



AMS Assembly Minutes
March 9th, 2023
Queen's University, Kingston

Minutes are tentative until approved at Assembly.

The meeting was convened at 8:00 EST.

Speaker's Business

Speaker Liu: Alright everyone, we're now into the Assembly half of the evening and let's jump straight in with Motion 1.

Motion #1 – Moved by Secretary Golrokhian-Sani , Seconded by AMS President Sikich.

Motion that AMS Assembly approve the Agenda for the Assembly of March 9th , 2023”

Motion passes.

Motion #2 – Moved by Secretary Golrokhian-Sani , Seconded by AMS President Sikich.

Motion that AMS Assembly approve the minutes for the Assembly meeting of February 16th, 2023. ””

Motion passes.

Guest Speaker – Callum Robertson

Speaker Liu: I will now turn it over to VP-UA Robertson for the ORT presentation.

VP-UA Robertson: Okay, so let's be honest; things with Orientation have been challenging this year. But I'd like to think that this has given us the opportunity to take on the challenge of re-

engineering Orientation and building a great foundation for the future. Having you all involved has made this process much more meaningful and much more transparent. As many of you know, we've been busy having meetings with every society to discuss priorities about this budget. So what we'll do is split this presentation into two parts. We'll start with a brief overview of the budget then break it down into what this means for your specific faculty societies' priorities, then we'll be happy to answer any questions.

Now, this has been a great opportunity for me this year coming to you as a former chair, and as the coordinator to really open up the lines of communication and to be more transparent as to the goal of our team and how we are going to work as a support system for your faculty this year. So we'll start with the general stuff first. So this is averages for the scores given to the general expenses category of the budget. We'll go into the actual budget and what it means later on. As you can see here, what we have is on a scale of one to five, five being something that we should be focusing more on, one something we should be focusing less on. That doesn't mean it's not important, it means we need to focus on other things. What we've found is that, for the most part, for the general expenses category, these circumstances are ones that involve things like ORT specifically, not anything to do with other categories like concert, training packages, etc. This is more things that we have to do. So overall, what we found here is that we have things that stick close to the three line that stay close to the average which is neutral territory, and then we have general expenses. The areas where we go past three are wages and salaries. This is all one part of the budget and wages and salaries together conceptually, we also have volunteer appreciation that's a little bit higher.

So let's touch a little bit now on the concert. This section of our budget pertains to the ORT-directed concert. After consultation with the faculties we see that this is above that three point marker and one of the largest portions of the cost is security staff and that has to do with the Student Constables. And then we have the logistics that will surround the execution of the concert. So speaking with the faculties of expanding on this line, a little bit more, this will be something that logistics of the size of the concert and how we want to execute it this year, based on feedback from last year after returning in person that will be something that myself and my content director will be focusing most of our attention on and really prioritizing to streamline and make sure that everyone around was able to experience the concert fully and be able to feel secure and well-appreciated throughout. Other portions that are highlighted would be the miscellaneous section. So this was for clarity's sake, a lot of faculties wished to have a bit more clarity on what miscellaneous pertains to. So we'll see this trend recurring throughout sections of the budget, but that pertains to any overflow or contingency plans. Myself and the rest of my team wish to have a little bit of that buffer room for in case anything happens we want to make sure the event is still running smoothly. Otherwise, other more logistical aspects mentioned in terms of uniforms, taxis, travel accommodations and meals, are a lower concern. Volunteer appreciation is a little higher, so because of this consensus we will allocate more towards supporting the volunteer staff. We have a really fantastic team that we hire every year that helps with the facilitation, they're phenomenal. We work with them every single year to help maintain the entertainment and ensure that the actual artists and the rest of the concert have been acquired and the communications between us and the talent agencies is well directed. Otherwise, all the other pieces here are fairly straightforward.

So let's start with the priorities. So these are the budget lines that directly affect you all in terms of when you will spend money but your costs are slightly down because now we're looking to the AMS to facilitate more purchase orders to get the cost down. So when things book through the AMS and you pay us the money and then we spend on behalf that still needs to go into your AMS budget. So that's why this whole section exists. So what we found here was that again, starting with constables concern and cost were really high. And in terms of the highlights, what you cared most about were things like transportation and travel which are pretty high. One thing that came up a couple of times was "what's the difference between transportation and taxis?" and that's very fair, and we'll go over that in line by line explanations, actual purchase These next lines are fundraising event expenses which are a big part of what you will spend.

