



MCMASTER ENGINEERING SOCIETY  
**Council Meeting Minutes**



January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 | JHE H204 | 7:00pm

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**ALL ATTENDANTS: Please inform President of your presence.**

**Approved Absences:** Aisha Isiaka (night class, proxy Dani Lake), Keeran Sivanesan (midterm), MJ Lindsay (night class, proxy Ian Currie), Tommy Siuda (night class, proxy Jocelyn Lee), George Padeigis (academic conflict, proxy Elena), Michel Jobity (absent, work conflict/weather conditions), Lacey Wice (sick)

**PROXY: (Person for Person)**

**Quorum Count: 22**

**Ratification of the Agenda**

Jocelyn: move ECCS presentation to very first thing.  
 Mitch: vote (all in favour, no opposition, no abstentions, motion passes)

Majority for  
 0 opposition  
 0 abstentions  
 Motion passes

**Ratification of Last Council Meeting's Minutes**

Lizzy: quick note, added something to minutes. Luka sent follow-up email after last meeting regarding point on innovation minor, added that email to the end of minutes for full visibility.

Majority for  
 0 opposition  
 0 abstentions  
 Motion passes

**Presentation 01: Changes in ECCS**

Presented by: Kathryn Leistner

Kathryn: share some updates, answer questions. I'm from Niagara region, exciting to work here. Worked with Brock university and Niagara college. Worked in HR, manufacturing HR manager. Experience with US manufacturing and engineering, used to work with Texas A&M. Open to anyone coming to meet with us. Thank you for building Hatch, think it's changed some student opinions and staff opinions. Team is thankful for office. 5 months, great to have new space. Employers are blown away compared to old space, good feedback. Interviewing companies coming this week, used to be all over campus, now all in co-op staff office. Employers all close together, like it. Using Hatch loading dock, taking employers on tours. B.Tech student for co-op term, part of their job is to show employers around on tours.

Prepared by Lizzy DaMaren, MES Administrator  
 administrator@macengsociety.ca



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Came into the role, said I don't believe in making changes right away, lied about that. Some immediate changes, some more around B.Tech. Sometimes better to work with things for one or two terms, see how changes are working. Unfortunately, not everyone sitting in room will see changes before you leave. By the time you're alumni, will want to come back. Talked to Queens university, started to make same changes we're making. Last year, team worked hard with Arlene, Waterloo was impressed with the work compared to their staff, 10 more than us. Queens changes took 5 years, ranked #2 school in Canada for career development, so takes time. Has everyone heard of rank & match? Waterloo still has it, we got rid of it this year. Employers are thrilled. Some students upset, they liked it. When I was hired, something I talked to Arlene about, didn't want to work with it. My husband is co-op employer, left Waterloo because of their rank & match cycle. I had 3 employers complain about it this week, explained why we did it, mostly okay with it. More interviews happening earlier, different companies very interested, will create flexibility.

Student traffic from last year up 47%, 47% more students came in for appointment. 1,504 previous year, 2,221 last year. Biggest differences, half of that from last year have come in last semester and this month, over 1,200 students have come in. Looking at different models to cope with traffic. Students are begging to come see Daniel, had to make sure people go to see everyone else. Daniel was taking 25-30 students a week, others only taking 12. Want to make sure everyone knows placements for 2016-17 were up from year before. Up 167 more placements since this fall for this year. Already 81 more students placed to go out this summer. Number will go up, employers are still posting. Shows a progression, think it has to do with student traffic.

Co-op committee meeting, happening annually, this year Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>, discusses challenges and changes with co-op. Employers looking to hire 8 to 12 months, want to hire year 2 or 3 students for 16 months. Don't have enough students, working on strategies so they won't go to other schools. I'm on board if we can find ways to meet academic demands. Moved on changing career support method. Immediately switched B.Tech, model that doesn't exist for B.Eng, where every student gets an advisor. Starts in year 2, any student going to search for co-op next winter assigned to an employee. Of students we offered to help, only 40% took up offer. Some students have only been trying to get a hold of person since December.

Decided to make it so co-op students have less paperwork. Used to be long reports, eliminating one of the reports. Every student will do a report every 4 months on co-op, only one, only page and a half, have to do it to get co-op requirement. Running workshops every day through winter term for one hour. Students want resumes, cover letters. Running 60 workshops over next 2 months. Don't have enough student appointments, went to this. Staff can see 2 students per hour, with workshops extra 90 students a week. Small groups, if number too high have extra staff on hand. Most is 15 students for resume and cover letter and 20 for interviews.

Looking for students to sign up for focus groups for 1EE0, changes we're making, love to hear feedback. Plan for 1EE0, will no longer exist as it does, will go hybrid, content online, some employer sessions that students can choose from to go to. Also include labs, second half of term. Think it will work, talked to other schools that have similar model. Spent a lot of time looking at Waterloo model, there they assign you an advisor, do some prep before you go out. Similar model, more workshops and support.

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Big push for us to do career development for all students. ECCS really staffed to be more co-op than career services. Should be sending students over to student success center for non co-op, but we see everyone. Looking at strategies to accommodate. Experiential trips, did Communitech last week, Bell couple weeks ago, San Francisco/Silicon Valley in three weeks. Goal to run one in fall, domestic, winter will be international. If this is successful hoping to run more of those, company trips more regularly.

