



carleton university
students' association

CUSA Emergency COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
June 10th, 2021 @6:00 PM

Prepared by:

Ahmad Hashimi, Vice President Internal



**carleton university
students' association**

JANUARY CUSA COUNCIL MEETING ATTENDANCE			
Position	Councillor	Proxy (print name)	Signature
President	Matt Gagne		Present
Vice President Finance	Venassa Baptiste		Present
Vice President Internal	Ahmad Hashimi		Present
Vice President Student Issues	Valentina Vera Gonzalez		Present
Vice President C.Engagement	Callie Ogden		Present
Vice President Student Life	Daisy Kasper		Present
Engineering and Design	Cameron Davis		Present
	Grant Wilson		Present
	Liam Kelly		Absent
	MohamedFaris Riazudden		Absent
	Saad Khan		Present
	Sara Hubbard		Present
Business	Diya Kulkarni		Absent
	Musab Chaudhry		Present
Public Affairs	Emily Sowa		Present
	Francesca Lepore		Present
	Gray Simms		Present
	Jordan Vecchio		Present
	Keenan Reynolds		Present
	Lily Huang		Present
	Nora Draper		Present
Science	Alexis St.Pierre		Absent
	Conall McCutcheon		Present
	Greg Dance		Absent
	Patrick Ene		Present
FASS	Ahmad Kataite		Present
	Baher Mansour		Present
	Stacy Osazuwa		Present
Special Student			
BOG	Holden Heppler		Absent
GSA			
RRRA	Sami Islam		Absent
CASG	Jennifer Ramnarine		Present

Agenda June 10, 2021

CUSA June Emergency Council Meeting 2021-2022

Thursday, June 10, 2021, 6:00 pm

AGENDA

1. Announcements and Correspondence
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of Past Minutes
4. Motion to Amend Bylaw IX
5. Motion to Repeal Bylaw X
6. Motion to Repeal Bylaw XI
7. Motion to Repeal Bylaw XII
8. Motion to Amend Bylaw V
9. Items for Information
10. Question Period
11. Other Business
 - a. Motion to elect 3 FASS Councilors for the 2021-22 year
 - b. Motion to Fill the CUSA Democratic Reform Committee
 - c. Motion to Fill the International Students Advisory Committee
12. Adjournment

Meeting Commenced at 6:04 pm

1. Announcements and Correspondence

Matt Gagné: Former Councilor Liam Kelly from the Engineering and Design faculty has resigned so we will be posting about filling his seat by the next council meeting.

2. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED: Ahmad Hashimi

SECONDED: Matthew Gagné

Motion passes.

3. Approval of the Past Minutes

None.

4. Motion to Amend Bylaw IX

Motion to amend Bylaw IX

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

Whereas the Clubs Bylaws should be guiding policy outlining processes for creating and enforcing procedure

Whereas the Clubs Bylaws should be executable and enforceable amid unprecedented situations

Whereas the Clubs Bylaws should reflect CUSA Clubs visual identity and branding

Whereas the Clubs Committees should regularly meet to conduct business of substance

Whereas the CUSA Clubs office should be more accountable both to CUSA Council and Clubs

Whereas decisions involving a variety of experiences and positions leads to better and more fair decision making

INFORMATION TRANSFER:

Be it resolved that Bylaw IX be amended as follows:

BYLAW IX - STUDENT GROUPS

1.0 Structure

1.1 Clubs may be any group of students joined by a common interest, and may only be established such that:

- a. The aim of a Club shall be to provide a social and / or academic environment and to benefit its membership as well as the Carleton community through enhancement of the university experience.
- b. All Clubs shall be open to all fee-paying Members of the Association.

1.2 Academic Society Clubs may be any group of students established in any department, school, institute, program or division, and may only be established such that:

- a. The aim of Academic Society Clubs shall be to provide an academic and social environment related to the field of study of respective academic area in an effort to enhance the university experience
- b. All Academic Society Clubs shall be open to all fee-paying Members of the Association.

1.3 Competitive Clubs may be any group of students joined by a common competitive interest, and may only be established such that:

- a. Competitive Athletic Clubs are recognized and sanctioned by Carleton Athletics
 - i. The aim of a Competitive Club shall be to provide access to sport for selected Members while enhancing the university experience for the Carleton community
- b. Competitive Clubs are recognized by CUSA Clubs and Societies
 - i. The aim of a Competitive Club shall be to provide access to competition not covered by Section 1.3.a.i for selected Members while enhancing the university experience for the Carleton community
- c. The Competitive Club cannot reasonably function or attain an established mandate while remaining open for all students to be members

1.4 Charter Clubs may be any group of students with direct or non-arm's length relationship with an International, National, or non-Carleton affiliated parent organization, and may only be established such that:

- a. The aim of Charter Clubs shall be to provide an academic, social, and / or a gained experience environment
- b. All Charter Clubs shall be open to all fee-paying Members of the Association.

1.5 Autonomous Clubs may be any group of students joined by a common interest, and may only be established such that:

- a. The CUSA Clubs Oversight Committee has granted the group "Autonomous Club" status
- b. The aim of Autonomous Clubs shall be to provide advocacy and / or structural legitimacy to groups whose functioning are limited by normally applicable Student Group Bylaws or Procedures
- c. All Autonomous Clubs shall at a minimum consider admitting any fee-paying Members of the Association

2.0 Clubs Training

2.1 Each Club must have at least two (2) executives complete the Clubs Training unless proper notice has been requested to and accepted by the Student Groups Administrator.

