

# Mathematics Society General Meeting Minutes

MC 3002, UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

*Chair: RONGZHAO LI Secretary: DEON HUA*

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## ATTENDANCE

The following voting members were present:

- Anderson, James
- Arndt, Erik
- Bhandal, Harleen
- Bhavsar, Dhruvit
- Brestoiu, Victor
- Cai, William
- Chai, Chen
- Chen, Terry
- Dawang, Jacob
- Defazio, Rosie
- Garcia Rodriguez, Andres
- Ha, Andre
- He, Zi Ming
- Hildebrandt, Garrett
- Horne, Lily
- Hou, Yu Chen
- Hu, Ting
- Hua, Deon
- Hui, Ki
- Jain, Arsheya
- Jiang, Jessica
- Kong, De Jin
- Lee, Alex
- Li, Alan
- Li, Che
- Li, He
- Li, Kevin
- Li, RongZhao
- Li, Wen-Hao
- Lin, Alisa
- Lorimer, Lukas
- McHardy, Bob
- Meng, Hao Wei
- Mustatea, Cristian
- Pan, Hao
- Pushkareva, Daria
- Qin, Huaxia
- Saha, Priyonto
- Sirwani, Rahul
- Stoppi, Guy
- Sun, Ruotai
- Tang, Krystle
- Tham, Nicole
- Tu, Julia
- Wang, Jingyi
- Yang, David
- Zhang, Kevin
- Zhao, Tiana
- Zhu, Xiao

## PRELIMINARIES

*Secretary's Note:* The Secretary would like to thank Tiana Zhao and Julia Tu for their assistance in preparing these minutes.

### CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Chairperson Rongzhao Li called the meeting to order at 4:12 PM.

### REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

The President gave introductory remarks and provided context on the importance of the General Meeting. The Secretary explained how motions and voting works.

### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly approve the Agenda for the March 13, 2019 meeting, as presented.

*President Rongzhao Li and Garrett Hildebrandt.*

President Rongzhao Li introduced an amendment to the Agenda to add a motion after the Approval of the Minutes.

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly amend the Agenda to add an "Emergency Motion to Comply with Provincial Government Requirements on Society Fees" after the Approval of the Minutes.

*President Rongzhao Li and Garrett Hildebrandt.*

President Rongzhao Li provided context on the emergency motion, noting that Math-Soc must restructure its fee to be in compliance with the Student Choice Initiative (SCI).

Some discussion was had around the intent of the motion, but the President clarified that the motion on the floor was regarding adding the motion to the Agenda.

**Adopted by *friendly amendment***

**Motion carries** unanimously.

### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly approves the minutes of the December 8, 2018 meeting, as presented.

*President Rongzhao Li and Lily Horne.*

**Point of Privilege:** A member requested that the minutes be displayed on the screen. The President presented a copy of the minutes on the screen.

**Motion carries** unanimously

## EMERGENCY MOTION TO COMPLY WITH PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT REQUIREMENTS ON SOCIETY FEES

**Whereas** the provincial government finalized requirements under the Student Choice Initiative (SCI) on March 29 to require the debundling of all ancillary fees.

**Whereas** the University of Waterloo required by the Board of Governors to demonstrate compliance with the new directives by the end of April.

**Whereas** the Board of Governors has indicated that MathSoc fee collections will be suspended if compliance is not demonstrated by the end of April.

**Whereas** MathSoc bylaws currently provide no mechanism for the restructuring of student fees without changing the amount;

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly gives leave to the Board of Directors to develop a new fee structure for the purpose of complying with SCI requirements.

**Be it further resolved that** the new fee structure shall be limited to the splitting of the current total MathSoc administered student fee into a maximum of four categorical fees.

**Be it further resolved that** the total sum of all new categorical fees per member shall not differ from the amount of the current MathSoc membership fee, except as approved by student referendum in accordance with bylaw Article 5 Section 1.

**Be it further resolved that** the new fee structure shall enter into force if approved by the Board of Directors and ratified by Council by July 31, 2019 or the Fall 2019 General Meeting, whichever is earlier.

*President Rongzhao Li and Ruo Tai Sun.*

The President explained the rationale behind the motion, mentioning that the Student Choice Initiative required MathSoc to separate out the fee. The motion would allow for the Board and Council to make decisions before the next General Meeting.

John Hunte asked if the University's Board of Governors would be doing this to retain fees from MathSoc. The timing is as such because the Board requires this to be done by May 2019.

