

Minutes of the 2nd meeting of the 2017\2018 University Students' Council of the University of Western Ontario held on 16 July 2017 in the Community Room, University Community Centre

Note: This meeting can be viewed in full or in part via streaming video at <http://www.usc.uwo.ca/government/council/meetings/index.asp>.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Speaker of Council called the meeting to order at 10:12a.m.

2. O CANADA

The Speaker led Council in the singing of O Canada.

3. WESTERN SCHOOL SONG

The Speaker led Council in the singing of the Western School Song.

4. LAND REGOGNITION

Western University is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Sunapee and Attawandaron peoples, who have longstanding relationships to the land and region of southwestern Ontario and the City of London. The local First Nation communities of this area include Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, and Munsee Delaware Nation. In the region, there are eleven First Nation communities and a growing Indigenous urban population. Western values the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original peoples of Turtle Island (North America).

5. ROLL CALL

Speaker: Christopher Shirreff

Recording Secretary: Coordinator, Council Services

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

JUSZK/Moran/Carried. (Unanimous)

7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

8. APPROVAL OF THE CONFIDENTAIL MINUTES

9. FOR INFORMATION

i. Executive Reports (45 minutes)

ii. Report from the Chair of the Student Senators (10 minutes)

iv. Report from Standing Committee Chairs (10 minutes)

Advocacy Standing Committee Report

No report to note.

Governance and Finance Standing Committee Report

No report to note.

Student Experience Standing Committee Report

No report to note.

12. FOR ACTION

Motion #1

By- Law 1 Remuneration Amendment

Whereas, the USC Board of Directors voted to revise By-Law 1 Section 4.8: Remuneration of Directors to read:

“The Directors, **other than the Chair**, shall serve as such without remuneration, and no Director shall directly or indirectly receive any profit from his or her position as such. The President and Secretary-Treasurer shall be remunerated as Executive Officers of the Corporation, not for their service on the Board.”

Whereas, it was determined that remuneration for the Chair of the Board of Directors, should be looked at and discussed by the Human Resources Committee of the Board

Be it resolved, that the University Students’ Council move to approve the amendment to By-Law 1: Section 4.8 that has been approved by the University Students’ Council Board of Directors.

SOLEBO/Barroso/Carried. 96%, FOR – 4% ABSTAIN

President Solebo discussed the proposed changes to the By-law 1 and the context surrounding the amendments.

Councillor Barroso noted that the Chair of the Board is a full-time student and the commitment to the role was more significant than originally intended.

Councillor Ye requested clarification from President Solebo on how a fair amount of remuneration would be provided to the Chair of the Board? Further requesting whether Council would be provided a justification for the final amount at a future date.

President Solebo noted that the amount would be tasked to the Human Resources Department of the USC.

Secretary Treasurer McCauley noted that the cost would be incorporated into the upcoming budget for Council to review.

Councillor Moran noted (POI) that a number of the faculty Presidents are not being compensated for their work.

Councillor Gangireddy requested clarification on whether the USC Executive team planned to have the employment contract, outlined in Mr. Franchetto’s letter of support to Council, created at a later date.

President Solebo notes that a job description exists for the role, but that the arms length nature of the Board of Directors position, would prohibit the USC from employing the Chair under a contract.

Mr. Katyukha clarified the contractual limitations between the relationship between the USC and Board members.

Councillor Juhasz spoke in favour of the motion. Noting a desire for clarification on whether there was a method of monitoring the workload for the position to ensure that the Chair of the Board was completing the workload level as outlined in the motion.

President Solebo noted that if the Chair of the Board failed to execute their duties of this role, the membership of the Board would be expected to hold the Chair accountable.

No further speakers to note.

Motion: Call the Question

SOLEBO/Barroso/Carried. (96%, FOR – 4% ABSTAIN)

Motion #2

Club Election Procedure Amendment

Whereas, currently a candidate can run for more than one Executive role within a Club in the same election where if the candidate wins more than one Executive role they will hold 2/3 of the signing authority within the Club, if not the entirety;

Be it resolved that, Council task the *Secretary-Treasurer* to bring an amended version of the *CLUB ELECTION POLICY* (also referred to as the 'CLUBS ELECTION PROCEDURE') to Council by the September meeting with the following amendment(s), at which point Council will vote on the amendments:

1. The following amendment shall be included in section 3.01:
 - a. A candidate can only submit their nomination for one Executive position within the Club in the same election;
2. The following amendment shall be included in section 3.02:
 - a. Campaigning can include the use of social media pages and/or accounts and/or personal websites, and *must be displayed publicly*, if used, and can remain during the voting period;
 - b. Candidates shall refrain from the use of the colour purple, the USC or University logo, and any other USC or University copyrighted material or image, as well as any logo(s) the Club uses in its identity, when producing materials for the purposes of campaigning;
3. The following amendment shall replace section 3.03 (#11):
 - a. The CRO will send all candidates the final results of the election, including, but not limited to, (1) the total number of votes cast for all positions, and (2) the number of votes each candidate received, within twenty-four hours after receiving approval from the SOS office;
4. The following amendment shall be added as a new section entitled 'Violations':
 - a. All violations shall be reported directly to the CRO during the election proceedings up until twenty-four hours after the voting period ends;
 - b. The CRO will inform the SOS office and all candidates, of any violations that have occurred and the current violation count towards the offending candidate;
 - c. Any candidate caught in violation in three (3) separate instances during the Campaign period and/or Voting period will be disqualified;
 - i. The CRO will notify the SOS office and all candidates of the disqualification of the offending candidate.

