

5<sup>th</sup> meeting of CUSA Council 2009/2010  
Sept 29, 2009

**Attendance:**

Erik Halliwell	President
Meera Chander	Vice President Finance
Cameron McKenzie	Vice President Internal
Nick Bergamini	Vice President Student Issues
Alex Sirois	Vice President Student Life
Adam Dewar	Public Affairs Rep
Brittany Smyth ( proxy Yasmine Bennett- AbuAyyash)	Public Affairs Rep
Graeme Owens	Public Affairs Rep
Hashem Hamdy	Public Affairs Rep
Natalie Pinto (proxy Dina Skvirsky)	Public Affairs Rep
Ryan Anthony	Public Affairs Rep
Fatima Hassan	FASS Rep
Christina Anderson	FASS Rep
James Witherspoon	FASS Rep
Komaljit Minhas	FASS Rep
Graham Perrin	FASS Rep
Heather Murley	FASS Rep
Allison Elwell	Journalism Rep
Caleigh Campbell (proxy Nick Curtis)	Science Rep
Chris Gillen	Science Rep
Brian Mattock	Engineering and Design Rep
Mahdi Yusuf	Engineering and Design Rep
Omar Shammas	Engineering and Design Rep
Kyle Purdy	Business Rep
Brian Mason	Business Rep
James Craig	BPAPM Rep
Terrah Smith	Humanities Rep
Nicholas Osborne	Computer Science Rep
Devon Wensink	Special Student
Austin Miller	GSA Rep
Garima Talwar	RRRA Rep

[Chair calls the meeting to order at 6:11 PM]

**1. Announcements**

For those who were not attending summer meetings, the chair introduced himself and the clerk, and informed attendees of protocol.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

Motion to adopt the agenda

Motion to add emergency motion “motion to support membership in the Canadian Federation of Students”

Dina Skvirsky/Hassan

Carried and Listed as Point 16F

Motion to Support Membership in the Canadian federation of Students

Whereas in 1981, Carleton University Students’ Association (CUSA) and c36 other student associations from across Canada came together in Ottawa, at meeting hosted by CUSA, to form a new national student federation that came to be known as the Canadian Federation of Students; and

Whereas CUSA and 36 other student associations recognized that, in order to effectively represent students views and perspectives to the federal government on issues such as university funding and student financial assistance, students across Canada needed to band together;

Whereas the need for students to be united remains as strong today as it did in 1981; and

And whereas Carleton University student s acknowledge that by uniting with other 500,00 students across the country is the most effective way to recognize meaningful cost saving services such as the International Student Identity Card (ISIC), the CFS handbook service and the CFS fair-trade bulk purchasing program;

And whereas the Carleton University Students Association (CUSA) executive has a responsibility to inform its members about the benefits of membership in the Canadian Federation of Students;

And Whereas the Carleton University Student Association supports its members democratic right to choose its national and provincial representation based on fact through informed choice;

And whereas a petition has been circulated on membership in the Canadian Federation of Students;

And whereas some members have signed this petition because it was represented as a petition to reduce tuition fees or because the petition collectors misrepresented themselves as representatives of the Canadian Federation of Students or were asked to sign without being made properly aware of the implications of their signed support;

And whereas the Carleton University Students Association believes that students have a right to be informed before signing any petition;

Be it resolved that the Carleton University Students Association council support continued membership in the Canadian Federation of Students; and  
Be it further resolved that the executive of the Carleton University Students Association be mandated to campaign in support of membership in the Canadian Federation Students and provide clarification about said membership to its members.

**Motion to renumber the agenda so that 16f becomes 16a, and subsequently renumber following items**

Osborne/Dewar

Fails

Craig had a point of information, wondering if abstained votes were counted in the final minutes?

Chair replied that any actionable item notes abstentions in the minutes

Hashem had a point of information: asked, in regards to the motion to support membership, could we request a roll-call vote?

