

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO ENGINEERING SOCIETY 'A'

MINUTES FOR MEETING #3—SPRING 2015

Date: June 10th, 2015
Location: CPH 3607
Speaker: David Birnbaum
Secretary: Michal Kononenko

Attendees:

Executives					
PV	Executive				
1st Year Classes					
PV	1B Chemical	PV	1B ECE 1		1B ECE 2
PV	1B Enviro/Geo	PV	1B Mech	PV	1B Tron
PV	1B Systems				
Total					6/7
2nd Year Classes					
PV	2B Civil		2A Chemical	PV	2B ECE
PV	2B Management	PV	2B Mech	PV	2B Nano
PV	2B Software				
Total					6/7
3rd Year Classes					
PV	3A Chemical		3A ECE 1	PV	3A ECE 2
PV	3A Enviro		3A Geo	PV	3A Mech
PV	3A Tron	PV	3A Nano	PV	3A Systems
Total					6/9
4th Year Classes					
PV	4A Civil	PV	4A Chemical		4A ECE 4 1
PV	4A ECE 4 2		4A ECE 8		4A Management
PV	4A Mech	PV	4A Software		
Total					5/8
Grand Total					25/34
Quorum Established					True

Legend:

Present	P
Present and Voting	PV
Absent	A

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1.0 Call to Order

- *Meeting called to order at 5:35 pm*
- *Motion:* Ratify Kevin McNamara as the provisional chair for the meeting until David Birnbaum returns to council
 - *Mover:* Chem 2016
 - *Seconder:* Mech 2017
- *Result:* Motion passes unanimously

2.0 Approval of Engenda

- *Motion:* Approve the Engenda for the meeting
 - *Mover:* Software 2018
 - *Seconder:* Mech 2019
- *Result:* Motion passes unanimously

3.0 Approval of Minutes

- *Motion:* Table the approval of minutes
 - *Mover:* Mech 2018
 - *Seconder:* Software 2019
- *Result:* Motion passes unanimously

4.0 New Business

4.1 Iron Warrior Policy Motion – Appendix A

- *Motion:* Appendix A
- *Mover:* Executive
- *Seconder:* Mech 2018
- *Reading of the Motion by Speaker*
- *Speaking to Motion:* Executive
 - Iron Warrior has been in a good spot financially for a number of terms
 - Currently, 1% of student fees are allocated to the Iron Warrior each term
 - The current executive and IW Advisory Board do not believe that this is necessary given the current state of IW's finances
 - The Iron Warrior's accounts are currently managed by EngSoc, and so if the Iron Warrior ran into financial trouble, EngSoc would be required to assume the Iron Warrior's debts
- *Result:*
 - Motion passes unanimously

4.2 Sponsorship Allocations

- *Speaking to Motion:* Executive
 - The sponsorship committee has met last weekend to debate allocations
 - In addition to the mandatory spending (15% of EngSoc student fees), funds that were not spent over the previous year were re-allocated
 - The comments on the allocations are as follows

- Enactus
 - The group was planning a recycling center, but the committee felt the proposal focused too much on high-level planning and too little on the implementation of the recycling center
 - In addition, the project felt too large in scope, especially considering the group failed to produce a working example of prior successful projects of this type
- UW Submarine Team
 - The committee felt that purchasing customized diving equipment for the team was too expensive, especially considering the degree of customization involved in fitting a team member for the gear
- Conference on Diversity in Engineering
 - This conference is a successor to NCWiE, and we chose to fund the photographer as the committee felt EngSoc allocations would be useful if they could fund one full item
- WARG
 - The committee funded the construction of a UAV project
 - The budget for the WARG quadcopter-based display in E5 was cut as the committee felt it would be a waste of resources
- Midnight Sun
 - The team received partial funding for carbon fiber
- Steel Bridge Team
 - The team received all that they have asked for, as safety equipment is in short supply on the team
- Rocketry
 - \$300 was allocated toward competition fees
 - EngSoc is one of the few sponsors that funds competition fees, and it has been a useful precedent for us so far.
- Product Vision Club
 - The club asked for food, and EngSoc sponsorship does not fund food
 - The group also asked for funding for a banner, but the banner was not mentioned in their presentation.
- Bridges to Prosperity
 - Partial funding was given
- Eco Marathon
 - The presentation did not reflect the proposal, and so funding was not awarded
- EngFoc
 - Funds were allocated to repair the camera, along with a request that EngFoc be more careful with replacing the camera
- Baja Team
 - The committee has decided to fund all requested items