KHIMJI/Forman/Carried. (Unanimous)

Councillor Khimji spoke in favour of the motion noted that the concerns that the Clubs Election Procedure does not limit the number of positions that a candidate can hold, noting concerns related to equitability and signing authority.

Councillor Forman spoke against the motion.

Councillor Peruzza spoke against the motion, noting that the amendments could harm smaller clubs with limited memberships.

Councillor Tang (Proxy) spoke against the motion, noting concerns with a one size fits all attitude.

Motion: Amend the Motion

Motion #2 (Amendment 1)

Club Election Procedure Amendment

Whereas, currently a candidate can run for more than one Executive role within a Club in the same election where if the candidate wins more than one Executive role they will hold 2/3 of the signing authority within the Club, if not the entirety;

Be it resolved that, Council task the *Secretary-Treasurer* to bring an amended version of the *CLUB ELECTION POLICY* (also referred to as the '*CLUBS ELECTION PROCEDURE*') to Council by the September meeting with the following amendment(s), at which point Council will vote on the amendments:

1. The following amendment shall be included in section 3.01:
 - a. A candidate can only submit their nomination for one Executive position within the Club wherein the position has access to signing authority (single signing authority)
2. The following amendment shall be included in section 3.02:
 - a. Campaigning can include the use of social media pages and/or accounts and/or personal websites, and *must* be displayed publicly, if used, and can remain during the voting period;
 - b. Candidates shall refrain from the use of the colour purple, the USC or University logo, and any other USC or University copyrighted material or image, as well as any logo(s) the Club uses in its identity, when producing materials for the purposes of campaigning;
3. The following amendment shall replace section 3.03 (#11):
 - a. The CRO will send all candidates the final results of the election, including, but not limited to, (1) the total number of votes cast for all positions, and (2) the number of votes each candidate received, within twenty-four hours after receiving approval from the SOS office;
4. The following amendment shall be added as a new section entitled 'Violations':
 - a. All violations shall be reported directly to the CRO during the election proceedings up until twenty-four hours after the voting period ends;
 - b. The CRO will inform the SOS office and all candidates, of any violations that have occurred and the current violation count towards the offending candidate;
 - c. Any candidate caught in violation in three (3) separate instances during the Campaign period and/or Voting period will be disqualified;
 - i. The CRO will notify the SOS office and all candidates of the disqualification of the offending candidate.

TANG/Juhasz/Does not Carry.

Councillor Tang (Proxy) noted that not all club executives have signing authority. Councillor Tang noted that some candidates do apply for multiple positions, but select only one position.

Councillor Juhasz spoke in favour of the motion, noting that the predominant concern appears to be that one person holds most of the signing authority within a club.

The Speaker sought a vote on the amendment.
Amendment Carries.

Resume debate on Main Motion (Once Amended)

Councillor Ye spoke against the motion and amendment, noting that the SOU and club executive were not consulted with respect to the motion. Councillor Ye noted concerns with respect to the relationship between the USC and club's system and advised that consultation with these groups prior to amendments to clubs' policies would be advisable.

Councillor Khammad (POI) requested clarification on whether Section 2.a would reconcile with the publicly available materials relating to clubs' elections and policy. Councillor Khammad noted concerns with respect enforcement, to the use of social media pages and the restrictions on their use for campaigning.

Councillor Khimji notes that limiting reach of the posts that are available to students at large.

Motion: Divide the question
KHIMJI/Tang/Carried. (Unanimous)

No speakers for the motion to note.

Question 1:

1. The following amendment shall be included in section 3.01:
 - a. A candidate can only submit their nomination for one Executive position within the Club wherein the position has access to signing authority (single signing authority)

Question 2:

2. The following amendment shall be included in section 3.02:
 - a. Campaigning can include the use of social media pages and/or accounts and/or personal websites, and must be displayed publicly, if used, and can remain during the voting period;
 - b. Candidates shall refrain from the use of the colour purple, the USC or University logo, and any other USC or University copyrighted material or image, as well as any logo(s) the Club uses in its identity, when producing materials for the purposes of campaigning;

Question 3:

3. The following amendment shall replace section 3.03 (#11):
 - a. The CRO will send all candidates the final results of the election, including, but not limited to, (1) the total number of votes cast for all positions, and (2) the number of votes each candidate received, within twenty-four hours after receiving approval from the SOS office;

Question 4:

1. The following amendment shall be added as a new section entitled 'Violations':
 - a. All violations shall be reported directly to the CRO during the election proceedings up until twenty-four hours after the voting period ends;
 - b. The CRO will inform the SOS office and all candidates, of any violations that have occurred and the current violation count towards the offending candidate;
 - c. Any candidate caught in violation in three (3) separate instances during the Campaign period and/or Voting period will be disqualified;
 - i. The CRO will notify the SOS office and all candidates of the disqualification of the offending candidate.

Motion: Postpone Motion Indefinably (Question 1), pending consultation with the SOU.
OLSEN/Syed/Carried.

President Solebo requested clarification on whether the amendment could be amended.

The Speaker of Council requested clarification on the intended amendment.