Another important section is the training. After our first ever Orientation Summit, and also after having these conversations with the chairs and faculties as to how to better improve training, I think we can all agree that there is a tremendous effort put in by each and every one of your faculties and your orientation coordinators. Myself and the directors, we execute training every year to ensure that everyone has the same competencies and feel they have the resources to be able to facilitate orientation. So one of the largest components that you see highlighted here is room rental. So a lot of feedback that we've received had to do with what rooms and what spaces are being used to facilitate such large scale training. So as we go into the lines a little bit further, we'll expand upon where those are and maybe more expensive venues such as the ARC that are used. Other components that were slightly higher than the three point here are conference food and beverages. A lot of feedback that we've received on the conference last year is that the leaders wish to have a bit more support in terms of sustenance, nutrition, these are very long training days and this is something that as ORT, we want to be able to support our leaders through this long time period and really reciprocate the effort that they're putting in for us. As we talk about the budget later, you will see that there have been some changes enacted in outlining in order to reflect the feedback we've received from the faculties. Similar comments were made towards the miscellaneous section, in terms of that being our contingency, and our overflow area and then plot that everything else to fall into or a lesser priority in comparison. Does anybody have questions on this priorities and consultations section itself?

Okay for actual budgets we're gonna start off with a general section. As a general rule of thumb, we start with a 10% increase. This is because of the projected 6% inflation because inflation is high right now and in addition we generally increase the budget a bit each year to keep up with wages and adjust for changes in spending priorities so that's the additional 4%. Which as you can see here, applies to lines like printing, meals, taxis, travel. Those are all a standard, because what we found through our consultations, is that a lot of you felt pretty confident in the actual dollar amounts. But of course, we also want to make sure that we are continuing to expand it at a healthy rate so that we're accounting for inflation but also to continue to grow orientation week as we come back into in-person. Because we're coming back to in-person orientation, one of the foundational tenets of our plan is strong communication, transparency, and accountability and so we want to break this budget down and talk you through it line by line to make it a more accountable process. In lines like telephones and wages, those are at 0% because they don't change. So starting with fundraising, this was something that we got asked about a couple of times, you know, can we break this down? Going back into last year, we found that there wasn't really a great definition. And so, what we want to do is to cut down on this set of expenses to

make room for other things like volunteer appreciation. We want to see if we can keep fundraising event expenses at a lower rate. And obviously throughout the whole budget we have an eye on being financially healthy. What we want to do is we want to make sure that in the future, especially for next year's budget, we actually create a comprehensive formula to determine a real, real formula for that. We are also shifting around things with honorarium for volunteers because now our ORT team is paid so they are no longer eligible for honorarium. As you may remember in the January discussion on the last budget, it was brought up, this was a mistake in the last budget. There's lots of space for volunteer appreciation in the general budget, but the vast majority of our long term vision goes to our concert volunteers and this isn't very equitable so we want to allocate more money to appreciation for our general volunteers. That's pretty much it for the general expenses. In terms of overall change, we've actually been able to lower the cost of expenses for this section 5% which is pretty good, because there are costs in the next couple of sections.

In this next section you'll see that standard 10% increase. We've gotten the wages, although, at the percentile of 35% increase. This is to reflect again, the cost of inflation and the cost of hiring the Talent Acquisition Manager. They take a proportion of the actual funds that go towards entertainment, as they're essential in order to ensure smooth execution. We reallocated some of the funds in the overall expensive line into more clarity into the concert budget line in order to ensure that the volunteers at the concert are properly supported. This is a pillar event that they support and as such, this is something we want to be able to support them throughout their time there. Ultimately otherwise, again with the miscellaneous line, as we are seeing an increase in the entertainment line as we increase the workload of the talent company who will be in control of more logistical aspects this year, we find that we may not need as much in the miscellaneous line.