- *Questions:*
 - The Conference on Diversity in Engineering was slated to receive substantial funding this term. Why is this not reflected in the proposed allocations?
 - Prior to the Sponsorship Committee, EngSoc used to fund conferences on a more ad-hoc basis. However, now that we have sponsorship it is a better venue for this support. The organizing team requested a great deal of money with the hope of receiving partial funding for one or more items. B-Society has also sponsored the conference.
- *Motion:* Approve the allocations as presented.
 - Mover: Executive
 - Secunder: Mech 2018
- *Result:* Motion passes unanimously

5.0 Executive Reports

5.1 President – Leila Meema-Coleman (president.a@engsoc.uwaterloo.ca)

- After the meeting is adjourned, council will be asked to provide anonymous feedback on the society
- In the fall, a direct feedback session will be performed, asking the entire EngSoc populace to comment on the society
- The end of the exec's term is approaching, and so it is requested that feedback is given on a going-forward basis
- **Textbook library**
 - Due to lack of student demand, the library will be closing
 - In order to keep the material fresh, funds and time would have to be allocated to the library
 - EngSoc is not ready to commit more funds to this project, especially given the low numbers of students using the service
 - *Question:* Can we turn the library into an e-library
 - No
 - A lot of publishers have strict rules about how digital copies of these works will be shared
 - Ebook services run by other societies have been shut down in the past, and so EngSoc is not keen on trying this
 - The plan for closing the library is as follows
 - Half of the books will be on sale this term, and half will be on sale next term, when BSoc is on term
 - All proceeds will be donated to charity
- **Calculator Policy**
 - From Robin Jardin, the Student Relations Officer, news has come that the Engineering faculty is instituting a policy to get approved calculators for exam-writing

- These calculators will be engraved with a UW Engineering hard hat, and will be provided in first-years' Orientation packages
- Course instructors will then be able to adopt the use of standard calculators as part of their exam procedures
- These new rules will apply to the class of 2020. The rest of the classes will be grandfathered in.
- *Question:* From where did the mandate for this program originate?
 - The Math faculty specified approved calculators with their pink tie approval program
 - However, the list of approved calculators is quite long, and so enforcing the program has proven unwieldy for the TAs and exam proctors
 - These calculators will be engraved with a hard hat in order to identify them as approved calculators
 - This measure is being put in place to reduce cheating during exams
 - Theoretically, this can be implemented for all first year classes starting in the fall
- *Question:* From where is this program being funded?
 - The Dean is giving funding to implement this policy
- The approved calculator will be a simple scientific calculator, and will not be overly expensive for students to buy
- Campus stores will be selling the approved calculators after the program is implemented
- *Question:* Instead of being included in Orientation kits, can the calculators be given with the Watcard?
 - Yes, this is a possibility
 - For more detail, speak with Robin
- *Question:* To redeem the approved calculators, MathSoc provides vouchers for pink tie approved calculators. Could this be used as a distribution system for Engineering
 - This is also a possibility
 - A voucher system could be implemented so that students who do not go to Orientation can receive their calculators
- Joint Annual General Meeting
 - The Executive Review Committee Report will be presented at JAGM
 - There will also be a motion to remove term general meetings, as these have shown to be of little use to the society
 - Motions will also be introduced into Board in order to fix timing and procedural issues
- Overall Priorities for Execs
 - Work is being done to increase communication clarity
 - A full set of communication guidelines and a social media policy have been drawn up

- Transition documents have also been refined
- Initiatives
 - Career Fair and the First Year conference are important initiatives for this Executive
 - Overall, the goal this term has been to increase EngSoc's presence and create a more inclusive atmosphere in the society

5.2 VP External – Heather Smith (vpexternal.a@engsoc.uwaterloo.ca)

- Change for Change week is currently happening, with all proceeds donated going to ROOF
- If more than \$500 will be raised, the executives have agreed to get pies thrown in their face
- Tickets for EngSoc Goes To Pride are also available on sale
 - Tickets are \$20. This includes lunch, giveaways, and a spot marching in the parade
- The Canada Day event is also looking for volunteers
- ESSCO AGM also occurred, with a fun time being had for all.
- The current plan of donating all of EngSoc's annual charity contributions to one charity has been successful, and should be repeated in the future
- The goal is to raise \$1500 by the end of the year
- A PEO speaker panel was held as well, and the significant turnout suggests this event should be repeated in the future