President Solebo noted that he would like to amend the motion to a recommendation the Clubs Policy Committee, as they are already in the process of reviewing Club's governance.

The Speaker of Council noted that the proposed amendment could not be made in relation to the Motion to Postpone, unless the motion failed, at which time the motion could be brought forward.

President Solebo spoke against the motion.

Councillor Watson noted that Council would be best served to reach out to club presidents and executive to get feedback.

Councillor Olsen moved to consider the previous question.

Motion: Consider Previous Question (Carries Unanimously)

President Solebo motioned to omnibus the motions to committee.

Motion: Refer Motion 2 (Amendment 1) to the Clubs' Policy Review Committee
SOLEBO/Gangireddy/Carried (Unanimous)

Student Programs Officer MacIntosh noted that Clubs Policy and motions of this nature would be addressed via the Clubs Policy Review Committee and the Clubs Governance Committee in the future.

Councillor Gangireddy noted agreement that Clubs' members and executive be consulted on these changes.

Councillor Tang (Proxy) requested whether Council could mandate that the SOU be specifically consulted on this matter.

The Speaker of Council noted that an amendment could be made, but that the discussion implies that the spirit of the motion would include consultation with the SOU.

Councillor Syed (POI) Does the SOU still exist?

Student Programs Officer MacIntosh noted in the affirmative.

Councillor Ye (POI) is the SOU involved in the Clubs Policy Review Committee?

Student Programs Officer MacIntosh noted that the SOU was not part of the Clubs Policy Review Committee, noting that the position is hired, but that the Coordinator would consult with the SOU.

Councillor Ye clarified that the membership of the Clubs Policy Review Committee and the Clubs Governance Committee did not include club executives.

Student Programs Officer MacIntosh noted that this would create a conflict of interest the Clubs Policy Review and the Clubs Governance Committee members.

The Speaker of Council motioned for a recess.

Councillor Foreman called the question.

Motion: to Call the Question (Refer all motions to CPRC and CGC)
FORMAN/Khimji/Carried. (Unanimous)

Motion for Recess for Lunch:
SOLEBO/Gangireddy/Carried. (Unanimous)

11. PRESENTATIONS

Peter Fragiskatos, MP London North Centre discusses best practices on the topic of Constituency Outreach.

12. FOR ACTION (...Continued)

Motion 3

Vote of Confidence By-Law 2 Amendment

Whereas, currently any candidate running for a position in the USC election will have the position acclaimed if the exact amount or a lesser number of candidates ran;

Whereas, the student body cannot cast a vote for or against the acclaimed candidate;

Whereas, the candidate might face criticism based on legitimacy;

Be it resolved that, Council task the Secretary-Treasurer to bring an amended version of bylaw #2 (Elections Procedures) to Council by the September meeting with the following amendments, at which point Council will vote on the amendments;

1. When a position, that is typically voted on by students, is about to be acclaimed, a 'Vote of Confidence' will take place for the candidate, with the following polling options;
 - a. Yes; I believe this candidate should assume the role
 - b. No; I do not believe this candidate should assume the role
2. If the candidate receives 50% + 1 vote of their eligible voting constituency turnout voting 'No' for the 'Vote of Confidence' then the candidate will not assume the position, and the position will remain unfilled and the procedure for a vacant position will commence.

KHIMJI/Grenier/Does not Carry.

Councillor Forman noted concerns with acclaimed positions, noting that recently at Guelph University the President of the Student Union was going to be acclaimed until the student body learned that the candidate had been convicted of a previous crime.

Councillor Syed spoke against the motion, noting that engagement with the USC is low and that this would serve as a barrier for students to get involved in executive positions.

Councillor Forman spoke against the motion as it is currently written, noting concerns with the USC engagement levels.

Motion: Amend the Motion

Secretary Treasurer McCauley (POI) noted that the motion is out of order, in that it is not within the purview of Council to task Faculty Councils. Noting that the amendments would need to be made to the Constitutions or By-laws of those Councils.

Councillor Juhasz spoke against the motion noting that on small councils, a vote of confidence could result in the faculty council having no representation on the USC Council. Councillor Juhasz requested further information related to a vote of confidence and vacant USC positions.

Secretary Treasurer McCauley noted that Health Science Presidents do not sit as Councillors of the USC by choice.

Councillor Moran (Proxy) spoke against the motion as written, but in favour of the spirit of the motion. Councillor Moran noted concerns that the alternatives for a candidate failing a vote of non-confidence are inadequate.

Councillor Ye spoke against the motion in current form. Councillor Ye noted that electoral reforms should be going through a Standing Committee, notably the Governance and Finance committee. Councillor Ye noted that By-Law 2 could use amendments and that the Governance and Finance Committee bring forward recommendations.

Motion: Amendment

Motion 3 (Amendment)

Vote of Confidence By-Law 2 Amendment

Whereas, currently any candidate running for a position in the USC election will have the position acclaimed if the exact amount or a lesser number of candidates ran;

Whereas, the student body cannot cast a vote for or against the acclaimed candidate;

Whereas, the candidate might face criticism based on legitimacy;

Be it resolved that, Council task the **Governance and Finance Standing Committee to review and provide feedback on, and** Secretary-Treasurer to bring an amended version of bylaw #2 (Elections Procedures) to Council by the September meeting with the following amendments, at which point Council will vote on the amendments;

1. When a position, that is typically voted on by students, is about to be acclaimed, a 'Vote of Confidence' will take place for the candidate, with the following polling options;
 - a. Yes; I believe this candidate should assume the role
 - b. No; I do not believe this candidate should assume the role
2. If the candidate receives 50% + 1 vote of their eligible voting constituency turnout voting 'No' for the 'Vote of Confidence' then the candidate will not assume the position, and the position will remain unfilled and the procedure for a vacant position will commence.

