

Legislative Council Meeting of the Students' Society of McGill University

**1) Call to Order**

The meeting of the Legislative Council of the Students' Society of McGill University was called to order at 6:11pm by Speaker Tong.

**2) Attendance**

An attendance sheet was circulated around the room and signed by all those present.

**3) Approval of the Minutes – March 14, 2013**

There is a motion to adopt which clearly passes, and **the minutes from the Legislative Council meeting on March 14, 2013 are adopted.**

**4) Adoption of the Agenda**

Councillor Rae: Motions to adopt. The motion clearly passes and **the agenda is adopted.**

**5) Report of the Steering Committee**

President Redel: Stands for questions.

Councillor Nam: Motions to adopt. This motion clearly passes and **the report of the Steering Committee is adopted.**

**6) Guest Speakers**

**a. Professor Heather Munroe-Blum, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of McGill**

She congratulates everyone who has served this year on their service to the student body, and congratulates the people who have run and will be continuing the mandate next year. Engagement is really important and she appreciates this commitment. She is coming to the end of a ten year term, and while she is not an alum she basks in the glory reflected by the students.

She begins by giving some information about herself. She has a degree from McMaster and has worked in academic psychiatry. She moved out of direct practice into research and academic work, and began working as a professor. She has been a professor at York, McMaster, Toronto, and now McGill. After her term is over she will go on to the Stanford Center for Advanced Studies and then will come back to McGill and Montréal. The ten years have been a time of extraordinary change, especially at a large university like McGill. It is a very special place, if you go anywhere in the world people will recognize you for this. McGill has a strong representation of international and Quebec students, as well as students from every single region of Canada. When there have been global health challenges or tragedies, our network of alumni have been very helpful. They are also helpful with economic dips in helping graduate students find jobs and internships. By taking on student political leadership roles, you are not just representatives or important junctures, but are also really enriching your learning experiences individually. She meets alumni who learned almost more than they did in classrooms through things like Council and the Daily. These are broad comments, and wants to open the discussion up to Council's comments, questions, and advice. There is nothing you cannot ask her about personal or professional, if she is uncomfortable she will not answer, but that

has not happened yet.

Councillor Rosentzveig: Thank you very much for coming. You said that engagement makes all the difference. Where we all sit around this table we have seen a lot of difficulty in the past connecting with the McGill administration. He represents clubs and services which have had new rules, and has heard about ongoing lease negotiations. What do you think of this in terms of engagement on campus?

Principal Munroe-Blum: We are a big university and we have a real diversity of cultures in various faculties. We are a public university so we do not have the revenues that many of our peer universities in Canada have. We are in a very tight situation right now. Sometimes what people feel is bureaucracy is a lack of resources. This goes from space to services that students need. In generic terms, when she first came to McGill, all of the other universities she had been at were large research universities that did not talk much about undergrads. McGill was like that too, initially. She launched two student life and learning task forces to remedy this, including the Provost of Student Life and Learning, which includes two new equity officers that deal with diversity and sustainability. She adds that regarding the things that represent your legal and business enterprises, when you are in the middle of a business transaction of the university, she does not think it is fair in the context of student life and learning to talk about business transactions. While there are informal supports, like Daycare, we helped PGSS gain access to potential partners. But when you enter your own business and legal transactions, these are a separate category. She knows of no executive of a university that interacts more than here. They can always do better and it has gotten better, but another issue is that there is a lot of room for lot more meeting with administration at the local level with the departmental chairs. She would urge them to get out beyond the elected student representation. She thinks the average student will continue to feel anonymous in a university at this size if there isn't a sense within your faculty that you have good engagement with your departmental heads. This is something to pass on to her successor. People should look to have relationships at the local level, and it would be very welcome to the chairs and deans to have you reach out to them. She does not think engagement continues to reach into the level of the faculties, such as open houses where professors and students can come together. It is a mutual frustration, she urges Council to stay at it and wishes them good luck.

President Redel: One of his most interesting experiences working in leadership at McGill has been that the senior levels of administration have grown to recognize student leadership as a meaningful contribution, but this also depends on how seriously local leaderships acknowledges this. It is hard to communicate why we think more student involvement is important. How do you think, as a group, we could work towards this?

Principal Munroe-Blum: She does not mean this defensively, but the relationship with the Executives has been strong since day one. What happened in Fall 2011 was something different, it was a province-wide issue and in a labour context. Labour and Québec politics play out very differently and she thinks it is important to

acknowledge those who came before you as doing a good job. What hasn't happened until this Fall is that we have not used our meetings with the Executives to then say that we've never had this as a theme on the agenda. It hasn't been asked for and we didn't think about it, probably because they thought more was going on than there was.

President Redel: Those are the connections that really help.

Principal Munroe-Blum: She thinks people like to do the right thing when they know what it is. When you're in the executive, you can ask them to help you connect at the local level, and this is a message that can go out without pointing fingers. People feel nervous when they are doing it for the first time. There are three people that can be encouraged to do something else. She adds that it is very charming and hard to resist when student leaders invite deans and departmental chairs to come to something. Invitations like this are always welcome and send out a good message.

Councillor Larson: Thank you for coming. Just because it is now out of your hands, what do you think of the new principal coming in, and what do you see for the future?

Principal Munroe-Blum: She is thrilled about the new principal and thanks everyone who served in the selection process as it was a lot of work. Dr. Fortier is a chemist, a musician, and a lover of culture. She was born in Quebec and is a world-renowned scientist. She knows her because they were both VP Research at different universities in Canada at the same time. She was the President of National Science Research Council, so some people in Arts and Social Sciences worry what that will be like. It will be good news for Science, but also everything else as she is a real Renaissance woman. She is a two-time graduate of McGill. She will have a clear sense of what our mission is and will come in with a vision. She will be very consultative but will also move the university and do this with a strong sense. From a transition point of view it is terrific because she know her already. She will have her own style and ways of doing things, but knowing each other will make the transition easier. She does not think there is anyone better to be coming into McGill at this time. Fortier is known in scientific centers around the world, she is deeply Québec and Canadian, and has a great knowledge of science scholarship and university systems in Canada.

Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk: What would you say was your biggest success, failure, and the first phrase you uttered when the flood was happening?

Principal Munroe-Blum: In terms of success, she sees the work we do as a huge team effort, so it is hard for her to say. She has enjoyed and felt privileged every day, even the hard ones. As learning goes, it is very interesting that it has played out this way. She is happy to have been the principal for the last two years with the previous eight years before them. She is proud of McGill's students and our role in Québec. She has hired many new professors and they have made enormous advances in investment as well as cleaning up and beautifying the campus. It was a different

place in 2002. Without even knowing such things existed, we were voted in the top ten most beautiful campuses in the world. Keeping our proportionality in perspective is good. There will be big changes in the future, and she believes that at a university like McGill, campus-based learning will still be important. Teaching and pedagogy will continue to be improved and we should support professors to really have the skill set to do teaching at the highest level. Whatever we do off campus should be in addition to that.

