

SUJAC President Nathaniel ('Nate') Saad acts as Chairperson for this Congress Orientation for the 2019-2020 academic year and welcomes everyone to the official first Congress Meeting of the year.

Nate reads aloud the 'Land Recognition Statement':

***"The Student Union of John Abbott College hereby acknowledges that the College exists on the traditional and unceded territories of both the \*Kanien 'Keha:Ka' (Mohawk) and the Algonquin peoples. We are acknowledging this in order to give respect to Indigenous peoples and to the students we represent." \*Gun-Yuh-Geh-Ha-Gah.***

Everyone participates in a 'Matching' Ice-Breaker. The SUJAC Executive Team introduces themselves with a brief description of their roles:

President Nathaniel ('Nate') Saad  
Vice-President Academic Rayan Tibiche-Dahmoune  
Vice-President Finance Gabriel ('Gabe') Imbeau  
Vice-President External Davy Iconzi Irakoze  
Vice-President Communications Christina-Maria Maalouf  
Vice-President Internal Eric Enescu (not available today)  
Student Advisor Bill Mahon  
SUJAC Coordinator Barb Hill

## **1- APPROVAL OF AGENDA 01**

'CONGRESS FOR DUMMIES' is distributed to all Congress members along with the Agenda and is explained later. On Agenda-01, under 'Introductions', add: Vice-President Finance Gabriel ('Gabe') Imbeau, Vice-President External Davy Iconzi Irakoze and Vice-President Communications Christina-Maria Maalouf. Eric Lalonde moves, Sabina Movsum seconds and Agenda-01 is approved as amended.

## **2- VOTE FOR REGULAR CONGRESS MEETING TIME**

### **2.1 Vote for Regular Congress Meeting Time.**

Of the two possible regular Congress meeting days—*Monday or Wednesday*—the majority of Congress members vote for regular meetings on ***Mondays at 5:30 pm in Room H-238.***

### **2.2 Vote @ Next Meeting**

Bill explains that sitting on College Committees involves a certain commitment and he outlines briefly Committees that need student reps right away (A more complete list will be

on

the next Agenda) :

#### **2.2.1 Academic Council (3 Regular & 3 Replacement Reps)—**

***Friday, Sept. 20, 1:00-3:30 (H-***

**355)**

Academic Council meets every second Friday and comprises reps from Admin., Faculty, Staff, and Students, who are there to participate. SUJAC reps are the voice of the students on issues that come up and they report to Congress and bring Congress feedback back to the Committees.

#### **2.2.2 Board of Governors (Student Technology Rep)—Tuesday, 7-9 pm (AME-606)**

Bill reports that the SUJAC Executives elected:

***SUJAC President Nathaniel Saad as Pre-U Student Rep on the Board of Governors and the Executive Board.***

The only Technology student on Congress ***is Maxim Garanosdch*** and he will consider filling the ***Board Technology*** seat. Tabled for vote at next Meeting.

#### **2.2.3 Congress Chairperson & Secretary**

Tabled for next Meeting to elect both the Congress Chairperson & Secretary.

Nate explains the two roles: Chairperson guides the meetings and the Secretary takes minutes (Barb types them). A 'Congress Chairperson & Secretary' procedure handout is distributed to those interested in running. Tabled for next meeting.

#### **2.2.4 Statutes & Statements/'Stats & States' Congressional Committee**

SUJAC President Nate Saad will open the 'Stats & States' Congressional Committee next meeting to review the SUJAC Constitution. Those interested in participating may sign up with Nate next week. Tabled.

#### **2.2.5 Committees (Vote Today)**

**2.2.5.1 Academic Programs Coordination (APCC)—Wed, Sept. 11, 1-2:30 (H-108)**  
*Zihe Yin & Jade Dubreuil* accept the seats.

**2.2.5.2 Assessment Coordination (ACC)—Wed, Sept. 11, 2:30-4:00 (AME-125)**  
*Gabrielle Marie Graceffa & Julio Neumann-Berryman* accept the seats.