YE/Khimji/Does not Carry. (14%, FOR - 86% AGAINST)

Councillor Forman enquired whether the motion could be tabled pending the review of the Governance and Finance Standing Committee.

Motion: Table the motion pending review of By-Law 2 from the governance and Finance Committee.

FORMAN/Solebo/Does not Carry.

Councillor Tang (Proxy) noted that a call to question may be more effective.

Resume Debate on the Main Motion

Mr. Katyukha noted concerns related to the possibility that the USC could find itself without an acting executive team.

Councillor Tang (Proxy) spoke against the main motion, noting that a vote of confidence is usually reserved for situations when an elected official has demonstrated poor performance of their duties, not immediately after an election.

Councillor Khimji noted that engagement is an issue, noting that to refer the motion to the Governance and Finance committee to review and give advice to Council.

Motion: Refer to Committee (Governance and Finance Committee)

Motion to be brought back to Council by the 4th meeting of Council.

KHIMJI/Ye/Does not Carry.

Councillor Ye requested whether the motion had been referred to the Governance and Finance Standing Committee already.

Secretary Treasurer McCauley noted that a Governance Review is already planned. Currently the scope and deadlines for the project have not been defined.

Councillor Perruzza spoke against the motion to refer to committee.

Councillor Khimji noted concerns about the motion being lost.

Motion: Call the Question
TANG/Ye/ Does not Carry.

Resume debate on the main motion.

Motion: Call the Question

Motion #4

The USC Launch Online Forum for Students

Whereas, students do not have a central website/portal to share information such as class reviews, various tips & tricks, and to offer miscellaneous help to each other;

Whereas, students have to rely on academic counselling and other 'official' channels for help, and if those channels cannot help them they are forced to rely on incredible channels such as Reddit.com, Yconic.com, and various other websites that may facilitate the spread of misinformation, and might provoke bullying;

Whereas, McMaster University has a website for students that claims the following:
MaInsiders.com is the LARGEST student-run online community for McMaster University students. Run entirely by students, the site features student views on campus life, advice and tips, plus discussions on thousands of topics. With 25,000+ members, 400,000+ discussions, 1000+ articles with tips and advice, and 10,000+ course reviews, MaInsiders has become the largest and most popular student-run resource in Canada.

Be it resolved that, Council task the Executive to determine the feasibility of establishing an online 'forum' or 'portal', similar to the concept of MaInsiders.com, for students at Western University and bring the feasibility report and recommendation(s) to Council by the September meeting, at which point Council will vote on the recommendation(s) and any future actions necessary.

KHIMJI/Ali/Does not Carry. (14%, FOR - 82% AGAINST)

Councillor Khimji spoke in favor of the motion.

Councillor Ali - withdrawn

Councillor Ye spoke against the motion noting that recourse exist, namely, Facebook pages that are monitored by Western University staff to assist student with questions. Councillor Ye noted that this would create an administrative burden that the USC may not have the resources to support.

Councillor Zhu noted that there are alternatives to Facebook groups, such as SciWiki that science students use as well.

Councillor Gangireddy noted that student should rely on official channels (ex. academic councillors) for information rather than the opinions of other students.

Councillor Zonta noted that students in first year students ask for advice due to the issue of personal bias.

Mr. Katyukha spoke against the motion noting that this endeavour would need students to write these opinions. Student are already writing these opinions on other forums, and the endeavour would duplicate work. Mr. Katyukha further noted that significant resources would need to be allotted to perform this work, either via a paid staff member or executive member.

Communications Officer Cernavskis spoke against the motion, noting that this service exists currently on the USC app.

Councillor Caracciolo noted that as this is a request for a feasibility report, that the capacity to integrate other platforms to one location should be considered.

Councillor Forman – Withdrawn

Councillor Siou noted that the amalgamation of all this information would be helpful to give students access to greater information, including information sharing between faculty councils.

Councillor Juhasz spoke against the motion, noting that at the nursing faculty two years ago. Councillor Juhasz noted that the senior students provided advice to other students, creating confusion when students were unable to distinguish between opinion and official advice.

Councillor Watson spoke against the motion, noting that the USC need to invest resources or time into, and that Councillor Khimji could initiate this on his own while students within the western community populate the site with information.

Councillor Matthews spoke against the motion.

President Solebo spoke in favour of the motion, noting the value of student feedback.