Chair replied affirmatively, adding that it takes place before proceeding to vote on the issue

No further modifications to the agenda

McKenzie/Hamdy

Carried

**3. Motion to table minutes to the end**

Dewar/Vasquez

Carried

**4. President's Report**

Erik asked how the council was doing, and said that it had been a busy month. Erik said that orientation week was fantastic, said that sponsorship totals were dramatically increased, and thanked Nick Curtis for doing a very good job. Erik also thanked the entire orientation team and volunteers. Erik said that advertising has begun for Drop Fees, and had a Block Party the past Friday. Erik said he has been meeting with local representatives in Ottawa, and that students would be returning to the Human Rights monument on November 5<sup>th</sup>. The Academic Restructuring Committee continues to be very interesting, with presentations by department heads. Erik said a final report will be public, and could be followed on the Carleton website.

Erik said the We Ride campaign was a huge success, and thanked all those who helped with the campaign, specifically CUSA and GSA volunteers. Erik said that city council voted unanimously to overturn the age cap on Bus passes. Erik added

that a petition was being circulated to hold a referendum on CFS membership, and he says that unsurprisingly he has a position on this, and is open to fielding questions on the issue.

## **5. Vice Presidents' Reports**

### **a. Vice President Finance**

Meera said that orientation was a huge success, and that 2,100 students participated this year. She said that they were still working on final numbers, but should be well under-budget. She said CUSA businesses have been doing well, and hiring is nearly complete. She said Rooster's has been 'super busy', and described two new vegetarian items, as well as fresh fruit and yogurt.

Meera said that the Unicentre store is still undergoing renovations, and that the post office will be fully renovated during the thanksgiving weekend. She said she is excited that they are looking into renaming the Unicentre Store, and hoping to get the Carleton community involved with a contest to submit students' thoughts on the new store name. She said that students would be able to win a trip for two rafting by entering, and she encouraged students to submit their suggestions. Meera said that Oliver's had hired a new assistant manager, who will be starting later this week. She said she is waiting until the end of the month for the whole numbers. Meera said she has been working on social justice week, happening next week to provide awareness on a variety of issues around campus.

### **b. Vice President Internal Affairs**

Cameron mentioned that there is a vacant council seat to be filled later on. Cameron said that there was a recent clubs and societies certification meeting, and that FACCS would be next week. Cameron added that FACCS applications are due Oct 2. Cameron said that CUSA had been cut back for the work-study program, but encouraged students to apply for the remaining positions nonetheless. Cameron said that there is a new Atrium booking policy, and encouraged students to use the online tool.

### **c. Vice President for Student Issues**

Nick talked about a huge success removing the student bus pass age limit, adding that \$220,000 will be saved by students. Nick said that he feels Carleton was the leader in this campaign, and says that students over 27 who paid full price can be reimbursed. Nick said he feels that students can decide how to vote on the CFS issue, and said that it has been a long time since students voted on the issue.

Nick added that, on the fun side, a CUSA radio show had been started, happening live at 11:30 every Wednesday morning. Nick hoped people could tune in and encouraged people to come on the show. Nick says he is in the early stages of planning a Human Rights Week, with focus on students rights.

**d. Vice President of Student Services**

Jessica said that the Service Centres have been very busy. She said the Aboriginal Service Centre participated in the Aboriginal Awareness Day. Jessica said that tomorrow there would be a Raven's Feast in the Aboriginal Lounge, in partnership with Equity Services. She said it would be a gathering of students and staff in the aboriginal community. Jessica said that this Sunday there would be a vigil to honour the lives of 500+ missing and murdered native women.

She added that the food centre, in partnership with OPIRG hosted a dumpster diving workshop hosted a dumpster diving event with high turnout. She added that students can submit empty ink cartridges. Jessica said that the Foot Patrol and the Womyn's Centre came together to push the No Means No campaign to educate about sexual violence, and she said there was cake left over. She said the Womyn's Centre has a Womyn's Weekly, and that contact should be given to Kandace or Yasmine to be added to the mailing list. She added that the food centre had started its own mailing list which can be joined. She said that the GLBTQ had its first meeting on Sept 16, and it had a high turnout. She said it was good to see new faces out, and they hosted their new event called bi-Friday to discuss GLBTQ issues.

She said that the Service Centres were really pushing to get their names known in Frosh, beginning with an appearance on Beach Day. Jessica said coordinators came out, and a lot of volunteer names and e-mails were collected. She said she has been doing a lot of hiring in the past month, and that unfortunately some coordinators have left, but she said that people had been hired as the new food centre coordinator, the new GLBTQ, the International Student Centre, the REC hall coordinators, and she welcomed them to the team.

