IPPSSA Winter General Assembly

2024-2025

Sunday, March 2, 2025

GA-AG

Sunday, March 2

Time zone: America/Toronto

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: https://meet.google.com/zxc-dppr-kdy
Or dial: (US) +1 502-473-9506 PIN: 949 390 044#

ENGLISH VERSION

Pour la version française, veuillez consulter: 🗏 HIVER 2025 FR AG

• CALL TO ORDER (5 mins)

Mathis Filiatrault calls the meeting to order at 2:20 PM.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT (2 mins)

V. Raina acknowledges that this meeting is taking place on the unceded and unsurrendered territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabe people. She expresses that we must actively work to decolonize this space.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (2 mins)

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA

Moved: E. Viger; Seconded: S. Mathieu

BE IT RESOLVED that the agenda be as follows:

Welcome/Introduction

- Executive Updates
- Budget presentation
- Motions
- Varia
- End

Debate:

Result on Main Motion:

WELCOME/INTRODUCTION (5 mins)

M. Filiatrault: Mathis introduces himself and explains the general meeting procedure (3 debates for and 3 debates against). Speaking time is 5 minutes and must include amendments. Make sure to be respectful of others, there are some contentious/sensitive topics on tap today. Reserves the right to end a speech if it's too negative & directed towards a person (vs. and idea or motion).

EXECUTIVE UPDATES (15 mins)

President: Erin Viger

E. Viger: Quick exec update, for all executives to stay near the podium for a quick Q&A.

VP Internal: Sasha Mathieu

- Other: Helping with committee, chair hirings
- Meeting minutes
- Volunteer hours & other admin duties
- Charity Show on March 7th, 2025
- Shoutout to Raagini for all of her help!

VP Finance: Daniel Hodge

- Audit #1 is virtually done, just need to compile the receipts
- Audit #2 will follow
- In general: Finances seem relatively stable
 - Budget overruns aren't very common
- The problems: Organization & Inconsistency

VP PAP: Jérémie Gorman

- Public Policy Challenge (topic: food insecurity), a great turnout and a good success.
- Upcoming academic conference.
- Government evaluation of the public administration program, Jérémie is helping with this one.
- Collaboration with faculty and school for convocation.
- Committee appreciation: Marc-Olivier, Mélissa, Justin, Eunice.

VP EIL: Dominique Bustamante Leigh

- Successful embassy visits;
- Working on diplomatic simulation;
- Many thanks to my committee volunteers!

VP POL: Michael Clark

- Prof-student event (remote);
- Assisted with upcoming academic conference;
- Met with faculty to discuss student concerns.

VP Franco: Benjamin Dennie

- Big success with Franco Karaoke.
- Constantly doing traductions (GA + Constitution).
- Working with JDSP; working to renegotiate with them right now.
- Working on organizing something for Francophonie Month.
- Committee shoutout!

VP Phil: Darian Padyk

- Battle of the Bands.
- IPPSSA Merch; students can buy a piece.
- Sandy Hill Winter Classic.

VP Equity: Vaishnave Raina

- Fairness complaint management;
- New equity policies to improve efficiency;

- Sexual harassment policy
- Equity training for executives;
- Vaish invites members to come to his office hours if they have any concerns.
- Committee shoutout: Charley, Sarah, Aaron, Renee, Tia.

VP Social: Kordelia Murphy

- Buy your tickets for BSS;
- Month of Frost;
- Broken Heart Karaoke;
- Upcoming talent show.

VP Comms: Lien Huynh

- New logo and IG account for the academic conference;
- New format for IG and newsletter;
- Website update (new photos and a new page for the academic conference)
- Shoutout to the committee!

Senior year rep: Mira Buckle

- Hosted student-prof Social Fall 2024
- Ran internship program (excited to see how it'll work next week!)
- Thanks to my committee (Mirko)!

2nd year rep: Daniel Eskiocak

- Regular informal consultations with second-year students.
- The mentoring program could not be implemented, hoping for a better succession next year.

1st year rep: Ari Chua

- First year events!! Good turnout
 - Slime night
 - Snowman building competition
- First year handbook for all future first years.
- Don't hesitate to submit your advice for the first few years.

Director of MPSP: Ryan Chang

- Thanks to everyone who participated in the MPSP;
- Public meeting (information is being compiled);
- Two booklets are being prepared for next year (for committees and participants);
- Committee applications to open soon;
- Committee assessment 18 members

Director of yPolitika: Yara Idris

- A year of transformation;
- Preparations for the academic conference competition;
- New name, new cover: Politika;
- Shoutout to the committee for their excellent work.

QUESTION PERIOD (IPPSSA President Lead; 15 mins)

- Q: Sophia Andrew-Joyner: Question for finance why do we have more than one financial/bank account open?
 - A: Erin Viger (President): We were supposed to make it into one
 - Working with Desjardins, difficulties with the signing authorities
 - Finance resigned in between the two bank accounts open with TD and Desjardin
 - Every single exec signing authority on paper and not digitally
- Q: Rayne Daprato: How are SSB sales going? And why do we have multiple Instagrams for events?
 - A: Kordelia Murphy:
 - Ticket sales are okay, more physical marketing
 - A lot of people don't have Instagram
 - WE DID NOT WANT THE SEPARATE INSTAGRAM!!!

MOTIONS FOR WINTER 2025

MOTION 1: Motion for the Standardization and Clarification of Election Procedures *Moved:* Matthew Edginton; *Seconded:*

WHEREAS the clarity and consistency of election rules is important for the democratic process;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article 10.10 of the IPPSSA Constitution be amended to read as follows:

10.10. Uncontested elections will be run with a "Yes or No" Ballot. In order to be elected, the candidate must receive a "Yes" vote from at least 2/3rds of all votes cast for that position, excluding abstentions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Article 13.10 of the IPPSSA Constitution be amended to read as follows:

13.10. A simple majority of 50% of votes cast plus one, excluding abstentions, is required for a referendum question to pass. In the case of a tie, the motion fails.