In terms of what didn't go so well, she is not going to say what she wishes had gone differently or done more. Overall, it was an enormous team effort and she has great confidence in the future, with the understanding that there is always more we can do.

Regarding the flood question, it is not repeatable, but it did include biblical imagery. She is impressed by how everyone pulled together, and helped people who were wet get where they needed to be. Our facilities people were amazing. To say we didn't need this right now is an understatement. She spoke about this at a speech recently.

David, from the gallery: The principal's office at McGill was fairly small compared to other administration. What do you think are some different roles for the principal's office in the future (for example, equity and sustainability)? Are those well situated in the office?

Principal Munroe-Blum: Sustainability is another accomplishment and we are quite involved in that. There is great student-institutional collaboration. Every principal will choose a few themes that resonate with them, so that will be up to Fortier. On her first day on campus in January 2003, there was a fire in a fraternity residence. She came through the Roddick Gates and there on James McGill's tomb was a snow sculpture saying "Welcome Heather" from the sustainability students at McGill. Good things came out of that. The real goal is that you will be successful as leaders when you create leaders around you with the people who care about it.

Theo, from the gallery: In terms of campus politics and where we stand now: what's happening now? What are the ideas from the administration?

Principal Munroe-Blum: There has been a year and a half of nonstop consultations. The operational guidelines are the operational guidelines, and they need to have provincial management of university campuses. People need to feel secure and have room for peaceful demonstration. Over last ten years, 99.9% of demonstrations have been peaceful. There has been a more heightened sense of engagement. At the end of the day, we make the place what it is, so the more collaboration the better to make it a good place to live and study

Councillor Baker: What will you miss most?

Principal Munroe-Blum: She thinks she will know more the week after. She has loved it and feels terrific having had a chance to serve. She always thought ten years was the right time to serve. There is a real intensity and lots of busy days. All of us who take on these roles (including Council) know this, and we love to learn.

Learning is one of the strongest imperatives to take on one of these leadership roles. It is going to be very different for her. She is going to the center for Advanced Learning, which will be a very different tempo. Many people have asked how she does it during times of difficulty. Unlike jobs that most people have, on any rough day there are a hundred great things happening that you can go interact with. She can go talk to students in the faculties, on the lawn, or in a lab. For those who are senators or chairs of senate, it is a real forum for debate for people to express different points of view. There will be other ways to be engaged, and after eleven and a half years of this it will be different. Her mother won a scholarship to McGill when she was 16, but her father did not think girls should go to school. Her mother did not live to see her become principle, but she still gets a thrill when she sees women alum from 50 years ago. She does not know of any other big universities where a woman leader was followed by another woman. This is not just because of gender reasons, such as when the media would interview her only about being the first woman principal. This also applies to people of colour, older immigrants, and doors opening.

Councillor Lam: He has two questions. In terms of her background, would she describe herself as an arts person, a science person, or an arts and science person?

Principal Munroe-Blum: Her PhD carved out her career, but she is good as a leader because she was a social worker. There is something about working in the community, with groups and in psychiatry. No one could go wrong in getting a degree in law or teaching.

Councillor Lam: Secondly, he is in Arts and Science himself. We always talk about the crossing of disciplines and boundaries. He always felt it was just Arts or Science; he never felt like he was part of something until he got into the Sustainability program. So many professors are interested in cross-disciplinary interactions. How do you see yourself or your successor going through these boundaries?

Principal Munroe-Blum: This is tougher than it should be at McGill. Compared to McMaster and the University of Toronto, McGill is far more interdisciplinary in their research, for example, the Neuroscience program. It has been a bit of a paradox since it is so tough for students to take advantage of that. We were among the first to offer joint degrees, so why is it so difficult? There is the complexity of taking CEGEP students and the U0/U1 issue, so we really need to break through to figure out how to make that less restrictive and more of an advantage. For the faculty and professors from outside of Canada, they have had to find their way. In the next ten years they will be more familiar with the place and how to do this. At the last Senate meeting there was a recommendation to separate out mentorship from advising. Professors are not necessarily the best people for interdisciplinary advising, and students should have advisors who can answer you with confidence. Part of this is a resource issue. They need to take on the advising role as a serious one. The more progress you make, the more complaints there are because people start expecting things to work out well.

She gives her closing remarks and thanks Council for the opportunity. It was great to meet you, and she is proud of you all. She gives congratulations on your achievements. She says they should not be afraid to expect that the students you represent get to know your departmental chairs. She wishes them all a great long weekend.

Principal Heather Munroe-Blum is thanked.

**b. David Gray-Donald, SSMU Sustainability Coordinator**

His presentation is in conjunction with the motion about Vision 2020. He will provide a review of SSMU's Sustainability Policy.

The Sustainability Policy of SSMU passed in March 2012. When we come up with a policy it is supposed to guide behaviour. It is evaluated based on adherence: are we following it? Is it actually effective? Is it working well to meet the aims of the society? He will be giving an update on adherence. There have been 15 sections identified, which are listed and coded either green, yellow, or red to show their success. Lots of people on campus have different understandings of sustainability; it is an ambiguous idea. He had a great conversation this morning about the relationships between equity and sustainability. SSMU has taken active role which is good, but the website in need of work and needs an online forum. In terms of outreach, we are not doing a good job of proactively getting out to groups. Awareness is unsatisfactory as we do not do a good job of making people more aware of how they can have more sustainable practices on campus. The heat and water in the building are not satisfactory, due mostly to the lease negotiations which stop us from moving forward. We should provide better HR training as lots of student staff do not know how equity and sustainability work. We need to get better with events and materials consumed. Clubs and Services does amazing work on their own without too much SSMU meddling (green groups are an example of this). Groups having events in the SSMU building are very wasteful and need to improve. In terms of leadership and responsibility, which seeks to represent student interests and push the administration, we are doing a good job but can still improve. Regarding collaboration, there is disconnect in some cases which needs to be improved. He missed the deadline for the January report but will have a full report at the end of the year.

Councillor Georges: According to the Excel sheet, events has a red block. One of her friends and her club threw an event in the SSMU building and used the Plate Club on a Friday night. However, they had no way to wash the dirty dishes as the dishwashing area was closed by the time the event was finished. That was disgusting, and she is not placing blame but wants to know how we can curb or improve this to make it more friendly for people to use this service and be able to wash the dishes after.

Gray-Donald: Part of this is due to logistical issues and part of it is due to the lease. The second floor cafeteria with the dishwashers for Plate Club locks when the tenants close. They could look into opening this up. Also, regarding the lease negotiations, he hopes there will be more large-scale dishwashing capacity that will

be able to be used by students. It is too bad that there is only one dishwasher from years ago. The lease negotiation is the reason why we haven't moved this.

VP Cooper: This issue is very specific, and she offers to talk to Councillor Georges after Council.

David Gray-Donald is thanked.

