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## Agenda – June Teleconference

**Date:** June 21, 2015

**Location:** Teleconference

**Call to Order:** 9:07 pm

**Minutes:** Melissa Buckley

**Absent:** Conestoga, Lakehead, Ryerson, UOIT, Waterloo 'A', York

### Call to Order:

#### 1. Adoption of the Agenda

##### Motion by Executive to Approve the Agenda

Seconded by: University of Ottawa Engineering Society

##### Motion by the Executive to Amend the Agenda

**President:** The executive would like to motion to amend the agenda a motion which would be #7. The motion would be to allow a vote on the long range plan even though it wasn't distributed a week in advance.

**MOTION PASSES 9-0-0**

#### 2. Adoption of the Minutes

##### a. AGM Plenary 2015 Minutes

Seconded by: McMaster Engineering Society

**MOTION PASSES 9-0-0**

#### 3. AGM 2015 Feedback

**VP Comm:** Overall the organizing committee is very happy with how it went. The new AGM chairs for next year are going to be transitioned. The feedback for sessions and events was very good, thank you to everyone to participating. One thing was possibly running a session in the future on Robert's Rules. Everyone uses a different structure at their school so it might be something to bring up. The pictures have been delayed because of a memory card issue, hopefully getting those soon or at least the banquet photos.

#### 4. CFES Board Meeting

**CFES Representative (Spencer West):** Hopefully everyone got the email with the CFES member link. This coming weekend is CFES Summer meeting, part of that that we have our board of directors meeting. There is a call for any topics you would like to see at the agenda or anything you would like me to bring up at the board meeting. The deadline for amendments to the agenda is June 24<sup>th</sup> so that it can be circulated to the board ahead of time. I will be giving updates after the meeting as well as board meetings, you can always contact me for more updates: [ontario@cfes.ca](mailto:ontario@cfes.ca)

#### 5. Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities

**President:** I was at an MTC meeting two weeks ago, most of the discussion was on expansion of engineering programs and creating engineering programs at the two universities and number of colleges that don't offer engineering programs. The schools

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seem to think that the demand is there from the demand side for students and industry. We didn't include too much on this in the strategic plan on if we want council's opinions.

**Representative from Western University:** Is the question asking if we should have engineering programs at more schools?

**President:** Both at new schools and schools that have engineering programs want to expand as well. They want money from the government to do this and the question is whether or not that is a good idea.

**Representative from McMaster University:** Where are the funds coming from and where else could they be going if not expanding?

**President:** The Ministry of Training has constraints on how much money they have so they have to evaluate every year on where the money will go. It goes to education, so funding buildings etc. Currently the funding is given based on number of students, on enrollment. They are looking to change this funding model to a more progressive model. Currently they are asking myself (ESSCO) and the around 25 other representatives (including industry partners and associates from universities) for recommendations.

**Representative from Guelph University:** When you say there is demand from industry is that based on the people from industry making recommendations or based off surveys?

**President:** It's based on Stats Canada data. It's also based off what schools say, the ministry didn't touch too much on demand, they were more on the salary side. Only about 33% of engineers go into engineering so it depends on how we look at that data. Is there not enough demand for jobs or are engineers deciding to go into other fields? A lot of the universities see this as demand for engineers, whereas this may not be the case. How I see it is the schools are asking for more money because there is a high demand out of high school to come into engineering. There is a high potential for enrollment across the province to go up dramatically, however the infrastructure is not there. What concerns me is if Ontario is encouraging all universities to expand, are they going to be able to accommodate this demand?

Most of us feel our campus is overcrowded. It concerns me that the schools will focus on growing these programs but it might not benefit everyone else. Having engineering grow too large means that our students would be taking jobs from other programs which might not be the best thing. I would like to send an email to the facilitators with our concerns on drastic growth. Does council feel this is the stance ESSCO should be taking?

**Representative from Western University:** the stance being we're concerned about rapid expansion?

**President:** Yes rapid expansion and if there are long term benefits. A concern is that if we don't decide soon enough we can't take a stance, which has happened in the past. I will send out all the documents, please read them so we can be an effective advocating body. It is fine to let them know our recommendation later, however we don't want to wait too long and lose our opportunity. They may be taking recommendations meanwhile.

**Representative from Guelph University:** Will this be managed by the new ESSCO executive?

**President:** It is in the strategic plan, so if we go forward with that a representative from ESSCO should be going to these meetings and getting information back to council.

## 6. Year End Budget Review

**VPFA:** There are only two major changes since AGM to the budget. That is with Change Lab budget fees, this was originally associated with OEC delegate fees but we didn't have to pay for those this year so they went to Change Lab which Liam attended. Also there is an additional \$20.18 to the patches, because of import fees. The deposited fees of Guelph are now included, there are some fees sitting at McMaster so Laurentian and Westerns are not included, but we will be depositing those. Right now we have a slight surplus. For corporate revenue we had \$1500 this year, we didn't use any of it for the travel bursary because we got that late in the year. The plan is to utilize the surplus for travel bursary next year and I will be talking to the incoming VPFA. Nothing else has changed and we will add the additional revenue as it comes in.

**CFES Representative:** what is the surplus in the bank account, total?

**VPFA:** In the bank we have \$17 000. However we can't use this as travel bursary funds because there is no way to determine if it was corporate revenue or student fees.

**VPFA:** Will now entertain a motion to pass the 2014-2015 ESSCO Operating Budget.  
Seconded by: Western University Engineering Society.