DEBATE

- Vaishnave Raina:
 - In meetings, we follow Roberts Rules, because of Robert's Rules it sets a precedent.
 - There is an existing precedent, so therefore it is not okay to count abstentions for one election.
- Marie Ange-Boulerice:
 - Would there be an option for abstention?
- Matthew Edginton/Vaishnave Raina:
 - There will be abstentions.

For: NA A	Against: NA	Abstain: NA
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Result: Defeated

MOTION 2: Motion to amend the ad-hoc Impeachment Committee

Moved: Matthew Edginton; Seconded: Daniel Hodge

WHEREAS the IPPSSA should remove members of the executive who have committed impeachable offences;

WHEREAS the current rules surrounding the impeachment process, in particular the ad-hoc committee, represent a significant barrier which disincentivizes the use of the impeachment mechanism, and;

WHEREAS having a clear and simple set of rules for the impeachment process and for the selection of the impeachment committee will give clarity to everyone involved in an impeachment process;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article 9.6 of the IPPSSA Constitution be amended to read as

- follows:
- **9.6** The ad-hoc Impeachment Committee shall consist of 5 students that are not members of IPPSSA.
- **9.6.1** The President, the VP Internal and the VP Equity (hereafter referred to as the appointing executives) will work collectively to appoint an ad-hoc Impeachment Committee posthaste.
- **9.6.2** In the event that one or more of the appointing executives has a conflict of interest, they must recuse themselves. It will be the responsibility of the Executive to nominate replacements by a 2/3rds vote.
- **9.6.3** The appointing executives should select committee members based on their availability for meetings and diverse representation.

- Ben Cameron:
 - \circ Five member committee, 4/5 maybe lower it to $\frac{2}{3}$ would be a good idea for impeachment and to vote.
- Maya Sinclair: Agenda reordering?
 - o Been a member on the IPPSSA exec
 - Do not trust that the VP internal, President and Finance will make a unanimous decision to elect 5 people on a committee.
 - Personal drama, prefer to send it back to a GA or referendum, rather than a friend or personal reason to elect someone to committee.

- GA Chair:
 - No amendment due to chair reordering.
- Matthew Edginton:
 - Haven't amended the process in which the committee makes the decisions.
 - Just in there from the constitution for simplicity
 - There is still language in there for execs to step away in case of conflicts of interest
- Maya Sinclair:
 - o 5 people who are non-IPPSSA students to remove execs from their position
 - It's a poor idea to allow execs who may have conflicts of interest, even if not they still work together.
- Jordan Malcolm:
 - Doesn't make sense for students from other programs to make decisions regarding IPPSSA students without knowing what IPPSSA stands for.

For: 20	Against: 21	Abstain: 10
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Result: Defeated

MOTION 3: Use Discord for Internal IPPSSA Communications

Moved: Yusuf Raman; Seconded:

WHEREAS AÉÉIPPSSA currently uses Slack for all internal communications between executives, committees, and various other volunteers;

WHEREAS Slack has a more complex onboarding process for users joining the AÉÉIPPSSA Slack;

WHEREAS Slack notifications often malfunction and are not sent, and are also less customizable;

WHEREAS Slack hides all messages older than 90 days behind a paywall;

WHEREAS Discord has the same functionality and almost the same user interface as Slack, without any of the aforementioned issues;

BE IT RESOLVED that AÉÉIPPSSA transitions to a Discord server for all internal communications, by May 1st, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Discord server have a public channel open to all AÉÉIPPSSA members, for members to voice their questions and concerns, and to serve as a line of communication between general members and executives.

DEBATE

- Lien Huynh:
 - Slack is better professionally
 - I'm not making a separate account for IPPSSA
 - No point for me to log out and go through the whole login system and I'm missing notifications
- Erin Viger:
 - This does not have to be in the constitution
 - o Before Slack it was Facebook messenger
 - We can just decide what we want to use
 - Nothing written down that says we need to use Slack
- Daniel Eskiocak
 - Separate professional and personal spaces
 - If its not broken, don't fix it
 - Good operational platforms

	For: 1	Against: 38	Abstain: 6
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Result: Defeated

MOTION 4: Motion for Endorsement of Boycott, Divestments and Sanctions (BDS) and Ethical Procurement Policy

Moved: James Adair; Seconded: Rayne Daprato

WHEREAS in 1948, the state of Israel was established through the expulsion of the majority of the Indigenous Palestinian population, turning them into refugees whom decades later still cannot exercise their fundamental right to return as stipulated in UN General Assembly resolution 194;

WHEREAS since 1967, Israel has occupied and colonized the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem, building illegal Jewish-only settlements – which the UN has called a "flagrant"

violation of international law – as well as an 8-metre segregation wall – condemned by the International Court of Justice;

WHEREAS Israel's entrenched system of racial discrimination against its own Arab-Palestinian citizens remains intact;

WHEREAS Israel systematically obstructs Palestinians students' right to education through military checkpoints and roadblocks, its 8-metre segregation wall, and the frequent closure of cities, routinely preventing thousands of student and teachers from reaching their schools and universities;

WHEREAS on July 9, 2005, 171 Palestinian civil society organizations called upon people of conscience around the world to implement a global campaign of boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) against Israel, similar to those applied to South Africa in the apartheid era;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (RSG) join student organizations - including the University of Ottawa Student Union - around the globe by endorsing the 2005 Palestinian civil society call for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS), recognizing that the right to education is a fundamental human right;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the following be added to the constitution:

- 15. Ethical Procurement
- 15.1 AÉÉIPPSSA commits to following the BDS national boycott list for all purchasing, contracting, partnering, and licensing.
- 15.1.1 AÉÉIPPSSA commits to upholding an academic and cultural boycott of Israeli institutions, organizations, and persons who can reasonably be seen to be complicit and supportive in the Israeli dispossession of Palestine

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT AÉÉIPPSSA commits to the divestment of all funds, scholarships, and partnerships, with organizations and individuals complicit in the ongoing genocide in Palestine within the next academic year 2025-2026, including but not limited to groups on the BDS list, and groups which have publicly expressed support of the Israeli occupation and IDF genocide in Palestine

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT AÉÉIPPSSA bring up these concerns with their faculty and administration counterparts, and pressure the faculty and University to boycott and divest as well.