5.3 VP Education – Joshua Kalpin (vpeducation.a@engsoc.uwaterloo.ca)

- Work Term Reports
 - A meeting was arranged with Nanos to discuss the course
 - No one in school now will be affected by changes to the work term report courses. These changes will come into effect for the class of 2021.
 - Students can also petition to challenge some of the proposed changes for the WTR courses.
 - *Direct Response:* However, EngSoc should keep in mind that future first-years will be affected by these changes. We need to advocate for them as well.
 - In order to obtain more detailed feedback, a survey is being conducted
 - *Question:* Is the petition signed per student or per class?
 - The logistics of petitioning for these changes could prove complicated. Speak to Josh for more details
- International Student Policy
 - FedS passed a resolution stating that the official stance of FedS is that increases in international tuition rates should be tied to increases in Canadian tuition rates
- First-year co-op

- CECA is re-working their co-op fundamentals course to educate first-years about the co-op process
- A meeting will be held next week to discuss these changes
- A focus group will also be conducted with 2019s in order to discuss the first-year co-op experience
- Career Fair
 - It is almost time to contact employers about appearances
- Overall Policy Directions
 - The office has been largely reactionary, responding and commenting on changes proposed by the faculty instead of pushing a particular agenda
 - However, the legitimacy of the society in the academic decision-making process has increased markedly, fulfilling an important policy goal

5.4 VP Finance – Kevin McNamara(vpfinance.a@engsoc.uwaterloo.ca)

- A lot of patches are on sale at the moment. Novelties is currently overstocked on all patches, and work is being done so that no large inventories of patches are made in the future
- Advertising for Novelties is in the pipeline
- Square for the C & D
 - In order to make the C & D more competitive, EngSoc is thinking of introducing Square in order to accept credit cards
 - This service would be contracted out to Square, who charge 2.75% off all card transactions
 - This will be implemented on a trial basis, replacing the one of the old registers with Square for a limited time
 - *Question:* How will this affect C & D prices?
 - It is possible that this will result in a price increase on C & D merchandise, but the fees can be offset by higher sales volume
 - Coffee will stay at the same price
 - *Question:* If we were to implement Square, does this mean we would be losing cash sales?
 - No
 - Square provides an integrated cash register that accepts both cash and cards, and routes the cards to Square for processing
 - *Question:* Where are the funds coming from to purchase this system?
 - This is to be determined, but ECIF would be a potential funding source
 - *Question:* If this system is implemented and is successful in the C & D, will it also be used in Novelties?
 - Yes
 - *Question:* Does Square provide tech support?
 - Yes, and they are good at it.
 - *Question:* Is Square a Canadian company?

- No. The company was founded by the same person who founded Twitter, but they do have a Kitchener office.
- ECIF suggestions
 - If there are suggestions for ECIF allocations, send them in
- Waterloo Engineering onesies
 - Novelties would have to sell EngSoc onesies at \$60.
 - As of this point, it is infeasible to consider buying EngSoc onesies, especially without significant demand
- Overview of the Term
 - A lot of focus has been placed on efficiency
 - Day-to-day financial process have been formalized with the help of Mary Bland
 - External sponsorships have also been introduced into EngSoc, and it is hoped that these are expanded as the society grows
 - FedS funds are also coming in on time, better communication in terms of what they would like to see
 - RidgidWare has also been started
 - Sales have been slow as inventory is low
 - However, RidgidWare should be considered a service and not just a store, providing quality advice on electronics projects
 - Project kits will also be sold in RidgidWare, providing opportunities to work on electronics projects

5.5 VP Internal – Adelle Vickery (vpinternal.a@engsoc.uwaterloo.ca)

- The scholarship bank is being improved, with outdated scholarships being removed
- If you know about available scholarships, please send them in
- TalEng
 - Will be held tomorrow at 7:00 pm
 - Election results and P**5 points counts are being announced
- Overview of term
 - Work has been performed with the Student Life Commissioner to improve transition documents
 - The new documents are much more thorough

6.0 [I] Director Reports

6.1 FedS

- FedS passed a motion taking a stance on international student tuitions
- FedS also passed a motion calling for greater transparency in tuition fee deliberation
- Next FedS meeting is this Sunday

6.2 EngFoc

- Summer leader retreat is being held on the same day as JAGM
- Colour groups have now been assigned

- Leader Fee payments will be required soon, as soon as FedS finishes some of their internal paperwork
- More updates will be happening soon

7.0 Varia

7.1 How Many Days Till IRS?

- 228 days till IRS

8.0 Adjournment

- *Meeting Adjourned*