



Bethune College Council Special Meeting
Wednesday January 26th 2022
Chaired by Claire Del Zotto

Start Time: 7:30pm EST

Voting Members: Myra Whitfield, Gemner Sandoval, Yashna Manek, Brook Hann, Abisan Buvardren, Amran Adam, Paula Wilson, Arman Sadr and Sarah Abubaker (shared vote), Sophie Eisen, Clifford Baker, Sakshi Talwar, Kyleen Tambot, Valentina Acosta.

Non-Voting Members: Hassan Khan, Mary Grace Wong, Claire Del Zotto, Helia Zamani, Meryl Pirasol.

Absent: Alice Fours, Suzanne Park, Andrew Skelton.

Guests: 5

- MOTION: To make grammatical corrections to the constitution.
 - o Seconded by Yashna
 - o 10 in favour, motion passes

- MOTION: Add land acknowledgement to the constitution.
 - o Seconded by Yashna
 - o 9 in favour, motion passes

- MOTION: Amend Article 3 to clearly state that only regular members of the BCC may vote in BCC elections and participate in all events.
 - o Seconded by Yashna
 - o 8 in favour, motion passes

- MOTION: Allow the role of VP Athletics to be split by two people
 - o Seconded by Valentina
- Discussion:
 - Should instead treat the role as O-Chair in which one OR two people can hold the position at once. This would give people who would like to do VP Athletics alone the liberty of doing so.
 - o 7 in favor, 3 abstain. Motion passes

- MOTION: To remove BCC Head's vote
 - o Seconded by Clifford



- Discussion:
 - Counter: Head office have longitudinal BCC experience and can share valuable expertise. We want to keep ties strong with them and ensure that they continue to participate in council.
 - 3 in favour, motion does not pass

- MOTION: Remove BCC Fellows' Representative vote
 - Seconded by Clifford
 - 1 in favour, motion does not pass

- MOTION: Remove SOS Representative's vote
 - Seconded by Sophie

- Discussion:
 - The SOS Representative creates a tie between the social and academic aspects of Bethune. Individuals hired in this role have extensive experience with, and knowledge of Bethune academic programming.
 - 3 in favour, motion does not pass

- MOTION: Introduce a Lassonde Representative, and add their role to the constitution
 - Seconded by Clifford

- Discussion:
 - Lassonde Representative role exists in the bylaws but is not filled annually.
 - Having a Lassonde Representative may insinuate that Lassonde students are only welcomed in one position.
 - 10 in favour, motion passes

- MOTION: Make Commuter Representative an elected position
 - Seconded by Clifford

- Discussion:
 - Commuter Representatives should be active community members who represent the interests of commuter students.
 - Electing Commuter Representatives gives constituents the opportunity to get the events that they want.
 - 10 in favour, motion passes

- MOTION: Remove Academic Advisor as a voting member
 - Seconded by Yashna
 - The current Academic Advisor does not attend meetings or vote.
 - 4 in favour, 6 opposed. Motion does not pass

- MOTION: To allow there to be multiple directors of finance working under the VP Finance.



- Seconded by Clifford
- Discussion:
 - VP Finance is a big role and doing this could prevent burnout for them.
- 8 in favour, motion passes

- MOTION: To add an Outreach Director as a non-elected position and include their duties into the constitution.
 - Seconded by Kyleen
- Discussion:
 - Would be best to have someone hired by the hiring committee who has experience in external leadership.
- 8 in favour, motion passes

- MOTION: Set the minimum academic standing needed to be on council to 4.0/9.0.
 - Seconded by Clifford
- Discussion:
 - Counter: People in honours programs are not considered at good academic standing with a 4.0. 4.0 is low in considering that a student with this GPA would have had several grades below a C.
 - Ambiguity on how it will be enforced: will council members be terminated mid-year if their GPA falls below the threshold?
- 4 in favour, 6 opposed. Motion does not pass

- MOTION: Add a clause to require council members to participate in 2 sports per semester or an equivalent.
 - Seconded by Clifford
 - 8 in favour, motion passes