- James Adair (Motioner):
 - Procurement motion as opposed to Political motion.
 - Makes sense as an organization on campus and our procurement products.
 - Legacy of IPPSSA to take at least one Indigenous politics course.
 - Applying values that a lot of IPPSSA holds, many people voted in favour of BDS.
 - Surge of support of our money to go somewhere aside from companies that support non-ethical procurement.
 - o If UOSU can do it, we can do it.
- Tresor Huyghe (In Favour):
 - Not a radical motion.
 - If IPPSSA was to divest from Russian corporations, that wouldn't be an issue for debate.
 - It is not a political fact to state that the total number of people killed is 300k.
 - It's ridiculous to debate against a motion that is obviously a moral issue.
- Jeremie Gorman (Against):
 - Fully agree that we are a political organization.
 - Not allowed to boycott a sponsor or organization directly.
 - Perhaps an amendment, remove the person and keep the organization as a whole.
- Matthew Edginton (For):
 - Call to question.
- Lien Huynh (Against):
 - Appreciation for the sentiment of the motion.
 - Hinder the abilities of IPPSSA to deliver services to the students of IPPSSA.
 - Cannot afford to commit to this list.
 - Creates a burnout environment.
 - List of companies which would affect us: Costco and Loblaws, would love it if we could put our money into local businesses, but we cannot afford that.
 - University of Ottawa is also on this list.
 - Would hinder the relationships with the university and other organizations within the institution with IPPSSA who have not adopted this list.
 - Lowest kit prices because we can afford to subsidize.
 - Somewhat political because it is also a violation of the constitution.
 - Not be able to do anything because it would constitute a political action.
 - Not a human rights club nor organization, committed to serving all students, no matter the political affiliation.
 - Wix and Google are also on this list; we would have to create a website from scratch. All of our accounts are on Google, this would be taxing + expensive.

- Dawoud Najmudin (For):
 - It's very embarrassing for IPPSSA that UOSU beat us to the motion.
 - Student movements have been at the forefront of any political movements such as the fall of the Soviet Union, the apartheid in South Africa.
 - We have the right to speak about the issue and the motion, we have many members who are palestinian and have lost family members.
 - Goes against DEI policies within IPPSSA.
 - Advocacy for people who are also going through similar events and events in the past. (will change wording)
 - Please vote for this motion!
- Dominique Bustamante (Against)
 - Not my personal opinions, on behalf of IPPSSA and the student association.
 - As we receive thousands of dollars, we have to pay off multiple organizations and have a very hard time trying to afford and pay for the services that are provided for the students.
 - Extraordinary things to budget for events, and that we are mandated by the constitution to deliver to students.
 - However, we cannot afford to raise prices through procurement due to financial constraints on the organization.
 - Urge to explore further upon, newly formed finance committee of guidelines and a list for more equitable and ethical procurement.
 - Divesting immediately would do more harm financially and on students than positive.
- Maya Sinclair:
 - Point of Information:
 - Does the chair have the ability to limit the amount of speakers unilaterally and prevent people from speaking.
- Ben Cameron:
 - No one challenged it because it wasn't relevant.

10 MINUTE BREAK: RESUME @4:13pm

- Mathis, GA CHAIR:
 - We cannot limit the number of speakers
 - Until the speaker list is exhausted.
 - One opportunity to speak, no reset of the speaking list.
 - If you want to move an amendment, do it while speaking.
- Marie-Ange Boulerice:

- Asking for a Secret Ballot Motion for Motion 4.
- Cherine Bougandoura (For):
 - Everyone brought up really good points, regarding implementation.
 - As a political science organization, it is our role to pick a stance on this situation.
 - Brands within Costco e.g. how would we go about doing that.
 - If UOSU did it and they're still fine, why would/should there be an issue for IPPSSA?
- Kavi Vidya Achar (For):
 - Understand that there can be logistical challenges.
 - The work required does not supercede the motion itself
 - The amount of work does not have a place in the debate itself.
 - The purpose of electing the representatives is to represent student sentiment.
- Vaishnave Raina (Against):
 - Look at some of the things that were just said.
 - Purely organizational standpoint.
 - This motion puts a lot of work into being able to adapt it.
 - Something that needs to be discussed prior to presenting the motion.
 - Perhaps set up a committee, so we could further discuss alternatives.
 - Other RSGs are not following this list in any way.
 - Other political clubs on campus are partisan. Therefore we are unable to work with them.
 - Goes against our constitution.
 - We would have to take a look at our constitution.
- Miriam Abdalla (For):
 - o 2 points:
 - (1) Feasibility: Regarding the list of boycotted companies
 - List of priority targets; about 10.
 - We do not need to use the full comprehensive list of Boycotted companies
 - BDS has a more feasible list
 - (2) Ostracization: Regarding IPPSSA's political stances
 - We cannot work with organizations who have taken a stance
 - We should be able to take a stance because IPPSSA is a political organization.
- Erin Viger (Against):
 - No reiteration, from an organizational point of view.
 - o Are you going to stick through the GA and discuss our other agenda points?

- Sexual assault policy, eco-friendly/responsible banking... etc.
- Alex Stratas (For):
 - Advocacy commissioner for UOSU.
 - Not much organization for the sexual violence prevention policy, people came organized for this movement.
 - Speaking on behalf of UOSU
 - With a much larger budget, this is still manageable.
 - Asking IPPSSA to do something that is incredibly feasible.
 - You are representative of an organization that is political.
- Amina Latifa Adams (Against):
 - Some concerns about this motion regarding efficacy and the place of the motion.
 - What if we are electing people who don't support or do support the boycott list.
 - Nothing stopping the execs to implement the BDS list maybe they should be elected on that.
 - Leave it to the choice of the elected officials.
 - What about Jewish students and family who are in support of the Israeli government and who do support the government?
 - What about non-Jewish students who do support Israel?
 - We do have to run this as a democracy.
- Yusuf Rahman (For):
 - Friendly Amendment:
 - RSG -> IPPSSA
 - Specifications of BDS Target List
 - Inclusion of Alphabet Inc. (Google)
 - Change would be unconstitutional.
 - Friendly amendment was accepted changes added to the GA motions document.
- Daniel Hodge (Against):
 - UOSU has already done it.
 - Have not departed from using Costco, Google and Microsoft.
 - Has a larger budget than IPPSSA does.
 - We cannot afford to make the change because the argument is flawed regarding IPPSSA's finances.
- Hazel Downey (For):
 - Costco is not on the BDS list that is provided.
 - Argument that elected officials should choose is wrong.