Plans for the next section are associated with the faculties. This one's probably one of the easier ones because it's a standard 10% Pretty much the only section that doesn't have that 10% increase is Miscellaneous. And this is all dependent on what happens to inflation. Here we touch on the training section, so again, this portion is a reflection of what we've seen in the feedback about your priorities, one of the largest components you can probably see is our 60% increase in the conference food and beverage section. So we do have an extremely large Orientation training, this is something that we want to be able to support our leaders through. They will be going through approximately a week of training plans, orientation, and feedback from last year from your faculties from your chairs, leaders, demonstrates that. So expanding that section of the budget a little bit more in order to both meet the cost of inflation of food, but then also to ensure that they're properly sustained throughout those days.

Next up, we can touch on marketing and promotion. So there was a \$700 allocation that has been re-allocated again into conference beverages. As my communications team and my content director moves away from paper and goes into more social media and communication platforms such as our centralized on cue, we find that the costs allocated to that section are no longer needed. Otherwise everything else is standardized to matching inflation. Similar lines with the concept, everything else is at that 10% standard. Miscellaneous has again remained the same at approximately \$4000 for that overflow to ensure that any contingency plans that have to do with our training spaces, and any other accommodations we require for leaders are matched.

For the revenue section, essentially the rule of thumb here with revenues was that by the time we finished our expenses section, we found that overall, the changes in our budget didn't lead to a huge increase in cost. But we do need to account for those in a variety of ways. So we'll start off with the allocation of Assembly. So we are requesting the allocation from Assembly, the change from \$100,600 to \$118,350. So that's an increase, this is aligned with this is a 17% increase. Now, this would come from more the AMS side, so that is less of a concern in terms of faculties. In terms of the other revenue, what we've done is considered a couple different factors. So in the concert we've taken a look at what the expected number of students is next year. So we found that we can generally say about a \$10,000 increase within event revenue is pretty conservative. We want to stay conservative now and if we get even more revenue from even more students or whatever all that means is more space to grow. What will happen similarly with previous events is an increased number of students will lead to increased levels of sponsorship. So that would be about a \$4,000 increase. So \$26,000. And the considerable change in the number of students directly affects your actual ticket sales revenue. Ultimately, this leads us to a final number of \$70,000 for projected revenues. And we feel really confident this budget is similar to last year, but it provides increases and decreases. Especially it was more of an inflationary budget, while accounting specifically consultations directly led us to specific changes. Does anyone have questions?

HSS President Schreyer: I want to make a statement that I really appreciated having the consultations and especially I think that there were definite issues overall with orientation last year. So even having the initiative taken by you to have an Orientation Summit to hear those voices and have those discussions early on, and I think even the previous discussion that we were having at the AGM about that transparency, having those conversations with the faculties before the budget was even brought here, it's so awesome, because we know what we're getting into and now we don't have a whole bunch of questions and then it's a whole long process after the fact. I really want to commend the efforts that you guys took to make sure that everyone's voice is heard.

ASUS President Hussein: Can you clarify, or further break down, the faculty-specific cost allocation formula to decide how much each faculty pays?

VP-UA Robertson: Yeah, this was a general overview of what, in aggregate, each month will look . But once we get the more accurate admission numbers every single component of that will be proportional to your size. So relatively, you can expect that ASUS would probably take a larger portion being as you are a larger faculty. Otherwise, everything will be broken down into our itemized budget and further detailed. The fact is as we get those invoices and more accurate numbers coming in, throughout the summer period, we'll be able to be more specific.

PHEKSA President Chen: First of all, I also want to echo what President Schreyer said about having all this organized, because making sure that you don't have another issue like we did in October is really important. I was a little curious as to the allocation from Assembly. So I noticed it's an increase of about 17%, which is a good bit higher than the 10% increase elsewhere. Especially with the total revenue is only an increase of about 4%. So it looks like a large portion

is coming directly from Assembly. Is this a one year thing or is this a trend that may or may not occur for more years?

