

**Smith Commerce General Assembly**

**Sunday, October 23rd, 2022**

**Land Acknowledgement**

**Athmane Darenfeld**

**Agenda –**

1. **Approval of the Agenda**
2. **Approval of Minutes**
3. **Statements by Members**
   * Tara Rezvan – President
   * Amanda Morwick – Vice President Student Affairs
   * Ethan Kibel – Vice President of Operations
   * Emily Prpic – AB Chair
4. **Motions**

* QCLA x SVF

1. **Discussion Items**

* Aidan’s Finance Discussion

1. **Close of Assembly**

**Statements by Members**

# President – Tara Rezvan

HOCO BBQ Next Weekend

* If you want to volunteer let us know
* 10 people already volunteered

Partnership with ESU Initiative

* Targeting students in high school
* How can we get into high priority schools where we don’t see representation from
* In the past years we have seen classes diversify

Research Initiative

* New paid position out of the center for research
* Working on engaging undergraduate student in research

Diversity Day with CAC

* 100+ representatives
* CAC x commerce diversity executives

# VP OPS – Ethan Kibel

Congrats to the CPRO on the election cycle

# AB Chair – Emily Prpic

Hi Assembly! Hope everyone’s semester is going well!

First thing on AB’s end is Auditor hiring. The posting will be going live tonight and will be open for a week, so if you know anyone who might be interested (low commitment for a few weeks), direct them to ComSoc shop to apply. Recently we’ve been having lots of discussion around governance and discipline policy. I’d expect a discussion item by the end of the semester on this, but have been going through AMS processes, our old ComSoc policy and talking to stakeholders around what role ComSoc should/does/could play around enforcing policy and codes of conduct.

# **Motions**

# QCLA x SVF

**Athmane Read the Motion below**

**Graphical user interface, text, application, email

Description automatically generated**

**Elaboration – Julian, Brandon, and Brianna**

QCLA NYC Trip

Mission: To provide Commerce students the opportunity to learn more about law by visiting prestigious law schools, firms, networking, and visiting educational law sights

Dels: 40 (<2% of the program)

**UN Tour –** 950 CAD

**MoMA –** 900 CAD

**Questions directed at Presenters – 5 min**

**Tara:** What is the cost per student

**Answer:** $500

**Tara:** Current ComSoc operating budget toward this already

**Answer:** We were told we could submit our budget later because we were waiting on confirmation from the Commerce Office. We are redistributing our budget to work this through

**Sagaana:** Who is eligible to attend this trip

**Answer:** 40 students

**Brooke:**  Does that include exec?

**Answer:** Exec has to apply

**Amanda:** What is reserved for exec

**Answer:**  Co chairs and events

**Ethan:** How did you budget this in previous years?

**Answer:** Comsoc

**Sola:** Why the MoMa over the Met

**Answer:** Because it is more expensive

**Sam:** Do you think it would be a barrier to dels applications to add the cost

**Answer:** Our delegate fee would not change regardless of if we are granted the funding

**Joshua:** Have you seen any corporate sponsorship

**Answer:** Its hard-to-get undergraduate sponsorships from law schools because we are far out of school

**Tara:** What is the educational value of the MoMA

**Answer:** Because it reflects indigenous communities in law. The exhibit is about land rights.

**Mahir:** Have you looked at visiting other indigenous exhibits other than the MoMA

**Answer:** Yes, but this is the top level experience

\* Angelina, Julian, Brandon, and Brianna are placed in a breakout room \*

**Discussion period – 10 min**

**Tara:** POI – Angelina has to leave

**Mahir:** Are there other conferences that were denied funding

**Tara:** Previously, SVF decided that they were not sponsorship funding and didn’t want to pick up the slack when sponsorship couldn’t cover. The most similar instance was a team bonding social

**Amanda:** They are an internal club unable to be covered by the budget. Not a club that relies on sponsorship because they are not a conference but an internal club

**Tara:** In support, as if they aren’t granted their funding then the initiatives just wont happen

**Aidan:** On behalf of the CFOs, there hasn’t been an event of any sort that was approved by CFOs so it is reasonable that they would look for other means to look for funding