*Secretary's Note:* At this point, someone was attempting to sneak into MC Comfy using MC 3001A rather conspicuously. They were unsuccessful.

Victor Brestoiu asked what services needed to be debundled from the fee.

The President said that Feds is requesting us to split the fee into two to four parts. The likely option is for us to split the fee into a MathNEWS fee and a MathSoc fee. Other, more detailed changes would likely require a restructuring of the membership structure,

which would require an approval of the General Meeting. The President emphasized that this is a tight situation and that the MathSoc Board of Directors needs to act quickly. Tiger Zhao asked if April would be too late. The President explained that he is trying to get an extension.

Victor Brestoiu asked what the ramifications would be if the Assembly didn't approve this. The President responded, stating that if MathSoc was unable to comply in time, it would probably result in the Board of Governors revoking the MathSoc fee. The Feds Board of Directors could also unilaterally override the MathSoc fee.

Victor Brestoiu asked if we could retain the \$12.50 MathSoc fee and introduce a new opt-in donation fee.

The President emphasized that all societies on campus are in survival mode and that MathSoc would likely come back to the next General Meeting with an update. He emphasized that MathSoc charges one of the lowest, if not the lowest, society fee on campus.

James Anderson asked if it would be satisfactory for MathSoc to split the fee into the MathNEWS fee and MathSoc fee. The President says that would be the current proposal.

**Motion carries** unanimously with John Hunte in favour and President Rongzhao Li, Secretary Deon Hua, Vice President Rahul Sirwani, Vice President Robert McHardy, Harleen Bhandal, and Chairperson Rosie DeFazio in abstention.

## REPORTS

*Motions arising directly out of a report, including to adopt recommendations in the report, may be considered immediately after the report without having to wait until later in the meeting. No action is required to receive a report. If the Assembly decides to adopt or accept a report, then it is endorsing the entire report and not just the recommendations.*

### PRESIDENT (RONGZHAO LI)

#### President's Report

The President noted that his report was a bit lengthy and would provide an overview of his report. He introduced his role in the organization and noted that he was working with the Math Faculty on trying to remove Work Term Reports from being included in GPA calculations. On his work related to the Federation of Students Council, he noted that he is pushing a new set of election regulations.

He explained that some of his special projects this term is to add G Suite for MathSoc, potentially adding Virtualization technology to the Office, and working with a Special Projects director to finish MathSoc's new website.

The President also noted that the Feds-Societies Agreement is up for negotiation and that he is working to defend MathSoc's interests. He emphasized that MathSoc this term has run a historic number of events. He is also working on negotiating a new agreement with

MFCF and noted that he has been working on an overall policy cleanup related to Council Attendance and Prohibiting Frats and Sororities.

Victor Brestoiu asked about the technologies-related Special Projects, notably the website.

The President explained that CSC and MFCF are responsible for everything up to the infrastructure and MathSoc's responsible for the content. He also noted that he would be trying to have MathSoc take over access-control and email infrastructure.

## VICE PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC (DEON HUA)

### VP Academic Report

The Vice President, Academic introduced his role in the organization and noted that he would highlight key sections of the report due to its length. He mentioned that CEE is piloting "reflective work term reports" to allow students to finish their work term reports during their PD courses. He noted that he would be pushing for flexibility in allowing students to complete different types of work term reports, like the blog-post style reports in SE.

He noted that the Rate my Work Term data will be available during the fall term and explained that discussions are currently going on regarding CECA's employment rate shown on its website, with a new website to launch hopefully in June 2019.

He noted some changes in CS courses and specializations and explained that the Faculty is leaving all joint majors intact for the time being, however, some plans are currently under review. He also noted that CS international student tuition is going to increase by 61% for incoming Fall 2019 students to match Software Engineering students' tuition. The Vice President, Academic explained that math international students' tuitions would not likely rise to match CS international tuition fees. He noted that beginning in 2020 or 2021, there would likely be fewer issues getting in upper-year CS classes.

He's been pushing for first-year cohorts. He noted that caps for first-year communication courses are increasing due to provincial funding cuts. He also provided some clarifications around the Work Term Report marking fee. The Vice President, Academic gave an overview of all the academics events organized this term and introduced a new agreement with the Math Undergraduate Office to keep the MathSoc textbook library updated.

Victor Brestoiu asked about how reflective reports would work if students were done their WKRPT credits but not their PD credits. The Vice President, Academic clarified that if students are done WKRPT when doing PD, then don't need to do the report portion.