VP-UA Robertson: So I think in general to go back to one of these lines, because these are more direct ticket purchases, you are digitally saving your students money, whereas this line actually comes from my budget. So we want to be cognizant of that as we try to build a stronger and more effective relationship. You want to make sure that you have flexibility as well, and we want to make sure that we're doing our part because we have the ability to shift things around in our budget whereas I know for many of you changing your ticket price is much harder because it directly affects incoming students.

Speaker Liu: And now let's move onto Executive Reports.

President's Report

President Sikich: I don't have significant points in the offices portion of my report because of how short it has been since our previous Assembly. I wanted to give you all an update on communications regarding the Queen's Black Clubs Caucus open letter. We did have a conversation about this earlier so I want to revise as well and give you a written update as to what the next steps are on the AMS side. The next steps are primarily including the striking of a long-standing working committee as a longer term solution and demonstration of commitment from AMS. The intention is that this committee will be housed internally with the AMS with external representation. This inaugural group will set the framework going forward for this work so it is essential to ensure this group is set up for success. The group will be responsible to establishing the Terms of Reference for the future work of this committee. So the terms of reference of this committee will include general purpose, key responsibilities, composition and appointment, meeting and decision-making processes, resources and reports. As this will be in consultation with a large variety of groups, I do expect it to take a significant amount of time but I am hopeful that we're able to create this Terms of Reference in this committee by the end of my term so that the incoming team can continue this committee and that we're able to allocate it under a specific portfolio other executive or commission so it is continuing to perpetuity. We also also want to recognize the importance of the compensation piece as we talked about. And we have in the past tried to develop policies or previous teams have tried to develop policies to compensate marginalized individuals for the equity work that they do. But this policy is only a draft and has been for a few years now. And there have been issues trying to bring it forward every year. So my goal this year is to try to finish this policy and I'm hoping that we're going to strike an internal working group and potentially with some external stakeholders to finish the compensation policy so that we're able to have it done before next year, so nothing gets lost in translation and so that we're able to start compensating students as soon as the long term committee is struck, because we think it's important that work isn't done as free labor. So that's the next steps as to what we're taking. We will be communicating further with the Black Student

Club Caucus based on conversations tonight, but want to give you all an update. And I'm open to any questions.

Vice Presidents' Report

VP-OPS Hu: Hi Assembly, it's great to see everyone. I'll start with something that isn't in my written report. Today, all 10 bathrooms managed by the AMS are stocked with period products as per the menstrual product accessibility initiative that we restarted this spring. So we have 600 products to distribute to 10 bathrooms over the next eight weeks. So that's about 7.5 products per week, which isn't a lot I understand. Alongside that we also have a survey that's been put out. I hope you've seen it. I've put up 25 posters within a couple of buildings today, and there's a chance to win a Northerner should you fill out a survey. The survey is looking to collect attitudes on menstrual product accessibility on campus and how that affects students' lives. It closes in mid-April. We'll get the results of that and I'm going to package it and create recommendations for my incoming vice president of operations to bring forward to the Vice Provost of the university and the university should be able to help us with expanding the initiative, because this funding shouldn't be coming out of students' pockets. I'm really proud of this initiative and if there's anything that you want to talk about regarding this initiative, I'm more than happy to connect about it. In terms of expanding the program, if that was something that you're thinking about, I currently don't have the bandwidth or the or the budget to reasonably facilitate that, but I would be happy to talk about what my team did, how that worked. It's definitely not perfect, but I think it does start us on the right track to make these products more accessible and reducing barriers. All services are open for in-person operations and services are continuing to hire over the next couple of weeks. CoGro is launching their spring menu which is very exciting. Peer Support in person operations continue the Rideau Building and Mitchell Hall. Regular BIPOC Talk continues as well. And Tricolour has a new St. Patty's line, so if you're looking to add some more green to your wardrobe I recommend checking it out. Constables have new staff undergoing training and shadow shifts in their busy season, so formal season, and it's a friendly reminder to be getting your event approvals forms in in a timely manner so we can service your event. And this past week, all staff participated in EDII training. The goal is for students to reflect on personal privileges and oppression and how they show up on campus and this is an important topic for peers who are given the responsibility of offering security solutions. The program is funded by the Division of Student Affairs in collaboration with the Human Rights and Equity Office. Studio Q has in-person operations in the Rideau building and yearbook photos continue to be in high demand and spots continue to open. P&CC is continuing to do the photo sales, they had one this past Wednesday, which went really well and there'll be another one early next week. And they're doing a lot of posters and collaborations too. So if you're wanting to decorate your offices, they're pretty cheap. The Food Bank is continuing in-person operations and we have exciting news that the pilot program PEACH has been made permanent. It's another opportunity for us to be addressing food insecurity on campus. We are also adding more WalkHome signs around campus and replacing the outdated ones for consistency. Okay, I'm done. Thank you.

