

Minutes
Annual General Meeting (AGM)
April 15, 2025
SC 2013 and Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm with Kara D’Arcangelo as chairperson and Krista Fysh as secretary.

26 Members in attendance were noted. Quorum was confirmed.

Approval of Agenda

- 1.1 It was:
MOVED by Gabriel Agostini, SECONDED by Ananya Soni and CARRIED to approve the agenda with amendments.

Approval of Minutes

- 1.2 It was:
MOVED by Drashti Patel, SECONDED by Saraswathi Sakthivel and CARRIED to approve the minutes from the Annual General Meeting on April 20, 2024.

Approval of Minutes - Special General Meeting

- 1.3 It was:
MOVED by Ananya Soni, SECONDED by Sanket Mehta, and CARRIED to approve the minutes from the Special General Meeting on September 26, 2024.

Appointment of the Auditors

- 1.4 It was:
MOVED by Ananya Soni, SECONDED by Saraswathy Sakthivel and CARRIED to approve the firm PricewaterhouseCoopers as the engaging auditors until the next Annual General Meeting of the Members.

A vote was held, and the motion was passed by majority vote of the Members.

SAC Honoraria

John Riddell provided a brief explanation of the SAC honoraria, which is a financial stipend that is given to Directors for their time.

1.5 It was:

MOVED by Saraswathy Sakthivel, SECONDED by Sanket Mehta, and CARRIED to approve the 2025-2026 SAC honoraria for the Student Administrative Council at a maximum of \$525 per semester for a Director, and an additional maximum of \$210 per semester for the Board Chair.

A vote was held, and the motion was passed by majority vote of the Members.

President's Report

Siddharth Singh presented his report, and showed a video to the Members, highlighting the work of the FSU in the past year.

FSU Election Results

John b. Young, Chief Returning Officer (CRO), reviewed the election results and presented the CRO report, for the 2025 FSU Elections. The recommendations included in the CRO report will be brought forward to the Board of Directors for review, prior to the next election. The election results are available on the [FSU website](#).

1.6 It was:

MOVED by Saraswathy Sakthivel, SECONDED by Sanket Mehta, and CARRIED to approve the 2025 FSU Election Results.

A vote was held, and the motion was passed by majority vote of the Members.

Other Business from Members:

Discussion Item #1- Interrobang

Jack Sutton, *Creator with Interrobang & Journalism-Broadcast Student*- Jack opened the discussion by pointing out that the *Interrobang* has been around since the 1960s. He noted that its readership has consistently grown over the years and that its success has been recognized in local media. Jack emphasized that the *Interrobang* provides valuable opportunities and experiences for students from a variety of programs, serving as a platform to highlight their achievements, names, faces, and stories. He shared that many students feel hurt and betrayed by the decision to shut it down, especially since it appears to have been made behind closed doors by a small group. It was also noted that the FSU does not share their meeting minutes with the public. Jack concluded by expressing his desire to collaborate with the FSU to support the *Interrobang* and ensure students are treated fairly.

Discussion Item #2 - Interrobang

Gregory Crossman, *Photography Student*- Greg expressed that it's a real shame to see such a vital part of Fanshawe disappearing. He recalled an assignment from a videography class where the project was to create either a documentary or a promotional video. His group chose to produce a documentary about *The Interrobang*, set to be released on April 4th. As part of their research, they visited the newspaper's

offices and went through the entire archive. Greg was deeply struck by how essential the publication has been—covering everything from local to international issues, many of which are still relevant today. The realization that such an important voice for students is being lost, he said, is “cataclysmic.” He also shared his disappointment in learning about *The Interrobang*'s situation through CBC News rather than directly from the College. Greg concluded by emphasizing the need to preserve *The Interrobang* as a student-run paper.

Question #1- Gurmeet Singh, *Incoming Director of the FSU & Business Analysis Student.*

Question: Could we consider transitioning the Interrobang to a fully student-run platform to reduce staff salaries and ensure financial sustainability? The Chair passed the question over to Siddharth Singh, FSU President. Siddharth explained Siddharth believes this is what the petition that is circulating at the moment is trying to accomplish; to have the Interrobang an independently student ran newspaper. Siddharth stated there has been complete transparency in all the interviews, that if a petition gets the proper amount of student votes (10%) than the FSU can bring the results back to the Board. Siddharth noted the decision was based on statistics the FSU saw and through observers throughout the year. It was noted that the decision was made this year, however, the conversation started long before that.

Discussion #3-Gabriel Agostini, *Police Foundations Student & Current FSU Advocacy and Communications Coordinator.* Gabriel wished to clarify that it is standard practice within not-for-profit organizations for Board meeting minutes not to be publicly released, as this is governed by relevant legal regulations. Furthermore, in reference to the "small Board" mentioned by Jack, Gabriel emphasized that the Board was democratically elected and duly authorized to represent the student body. As such, they possess the legitimacy to act and speak on behalf of the students. Gabriel felt it was important for the meeting minutes to reflect this clarification.

The Chair acknowledged the questions posed and the discussion items.

Siddharth acknowledged the level of engagement demonstrated during the meeting and commended students for speaking up on issues that are meaningful to them. Siddharth emphasized that this kind of involvement is exactly what the FSU encourages and values. Siddharth extended his appreciation to the students who voiced their concerns, reaffirming that their input is both important and impactful.

Siddharth reiterated that the decision to discontinue *Interrobang* was not made lightly. It followed careful consideration by both the Board and the Leadership Team, who reviewed several key factors. These included declining readership, shifting student interests, and significant changes in how students now access news, stay informed about campus events, and share their stories. The data clearly reflects this evolution. Siddharth also highlighted the broader context in which this decision was made; both the College and the FSU are navigating a challenging period marked by funding shortfalls due to fluctuations in international student enrollment, changes in partnership

agreements, and adjustments to affiliative shares. These realities necessitate thoughtful allocation of resources.

Siddharth emphasized the importance of adapting to meet students where they are and affirmed that the FSU remains committed to supporting students in ways that are effective, responsive, and relevant. He acknowledged that some students felt they should have been more directly consulted and assured them that the FSU has heard their concerns. Moving forward, the FSU will explore improved approaches for engaging students in discussions about key programs like *Interrobang*. Importantly, Siddharth clarified that discontinuing *Interrobang* is not an attempt to silence student voices—quite the opposite. The FSU is actively working on developing new and modern platforms for student engagement, aligned with the media channels students are already using. Finally, he assured everyone that no jobs were lost as a result of this decision, and that student positions associated with *Interrobang* will be retained.

Adjournment

1.7 It was:

MOVED by Drashti Patel, SECONDED by Farhan Malek and CARRIED to adjourn the meeting at 5:46pm.