2.2 The Clubs Training shall:

- a. Provide any relevant information to certified Clubs
- b. Be planned and managed in accordance with the Clubs Training Procedure overseen by the CUSA Clubs Oversight Committee
- c. Constrained in scope and platform by the CUSA Clubs Oversight Committee

3.0 The CUSA Clubs Oversight Committee

3.1 The Committee shall consist of:

- a. The CUSA Vice President Internal
- b. The CUSA Vice President Finance
- c. The CUSA Student Groups Administrator
- d. One (1) CUSA Councilor
- e. Three (3) elected Club delegates, elected on a one (1) vote per club basis from all clubs where at least two executives have completed Clubs Training

- f. One (1) student-at-large, appointed by Council
- g. The CUSA President, as an Ex-officio, non-voting member

3.2 The Clubs Oversight Committee shall be empowered to:

- a. Assist Clubs with financial support which will contribute to their short- and long-term goals to ensure that they run efficiently and effectively at Carleton University
- b. Solicit applications for funding in accordance with the Clubs Funding Procedure
- c. Grant up to \$2,700 per Club per academic year without subsidizing in part or in full the purchase of impairing or intoxicating substances

- d. Request any financial information from a Club requesting money
- e. Inquire about anything relevant to the funding request before the Clubs Oversight Committee
- f. Order the return of any funding allocation that has been used for prohibited, illegal, or otherwise inappropriate use; and/or order a hold, or shut down a club bank account; in

- g. keeping with the principles of equal treatment and institutional fairness. These decisions may be appealed to the Constitutional Board under ByLaw III.
- h. Encourage active student involvement on campus
- i. Coordinate joint Club activities and operate to foster the successful operation of CUSA Clubs
- j. Act as an open forum, in which Club executives may express their views
- k. Make recommendations to the Students' Council regarding CUSA Clubs
- l. Make and enforce community standards, regulations, and procedures with regard to Clubs, including in the jurisdictions of Clubs Training, Funding, Certification, Recertification, Sanctioning, Decertification, Mandate Overlap, open forums, timelines, deadlines, and accountability structures.
- m. Hear appeals of the CUSA Student Group Administrator decisions' or execution of regulations and procedures previously approved by the Clubs Oversight Committee

3.3 The Committee shall meet:

- a. At least twice (2) per month during the academic year
- b. When called by the CUSA Student Groups Administrator or the CUSA Vice President Internal
- c. Upon written request by delegates from at least ten (10) Clubs

3.4 The Committee may cancel meetings due to lack of agenda items on a consensus basis

3.5 Meetings of the Committee shall require public notice

3.6 Quorum for the Clubs Oversight Committee shall be five (5) voting committee members

4.0 Certification and Recertification

4.1 Club Certification is operationalized by the Club Certification Procedure as mandated and overseen by the CUSA Clubs Oversight Committee

4.2 Club Recertification is operationalized by the Club Recertification Procedure as mandated and overseen by the CUSA Clubs Oversight Committee

4.3 Clubs are certified by the Clubs Oversight Committee once they have provided the following to the CUSA Student Groups Administrator through the means outlined in the Club Certification or Club Recertification Procedure:

- a. A written constitution, not in contravention of the CUSA Constitution, Bylaws, or Policies, embodying the aims and structure of the Club;
- b. A formal budget, including all projected revenues and expenditures for the year;
- c. A list of a minimum of ten (10) members.
- d. Contact information for at least two (2) club executives

4.4 The Clubs Oversight Committee may, subject to appeal to the Constitutional Board, deny the certification or recertification of a Club that:

- a. Appears to replicate the mandate or mission and / or function of another Club
- b. Appears to exist for the sole purpose of collaborating on events with current Clubs that extends beyond the usual collaboration between distinct Clubs
- c. Attempts to replace a currently certified club or society
- d. Attempts to create a second club for the same sport unless one club is solely recreational, and the other is solely competitive
- e. it appears would not be able to succeed while certified due to insurance issues
- f. could reasonably be understood to condone unsafe or illegal activities
- g. is not allowed under the Student Code of Conduct, is under university sanction, or would not qualify as a Student Group under University Senate policy
- h. leadership could conceivably be subverted by non-Carleton community members
- i. Has been inactive for the past year while certified
- j. Has broken municipal, provincial, federal, or international law, including law of the sea

5.0 Complaints & Sanctioning

5.1 Any party may submit a Complaint regarding a club or club executive behavior

5.2 The Clubs Oversight Committee will manage the intake of Complaints within their Sanctioning Procedure

5.3 Complaints can be submitted on the following grounds:

- a. A Club is perceived to have failed to fulfill the recertification requirements outlined in this Bylaw or in the Clubs recertification Procedure
- b. Actions taken by the a Club or executive are perceived to be contrary to the Constitution, Bylaws, or Policies of the Carleton University Students' Association (CUSA), or to the constitution of that Club
- c. A Club or club executive is perceived to have knowingly misrepresented facts when submitting or requesting information, resources, or funding
- d. A Club is perceived to be in debt to CUSA and has not made arrangements for repayment
- e. A Club is perceived to have failed to have two (2) club executives complete training as outlined in this Bylaw or in the Clubs Training Procedure
- f. A Club that has received funding from CUSA is perceived to have failed to submit a ledger in electronic form that includes receipts for the term/s in which funding was granted
- g. A Club is perceived to not meet requirements during an Annual Review per the Annual Review Procedures
- h. A Club or club executive is perceived to have hazed, abused, or extorted any student, non-student, entity, or member
- i. A Club or club executive is perceived to have used the CUSA Clubs system to launder funds

