

SUMMARY OF BYLAW CHANGES REFERENDUM 2020

- 1) **Student Court is abolished.** The Court's power to review referendum questions will be transferred to Student Council.
- 2) **Membership period:** Students will continue to be members of the AMS after Christmas even if they complete their studies by Christmas.
- 3) **Referendum questions will have to meet several new requirements:**
 - a) They will have to be clear and unambiguous.
 - b) They may not include any materially untrue statements.
 - c) They may not call for actions that would be illegal.
 - d) If they would result in actions that would violate a contract, they must state that and also state what the penalty will be for violating the contract.
- 4) **More signatures will be required to initiate a referendum by petition.** Instead of 5% of the students or 1,000, whichever is less, it will be just 5%, meaning approximately 2,850 signatures.
- 5) **General Meetings:** Notice for such meetings must include agendas and to comply with the new Societies Act must be for 21 days instead of 14.
- 6) **Records:** Council will have the power to restrict access to records whose disclosure would be harmful to the AMS, third parties, ongoing investigations, solicitor-client privilege, or the secrecy of in camera discussions.
- 7) **Executive Vacancies:** Council will be able to fill these temporarily with any AMS member, not just Council members. If an Executive is removed by the membership (by referendum or general meeting), they will not be allowed to run to fill the resulting vacancy.
- 8) **Ombudsperson:** The AMS Ombudsperson will no longer be required to represent students in issues with the University.
- 9) **Referendum results:** Records of successful referenda will be appended to the Bylaws.
- 10) **Subsidiary budgets:** The date for submission is changed from April 1 to June 30.
- 11) **Housekeeping issues:**
 - a) The reference to the old category of Council Senators is removed.
 - b) A typo ("falling" for "failing") and two numbering errors are corrected.