- Students should be able to make decisions and vote democratically on this motion and topic.
- You can make amendments to make it more feasible for the students.
- Jordan Malcolm (For):
 - UOSU was able to do it because they have a bigger budget than IPPSSA.
 - o It will be a lot of work but it is feasible.
- Brandon Ly (Against):
 - o Privileged in the sense that we are able to come and discuss this.
 - Do not agree due to the circumstances of the day.
 - o Rather be a topic for elections or a different day.
- Reem El-Charfa (For): Representative of the Palestinian Student Association
 - Boycotting American products due to tariffs, etc.
 - It's not as difficult as it seems, with time and dedication it is possible.
- Daniel Eskiocak (Against)
 - More clarity on the companies that need to be targeted.
 - Regarding future execs, they need specifics on the list and which priorities need to be boycotted.
 - E.g. Intel Exec can't use?
 - If the motion was specified then we would be able to make the necessary changes.
 - Boycotting the BDS priority would be a stance that IPPSSA could possibly take.

For: 42 Against: 27 Abstain: 2

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe9eqU5qTjuj4re7RWtp2q75wVxo6h-zc_grQT83Q47G HXIiw/viewform?usp=sharing

Result: Defeated (did not meet 2 third quota)

Result: Defeated

MOTION 4.1: Call to Question	on Motion 4	
For: 29	Against: 24	Abstain: 2

MOTION 4.2: Secret Ballot Voting

Moved by: Marie-Ange Boulerice

For: 41 Against: 20 Abstain: 3

Result: Passed (by majority vote; not 2/3)

MOTION 5: Motion to open ticket sales for 24 hours to IPPSSA students' who have not previously gone on US Trip

Moved: Dominique Bustamante Leigh, Seconded: Ben Cameron

WHEREAS students who attend US trip effectively receive a \$150-300 subsidy from IPPSSA.

WHEREAS a first-come first-serve system for the purchasing of US Trip tickets means tickets are acquired by the most connected IPPSSA members.

WHEREAS some IPPSSA students have attended US Trip 3 years in a row, effectively receiving a \$500+ subsidy from IPPSSA.

WHEREAS the US Trip is a valuable, popular program that should be maintained, but subsidies for the trip should be more equitably distributed.

BE IT RESOLVED that for the 2025 US Trip, the first week twenty-four hours of ticket sales be exclusively open to IPPSSA students who have not previously attended US Trip (with the exception of Executives).

- Dominique Bustamante Leigh (Presenter):
 - VP EIL responsible for organizing US Trip
 - People who went on their 3rd or 4th US Trip
 - Subsidized trip
 - People were disappointed that they couldn't make it even though there were people who had attended multiple times before
 - Equitable usage of IPPSSA resources
- Lien Huynh:
 - Amendment to change one week to twenty four hours

	For: NA	Against: NA	Abstain: NA
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Result: Passed by UC

MOTION 6: Motion to create a VP Clubs

Moved: Erin Viger; Seconded: Benjamin Dennie

WHEREAS IPPSSA aims to support and enhance student engagement through affiliated clubs.

WHEREAS formalizing the Vice President of Clubs role will ensure structured oversight and improved coordination,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT section 7.16 be added to the IPPSSA Constitution, establishing the role of Vice President of Clubs (VP Clubs) as an Executive Member:

- 7.16 Vice President of Clubs
- **7.16.1** The Vice President of Clubs shall act as the primary liaison between IPPSSA and all affiliated clubs.
- **7.16.2** The VP Clubs shall assist clubs with event planning, funding applications, and logistical support.
- **7.16.3** The VP Clubs shall ensure clubs adhere to the IPPSSA Constitution, policies, and university regulations.
- **7.16.4** The VP Clubs shall coordinate the recognition and renewal process for affiliated clubs.
- **7.16.5** The VP Clubs shall represent club interests at executive meetings and general assemblies.
- **7.16.6** The position shall be elected in the same manner as other executive roles, with a term aligning with the academic and year.
- **7.16.7** The VP Clubs must demonstrate functional proficiency in both French and English to effectively communicate with all affiliated clubs and members of the Association.

- Vaishnave Raina (For):
 - o JDSP is one of the central clubs for VP clubs
 - Maybe Model United Nations would have been helpful to appoint to VP clubs
 - Having someone on IPPSSA to support clubs would be beneficial
- Rayne Daprato (For):
 - Questions:

- What is the plan for the upcoming year? Is it being used as a transition year?
- Erin Viger (response):
 - In the fall for VP Clubs mandatory applications would be open.
- Rayne Daprato:
 - Amendment: BE IT RESOLVED that 7.16.2 be amended to read as follows "The VP Clubs shall ensure IPPSSA affiliated clubs adhere to the IPPSSA Constitution and policies, the UOSU clubs policy, and university regulations
 - They need to be following UOSU clubs policies insuring and liability issues for UOSU and IPPSSA

For: 33	Against: 4	Abstain: 0
Result: Passed		

MOTION 7: Motion to approve the IPPSSA Clubs Policy Manual

Moved: Erin Viger; Seconded: Benjamin Dennie

WHEREAS the International, Political, and Policy Studies Student Association (IPPSSA) seeks to establish clear guidelines and procedures for the recognition, operation, and governance of affiliated clubs;

AND WHEREAS it is essential to ensure consistency, transparency, and fairness in club operations while fostering an environment that supports student engagement and leadership;

AND WHEREAS the proposed IPPSSA Clubs Policy Manual outlines the roles, responsibilities, and expectations for affiliated clubs, including the recognition process, event planning, funding eligibility, code of conduct, and sanctions for non-compliance;

BE IT RESOLVED that the General Assembly of IPPSSA approves the IPPSSA Clubs Policy Manual as outlined in the <u>attached document</u>; <u>UPDATED VERSION</u>

FURTHER RESOLVED that this policy manual will be implemented immediately upon approval and will serve as the governing document for all IPPSSA-affiliated clubs.