**e. Vice President of Student Life**

Alex said that the Molson Mural has gone up at Oliver's and it looks fantastic. Alex added that the new mirrors have been mounted at no cost as well. Oliver's Thursday has been busy, he said, and will try to use that momentum to build Tuesday night's. Alex said that, with RRRRA, they will be hosting a red-light-green-light party. Alex said that on October 15 they will be celebrating Oktoberfest, and on Oct 29, the Oliver's Halloween party. He said that like every year, it will fall on a Thursday. Alex said that orientation week went off without a hitch, and that the administration was happy with the organizing. He said that a record number of students participated, and added that Oliver's promo gear will be available next week at CUSA office and Oliver's.

**6. RRRRA Report**

Garima said that a lot of exciting things were going on at RRRA. She said that some initiatives of RRRA have been the bike-share launch of last week, which she said was greatly received. She added that if anyone is interested, they can talk to her or go to the RRRA website. She said that RRRA sex week was coming up, and that Run for the Cure would be on Sunday. Monday night is sex with sue night, said Garima, and on Tuesday night is a red light green light party. Garima added that the Parliament Hill program was going very well, and that anyone interested should speak to her.

#### **7. GSA Report**

Austin Miller said that two weeks of Welcome Week was very successful. He said that afterwards, they worked with CUSA on a party for Drop Fees and the bike-share program. He said that Mike's Place has a new menu, and added some sustainability options such as reusable plates. He added that they are looking to do a renovation of the Grad Lounge, something used by many graduate students and undergrads. He added that the administration is stalling on their attempts to retrofit and green the space, and that he was disappointed.

Austin said that tomorrow the GSA would host a talk with John Ralston Saul which supports the Marion Dewar foundation, and that he would be speaking on Education as a Public Good. He said, GSA council met last Friday, met new members, and passed a motion supporting Man Talk, in addition to a new award for teachers. Finally, Austin added that they passed a motion overwhelmingly supporting that all students at Carleton remain members of the CFS.

#### **8. CASG Report**

James Splinter said that there are great campaigns coming this year, and that CASG elections begin tomorrow. He said the first meeting of CASG is October 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### **9. Senate Report**

None

#### **10. Board of Governors Report**

None

#### **11. Constituency Report**

Hashem Hamdy said that, believe it or not, he has gotten emails from his constituents about the CFS petition. He requested to read the emails out loud.

The chair said that these should be entertained during the debate, but that constituency is for reporting something from the constituency. Chair added that he thought the item, as outlined in the rules, it more for a specific Public Affairs interest, such as a course change, or a unique cause that only your constituency reflects.

Chair said that Hashem has the opportunity to raise these reports during a point of debate, or if there is a specific question, under Question Period.

Nicholas Osborne said that for the past few months he has been sitting on the Financial Resources Task Force, and isn't sure if all members are aware of this task force. Because of the financial crisis, he said that all post-secondary institutes in this country are 'kind of screwed'. Nick said the task force is looking to the Carleton community to find ways to reduce or be more innovative with its spending.

Allison Elwell said that Journalists for Human Rights have been doing a lot to get students involved, including 24 hours of silence for journalists around the world who have been killed or kidnapped in the line of duty. Allison said they will raise money to send Canadian journalists to Africa to train new journalists to report about their communities and countries. She encourages people to come by the Atrium and support.

Adam Dewar pointed out that he is working on an initiative to bring a new program to Carleton, the Junior Team Canada Global Leader's Centre. He recently traveled to Panama and Ecuador in a trade and development initiative, and encouraged students to talk to him about it.

Brian Mason said that Spratt had their first Frosh Week ever this year, and that it was a success. He said that it had a high retention rate, and would be done again next year.

