[ CODE AND POLICY MINUTES ]

Date: Tuesday, November 7th, 2017
Time: 5:30-6:30 PM
Location: ALSSC MEETING ROOM 103

I. Attendance

Michelle Tse - VP Administration
Wendy Guo - AMS Representative
Ronan Kerr - Astronomy Representative
Sean Jeong - Biochemistry Representative
Daniel Lam - Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences + Environmental Sciences Representative
Akhil Krishnan - Member-at-Large
Caroline Sutton - Member-at-Large
Kim Vu - AVP Administration

Guests:
Antony Tsui - President

II. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:33PM.

III. Amendments to the Agenda

IV. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Wendy, Seconded by Sean.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.”

Caroline enters at 5:34PM.

...MOTION PASSES

V. Presentations

VI. Approval of Minutes of Council/Committees

Moved by Ronan, Seconded by Daniel.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following meeting minutes be adopted as presented:

CAPC 2017 10 24
CAPC 2017 10 31
VII. Academic Committee and Article 5 definitions

Academic Committee
i. The Academic Committee shall be composed of:
   a. the VP Academic, who shall be Chair;
   b. the Program Representatives; and
   c. the Science Student Senator; and
   d. the Chief AMS Representative.

ii. The Committee shall:
   a. Coordinate the Society’s attempts to improve academic conditions;
   b. Organize academic events for Science students;
   c. Act as a liaison between the VP Academic and Science students of all departments;
   d. Administer and award the Teaching Excellence Award(s);
   e. Administer and award the Leadership Award(s); and
   f. Refer to the AMS Ombudsperson or AMS Advocacy Office any Science students who have grievances in academic matters.

- Michelle: There are some “ad-hoc” committees that are called standing committees (First Week) that just dissolve right after the event is over.
- Daniel: Isn’t the Teaching Excellence Awards for the Science Student Award Committee?
- Michelle: I believed we only talked about the b and e last time but we can continue talking about it. I made a definition... Remade the non-voting members of council article → from AMS code. President continues to be the tiebreaker. Wendy you mentioned you didn’t want Chief AMS Representative?
- Wendy: No and both the other AMS Representatives agree so it’s unanimous.
- Ronan: Seems like academic committee is responsible for awards. Is there a committee for awards?
- Daniel: Yes, it’s ad-hoc and chaired by Science Student Senator. The committee would be responsible for adjudicating multiple awards.
- Michelle: So should this committee be responsible for these awards (c and d)?
- Daniel: Yes.
- Caroline: What else was the committee responsible for before?
- Michelle: Student recognition so they would be adding these two if we shift responsibilities.
- Wendy: Is there a deadline to present this?
- Michelle: By next council meeting.
- Ronan: We should include that the committee acts like a liaison
• Caroline: Points e and f are very similar so we could reword that.
• Ronan: It should be more between science students and VP Academic.
• Michelle: In terms of b, is there anything we elaborate on.
• Ronan: They can organize that themselves.

VIII. SUS Speaker of Council

• Daniel: In order to break the tie, the President would get a second vote?
• Ronan: No.
• Michelle: The president usually does not vote unless it’s a tie breaker. Should we come up with a timeline for the Speaker of Council?
• Daniel: In the AMS there is no tie-breaking vote. If it is 50/50 then it fails. The president votes. I’ve never seen in any council where the most “powerful person” doesn’t vote.
• Michelle: In our code, it says that the president only votes in the case where they can make or break a tie.
• Ronan: I see no reason to change it other than the president has the power to break the tie because he/she should maintain impartial.
• Wendy: President is not a neutral force in the society. He should get a vote like everyone else who has a vote on SUS council. The mindset right now is that he should be neutral but the President should have a stance on issues that he cares about.
• Sean: If there’s a speaker and the chance of a 50/50 split is so small makes the tiebreaking vote a very miniscule issue.
• Caroline: Comfortable with no tie-breaking vote at 50/50 but
• Daniel: In the AMS it works the same way, even in $\frac{3}{4}$. 
• Caroline: 50% + 1 is not very significant (not much more than 50%) so I don’t see the issue.
• Daniel: Because you still don’t have a majority.
• Wendy: The +1 does hold a lot of weight because it’s a collective decision.
• Ronan: I guess the president used to be impartial because he would be the chair in the past.
• Michelle: It seems like most of us are okay with giving the president a vote.
• Wendy: We need to discuss if we should give President a vote all the time or just for tiebreaker.
• Sean: Should we give him a vote now or should we leave that for the next president?
• Daniel: Even if President gives up the role of chair, it doesn’t matter so we can implement it immediately.
• Michelle: I was thinking of motioning to change up this:

1. Specific Duties of the Executive:
   i. The President shall:
      e. Vote only in the case where they can make or break a tie in a simple majority or two-thirds majority vote (except in the case of secret ballot, in which the President votes);
   c. Hold a voting seat on SUS Council.
• Akhil enters at 6:06PM
  • Wendy: Can we say that the president shall have a vote in the SUS council because here it only says that he shall only vote in a tiebreaker → president shall have a vote in all cases. I believe that the President vote in all motions, that he can take a stance, in the end he drives the direction of the society. It’s fair that we consider this. Now that the president is not the chair now, he does not have to remain impartial.
  • Ronan:
  • Akhil: What happens in the event of a tie.
  • Daniel: It fails.
  • Ronan: It’s mathematically equivalent so there is no difference.
  • Wendy: It’s not just about the math, it’s about the intention behind giving the President a vote. It means that he/she has a say towards the activities of the Society. The math doesn’t matter because at every council the numbers are always different.
  • Ronan: I understand that the president should have a say. Which is more impactful?
  • Caroline: The president having a say matters.
  • Ronan: If they are breaking a tie, it is more impactful.
  • Akhil: It does make a statement whenever the president votes because it says something about where he believes the society should go.
  • Wendy: There is no tie-breaking vote, because many Councillors vote for/against a motion, and any of these votes could’ve been the impactful one.
  • Sean: Would the vote of the president influence others?
  • Akhil: The speaker would notice and may note that. Everyone is expected to vote at the same time.
  • Ronan: Equalize the “power” of votes. Good thing to know what the president wants.

• Antony enters at 6:18PM
  • Wendy: We’re amending one of your duties. Previously the president only voted in certain cases. Now we want the president to have a vote at all times. The president does not have to remain neutral. The president should drive the direction of the society. If the case of 50/50 vote then the motion fails.
  • Antony: I don’t have a problem with it.

IX. Committee Reports and Motions

Moved by Sean, Seconded by Caroline.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Code and Policy Committee recommends to Council the changes in Articles 6.”

...MOTION PASSES

Moved by Sean, Seconded by Wendy.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Code and Policy Committee recommends to Council the changes in Articles 2, Section 3i, subsection c.”

...MOTION PASSES

X. Discussion Period

- Sean: In which cases do we do a secret ballot?
- Daniel: In a case of a private issue. eg. Impeaching the president.

XI. Adjournment

Moved by Akhil, Seconded by Ronan.
“BE IT RESOLVED THAT there being no further business the meeting be adjourned at 6:25PM.”

...MOTION PASSES