

**University of Regina Students' Union
Annual General Meeting – RC Multipurpose Room
October 27, 2016 at 12:00 pm**

Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER - 12:40 p.m.

2. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Quorum Established.

3. APPROVAL OF THE CHAIRPERSON

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Eric Holloway be appointed Chairperson for the 2016 URSU Annual General Meeting.

Moved: Abby Rutko

Seconded: Matthew Mutschler

Carried.

4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the URSU Membership approve the agenda for the October 27, 2016 Annual General Meeting.

Moved: Abby Rutko

Seconded: Matthew Mutschler

Carried.

Amendment to agenda. Add Motion 9.1.

9.1 Association Funding

WHEREAS URSU has already taken steps to create more interaction with student groups like club showcases and socials, but there still feels like there is a disconnect between the groups on campus; and
WHEREAS a different level of funding will allow for smaller student groups that represent departments within the faculties to do more. They will also not be constricted by the policies and guidelines for the on campus clubs.

BE IT RESOLVED that URSU institute a third level of funding, to be known as Association funding, in order to differentiate the smaller student groups from the campus clubs

Moved: Matthew Mutschler

Seconded: Jermain McKenzie

Carried.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the URSU Membership approve the minutes of the April 15, 2015 Annual General Meeting.

Moved: Shawn Wiskar

Seconded: Matthew Mutschler

- 5.2. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the URSU Membership approve the minutes of the March 30, 2016 Annual General Meeting.

Moved: Shawn Wiskar

Seconded: Matthew Mutschler

Carried.

6. PRESENTATIONS

1. URSU's Audited Financial Statements period ending April 30, 2016

7. NORMAL BUSINESS

1. Appointment of the Auditor

BE IT RESOLVED THAT MNP be re-appointed as URSU's Auditor for the 2016/2017 fiscal year.

Moved: Matthew Mutschler

Seconded: Jermain McKenzie

Carried.

2. Ratification of changes to Emergency Bursary Fund Bylaw

WHEREAS URSU requires the approval of its membership to ratify any changes to its bylaws; and
WHEREAS the Board of Directors has recommended and approved an update of the Emergency Bursary Fund Bylaw; and

WHEREAS this update proposes several changes designed to modernize the fund application process, and extends the bylaw to cover management of the Student Mental Wellness fund; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT URSU adopt the updated bylaw titled "URSU Student Support Funds Bylaw" as presented at Appendix 1

Moved: Matthew Mutschler

Seconded: Abby Rutko

Carried.

3. Board Member Name Motion

Be it resolved that the URSU Board position Differently Abled Students' Director be renamed Director for Students with Disabilities, in order to better reflect the inclusivity of our campus community

Moved: Jermain McKenzie

Seconded: Matthew Mutschler

Carried.

8. OLD SPECIAL BUSINESS

1. Levy Process

WHEREAS the modification, establishment and abolishment of new fees/levies should take place via referendum to ensure members are adequately consulted; and

WHEREAS there is no clause in the constitution explaining how levies can be modified, established or abolished; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following section be added to Article IX:

(12) Levies paid to student groups (ex: The Carillon, The Women's Centre, etc.) may only be established, or abolished by referendum as laid out in the Elections and Referendum Policy.

(12.1) Existing levies may be adjusted by no more than 20% through a motion at an Annual General Meeting. Structural changes (e.g.: modifying a levy from opt-in to opt-out or vice versa), or changes of greater than 20% must be performed through a referendum

Moved: Matthew Mutschler

Seconded: Abby Rutko

Carried.

Amendment to 8.1

Change 'Levies paid to student groups' to 'Levies paid to student centres.'

Moved: Matthew Mutschler

Seconded: Abby Rutko

Carried.

2. Constitution Amendments

WHEREAS modifying the appearance of the constitution is not explicitly permitted; and

WHEREAS modifying the layout and appearance of the constitution is desirable in order to make the document more accessible to students; and

WHEREAS a number of references within the constitution are out of date and need to be updated

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following section be added to Article XIV of the URSU Constitution:

(3) Non-material changes to the constitution (i.e. layout changes, correction of grammar, updates to names/sections of other documents referenced within the constitution, etc) may occur with the approval of the Board of Directors, subject to recall as laid out in Article IX

Moved: Matthew Mutschler

Seconded: Abby Rutko

Carried.

3. URSU Constitution Review

WHEREAS URSU's constitution is confusing, moderately contradictory and difficult to interpret; and

WHEREAS URSU's Constitution includes many unnecessary clauses that should exist as their own independent bylaws; and

WHEREAS URSU would be able to operate more efficiently if the constitution were clear and concise; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT URSU begin to undertake a constitutional review in the coming year

Moved: Jermain McKenzie

Seconded: Matthew Mutschler

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the membership empower the board of directors to approve and begin utilizing the new draft of the constitution, subject to the approval of the membership at the Annual General Meeting

Moved: Matthew Mutschler

Seconded: Jermain McKenzie

Amendment defeated.

Motion 8.3 without amendment: Carried.

4. Alternative Vote Motion

WHEREAS, URSU currently uses a First Past the Post Voting system for Executive, Board, Senate and Executive Council positions; and

WHEREAS, First Past the Post Voting is prone to vote splitting, spoiler effect and can result in candidates potentially representing an electorate without collecting over 50% of the vote;

WHEREAS, we are a Post-Secondary Institution we should therefore use this position to increase awareness of alternative voting systems; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT URSU explore an alternative voting system through creation of an "Alternative Voting Committee" which will determine what UR Self-Service is capable of doing to collect votes, what the student body desires in an alternative system and what is a mathematically fair way of voting. This committee's conclusions will then be submitted as a motion to the next URSU AGM where a new method will be voted on.