Since I started have been having team go out to more tradeshow, one booth for McMaster, all faculties putting in money. ECCS has been going out with own tradeshow booth, Niagara, Toronto, promote hiring students. Also have stronger relationship with alumni, lots of potential, relying on them to come back and hire. We're co-branding a lot of our events, backpack to briefcase, looking to post jobs.

OSCARPlus, not a good system, going to change. Can't throw whole thing out, we know it's a pain. Waterloo signed on to use Orbis, company that made OSCARPlus, just signed on last year. Because biggest co-op school, company is making changes. Change happening by this May, we really need everyone's support. I'm implementing changes to OSCARPlus soon for engineering students. Things that Waterloo does, UBC does. Students will have to opt into co-op term before they see job postings. Don't know numbers looking for jobs right now. Job board right now can see postings for all streams, adding tags where you can go in and select skills, all postings with that will come up. When we limit by program, students complaining. Students wanted to see a lot of the other postings. Students asking for key words, lot of engineering physics students helping with that, happy for help. Faculty will be asked for feedback as well. Any ideas for new system reach out to me.

Looking at a new funding for employers. NSERC, faculty use. McMaster rated as one of lowest schools in Canada for using NSERC funding to hire students for employers. Employers can get \$4500 for a student. Campaign going on, break it down, at \$18/hr employers will only be paying \$3000 for student. Students need to fill out government form to get funding, will even fill out skills, employer can get subsidy. Encouraging staff to set up NSERC postings.

Hiring 1-2 more ECCS staff. Can't keep up with interview requests. Budget goes in tomorrow, talking about hiring co-op students and more people. I also have to watch out how often my staff works evenings. Limiting to 1 night per week, don't have manpower, not sustainable to have people out 3 nights a week. New marketing material, team has swag, employer giveaways. Questions?

Luka: hire 2 more staff, where will their offices be?

Kathryn: behind desk, and one extra office upstairs we use for interviews currently.

Jocelyn: if there's a posting on OSCARPlus, if they have number of positions available as 1, guarantee that it's a McMaster student?

Kathryn: depends on employer. Know some are exclusive to McMaster, a lot have posting on their own website. Sometimes say they have 30 positions, OPG hired 30. Bit of a guessing game. We're getting way more postings. Communitech event this week, 25 opportunities from that.

Andrea: NSERC application, only for research-specific jobs?

Kathryn: trick to how you apply. Idea of research, throws off employers. Any position where you're developing something, enhancing something, can qualify. Doing something with computer programs,



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even excel, developing can get approved. Research & development. Going to help students with wording by getting feedback from employers.

Parsa: noticed if you go under job postings, doesn't show you everything. Have to search to see everything.

Kathryn: should, unless you're being blocked for it.

Parsa: only showing jobs starting in next work term.

Kathryn: depends on what certain people have access to. If you're in a program where you're restricted to co-op terms, when sequence is, shows when it opens up. If you're in program where you can't be out in a certain semester, should only be able to see co-op postings that fit with that. If issue with individual account, come see us. We have to manually go in when you select a stream to switch sequences over.

Plan, OSCARPlus update, will talk to Mosaic so once Mosaic switches you to stream it should switch your sequences. May have to do some programming behind the scenes. No other option out there. Schools used to create own system.

Jocelyn: is ECCS fully funded by student fees through MES?

Kathryn: combination between MES and faculty. Student fees are a portion. Working on website changes, once we're through budget year want to create pie graph showing where money goes. When I get budget, probably \$20-\$25,000 goes back to clubs and teams through funding. Little things like that I didn't know, think it's good for students to see where things go. Want to be as visible, transparent as possible. Going to be making some changes with Eng 1 selections, soliciting feedback on how students made choice, so if we can help for next year.

Leisha: me and some other first years did 1EE0 barbeque, summer course, still hasn't shown up on Mosaic.

Kathryn: access to OSCARPlus postings?

Leisha: yes.

Kathryn: interesting. Will look into it. A lot of off sequence things where registrar's office has to do behind the scenes work, will ask them. Had 700 students register summer term late, someone has to go in manually to change sequences. Some other faculties won't accept co-op unless you get forms in on time, current system isn't fair to registrars. Some students this fall, had to start paying back OSAP because they hadn't handed in co-op forms. If no forms, university thinks you dropped out because you're not here. If forms are in it's fine.

### Executive Updates

President Michael Meier

Discussion: executive talked, looking to increase student fee for next year for CPI. Increase will be around \$1.20. First time done in 3-4 years, want to make sure we retain spending powers, be proactive to cover costs with clubs and teams, pub nights. Been talking with Mat, shop tech downstairs, setting up student shop. People can apply, get training done. Working on policy stuff for it. Booking system still in

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the works. Some family stuff has come up past week, still trying to push for that. Any questions you can ask me.

VP Student Life Dani Lake

Discussion: BTM will be on April 27<sup>th</sup>, Friday after the last day of exams. Workshop we wanted to do will be done later in summer, company wasn't available. McMaster Undergraduate Energy Society, hear more from them later, been talking about that. General elections coming up soon, want to work on outreach, getting more people to run. Working with EngiQueers, Women in Eng, potentially NSBE. Want to have more people running for positions, more knowledge about elections in general.

