

**Arts  
and  
Science  
Undergraduate  
Society —  
Advisory Board**

5th Meeting

Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

Zoom

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Zoom

## AGENDA

1. **Motion 1** – Approval of the Agenda
2. **Motion 2** – Approval of the Minutes
3. Chair's Business
  - a. Upcoming tasks for thie New Year
4. Discussion Period
  - a. Round table on check-in meetings with council members
5. Statements by Members
6. Question Period
7. Old Business
8. New Business
  - a. **Motion 3- Approval of equity grants as seen in Appendix A.**
9. Chair's Last Word
10. Adjournment of the ASUS Advisory Board

## MOTION SHEET

**1. That ASUS Advisory Board formally approve this agenda and the consent agenda.**

- MOVED BY: JACOB JOHNSTON
- SECONDED BY: VANESSA BATTEN

Est Time: 2 mins

**2. That ASUS Advisory Board formally approve the minutes from the last Board meeting held on November 3rd 2022, as seen on the ASUS website.**

- MOVED BY: JACOB JOHNSTON
- SECONDED BY: VANESSA BATTEN

Est Time: 2 mins

**2. That ASUS Advisory Board formally approve the proposed equity grants as seen in Appendix A.**

- MOVED BY: JACOB JOHNSTON
- SECONDED BY: VANESSA BATTEN

Est Time: 20 mins

## Appendix A

### Equity Commission Grants – Advisory Board November 11<sup>th</sup>

*\*Note: Groups can receive up to \$300. Individuals can receive up to \$200.*

Main contact: Layla Haddad (she/her) | [equity@asus.queensu.ca](mailto:equity@asus.queensu.ca) | Equity Commissioner

#### Equity Grant

- Grant information:
  - The ASUS Equity Grant exists to remove financial barriers and support students' equity related initiatives and advocacy work. This grant is open to undergraduate students in the Arts and Science Faculty who are seeking extra support for their contributions, initiatives, advocacy work, and/or equity labour related to anti-oppression and social justice work. All Arts and Science students are encouraged to apply but priority will be given to marginalized students.
- Applicants:

Reason For Application	Amount Requested	Amount Allocated
Hi there! I am the CESA Equity Affairs Commissioner for this 2022/23 year. Part of my role is to oversee the bursary application process for various CESA events throughout the year, and I chair the Bursary Committee to allocate funding to applicants. Some students have disclosed that they are not able to attend some of the more expensive events because of the associated high costs, and this grant would allow an increased bursary amounts to be allocated to each applicant. Increasing this bursary funding would thus allow these events to be more financially accessible to these applicants, and increase overall student engagement and satisfaction in our Con-Ed community! In addition, part of this grant can also go toward supporting the equity-related initiatives and events that will occur throughout the school year. For example, we are hoping to host some sort of giveaway in the future, as well as host a few wellness and discussion events. This grant can help to make these events and initiatives more accessible and accommodating to everyone, as well as allow us to ensure that participants have the most positive and comfortable experience!	300	300

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<p>Over the course of my education at Queen's, I have committed countless hours to equity work. This journey started when I first came to Queen's at the peak of COVID. During that first year, I found it extremely difficult to find a community and meet people who were similar to me. Additionally, I experienced many microaggressions, ignorant comments, or just outward harassment for being a person of colour. It was clear to me that there were a lot of equity-related issues that weren't being addressed. In my second year, I resolved to become more active in the community, which led me to become the Chair of QueerSpace. In short, QueerSpace aims</p>	<p>200</p>	<p>200</p>
<p>to create a community for queer arts sci students on campus. As of this year, I have also joined the Psychology DSC as the EDI Coordinator, and I am the Undergraduate EDI Rep for the Psych Department. On top of that, I also volunteer at BIPOCTalk, which offers peer support to people of colour. Everything I've done in EDI is volunteer work, and while I love what I do, I must admit it's not the most financially sustainable career choice! However, while I've been tempted to drop my equity roles to pursue a paid job, I know that if I don't advocate for myself, then no one will. I hope that by the time I graduate, this place will be a little bit better than when I got here. All in all, this grant would enable me to serve equitydeserving students to the best of my ability.</p>		

**Accessibility Grant**

- Grant information:
  - The ASUS Accessibility Grant exists to remove financial barriers and support students with disabilities and/or students contributing to accessibility advocacy work. This grant is open to undergraduate students in the Arts and Science Faculty who identify as having a disability and/or who are seeking accessibility opportunities and more generally extra supports for their contributions, initiatives, advocacy work, and/or equity labour in accordance with ASUS' mission statement.
- Applicants:

Reason For Application	Amount Requested	Amount Allocated
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<p>I have applied for this grant because I have a single mother who does not have insurance or benefits through her work and I cannot guarantee that my father will include me in his as I no longer have contact with him. The last time I went to pick up my medications the fee was larger than expected and I do not have the financial stability to continue getting my medications if the cost does not change.</p>	200	200
<p>Hello! I have applied to this grant to help me make my student experience more accessible. This grant would help go toward various avenues, which I have listed below for clarity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- To offset my living expenses, I live a little bit farther away from Main Campus (not in the "student ghetto" area), so that my current rent is a bit cheaper. I also do not have access to a car, so grocery shopping can be an overwhelming experience when I am doing a big trip. Although I can easily take the bus to the grocery store, it is near impossible to carry 4-5 large and heavy grocery bags back home with me on the bus. As a result, I will sometimes have to Uber home if I have too many groceries to carry on my own on public transit. This grant will help me cover the cost of these taxi rides.</li><li>- (Some context first: As I do live a bit farther from Main Campus, it doesn't always fit in my schedule to go home between classes or meetings during my day. I am also a student who is very involved in various aspects of</li></ul>	200	200
<p>university with my classes and meetings, and so I often end up spending long days on campus without going home in between. For example, if I have class in the morning and afternoon, and then a meeting in the evening, I will typically pack a lunch and dinner to stay on campus for the entire day. Because of this, I spend a lot of time working in the library between my commitments.) I am someone who likes to study and work in silence. This can be difficult when working on campus, especially when the loud JDUC renovations can be heard from Stauffer and Douglas library (being in the center of campus, these are very easily accessible libraries). As such, this grant would help to go towards noise-cancelling headphones. This would help to block out distracting noise and decrease sound levels, so that I can be productive and undistracted when working in various study spaces around campus, even if they are areas that might have a louder ambient noise level (such as MacCorry). This would help to reduce my stress levels when working in distracting environments, and help make study spaces more accessible to me.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- As a science student, I have found that many of my lecture notes and tutorial assignments revolve around diagrams and writing out equations. I have been using both typed notes on my laptop as well as traditional pencil-and-paper notes to work around this. However, I do think using an iPad would be very useful in taking notes and completing assignments. This would allow me to more easily mark up pdf slides and draw diagrams, as well as write out chemistry/math equations that would sync up to my laptop. This would help increase</li></ul>		

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<p>my accessibility with the course content and help me to become a more engaged and successful student.</p>		
<p>Being in a physics major, it's really hard to keep up with lectures as the professor is drawing diagrams and equations on his iPad, and I'm frantically trying to copy the question and his answer onto my notebook. Same thing with my calculus course. Hence, I believe that getting an iPad would make me work so much more efficiently as I would not need to copy the question or diagram down first to solve a problem in the notes. This would make everything more accessible as I could download the pdf before hand and be able to annotate on the slide. Therefore, I would not fall behind in my classes as much as I spend time after class to copy down the notes I missed from class and that takes a huge chunk of time. As I am in the education program, I'm taking six classes this year and so time is very valuable to me, working efficiently is critical and thus I would like to buy a device that would save me a lot of time on my academics. Any amount of money granted would be beneficial and would be hugely appreciated.</p>	<p>200</p>	<p>100</p>

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Equity Commission Grants – Advisory Board November 25th

*\*Note: Groups can receive up to \$300. Individuals can receive up to \$200.*

Main contact: Layla Haddad (she/her) | [equity@asus.queensu.ca](mailto:equity@asus.queensu.ca) | Equity Commissioner

**Equity Grant**

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- Applicants:

<b>Reason For Application</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Amount Allocated</b>
I have applied for this grant to lessen the costs whilst applying to graduate programs. As a queer, first generation, Muslim, woman of colour, the odds are not in my favour in the world, resulting in me trying to explore as many options as I can. Receiving the equity grant would allow me the flexibility to expand my plans and provide a boost. I have been applying for scholarships and grants outside of ASUS, however it is very competitive, and there are very limited spots to fill, with a lot of marginalized students - thus my chances become very slim. This grant would aid in overcoming systemic barriers more smoothly as I progress through my last year.	200	150
I am financially independent from my parents (paying for my own rent, utilities, food etc) as we are considered a lowincome family.	200	150
I have applied for this because I have currently been giving a large portion of my time to volunteer work, related to queer and BIPOC initiatives contributing to making safe spaces for my peers (BIPOCTalk, Queers4Peers, Queerspace). This has left me with little time to be able to work a job with income, and I do not have support from my parents. Any help is greatly appreciated in helping me afford my living without having to stop the work I am committed to and passionate about.	200	150