Erik Arndt mentioned that there might be some confusion between the Computing Minor and the Computer Science Minor. The Vice President, Academic noted that this is a discussion that occurred at UAPC, and that there is a large difference between the CS minor and Computing minor. He explained that they are both now classified as Minors as the University's new nomenclature declared that plans accessible to anyone in the University be named as Minors. He expressed that he hoped the CS department would revisit this in the future if there is confusion.

Jacob Dawang asked if anything could be done to provide incoming students with more access to actual employment rates. The Vice President, Academic explained that Council is

exploring different avenues if CECA is not willing to provide more actual employment rates, including acquiring and publishing data on the MathSoc website.

Jacob Dawang asked if it is possible to screenshot and post the actual rates to the public, as seen on CECA's website. The Vice President, Academic saw no problem with that and added that CECA is working with IST to build a new employment-rate website with a more granular breakdown.

Erik Arndt asked if it would be possible for students to gain access to historic employment rates, noting that the current website only shows data from the last two terms. The Vice President, Academic noted that he would follow up with CECA and encouraged the member to email him to follow-up on this.

Victor Brestoiu asked if anything was being done now regarding upper-year CS course caps. The Vice President, Academic explained that the Faculty is attempting to hire new instructors and professors, but that the hiring process requires lots of time. In the meantime, the School is expanding ISGs to more courses to help instructors focus on research.

## **VICE PRESIDENT, FINANCES (RAHUL SIRWANI)**

### **VP Finance Report**

The Vice President, Finance introduced his role. He emphasized the importance of being fiscally responsible and the development of new policies.

He introduced some special projects he is currently working on and explained that he is computing some changes for the next semester regarding club reimbursement process. He also provided some clarifications around fee refunds and how they would be processed. The Vice President, Finance also mentioned a new process for CIF which would speed up requests and keep it accountable.

He also noted that he was working with affiliates like StarCon, Bayesian, and MathNEWS.

Jacob Dawang asked how people who are on co-op would get their cheque reimbursement. The Vice President, Finance noted that reimbursements are usually not a huge amount and explained that he has been working with Federation of Students to get a list of people getting reimbursement.

Victor Brestoiu asked about potential abuse of the MathSoc refund. He also asked about if alumni are being charged fees and expressed interest in continuing the discussion later.

## **VICE PRESIDENT, INTERNAL (ROBERT MCHARDY)**

### **VP Internal Report**

The Vice President, Internal gave an introduction to his position and noted that he has placed an emphasis on Mental Health with an introduction of new  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  distress events and a new Health Director. He has also held many collaborative events with the Math Undergraduate Office and Campus Wellness. He provided context on the budget and upcoming events.

## **VICE PRESIDENT, OPERATIONS (KRYSTLE TANG)**

### **VP Operations Report**

Garrett Hildebrandt is presenting on behalf of the Vice President, Operations, who could not attend at the moment due to classes. All lockers in MC have been updated to digital locks and the office is running well with some equipment purchased to improve the office environment.

## CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS (ROSIE DEFazio)

### Chair of the Board of Directors Report

The Chairperson introduced the current composition of the Board of Directors, and mentioned that new Directors would be elected at the GM. She explained recent updates on projects like the MathSoc website, a volunteer database, and the General Manager position and the approvals of the termly budget, a Coffee & Donut Shop renovation, and office redesign.

Chairperson Rosie DeFazio outlined next steps which would revolve around the Student Choice Initiative, Executive Evaluations for Fall 2018, the MathSoc and SE Soc MOU, MOU renewals, Board Procedure clean up, and planning out the MathSoc Office Redesign.

Lily Horne asked about consultation for office redesign and the timeline. The Chair mentioned that consultations would take place during Spring term with an online form as well. Chairperson Rosie DeFazio expressed hope that the office redesign could take place during August 2019. She also emphasized that new storage options would be explored to improve the functionality of the office.

Andreas asked if the Board has pursued options like the SLEF. The Chair mentioned that MathSoc might be able to apply for that.

## GENERAL ORDERS

### PRESENTATION ON SOCIETY FINANCES

The Vice President, Finance, presented the net income, revenue, and expenses of the society. He provided some updates on the Capital Improvement Fund, and listed some examples which it was used to fund, including new C&D dining room furniture, new garbage/recyclable bins, and a new neon sign. He also noted that the Coffee & Donut Shop has experienced large growths in revenues and sales, which is approaching \$1 million annually.

