

Mathematics Society Council Special Meeting Minutes

MC 3038, UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

Speaker: John Hunte

Secretary: Matthew Schwarze

ATTENDANCE

The following voting members were present:

- Alina Sewani (VPF)
- Michelle Wang (VPO)
- Frank Chen
- Kanan Sharma
- Kristy Gao
- Karl Zhu
- Jasmine Bal
- Catherine Dong
- Matthew Schwarze (VPA)
- Jason Eng (Interim President, VPI)
- Garrett Hildebrandt
- Andres Garcia
- Nigel Qiu
- Gary Xin
- Racheal Ou
- John Hunte (Speaker)

The following non-voting members were present:

- Jason Small
 - Rose Penner
 - Rosie DeFazio
 - Seneca Velling
 - Samer Zumot
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PRELIMINARIES

CALL TO ORDER

Be it resolved that the meeting is called to order at 5:07 pm EST.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Be it resolved that the Board approves the agenda for this meeting as presented.

Motion passed with assumed consent.

GENERAL ORDERS

RATIFICATION OF THE PRESIDENT - *Speaker Hunte, Kanan Sharma*

A report, with election results and recommendations for the future, is available [here](#)

Whereas the results of the October 30 by-election for President are in favour of candidate Samer Zu'Mot; then

Be it resolved that council certifies the results as presented, disqualifies Jason Eng from the election on the advice of the Elections Committee, and Samer Zu'mot is ratified as President of the Society for the remainder of the Fall 2019 term.

Initial discussion was led by the CRO, Kanan Sharma, who expanded on the Elections Committee's report's content, particularly the recommendation to disqualify Jason Eng from the election due to multiple instances of rule violations, including not placing elections contact on promotional materials, 'bribery' of electors with Timbits, coffee, and misrepresentation/theft of other candidates' ideas and achievements.

To this Jason Eng responded that the food and drink was purely for attracting people while he pitched his ideas, but was not contingent on their listening to his statements.

The CRO further spoke that there were false claims by Jason Eng that programs run by another candidate and pitched to the Associate Dean Undergraduate were reliant on his winning the election.

Jason Eng then insisted that those ideas, specifically club room remodels, were his ideas that he wanted to campaign on.

Another Elections Committee representative then clarified for Council that the claims of wrongdoing were made by relevant parties with proper documentation, and in reference to campaign materials in violation of policy, asserted that Jason Eng was contacted and penalised with their removal, and allowed to put up new, compliant posters.

Jason Eng was, however, not contacted regarding the platform theft accusations, as procedure only requires contact after a decision has been made.

Further discussion followed that criticised existing Elections Policy as not effective, and that while candidates ought to check their email often for Elections communications, many rules, including the delay of notification until after a decision is made, perhaps should be reformed.

Whereas notification was not provided to Jason Eng regarding his electoral offences;

Whereas the eligibility of Jason Eng does not affect the final election results;

Be it resolved that the recommendation to disqualify Jason Eng be struck from the above motion.

Garrett Hilde, Frank Chen

Passed by majority, Catherine Dong, Jason Eng, Kanan Sharma, VP Finance Sewani abstain.

Motion now reads as follows:

Whereas the results of the October 30 by-election for President are in favour of candidate Samer Zu'Mot; then

Be it resolved that council certifies the results as presented, striking the recommendation of the Elections Committee, and Samer Zu'mot is ratified as President of the Society for the remainder of the Fall 2019 term.

Motion passed unanimously, with Jason Eng, Garrett Hilde, VP Finance Sewani, Kanan Sharma, and Frank Chen abstaining.

After the passing, some final comments were made:

Garrett Hildebrandt wanted to note he motioned to dismiss the Elections Committee recommendations due to immateriality, and to not set a precedent, and Frank Chen emphasised that everyone ought to have due process.

Kanan Sharma indicated his desire to update Elections policy reflecting the lessons learned from this campaign, and Garrett Hildebrandt wanted to note this is the first time an electoral violation has occurred in MathSoc, as far as he knows.

Seneca Velling then noted that very rarely does the full amount of violating points get awarded for violates toward disqualification, and this is often determined by immaterial effects on election. He thinks that Council made a good decision, and that intent is most important when it comes to electoral violations.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting is adjourned at 5:40 pm EST.