- MOTION: Allow anyone with two years of council experience to run for president/EVP.
 - Seconded by Yashna
 - 5 in favour, 4 opposed. Motion does not pass

- MOTION: To waive EVP requirements if not met by any candidate.
 - Seconded by Gemner
 - 11 in favour, motion passes

- MOTION: Remove clause that the last hiring day should be the last day of elections. Should allow elected positions to be filled first and have hired positions after.
 - Seconded by Yashna
- Discussion:



- Would allow people who have multiple interests to explore them by giving them more than one opportunity to be on council.
 - 10 in favour, motion passes
- MOTION: Change wording from Communications Committee to Advertising and Promotions Committee
 - Seconded by Clifford
 - 10 in favour, motion passes
- MOTION: Allow all senior BAC members to run for VP Athletics.
 - Seconded by Gemner
 - 10 in favour, motion passes
- MOTION: Re-term Commuter Representatives to Commuter Directors
 - Seconded by Yashna
 - 8 in favour, motion passes
- MOTION: In the clause that council members must commit to 3 office hours in the JCR per week, clarify that this is only necessary if circumstances permit.
 - Second by Kyleen
 - 10 in favour, motion passes
- MOTION: Remove the requirement that the Commuter Director must live off of campus.
 - Second by Gemner
- Discussion:
 - Counter: Would not make sense for a York resident to represent commuter students.
 - Compromise by allowing people with some experience as a commuter, either past or current, to fill the role.
 - 3 in favour, 4 opposed. Motion does not pass
- MOTION: Clarify that the Administrative Assistant also acts as the Speaker.
 - Seconded by Gemner
 - 10 in favour, motion passes
- MOTION: Clarify that one year of council experience is equivalent to two semesters.
 - Seconded by Gemner
 - 11 in favour, motion passes
- MOTION: Remove the clause requiring each committee to present an annual report in writing.
 - Second by Valentina



- 9 in favour, motion passes
- MOTION: Move last date for events to be set to the by-laws. Have a proposal deadline for the VP Social instead.
 - Seconded by Valentina
 - 10 in favour, motion passes
- MOTION: Add changes to better clarify the duties of the Promotions and Advertising Committee.
 - Seconded by Kyleen
 - 8 in favour, motion pass
- MOTION: Clarify quorum as 50% of current voting members, not all voting members.
 - Seconded by Clifford
 - 7 in favour, motion passes
- MOTION: Clarify in the constitution that the CRO shall prevent all council members from publicly promoting any electoral candidate.
 - Seconded by Masood
 - 11 in favour, motion passes
- MOTION: Mandate that vote count is released by the CRO following elections, prior to ratification.
 - Seconded by Clifford
 - 11 in favour, motion passes
- MOTION: Remove signed nominations requirement from the election's procedure.
 - Seconded by Masood
 - 8 in favour, motion passes
- MOTION: Mandate that a meeting is held following elections and hiring to ratify council members.
 - Seconded by Clifford
 - 9 in favour, motion passes
- MOTION: Change grounds for impeachment to two counts of any outlined violation, as opposed to requiring two separate rules to be violated.
 - Seconded by Clifford
 - 10 in favour, motion passes
- MOTION: Allow by-laws to be changed throughout the year with a 2/3 majority vote of council.
 - Seconded by Clifford



- 10 in favour, motion passes

 - MOTION: Change 50th year saving fund to 60th year saving fund.
 - Seconded by Clifford
 - 9 in favour, motion passes

 - MOTION: Move voting system for honorarium to the by-laws.
 - Seconded by Clifford
 - Discussion:
 - Honorarium system can be changed easier in the by-laws, and would allow council to implement a form by which each council member can rank the performance of their peers.
 - 10 in favour, motion passes

 - MOTION: Allow constitution changes to be proposed once per semester if needed. Do not require the council to change the constitution each year.
 - Seconded by Clifford
 - 9 in favour, motion passes
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MOTION: Extend meeting past 10pm

- Seconded by Gemner
- 10 in favour, motion passes

MOTION: Extend meeting past 11:30pm

- Seconded by Gemner
- 8 in favour, motion passes

Meeting Adjourned: 12:25am