Michael Barbosa: general elections?

Dani: elections committee meeting this week to set dates.

VP Academic Luka Samac

Discussion: Mad dash to prepare MEC delegates going to Ottawa this past weekend. Meeting with Ken on Wednesday, will have more next time.

VP External Jocelyn Lee

Discussion: Busy. NEM committee, sent you an email. NEM is in March, as a council member you have to be on two committees, this is a good opportunity. Working for one month in February, interested contact. Teleconference with ESSCO, they're planning a blood drive with other Ontario universities. Last year, blood drive competition with Queens, Waterloo, Toronto, this year hopefully all schools. Team met up last week, will be setting milestones and dates soon. ESSCO scarves have come out, if you're interested they're \$20. Let me know, fill out form, can pick it up for you. Might remember the Moose we stole from Lakehead, gave it away to another school. McMaster's mascot, plan is to go with the cape. Have red cape, want to get gold fireball on it, will be ready by FYIC. Ontario Engineering Competition this past week, 24 people went, 2 teams got second place and will be moving on to CEC. Social media posts, one on website. Kathryn mentioned, big ECCS meeting happening next week, me, Mike and Luka. Agenda is coming out next week, will forward and I can bring questions. Kathryn came in today because way the fee structures work, if you're enrolled in co-op program, every term not on co-op pay \$100, every term on co-op \$300. As general MES student, pay about \$45 to ECCS directly, thought it was important for them to come in and give update, transparency. Let me know if any questions.

VP Finance Liam McDermott

Discussion: Last week spent time with Fireball coordinators, lots of last minute expenses. Getting back on track with student space enhancement committee. Spoke with faculty, sending us an invoice for

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funding for student shop, money we owe them due to 2015 student space vote.

**Motion 01:** Organizing OEC Representation

Motioned by: Jocelyn Lee  
 Seconded by: Luka Samac

Whereas: The MES funds 100% of registration fees for MEC winners to attend OEC, and OEC winners to attend CEC

And whereas: Currently, the VP External and VP Academic have been organizing transportation for winners to attend OEC and CEC

And whereas: the MES Coordinator is overseen by the VP Academic

BIRT: The following addition be added to the Policy Manual:

B. Structure and Organization

6. Appointed Positions

6.10 McMaster Engineering Competition (MEC) Coordinator

The MEC Coordinator position may be held by Co-coordinators. The MEC Coordinator shall:

m) **Organize transportation, delegate fees, and all correspondence with OEC and CEC organizing committees for winning competitors of MEC to attending OEC and CEC.**

BIFRT: starting the 2018-2019 fiscal year, the VP Academic is responsible for the costs associated with OEC and CEC instead of the VP External

Jocelyn: presented last council meeting, came away with feedback and fixed it up. If you want to, can split the motion into two BIRT if you like one but not the other. BIRT, doesn't say specifically what VP is in charge of what, that BIRT is mandating VP Academic is responsible.

26 for  
 0 opposition  
 0 abstention  
 Motion passes

**Motion 02:** Special Projects Fund: McMaster Energy Week & Affiliate Status

Motioned by: Hanu Choudhari  
 Seconded by: Damien Joseph

Whereas McMaster Undergraduate Energy Society (MUES) is the first energy-focused club at McMaster with over 70 members



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Whereas MUES is comprised of 85% engineering students

Whereas McMaster Energy Week (a MUES initiative) is Canada's first ever student-led week focused on energy on campus, comprising of energy-related activities and culminating in a case competition and a conference gathering energy professionals, researchers and students on campus as a forum for the discussion on energy innovation.

BIRT the MSU Club MUES becomes an official MES affiliate.

BIFRT McMaster Energy Week is to be allotted \$1500 from the Special Projects Fund.

Hanu: Co-founder and chair, level III biomedical discovery and commercialization student.

Zainab: second year of engineering physics.

Damien: VP Academic, conference statistics coordinator. Life Sciences student.

Hanu: energy week, first student-led conference of its kind. US schools have massive energy weeks, nothing like it in Canada. Three goals.

Zainab: goals, educate students about energy landscape. Second, network with industry professionals, companies. Events in past, beginning of year did Generation Energy, partnered with SNC-Lavalin, National Resources Canada. Alumni night, coming from companies like OPG, Hydro One. These companies will be participating in energy week as well.

Hanu: undergraduate energy journal, take submissions, publish. Summary, student engagement, conference, competition. Budget, \$19,626 for the week. MDCL, Paradise catering. If we do it off campus, looking at about \$3,600 more, would have to charge students \$20 rate for conference. This model, \$5 deposit for students. Conference services have been giving hard time with us. Liam has a copy of budget, if you have questions can ask us.

Parsa: Canadian dollars?

Hanu: yes.

Parsa: videography, company?

Hanu: Jin and Chris, promo, teaser videos, videos during week, recap.

Dani: contingency?

Hanu: no. VP Finance couldn't be here, if you have questions I can direct it to him.

Mike: charges for room bookings?

Hanu: because all of MDCL, second floor as well, charging us. They're giving us a hard time, thought it was secured but now they're saying they don't know. Contingency plan if it doesn't work out.

Jocelyn: information on how much money already gotten?