VP-UA Robertson: I will try and be shorter because I know I've talked too long tonight. In terms of updates from my portfolio, I want to first off congratulate Commissioner Hughes who

facilitated the new open house to promote club opportunities to students. We also recently had the OUSA General Assembly, a huge event with 70 delegates from a host of schools here to talk about policy advocacy, and how we're going to advocate to the federal government in the coming years. It was a really great time, a lot of great work going on. Emily also asked me to mention tonight that there is a big event within the CES Sustainability Hub, which is the CES initiative to bring together a bunch of different sustainable services on campus, was held for the first time last Wednesday, March 1. It was a huge success and lots of attendance. We're looking forward to hosting the next one very soon.

In terms of Collective Closet, it completed its last pop up shop recently. Throughout the year Collective Closet has been expanded into something a lot bigger than we ever thought it would be. So we're really excited to see how the next executive team will continue building on this because it's a great way to support sustainable fashion on campus. Finally, we are in the process of organizing the St. Patrick's Day community cleanup. It's really important after things like St. Patrick's Day festivities in the university district to play our part in cleaning up the community to please promote that event. If you have any questions let me know!

Board of Director's Report

Board of Directors President Devenny: Hello, Assembly I'll keep my report quite brief. We'll be having board hiring up until the 19th of March and being on the Board is a great, great experience that I've had in my undergrad. It means that you are sitting at the big table helping make some decisions for the corporation and deciding where some of the finances go and looking at our investments, how we handle risk, the corporation's Human Resources policy. It's a fantastic way to enhance your undergraduate experience, especially at the end of your undergraduate experience. It's the culmination of other experiences that you've made here so it's a great way to use your leadership skills.

Next month on April 6 we have the Corporate Annual General Meeting, different than the society Annual General Meeting today, right before the transition assembly. So I'm sure as Amir will talk to you about, your successors or will be coming to the next meeting. Together as a conglomerate, you get two votes, you get one vote for your outgoing person and one vote for incoming person. You'll hear presentations from our Personnel, Governance, and Finance chairs, as well as our VP OPS will be giving a presentation on our finalized budget and spending for the year, and we'll have the ratification of incoming student directors.

Our committees have been hard at work as you've heard with some of our executive updates including approving constitutional edits, which you saw coming across today, and what I'm most excited about is our Vice Chair and I have been working on Professional Development for our senior leaders, something that I really wish we had last year. Looking back on how our goal planning worked out and preparing for the future and so that our upcoming student leaders get the most out of their experience with the AMS is so important. I have no other comments about my report right now but there will be lots to say next month. Thank you very much.

Student Undergraduate Trustee Report

Trustee Sharma sends regrets.

Student Senator's Report

Student Senate Caucus Chair Matiss: Hello everyone, nice to see you tonight. I'll keep this brief as well. Three things to bring to your attention. Since last Assembly, we were informed that the BFA program is being suspended for two years. This has some pretty far reaching impacts because there's programs that depend on the BFA program for enrollment and to keep their courses open. The second item is we had our Board-Senate retreat, and we are looking forward to reading the reports from the outcome of the retreat. This was a very productive retreat and a lot of students should be excited to see what the university would bring to the table in the aftermath. And finally, on March 23, we will be having a Student Senate Caucus meeting with Patrick Deane, where we will elect the New Student Senate Caucus chair and then we'll be transitioning. So if there's any questions I'm happy to answer them.