- Rayne Daprato (For):
 - Moving an amendment to substitute the current Annex with an updated and current version.
 - Preamble which is just definitions

	 The Club activity report is a requirement from the club. 			
For: NA Against: NA Abstain: NA				
Result: PA	SSE	D BY UC		

MOTION 8: Motion to Request for Official Recognition of the JDSP Club under IPPSSA Moved: Eya Ben Nejm; Seconded: Cherine Bougandoura

WHEREAS the club Les Jeux de la Science Politique (JDSP) has demonstrated its potential as a dynamic and engaged student project, enriching student life and offering students experiential learning in various political fields;

WHEREAS the creation of an executive position dedicated to clubs within the governance of AEEIPPSSA will foster better coordination and greater synergy between JDSP and AEEIPPSSA;

WHEREAS the official recognition of JDSP under AEEIPPSSA will strengthen the structure and organization of the club, providing a formal framework for its activities and better resource management;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the General Assembly of AEEIPPSSA approve the official recognition of JDSP as an official club under the association, and that JDSP establish a constitution and benefit from the advantages associated with this recognition, including resources, visibility, and funding.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT JDSP commits to representing AEEIPPSSA, reflecting its values, and contributing to increasing its visibility and impact within the student community.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT JDSP maintains direct links with the Vice-President of Clubs, while working closely with other executive positions within the association to ensure smooth collaboration and optimal integration within AEEIPPSSA.

- Cherine Bougandoura (Motioner):
 - We want to amend the clause to adhere to the values of IPPSSA temporarily.
- Marie-Ange Boulerice:
 - Concerns about JDSP already having an office in FSS and the clubs independence

• Eya Nejm:

 Important to have French and Franco-Ontarien representation and certainly within IPPSSA.

Benjamin Dennie:

- I understand that the relationship between IPPSSA and JDSP has been uncertain in the past few years.
- It would be beneficial to structure a relationship this way to ensure accountability in finances and support.
- Great way to promote la francophonie

	For: 27	Against: 2	Abstain: 7
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Result: PASSED

MOTION 9: Motion for the Adoption of the IPPSSA Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy Moved: Vaishnave Raina; Seconded: Suzanne Gruz

Whereas sexual violence and harassment is a concern for universities everywhere, and it is the job of the Student Government and University to put safeguards in place at events to prevent incidents of sexual harassment.

Whereas the University of Ottawa released Policy 67b in 2016 detailing the potential consequences and actions taken to prevent sexual harassment.

Whereas it is IPPSSA's duty to ensure their members feel safe at events on and off campus.

Therefore be it resolved that the following sexual harassment prevention policy be adopted into IPPSSA's constitution under Annex D:

IPPSSA Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy

1. Purpose

This policy aims to reaffirm the International, Political and Policy Study Student Association's (IPPSSA) commitment to fostering a safe and respectful environment for all members, free from sexual harassment. It outlines our dedication to preventing sexual violence, providing support to those affected, and ensuring compliance with the University of Ottawa's Policy 67b on the Prevention of Sexual Violence.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all members of IPPSSA, including elected representatives, volunteers, and participants in our programs and events, whether these occur on or off-campus or through digital platforms.

3. Definitions

- Sexual Harassment: Engaging in a course of vexatious comment or conduct of a sexual
 nature that is known or ought reasonably to be known to be unwelcome. This
 includes, but is not limited to, unwanted sexual attention, implied or expressed
 promises of reward for sexual favors, threats of reprisal for refusing such advances,
 and any behavior that creates a poisoned environment.
- Poisoned Environment: A negative psychological and emotional environment for work or study, created by comments or conduct that constitute harassment or discrimination.

4. Policy Statement

IPPSSA prohibits any form of sexual harassment within its operations and activities. We are committed to:

- **Prevention**: Implementing proactive measures to prevent sexual harassment through education and awareness programs and executive training.
- **Support**: Providing accessible support and resources to individuals affected by sexual harassment, and promoting resources offered by the university.
- Response: Ensuring timely and effective responses to incidents of sexual harassment, including clear procedures for reporting and addressing complaints.

5. Reporting Procedures

Members who experience or witness sexual harassment are encouraged to report the incident promptly. Reports can be made to:

- Vice President of Equity and Activism: Can be reported anonymously through IPPSSA's reporting form, but please note that anonymous reports cannot be investigated.
- University Resources: The University of Ottawa's Human Rights Office, which provides
 information and support regarding harassment and discrimination
 (https://www.uottawa.ca/about-us/administration-services/human-rights-office).

6. Confidentiality

All reports and investigations will be handled with strict confidentiality to protect the privacy of all individuals involved, in accordance with applicable laws and university policies.

7. Investigation and Resolution

Upon receiving a report, IPPSSA's VP Equity will:

- Initiate an Investigation: Conduct a fair and impartial investigation into the allegations. All parties will be talked to, hence why anonymous reports cannot be followed up with.
- Create a report with all information collected: Will be maintained in the VP Equity drive for future reference.
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that following the words in s.7 "Upon receiving a report, IPPSSA's VP Equity will:" the following be added" > refer the reporting party to the Human Rights Office of the University as well as a resource list that is created by the VP Equity and reviewed annually." VP Equity will work in consultation with the Human Rights Office however the HRC will conduct the whole investigation.
- Take Appropriate Action: Based on the findings, implement necessary actions, which may include disciplinary measures, to address the behavior and prevent future occurrences. Depending on the severity of the action, this could involve legal authorities and consequences.

8. Education and Training

We are committed to providing ongoing education and training to all executive and committee members on topics related to sexual harassment prevention, consent, and bystander intervention.

9. Related Policies

Members are also encouraged to familiarize themselves with the University of Ottawa's related policies:

- Policy 67b Prevention of Sexual Violence:
 https://www.uottawa.ca/about-us/policies-regulations/policy-67b-prevention-sexual-violence
- Policy 67a Prevention of Harassment and Discrimination:
 https://www.uottawa.ca/about-us/policies-regulations/policy-67a-prevention-harassment-and-discrimination

By implementing this policy, IPPSSA demonstrates its commitment to maintaining a safe and respectful environment for all members, in accordance with the values and guidelines set forth by the University of Ottawa.