## 7) Announcements

VP Reid-Fraser: Motions to suspend the rules and amend the agenda. She wants to add a space on the agenda for a TaCEQ discussion which follows from her recent email. The discussion goes with the Motion Regarding TaCEQ Secretary General Positions, so could we put it before that motion? She also motions to remove Item U.

This motion clearly passes and **the agenda is amended.**

Councillor Farnan: Nuit Blanche is happening right now in the SSMU building. We will see if we make it, if not please use Facebook and notify people to get there as it is a great event. Nuit Blanche is annually run by the AUS and is a cool exposé of student life.

VP Szpejda: SSMU Awards are on April 10<sup>th</sup>. He is lacking submissions for Campus Life Fund Project of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, and Website of the Year. Please send nominations to him by Sunday evening

President Redel: Congratulations to the 2013-2014 SSMU Executive. Welcome aboard! He apologizes for lacking on the Space Campaign. The next few weeks will be in full swing and he will email councillors about this.

Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk: SUS is having elections, so if any of your friends are in Science tell them to vote as it is important.

Councillor Southey: There will be an IRC event at Mac campus all day on Saturday to stop by Western Night the Mac campus bar. There will be maple sugaring during the day and lots of first year students. The cost is \$2 for the whole day, which includes buses, dinner, lunch, maple sugar, and the bar event.

VP Cooper: CKUT will be at Gerts and the Mexican Students' Association is having an art event which is impressive and elaborate. The Club Feedback Forum will be in the Madeleine Parent room on April 7. If you enjoy talking about space she would encourage you to come. Also, she and President Redel are getting married.

Councillor Morawetz: Canadian Studies is having a research brunch on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Tony Clement will be there, so please come.

VP Reid-Fraser: The QPIRG AGM will be on April 8<sup>th</sup> (Monday) at 5:00pm in the Madeleine Parent room. All McGill students are members of QPIRG (unless they have opted out), so come find out what they have been up to and elect the new board members.

**8) Question Period**

Councillor Rosentzveig: What happened to SSMU Music Fest?

VP Szejda: Based on the costs associated with it and how the venue wanted tickets to be sold, it was decided that it was too late to sell all of the tickets, so we will do something smaller.

Councillor Rosentzveig: Regarding the Executive Attendance Sheets, can VP Briggs explain why he is showing up to the office after 11:00am and has missed the last Funding Committee meetings?

VP Briggs: There are many factors and it varies day by day. He is in the office later stays later in the evening. He believes that the meeting Councillor Rosentzveig is referring to was when he was out sick. Unless Councillor Rosentzveig would like him to go through day by day, he does not have a specific answer.

Councillor Rosentzveig: Do you feel like this affects your ability to work with the office staff?

VP Briggs: He specifically does not as he has enough time to work with the Accounting staff, who are under his portfolio.

**9) New Business**

Speaker Tong: The following notices of motion will be the first of three readings. The second reading will be at Steering Committee and the final one will be at the last meeting of Council.

**a. Notice of Motion Regarding Accountable Leadership**

VP Reid-Fraser reads the Resolved clause:

*“Resolved, that the attached Accountable Leadership Policy be adopted as a Policy of the SSMU, to expire April 11, 2018.”*

She explains that this came out of a few conversations about the fact that, as much as exec talks to each other a lot and office talks to each other a lot, there is not a whole lot of communication about what the executives are doing day to day. There are not a lot of other forms for these things to be visible to the public to make sure the executive are fulfilling the commitments they were elected to do. They are thinking of ways to make this information more accessible to members without overwhelming them with all things SSMU.

**b. Notice of Motion Regarding Adoption of a Funding Regulations By-Law**

Councillor Larson: Asks a point of parliamentary inquiry: what kinds of questions can be posed at a first reading?

Speaker Tong: Not many, you can ask for clarification, but cannot ask substantive questions.

Councillor Larson reads the Resolved clause:

*“Be it resolved, that Council adopt the appended Funding Policy Book as a policy of the Society, to be of force and effect for a period of five (5) years as per the Society’s bylaws, and subject to periodic review and renewal as may be necessary from time to*



time.”

She explains that at Steering this was discussed, and on April 11th there will be a friendly amendment to change this to a policy.

**c. Notice of Motion Regarding Amending Voting Procedure After Re-allocation of Senate Seats**

Councillor Lam reads the Resolved clause:

“*Be it resolved*, that Article 20.6 of Part V of the SSMU By-laws Book I-1 be added to read as follows: 20.6 Students of School of Physical/Occupational Therapy, Nursing, or Social Work, or the Interfaculty of Arts and Science may only vote for students in their own school or interfaculty program, at the end of the nomination period, should there be vacant Senate seats allotted to these schools or interfaculty program.”

At the GA this went to vote, and later it was found out there was a loophole in the procedure did not include anything about voting, so this motion is to complement for the loophole.

**d. Notice of Motion Regarding Amendments to By-Law II-4, Article 4.1**

VP Cooper reads the resolved clause:

“*Resolved*, the current Bylaw II-4-4.1 be replaced with the following edited version:

‘4.1 Chief financial officers of SSMU Clubs shall submit all potential contracts involving any monetary value or obligations on the part of the Club to the Vice President Clubs and Services for evaluation before signing the contract. The Vice President Clubs and Services shall evaluate the legal and financial soundness of the contract with the advice of the General Manager and return it to group in an expedient manner.’”

She explains that before this was a very arbitrary amount of \$1500. We realized we hadn’t been seeing any contracts, so we need to sort that out and make better procedures.

**e. Notice of Motion Regarding Amendments to By-Law III-1 9**

VP Cooper reads the Resolved clauses:

“*Resolved*, that the current content of Bylaw Book III-1 be replaced with the attached document, with affected bylaws being renumbered as necessary,

*Resolved*, that although it is too late to implement the new definitions of C&S Reps as Clubs Reps and Service reps formally until Bylaw book I is changed and elections are run reflecting this new definition, that C&S Reps elected for a 2013-2014 term are recommended to transition into this new policy.”

She says that it is quite long but very exciting. This motion is about clubs, services and ISGs. It would be helpful to read the old one and then the new one. They are working towards a Club Council. She would love to set up meetings with anyone who wants to work on this more. She also congratulates the new Clubs and Services Representatives.

**f. Notice of Motion Regarding Amendments to By-Law III-3**

VP Cooper reads the Resolved clause:

*“Resolved, that the attached C&S Bylaw Book part B replaces the entirety of the current Bylaw III-3 immediately, with the long-term intention of being incorporated into a C&S Bylaw Book, and all affected bylaws being renumbered as necessary.”*

**g. Notice of Motion Regarding Amendments to External Affairs Committee Terms of Reference**

VP Reid-Fraser reads the Resolved clauses:

*“Resolved, that the following be amended in the SSMU Committees Terms of Reference.”*

She adds that this goes along with another notice of motion and has to do with creating an ad-hoc campaigns committee. Because we are carrying out this other committee, this goes to take that from the External Affairs Committee and puts it more clearly within the Campaigns Committee context. This also adds the new TaCEQ delegates. We will get to these later as well.