Motion: Call the Question

SOLEBO/Tang/Does Not Carry. (Unanimous)

Motion #5

Council Meeting Awareness on Facebook & Twitter

~~Whereas, the USC's social media accounts (specifically the Facebook, and Twitter accounts) have rarely notified students of when Council meeting are happening, and/or any meeting that have already happened;~~

~~Whereas, the average length of Minutes of Council meetings is often 10+ pages long;~~

~~Whereas, the average student is quite busy and could easily forget to stay up to date on Council business, especially the entire Minutes, and thus could be uninformed about potential actions that affect them;~~

~~Whereas, one to two page summarized meetings have recently been utilized (example: Appendix #1), hereafter referred to as the 'Council Meeting Summary', in addition to the regular procedure of recording Minutes; However, both documents are exclusively posted to the USC Council website without mention on any of the social media accounts of the USC;~~

~~Whereas, the average student rarely visits the USC's website, but rather visits social media websites more often;~~

~~Be it resolved that, Council task the Secretary-Treasurer to bring an amended version of the Communications Officer's Roles & Responsibilities, or equivalent, to include the mandatory posting of the 'Council Meeting Summary', when it becomes available, to the Facebook and Twitter accounts of the USC within two days of the document becoming available, by the September meeting of Council, at which point Council will vote on the amendments;~~

~~Be it further resolved that, the amended Roles & Responsibilities (or equivalent) of the Communication Officer at the September meeting of Council include the mandatory posting of when Council meetings, that are open to the public, are supposed to take place, to the Facebook and Twitter accounts of the USC at least seven days prior to the scheduled meeting.~~

Be it resolved that it be a Standing Resolution of Council, in perpetuity, in advance of every Council meeting an announcement be posted to the USC social media accounts, and following the meeting a debrief be posted to social media. Both in whatever form

the USC executive deems fit.

KHIMJI/Juhasz/Carried. (89%, FOR - 11% AGAINST).

Councillor Khimji noted that constituents were not aware of when meetings are taking place. He further noted that adding this responsibility to the Communication Officers' Job Description would allow the transition of this information easier for incoming officers.

Councillor Perruzza spoken in favour of the motion, requesting clarification on an amendment to the Communications Officer roles and responsibilities.

The Speaker of Council noted that precise working would need to be available.

Mr. Katyukha noted that the job description change would fall under the purview of the Human Resources Department. Mr. Katyukha further noted that control and monitoring of social media sites falls within the Communications Officer portfolio.

Communications Officer Cernavskis spoke against the motion noting that engaging students on social media needs to remain flexible, to best utilize social media for the various objectives of the organization.

President Solebo spoke against the motion, noting that job descriptions are HR an matter.

Councillor Tang (Proxy) spoke in favour of the motion, noting that the implementation of the motion needs amending. Councillor Tang noted that the motion could be adopted as a standing resolution of Council.

Vice-President Tulk noted that the executive would like to create post-meeting videos.

Councillor Tang proposed an amendment to the motion

Amend the motion: Standing Resolution of Council

Be it resolved that it be a Standing Resolution of Council, in perpetuity, in advance of every Council meeting an announcement be posted to the USC social media accounts, and following the meeting a debrief be posted to social media. Both in whatever form the USC executive deems fit.

TANG/Ye/Carried. (Unanimous)

Councillor Barroso (POI) (Communications Officer Cernavskis) How this would impact the USC social media reach?

Communications Officer Cernavskis noted that during the school year the social media schedule becomes increasingly busy. Councillor Cernavskis noted that directing more attention to Council on social media is a priority.

Motion: Call the Question
MIDDEL/Khimji/Carried.

Resume debate on the main motion.

Motion: Call the Question
YE/Khimji/ Carried.

Motion #6

Increase the Plants in the UCC

Whereas, the UCC lacks any potted or wall plants;

Whereas, plant life indoors has been researched thoroughly and been proven to increase student performance in the classroom (Appendix #1, Appendix #2, Appendix #11), and increase productivity and reduce stress in windowless environments (Appendix #3);

Whereas, there are many schools that have plant life indoors, just to name a few;

1. McMaster University (Appendix #4)
2. University of Guelph-Humber (Appendix #5)
3. University of Ottawa (Appendix #6)
4. Queen's University (Appendix #7, Appendix #8)
5. University of Waterloo (Appendix #9)
6. Wilfrid Laurier University (Appendix #10)

Be it resolved that, Council task the Executive to determine the feasibility of implementing a living wall and/or potted plants inside the UCC, and present Council with the feasibility report and recommendation on future action by the September meeting, at which point Council will vote on the recommendations and any future actions necessary.

KHIMJI/ Juhasz/Carried. (As Standing Resolution of Council)

Councillor Khimji spoke in favour of the motion.

Councillor Juhasz seconded the motion, discussing research she had undertaken to better understand the benefits of plants inside closed spaces. Councillor Juhasz further requested clarification from Councillor Khimji on the scope of the project.

Councillor Khimji noted that the scope of the project could be determined by the USC Executive in the feasibility report.

Mr. Katyukha spoke against the motion.

Councillor Ye spoke against the motion, noting concerns about a lack of conclusive evidence to support the assertion that plants improve wellbeing.

Councillor Zhou spoke against the motion, noting a lack of statistical evidence to support the motion.

Councillor Zonta spoke against the motion, noting a desire for consultation with constituents.

Councillor Peruzza spoke in favour of the spirit of the motion.

Councillor Moran (Proxy) spoke in favour of the motion, discussing the possibility that the USC look into alternatives to potted plants, such as air plants, which would require minimal maintenance.

Councillor Olsen proposed an amendment to the motion.