Rector's Report

Rector Crawford-Lem: Emile is being too humble there. He was the chair of the the Board-Senate retreat and did a fantastic job. The theme was "what does research look like when it's done right?". One of those pillars is research and how can we both incorporate what the board does with properties, facilities and finance with what the Senate does is more academic and how can we align the two and make sure that we're all working towards the same mission, so fantastic job, and really awesome to see students taking the lead in places that they might often not be.

Secondly, it's been a busy time especially for university work since the Board met and so a few quick updates from that. We had a report from the Provost with a preliminary operating budget for next year. Probably not dissimilar to some of the things we've seen today and we'll see next month but you know, given the economic state of the world right now it's no surprise that the university perhaps isn't in the best financial place. I'll bring a little bit of attention to things that are going on in the federal government: very much so cut a lot of funding that was available to universities to help serve students as well as, as I'm sure you've all seen, at the beginning of COVID the Provincial Government reduced tuition fees by 10% and then froze it which is fantastic for students. Not so fantastic for the university. So we're really in limbo, trying to figure out different ways to continue to support students through these tough financial times for all of us, but making sure that the services that the university provides are still up to what we need them to be. So that was interesting, looking into the future and where we may be for a few years, we are now I think running a deficit. So we have actually saved up a lot of money throughout the last little while and are having to pull off those reserves. But that is what the

financial officer does, that's their bread and butter, so nothing to be worried about there. But I wanted to give you an update in the effort of being transparent.

The last thing that was really interesting was the Student Health Survey, which is different than the SHIFT project which we see on campus. The Student Health Survey is a collection of two different surveys, the National College Health Assessment as well as the Canadian Campus Wellbeing Survey. It was a very long presentation by our Vice Provost and Dean of Student Affairs and but just a few key things to highlight: we are actually, as a school, mental health wise, apparently according to the survey doing better than Canada is on average. There was a baseline so it said 83% of students at Queens describe their mental health as good, very good, or excellent, which is kind of a nice reassuring thing to hear, compared to 82% in Canada overall. I think that that will be published and that's why I definitely suggest reading that because it gives us a baseline of where we are as a university versus Canada as a whole. No surprise, we did score well above average on binge drinking, which is something we're always interested in looking at to see how we can still continue to have fun here but in a safe way.

I've worked in the Principal's office on two different things, one of which is a way for students to constructively provide feedback to the university. I think in the past we've seen students really kind of cry out and say that this is something that we're feeling but how do we actually make sure that it's heard? That's one of the things I hope to implement next year. Secondly, after many, many, many, many conversations about housing with many, many different people finally our Principal has decided to put together a small group of senior leaders to help me and the university look at possible strategies for housing in the future. I do not know where that will be going. But at least what is happening and that conversation is starting. I'll leave it at that, thank you.

Statements by Students

COMSOC President Rezvan: I just wanted to give a couple of updates for transparency's sake because I did fill out a written report. But just one big thing: COMSOC is working on creating a student leader compensation policy. This is new for us as we currently have no paid positions within our society. So we're just wrapping up consultations. And if anyone has any advice or anything, I would love to connect as we're exploring a lot of different payment structures.

SIC Commissioner: I mentioned this in my report, but I really do want to reiterate and encourage any of the faculty societies heads that have spaces on campus, physically in Rideau Building to really take advantage of the new Braille labeling program because it is free and it's can be done by me. I just need the numbers because it should be that every building in this campus has Braille labeling, otherwise it's really not accessible for blind people. Secondly, next week is the new launch of the Social Issues Commission event certificates, much like the Sustainable Events Certificates, it is to look at how events can be equitable for your audience, making sure that all events are open to every type of student, whether you're a mother breastfeeding and needing space for your child, or whether you need a prayer space or whether it affects a significant ethnic religious holiday. Those are just a few of the criteria examples but I

will be sending that out as well to the society heads to make sure that we're considering all equitable practices. Lastly, if anyone in your society wants to apply for the equity and accessibility grant fund, there's four days left to do that. I really encourage you if there's any big expenses, we do have \$10,000 for each of those grants to give out so there's definitely a lot of money to send it. So thank you.

New Business

Motion #3 – Moved by Secretary Golrokhian-Sani , Seconded by AMS President Sikich.