- j. A Club or club executive is perceived to have broken local by-law, provincial law, federal law, law of the sea, and/or international law
- k. A Club or club executive is perceived to have breached the CUSA election rules
- l. A Club or club executive is perceived to have wrongfully dismissed an executive or member
- m. Internal matters in a Club are perceived to be in conflict with CUSA ByLaws, CUSA Procedure, or Club Oversight Committee approved Club specific governance documents

5.4 The Clubs Oversight Committee shall ensure the Club has the opportunity to respond to the complaint(s)

5.5 The Clubs Oversight Committee shall be empowered to investigate or outsource an investigation of the complaints as they deem necessary

5.6 The Clubs Oversight Committee shall be empowered to reject the complaint or apply any single or multiple of the below sanctions:

- a. A punitive letter of warning
- b. Probation such that any further violation will result in escalating sanctions
- c. Prohibition from exercising certain privileges afforded the club by CUSA
- d. Executive or member specific prohibition from exercising certain privileges
- e. Executive or member specific probation
- f. Removal of an individual Club member or executive from the Clubs system
- g. Mandatory training or education of club executives and/or members

- h. A referral of the matter to the Carleton University Student Conduct process or Ombudsperson
- i. Freezing of financial accounts of the Club
- j. Decertification of the Club
- k. In rare cases at the insistence of the complainant; restorative practices

5.7 Sanctions shall impose by the Clubs Oversight Committee using their established Terms of Reference and be managed by the Student Groups Administrator or designate in accordance with the Sanctioning Procedure

5.8 Decertification can result from two thirds (2/3rd) majority vote in the Clubs Oversight Committee or a two-thirds (2/3rds) majority vote in favor of the decertification by CUSA Council

5.9 If a club feels a decision to be unfair or incorrect, they may appeal the decision to the Constitutional Board as outlined in the Sanctioning Procedure

5.10 Written notice of a motion to decertify shall be given to a Club to be decertified no less than ten (10) days prior to the CUSA Council meeting or Clubs Oversight Committee meeting where decertification is on the agenda

6.0 Voluntary Decertification

6.1 A voluntary Decertification may occur when:

- a. A Club President and VP Finance inform the Student Groups Administrator the Club would like to voluntarily decertify

7.0 Membership Fees

7.1 All Club members must be given receipts or appropriate confirmation of payment

7.2 The membership fees collected will be reported in the budget and financial statements which the Club submits to the Clubs Oversight Committee or the Student Groups Administrator
7.3 All Clubs must follow the Clubs Membership Fee Procedure enforced by the Clubs Oversight Committee

8.0 Clubs Year End Finances

8.1 Every Club must submit a ledger and membership list to the Student Groups Administrator in electronic form by April 30th of each year

9.0 Clubs Financial Review

9.1 A financial review can be performed on any Club by recommendation of the Clubs Oversight Committee

9.2 It is the responsibility of the Student Groups Administrator to conduct the financial review in cooperation with the Vice President Finance and Vice President Internal

9.3 Each Club may be randomly selected by the Student Groups Administrator or by the Clubs Oversight Committee for a review of the Club's spending

9.4 If chosen for a review the Club must provide all necessary documentation to the Student Groups Administrator

9.5 If a review reveals misappropriated funds, fraud, or lack of internal accountability measures by the Club then they will be unable to receive funding from the Clubs Oversight Committee for the following summer term or academic year

9.6 Any executive member of a Club that is found to be culpable for misappropriated funds, fraud, or lack of internal accountability measures may be excluded from holding executive positions with any Club as well as holding a seat on the Clubs Oversight Committee in the future

10.0 Charitable Partnerships

10.1 Clubs working to raise money for charitable ends must be provided the CRA registered charity number for the organization they wish to partner with

10.2 Clubs which are voluntarily decertifying may donate their remaining funds to a CRA registered charity of their choice on behalf of the Carleton University Students' Association

11.0 Leadership Succession

11.1 The Clubs Oversight Committee must publish and enforce the Clubs Leadership Succession Procedure

MOVED: Ahmad Hashimi

SECONDED: Matthew Gagné

Ahmad Hashimi: Now with this Bylaw, everything will have a procedure. We now have a procedure for every scenario available, which steps you will need to take for your scenario. Additionally, we have the Oversight Committee, which has been created from three previous committees. The three previous committees were overlapping amongst themselves so this one Oversight Committees will now be more efficient and simpler.

Gray Simms: I will speak in favor of the motion; I went through it with close detail with my fellow councilors. It definitively clarifies the existing text. I know the VPI and the CUSA clubs office has done a lot of work of work on this and I am pleased to be able to support the motion.

Motion passes.

5. Motion to Repeal Bylaw X

Motion to repeal Bylaw X

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

Whereas Club funding processes are outlined in procedures under the purview of the Clubs Oversight Committee and Bylaw IX

Whereas The Clubs Oversight Committee as outlined in Bylaw IX will be responsible for funding

INFORMATION TRANSFER:

Be it resolved that Bylaw X is repealed

MOVED: Ahmad Hashimi

SECONDED: Matthew Gagné

Ahmad Hashimi: Like I previously mentioned, we are removing this committee because the Oversight committee will take care of the previous three. If anyone has any questions, please feel free.