Motion #6 Amendment

Increase the Plants in the UCC

Whereas, the UCC lacks any potted or wall plants;

~~Whereas, plant life indoors has been researched thoroughly and been proven to increase student performance in the classroom (Appendix #1, Appendix #2, Appendix #11), and increase productivity and reduce stress in windowless environments (Appendix #3);~~

Whereas, there are many schools that have plant life indoors, just to name a few;

1. McMaster University (Appendix #4)
2. University of Guelph-Humber (Appendix #5)
3. University of Ottawa (Appendix #6)
4. Queen's University (Appendix #7, Appendix #8)
5. University of Waterloo (Appendix #9)
6. Wilfrid Laurier University (Appendix #10)

Be it resolved that, Council task the Executive to determine the feasibility of implementing a living wall and/or potted plants inside the UCC, and present Council with the feasibility report and recommendation on future action by the September meeting, at which point Council will vote on the recommendations and any future actions necessary.

OLSEN/Tang/Does not Carry.

President Solebo spoke against the motion.

Motion: Call the Question on Amendment 1

Councillor Juhasz (POI) Has anyone talked to EnviroWestern?

Councillor Khimji noted that it was his understanding that the EnviroWestern coordinator would be tasked by the executive.

Councillor Tang (Proxy) TANG motioned to refer the motion to the Advocacy Experience or Student Experience Standing Committees.

Councillor Zhu (POI) noted that as the past EnviroWestern Coordinator that there was a gardening committee, but that she was unfamiliar with whether the committee was still operating under the portfolio.

Student Programs Officer MacIntosh noted that the EnviroWestern Coordinator would be included in the development of the report, and that Facilities Management would also need to be involved.

Motion: Refer to Committee

TANG/Forman

Councillor Watson requested that the motion be referred to the EnviroWestern Coordinator.

Councillor Moran noted concerns with the motion in its current form.

President Solebo discouraged Council from tasking Coordinators to work on projects, noting that the Student Experience Standing Committee could be tasked with reviewing the motion.

Mr. Katyukha spoke against the motion.

Councillor Zonta noted that the motion should be referred to the Student Experience Standing Committee.

Councillor Watson noted that the project could be more informal.

Motion: Call the Question (Motion to Refer to Advocacy and Student Experience Standing Committees)

Motion does not Carry.

Resume debate on main motion.

Motion: Call the Question on the Main Motion

Motion does not Carry.

13. NEW BUSINESS

New Business Motion 1

Ad Hoc Governance Committee Terms of Reference

Whereas, the current governance structure of the USC is confusing for all stakeholders;

Whereas, at the July 2017 Meeting of the board, the Board of Directors tasked the USC President and COO to develop a plan to address this role confusion and relating documents;

Whereas, efforts to fix this confusion can only be completed with buy-in from all members of the USC;

Whereas, a proper solution to these governance issues can only be done through a holistic approach;

Be it resolved that Council pass the Ad Hoc Governance Review Committee Terms of Reference.

SOLEBO/Moran/Carried.

President Solebo discussed the addition of a motion for the Ad-hoc Governance Committee Terms of Reference.

Secretary Treasurer McCauley spoke in favour of the motion, noting that the intention is to review the governance of the USC rather than to continue to amend documents in small sections.

President Solebo further discussed concerns related to confusion about the responsibilities of the various governing bodies within the USC.

Councillor Tang (Proxy) (POI) requested clarification on the preferred external consultant.

Secretary Treasurer McCauley noted that an external consultant had not been selected.

Councillor Tang (Proxy) requested clarification on the nature of the consultation, namely whether the consultation was of a legal nature.

Secretary Treasurer McCauley noted that the USC's alumni network was being approached to assist on the project.

Councillor Tang (Proxy) requested clarification on what body this committee would be reporting back to.

Secretary Treasurer McCauley noted that the representative from each group would be responsible for reporting back to the various stakeholders.

Councillor Forman requested information on the timeline for the project.

Secretary Treasurer McCauley noted that the work would ideally be completed by November prior to the commencement of the 2018-2019 election period.

Mr. Katyukha noted that the project is intended to clarify the roles of the various groups within the USC.

Councillor Gangireddy (POI) How much will this cost? Are there costs associated with the project? How does this fit in with the overall budget? Would Council be made aware of these costs?

Secretary Treasurer McCauley noted that Council would not be approving costs but that she would report back to Council if there are any changes.

Enter debate on the motion.
No discussion to note.

Motion: Call the Question
SOLEBO/Moran/Carried.

Ad Hoc Governance Committee Member Election

Keaton Olsen is acclaimed to one position by virtue of his position as the Chair of the Governance and Finance Standing Committee.

Nominations:

YE
SYED
TANG
PERRUZA
FORMAN

SOLEBO/Forman/Carried. (Unanimous)

The Speaker of Council sought a mover and seconder for the motion.
SOLEBO/Forman/Carried. (Unanimous)

Motion to Recess: Counting of the Ballots

Councillor Tang was announced as the newly elected member to the Ad Hoc Governance Committee.

Motion: To Destroy the Ballots
Carried. (Unanimous)

New Business Motion 2

USC Recognition of the Original Homecoming Date

Whereas, the date change to Western Homecoming came after one of the safest Homecomings on record, with the least ticketed offences occurring at off campus student festivities;

Whereas, the date change has led students to celebrate Homecoming on both the original September 30th date, and the October 25th date set by the Western executive, leading to a rift and confusion for both University services, Western Alumni, and most importantly with London municipal and police services;

Whereas the new Homecoming date is situated in the height of midterm season, placing undue stress if students want to take part in Homecoming events and festivities, and further putting a burden on student's mental health and wellness;

Let it be further resolved that, ~~the 2017/2018 USC Executive and if necessary,~~ future executives ~~work with~~ will advocate to the Western Executive to restore the original date of the Homecoming Holiday.