## **12. Committee Reports**

### **a. Standing Committees**

- I. Constitution and Policy Committee  
Did not meet
- II. Equity Committee  
2pm meeting on Oct 7, 513 Unicentre
- III. Financial Review Committee  
Did not meet
- IV. Spirit Committee  
Meeting Oct 14 4:30PM 513 Unicentre
- V. Student Issues Action Committee  
Meeting Oct 13 4PM, 513 Unicentre

### **b. Ad-Hoc Committees**

- I. Sustainability Committee

No report

**c. Other Committees**

- I. Accessibility Fund Committee  
Meeting Oct 8, 10 AM Unicentre 513
- II. Conference and Discretionary Committee  
Hasn't met

**13. Items for Information**

James Craig had a question about students on co-op terms and meeting the requirements for attending the first meeting of a committee to gain vote status. He wondered if there were opportunities for students who work full time during days to attend meetings to gain privilege.

Cameron McKenzie replied that James should talk to him to work out times that will be good

**14. Question Period**

Nicholas Osborne said he hates to bring up the question again, but wonders what is going on with the debit and credit machines at Oliver's

Meera replied that the debit machine may be used during the day, but only for transactions above \$20

Brittany said that according to the Charlatan, CASG has stated they are neutral on the CFS issue, and she wondered if that is true, and if so, why?

Brandon Wallingford replied that CASG as an organization is neutral but allows its members to take any stand they feel on a personal basis

Hashem asked how many hours Erik is supposed to work in the office per week to be paid

Erik replied that there is no quota for hours in office per week

Allison asked about the CUSA website, noting that Council page is not regularly updated, and wondered who is responsible to informing students

Cameron said that there are problems with the website, and said that everything should be up, but sometimes things are not as quick as they should be. He said he would push the web person to update

Adam asked the VP Finance is there is an active plan which can be presented to end the losses at Oliver's

Meera responded that they have done various things, such as getting an "AzBar" system, and promoting thirsty Thursdays much more, that management has implemented a number of plans, and put forward a budgeting outlining the expected costs for Oliver's in the summer.

Dean said that he had seen CUSA executives in the Atrium "almost eight hours a day", and Service Centre workers campaigning, and said that he presumes petitions were printed at the CUSA office. He asked how 'no money' had been spent on the CUSA campaign

Erik replied that, firstly, CUSA did not print any petitions in the office regarding CFS. He said Dean's contention is based on a false assumption. Erik said that Service Centre employees are instructed to participate on off-hours only, if they choose to

Supplemental: Dean asked, with regards to executive salaries, for an estimate from Erik on how many hours were spent, and how many dollars per hour his salary amounts to, and how much money has been spent

Erik replied negatively

Natalie asked why Human Rights Week and Social Justice Week cannot be combined

Nick replied that more events were better

Nicholas Osborne said he is curious about a sudden influx of Drop Fees posters, wondering if there is an agreement with the administration to violate poster rules. He also asked if the people who put up the posters are aware of the environmental impact of excessive taping.

Alex said that there were some first-year volunteers not aware of postering rules, and they were spoken to. They spoke to the administration, and if any damage occurred CUSA will be billed.

Carlos said he is curious if the executive can answer how many hours are spent outside the office working on CUSA matters

Erik said that he could not give an estimate, and they often work both early and late

James Witherspoon said that he often sees Erik studying in the library, and asked how much student money had been paid for them to do their off-hour time in the library

Erik said that there is no way he had been seen in the library, since he has no time to study, but that he appreciated the comment

Adam Dewar asked if there is currently no business plan for Oliver's

Meera replied that the budget is considered a business plan as it outlines all costs going out or in, but she can be spoken to during office hours

Michael Monks said he was talking to Jessica yesterday, and said she was told CUSA cannot receive donations to Service Centres, the reason being they are a non-profit. He wondered if this was actually the case, and whether it can be explained "what non-profit means."

Meera replied that they can in fact take donations, and that was incorrect

## **Other Business**

### **16. Motions for Consideration**

#### **a. Motion to fill vacant council seats**

McKenzie/Halliwell

Cameron said that they need to fill the seat, and that two individuals in the back would be nominated and hoped they shared their ideas of why they want to fill this seat

Nominations:

Karim Khamisa

Pavan Sapra

A secret ballot was conducted and Karim Khamisa was announced as the successful candidate.