Motion passes.

6. Motion to Repeal Bylaw XI

Motion to repeal Bylaw XI

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

Whereas Club summer funding processes are outlined in procedures under the purview of the Clubs Oversight Committee and Bylaw IX

Whereas the Clubs Oversight Committee as outlined in Bylaw IX will be responsible for summer funding

INFORMATION TRANSFER:

Be it resolved that Bylaw XI is repealed

MOVED: Ahmad Hashimi

SECONDED: Matthew Gagné

Motion passes.

7. Motion to Repeal Bylaw XII

Motion to repeal Bylaw XII

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

Whereas Club elections and leadership succession processes are outlined in procedures under the purview of the Clubs Oversight Committee and Bylaw IX

Whereas the Leadership Succession Procedure is a more adaptable and responsive accountability mechanism than a Bylaw

INFORMATION TRANSFER:

Be it resolved that ByLaw XII is repealed

MOVED: Ahmad Hashimi

SECONDED: Matthew Gagné

Motion passes.

8. Motion to Amend Bylaw V

Motion to amend ByLaw V

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

Whereas the Clubs & Societies Committee, Financial Assistance Committee for Clubs and Societies, and Clubs and Societies Summer Funding Committee have been replaced by the Clubs Oversight Committee

INFORMATION TRANSFER:

Be it resolved ByLaw V Sec 1.0 read “1.0 The Advisory bodies of the Association shall include the following standing committees: Constitution and Policy Review Committee (CPRC), Financial Review Committee (FRC), CUSA Student Initiative Fund Committee (SIFC), Executive Compensation Review Committee (ECRC), Clubs Oversight Committee (COC), Accessibility Fund Committee (AFC), and the Awards Committee (AC).”

MOVED: Ahmad Hashimi

SECONDED: Matthew Gagné

Motion passes.

9. Items for Information

None.

10. Question Period

None.

11. Other Business

- a. Motion to elect 3 FASS Councilors for the 2021-22 year

Motion to Elect FASS Councilors to CUSA Council

Presentation Summary:

Whereas the CUSA 2021-21 Elections results were ratified and three FASS Councilor seats were left empty.

Whereas in order to properly represent the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences it is imperative they have full council representation.

Information Transfer:

Be it resolved that CUSA Council elect 3 CUSA members and FASS Students to CUSA Council from the list of councilors below:

*Dillon Buck
Pierce Burch
Tina Cain
Kevin Caswell
Michael Shores
Katelyn Madigan
Tyson Scott
Marwa Ibrahim*

Be it resolved that the winning candidates begin their terms immediately following the by-elections. Terms ending on April 30th, 2022.

Moved: Matt Gagné

Second: Ahmad Hashimi

Candidates:

From Dillon Buck:

Hello Ahmad, my name is Dillon Buck and I am a History and Psychology major. I am interested in taking on the role of FASS councilor as part of the CUSA council. I have been previously a proxy of another CUSA councilor, spending an entire summer period as a proxy, and as a result I have prior knowledge and understanding pertaining to the position at hand. I am entering my final year and wish to be more involved to get more out of it and to give back before I leave Carleton. I really enjoyed my time as a proxy and wish to take the next step and actually become a CUSA councilor and be more involved than just having been a proxy. I regret not applying and being a part of the council in previous years, but I wish to finally make amends to this. I love my faculty and Carleton and wish to help it as much as possible before I take my final steps out the door and become an Alumni, I wish to be able to look back and know I tried to help out. I want to leave Carleton a better place than it already is for those who come after. Thanks for taking the time to read this, let me know if you have any further questions.

Best,
Dillon Buck

From Pierce Burch:

To whom it may concern,

I am looking to be your next FASS councillor for the 2021-2022 academic year. I look at this position as an opportunity to serve the student body once again by taking their voices into council decisions. I elected this would be my 3rd term as a part of the CUSA council, meaning I know how the council works and would be able to make an impact as soon as I am elected. This paired with my experience as a student leader in CASG has let me develop skills and good working conditions with my students. You may be wondering if I am prepared to take on this position now why didn't I run back in February, well I tried but due to my jammed schedule I missed the info session for the election which made me ineligible to run a campaign at the time. This let me reflect on whether I had the time or effort for my endeavors with student politics. In this reflection I was able to find the passion I had once had when I first ran 3 years ago, knowing that my work on council is not done now that council is a more open space than it has ever been before. I hope you can see how prepared I am to work for the students through my remarks here today and how willing I am to work with my fellow councillors if elected this year.

From Tina Cain:

Dear Councillors,

My name is Tina Cain, and I will be entering my third year in philosophy at Carleton. I am writing to express my strong interest in the position of Arts and Social Science councillor at CUSA, which I believe I would be an ideal fit for your organization.

When it comes to my involvement in academic life, I have a CGPA of 10.44, and I have experience working with different Carleton clubs. For instance, I was the first-year representative for Carleton Science Society, where I voted on board meetings, ran office hours, and volunteered to setup various events. In addition, I was the marketing head for cuHacking, and I volunteered for the Computer Science Society, as well as Women in Computer Science. Currently, I am the social media executive for Carleton Philosophy Society, where I have been building a blog, as well as rebranding the society. When it comes to my current experience outside of school, I work as a barista at Real Fruit, and I am a team lead at Roots. At Roots, I manage the sales associates, and have led custom events offered by the company.