DEBATE

- Vaishnave Raina (Motioner):
 - Sexual Harassment prevention policy IPPSSA didn't have one before.
 - Intolerable actions in any IPPSSA event and environment.
 - Form is anonymous may pose problems for VP Equity.
- Megan Betsworth-Neil:
 - Personally dealt with a lot of issues regarding current IPPSSA policies.
 - Many events that had a lot of issues.
 - Overall having it written down is an important step.
- Rayne Daprato (For):
 - An amendment for Anonymity sent to the clerk committee.
- Suzanne Gruz:
 - Representative of the Feminist Resource Centre
 - Amendment regarding investigation
 - Should not be investigated by individuals who are a part of the exec themselves.
 - This motion could be a deterrent for the students who are victims of sexual violence.
 - Policy 67b Referrals to the Human Rights Centre

For: NA	Against: NA	Abstain: NA
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Result: PASSED BY UC

MOTION 9.2: Amendment to S5:

Motioned by: Rayne Daprato, Seconded by:

BE IT RESOLVED can be reported anonymously through IPPSSA's reporting form [accessible on the instagram LinkTree. Anonymous reports may only be investigated to the extent that information is available in the initial report. If an individual is named in the allegation, the VP Equity is able to investigate and communicate with said individual if the initial report requests].

Debate:

- Ben Cameron:
 - For the amendment
- Vaishnave Raina:

- If you're not giving your name or an email address then there's not much VP Equity can do with it.
- Without breaching confidentiality
- o Anonymity, while important, prevents a lot of VP Equity's abilities.
- Rayne Daprato:
 - Propose a motion to strike the amendment in its entirety.

For: 12	Against: 9	Abstain: 8

Result: PASSED

MOTION 10: Motion for the Establishment of a Structured Equity Investigation Process through the Equity Committee

Moved: Vaishnave Raina; Seconded: Erin Viger

Whereas the Vice-President of Equity and Activism (VP Equity) is responsible for promoting representation, inclusion, and addressing equity-related concerns within IPPSSA.

Whereas the VP Equity currently monitors the Anonymous Equity/Accessibility Concern Form and follows up on complaints, concerns, and suggestions.

Whereas after trying the current reporting and investigating method for the entire year, it has been found that one sole person should not be making huge decisions, such as removing members from events, on their own.

Whereas some clubs, like the University of Ottawa Model United Nations Association, have implemented Equity Chairs and Equity Trustees to help conduct the investigation.

Whereas a more structured and transparent process for investigating equity-related complaints would enhance accountability, trust, and adherence to IPPSSA's anti-harassment and anti-discrimination policies.

Therefore be it resolved that:

1. The Vice-President of Equity and Activism, in collaboration with the Equity Committee, be explicitly granted the authority to investigate equity-related complaints submitted through the Anonymous Equity/Accessibility Concern Form and other official reporting

mechanisms. This panel will conduct investigations together and report on the outcome.

- 2. The VP Equity and their committee shall follow a structured process that includes:
 - Conducting confidential interviews with complainants and witnesses.
 - Gathering relevant evidence while ensuring fairness and privacy.
 - Preparing a report with recommendations for resolution, which may include mediation, corrective action, or referral to higher authorities if necessary.
- 3. The IPPSSA Constitution be amended under **Article 7.9** (Vice-President of Equity and **Activism**) to reflect this expanded responsibility.
- 4. A clause shall be added to **Annex C: Anti-Harassment and Discrimination Policy** outlining the investigative authority and procedures followed by the VP Equity and the Equity Committee in handling complaints.
- 5. MPSP's equity shall preside on this committee and help conduct investigations to MPSP related complaints and more, which will be reflected under Article 7.9, subsection 7.9.15.1.

Be It Further Resolved That:

 This amendment shall take effect immediately upon approval, and the VP Equity shall work with the Executive Committee to ensure a smooth implementation of these changes.

Proposed Amendment to the IPPSSA Constitution

Amendment to Article 7.9 – Vice-President of Equity and Activism

Add the following subsections:

- **7.9.15.** The Vice-President of Equity and Activism, in collaboration with the Equity Committee, shall have the authority to investigate equity-related complaints submitted through the Anonymous Equity/Accessibility Concern Form and other official reporting mechanisms.
 - **7.9.15.1** The equity committee shall consist of individuals hired by the VP Equity, as well as the Equity representative for Model Parliament.
- **7.9.16.** The VP Equity and the Equity Committee shall follow a structured and confidential investigation process that includes:
 - **7.8.16.1** Conducting interviews with complainants and witnesses as necessary.

- **7.9.16.2** Gathering relevant documentation and evidence while ensuring fairness and privacy.
- **7.9.16.3** Preparing a report with recommendations for resolution, which may include mediation, corrective action, or referral to the appropriate authorities within IPPSSA or the University of Ottawa.
- **7.9.17.** The VP Equity shall provide general updates to the Executive Committee on a monthly basis, outlining trends and concerns regarding equity issues within IPPSSA, while maintaining confidentiality of individual cases.
- **7.9.18.** The VP Equity and the Equity Committee shall be required to undergo training on investigative procedures, equity frameworks, and conflict resolution at the beginning of their mandate.

Amendment to Annex C – Anti-Harassment and Discrimination Policy

Add the following section:

C.5: Investigative Authority of the VP Equity and the Equity Committee

 Jurisdiction: The Vice-President of Equity and Activism and the Equity Committee shall be responsible for investigating equity-related complaints within IPPSSA, including but not limited to concerns regarding discrimination, harassment, and accessibility barriers.

2. Complaint Handling Process:

- Complaints may be submitted anonymously through the Equity/Accessibility
 Concern Form or directly to the VP Equity.
- The VP Equity shall acknowledge receipt of complaints and determine whether further investigation is warranted.
- Investigations shall be conducted impartially and confidentially, ensuring procedural fairness for all parties involved.

3. Possible Outcomes:

- Mediation between involved parties.
- Recommendations for policy changes or additional equity measures.
- Referral to the Executive Committee or relevant university bodies if necessary.