**h. Notice of Motion Regarding By-Law on Provincial Representation**

Councillor Rosentzveig reads the Resolved clauses:

*“Resolved, that the following Articles be added to the SSMU Bylaw Book I. Resolved, that the current By-law I-8 and onward be renumbered accordingly.”*

VP Reid-Fraser: She adds that there are not any bylaws related to her portfolio, and this one is meant to reflect the fact that we do have provincial representation. It adds information about what TaCEQ is and how some things function within TaCEQ. There is a lot to read but she would love to have some questions and comments on that because there is a lot of information in the TaCEQ bylaws, but if there are more things that people want to know she would be happy to add them. These bylaws also add the TaCEQ delegates.

**i. Notice of Motion Regarding Changes to the Policy Committee Terms of Reference**

Councillor Farnan: Are the TaCEQ bylaws public yet, or are they just on vibe? IN other words, is VP Reid-Fraser’s motion public?

Speaker Tong: If it is public it will be on the website. Putting it on the website is the job of the CPN.

As the councillors for this motion are not here, he explains that since the SARC is on a trial basis, VP Dinell wants to merge the SARC and the Policy Committee to create a new one and strike both old committees. The Resolved clauses are as follows:

*“Resolved, that the Policy Committee be renamed to “Policy and Advocacy Resource Committee”;*

*Resolved, that Council approve the proposed changes in Appendix A.”*

**j. Notice of Motion Regarding Creation of SSMU By-Law Book IV from By-Laws III-2 and III-4**

VP Cooper reads the Resolved clause:

“*Resolved*, that a Bylaw Book IV be established, and that the current Bylaw III-2 and Bylaw III-4 be moved into this new Bylaw Book IV, with all affected bylaws being renumbered accordingly.”

This motion is part of moving into the big picture of organizing bylaws. Currently, these books do not make sense and need lots of changes in the future. This would make these old bylaws into a cohesive Clubs and Services portfolio and clubs, services, and ISG guidebook. People can meet with her about this in the next few weeks.

**k. Notice of Motion Regarding Creation of the Ad-hoc Campaigns Committee**

VP Reid-Fraser reads the Resolved clause:

“*Resolved*, that the following be added to the SSMU Committees Terms of Reference.”

This is something we have been talking about in the last few weeks. The idea is to create an ad-hoc committee so when there is an issue like divestment, this creates a foundation for people to work on that committee and makes it kind of official in SSMU. This motion creates the infrastructure forte committee. It does not reflect the process and reporting structure, so if anyone has thoughts about that she would be very interested to hear them.

**l. Notice of Motion Regarding Creation of the Service Review Committee**

VP Cooper reads the Resolved clauses:

“*Resolved*, that Article 10 of Bylaw III-1 be added to the Committee Terms of Reference and struck from the bylaws, establishing the Service Review Committee as a committee of Council.

*Resolved*, that the following powers of Service Review Committee remain in the relevant section of Bylaw III-1:

1.1. Every two years each and every accredited Service will be subject to a review by the Service Review Committee in order to ensure that they meet the Definition and Mandatory Characteristics of a Service set out in Art. 4 of this By-Law.

1.1.1. Copies of Service Reviews shall be kept on file by the Vice President (Clubs and Services) and the General Manager and to any member upon request.”

She says that this is something Caroline established last year to make sure all the services are really services to all students and members of SSMU as they are supposed to be. This was put in the bylaws in an awkward way so she is hoping to make it an actual functioning thing that has a committee with councillors appointed to it.

Councillor Lubendo: When would it start the two year process?

VP Cooper: It did not start this year, but it is set up in the committee terms of reference. It is supposed to review one quarter of the services each semester, so it is a

two year process.

**m. Notice of Motion Regarding Moving By-Law II-4 to By-Law Book III**

VP Cooper reads the Resolved clause.

“*Resolved*, that “Bylaw II-4: Financial Procedures — Clubs” be removed from its current place in Bylaw Book II and moved instead to be Bylaw Book III-1 Article 15, with numbering following Article 15 on being updated to reflect this addition.”

This is more of the same as the previous motion, but it has more to do with the club bank accounts.

**n. Notice of Motion Regarding Revisions to the Funding Committee Terms of Reference**

Councillor Larson reads the Resolved clause:

“*Resolved*, the SSMU Legislative Council Committee Terms of Reference be amended as follows.”

The purpose of this motion is mainly to reconcile the composition of the Funding Committee with administering the Equity Fund.

**o. Notice of Motion Regarding Revisions to the SSMU Equity Policy**

VP Cooper reads the Resolved clause:

“*Resolved*, that the SSMU Equity Policy be revised accordingly at the Council Session of April 11, 2013.”

She adds that the Equity Commissioner has been hard at work on these revisions.

Councillor Rosentzveig: The reason this motion came late is because they were waiting on the report from J-Board.

**p. Notice of Motion Regarding the SSMU General Manager's Attendance at McGill Negotiation Meetings**

President Redel reads the Resolved clause:

“*Resolved*, that the following mandate be added to SSMU Bylaw Book 1, Article 7, as Article 7.1.9 as edited below, to mandate the General Manager to attend all Lease or MOA negotiation meetings involving the SSMU and the McGill University Administration.”

He explains that this is essentially a resolution was passed last year to do the same thing. This motion institutionalizes it to make sure that this is mandated at all such meetings in the future as this resolution expires.

**q. Motion Regarding Amendment to Building Committee Terms of Reference**

VP Cooper reads the Resolved clause:

“*Resolved*, that the SSMU Building Committee Terms of Reference (originally adopted on February 21, 2013) be amended as outlined below.”

She adds that this is an annual review of the different fees charged as they are charged,

which makes more sense than the previous system.

Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk: Motions to move to the previous question. This motion clearly passes and voting will begin on the motion in its entirety.

With a voting count of 22-0-0, this motion passes unanimously and **the Motion Regarding Amendment to Building Committee Terms of Reference is adopted.**

**r. Motion Regarding Endorsement of Vision 2020 “Vision & Goals”**

Speaker Tong: This motion has been submitted by the SSMU Sustainability Coordinator.

President Redel reads the Resolved clauses:

*“Resolved, SSMU endorse the most recent version of the Vision & Goals document of the Vision 2020 process (revised March 1, 2013)*

*Resolved, SSMU work with McGill to achieve the Vision & Goals laid out in this document of the Vision 2020 process, where possible.”*

Councillor Farnan: Motions to move to the previous question. This motion clearly passes and voting will begin on the motion in its entirety.