#### **b. Motion to appoint Karim Khamisa as Public Affairs representative**

Pinto/Bennett- AbuAyyash

Carried unanimously

Chair asked Karim to come take a seat near the front, and thanked candidates for presenting themselves

Point of Information: Brandon Wallingford asked for the margin of victory

Chair said that he normally does not announce margins without a large request, and a motion would need to be moved

**c. Motion to strike Standing Committees**

McKenzie/Halliwell  
Carried

**d. Motion to Strike ad-Hoc Committees**

McKenzie/Halliwell  
Carried

**e. Motion of Remembrance**

Wallingford/Dewar

Wallingford said he wished to withdraw, but that he was told by the executive that there would be a similar motion next week

**f. Motion to strike item e**

Wallingford/Northrop  
Carried

**g. Motion to start a Wear Red on Fridays Campaign**

Wallingford/Dewar

Wallingford said again that the Student Issues Action Committee would work on this

**h. Motion to strike item g**

Wallingford/Campbell  
Carried

**i. Motion to Support Membership in the Canadian Federation of Students**

Skvirsky/Hassan

Dina said that the motion is coming from a concerned student, and that the petition going around to de-federate sends a bad message to other CFS locals and other students. She said that if we say there is strength in numbers, we cannot afford to be divided as students in front of the Harper and McGuinty governments. She said there has been concern by students that the petition grossly misrepresents facts. She said that student turnover is quick, and takes away from real issues and real campaigns which we should be working on. Dina said, to the claims that there is no accountability, that there is accountability. She added that there was a huge victory with the We Ride campaign by coordinating CFS resources with CUSA resources. Dina added that a referendum is a large use of student financial resources.

## Points of Debate

James Craig proposed a friendly amendment, saying that the amendment goes on with the theme of supporting unity and running good campaigns, and said that it would address the fact that CUSA as a student government will take leadership and show the university how to run a good campaign. He said that if the campaign is misinforming people, we must deliver facts in an accountable way.

James said he is adding a third 'be it resolved' clause, saying:

“Be it further resolved that this campaign led by the executives of the CUSA and its volunteers will be done in a just, fair, accountable and respectable and factual way which CUSA expects of all campaigns.”

Adam Dewar said that he is speaking against, calling it “over-reactionary”, and stymieing democracy. He said that soldiers have died for our freedom, and no one holds office forever. Adam Dewar said that the CFS operates like Newt Gingrich, and said it has a very “republican” structure. He said that since Harper has been brought into the question, the federal government must stay out of education, as part of the constitution.

### Point of Information

Witherspoon asked how long each councillor was able to speak as the councillor had spoke for 10 minutes.

The chair responded there was a 20 minute time limit on the debate, but not on individual's speaking time.

Dewar continued that there are a whole bunch of issues. He said that the “so-called anti-CFS” petition is not, but simply for a referendum on the issue. He said that fundamentally he supports the right of the students to vote on the issue. He added that to say they should not vote on the issue is ‘wrong’. He said that if a counter-petition was circulated during a campaign it would incur several violations. He said that focusing on a provincial level achieved greater success than looking at the federal. He said that we do not have governments for 15 years, and there should not be CFS for 15 years.

Point of Information: Austin Miller asked about campaign material saying “Drop CFS” and how that relates to the neutral position Dewar spoke about

Wallingford replied that this Drop CFS logo had been used all over the country

Point of Information: Hashem asked how far into the debate we were

Chair responded that 11 minutes had been exhausted

Yasmine said that there has been mention of this being a debate, and said that this is not a debate. She said that what this was two sides arguing, one pro, the other anti. She added that she hopes no one calls this a debate

Hashem said that he knows that no amendment of his would pass, but he is speaking against the motion for being contradictory. He said that passing the petition around is to have a legitimate debate for which both sides could come and talk about

Point of Information: Brian Mattock wondered if this whole petition will be a referendum immediately, or delayed to February

Erik replied that it is his understanding that within the bylaws there is a certain amount of time within which the petition is approved by the CFS, and then two representatives from each side determine the date. It does not specifically follow our election period according to Erik

Terrah wanted to pose a general question, if wondered if there is any other way to discuss this besides going straight to a referendum, addressing specific issues with a more meaningful, productive way of dealing with the issue. Terrah added that in regards to other comments, we should talk about the issues at hand at not Harper, troops, the Quebec referendum, and other things which have no influence on the specific issue. She added that, in terms of students' intelligence, it would be more helpful for CUSA to take a stance, as there is a lot of uncertainty on the matter. She said that we should put forth our united opinion on the matter