### REMOVAL OF THE MATH ENDOWMENT FUND (MEF) PRESENTATION

President Rongzhao Li noted that he just heard that the MEF Executive Director would not be able to attend the meeting and provide a presentation, due to unforeseen circumstances. He moved an amendment to the Agenda.

**Be it resolved that** the Agenda be amended to remove the "Presentation from the Math Endowment Fund (MEF) Director"

*President Rongzhao Li and Vice President Robert McHardy.*

**Motion carries** unanimously.

## PRESENTATION OF THE MATHNEWS BUDGET

James Anderson from MathNEWS provided some context on what MathNEWS is - a publication for the Math Faculty, mostly driven by writers, with recurring segments like ProfQUOTES.

*Secretary's Note:* The President zoomed in on the cricket on the new MathSoc website, which the Assembly greatly appreciated.

James noted about a \$5000 net for both Fall 2018 and Winter 2019 and mentioned that he was looking at ways to mitigate the net.

President Rongzhao Li noted that MathSoc is financially strong at the moment, but being part of Federation of Students, as a Non-Profit, sets a limit on the amount of money that we can hold in our accounts.

James noted that MathNEWS is hoping to increase advertisement and give swag. He also mentioned that there were plans to provide gifts to writers to appreciate their efforts.

## ELECTION OF AT-LARGE DIRECTORS

**Whereas** the MathSoc Board of Directors contains six independent, at-large seats filled by MathSoc members,

**Whereas** two seats on the Board of Directors are up for re-election;

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly elects \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to the Board of Directors for a one-year term, commencing in May 2019.

*Chairperson Rosie DeFazio and Garrett Hildebrandt.*

Chairperson Rosie DeFazio introduced the role of the Board of Directors, and provided context on the workload of Directors being about 5-10 hours per term.

*Secretary's Note:* The Secretary reacted with a \*shocked pikachu face\*, which prompted laughter from the Assembly.

Chairperson Rosie DeFazio elaborated further on the commitment and role of the Board, with President Rongzhao Li emphasizing the importance of the Board.

Vice President Robert McHardy nominated himself.

Chen Chai asked about the term commitment for Directors, which the Chairperson clarified to be one year, beginning in May 2019.

Tiger Zhao asked why the Secretary reacted as such earlier. The Secretary replied stating that the meeting time commitment seemed accurate, but that this term has been a bit of an anomaly with a large number of dramatic issues to handle.

*Secretary's Note:* The Chairperson later admonished the Secretary in a friendly manner for his reaction to her statement about the average workload of Directors. The Secretary noted that he would record that in the minutes.

Garrett Hildebrandt nominated himself.

Seeing no other nominations, the motion was amended to read:

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly appoints Garrett Hildebrandt and Robert McHardy to the Board of Directors for a one-year term, commencing in May 2019.

*Kevin Li and Chairperson Rosie DeFazio.*

**Adopted by *friendly amendment***

**Motion carries** unanimously, with Garrett Hildebrandt, Vice President Robert McHardy, and President Rongzhao Li in Abstention.

## INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE BYLAW AMENDMENTS

*Secretary's Note:* These amendments were originally submitted by Diana Chang, who was unable to attend.

**Whereas** MathSoc promotes an inclusive environment for all students;

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly adopt the following bylaw amendments:

### **Section 6.5 Convocation**

“4. The Dean or his designate.” → “4. The Dean or their designate.”

### **Section 7.8 Convocation**

“6. The Dean or his designate” → “6. The Dean or their designate”

### **Section 8.1.2 Incapacitation**

“In the event that an Executive Officer becomes unable to fulfill their duties, then three voting members of Council or the Board of Directors may, with the written approval of the Dean or his designate, declare that Executive Officer to be incapacitated.” → “In the event that an Executive Officer becomes unable to fulfill their duties, then three voting members of Council or the Board of Directors may, with the written approval of the Dean or their designate, declare that Executive Officer to be incapacitated.”

### **Section 8.1.3 Remuneration of Executives**

“In the event that an Executive fails to effectively perform his or her duties” → “In the event that an Executive fails to effectively perform their duties”

### **Section 8.3 President**

“For greater certainty, the President need not seek election to external bodies in order to satisfy the requirement that he represent the Society and its members.” → “For greater certainty, the President need not seek election to external bodies in order to satisfy the requirement that they represent the Society and its members.”

