minister's Chief of Staff, the Deputy Minister of Advanced Education, and the Director of Student Aid Alberta. The topics for the meeting were the future for AU, AUSU as a stakeholder, student mental health, and access to Alberta student loans.

Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next meetings of Council are set for:

Tuesday March 14, 2017 at 4:30 pm MDT (5:30pm MT for public meeting)

Tuesday March 28, 2017 at 5:30pm MT (Tentative, working meeting)

Tuesday April 11, 2017 at 4:30 pm MDT (5:30pm MT for public meeting) – Executive Changeover

J. Teterenko moved to adjourn at 6:35pm MT.