Hanu: all the partners we have, just last 2 weeks. \$12,500, going to a lot of meetings. Faculty of Engineering gave us \$4,000, W.Booth gave us \$2.5k, waiting on other partners. Partnered with a lot of discipline clubs; Chem eng clubs, ECCS talking to, working with Eng Phys.

Mike: how long have you been club?

Zainab: second year.



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Hanu: have gained over 200 student followers. 85% engineering. Have partnered with over 10 different companies. Working with Arlene, Dr. Preston, lots of people in faculty of engineering, support. Also partnered with research labs, professors.

Andrea: how many students for competition?

Hanu: 10-12 teams, about 5 per team. Conference, around 200 people. Why sponsor? Pioneering Canada's future, precedent with this, no other university has it. MUES membership over 85% engineering. Targeting engineering. Established relationships with partners. 10+ research labs in engineering. Strategically partnered with MES, working on outreach plan to promote this. With NEM coming in March, this it's a good way to get engineers discussing big topics like climate change. Sponsorship package, tiers. Summary, timeline, competition applications up to Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>. Week overview. Making Hatch ground 0, been partnered with Dr. Cotton for two years, developed the idea with him. Monday, kickoff social and release cases at Hatch. Tuesday Thursday have Hatch 324 booked to work, other rooms. Tuesday, McMaster Centre for Climate Changing giving lecture at McMaster Innovation Park. Tour, 79 Bay street, natural gas site, talking about how they made it sustainable. Thursday, social media campaign on sustainability. Friday, nuclear reactor tour. Tentative schedule. Panel, networking, workshops. Panel is on federal policy regarding renewable energy. Sponsorship tiers, doesn't apply, only requesting \$1,500. Moving fast, increasing partners.

### Discussion:

Mike: discussing presentation or motion?

Mitch: just a motion.

Quinn: talked about having speakers. What speakers do you have so far?

Hanu: Ontario Climate Consortium chair, Peter Love, has agreed to work with us. Hamilton utilities.

Others.

Zainab: trying to get someone from Canadian Nuclear Society.

Hanu: 10 professors working with right now, seeing how they might present. Will be updating that on site as it comes out. Meeting with City of Hamilton, seeing if we can get someone from there.

Dani: about motion, would like to split the motion. Affiliate, special project should be different.

Mitch: if MUES is alright with it will do it. Splitting into two motions, first is just special projects fund.

Jocelyn: looking over budget, seeing discrepancies. Says from Monday Mar. 5<sup>th</sup> to Mar. 10<sup>th</sup>? Includes conference?

Hanu: until Saturday, most is for conference.

Jocelyn: \$20 for parking ticket for 60 parking passes. Where is that?

Hanu: open to students and professionals. Originally just for students, a lot of feedback from professionals wanting to come. 10 professionals was just for speakers, knew we would have people who were not students who needed to park. Looking like it will be students, academia, government, professionals.

Jocelyn: 5 volunteers for the week, \$20 each for gifts, swag for delegates, \$10 for 100. Swag for delegates and volunteers, including all?

Hanu: just people in competition. Projecting 10-12 teams of up to 5 people.

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Jocelyn: Hatch rooms, would that be, if you got Hatch rooms would it be replacing breakout rooms in MDCL?

Hanu: just for MDCL for conference, Hatch is for the week. Line 1 and 2 for conference, line 3 for week, 4 for conference, 5 and 6 competition/conference. Mostly for conference.

Jocelyn: how many projected people expecting for competition and conference?

Hanu: competition only open to McMaster students. Want at least 50 people, but have 10 professors offering bonuses in class. Willing to in round of applications filter down to 10-12 teams. Conference, 200 people. For the week, physical reach?

Jocelyn: be there in person.

Hanu: Monday, people in competition. Tuesday, lecture ~200. Thursday no physical events. Friday nuclear tour, conference up to 200 people.

Dani: want Liam to comment on current status of special projects.

Liam: \$3,500 remaining out of \$7,000.

Luka: anything in policy manual, priority for special projects fund?

Liam: first come first serve.

Mitch: voting on whether or not to fund \$1,500.

25 for  
0 opposition  
1 abstention  
Motion passes

Mitch: second portion of motion, whether or not MUES will become affiliate.

Mike: 200 members?

Hanu: 200 followers, about 70 member.

Zainab: general members come to events, 70. Have committees, more involved.

Dani: do you have a list of active members?

Hanu: Our other co-founder/co-president couldn't have it today. Can send it to you.

Dani: to be MES affiliate have to be 75% engineering students.

Mitch: according to MES policy manual, has to be at least 75% engineering students.

Dani: think that's something to be confirmed.

Hanu: can get that to you.

Luka: what do you need to confirm?

Dani: just in past haven't confirmed that. Would be comfortable with just list of names, programs. Up to council to say.

Mitch: policy is unclear.

Elena: confused about organization of club. Executive team, general members?

Zainab: exec committee, want to be more involved planning and academics committees. General members come to events.

Elena: breakdown?



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Zainab: exec is 8, committees around 12.

Elena: mentioned will probably have a lot more people apply than have spots, how will you be deciding?

Hanu: one round, no interview, straight application. Will be mindful of programs, don't want all of same programs, not making it a pre-req. If MES, MSS helps us with logistics, could handle more teams.