PRATT/Griffith/Carried.

Councillor Olsen introduced and moved the motion, noting that the intention was to allow the USC executive to advocate on behalf

of students for a change to the Homecoming date.

Councillor Griffith spoke in favour of the motion.

Councillor Moran noted that a similar motion was passed at a previous meeting of Council, reminding Council that the USC does not have the purview to task Western administration with changing these dates.

Councillor Ye spoke in favour of the motion, but noted concerns related to *the let it be further resolved* clause in the motion. Councillor Ye requested the following change:

“future executives ~~work with~~ will advocate to the Western Executive to restore the original date of the Homecoming Holiday”

Councillor Olsen noted the proposed change as a friendly amendment to the motion.

The Speaker of Council sought unanimous consent on the amendment.
Amendment carries.

Councillor Juhasz (POI) sought clarification on whether the motion was being tabled or passed at the current meeting of Council.

Councillor Olsen confirmed that the motion is intended for the current meeting.

Councillor Moran requested clarification on whether a clause could be included to convince Western administration to make the date change.

President Solebo noted that the decision is largely out of the control of the USC. He further noted that outlining how the executive would advocate for the motion would further limit how the executive could go about addressing the concern with Western.

Councillor Grenier spoke in favour of the motion, noting that a unanimous stance from the USC on behalf of undergraduate students can be used as an advocacy position.

Councillor Tang (Proxy) – What’s being planned for HOCO?

President Solebo noted that there is currently no programming in September. He further noted that he had various discussions with Western stakeholders and the City of London with respect to Homecoming and programming for those dates.

Councillor Tang (Proxy) requested clarification on what programming was being provided to students for both dates.

President Solebo noted that currently programming was planned for the October 20th Homecoming date.

Councillor Tang (Proxy) put forward an amendment, requesting alternative programming for the September 30th date.

Be it further resolved that the USC work to provide alternate programming on the September 30th, 2017 date.

TANG/Moran/Does not Carry.

Councillor Tang (Proxy) noted that the previous year, alternative programming was provided to students on the September date.

Councillor Moran (Proxy) noted that concerns would turn towards how the resources would be allotted for the two dates. She further noted concerns around affiliate programming and how the USC could coordinate efforts.

Councillor Olsen (POI) requested information on the attendance at the fall festival.

Student Programs Officer MacIntosh noted that the attendance was better than reported.

Councillor Watson (POI) requested information on whether there were any current planned events for the September 30th date. She further requested a discussion about potential events that could attract students to campus.

President Solebo noted that the USC Executive was considering both dates, but cautioned Council that choosing one date over another would restrict student facing activities on one of the dates.

Councillor Moran noted concerns about safety, and ensuring that the USC is present at both days.

President Solebo noted that Council should pay attention to the financial constraints associated with adding additional programming.

Motion: Call the Question (Amendment)
Motion does not carry.

Resume debate on the main motion.

Councillor Khimji requested clarification on whether the USC supported the Western administration decision to move the Homecoming date.

President Solebo noted that he was not certain with the exact position that the USC took in the previous year.

Councillor Moran noted that in the prior Council year, the executives noted that the USC had not been consulted don the matter prior to a decision being made.

Councillor Khimji requested clarification on whether an official stance could be created by the USC on Homecoming.

The Speaker of Council noted that the motion would serve as the *de facto* stance of the USC.

Councillor Zonta spoke against the motion.

Councillor Peirce spoke against the motion noting that there appears to already be advocacy efforts on behalf of this issue already.

Motion: Call the Question

New Business Motion 3

Homecoming USC Tent and Care-Packages

Whereas, it is the interest of the USC to impact and target the majority of the student body when pursuing events and initiatives;

Whereas, Western Homecoming continues to be one of the largest celebrations of Western Spirit and pride;

Whereas, Homecoming has been criticized in the past for being unsafe, and unsustainable due to students off campus activities;

Be it be resolved that, Council task the 2017/18 USC Executive and Council with distributing water/food for students celebrating off-campus to ensure students are encouraged to hydrate and stay safe if possible/if permitted by the City of London;

Be it further resolved that, the food/water distribution will take place on the September 30th date, when the majority of students celebrate Homecoming to ensure maximum out reach for the initiative if possible/ if permitted by the City of London;

Be it be further resolved that, the Executive will consider the possibility of the creation of Residence Homecoming kits for first years, whose contents may include, Gatorade, pamphlets, packages from USC Services, in the interest of promoting a safer culture for students.

Be it further resolved that the USC executive and Council shall create further health and safety awareness initiatives surrounding Homecoming.

PRATT/Griffith/Carried. (Unanimous)

Councillor Olsen introduces the motion to Council and discussed the possibility of creating a program of this kind.

Councillor Juhasz spoke in favour of the motion, noting concerns related to binge drinking and dehydration.

Councillor Khimji spoke in support the motion. (POI) Where the stations will be set up?

President Solebo noted that the executive would need to speak to the city of London for further guidance.