### **Section 8.7 Vice-President, Academic**

“For greater certainty, the Vice-President, Academic need not seek election to external bodies in order to satisfy the requirement that he represent the Society and its members.” → “For greater certainty, the Vice-President, Academic need

not seek election to external bodies in order to satisfy the requirement that they represent the Society and its members”

#### **Section 10.4 Proxies**

“Each member is entitled to designate anyone as a proxy to participate in his place at a general meeting.” → “Each member is entitled to designate anyone as a proxy to participate in their place at a general meeting.”

*Garrett Hildebrandt and Vice President Robert McHardy.*

Garrett Hildebrandt noted that the amendment was a cleanup to make the bylaws more gender inclusive.

Lily Horne asked if this list was comprehensive and if there is a way to add a catch-all.

President Rongzhao Li said that the General Meeting could give leave to Council to make additional amendments.

Lily proposed an amendment to add a clause to the motion:

**Be it further resolved that** the Assembly tasks Council to review the Society’s bylaws, policies, and procedures and make amendments as necessary to account for all instances of noninclusive language, for approval at the Spring 2019 General Meeting, if necessary.

*Lily Horne and Xiao Zhu.*

**Adopted by *friendly amendment***

*Secretary’s Note:* Council has the authority to amend the policies and procedures. Per Article 13 of the bylaws, any bylaw amendments would need to be submitted to a General Meeting by Council, or approved by both Council and the Board of Directors by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of both bodies and subject to confirmation at a General Meeting.

**Motion carries** unanimously, with Lily Horne in abstention.

## **RECESS**

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly recess for 5 minutes

*President Rongzhao Li and Chairperson Rosie DeFazio.*

At this point, a member noted that Dinner had arrived. The following amendment was moved:

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly recess for 20 minutes

*Secretary Deon Hua and Terry Chen.*

**Adopted by *friendly amendment***

**Motion carries** unanimously.

## BYLAW AMENDMENTS REGARDING GENERAL MEETING NOTICE

**Whereas** the current Bylaws require substantial accuracy to comply with General Meeting notice,

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly adopt the following amendment to Article 10:

Article 10. General Meetings

Section 2. Notice & Agenda

Notice shall be delivered to the voting members of the society via their official university email no less than ~~10~~ 15 business days before the meeting. The deadline for submissions shall be no less than 5 business days after Notice.

The complete agenda, including the full text of any motions for which notice shall be required, shall be delivered to the voting members of the society via their official university email no less than 5 business days before the meeting.

Posters detailing the time, place, and tentative agenda shall be posted in physical and visible locations within the Faculty buildings (currently DC, MC, M3) no less than 5 business days before the meeting.

The society should endeavour to publish notice of a meeting in the appropriate student publications.

~~Prior to five business days to the meeting, items~~ Items can be added to the agenda by

1. the President,
2. by Council,
3. by the Board of Directors,
4. or by any twenty five voting member upon petition in writing.

*President Rongzhao Li and Secretary Deon Hua.*

The President provided context on how the current notice schedule is unrealistic. Erik Arndt asked if 10 business days as it is right now is exact, of if more days could be given. The President clarified that more could be given. Jacob Dawang asked why the Agenda was tied to Notice, which the President clarified was to inform students about the General Meeting. There was some discussion around the purpose of Notice.

A member asked if we could send out a secondary notice, noting that 15 business days is a lot of time. The Secretary noted that this was already accounted for in the current bylaws, and read out the relevant section of the bylaws:

The complete agenda, including the full text of any motions for which notice shall be required, shall be delivered to the voting members of the society via their official university email no less than 5 business days before the meeting.

Jacob Dawang noted that the agenda submission deadline should be tied to the meeting date, as first Notice could be given in the first month of the term, to curtail submissions to a General Meeting. He moved an amendment to the motion, which would read:

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly adopt the following amendment to Article 10:

Notice shall be delivered to the voting members of the society via their official university email no less than 15 business days before the meeting. The deadline for submissions shall be no less than 10 business days before the meeting.

The complete agenda, including the full text of any motions for which notice shall be required, shall be delivered to the voting members of the society via their official university email no less than 5 business days before the meeting. Posters detailing the time, place, and tentative agenda shall be posted in physical and visible locations within the Faculty buildings (currently DC, MC, M3) no less than 5 business days before the meeting.

The society should endeavour to publish notice of a meeting in the appropriate student publications.

~~Prior to five business days to the meeting, items~~ Items can be added to the agenda by

1. the President,
2. by Council,
3. by the Board of Directors,
4. or by any twenty five voting member upon petition in writing.

