**Approval of the Agenda:**

**Member Attendance:**

**AMS Jennfier**

**AMS Khrish**

**President**

**VP Ops**

**VP SA**

**Both Senators**

**Comm 23 President**

**Comm 24 President**

**Comm 25 President**

**Comm 26 President**

**Motion to Begin Assembly**

* Motion has passed

**Approval of the Minutes:**

* Motion has passed

**Statements By Members:**

Tara Rezvan (ComSoc President)

* Continue building ComSoc
  + An other social next Sunday
* Onboarding the interns and Jesse (Comm 26 President)
* Ground Rules for Discussion Items discussed
  + Open floor discussion
  + Bring forward initiatives
  + Alumni Engagement Strategy
  + Working on Shift Survey with the EDII team
    - Ask school to be more transparent with results
  + Develop resources for professional development for co-chairs and leaders
    - Eddie Ng has provided key contacts for this project
  + ComSoc Newsletter: Clubs are excited to share their information
* Plans to engage AMS and bring in AMS news to assembly

Amanda

* Mentorship program launching in the next week
* There was a social for conference clubs
* Career mash-ups happening next semester
* Holiday Hope has a rough date of December 1st
* There was a meeting with AMS to sort through sanctioning

Ethan Kibel

* Clean-up:
* Email overhaul: If you’re having any trouble please reach out to Charlotte or Arvin
* Finance Team:
* Marketing:
  + Human of Goodes has launched
  + Merch form is coming soon too
  + Student-wide newsletters once a month

Lawrence Shen

* On Halloween a costume contest was held for Comm 25’ on Instagram
* An events team is being organized for Comm 25 Lawrence is looking for volunteers
* Midterm Feedback Form, Jesse and Lawrence are looking to set-up midterm feedback forms to professors
* There have been requests to create a housemate hunt form for students within the year and Jesse will create a year account
* Comm 25 vs Eng 25 dodgeball tournament is being set up and will take place end of November
* There is a Comm 24, Comm 25, Comm 26 social planned with industry professionals

**Motions**

* **No Motions**

**Discussion Items**

* **Abbie Falle:** Society Discipline Policy
  + New Disciplinary Policy Proposal:
  + Establish transparent disciplinary procedures that consistently and effectively enforce policy without bias
  + Background:
    - There is no current disciplinary policy in place on either individual or club level and therefore no incentives to follow policy
    - The previous policy was made up of pure admin policing.
      * Select members
      * Peer enforced policing
    - It is important for ComSoc to form its own procedures due to its unique nature
  + Proposal:
    - Complaint-driven system
    - Form will be available where people can file a complaint
    - Inflow (complaint) -> Student/Faculty Board -> ComSoc Policy/inhouse break -> Consequence -> Removal
    - Larger issues: Inflow (complaint) -> Student/Faculty Board -> AMS -> Outflow
    - You can self-select out of the pool if you can not be unbiased
    - The people on the board will sign confidentiality agreements
    - The board will made up of executives, Ombudsperson and more
    - For larger issues it will be left to be dealt with the AMS
    - With smaller matters ComSoc itself will make the decision
      * Removal is an option if individuals don’t comply
    - Fines from ComSoc operating budget are a option at the executive level
      * There is also a strike system for clubs and executives
      * Once a club/exec reaches three strikes
    - Fines on an individual level
      * Volunteering with QCK
    - This system evaluates on a case-by-case basis
    - Anonymity for inflow: The email and name need to be included for further questioning but you can request anonymity and thus only the AB Director can see the name behind the request
  + Faculty on the board
    - Pros: More professional discussion, and less of a student policing tool
    - Cons: Faculty may be more inclined to uphold student code of conduct and escalate issues
  + The aim is to keep most complaints in-house
  + There is no current policy for this as the old policy was removed in 2019
* **Discussion:**
  + Ethan: In regards to faculty, he does not believe faculty should be included on the board, he believes that if it is a larger issue then at that point faculty can be brought into the conversation
    - We don’t want to create a student policing student system
    - There is a distinction between the Smith Commerce Society, and the Smith School of Business and for that reason it’s not that students are policing students but that the Commerce Society is policing itself.
  + Brooklyn: Agreement with Ethan that faculty should be kept from originally being on the board, and that students should have enough motivation to keep up student code of conduct. In terms of complaints Brooklyn believes that any policy-related breaches should be kept in-house and other complaints can be brought up as a larger problem
    - There is a grey area where policy meets larger issues such as club hazing
    - Even within that grey area, we need to use judgment as there will be different outcomes even for the same event.
  + Tara: Many students are afraid of going up to the university level as the disciplinary policy is very harsh. These are harsher disciplinary measures than we should strive for and this system’s ability to offer a more restorative justice that lets executives make up for issues.
    - AMS and the university are working together to create policy but this may take a couple of years
  + **Motion to extend 5 minutes**
    - **Motion passed**
* Amanda: Is the strike system cumulative?
  + It would not make sense for the strike system to be cumulative year-over-year as executive turnover leads to a lot of changes
  + The strike system also mostly applies to clubs and not to individuals
* Josh: Find conflicts of interest within the board
  + This board could use TSO’s system of having housemates and significant others being unable to be part of the board
  + **Motion to extend 5 minutes**
    - **Motion passed**
* Regarding the anonymity piece, how many people would know the identity of the sender of the complaint?
* In terms of larger issues there is the option of going to the university level, but if it is taken to ComSoc and it is time sensitive it will be dealt with on an ad-hoc basis.
* **Motion to extend 5 minutes**
  + **Motion passed**
* Brooklyn: People may be afraid of the AMS and the university
  + It needs to be clearly spelt out that if there are large issues regardless of the discipline, it should be brought up to a greater disciplinary body
* Josh: Is this replacing AB reviews?
  + Instead of doing a medium-level review of every club
    - If strikes come up there will be a full-level review of the club
  + How will we encourage or keep students from being dissuaded from lodging complaints?
    - The anonymity option makes it so that only the AB chair will be able to see their name and should be enough to keep people from fear of discipline for complaints