Mike: energy week is first time, relatively newer club, seems to be main event for group. I'd be more comfortable waiting to see how it goes before going ahead and affiliating. Motion to table motion, see it after energy week.

Hanu: that works. Understand concern, new club, new event. If partnership goes well, can move forward. Been getting a lot of questions, people from other universities can't coordinate with other engineering societies. Next year will be inviting students from all universities.

Jocelyn: can email me for help.

Mitch: discussion on sub-motion to table motion until the next council meeting after McMaster Energy Week 2018.

Hanu: agree.

Luka: think it's the responsible thing to do. Want to make sure they know what we're subscribing them to.

Mike: sounds really awesome, branding is good, confidence, just want to make sure everyone will be okay with it.

Hanu: understand. Affiliate status would really only apply for next year events anyways, discuss later.

Mitch: Seconder for motion to table motion, Luka.

Andrea: reminder, what do they get out of being affiliate?

Mitch: policy manual, comprised 75% MES members. Wish to be recognized by MES, do not require funding, all new affiliates must put forth motion at council meeting. Essentially attach branding to group, no annual funding.

Liam: benefit of becoming affiliate is one step closer to becoming club, have to be affiliate for a year.

Mitch: motion, tabling motion until council meeting after McMaster Energy Week 2018.

26 for  
0 abstentions  
0 opposition  
Motion passes

### **Presentation 02: Button Maker Policy**

Presented by: Jocelyn Lee & Parsa Beheshti

Jocelyn: coming back at next council meeting to do motion on it. Policy, basically mirrored off of MES camera policy. Integrating it as MES asset, this is just saying we have a button maker, you can rent it, deposit of \$100. Using materials, charging 10 cents a button. Actual policy you would have to sign, agree to pay 10cents a button plus \$100 deposit. Have to put number of buttons to be made. Rules about usage. Parsa & I worked on it, if you have questions or issues let me know.

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Quinn: how much was button maker?

Jocelyn: free. \$700, filled out form online for NEM, got it for free.

Mike: what if people want to supply own supplies?

Jocelyn: didn't consider it.

Parsa: sure. Cheaper to buy in bulk, 10cents is number we got while working on policy. 10cents is for 5,000 buttons. Actually like 9.something cents, can use towards next 5,000 buttons.

Mike: would suggest added in people can bring in own materials.

Luka: is there lower quality stuff? Do we want there to be a standard of what goes through machine?

Jocelyn: two parts of it, first part is basically giant hole punch. Next part, put pinned back, design, shell, stamp it all together. Doesn't matter what quality you use necessarily.

Quinn: if you use really crappy stuff, button maker will be fine, buttons will suck.

Dani: says something about use of the camera, change that.

Jocelyn: will change for motion.

### **Presentation 03: CFES Commissioner Positions**

Presented by: Jocelyn Lee & Dani Lake

Jocelyn: I'm VP External, Dani incoming VP Services of CFES. Positions are open, going through.

Dani: CFES has elected regional ambassadors, exec. Group of 8-9 commissioners, equivalent to appointed positions on MES. Each one has specific portfolios, supposed to go to each CFES meeting that you can. Mostly weekends, except Congress weeklong. Want to increase outreach to students. Very briefly go through them, can come talk to us about them later.

Jocelyn: Administrative Coordinator, a lot like our administrator. Take minutes at meeting.

Dani: Bilingualism, CFES is bilingual organization. In charge of translation committee, live translation at events.

Jocelyn: board of director's chair, a lot like CRO, chair meetings, distribute agendas.

Dani: corporate relations commissioner, talk with sponsors. Industry people, manage sponsorship. Work to get sponsorship for conferences. New position, engineering change lab commissioner. Interested in this, come talk to me, Vanessa Raponi. CFES going to have person dedicated to going to events, 2 year position.

Jocelyn: I've been to 2-3 change labs. Calgary, social innovation, problems in engineering. Students go, faculty representatives, deans, industry representatives. Want to make engineering in Canada better, social lab. Get to travel. International relations commissioner, going to be in transition over next year. Last congress, mandated exec to create VP international role, sitting on board of CIESO. International relations commissioner, talking with BEST, NAESC, Bonding. Support BEST courses, 10 days, \$60, go and learn things. Will be transition period, working with President to structure position for after CIESO is performed.

Dani: IT, websites, emails.

Jocelyn: leadership development commissioner.

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Dani: reporting to me. At congress, leadership stream you plan, getting students involved in their engineering societies.

Jocelyn: marketing commissioner, blog, website.

Dani: applications are online. Will post in slack. Questions, ask now, after.

Jocelyn: if you know someone who might be interested, shoot them a message. Goes a long way to getting people involved.

Dani: applications close Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> at midnight, double check time zone.

Gabe: if you do apply, get something, time commitment?

Dani: monthly-ish teleconferences. Seasonal meetings, meeting at congress. Presidents meeting in September.

### **Other Business:**

#### **CFES Involvement - Jocelyn Lee**

Jocelyn: should have got email. Recap, last council talking about CFES, involvement, how we feel. Straw poll, pretty split between maintaining current involvement and reducing. Explained that in email. Would like to talk about why we picked those options. What aspects of involvement you like, dislike?

Luka: current update on what current involvement is? Money wise, impact on their organization, their impact on ours.