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<p>This grant would help me afford the cost of living (rent, groceries, etc) and therefore help me participate in the academic and extracurricular work which I do with goals of social justice and advocacy in mind. For example, I am doing a Certificate in Sexual and Gender Diversity, writing on race, gender and sexuality in projects for various classes, and I am a member of extracurriculars which I utilize in service of my anti-oppression goals, such as Quilt and the Queen's</p>	200	150
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<p>International Affairs Association, as well as participating in initiatives run by the Yellow House and Queers 4 Peers.</p>		
<p>I am applying to this grant because I believe that it will help support my financial needs. During my time at Queen's, I have not had many opportunities to receive grants as a marginalized individual. I was stunned when I saw that this grant prioritized minority students, as this is not always the case with many grants at Queen's. Being a marginalized student at a PWI constantly means to be overlooked and to be disregarded. This grant specifically allows minority students like myself with an opportunity to be funded and recognized. I am applying for this grant because I believe that I have an opportunity to be seen and to be given the necessary help that I need.</p> <p>During my time at Queen's, I have contributed my efforts to joining clubs and even creating my own club for black students on campus. Unfortunately, due to us being a relatively new club on campus; we have not yet had the chance of becoming a ratified club. This means that many of our initiatives and events are funded by myself and my co-chair. The financial burden that it has taken to be able to fund these events has been hard as I am not currently employed. This grant would be a great opportunity to remove some of the financial barriers and would definitely help give me the necessary financial support.</p>	200	175

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<p>I applied for this grant because I am a part of a marginalized group. Growing up, I was raised in a community that didn't have a lot of people who were of the same ethnicity as me. A lot of my fellow classmates as well as myself were children of immigrants, so we understood a lot of the problems we experienced. At the same time, I felt that there were times when I felt like I was the only one that experienced specific events relating to my background and ethnicity. Being one of the few people of my ethnicity in school and my neighbourhood made me feel awkward and isolated at times because of the lack of representation.</p> <p>Currently, I am studying Linguistics and am thinking of going into speech therapy after I graduate. Through speech therapy I hope to be able to help both children and adults from all backgrounds improve their lives. This would be done through helping them improve their speech, which in turn would give them confidence and empower those who are often marginalized by society because of their backgrounds, disabilities, etc.</p> <p>It is my hope that through this grant, I will be able to fund my education, and become someone that helps those that are</p>	200	175
<p>"invisible" to society, so that they will be encouraged and feel "seen" by society.</p> <p>This year I decided to help out with Queen's Students for Literacy in order to encourage literacy with Canadian children. This year I was paired with two children, and have been helping them in their reading and understanding, as well as encouraging their writing. With this grant, I will be able to use it to improve our tutoring sessions, as I will be able to find more books and materials to use with them.</p>		

**Accessibility Grant**

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initiatives, advocacy work, and/or equity labour in accordance with ASUS' mission statement.

- Applicants:

<b>Reason For Application</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Amount Allocated</b>
As a fourth year student on the path to graduate while simultaneously navigating their mental health, the grant would be beneficial to make transitions smoother. I am diagnosed with GAD, MDD, and ADHD, and our school system is not designed for those neurodivergent. As I am approaching graduation I have been in the process of seeking out jobs, internships, and applying for grad school programs, which all are not done without a cost. I also am medicated, paying about \$40/month after my family's and my student insurance is applied to reduce the cost, so this grant would be able to help me pay for my next couple prescriptions.	200	150
I was diagnosed with Crohn's Disease in high school and since then have to take medication weekly to prevent a flare up. However, my mom's health coverage plan was recently changed and does not cover a portion of my medication fee anymore. I have a single mom and other siblings, so I am currently paying the difference and the grant would really help!	200	175
I have applied for this grant because I have not been able to find a job that is accessible to me and willing to make appropriate accommodations for my disability. I have been volunteering for various Queen's groups committed to creating safe spaces for students with disabilities, and I have found these enjoyable, fulfilling and accessible. However, it does not help me afford my living, and I do not receive support from my parents. This grant would really help me be able to continue the advocacy work I do, the trainings I help administer, and the time I offer, while sustaining my needs as well.	200	100
My counselling and therapy services are not fully covered under my single moms health plan. I also made an appointment with student wellness services, the fee from that apointment isn't covered in my moms health plan, its difficlut for her to help me out with financial bills regarding health services, so getting this grant would really help me out.	200	175
I have applied to this grant because when I found out about it I saw how it could really make a difference for me. My medications are extremely expensive and not fully covered by insurance. This would allow me to obtain my medications and be able to actually take enough of them for them to be functional. I often find myself skipping days to prolong the amount of time I have medications. This would allow me to be more successful at university, and I believe this could really make a difference for me.	200	200

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<p>I can not use the regular public transit bus so I have to pay a monthly pass for the Kingston Access Bus. I qualify for 50% off a monthly pass because I am low income, but I still pay \$40 a month for too of paying for a regular transit pass with my tuition that I am unable to use. \$200 would pay for five months of accessible transit for me, and I would very much appreciate the assistance. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	<p>200</p>	<p>200</p>
<p>I have ADHD and have a very difficult time functioning properly as a student without my prescribed vyvanse, these do however, take a great toll on my bank account as they cost \$60 each month.</p>	<p>200</p>	<p>180</p>