Councillor Olsen requested an amendment

Olsen - amendment:

Councillor Tang (proxy) (POI) requested information on limiting the clause and what would be reasonable grounds for this motion not being carried out.

The Speaker of Council noted the wording of the motion left the reasonable grounds up to the Executive teams' judgement.

Be it be resolved that, Council task the 2017/18 USC Executive **and Council** with distributing water/food for students celebrating off-campus to ensure students are encouraged to hydrate and stay safe **if possible/if permitted by the City of London;**

Be it further resolved that, the food/water distribution will take place on the September 30th date, when the majority of students celebrate Homecoming to ensure maximum out reach for the initiative **if possible/ if permitted by the City of London;**

OLSEN/Tang/Carried. (Unanimous)

Councillor Watson proposed that the motion could be amended to include initiative to educate students on legal ramification of drinking on city streets, being safe about drinking, food and access to resources.

The Speaker of Council noted that the proposed amendment was beyond the scope of the amendment.

Councillor Juhasz requested more general terms to the amendment to ensure that the USC did not go beyond the scope of its preview.

The Speaker of Council noted that this limitation would be implied in the motion, or would be deemed out of order.

Vice President Tulk requested an amendment to the motion.

The Speaker of Council sought unanimous consent for the amendment.
Amendment carried.

Councillor Khimji requested clarification on what might happen if most of Council was sick on the September 30th date?

President Solebo noted that Council could object to the amendment.

Councillor Ali (POI) requested clarification on whether someone can't attend. What are the consequences?

Vice President Tulk noted that within reason Councillors could not attend, but to show support for students, Councillors should try to attend.

Councillor Zhu requested clarification on whether the USC executive was being personally tasked or could volunteers assist.

Councillor Olsen clarified that the intent of the motion would be for volunteers and not the USC executive personally.

Councillor Tang (Proxy) brought forward concerns that this would be a conflict of interest.

The Speaker of council noted that this would not be a conflict of interest.

Student Programs Officer MacIntosh noted that in the previous year, Councillors committed an hour of their time to assisting with the fall festival.

Councillor Watson noted that Council should come forward and help, take a shift and help out.

Councillor Juhasz noted her agreement.

Councillor Khammad noted her agreement.

Motion: Call the Question
KHAMMAD/Forman/Carried. (Unanimous)

Councillor Ali (POI) for the Chair of the Board around personal conduct of Council members.

Mr. Katyukha noted that each Council member would be responsible and liable for their own behaviour, but noted that there could be a risk to the reputation of the organization.

Motion: Call the Question (Main Motion)

Resume debate on the Main Motion

Councillor Gangireddy requested the removal of the homecoming programming in residence, as Western Housing already has programming.

Councillor Moran (Proxy) Does this fall under housing?

The Speaker of Council noted that this would be the purview of Western Housing.

Councillor Ali requested clarification on the geographic limit of the term "off campus" and limit the reach.

President Solebo discouraged Council from limiting the geographic area.

Councillor Ali requested a radius.

President Solebo noted that the area would be reasonable to assume.

The Speaker of Council noted that motions are implied to be written within reason.

Councillor Watson requested that the Executive and Council devise initiatives to further ensure safety of students, including food trucks, awareness, law, drinking and driving, other ideas.

Be it further resolved that the USC executive and Council shall create further health and safety awareness initiatives surrounding Homecoming.

WATSON/Juhasz/Carried. (Unanimous)

Councillor Juhasz (POI) requested information about the Western Sexual Violence and Prevention Policy

The Speaker of Council noted that the policy still exists and the University is working on updating it.

Councillor Juhasz requested whether this would need to be considered at a later date?

The Speaker of Council noted that the general working of the motion would allow for the flexibility to include whatever appropriate measures the USC felt were necessary.

Motion: Call the Question (Amendment)

Motion carried.

Resume debate on Main Motion.

Motion: Call the Question.

MIDDEL/ Forman/ Does not carry.

Councillor Gangireddy requested an amendment to the main motion.

Amendment

Homecoming USC Tent and Care-Packages

Whereas, it is the interest of the USC to impact and target the majority of the student body when pursuing events and initiatives;

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~~Be it be further resolved that, the Executive will consider the possibility of the creation of Residence Homecoming kits for first years, whose contents may include, Gatorade, pamphlets, packages from USC Services, in the interest of promoting a safer culture for students.~~

Be it further resolved that the USC executive and Council shall create further health and safety awareness initiatives surrounding Homecoming.

GANGIREDDY/Ye/Does not Carry.

Councillor Caracciolo noted that information around informal homecoming events was limited, and that formal materials would be helpful.

Councillor Barroso (POI) What is in place in residence? Does a physical package currently exist?

Councillor Caracciolo noted that he did not think that a physical package to students currently existed.

President Solebo noted that the distribution of these items in residence was outside of the purview of the USC.

Councillor Forman noted that the motion does not provide directives only seeking the feasibility of providing the packages.

Councillor Watson noted that an amendment was unnecessary.

Motion: Call the Question (Amendment)
Amendment does not carry.

Motion: Call the Question
Motion carries.

Motion to Destroy Ballots (Ad-hoc Governance Committee Members)

JUHASZ/Tang/Carried (Unanimous)

15. TERMINATION

The Speaker sought a motion to adjourn the meeting.
TULK/Carried. (Unanimous)