*Jacob Dawang and Secretary Deon Hua.* Victor Brestoiu asked Jacob Dawang to clarify his rationale behind the amendment, which he provided.

**Adopted by *friendly amendment***

A member moved an amendment, which would change the motion to read:

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly adopt the following amendment to Article 10:

Notice shall be delivered to the voting members of the society via their official university email no less than 15 business days before the meeting. The deadline for submissions shall be no less than 5 days after Notice, and between 10 and 15 business days before the meeting.

The complete agenda, including the full text of any motions for which notice shall be required, shall be delivered to the voting members of the society via their official university email no less than 5 business days before the meeting. Posters detailing the time, place, and tentative agenda shall be posted in physical and visible locations within the Faculty buildings (currently DC, MC, M3) no less than 5 business days before the meeting.

The society should endeavour to publish notice of a meeting in the appropriate student publications.

~~Prior to five business days to the meeting, items~~ Items can be added to the agenda by

1. the President,
2. by Council,

3. by the Board of Directors,
4. or by any twenty five voting member upon petition in writing.

*Garrett Hildebrandt and Tiger Zhao.*

Victor Brestoiu suggested wording it with something like "with reasonable time be allowed for agenda submissions", which some members considered too broad.

President Rongzhao Li suggested fixing the deadline to 10 days before the meeting. Secretary Deon Hua checked the current bylaws to ensure that the amendment in question would still work with secondary Notice, and moved the following amendment to simplify the language:

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly adopt the following amendment to Article 10:

Notice shall be delivered to the voting members of the society via their official university email no less than 15 business days before the meeting. The complete agenda, including the full text of any motions for which notice shall be required, shall be delivered to the voting members of the society via their official university email no less than 5 business days before the meeting.

Posters detailing the time, place, and tentative agenda shall be posted in physical and visible locations within the Faculty buildings (currently DC, MC, M3) no less than 5 business days before the meeting.

The society should endeavour to publish notice of a meeting in the appropriate student publications.

Prior to ten business days to the meeting, items can be added to the agenda by

1. the President,
2. by Council,
3. by the Board of Directors,
4. or by any twenty five voting member upon petition in writing.

*Secretary Deon Hua and Garrett Hildebrandt.*

**Adopted by *friendly amendment***

**Adopted by *friendly amendment***

**Motion carries**

## **BYLAW AMENDMENTS REGARDING ELECTION SCHEDULES**

**Whereas** MathSoc bylaws currently require general elections to take place in the Fall for the three subsequent terms,

**Whereas** bylaw election requirements result in elections taking place up to a year in advance,

**Whereas** it is inappropriate for constituents from a single term to determine the composition of elected officers of MathSoc for all terms,

**Whereas** elections up to a year in advance causes numerous logistics issues, including with regards to student turnover and sequence changes.

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly adopts the following amendments to the bylaws:

### 9.1 General Election

General elections shall be held in ~~the fall term for each of the three terms of the subsequent year. In an election, a candidate does not need to run for each of the three terms for which the election is held. A single ballot shall be taken from each voter for all three terms in conjunction, and the results shall be evaluated separately for each term, but a candidate cannot win a term for which they are not running.~~ each term for the subsequent term. Elections shall be conducted using a preferential ballot system.

### 9.2 By-elections

In the event that one or more seats on Council or any of the executive positions become vacant during the first two months of a term, or is left vacant after an election, a by-election shall be held for those seats. ~~If a seat is vacant for a future term, then a by election may be held before the start of the vacant term.~~ If no by-election is held by the start of that term, one shall be held as soon as possible after the term begins.

### 9.3 Elected Executive & Upper-Year Reps

For the Executive Officers other than the Appointed Executives and the Representatives other than First Year and Software Engineering Representatives, general elections shall be held in ~~the fall term for each of the three terms of the subsequent year each term for the subsequent term. In an election, a candidate does not need to run for each of the three terms for which the election is held. A single ballot shall be taken from each voter for all three terms in conjunction, and the results shall be evaluated separately for each term, but a candidate cannot win a term for which they are not running.~~ Elections shall be conducted using a preferential ballot system.

*President Rongzhao Li and Garrett Hildebrandt.*

The President explained MathSoc's current election process and its problems. He moved an amendment to strike "or is left vacant after an election," from §9.2, with the final amendment to read:

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly adopts the following amendments to the bylaws:

### 9.1 General Election

General elections shall be held in each term for the subsequent term. Elections shall be conducted using a preferential ballot system.