### **MOTION PASSES (9-0-0)**

## 7. Motion for council to vote on long range plan

**President:** Didn't have time to do this before. The edits are not extensive, they are mostly in appendices and we added a second mission statement. It is better to put this document in place now and pass it so that the new executive can work on it sooner. It can always be worked on and change with ESSCO.

**Representative from Waterloo 'B':** Speaking on behalf of Waterloo 'A' but agrees. There wasn't enough time to look over the changes and if it is something council considers important than council may want to vote no.

**VPFA:** Yes it was sent out late, but hopefully everyone got to look over it at AGM and we had a session on it to go over the document. It is the responsibility of council to look over the document, there was time to go over the minimal changes. This is a living document and can be changed at any council meeting with a majority vote. It is not set in stone, but it will help new executive have a really good building block for the next year.

**President:** This document has also been out since AGM, if there were issues I would have hoped to have heard of them by now. The incoming president plans on going through the plan as well. If we wait too long, it could push back progress by another year (i.e., survey, board of advisors).

### **MOTION CARRIES 8-0-1**

**President:** The executive would now like to motion to implement the 5 Year Strategic Plan.

Seconded by: University of Ottawa Engineering Society.

**President:** I will continue working on the plan so that it is done right, and can do so with Jake (incoming President) if he wants me to. This is a living document and will adapt with the views of ESSCO as it grows.

**Jake (Incoming President):** I spoke with Andrew from McMaster briefly at AGM about this motion, it is important that ESSCO aims advocacy and it is good to have in the documents.

### **MOTION CARRIES 8-0-0**

#### **8. Motion 1: Update to Long Range Plan**

Seconded by: Laurentian University Engineering Society

- See Appendix A Motion 1

**Representative from McMaster University:** We feel that it is really important for students to know what ESSCO is, for the reasons stated in the weakness in the strategic plan. It is important to recognize with the strategic plan so we can work on it.

**Representative from Laurentian:** I agree, I didn't know about ESSCO until I joined council last year. It would be good if everyone knew what it was so they can take initiative.

**Representative from Western:** I think it is fair. Our student body pays fees to ESSCO so we should mandate somewhere that schools take an initiative to at least make them aware of what they are paying for.

**Representative from Waterloo 'B':** As our mission statement stands right now, ESSCO represents the collective interests of student societies. Is the long range plan supposed to push us towards the mission's statement or develop our goals? In the future, do we want to consider changing the mission statement in this regard?

**VPFA:** To explain why this was not placed in a weakness: ESSCO represents the societies, not the students. Although the fee structure is based off of student population, you can change that next time. We wanted to make the mission statement briefer. We are representing your student societies not your students, although a lot of people get caught up in the fee structure. The mission statement is currently on page 3 of the strategic plan and is a suggestion, council still has to pass it if they chose to.

**Ezekiel (incoming VP Services):** If there is anything you want ESSCO to help out with to make ESSCO more known to your school send us an email.

**VPFA:** If there is no other discussion, we can bring this to a vote.

### **MOTION PASSES (7-1-1)**

#### **9. Long Range Plan**

**President:** The change lab is a focus of our outreach section, we can definitely expand our outreach but right now our top priority should be working with the EWB change lab. I have placed ESSCO in the changing engineering education initiative as that has been our theme for the last year. The Engineering Knowledge and Skills Development Lab is chaired by the dean of Queen's and the head of engineering at OBT. What they're working on is implementing the Engineering Challenge where we would set up an oversight body that would then lobby to get funding (through CIB or the Dean's) and then ask schools in Canada to put forward a proposal on how they would address specific key issues. One would be picked and would receive funding to implement their plan. Throughout this process we would evaluate them and distribute this information around Canada. Right now we need to talk to the CAB and get approval and get funding from all the Dean's, should happen in October. Then we will get started with the oversight body. We want to run multiple test programs across Canada at the same time, as one test takes about 7 years. If we can run multiple tests and evaluate them along the way it will help us a lot more. This is the biggest change to the long range plan and has just been added now because I hadn't been to Change Lab yet.

## 10. Executive Updates

**President:** The board will meet soon, incoming President Jake has been invited. We have our executive transition weekend planned for next weekend.

**VPFA:** lots of clean up at this point, making sure we are leaving the new executive in a good place financially. Transition weekend is next weekend, we will be there for the first bit to help them transition and then they will start working on their stuff for the next year.

**VP Comm:** We're still waiting on pictures from AGM, as soon as I get those from the organizing committee they will be up and I can put the article from the conference up. Otherwise it is just transition stuff and getting all the accounts set up.

## 11. Adjournment

### **Motion by Executive to adjourn the meeting**

Seconded by: McMaster University Engineering Society

Motion Passes: 8 – 0 – 0

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## Appendix A

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### **Motion 1:**

Title: Update to Long Range Plan  
Mover: McMaster  
Seconder:  
Spirit: To amend the Long Range Plan after reviewing it at AGM 2015  
Whereas: An additional item was identified to be added to the SWOT Analysis  
BIRT: Section 5.2 of the Long Range Plan be amended to include the following:

### **Student Awareness**

Many of the students which ESSCO represents are unaware of the council's existence. As a result, services, conferences and surveys which ESSCO attempts to organize suffer from a lack of participation. In order for ESSCO to be more efficient and representative organization, students must be more aware of ESSCO.