4. Confidentiality and Ethics:

• All investigations shall prioritize the privacy and safety of complainants.

- No information shall be disclosed without explicit consent, except where legally required.
- 5. **Annual Review:** The investigative procedures and effectiveness of this policy shall be reviewed annually by the Equity Committee, and amendments shall be proposed as needed.

DEBATE

- Vaishnave Raina (Motioner):
 - One person making decisions for the entire club
 - MUN example; hiring committee and more democratic practices.
- Stephanie Magistrado (For):
 - Next VP Equity:
 - A really big burden on one person to deal with issues.

For: NA Against: NA Abstain: NA	
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Result: PASSED BY UC

MOTION 11: Motion for the Use of Electronic Voting at General Assemblies

Moved: Vaishnave Raina; Seconded: Jeremie Gorman

Whereas it can be incredibly difficult to count by a show of hands when also taking the minutes and people are moving at general assemblies.

Whereas at the fall General Assembly, the VP Internal used Google forms as another method to collect votes more efficiently.

Therefore be it resolved that the constitution be amended as follows to open the possibility of using an online method (such as Google Forms) to collect votes at a General Assembly:

12.5. Votes on motions presented at a General Assembly are taken *electronically and are decided by* $\frac{2}{3}$ *majority, through a method such as Google Forms* and are decided by two-thirds majority of students present and voting.

DEBATE

• Vaishnave Raina (Motioner):

- o There are other methods than Google Forms
- In the constitution it saysIPPSSA must raise their hands
- Ben Cameron (Against):
 - Like to know what people vote
- Erin Viger (For):
 - Tried it last GA
 - From a clerk perspective it is a better method
- Matthew Edginton: (For):
 - Friendly amendment to strike everything after electronically

For: NA Against: NA Abstain: NA

Result: PASSED BY UC

MOTION 12: Standardization of Election and Transition procedures:

Motioned by: Vaishnave Raina, Seconded by: Erin Viger

Whereas:

- During the 2024-2025 mandate, the general elections occurred in the month of February, which helped move the transition period up to the month of March and allow for a less rushed election, and adding a specific month for the elections to occur will help keep the executive on track.
- 2. The election code is mentioned in article 10.1, but has not been added to the Annex of the IPPSSA constitution.
- 3. Clarity is required for whether or not abstentions are counted in elections.
- 4. In Robert's Rules of Order, which are the rules used by IPPSSA during general assemblies and meetings, abstentions reduce the pool of votes but do not impact the required threshold:

In the usual situation, where the rules require either a "majority vote" or a "two-thirds vote," abstentions have absolutely no effect on the outcome of the vote since what is required is either a majority or two thirds of the votes cast. On the other hand, if the rules explicitly require a majority or two thirds of the members present, or a majority or two thirds of the entire membership, an abstention will have the same effect as a "no" vote. Even in such a case, however, an abstention is not a vote and is not counted as a vote. [RONR (12th ed.) 44:1, 44:3, 44:9(a); see also p. 66 of RONR In Brief.] https://robertsrules.com/frequently-asked-questions/

Therefore be it resolved that the following amendments be applied to the constitution (amendments are in italics):

- 10.1. Elections will proceed according to the IPPSSA Election Rules.
 - 10.1.1 The Election Rules can be found in Annex E of the constitution, as amended by the executive and are adjusted as per the needs and timeline of the sitting executive.
 - 10.1.2 General elections will be held annually in February. By elections will be held annually in October.
- 10.9. Candidates seeking election to the academic executive positions of IPPSSA (VP POL, VP PAP, VP EIL) and year representatives must collect signatures from their program equivalent to the percent average of twenty-five (25) students from POL, PAP, and EIL.
 - 10.9.1. The calculation of the percent average will be done using the following equation: X = [(25/a) + (25/b) + (25/c)] / 3 rounded up or down to the nearest whole number.
 - 10.9.2. Other positions outside of the academic and year representatives are still required to obtain 15 signatures as part of their nomination for candidacy.
- 10.10. Uncontested elections will be run with a "Yes or No" Ballot. In order to be elected, the candidate must receive a "Yes" vote from at least two-thirds (2/3rds) of all ballots cast for that position, not including abstentions.
- 11.1. The newly elected members of the Executive begin their one-year term on the 1^{st} of May.
- 11.1.1 The transition period starts the 1st of May and ends on the 31st of May. 1st of March and ends on the 31st of March, The transition period begins within March 1st and 30th of April to give ample time for the sitting executive to aid in the smooth transition of the upcoming executive, without interfering with the exam schedule set by the University of Ottawa.
- 13.10. A simple majority (50% of votes cast plus one) is required for a referendum question to pass. In the case of a tie, the motion is lost.
 - 13.10.1 Ballots cast as abstentions in this vote will not be counted in the simple majority.

Annex E: IPPSSA's Election Rules

DEBATE

- Vaishnave Raina (Motioner):
 - Clarifications on voting procedures
 - Put it in the constitution that transition begins March 1st and the 31st of March
- Ben Cameron (For):
 - Amendment
- Erin Viger:
 - We don't need the exact dates.
 - The transition period begins within March 1st and 30th of April

For: NA Abstain: NA

Result: PASSED BY UC

10 MINUTE BREAK AT 7:21; RESUME AT 7:43pm

MOTION 14: Motion for Improved Accountability and Communication Between AÉÉIPPSSA and Model Parliament (MPSP)

Moved: Ryan Chang; Seconded: Matthew Edginton

Whereas Model Parliament (MPSP) must report to the AÉÉIPPSSA executive regarding its functions and internal procedures,

Whereas there exists the need to ensure the appropriate AÉÉIPPSSA executives and functionalities hold MPSP accountable,

Whereas certain issues which may arise in MPSP should be reported to the appropriate AÉÉIPPSSA executive members to ensure they are addressed in a timely manner,

Therefore,

Be it resolved that Article 7.3.15 have a sub-amendment which reads as follows:

7.3.15.6. While the MPSP Director of Finance is not required to be a member of the Finance Committee, they must present financial updates to the Finance Committee and consult on

financial matters deemed necessary by the Vice-President of Finance or the MPSP Director of Finance.