Jocelyn: slides from last meeting. Clarify, 1,736.50 spend on CFES membership. General advocacy stuff, invitation to conferences and competition, a vote on council. Conferences and competitions, CFES PM, CDE, CFES Congress, Canadian Engineering Competition, Conference on Sustainability in Engineering. Membership gets invitation, still have to pay to send students.

Quinn: 10,000 for closed conference fund, all paid for by students?

Jocelyn: yes. Not all CFES, some ESSCO, OEC.

Quinn: that's \$2.90 per student.

Mike: percentage of \$10,000 paid for CFES? Feel like it's more ESSCO.

Jocelyn: would have to get back with specific numbers. Ballpark, 40% CFES. Varies every year. That's money stuff. Benefits, what organization gives us. Survey, Mac students filled out, will get breakdown on us specifically, stances came out of it. Invitation to vote on council (PM and Congress), Mac VPX typically active in those. Give to us, general advocacy. Tend to send a lot to conferences. If we reduced involvement, would involve sending less people to conferences.

Quinn: emailed to Jocelyn, potentially committee or conference audit, look at how many we're sending see if number of people we're sending if worth it. Committee, exec, someone taking a look at it. Decide if we're sending too many people to conferences.

Lizzy: less students, or less funding for students?



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Jocelyn: depends. For those of you voted to maintain or reduce current involvement, going to ask list of reasons you voted. Feel that students don't get enough back, people don't get enough out of it, other things closer and less expensive.

Elena: concern, feel that there isn't enough advertisement out there for all students to join conferences. We do our best, feel it's still not getting through to students. Is beneficial, maybe if they were more aware of what can come out of it, spending money better.

Quinn: do we send out email for every conference?

Jocelyn: send in bulk. applications tend to come from same people. Do we feel we get enough value from people attending these conferences? Other funding opportunities?

Quinn: think we can't put all the blame on us advertising, need to also put blame on people who don't read emails. If everyone's getting email, maybe we should be doing more, but if everyone gets email it's equal opportunity.

Jocelyn: when you voted, why did you vote the way you did?

Helena: saving opinions for congress exit interviews.

Barbosa: voted to keep level of activity. Everyone I know who has gone to conference has had a great time. Even if same people going, make connections, do things. Opens up more opportunities for community even if not directly.

Mike: same people going, not coming down to involvement, see a lot of people applying. Usually are options to take new people, not something that scaling back will fix. We can fix that now by thinking about how we choose delegates.

Mitch: currently, delegate selection committee, VPX, CRO, Director of PR, one department rep graduating if available. Get together, review applications, if necessary will interview people.

Jocelyn: for congress, having them do exit interviews. Do audit, see if we want to be sending same people, sending fresh people every time. Do we still want to send amount of people we do?

Mitch: old man advice, you're representing large cohort of people, combined in this room we represent over 5,000 students.

Mike: voted in favour of keeping involvement. Fine with spending \$2 to get people to develop new skills, networking, meeting people across countries, no similar opportunities.

Quinn: think it's important to make sure people who want to go but can't afford it get that opportunity. Want to be equal opportunity for everyone, everyone can get opportunities. People paying for it by themselves reduces people that can go.

Luka: voted to reduce involvement. Particular amount I'd like to reduce it by. Voted that way, attended congress, went to CDE, what CFES giving us and what we're investing in it. Found that I think MES could better spend this money by only sending VPX, delegates go to pay for themselves if they want that experience. Just seeing what was happening at conference, what we took away, don't think students bring back enough to give to students to justify them giving money and investing it here. Think money could be better spent investing in academic resources, advocacy. Not saying conferences are bad, think they're great, but think it's not great investment.

Dani: conferences, general assemblies? Clarify?



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Luka: two conferences have general assemblies, CFES PM and Congress. Big meetings, like these ones but with schools. Just those two.

Quinn: would be in favour of staying a member, just reducing conference involvement.

Luka: believe they do great work with accreditation. CFES is avenue towards getting voice heard. Don't believe we can justify spending that money to send 5 or 6 students to go halfway across the country to learn stuff that we have here because we have such a good community.

Liam: also don't like CFES, but don't think I'd change any funding that we do. A lot of people involved in MES now became involved because of conferences. Right now MES does face a dilemma on people running for positions, conferences have been starts for a lot of people. For that reason, think it's worthwhile to continue to fund and support students.

Quinn: we have great leadership here in part because of our involvement in some of these conferences. CDE, talked to a lot of people who gave me ideas of things I'm working on. Especially for people like EngiQueers, having representative from our school, interact with people and bring back ideas, think it's really important. Helps us grow as society, go out and realize we can do better. Think it is reflected in progress we're making. Think our involvement makes us better.

Jocelyn: Luka, your structure, only send VPX and slash funding. Would you feel same about open conference fund? Open conference fund, anyone apply to it, 50% up to \$100. We have money set aside in budget, can apply to any conference like Queen's Space conference, Mac MUN. if we were to slash funding for CFES conferences, also in favour of slashing open conference fund?

Luka: to slash open conference fund, nothing we get from that. Invest in students. Are the investments in students personally, can we justify that? Personally, would say it's not a reasonable investment. Liam said you get these people who go to conferences and become leaders, do you think that's the reason why? Reason why they went conference is they already had that potential built up in them? Not saying we need to entirely stop sending McMaster students, maybe even not fully cut funding. Maybe 25% instead of 50. Think we invest too much.