Moved: Sam Dietrich

Seconded: Maksym Zabutnyy

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT URSU explore an alternative voting system through creation of an "Alternative Voting Committee" which will determine what UR Self-Service is capable of doing to collect votes, what the student body desires in an alternative system and what is a mathematically fair way of voting. This committee's conclusions will then be submitted as a motion to the next URSU AGM where a new method will be voted on.

The committee will be formed by 5 board members on a volunteer basis. If there are no volunteers, the motion will be brought back to the next AGM.

Moved: Jermain McKenzie

Seconded: Matthew Mutschler.

Carried with amendment.

5. APPENDIX A – Building Fund

WHEREAS URSU's Constitution is out of date and certain sections no longer reflect current practices; and WHEREAS the Building fund fee has been modified multiple times via motion at the AGM but those changes have not been reflected in Appendix A; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the URSU constitution be amended to remove Appendix A – Building Fund

Moved: Matthew Mutschler

Seconded: Shawn Wiskar

Carried.

6. URSU Position Profile Updates

WHEREAS URSU's Executive Committee's positions as presented within Article VI "Powers and Duties of the Board of Directors" are confusingly worded and provide few examples of the actual day to day work; and

WHEREAS Executive positions have been defined more accurately within the "Policy on Executive Roles" recently approved by the URSU Board of Directors; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article VI "Powers and Duties of the Board of Directors" be amended as follows:

- Section 13 (inclusive of all subsections) be deleted and replaced with;
"The members of the Executive Committee shall complete the duties assigned to them by the Board of Directors as laid out in the Policy on Executive Roles, as modified from time to time."

Moved: Matthew Mutschler

Seconded: Jermain McKenzie

Carried.

7. URSU Election day clarification

WHEREAS URSU's elections days are stipulated in the constitution; and

WHEREAS this practice provides more transparency and consistency for students; and

WHEREAS the language currently in use causes ambiguity when the days described don't fall on the same week; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article XI "Frequency of Elections and Meetings" (1) be amended to read as follows;

- (1) An annual General Election to elect members of the Board of Directors, Executive of Council, Council, and Senate must be held on **four consecutive business days during the third week** ~~Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday~~ of March.

Moved: Jermain McKenzie

Seconded: Matthew Mutschler

Carried.

8. URSU fee collection changes

WHEREAS URSU modified its fee at the 2014 Annual General Meeting so that it would collect one flat fee; and

WHEREAS by collecting the fee in this manner URSU pays more to student centres than it receives in certain cases (ie: Students taking 1 or 3 classes); and

WHEREAS changing student demographics are likely to increase the instance of URSU paying more than it collects; and

WHEREAS the following changes will not significantly impact the revenue collected by URSU; and

WHEREAS students taking full course loads will pay less fees than before; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT URSU's fee structure be changed in the following manner;

- All students be charged a base fee of \$38 to cover costs levied on a per student basis like the Womens' Centre Fee, the URPrize Fee, the Carillon fee and RPIRG fee, etc
- All students be charged a further increment of \$5 per credit hour based on the number of credit hours taken that will be directed to URSU

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT if the motion is not passed by the Board of Governors URSU will revert back to the current fee structure

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT future increases to student centre and group levies result in equivalent increases to the base fee as calculated by URSU

Moved: Abby Rutko

Seconded: Matthew Mutschler

Carried.

9. NEW SPECIAL BUSINESS

9.1 Association Funding

WHEREAS URSU has already taken steps to create more interaction with student groups like club showcases and socials, but there still feels like there is a disconnect between the groups on campus; and

WHEREAS a different level of funding will allow for smaller student groups that represent departments within the faculties to do more. They will also not be constricted by the policies and guidelines for the on campus clubs.

BE IT RESOLVED that URSU institute a third level of funding, to be known as Association funding, in order to differentiate the smaller student groups from the campus clubs

Moved: Shawn Whiskar

Seconded: Abby Rutko

Proposed Amendment by Nathan Legg: Instead of smaller students groups, change to 'differentiate campus clubs from departmental associations'.

Moved: Zach Almond

Seconded: Matthew Mutschler

Proposed Amendment by Shawn Whiskar: Policy to reflect a third level to be known as association funding, and institute 3rd level as department associations in order to differentiate campus clubs. Change policy to reflect 3rd level of clubs.

Seconded by Abby Rutko

Carried.

Amendment:

9.1 Association Funding

WHEREAS URSU has already taken steps to create more interaction with student groups like club showcases and socials, but there still feels like there is a disconnect between the groups on campus; and

WHEREAS a different level of funding will allow for smaller student groups that represent departments within the faculties to do more. They will also not be constricted by the policies and guidelines for the on campus clubs.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT URSU will recognize department associations as a third level of student group below faculty societies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT URSU recognize this third level of student group in budgetary preparations in the coming fiscal year in time for the 2017/2018 AGM.

Motion carried as amended.

10. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

1. Vice President Student Affairs
2. Vice President External Affairs
3. Vice President Finance and Operations
4. President

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND BUSINESS

12. ADJOURNMENT - 2:15 PM

Motion to Adjourn: Emily Barber.