Be it further resolved that Article 7.9.13 have a sub-amendment which reads as follows:

7.9.13.2. While the MPSP Director of Equity is not required to be a member of the Equity Committee, they must present regular updates to the Equity Committee and consult on all equity matters deemed necessary by the Vice-President of Equity or the MPSP Director of Equity.

Be it further resolved that Article 7.11.9 have a sub-amendment which reads as follows:

7.11.9.1. While the MPSP Director of Communications is not required to be a member of the Communications Committee, they must present regular updates to the Communications Committee and consult on all communication matters deemed necessary by the Vice-President of Communications or the MPSP Director of Communications.

Be it further resolved that Article 7.12.9 have a sub-amendment which reads as follows:

7.12.9.1. While the MPSP Director of Bilingualism is not required to be a member of the Francophone Affairs Committee, they must present regular updates to the Francophone Affairs Committee and consult on all francophone affairs and bilingualism matters deemed necessary by the Vice- President of Francophone Affairs or the MPSP Director of Bilingualism.

DEBATE

- Ryan Chang (Motioner):
 - These positions can have someone to turn to and help out with.
 - MPSP Director of Finance has to sit on the finance committee on IPPSS
 - MPSP director of Bilingualism reports to VP Franco
 - o MPSP Director of comms reports to VP Comms
 - MPSP Director of Equity reports to VP Equity
- Justin ()
 - Obviously comms can be a heavy workload for MPSP and IPPSSA
 - While having a team to take the burden off would be great.

For:	Against:	Abstain:

Result: MOTION PASSED BY UC

MOTION 15: Motion for adjusting definitions for "MPSP"

Moved: Ryan Chang; Seconded: Matthew Edginton

BE IT RESOLVED THAT all instances of "MPSP" in the Constitution be replaced with "Model Parliament" and all instances of "yPolitika" be replaced with "Politika".

Ryan Chang:

 MPSP and Model Parliament are referred to the same thing; therefore add the definition within the constitution.

For: 25 Against: 1 Abstain: 2

Result: PASSED

MOTION 16: Motion to remove AÉÉIPPSSA's responsibility to bank with a fossil free credit union

Moved: Daniel Hodge; Seconded: Lien Huyn

WHEREAS at the winter 2023 General Assembly, a motion was passed to move IPPSSA's banking to a fossil free credit union;

WHEREAS a deadline to complete this transition was set at April 2024;

WHEREAS IPPSSA has failed to meet its obligations described by this motion;

WHEREAS IPPSSA currently has three open bank accounts, two of which are not in active use;

WHEREAS IPPSSA is charged monthly fees for keeping these unused accounts open;

WHEREAS IPPSSA's current banking situation is inefficient and needlessly confusing;

THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT-IPPSSA end its obligation to bank with a fossil free credit union and close its unused accounts. IPPSSA modify its obligation to bank with a fossil free bank, by temporarily ending its commitment to banking with Desjardins, and returning to TD Bank but committing to look for and switch to an alternative fossil free bank within the next yea

- Daniel Hodge (Motioner):
 - Desigardins is not cooperative with IPPSSA
 - Complete transition to fossil fuel system by April 2024
 - Three accounts open in Desigrdins (2) and TD (1)
 - Original motion at the GA was non-binding
- Ben Cameron (Against):
 - It is the intention of the ISA to no longer work with IPPSSA if they decommit to divesting from Fossil Fuels and its impacts on land dispossession and the lands of Indigenous Peoples.
- Dominique Bustamante Leigh (For):
 - As part of IPPSSA, I was the first person who was delegated to plan a U.S. trip with the new banking system.
 - Had deadlines to pay and couldn't pay them on time.
 - Faced extreme difficulties, we cannot afford and we do not have the privilege to do so.
 - Lots of delays and problems regarding transferring of funds from TD.
- Ryan Chang:
 - Clarity:
 - Repealing a motion
 - Martha Capener speaking rights for the motion.
- Sophia (Against):
 - There is still room for change and there is no point to give up on it.
 - I think IPPSSA can make the switch because UOSU was able to do it, although they had a bigger budget.
- Lien Huynh (For):
 - Support the idea of going to Desigardins.
 - These are not out of personal exec comforts.
 - The bank account has been an ongoing process over the two years.
 - It is not about personal comfort, and IPPSSA exec are volunteers and students.
 - On transition:
 - If we want to keep going to the transition to Desjardins UOSU hasa full paid staff to make that transitions.
 - Took 8 months over scholarships from 2023-2024
- Nicolas Michaud:
 - Speaking rights to Quanah
 - Motion through UC

- Alex Stratas (Against):
 - Three weeks to transition to Desjardins.
 - Why did IPPSSA not consider alternative non-fossil fuel banking options.
 - o Divestment itself great impact to the ISA.
 - If IPPSSA has the eventual backup plan to a non-fossil fuel bank then that's fine.
- Jeremie Gorman (For):
 - o Banking is a very complicated situation
 - Very difficult to do
 - Desjardins didn't want to work with IPPSSA and IPPSSA finance exec.
 - We were not offered an alternative to Desjardins, that would offer what we have now with TD then it would be a feasible option.
- Quanah (Against):
 - TD and other fossil fuel banks often create and fund projects that harm Indigenous people directly and their livelihoods.
 - The ISA would no longer be willing to work with IPPSSA
- Martha Capener (For):
 - Confirm that IPPSSA needs to move to a credit union
 - There are alternatives than just Desjardins.

For: 31	Against: 2	Abstain: 3
Result: PASSED		

MOTION 16.1: Give Martha Capener speaking rights

Proposed by: Ryan Chang

For: 31 Against: 1 Abstain: 1

Result: PASSED

- VARIA
- E. Viger:
 - Thank you to the clerks!!

- o Thank you to Mathis!!
- o SSB and Academic Conference are coming up!
- Charity show on March 7th!
- Matthew Edginton:
 - o Important to acknowledge those who are a part of our Francophone community.
 - Shoutout Ben!!

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved: E. Viger; Seconded: S. Mathieu

BE IT RESOLVED that the Winter 2025 GA is adjourned.

Result: PASSED BY UC

The GA is adjourned at 8:26 PM.