



Petition to Reclaim Suspended Seat: North American Studies Students' Association March 14, 2018

Purpose

This report has been prepared by the Speaker of Council to provide the regulatory background information to members of AUS Legislative Council concerning the specific reasons for why the seat of the North American Studies Students' Association (NASSA) has been suspended as was announced at AUS Legislative Council on 2018-02-21.

Governance Context

Section 9.1.1 of the AUS Constitution states: “Departmental Associations will have their seat on AUS Council suspended indefinitely if they fail to attend two (2) or more scheduled meetings per semester.”

Section 9.1.2 of the AUS Constitution states: “Departmental Associations who fail to attend two (2) or more Council meetings per semester will lose their funding for the semester.”

Section 9.1.1.2 of the AUS Constitution states: “The seats can be reclaimed by a majority vote at the above council meeting”

Section 5.3.2 of the Standing Rules of Council states: “Departmental Associations that have failed to submit bi-weekly reports to two Council meetings throughout the academic year ... shall be subject to the same consequences as a failure to attend a single meeting of Council, up to and including suspension of funding for that Departmental Association.”

Within the meaning of section 5.3.2 of the Standing Rules of Council, “failure” to submit bi-weekly reports to two Council meetings includes reports that are both missing and late as it is the Speaker’s prerogative to set the deadline for submission of reports. Not submitting a report by the specified deadline reasonably means “failure” to submit the report as was stated in the Speaker’s Memorandum from 2017-11-08.

Reports that are submitted late are still posted to the AUS website on the meeting agenda such that the Executive, other Councillors, and departmental constituents can remain abreast of business within the Department.

The Speaker’s Memorandum of 2017-11-08 specifies that Councillors are to “inform the Speaker” if they are unable to attend Council.

Specific Circumstances

Academic year late reports (0.5):	Nov. 22, Jan. 10
Academic year missing reports (0.5):	Jan. 24, Feb. 7
Semester unexcused absences (1.0):	N/A
Semester total:	2.0 out of the permitted 2.0