I am looking forward to becoming a member of this amazing association, you all seem very passionate about bringing change to Carleton, and I would love to be a part of it. By becoming a councillor for CUSA, I will bring my skills and experience to support the change to come and advocate for my fellow students. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Thank you,

Tina Cain

From Kevin Caswell:

Dear Council,

My name is Kevin Caswell, and I am applying to fill one of the Faculty of Arts and Social Science positions on council.

During the 2020-2021 school year, I served as a representative on CASG and worked alongside my colleagues to ensure that students got the accommodations they needed to make it through a year of uncertainty.

On top of this, I participated in the SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) Ambassador Program by the United Nations Association in Canada. I worked alongside like-minded individuals in order to create an initiative focused on educating public school kids about homelessness.

These experiences have challenged me to be creative, patient and nurturing. During times of uncertainty, I am able to work with a team to meet a common goal.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to possibly working with you all sometime in the near future!

From Katelyn Madigan:

My name is Katelyn Madigan and I am in my second year of developmental psychology. I am interested in a position on CUSA as an art and social science councillor. I want to use my voice to ensure that my faculty is properly represented and stays informed with CUSA throughout the year. I have strong connections with many individuals in my faculty in various programs. I am currently the director of events for the psychology society and have connected with students in my program through this opportunity. I am also collaborating with students from other programs in my faculty, such as criminology, and history, in this role, learning about their values and concerns along the way. I believe this provides me with a perspective that is representative of all students in the faculty of arts and social science. Furthermore, I am the co-president and founder of a new club at Carleton, CU Be a Donor. Through this club, I will work to bring blood drives and organ donation fundraisers to Carleton. I can't do this alone. My team is filled with executives from the faculty of science, public affairs, and engineering, just to name a few. Although CU Be a Donor is new, I have already been able to work with my executive team to ensure success in this club. This position allows me to collaborate with other faculties, something that is necessary for a CUSA councillor. In my first year of university, I served as a RRRA councillor and acted as a representative for my floor, building, and residence students as a whole. In this position, I truly listened to the concerns of my peers and worked my hardest to find solutions. For example, many students on my floor were struggling with their mental health during the pandemic. I brought this issue forward to the RRRA council and created a campaign outlining the importance of mental wellness. I strongly believe that I would be a great candidate for a faculty of arts and social science CUSA councillor, and I hope my perspective can create positive change both in my faculty and across Carleton as a whole.

Thanks,
Katelyn

From Tyson Scott:

Hello council,

I am Tyson Scott, a 3rd-year cognitive science student here at Carleton, and I wish to contribute to the Carleton University Student Association as one of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Councillors. In the last year I wanted to get more involved on campus in order to try and stay connected with fellow ravens through the online semesters. To do so, I joined the Carleton Academic Student Government as one of the two representatives of my program. While on CASG I also served as a member of the Governance Committee, Appeals Committee, and worked on the Academic Initiative Fund Committee. I really enjoyed working along with other students to help make Carleton a better place and I hope to continue to do so while serving as a FASS Councillor. I would love to have another opportunity to work with ravens for ravens, helping make Carleton an even better university environment for every student here to come.

Councillors vote via online ballot.

Election results:

Pierce Burch, Katelyn Madigan, and Tyson Scott are elected as FASS Councillors to the CUSA Council.

Motion Passes.

b. Motion to Fill the CUSA Democratic Reform Committee

Motion to fill the CUSA Democratic Reform Committee

Presentation Summary:

Whereas at the May 2021 CUSA Council meeting the CUSA Democratic Reform Committee was struck.

Whereas in order to properly deliver on its mandate; the committee requires one CUSA Councillor from each faculty and two students at large.

Information Transfer:

Be it resolved that CUSA Council nominate and elect one councillor from each faculty at Carleton University.

*FPA: Emily Sowa
FASS: Pierce Burch
FED: Cameron Davis
Science: Greg Dance
Sprott: Musab Chaudhry*

Be it resolved that CUSA Council elect 2 Students at Large as members of the Democratic Reform Committee from the following names:

*Daniel Diamond
Anthony Galipeau
Simon Harris
Michael Huynh
Andres Reyes Jimenez
Anthony Valenti*

Moved: Matt Gagné

Seconded: Ahmad Hashimi

Candidates:

From Daniel Diamond:

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Daniel Diamond (he/him,101114921), and I am a third-year BGLnS student expressing interest in joining the democratic reform council as a student at large.

This council is not only needed but well overdue. Right now, the state of campus politics is at a crossroads over democratic reform. I believe that it is our responsibility to engage students to uphold our duty to the wider Carleton community.

Previously, I have served as a part of various clubs and councils at Carleton, such as the Head Manager of the BGLnS Upper-year Mentorship Program and a community outreach volunteer for Carleton's Relay For Life council. Throughout these positions, I have demonstrated an unwavering devotion to our student community. I want to see Carleton's student body thrive. As the current state of campus politics stands, an environment for success has been stripped to those wishing to engage in our student political community.

This affects us all as students, as it creates unfair playing fields for those who wish to engage in politics against those who already have a plethora of support before campaigning even starts. If given the opportunity to aid in the fostering of a more respectable state of campus politics, I would bring my expertise in leadership and knowledge of our political system. Additionally, as a member of the LGBTQ+ community, I feel our voices are often unrepresented at the highest levels of campus politics and I would like to be a part of changing that.