Adam: curious, cutting funding, what are we really looking at cutting?

Jocelyn: put it into perspective, spent \$6000 on congress to send 6 people. Only send VPX, \$1000.

Biggest costs are travel. Vancouver, Halifax. Only send VPX, would be significantly less. Exact numbers can't say. \$8,000-10,000 saved.

Ian: Luka, lowering amount we invest in people. Biggest return from what I see is having people that go on to do initiatives. How many things do we know are from that. EngiQueers, we were first university to do that? Built off of another? How much are we getting from CFES?

Jocelyn: one of the hardest things to quantify. Chicken or egg kind of deal. Tangibly some of the things with best practices: MES tutoring, little best practices. Vanessa was founder of EngiQueers, partnerships, CDE. Do we want to invest in peoples' personal development, invest in students?

Mike: Luka has point, could still function if we just send VPX. What we've seen, in engineering student culture across country, actually doing stuff. Transition into creating more of a voice for our students. ESSCO, CFES are unified voice towards CEAB, etc. As one body, can't as MES ask to change tuition, more on government level. VPX, can have representation, but without sending delegates to conferences not fueling the fire. Send people, inspire them, personal development. Feel passionate, bring culture shift

Prepared by Lizzy DaMaren, MES Administrator  
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forward. If we don't send as many students, maybe not as much of a chance to participate. If not a big pool of people, might not have the support they need. Conferences is avenue to learning about this, about CFES.

Santiago: voted to decrease funds. Congress, a lot of the things they were saying, we can do here. Have congress at Mac. Get that you're missing out on networking, meeting people, but saving money to invest in students.

Parsa: local congress, one of general members, discussing changes, suggested why not send less delegates or give proxy, then when they come back use it in workshop. Congress sort of way, students can attend. Even if we upload to website, a lot won't read it. Presentation, start discussions, more helpful.

Mitch: in interest of time cut speakers list.

Dani: bringing congress to Mac, don't we already do that here? Professional Development Conference similar, only sold 11 tickets, have more people apply to conferences.

Mike: Santiago, I agree, conference stuff repetitive. By sending more students, feeding into organizations. Getting better, learn a lot through networking. See value there, past sessions, creating place for people to come together who would otherwise never meet.

Santiago: can't we lower funds, wait until it gets better, go back when it's better?

Mike: it's an option.

Jocelyn: something doing for congress this year, to get funding have to host a workshop on something they attended. Similar thing happening for CDE being planned by delegated and organizers.

Liam: cutting funding, going back. Hard to go back. Making budget, look at previous year's budget, look at decreases and go off that. VP Finance wouldn't have reason to increase it, especially when funds get reallocated to other things.

Luka: thinking back to general members, random student who doesn't care about MES. If I told them they're paying for other students to go to conferences, how would they feel? Think that given how split this council is, how polar it is, wouldn't be unwise to take this to general members and ask them what they think, let them decide what they want to put their money into.

Mitch: going to start timer.

Mike: people who don't know about MES, wouldn't care, don't know about opportunities. If they knew more, might be more interested. Do like Quinn's point of doing audit, we are split, getting some facts before going to general membership. SAGM might be a long conversation.

Quinn: principle of student fees is that you pay for things. Pay \$1.87 for marching band, never seen them. All pay for things not everyone uses. Don't think saying some people don't care is a good argument.

Adam: think general membership vote will be naturally biased. People won't look into exactly what conferences would mean, without understanding out naturally vote against funding.

Liam: talking about decreasing funding, only 4% of budget, doesn't take a huge hit.

Luka: if students are going to vote against it because they don't know about it, that's how vote should go. Supports claim they don't want it. Liam, 4% of budget, didn't we just decide that extra \$5,000 was worth it for CPI?



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### **ESSCO Fund Investment Options – Jocelyn Lee**

Jocelyn: sent out email, pdf of ESSCO fund options. ESSCO fund, couple years ago figured out only way to increase budget was to invest, didn't want to increase membership. Sent out investment options, was wondering if anyone had an opinion on it.

Mitch: no discussion.

Jocelyn: is seeing none because you guys trust me, or is it you didn't read it? Reason?

Mike: I trust you.

Adam: bit of both, don't think there's negatives to exploring income sources.

Luka: think that ESSCO is different than MES. Pay them, subscribe to membership, don't necessarily have to tell them how to do stuff.

Jocelyn: MES is very top-down organization. ESSCO, CFES voting members have a lot more weight and pull in direction of organization. Important for me to go with opinion. Purpose of this, if you guys have opinion on what you think is best can represent MES. If I go without it, it's just my opinion.

### **Supdates:**

Hannah (Co-OC): tryout pub, originally going to do at Lotos, but misread email and already booked. Had to find new location, talked to 1280, very expensive, \$6,000. Going to Absinthe. Makes more sense economically, closer compared to Lotos. This Wednesday, Maria white and us meeting for feedback from welcome week last year. First planner training on Sunday, other planners, best practices for interviews and applications. Tryouts are soon, just under 2 weeks. Any questions, can't make weekend and want to reschedule, email us.