With a voting count of 22-0-0, this motion passes unanimously and **the Motion Regarding Endorsement of Vision 2020 “Vision & Goals” is adopted.**

**s. Motion Regarding Support for Indigenous Peoples and Allies**

Speaker Tong: This motion was originally submitted to Council with three resolved clauses. Two Resolved clauses were passed and one was sent to the GA and passed in the consultative forum. It went to Steering Committee where it was decided that it did not make sense to send it back to Council. The motion has since been amended to make it more internal and relevant to the Society, instead of external. The Resolved clause now reads:

*“Resolved, that the SSMU adopt a position in support of the struggles of the Society’s First Nation, Inuit and Métis members and allies, including their involvement in the Idle No More movement.”*

Councillor Rosentzweig: Motions to amend to change the “First Nation and Inuit” to “First Nation, Inuit and Métis” throughout the motion. This amendment is declared friendly and is automatically added to the motion.

Councillor Larson: Could the movers explain if this motion is supposed to be extremely general, or is it pointed to current events?

Councillor Rosentzweig: This is the saga of this motion. Two Resolved clauses were passed and they had substantial support from consultative body for the third clause. It is meant to be general in that it is meant to go with the two resolved clauses that we passed awhile back.

Councillor Georges: After this motion would pass, would the SSMU take any other

means of action? Is the motion just saying “we support you and we’re done” or are we going to give them aid?

Councillor Rosentzveig: This motion is the completion of the saga. We have already mandated FERC to look into removing SSMU holdings on contested land. This motion is brought back mostly in the spirit of consistency.

VP Cooper: Motions to move to the previous question. This motion clearly passes and voting will begin on the motion in its entirety.

With a voting count of 17-0-7, this motion clearly passes and **the Motion Regarding Support for Indigenous Peoples and Allies is adopted.**

**t. Discussion Regarding TaCEQ**

VP Reid-Fraser: She imagines everyone read her long email about this yesterday which prefaces the conversation. The motion coming up next is in support of a conversation we have been having at TaCEQ for the last couple of months regarding the creation of a third member of the Secretariat General, who would be a second Vice-Secretary General. Currently the definitions for the positions in the bylaws are vague. Basically the Secretary General is the main spokesperson who goes to meetings talks to the media and coordinates things, and the Vice-Secretary looks after communications and does finance. This decision has been arrived at after a year of activity in terms of strikes, elections, the education summit, and the work proofs that are going forward. There has been a lot of attention on Quebec-wide student associations. They have definitely had a lot of challenges in terms of coming up with material and the education summit in general. We have had the conversation here that TaCEQ is not well known. Having two people paid for part-time positions (20 hours a week), who are also doing school work or working other jobs because the salary is not enough to live on, results in them being very busy and having limited resources. Executives of member associations also have a lot going on with their home campuses and cannot dedicate as much time as they would like to what TaCEQ is working on. There are various ways of bringing reforms to TaCEQ which would help improve the work we do. One of these things is to have a second Vice-Secretary General to split up the roles of communications and financial oversight between two people who have different skill sets. This is the idea behind this motion.

She has also had some important conversations with the Executive. If we were to support the idea of having a third member, there is a financial element to this decision. Currently both TaCEQ executives have a \$10 000 yearly salary, so creating a third position is also a financial commitment. SSMU’s current contribution to TaCEQ is that we pay 32% of the yearly budget, so \$3200 from SSMU goes to support a salary. There is going to be a budget process so she is not sure what exactly it will mean, but it could be an additional \$3200. Wrapped up in all of this is the idea that we are going to have a TaCEQ General Assembly in May to elect new members of the Secretariat General and do general visioning for the coming years to discuss what other TaCEQ reforms we would like to see happen, what are particular positions or issues that we want to see them working on, and how could each association helps this to happen so we can have more of our members able to connect with TaCEQ. What do we want

TaCEQ to be? It was not originally meant to be a large organization and we want the organizations to stay autonomous. It would have resources and spokespeople when they want to come together on issues, as well as an element of research sharing. Here we are in the context of the education summit where it was very difficult for non-represented associations to get representation, so we could send delegations through TaCEQ. There is going to be an ongoing conversation and she wanted to get ideas. What do we want in terms of representation at the provincial level? Do people have thoughts about the amount of financial commitment that SSMU should make to that? The TaCEQ delegates are really enthusiastic about doing things to promote TaCEQ and make students aware of what it is. They want them to get involved and be a part of TaCEQ. If we support this, it leads to a financial commitment. Even without this motion, what do you want to see from a body like TaCEQ?

Councillor Farnan: With regards to the financial commitment, he finds the Whereas clause contrasted with the Resolved clauses. It says that the positions lack clear definition and then supports the creation of a second position. If we do not even know what the first position does, why are we creating a second one that we will be financially responsible for?

VP Reid-Fraser: Part of another school's proposal outlined it more clearly. One would be in charge of communications (both external and internal) and would be involved with communicating with members and putting together a newsletter. The other one would be more financial and administrative and would be in contact with the accountant (which will hopefully be SSMU's accountant after we sign the agreement) and would be coordinating meetings and organizing logistics. There is Bylaw Review Committee stuff going on that they would be in charge of. This information should be in your email.

VP Cooper: She really appreciates all the work that VP Reid-Fraser has put into this. They had a big productive conversation at the Executive about this. She thinks its mandate requires a bigger step back by looking at what we want from TaCEQ and what its role is in Québec and for us. In terms of time and expectations, what do we want from them? She finds the assumption we make about it and how much we expect to get out of it scary. It is based on a roundtable and is supposed to be reactionary to the existence of these lobbying groups that SSMU has previously been part of. There is no common basis of unity for TaCEQ; it mostly consists of people who do not want to join with FEUQ and ASSE? Just because we do not agree with the other two does not mean we should be a part of TaCEQ. Where can we get international student and Anglophone student association representation when we need this?

Councillor Lam: On the issue of Anglophones and thinking in the long term of where we work with TaCEQ, can we do something to make TaCEQ accessible bilingually, so people can communicate in both English and French?

VP Reid-Fraser: That is a conversation we have had at TaCEQ and will be part of the discussion at the next meeting. The Sherbrooke graduate students want TaCEQ to become fully bilingual and have fast translation of all documents. She thinks that we

might not have totally fluently bilingual people, but all people understand English to a certain extent. They hope to be moving forward with completely bilingual documents.

Councillor Farnan: There are lots of numbers in the email: some say the budget is \$15 000 while others do not. How much does TaCEQ operate with, and how much has SSMU given?

VP Reid-Fraser: She can find the TaCEQ budget for the year in just a second. The way it works is that every association contributes based the percentage of total members it has, so we contribute a third since we make up a third of the total members. The \$10 000 she references was salary of another Vice-Secretary General, so \$3200 of that would be our contribution. The total budget was a little less than \$40 000 (including salaries). Most of the expenses go to the two \$10 000 salaries. The rest of the money goes to some travel expenses (they cover food and travel for TaCEQ members and the Secretariat General for meetings and business), paying for promotional materials, press releases. research of any kind, and hiring people for short paid positions (for example, a book keeper was hired for a short period of time). They have a fairly small budget in general.