From Anthony Galipeau:

Hello, my name is Anthony Galipeau, and I'm writing this to express my interest in the above mentioned position. There are three reasons why I believe I would be a good fit for this position: my previous experience in CUSA elections, my knowledge about how a lot of people perceive CUSA, and my passion for student governance.

From 2016-2019, I ran slates or assisted independent candidates against previous incumbents. Some were more successful than others. What struck me the most while doing this was two things: 1) that a lot of people didn't want to run because they thought

elections were 'rigged' and 2) the amount of toxicity surrounding elections. Even the most good-hearted of candidates were seen as corrupt and working to run a broken system. This troubled me, as I believe that a lot of the negative feelings that surround CUSA are directly a product of its electoral system that has often favoured groups over people, and slogans over skills. In addition, I had to become familiar with the electoral code, which gave me insights in to how to suggest improvements to the system.

Whatever comes out of the Democratic Reform Committee has the potential to radically change both how elections are run and how even disengaged students see CUSA. I very much want to be a part of helping with those changes.

Thank you for your consideration.

From Simon Harris:

To whom this may concern,

My name is Simon Harris, and I am a second year Public Affairs and Policy Management student with a passion for student politics and free, fair, and transparent elections. For the past five years, I have had the pleasure of serving on various financial and administrative bodies of organizations, commissions, and corporate boards. It would be a pleasure to blend my passions with my innovation and drive in organizational management as a member of CUSA's Democratic Reform Committee.

I am no stranger to administering on-campus elections and completing administrative overhauls. Last year, I served as the DEO for the Rideau River Residence Association's 2021 General Election. Through our work, RRRRA was able to overhaul election rules both for the short-term and for the long-term by introducing flexible policies and procedures, a codified appeals process, the permanent introduction of independent candidates, and new expense procedures. My understanding of electoral policies and trialing new changes could prove to be an excellent asset as CUSA investigates innovative ways to enhance election engagement.

On a similar note, I have been involved with the reorganization of internal policies of the Lambton Kent District School Board as a Student Trustee, wrote policy papers for the Ontario Student Trustees' Association, and served on both the PAPM and economics student society boards. With my experience, I hope to help build a better electoral process that will serve Carleton students and create a safer, more constructive environment for political discourse.

From Michael Huynh:

Hello Ahmad,

This is an email outlining why I wish to serve as a member of the Democratic Reform Committee:

Seeing how the 2020 CUSA elections played out in my first year, I was rather shocked to see it run in a subpar manner. Whether it was the overwhelming advantages of slates, or the fact that some students who did not opt into fees were barred from voting, these elections were not conducted in a manner that should be espoused by a welcoming campus community.

Knowing that the ideals of a campus democracy were not respected to their fullest extent, it was quite depressing to think about what could happen next. A failing campus democracy means that CUSA can't execute its duties to the highest standard, and it should have been clear at some point in the past that CUSA needed reforms.

Little did I know, as you probably can attest to as well, that the rhetoric would reach new lows. The events of that particular weekend this year heading into February, where a student's life was at risk, should be the final straw to motivate CUSA to change its electoral policies.

It is certainly possible to create a better CUSA. While banning slates is a start, ensuring that internal CUSA operations are also non-partisan is essential; for examples, we should ensure that the CEO has no connections to any candidates running (as was alleged this time around). Furthermore, prohibiting any limits on voting should be an enshrined law in CUSA election guidelines.

Of course, the solutions mentioned so far are just run of the mill, but I still think we can go farther. Restoring the brand of CUSA requires honest introspection, and CUSA should market itself as a serious organization ready to help students, not a place for frats and sororities to plunder. Increasing campus involvement means that CUSA needs to appeal to the overwhelming majority of students—who in turn might be more motivated to join extra-curricular activities.

These few suggestions, I believe, would create for a better community atmosphere, which in turn leads to more participation on campus and eventually, respect and dignity for democratic processes. I am passionate with regards to ensuring that CUSA is left in better hands to the next administration—and that means this journey, and its first steps, start at the core of our problems: a weak campus democracy.

I would hope to make a difference as a member of this important committee.

Michael Huynh

From Andres Reyes Jimenez:

To the CUSA Executives, the Chair, and CUSA Councillors,
I would like first to thank the council for their time today. I am currently continuing my second year of undergraduate studies in the Bachelor of Global and International Studies, specializing in Global Development. As some of you might recall, I myself ran in this past CUSA election to represent my faculty. And although I wasn't the subject of the more serious incidents that occurred, like the other candidates, I felt and understood the difficulties of this campaign season. Being a student of Global Development, I am often thinking of systems created in earnest and with the greatest intentions. But that ultimately succumb to their engraved flaws. This is why I am here today. I believe this committee can alleviate the deficiencies of our current democratic system. And I believe I have skills that can contribute to the strength of that committee and ultimately truly serve our fellow students.

For the past several years, I have served on the Communications Committee of a local grassroots organization, The Yorklands Greenhub. Not only then do I have experience in working in a collaborative environment, but I can also bring several insights into communication and organization for an election season. Fundamentally, an election is about a candidate communicating with their audience of voters. I also believe my skills can be applied to ensuring the effectiveness of the committee's own transparency and communication.

Over the past several months, I have been a part of the Student Energy Leaders Fellowship. The Fellowship itself has helped me hone my project development and management skills. And I'll be prepared to implement the various practical tools I have in advancing a project.

All that said, I ask that you may consider me for the position of student-at-large for the Democratic Reform Committee. I would be glad to answer any questions you may have, and I again thank the council for their time.