### 9.2 By-elections

In the event that one or more seats on Council or any of the executive positions become vacant during the first two months of a term, a by-election shall be held for those seats. If no by-election is held by the start of that term, one shall be held as soon as possible after the term begins.

### **9.3 Elected Executive & Upper-Year Reps**

For the Executive Officers other than the Appointed Executives and the Representatives other than First Year and Software Engineering Representatives, general elections shall be held in each term for the subsequent term. Elections shall be conducted using a preferential ballot system.

*President Rongzhao Li and Secretary Deon Hua.*

#### **Adopted by *friendly amendment***

Jacob Dawang asked if it would make it more difficult for students on coop terms to run. The President noted that a number of Representatives this term, including himself, ran during a coop term and in a digital world that it is very viable.

**Motion carries** unanimously

## **GRAMMATICAL BYLAW AMENDMENTS**

*Secretary's Note:* This affects bylaw §8.10.3

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly adopts the following amendment to Article 10:

3. Distribute minutes of Council, the Board of Directors, and general meet meetings in a timely manner;

*Secretary Deon Hua and Jessica Jiang.*

The Secretary spoke to the motion.

**Motion carries** with Vice President Robert McHardy in favour and Leo in opposition.

## **BYLAW AMENDMENTS REGARDING THE SECRETARY**

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly adopts the following amendment to Article 7:

*Secretary's Note:* This amendment affects §7.12

At any time when there is no Speaker, the President shall have the powers and duties of the Speaker, as appropriate. At any time when there is no Secretary, the ~~Corporate Secretary~~ Secretary of the Society, or designate, shall have the powers and duties of the Secretary, as appropriate.

**Be it further resolved that** the Assembly adopts the following amendment to Article 7:

*Secretary's Note:* This amendment affects §7.12.2

3. Distribute minutes of each Council or general meeting in a timely manner after that meeting;
4. Report to Council when a Councillor is failing to meet the requirements of office ;  
~~and~~

*Secretary Deon Hua and Terry Chen.*

The Secretary explained that there is no Corporate Secretary, just a Society Secretary, since MathSoc is not a Corporation.

An amendment was moved:

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly add "and" after the ";" in §7.12.2(3)  
*Garrett Hildebrandt and President Rongzhao Li.*

**Adopted by friendly amendment**

Ruo Tai Sun asked if there was anything before the "and". Tiger Zhao asked if there was a 5th point at some point, which no one had an answer to.

The Secretary realized he forgot to add a period at the end of §7.12.2(4) when proposing the original motion and he moved an amendment:

*Secretary's Note:* Whoops.

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly amend §7.12.2(4) to read:  
Report to Council when a Councillor is failing to meet the requirements of office.  
*Secretary Deon Hua and Vice President Robert McHardy.*

**Adopted by friendly amendment**

A member moved an amendment to add the following clause to the motion:

**Be it further resolved that** the Assembly gives leave to the Society Secretary to make additional grammatical amendments to the bylaws, for ratification at the next General Meeting.  
*Kevin Li and Garrett Hildebrandt.*

**Adopted by friendly amendment**

A member proposed an amendment to add "a" before "designate" in §7.12, which would read as:

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly adopts the following amendment to Article 7:  
*Secretary's Note:* This amendment affects §7.12

At any time when there is no Speaker, the President shall have the powers and duties of the Speaker, as appropriate. At any time when there is no Secretary, the ~~Corporate Secretary~~ Secretary of the Society, or a designate, shall have the powers and duties of the Secretary, as appropriate.

*Tiger Zhao and President Rongzhao Li.*

Some discussion was had surrounding the correctness of "designate". Most members were in favour of keeping just "designate".

### **Withdrawn from Consideration**

With no further debate, the motion on the floor now reads:

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly adopts the following amendment to Article 7:

*Secretary's Note:* This amendment affects §7.12

At any time when there is no Speaker, the President shall have the powers and duties of the Speaker, as appropriate. At any time when there is no Secretary, the ~~Corporate Secretary~~ Secretary of the Society, or designate, shall have the powers and duties of the Secretary, as appropriate.

**Be it further resolved that** the Assembly adopts the following amendment to Article 7:

*Secretary's Note:* This amendment affects §7.12.2

3. Distribute minutes of each Council or general meeting in a timely manner after that meeting;
4. Report to Council when a Councillor is failing to meet the requirements of office.