**End of Discussion Item 1**

**Motion to give speaker duties to Abbie Falle**

* **Tara Rezvan and Athmande Darenfed:** ComSoc Coffee Chat Fund
* **Athmane Darenfed:** ComSoc Student Library
  + Creation of a ComSoc Student Library
  + Books can not be currently available within a 2.5km radius of the school
  + This would be at the student lounge or the Commerce Office
  + Clubs and students can go through the business administrator to purchase these books
  + The books must be school-related
  + There needs to be a financial need for the purchase of these books

**Discussion:**

* Tara: Tara believes that this opportunity should be opened to all students and not only those in financial needs
* Mahir: What books should be bought by clubs through the operating budget and which ones through this ComSoc book fund.
  + Athmane believes it’s a question of ownership, if clubs purchase them they own them, and if they are bought through the fund they eventually belong to ComSoc
* Ihsan: How will the books be selected/approved
  + There will be a committee and preset guidelines for the purchase of books
* Sam H: Why is availability at libraries a requirement
  + This is an issue of accessibility, if a book is at a library far away there is no access to said book
* Mahir: Why does this only apply to books and not other educational resources such as coding or case prepping resources
  + The idea is that if you own a physical copy of the book everyone can access it as opposed to education resources
* How will the check-out system work?
  + Using an Excel system, with your name in the check-out application pressures people to return books
  + There should/will be disciplinary procedures for the return of books
* Will there be multiple copies available, and will popular books that are always checked out be available
  + Based on the budget multiple copies are harder to purchase
  + Popular books that are typically unavailable should be available for purchase
* How will we use disciplinary procedures
* **Motion to extend by 5 minutes**
  + **Motion passed**
* Is there a designated individual who is in charge of sign-in and sign-out?
  + The business administrator would be in charge of the system but it would be mostly automatic through the Excel sheet
* Could the 15-day limit be changed if individuals write how many days they wish to take the book out
  + People can re-book a book after 15 days if there is no waitlist for a book
* **Mahir Hamid and Athmande Darenfed:** Election of Co-Chairs
  + Discussion Item on the re-election of co-chairs
  + There is a sense of nepotism and favoritism for club successors
    - The current system involves a TSO or designated individual acting as an overseer for interviews being held
  + McMaster and Western vote for their club executives
  + There are more stakes, and there is less bias as co-chairs have less incentive to select the right candidates
  + The cons: This could lead to a popularity-based voting system
  + Every member that’s elected can also be impeached and thus can be removed by their co-chairs

**Discussion:**

* This seems like a good natural progression for a better system, however the cons of it being more of a popularity contest are also very valid concern and co-chairs have more visibility over the affairs of
  + Candidates should have the opportunity to present what they’ve done for the club
  + This election system would help promote diversity as there is less of a bias where co-chairs promote candidates that are closer to them
* Define difference between bias and informed judgment
  + A bias is a feeling for an individual and an informed judgment uses facts-based reasoning
  + This promotes the idea that members will appeal to everyone around them and not just the co-chairs
* How would the election process work?
  + All candidates and members of the club would be present with a TSO or TSO rep and this election would then be ratified
* In a single candidate system, the lone candidate would win
* Would 4th years who have no stake in the club the next year be allowed to vote?
* If the issue is bias when hiring co-chairs, does this system truly remove bias since people will vote for that they prefer regardless?
* **Motion to extend 10 minutes**
  + **Motion Passed**
* Would there be an issue where people who are unable or do not want to promote themselves publicly be able to run for co-chair
* Should individuals from a club in previous years have final say over who becomes a leader for that club
  + Even if there is a significant shift in the team there will be more people familiar with current leadership than not
* If co-chairs who are trying to re-shape their club in the next year due to a toxic executive team how would they go about this if they can’t assign less toxic executives
* What stops newly hired co-chairs from not hiring executives that rain against them
* Clubs need to ensure that there is a balance of operational experience within the club themselves
* While ComSoc and assembly are more democratic, clubs and co-chairs operate more like businesses and leaders, and we have to learn to deal with
* Try not to put it into policy yet, try and make it more of a trial run basis
* **Motion to Extend:**
  + **Motion Passed**
* Outgoing 4th years are not allowed to vote
* If you’re not graduating and can re-hire and are currently on the club then you can still vote

**Discussion Closed**

* **Josh Christofoli:** Operations Policy regarding candidates for year presidents
  + Use of any Smith Commerce affiliated accounts is no longer allowed to promote year presidentsand accounts must start at 0 followers
  + Question Period:
    - No Questions
  + Discussion Period:
    - No comments except that it was heavily discussed prior
  + **Motion Passed**

**Close of Assembly**

* **Motion to Close Assembly**
  + **Motion Passed**