-Andres Reyes

From Anthony Valenti:

Anthony J. Valenti, 2nd Year

Carleton Student, Bachelor of Global and International Studies

Carleton University Students' Association

Mr. Vice-President,

It was brought to my attention that CUSA is currently seeking to compile a Committee regarding Democratic Reform, specifically, electoral reform. I would like to officially pose my candidacy for the position of "Student-At-Large" on the Democratic Reform Committee.

I recently finished my first year at the University studying Global Law and Social Justice. As such, I was purview to the various complications of the previous election, having also run as a candidate for the position of Faculty of Public Affairs Councillor.

I currently serve on the Board of Directors of the Kroeger Policy Review as Director of Internal and Stakeholder Relations. The Kroeger Policy Review is a student organization affiliated with the Faculty of Public Affairs and Arthur Kroeger College. In my first year, I also held a position on the Executive Team of the Carleton Law and Legal Studies Society as the Director of Finance, as well as the Facilitator for the BGINS Students' Society's Equity Committee.

During the previous election, I was very vocal about the impropriety of certain procedures that were in place. This was in part, due to my keen interest in parliamentary and judicial affairs. I believe that my voice could be well-served on this committee to put my interests and experience to good use.

I would be honoured to be given this opportunity and I thank you for your time.

Cordially,

Anthony J. Valenti, BGINS Student

Councillors vote via online ballot.

Election results:

Councillors Emily Sowa, Pierce Burch, Cameron Davis, Greg Dance and Musab Chaudhry are elected to the CUSA Democratic Reform Committee,

Members, Anthony Galipeau and Simon Harris are elected as the student at larges for the CUSA Democratic Reform Committee.

Motion Passes.

c. Motion to Fill the International Students Advisory Committee

Motion to Fill the International Students Advisory Committee

Presentation Summary:

Whereas at the May 2021 CUSA Council Meeting; CUSA Council struck the International Students Advisory Committee.

Whereas in order for the Committee to fulfill its mandate, it requires 3 students at large members.

Information Transfer:

Be it resolved that CUSA Council elect 3 student at large members to the International Students Advisory Committee from the following names:

Andrea Alvarez Delgado
Ricky Egwabor
Eman El Naidany
Aishwarya Eswaramoorthy
Vyanjali Jokhoo
Cindy Ledesma
Anshul Tipnis
Mohammed Fahim Iqbal

Moved: [Valentina Vera Gonzalez](#)

Seconded: Ahmad Hashimi

Candidates:

From Ricky Egwabor:

I write this letter to show intent on joining the CUSA Council Committee as a student at large. My aim in partaking in this committee is to serve as one of many spokespersons for international students in Carleton. I wish to provide gainful input and feedback that will ensure the best wellbeing of all Carleton students.

From Eman Elnaidany:

Dear Ahmad,

I am contacting you to express my interest in joining the International Student Committee. Being an international student myself, I believe it is a multifaceted experience. While the years spent abroad can be of the most formative years in the life of an international student, they are also accompanied by various challenges. Some of the more recurrent challenges faced by international students can be tackled through university support. This is why I aim to be the voice of international students and make every effort to support international students and prioritize their mental health.

Becoming a student is a challenge, but becoming an international student is an even more serious one, especially with COVID 19. Whereas no experience is the same, my personal experience has taught me that the international student experience is far from limited to the years spent at university. The challenges accompanying the transition to schools such as visa application, financial matters, dealing with culture shock and microaggression, and the following change to work-life such as work-permits, network, or communicating fluently in English can be significant constraints for international students. Additionally, international students struggle disproportionately with mental health issues, as they face additional pressures and stressors in their transition to college life.

While some of these barriers are outside of the realm of the Carleton administration, I truly believe that proper guidance and support from the committee can help improve these transitional phases. If elected, I will work tirelessly to improve the experience of international students at Carleton and, through that, enhance not only their time at school but also the transitional periods.

Sincerely,

Eman Elnaidany

From Aishwarya Eswaramoorthy:

I am Aishwarya Eswaramoorthy from India and I got admitted for Meng in Systems and computer Engineering for upcoming Fall 2021. I have been following the CUSA community and its social media page for quite some time and I feel this is a great work done by the team to raise awareness among all the students. I would also like to be a part of the committee as it empowers our whole students to be compassionate towards each other as well as to the entire community. As per voting done by BOG, Our

University is increasing Tuition fees by 8 percent for international students. Since we all know this pandemic have impacted many of our lives both financially and emotionally. Hailing from a humble background, It was difficult for me to pay my tuition fee but hopefully I got my education loan which helps me pursue my passion for Engineering. But like me, many International students were going through great difficulty arranging the finances to pay our tuition fee. So it was quite taxing, for all of us, especially us the international students. As said, I too believe education is not a privilege, nor a business, but it is a right. This is my story and getting admission from CU is one of the best moments in my life. But going through all onerous process and times, this new policy for tuition fee imposes additional burden to all of us. So, I would like to be a part of the committee where we can work together to improve the life at our community.

From Vyanjali Jokhoo:

Greetings,

I hope this email finds you well.

Following a public statement made by CUSA, I am emailing you to share my story as an international student as well as express my intent in joining the above-mentioned committee.