Councillor Georges: At the General Assembly in May, she is wondering if the GA is similar to SSMU and AUS GAs in that students can go and be voting members, produce motions, and debate. If the answer is yes, do you not think that the fact that it is being held in may will severely hinder the participation of McGill students at the GA?

VP Reid-Fraser: The GA is not like SSMU GAs, it is more like an ASSE conference. It talks about this in the bylaw document. SSMU has four delegates that it sends to the table of association meetings (once a month) plus four delegates for the GA. She would be happy to have another delegation to next Council. We know the two TaCEQ delegates will both be here in May and can make it, so the other two delegates will probably be herself and the incoming VP External. These are SSMU's voting members.

Councillor Farnan: Would this position increase our percentage of representation and increase the overall budget? Would this be increasing representation or just adding a Vice-Secretary General as a whole?

VP Reid-Fraser: The Secretary General and Vice-Secretary General are TaCEQ employees so they do not represent a member association. They are not necessarily McGill's representation.

Councillor Farnan: Is that a neutral position or does it represent a school?

VP Reid-Fraser: Once they are elected they are to follow the mandate of TaCEQ. The Secretary General and Vice-Secretary General do not have voting powers, but they definitely speak, contribute, and give recommendations. We have 32% of TaCEQ membership because we are a large organization, so we contribute 32% of the budget. |



President Redel: It is based on the number of students. They want to have a President, Vice-President, and Secretary like for Daycare. This would not increase our contribution, because the contribution is based on the number of students.

Councillor Larson: This has been presented as an impasse between where TaCEQ is now and where it could be going. If we do not support this motion, what would happen for TaCEQ and how will this work? Will it happen anyways?

VP Reid-Fraser: One of the things that differentiates TaCEQ is that if there is a member association that does not agree with the political decision that has been made, they do not have to go along with it and do not have to contribute to it financially. Things that are purely financial elements are not related to specific political mandate, so every association should contribute to these things. This is interesting because it is contributing to the structure of the organization itself, which is combining two of these roles. If Council votes against this, she is not totally sure what that would mean. If SSMU wanted to only contribute to two salaries does that mean we would only get half of the services? She doesn't think it would mean that SSMU just wouldn't get services from one of them, because they have very distinct roles. If we vote against this she would have to go to the meeting and figure out what to do with the other member associations.

VP Cooper: In terms of press releases and promotions about mandates of TaCEQ, what are the mandates of TaCEQ? In terms of what it is, if all of its guiding documents are that it is not like the other student associations, she is afraid it is becoming what it critiques. She does not want to pay into something that does not represent SSMU. She does not want to be in TaCEQ just for the sake of provincial representation. What are the mandates TaCEQ currently has?

Speaker Tong: The speaking time will now be 1 minutes to allow for more speakers.

VP Reid-Fraser: One of the groups is working on compiling this and putting it together like the Resolution Book and getting it translated. She hopes it is ready in the next coming weeks.

Councillor Georges: Are we going to the GA with a game plan in mind and, if so, who will be designing this? Will it be in the interest of McGill students or McGill student representatives? Will TaCEQ be providing a summary document and, if so, where could McGill students find it?

VP Reid-Fraser: TaCEQ is starting this conversation now and she would be happy to have more conversations about this in the next month. If you want to see a particular kind of feedback venue, she can send out a survey to councillors, that is a really good idea. She is happy to gather more good thoughts, as this could be a long conversation. Executives can put together notes and she can make this available on the website or elsewhere.

Councillor Georges: Will minutes or a summary be provided, or do we just find out about it through the news?

VP Reid-Fraser: There will be a minute-taker which might be going on the TaCEQ model. The minutes should be translated as well. She will make note of this and make sure these things are available.

Councillor Larson: If SSMU does not vote on this and it does happen anyways, will we have to contribute anyways?

VP Reid-Fraser: To be honest, she does not know what will happen. She thinks this is different from a political decision, but is still not sure where it fits in. We have all been so excited about having another position and more resources that this has not come up. She initially assumed everyone would want it to pass. She will see what happens with the vote, and if it does not pass she will see what this means.

Councillor Farnan: His understanding is that TaCEQ has existed since 2009 and has had a central strong role this year. With a budget of just under \$40 000, he does not understand why they do not have mandates and why mandates are not a specific concern before adding a position. The reason he keeps asking these questions is that he does not understand why one would move to add in these hefty salary positions before adding a mandate first.

VP Szpejda: Something he brought up in the Executive meetings was that in understanding that TaCEQ is not a body with a vision, they should at least have a vision statement of what this vision and goals are, and then break down the roles that each person would have to that the current members can't do, and then decide how many positions they need. He is supportive of improving TaCEQ, but he wants them to say as a group what their goal is and what they need.

VP Reid-Fraser: They have had this conversation multiple times in the Executive so it makes sense to bring it here. This year when the new Secretariat General came into their positions, the previous Secretariat General was not very competent and was not doing well. This meant that the new people coming in had limited and inadequate training. They have been very busy all year and it is very difficult because they have not had a lot of time to do base-building work. They only have two part-time staff, so they are busy dealing with political and institutional things. We can ask a lot from TaCEQ, but it has not been a year of doing mandate-building because they have had such a busy year and have been busy all the time. They are adopting a TaCEQ philosophy document, and the GA will be more substantive because members are having these conversations.

Councillor Georges: Reads the last Resolved clause: "*Resolved*, that the SSMU show its support by voting in favour of a position to do so at the next TaCEQ meeting in which that proposal is discussed and by committing to financially support a third TaCEQ Vice-Secretary General's salary."

Of the four associations that compose TaCEQ, how will the responsibilities of both communications and finance be divided? How are we going to be able to divide this overwhelming amount of work to keep this association relevant to the members' student bodies?

VP Reid-Fraser: On the financial side, SSMU's accounting will be taking over TaCEQ's accounting work, which will take off a lot of the professional service requirements. The finance person will now be doing more coordination and liaising. On the Communications Committee, people from each association are working together to do communications work and hopefully the Vice-Secretary General would be chairing that, but would not be as actively involved in chairing things.

Councillor Rosentzveig: He thinks VP Reid-Fraser has been trying to get at this in her contextualization of TaCEQ. TaCEQ is not perfect, but people have been putting a lot of work into it. They cannot really expect more than trial by fire. It is not like they do not have government documents, which sets out jobs for the Secretary General and other administration. If you create two Vice-Secretary Generals it is just the same mandate divided among more people. It is all within the same mandate but provided separately. This way it is more organic.

Councillor Farnan: How much did SSMU contribute financially, if at all, the year that TaCEQ had a down year, if admittedly the association did not do that much?

VP Reid-Fraser: You would have to follow up with that when she is in the office because the accounting department has that information. She does not have a rough estimate, but it was perhaps a little less than this year.

President Redel: It would be a little less than this year, but then an additional amount was paid this year because of the Revenue Quebec muck up. It would have been about \$15 000.