**Be it further resolved that** the Assembly gives leave to the Society Secretary to make additional grammatical amendments to the bylaws, for ratification at the next General Meeting.

**Motion carries**

## NEW BUSINESS

### CECA

There was some discussion around the value students get from CECA. Some members discussed potential improvements to CECA's services for students.

A strawpoll was conducted.

*Secretary's Note:* There was noted laughter from Kevin Li, Secretary of Council.

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly tasks Council to follow up with CECA to improve their services, by having Employers provide a copy of their contact to students during the Interview Process.

*Victor Brestoiu and President Rongzhao Li.*

President Rongzhao Li suggested tasking a specific executive. Victor Brestoiu noted that he wanted to mostly gather opinions and withdrew the motion.

### **Withdrawn from Consideration**

There was some discussion around if providing contracts to students during the Interview Process would benefit students. Members Tiger Zhao and brought up concerns surrounding overhead and the content that would be listed on the contracts. Victor Brestoiu mentioned that the contracts would be useful for students to know what they would be signing on for. also mentioned that most employers are okay with students asking about compensation, but members and Jacob Dawang brought up that some interviewers are not comfortable discussing it or that they don't have the context.

Some members brought up concerns around overhead or timing surrounding contracts, given that some employers would not have the contracts available by the interview date. Tiger Zhao mentioned that instead of providing the exact legal text, CECA should encourage employers to provide compensation information on the listing. also mentioned that CECA needs to retain employers to provide coop opportunities for students.

## **STRAWPOLL**

Kevin Li brought up a concern about a Strawpoll conducted earlier in the meeting. He noted that Strawpolls are not permitted by neither Society Policy/Procedure nor the Parliamentary Authority, *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 11th Edition*.

**Parliamentary Inquiry:** Kevin Li asked how the Assembly could permit the use of Strawpolls.

The Secretary said that the Assembly could permit the use of Strawpolls in Policy/Procedure, or the Assembly could conduct a Strawpoll, have it ruled out of order, and overrule the Chair to set it in precedence.

There was some discussion around what strawpoll could be moved. The Secretary suggested holding a Strawpoll to gauge the Assembly's opinion of Strawpolls.

**Point of Order:** Garrett Hildebrandt rose on a Point of Order and said that Strawpolls are not permitted by *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 11th Edition*.

The Chair agreed and ruled the strawpoll Out of Order.

**Point of Information:** Tiger Zhao asked for clarification on what the current discussion was about, and the context of Strawpolls.

The President clarified that strawpolls aren't allowed under *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 11th Edition*.

Tiger Zhao asked why they are not permitted.

Kevin Li noted that strawpolls are non-binding and therefore useless for a deliberative assembly.

*Secretary's Note:* The relevant clause from *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 11th Edition* states:

STRAW POLLS NOT IN ORDER. A motion to take an informal straw poll to "test the water" is not in order because it neither adopts nor rejects a

measure and hence is meaningless and dilatory. If the assembly wishes to discuss and take a vote on a matter without the vote constituting final action by the assembly, it may instead vote to go into a committee of the whole or a quasi committee of the whole (52). Under these procedures, the assembly considers the matter as would a committee, and its vote while in committee of the whole (or quasi committee of the whole) serves only as a recommendation to the assembly, which the assembly is free to reject just as would be the case with regard to the report of any ordinary committee.

*Secretary's Note:* At this point in the discussion, the Secretary expressed some casual profanities. The Secretary would like it noted that he didn't want this noted in the minutes, but the Assembly overwhelmingly wanted it noted, so he has noted it begrudgingly.

Garrett Hildebrandt moved to Appeal the Decision of the Chair.

The Chair relinquished his position, and the Secretary became the temporary Presiding Officer. The Secretary explained the circumstances around the ruling and the results of overturning the ruling or not.

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly overrule the Chair.

*Garrett Hildebrandt and Kevin Li.*

**Motion carries**

As the Assembly has overturned the ruling of the Chair, a new precedence has been set by the Assembly on the 28th of March, 2019, allowing Strawpolls to be conducted.

*Secretary's Note:* The precedent set by the Assembly will be recorded and used by future Parliamentarians and Secretaries in advising the Chairs of future meetings.

## ADJOURNMENT

**Be it resolved that** the Assembly adjourns until the next General Meeting.

*President Rongzhao Li and Kevin Li.*

**Motion carries** with Priyonto Saha in Abstention.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 PM.