Michael Barbosa (B.Tech): skate night Thursday. MacLAB funding didn't go through, fun emails with Nick.

Alex (First Year): first year movie night two weeks ago, good turnout, planning events for after reading week.

Konrad (iBio): referendum coming up.

Luka: best guesstimate on how students will vote?

Konrad: biggest focus is informing students more. Not many iBio aware enough about options.

Don't know what benefits and side effects are.

Luka: general emotion?

Konrad: a lot of people are looking more towards engineering. Greater percentage go into engineering, more structure in MES.

Adam (First Year, Comp Sci): tomorrow is Things I wish I knew, upper years meeting with first years.



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Dani (VP Student Life): collecting stuff for February MESsenger, by midnight tomorrow. Jocelyn mentioned, CDE is hosting session based on what happened during conference. Talks by delegates on what they learned. Potentially bringing back a presenter, haven't heard back from her. Backup plan is panel to talk about diversity in engineering.

Dani (on behalf of Aisha, Sports): EOHSS for MES and MSS woman's dodgeball went through. Still need more first aid for Ratboy tournament.

Quinn (Society): society brewery tour on Thursday, 5:00pm. Crappy time, people in class. Going to be a good time, \$10 for society, \$15 for non-society. Get 4 4oz. samples, equal to a pint. 2 hours long, bus there and back.

Mike (President): student professional affairs committee, looking for one more person. Following up with Konrad's thing, iBiomed referendum. I was under impression faculty knew what was going on, they don't, up to us to set up information. Plan out who's on yes side, no side, work things out. New president elect, Liam McDermott, announced on Saturday.

Gabe (VP Clubs): did budget with MES card, surplus since we went to stickers. Parsa and I talking about doing something with sponsors. Going to buy pizzas during engineering week in March, proceeds go to charity.

Quinn: Saigon thing?

Gabe: no response.

Carley (Materials): two weeks ago, tubing event. Not great turnout, looking at how to get more out. Working on laser tag night with Eng Phys, hoping to get more involvement. Noticed that first year students have been struggling with 1M03, wondering if cookies & cram is being set up for it?

Luka: no cookies & cram.

Carley: talking to director of course, okay if we set one up. Going to start running those.

Ian: when are midterms?

Carley: can't remember.

Leisha: first is 12<sup>th</sup> of February.

Caley: second is end of March.

Liam: t-shirts?

Carley: decided on company. Not sure why it's taking so long.

Luka: need help, reach out to me or ARCs.

Elena (ECE): looking to do ice skating event with other departments. BEAMs has shown interest, if anyone else interested let me know. (on behalf of George, BEAMs): social funding through collaboration with SRA engineering. Industry night postponed to Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>. Having some kind of problem with booking Hatch rooms with society and individual students.



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Mitch: Eng Phys, planning to book skating night, will get them in touch. Hatch meeting rooms, only clubs & teams can book them, email at least 3 days in advance. Individual students booking rooms can't happen.

Kat (Kipling): anyone knows anything about US/Canada freight customs contact me.

Andrea (Chem): Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> speech competition, come and talk about research project or something they did over summer chemistry related.

Lianna (Drain): leather jacket sale on Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>, next Tuesday in Hatch lobby.

Parsa (on behalf of Vicky, Plumblin): Feb. issue will be done in a few days. Eng against humanity cards arrived today, in lounge. (AVP Services): a while back somebody suggested geofilter for Hatch. Kind of looks like sticker, trying to get source from faculty. Any suggestions or feedback would love to hear them in email or slack. If you think I should work on one for JHE let me know.

Victor (Director of PR): fireball awards done, plaques look nice. A bit bigger than last year.

Jocelyn: when do new awards for first years get announced?

Victor: initially planned for fireball, advertised for 3 weeks, no one was actually nominated.

Liam: discussions to extend deadline, presented at next SAGM?

Victor: would have to talk to Ian and Taylor. Been advertised, no one is interested in putting in application. Big problem, didn't have word document version, people didn't want to print it out.

Ian (Software): software Eng pub, good, another one at end of year. T-shirt design contest ends tomorrow. Two midterm destressors, planning for February. Have cracking the job code with CSS on Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>.

Mitch (CRO): presidential elections happened. Didn't run smoothly. Was in contact with MSU CRO, emails weren't sent out. As a result, for upcoming elections looking for alternatives. Don't think we should be working with an organization that broke the voting system. As a result, voter turnout was much lower than what it's been in previous years. Hopefully moving forward for general something can be figured out.

Luka: get money back?

Mitch; not yet, meeting soon.

Liam: if not refund, cheaper flush.

Lizzy (on behalf of Desmond, PDC): PDC is Feb. 3rd buy tickets.

Luka: went to PDC, really good.

Liam: really good event for first years.

Lizzy (on behalf of Christie, Management):

- Alumni Night tomorrow, first time we are trying out this event. 6-9pm. Business casual
- Trying for a lowkey February event, hosted by the level reps

Prepared by Lizzy DaMaren, MES Administrator

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Mitch (CRO): going to be doing a lot of advertising to reach out to general membership to get more people involved if you have ideas let me know.

**Motion to Adjourn the Meeting**

Motioned by: Liam  
Seconded by: Michael Barbosa  
Majority for  
4 opposition  
0 abstentions  
Motion passes