Councillor Georges: Given your last response to myself, if SSMU is going to take over accounting and other apparatus are to be used, and since the weight is soon to be lifted, what would the presumptive third Vice-Secretary General be responsible for?

VP Reid-Fraser: One thing is that despite the fact that some of the responsibilities are coming from TaCEQ, the people we have working this year were certainly working more than they were expected to work. This means that they would actually be able to work these 20 hours and lead healthy lives. Similarly to her answer to Councillor Farnan, she sent out an email with an attachment of bullet points of what the tasks are. They are more in terms of communication and coordination, as well as long-term planning and visioning, kind of like what our VP Finance does.

Councillor Georges: So that would require a third paid member? She is not trying to be silly, she is just trying to flesh this out completely, because this is money that we do not really see visibly in a student body kind of way. So these responsibilities do need a third person?

President Redel: Yes, you are right, this means \$10 000 and another position. The big question is what we want TaCEQ to be. The conversation always comes down to the fact that you can put more into it if you want to change it, or you can leave it be. You do not have to put money into it, but you do have to put time, or money, or thought into it. We cannot make the call to talk about money until we have decided whether or

not it is worth it to be part of a provincial body, or one that is structured the way TaCEQ is. We are at TaCEQ 2.0 and to get to TaCEQ 3.0 we have to put in  $x$  amount of work. Do we want that?

VP Cooper: She expands on this framing. There are infinite different directions it could go. We all want change somehow in TaCEQ for SSMU and TaCEQ, and Québec. Is the change to have more infrastructure or to have less? For example, we could have one Secretary General that posts research, etc. At TaCEQ meetings there is substantive discussions that is not connected to things that SSMU has a mandate about, so it is hard to know how to vote. She is not sure if this is the right direction to go in.

Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk: This is coming from someone who is fairly involved in TaCEQ. The feeling he is getting is that it is hard to judge whether or not we should be putting resources into it when we are unsure of what the organization does, and the issue of accessibility through language is a serious problem. How are we supposed to invest in it when the relationship between TaCEQ and SSMU is not fully recognized by language?

VP Reid-Fraser: The thing she is hearing from a lot of people is that they do not know what TaCEQ does and what it is. Part of it is totally her fault, she has been sort of inadequate as a liaison, but she has not had enough capacity to do this research. This is also partly because it has not been functioning organizationally the way it should. Agendas and minutes from meetings do not come out ahead of time as the staff have been busy or not doing their job well. TaCEQ could do so much more for SSMU if SSMU can do more for it, which we are trying to do (such as with the delegates). If we have one more person to be just on top of communication who is on the email for five hours a day making sure all of the documents are in one place and can be read and make sense, that would be very helpful. There is a lot that she thinks could benefit us that could greatly outweigh the negatives. Paying \$3200 into a salary for one more person would substantially outweigh that. SSMU does need to keep TaCEQ and the VP External accountable, but we could get so much more out of it if we put in that much more of a dollar amount. Otherwise it will keep the same capacity and we will keep being disappointed.

Councillor Morawetz: Her understanding of this is that it is the existing mandate that is then split. Does it have to be taking on this whole mandate and splitting it into two, or would there be a possibility for mandate restricting when it comes from these jobs? Obviously not empty the job, but it could take on groups and maybe the communications person could include something about language, such as caveats for translation.

VP Reid-Fraser: As she said earlier, Sherbrooke has asked that TaCEQ work towards being bilingual. They could have a conversation about having a part time translator, or if this is something that one of the associations would take on. Absolutely yes, we would take on a framework to make this happen consistently.

President Redel: When looking at these three positions, have you done a pay-scale

analysis? Would a communications person who is going to be doing email be working just as many hours, just as hard? Do they have the same qualifications and the same pay? Just because they have a similar title does not mean they do the same work. This is helpful in terms of budgeting and making sure this is reflected.

VP Reid-Fraser: She had a discussion about this with the Secretary General, and he views it the same as we view our executive strategies. Everyone does different work, but they are all equal in that way. She is not sure what went into setting salaries. TaCEQ has not recently done a similar exercise as we do at SSMU.

Councillor Guan: She totally understands when VP Reid-Fraser said that if we do not put more in, we will not get more out of TaCEQ. Could you elaborate on what these things could be?

VP Reid-Fraser: There are many possibilities, most of them are in terms of promotion and information. We want to have a newsletter, and we could also have more research and more shared resources, as well as making sure there is a living, active hub for these organizations. More people would have more contact with these organizations, so they could talk to us and find out what our concerns are and what discussions we want to work on.

The discussion regarding TaCEQ is now closed, and Council moves into debate on the Motion Regarding TaCEQ Secretary General Positions.

**u. Motion Regarding TaCEQ Secretary General Positions**

Following the discussion, debate opens on this motion.

Councillor Georges: Asks a question in French, and then asks if she needs to translate it for the rest of the room. (This is a rhetorical question.)

Councillor Farnan: This sounds like more of an organizational question rather than something that needs more money for salaries. There have been some fundamental organizational and basic issues, and instead of working on these they are skipping over the re-organization.

VP Cooper: She feels like the point of TaCEQ is to not be like other student associations that turn into big things, and she does not want TaCEQ to turn into this. Along with Councillor Guan, the one thing she has ever agreed with Mendelson on is that budget cuts have been useful in terms of looking at organizational efficiency (although she still does not think that they should be implemented. She knows they work really hard but that does not mean they are always doing work that needs to be done the way it is

VP Szpejda: He agrees with Councillor Farnan. He thinks we are working backwards without the proper information and demand from TaCEQ itself. It is another one of the problems we have experienced with them in the past where people are split, whereas if it is something that comes out of TaCEQ's research and has a strong base, this is different.

Councillor Rosentzveig: It is true that TaCEQ is supposed to be light and decentralized, but he does not think this position goes against this. TaCEQ is tiny when compared to everything else, and we get results based on the size. This goes back to the point that if we want TaCEQ to function, it is up against a wall. This is not TaCEQ's demands, only the demands of its members.

Councillor Giannakakis: They go on to say that their structure for decentralization is because it allows for maximum power to its associations and delegations. What is really interesting is their political neutrality. This is why they are not like any other association, it is because they have this neutral political stance.

VP Reid-Fraser: In response to VP Szpejda, this *is* coming from the members because the three other member associations who go to these meetings and do hard work are asking for this, we are the only ones who aren't. She likes a lot of what Councillor Rosentzveig said, as this is not even about creating more bureaucracy but about making the bureaucracy that we already have much better. People are trying to do a lot of things at once and as a result are not serving us as well as they could.

VP Cooper: In response to Councillor Rosentzveig: FEUQ and ASSE would not let us in even if we wanted to join, but that is not a good enough reason to be in TaCEQ, as it is only thing left for provincial representation. It is not representation, it is not a provincial lobbying body, and they do not represent us. It is a very different type of organization. She wants to look at the returns we can expect. For example, why do we want a newsletter it is about mandates that do not concern us?