**Annabelle:** This is what the SVF is for and it Is not just benefiting their club but open to all students on application

**Emily:** There is a lot of money in the fund

**Nameera:** Number of dels does not equal 2% of the students

**Laura:** 40 is limited by the number of seats on the bus

**Question period re-opened**

**Nameera:** Can more students attend the trip

**Answer:** Yes, new conditionality condition created on the assumption that they bring 44 people

**Friendly Amendment**

SVF funds in the amount of $2150

Ask: 950/40 + 900/40

Per person: 23.75 (rounded to 24) + 22.5 = 46.25

For 44 dels: 2046

Added buffer (~$100): **$2150**

**Mahir:** If they do not have 44 people attend do they get the same amount of money?

**Tara:** No they don’t get any money

**Voting**

**Motion Passed**

**Discussion Items**

# Financial Resource Expansion Project

*Current Review*

* $55 student fee, projected revenue of $121,440
* $15 SVF fee
* Requested funding in 2022 of $289,536.49 (greater than the previous 4 years)
* Reduced funding grants to $198,000
* $100,000 per semester in budgeting after student revenues collected
* ComSoc student fee was set in 2015, could be at $68
* EngSoc student fee is $82.33, bringing in ~$288,000
* ASUS brings in ~$400,000

*Options*

1. Increasing Student Fee
2. Sourcing ComSoc wide corporate sponsorship
3. Individual club opt-out fees similar to AMS

*Cost Reduction Methods*

1. Heavily standardize exec budgets
2. Withdraw significant funding
3. Application for funding on case-by-case basis

**Questions directed at CFOs – 5 min**

**Brooke:** How would we compensate corporate sponsorship

**Answer:** Corporate names on the awards given out at the ComSoc appreciation dinner

**Joshua:** Could the opt-in have you not be able to join a club

**Answer:** Those opt outs are only for the SVF and are not applicable to ComSoc operating budget

**Brooklyn:** ComSoc sponsorships under the agreement that we would promote their company on multiple clubs. In terms of increasing fees how would you determine it?

**Answer:** We have had discussions on that and feel it could be closer to what eng students are paying. It will be something students are comfortable with

**Brooklyn:** Is there a way to have those who are able to opt in opt in on a per case basis

**Laura:** What is the process in changing these fees

**Answer:** Reaching out to the registrars office if the society passes

**Emily:** It might be in policy that if the student fee changes there is a student body vote. In terms of conditional funding, should there be greater quality/attendance/engagement thresholds

**Answer:** There does need to be an overhaul on spending requests. We gave a handout on what is and is not allowed

**Ethan:** Sponsorship is a given. In terms of assigning a fee, looking at the behavioural differences between 2017 and 2022. Can we look at what EngSoc requests? Because we don’t know how they delegate their budgets?

**Aidan:** Point on EngSoc, they only have 10 executives

**Tara:** I would be interested to see what the tuition increase has been since 2015. Suggestion for the CFO team, look at the common themes for requests that you wish you could grant for a new optional fund for those specific events

**Motion to extend for 5 minutes**

**Aidan:** Something that comes to mind is transportation. We had to reject all transportation

**Sam:** An idea is giving a budget to clubs to help them work with

**Joshua:** The 2022 requested budget would you expect that to be the same next year (semester)

**Aidan:** I think it was a carry over effect (so no?)

**Emily:** Is it possible to see at the end of the term to see the amount people actually spent vs how much they budgeted. Are people overestimating how much things cost?

**Aidan:** We talked to Smith finance about this because corporate sponsorship is down in general. Because things can be done virtually, companies are a lot less likely to sponsor events that could be done virtually

**Brianna:**  A set budget would be really helpful, with planning conferences its hard to know how to budget with things that have changed so much in the past years. Building budgets per executive portfolio with industry standards

**Aidan:** We want to avoid putting a cap on budgets because of the unique nature of each club

**Abbie:** In terms of the society makeup how did that change between 2019 and 2022?

**Answer:** Like one or two.Less so the number of clubs but the rep

**Assembly called to a close**