“That AMS Assembly approve the changes to the University Rector Elections Policy and Procedures Manual as seen in appendix (Blobfish).”

Secretary Golrokhian-Sani: These are pretty a small changes, just housekeeping stuff like adding some definitions.

Motion carries.

Motion #4 – Moved by Secretary Golrokhian-Sani , Seconded by AMS President Sikich.

“That AMS Assembly approve the Awards Policy and Procedure as seen in appendix (Komondor Dog) and linked appendix (Turritopsis nutricula).”

Motion carries.

Motion #5 – Moved by Secretary Golrokhian-Sani , Seconded by AMS President Sikich.

“That AMS Assembly approve the 2023 ORT Budget as seen in linked appendix (Anteater), pursuant to the approval of an Assembly Allocation of \$118,354 by the AMS Board of Directors.”

VP-UA Robertson: So just to clarify for that last time before we put this to a vote, this is a formal motion to approve the ORT budget. In future years we'll be bringing this forward earlier, because, as was rightly pointed out this year, it doesn't make sense to approve the budget after the money has already been spent or partially spent. So the Orientation Summit this year allowed us to work out some of the issues and contradictions in our policy about how this process should work. So all this motion is saying is that if this budget passes the Board approval process, it will go into effect. If for some reason the Board denies or does not approve the budget reallocations we will have to come back to Assembly to connect with you and update the budget. I know that's a tight timeline, that's the consequence of having everything pushed so late in the term.

Motion carries.

Discussion Period

a. JDUC blueprint accessibility and prayer space on campus

ASUS President Hussein: I just wanted to bring up the topic of the accessibility of space on campus. I've had some students come to me with concerns about the accessibility of prayer spaces in the blueprints for the new JDUC and this is also a topic that I am passionate about. I know I've brought it up in the past, but I don't know if there are any tangible plans guaranteeing a prayer space in the JDUC and in the overall sector and all of the avenues I've tried to go through to raise concerns about this in the past have ended with shut doors. So I just wanted to ensure that this was something I brought attention to before the end of my term because I want to know that future students on this campus will have an adequate and appropriate prayer space that is a safe room for them. I'm very grateful for the spaces in buildings where they do exist, but they're not everywhere, and I just want to know if there is a commitment to making sure there will be one in the JDUC because this was promised in the initial planning.

AMS President Sikich: Yeah, I can give you an update on what is planned right now. It was something that, when I came in, I was told and we are following through on this plan that there will be a space on the third floor of the JDUC with a washing station connected to it, rather than separate as we've had in the past because there were issues with that. It is a little different than what we've offered in the past, we're giving the club a club room to store materials, and the room we are suggesting they use for prayer times is a shared club space that they will have to rent out. The only reasoning behind that is because we've lost a lot of large spaces in the JDUC, a lot of spaces previously dedicated to clubs. I can try and get more details for you, I'm sorry if I wasn't very clear.

ASUS President Hussein: That's very interesting because you're saying that spaces are being lost, but they're in the early stages of actually building the building and so spaces are being created and so I'm wondering if there is potential for spaces to be built or for this conversation to be continued. Because I want to ensure that there is a committed prayer space, if you calculate the time that students will be praying on campus, having that space is like a very critical thing and having to rent it out on a day-by-day basis isn't conducive to that. So I'd love to talk with you more about this because I'm hoping that you and the other executive can continue to advocate for this.

AMS President Sikich: I'd be happy to chat with you and to see if you have any solutions because the issue is really that space is so scarce on campus. So we need to figure out what space we're even able to allocate if we're talking about a larger room. I'd also be happy to talk about what solutions are for next year for everyone. If this is an issue you're also passionate about advocating for, I would also reach out to the university and advocate to them because while the AMS obviously does have some space, it's also essential that the university is providing spaces on campus and we need to ensure that we're doing as much as we can, obviously in collaboration, but it's also important that they realize that there's a need for this space.

Adjournment

Moved by ASUS President Hussein, Seconded by PHEKSA President Chen.

Motion carries.

Assembly is adjourned at 9:15U EST.