I am an international student, and I am from Mauritius, a tiny island 3 flights away. Whilst COVID-19 has affected everyone, I don't think that the experience is the same for international students. Being away from home in a relatively new environment and being unable to socialize takes a heavy toll on an individual. The most daunting thing is the lack of familiarity as well as not knowing who to turn to when seeking support.

Throughout the pandemic, I felt that international students were ignored, or considered secondary concerns. The measures that were undertaken to alleviate the effects of the pandemic were difficult to access. Even the academic term was characterized by a lack of accommodations.

Of course, I don't mean to generalize the situation; some resources have been exceptionally helpful. However, it does not take away from us international students feeling abandoned/unsupported.

Due to time differences, accessing resources and opportunities, such as volunteering, workshops, library services etc. were very strenuous. Even events tailored to be a break from the stress of the pandemic were relatively inaccessible.

I also believe that our interests were not adequately represented. With the tuition increase and the travel restrictions, the current outlook requires some of us to undergo significant financial problems. Somewhere, there has been a failure to understand the difference in impact the pandemic has on the average Canadian student and the average international student.

Having said that, I wish to express my interest in joining the advisory committee concerned with international student issues. We constitute about 15% of the Carleton student population and I laud the steps taken to address our grievances.

I apologize for the lengthy email.

Thank you for your patience and consideration,
Vyanjali Jokhoo

From Cindy Ledesma:

Dear CUSA Council,

As a third year international student pursuing a Bachelors of Commerce with concentration in International Business the advertisement for the opportunity to be part of the International Student Advisory committee sparked so much my interest. When reviewing the position, I was thrilled to notice that my qualifications and experience pair with the profile required. In this sense, my skills include planning, strategizing, communication, advertising, event organization and the experience of being a foreign student.

My journey start in 2018 when I flew 5,307 miles away from Ecuador to Ottawa to pursue my dreams, which eventually became my second home. Along my path at Carleton, I have experienced from joy, sadness, uncertainty, empowerment, learning and excitement experiences. Therefore, I know from firsthand what is to be the newbie in a whole different country and culture. I'm more than excited for this position to be open due that there is so much more information that we can provide to the international students. I considered that together we can ease and make more enjoyable the transition that many students have coming at first at Carleton. In this case, facilitating a better communication before the arrive of students, provide them with workshops, aid within the procedures expected to be done in Canada, and much more.

I'm enthusiastic about being able to help my current and future fellas is you let me be part of this amazing opportunity.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my application.

Sincerely,

Cindy Ledesma Pozo

From Anshul Tipnis:

Dear Ahmad,

I hope you are doing well and safe in these troubling times!

I want to express my interest in applying for the council position of the International Student committee at Carleton. As an international student myself who has lived in over four countries, I understand the problems faced by the students. The COVID-19 pandemic has made it difficult for many international students to re-unite with their families in their home countries because of border restrictions and closures. I was in a similar situation during March of 2020 when I couldn't head back home to Singapore.

It is a known fact that international students pay more tuition fees however, there are students who are unable to catch up with the rising fees. International students have become an integral part to economies to countries such as Canada, United States, Australia etc. However, countries must do its part to protect international students socially and morally from any harms as it would for its domestic students.

International students bring in about \$CAD22 billion a year into Canada but at times this figure may not represent the way students are treated. I want to be part of this council because not only do I want to advocate for the better treatment of international students, but I also want to share many of their stories of hard work and talent that are often unheard of.

Advocating for lowering international tuition fees will be difficult as that's what contributes to a major part of the Canadian economy however, it is important to advocate for better treatment and rights. By being part of the council, I want to advocate that international student should be treated no differently than Canadians and more opportunities should be open for them.

From Mohammed Fahim Iqbal:

Dear CUSA:

My name is Mohammed Fahim Iqbal, and I am going into my 4th year this fall. I am currently enrolled in the Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical Engineering) program and I am a proud international student in the Carleton community. I am submitting this letter to indicate my interest in the International Students Committee.

In my time as an international student, I went through all the ups and downs of being abroad and that too, alone. I had no family, and I did not know anyone in Canada. I know how hard it was to get out of my bubble and adapt to everything around. The culture, the people and the language were different. I always felt the need a contact or anyone with a similar experience that I could connect better with. Although there were other international students going through this, I always felt we could better be represented in the Carleton community. I believe I can take the responsibility and help make decisions that prioritize the inclusiveness of new/returning international students into the Carleton community. As per the job description, I also feel I am a perfect fit for the job because it requires a strong and responsible individual with good interpersonal skills. I have been involved with a numerous organization that helped me develop the required skills. I was the president of my high school's community service club back home in Bangladesh and we raised a profit of around 5000 CAD hosting numerous events during my time as the president. We helped old age homes, foundations that helped kids with cancer and the less privileged people of the society Poverty and lack of health care is a bigger issue in my country and more people are affected in that part of the world.

Also, I am currently working with AIESEC as an Operations Executive and I have been in AIESEC from January 2021. I am an engineering student in my 4th year, and I still enjoy engineering so I believe I can handle stress and manage my time accordingly. More importantly, I see Grammarly ads at least 3 times a day on YouTube and I still have not downloaded it. I do not let anything cloud my judgement and I am confident in what I do.

Sincerely,

Mohammed Fahim Iqbal

Councilors vote via online ballot.

Election results:

Members Vyanjali Jokhoo, Cindy Ledesma and Anshul Tipnis are elected as students at large for the International Students Advisory Committee.

Motion passes.

12. Adjournment

Moved: Matt Gagne

Seconded: Pierce Burch

Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.