Chair replied that all of those options are available, and council can strike any committee to deal with a variety of issues

Brandon Wallingford said he explained to students why it is reasonable to have a referendum, and that it said nothing other than that it would be a referendum next term at some point. Brandon said that the petition is only to have a vote next semester, and added that it allows us to have a debate which otherwise would not happen. He said that this council would not have done anything about it, nor would the CFS itself. He said it is not council's responsibility to tell executive what position to take. Brandon said he specifically told volunteers not to lie to students, because he said he knew people would accuse them of lying. He added that 'CFS keeps you in' regardless. When students signed the sheet, they often asked if it was about Drop Fees, he said, and he replied that no, it was only regarding the organization which CUSA is a member of. He said that the room has a

tendency to “do whatever they are told” to do, and expects the debate to go like that.

Point of Order: Erik asked if we can stick to what is written in the motion, and adds that nowhere in the motion does it state that we will not have a referendum or even be against it.

Point of Personal Privilege: Austin Miller said that on numerous occasions before the last individual spoke he heard indictments that those at the meeting do not value the intelligence of the students at Carleton and is offended by the challenge to the councilors and students in this room.

Yasmine said that she is for the motion, and added that this could have been done with a debate without collecting petitions. She said that if this saves students money, and said that the CFS fee is still cheaper in total than getting one ISIC card. She said that as someone involved in Service Centres and Frosh, it is a huge access to resources. She said that this is not a political issue, but a student issue. She said that council, like CFS, is supposed to represent student issues. Yasmine highlighted some things that CFS does, and as a point of personal privilege said it was offensive that it was said that councilors in this room are simply told what to do, and that given the right information students will make the right decision

Point of Information: James Witherspoon asked for clarification on the word ‘mandate’, asking if it is a delegation or enforcement or rather giving them the option to choose

Chair clarified that a mandate, as in this motion, forces no individuals to do anything, but an individual could be in violation of the motion, and it would be up to the council to enforce the motion

Carlos said no one has a vote on that every year, whether to stay in the union, and the union is the base which provides services to employees. He added that this argument could be made for any single service which students pay a fee to, for CASG, the Charlatan, and other services. He asked whether there should be a debate every year to reevaluate all fees. Carlos added that if one wants more information about CFS, they should speak to executives or even read material which talks about what the CFS does. He added that we should not make it a black-and-white issue, and following that logic we could have a referendum every year

Dean said he wanted to give a briefing on what will happen with the referendum. He said the Ontario Petition must have a fixed date, which is set for March 29, 30, and 31, and the petition has already been submitted. He said that the national petition date is up to the CFS, and he added that he is hopeful it will take place during the same time period. He said he

will not speak pro or anti CFS, but said that he is deeply disturbed by what he called allocation of student resources to a petition. He said that when a group of 'grassroots' students do a petition and executives campaign to 'silence students' is a direct attempt to silence democracy

Call to Question  
Jessica/Anthony

Question called

Hashem asked for a roll call vote

Halliwell Y  
Chander Y  
McKenzie Y  
Bergamini N  
Vasquez N  
Sirois Y  
Miller Y  
Karim Y  
Abu-Aballah Y  
Hamdy N  
Pinto Y  
Anthony Y  
Hassan Y  
Anderson N  
Witherspoon Y  
Northrop Y  
Perrin Y  
Murley A  
Gillen N  
Ewell A  
Mattock A  
Purdy Y  
Craig Y  
Smith Y  
Osborne N  
Mason N  
Wensick N  
Minhas A  
Owens A  
Dewar N  
Campbell Y  
Talwar Y  
Shamas A

Yusur A

Motion adopted 17/9/7

**17. Approval of Past Minutes**

Elwell moved to amend “FASS Representative” to Journalism as that is correct

Osborne said his last name was spelled incorrectly in a couple of places

Carried unanimously

**18. Motion to Adjourn**

Perrin/Shamas

Carried unanimously

[Meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM]

As adopted by council on Tuesday, October 27, 2009.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cameron McKenzie', written in a cursive style.

Cameron McKenzie, V.P. Internal  
Carleton University Students' Association.