**2.2.5.3 Science (1 Rep)—Tuesday, Sept. 10, 10:00-11:30 (AME-125)**  
*Richard Rassokhine* accepts the seat.

### **3- UPCOMING**

**3.1 SUJAC-CLUB Day—Wed., Sept. 25, 10 am-2:30 pm (The Agora): Theme 'Retro 70's'**  
Nate explains that at this event Clubs set up booths and students can sign up.

#### **3.1.1 Sign-ups—To Help at Event (Next Meeting)**

Every Club may dress up and do their booth in that fashion and Congress can dress up too. There will be a sign-up sheet next week for volunteers to sit at the SUJAC booth to promote SUJAC and take care of the Prize Wheel.

**3.2 Ecology Day—Sat., Sept. 14, 10 am – 2 pm (Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue)**

Rayan reports that SUJAC received an invitation to this event and an e-mail is distributed

Congress with the details. Congress can do something as a group and anyone who is free can go. Shuttle buses will be provided for tours.

**3.3 RibFest—Friday-Sunday, Sept. 20-22 (John Abbott)**

Bill reports that the JAC Foundation is looking for 100 volunteers per day to help out with the upcoming 3-day RibFest--to help with setup, takedown, runner, garbage, recycling, etc. Barb MIO'd (Sept-10) details to Congress. Free Ribs are given for a 4-hour volunteer block. (To take part, MIO Wilnad Lominy or email at [Wilnard.Lominy@johnabbott.qc.ca](mailto:Wilnard.Lominy@johnabbott.qc.ca) or go to Communications Office in SH-035.)

### **4- OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **4.1 'CONGRESS FOR DUMMIES'**

Nate, Rayan, and Bill give more details about Congress:

- Each Congress member represents 125 students at John Abbott College
- Congress discusses, gives feedback, and makes decisions on various issues
- Congress members are student reps on many College Committees that run the College and, according to availability, may sit on any number of Committees
- Congress is here to hold SUJAC Executives accountable
- At each Congress meeting, an Exec will be present to give an Executive Report
- Congress gives students an opportunity to learn a lot about the school, especially if thinking of running for an Executive position next year. Sitting on a Committee gives student reps a good feeling of how things are run in the College
- Congress is a "good training ground" for student leadership
- Administration, Faculty and Staff are very supportive of Congress
- Congressional Committees, e.g., 'Statutes & Statements', are chaired by Execs
- The Chairperson moderates the discussion
- Congress Attendance is vital and without Quorum (1/2 + 1 of the number of Congress members) an official meeting, with voting power, cannot take place
- According to the Constitution, Congress members who miss 3 out of 5 consecutive meetings will automatically have their membership revoked but they may come to the following meeting to give a brief explanation to the group about the absences
- It is important that Congress members remain in good academic standing

- Congress usually runs for between 45-50 minutes so that members may make the 419 bus and it is good to carpool if a meeting runs later
- Guest Speakers visit Congress, e.g., the Academic Dean Gordon Brown, and has implemented changes based on the feedback from Congress

#### **4.2 Board of Governors—*Technology Student Rep***

The Technology Congress member, Maxim Garanovschi, will see Bill for more info.

#### **4.3 Global Climate Strike—Friday, September 27 (Downtown Montreal)**

Barb reports that the Club ECOJAC posted this topic for Congress and it will be discussed tomorrow night at the SUJAC Executive meeting and tabled for the next Congress meeting.

#### **5- NEXT MEETING—*Monday, September 16, 5:30 pm (H-238)***

Per the vote results, the regular Congress meeting will be held, unless otherwise notified, on ***Mondays at 5:30 pm*** and the next Congress Meeting will be:

***Monday, Sept. 16, at 5:30 pm in H-238.***

#### **6- ADJOURNED**

Julio Neumann-Berryman moves, Sacha Vincent seconds. Congress adjourns at 6:30 p.m.