Councillor Farnan: He hopes his comments have come across as objective. He does not know if he can make a decision tonight on the motion. There have been two difficult years and he does not mean this to take away from the work that has been done. However, if this is the case, the first step should be from the bottom up instead of adding another salary of \$10 000 to the top and adding to the bureaucratic structure without addressing the fundamental issues.

VP Reid-Fraser: We are talking about TaCEQ like it is a big bureaucracy, but part of the evidence is that we have accomplished a lot of things through TaCEQ. This comes from the member associations as TaCEQ is not doing enough on their own turf. Revisions to the bylaws were run by other people and work on communications was done by attachés at each association. They have had problems because they are busy with their own associations and are not elected, so they do not have the same accountability and we do not have same ways to mandate them.

Councillor Larson: Because it is just a networking body, what kind of accomplishments has TaCEQ had over the last few years that we can see concretely and know what will happen moving forward?

VP Reid-Fraser: The year before this year was not a particularly good year. This year we have gone to the education summit, made substantial presentations about things at the summit, and have other associations on board. Making those connections and bringing proposals to the government are both significant. If we had a slightly larger

organization we would be able to be involved in it even more going forward.

VP Cooper: Echoes Councillor Larson and says that she sees the same issue with a lot of clubs and groups. This is why they have a mandate that you can't have a new club that overlaps with an existing club. It is hard when something exists mostly for the sake of existing and when its accomplishments are its structure. She does not think this is enough. Is this \$3000 going to put us over the edge where it is not just fighting to exist and can do things? But still, what things will be done and whose mandates would it act on?

Councillor Rosentzweig: He feels like a lot of councillors are speaking past each other. True communication needs to be better. All the movers of the motion are trying to do is to make TaCEQ a little more viable. It has done good research in the past.

Councillor Farnan: He doesn't want to say that TaCEQ is doing this or that. He said that there is no accountability, so if they fall of the bandwagon we cannot mandate them.

VP Reid-Fraser: Because unelected people are doing work since elected people do not have time!

Councillor Farnan: If there is a lack of accountability he does not want to put \$10 000 to a position.

VP Reid-Fraser: She has such a hard time knowing how to respond to all of this because what she is hearing is that TaCEQ has not been that great right now so here are all of the things we do not like, and because of this we are not willing to put a little more money to something that could go a long way. She knows she should have done more and she is really sorry. She would love to see them working on international and out-of-province associations. There are lots of other things we could do with TaCEQ, but the thing is that she is not hearing this feedback but is instead hearing that maybe TaCEQ is not that good and we don't know what to do with it but we are not willing to try to make it into something that could do these things. We could improve it so much more if we just had one more person working for this. The potential of having one more person to be a part of this process would allow us to find the solutions to all of these things that you are all talking about. She does not know what else to say.

Councillor Lam: We also have to recognize that they are students and it is a part-time job so they have their own studies. So far the whole discussion is like a chicken/egg problem and is not really going anywhere. Although we do not see it and there is an element of uncertainty, we should act on that.

Councillor Rosentzweig: Motions to move to the previous question. This motion clearly passes and voting begins on the motion in its entirety.

With a voting count of 13-5-3, this motion passes and **the Motion Regarding TaCEQ Secretary General Positions is adopted.**

At 9:04pm, a recess is held to vote for Councillor of the Year. Speaker Tong reads the nominations: Councillor Giannakakis, Councillor Larson, and Councillor Rosentzveig.

Councillor Morawetz: Nominates Senator Zidel.

The anonymous voting procedure begins and all councillors submit their answers to Speaker Tong.

At 9:10pm, a recess is held for a meeting of the Board of Directors.

Council resumes at 9:13pm

## 10) Reports by Committees

### a. Executive Committee

President Redel: Apologizes for the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting not being in this report; they have not received the official documents yet. They have approved building hours for the summer (on March 12th) and it will be open later. The TaCEQ contract was approved. They will not be charging TaCEQ anything but they will take charge of their accounts. They approved the payment on invoices for January and needed to take into account the labour conferences brought up by VP Reid-Fraser. He considers this a period of time to also ask about the attendance report and any other Executive accountability related things.

There is a motion to adopt, which clearly passes, and **the report of the Executive Committee is adopted.**

### b. Interest Group Committee

VP Cooper: Stands for questions.

There is a motion to adopt, which clearly passes, and **the report of the Interest Group Committee is adopted.**

## 11) Reports by Councillors

### a. Sophia-Maria Giannakakis, PT/OT Representative

Councillor Giannakakis shows a video presentation for her report. She introduces the other members of POTUS, shows their house where they have most of their classes, and gives an overview of some of the events POTUS has put on in the last year. They competed at the annual PT/OT Games and came first. They also participated in wheelchair basketball and had a fashion show. She tell Council that she loved working with them this year and thanks them.

Councillor Georges: That was amazing!

### b. Andrew Baker, Law Representative

That was a tough act to follow. He jokes that he tried to make a video too, but all the Law students hate the undergraduates for working in their library. One of the biggest things he has been working on is the Governance Committee at the LSA. They went



through the constitution and bylaws and are now working on their transition reports for the new Executive. They have run huge surpluses in the previous years and are going to invest it with the McGill Endowment Fund. It will be used for mental health and bursaries for need-based students, and it is going to referendum right now. Also, the Law faculty tied for first in voting in the SSMU Elections, which is a big achievement.

**c. Victor Lam, Arts and Science Representative**

BASiC had NERC and around 30 people attended, so he gives a shout out to them. The referendum is going on and new senators are being elected. He is excited because there are really great candidates assuming these positions. The transition is under way for the candidates running for his position. He is getting involved with his own student association for his Sustainability program and is working to get social events going for this year and next year. In terms of committees, he did a lot with FERC and is really proud of what the other committee members are doing.

**d. Benjamin Beland, Athletics Representative**

The big thing for Athletics over the last few months was the ancillary fee referendum question. He also went to the POTUS wheelchair basketball game, which was heartbreaking but a good game. There was a blood drive a few weeks ago and he thanks to everyone who helped out.

**e. Nicole Georges, Arts Representative**

She has not had too much going on. The future people for the AUS came to get a taste of what was going on. Also, the referendum questions passed with flying colours. AUS Volunteer Week was going on all of this week. They also had an advising forum that went well, around 50 people attended which is very good. As Councillor Farnan mentioned earlier, Nuit Blanche is going on right now. The Bylaw Review Committee had a meeting last night, and they have another one next Wednesday. The last AUS Council meeting is also coming up, so if anyone is wanting to get in on it, you are all welcome.

Speaker Tong: Notes that Councillor Giannakakis was the only councillor that submitted a report for every Council.

**12) Reports by Executives**

**a. Vice-President (Clubs and Services) – Allison Cooper**

They had a great Building Committee meeting on Monday and went through the draft of the building bylaw book. She and Pauline decided to make the actual bylaw part the principles of how the building is and how it is run, as priorities are important. It includes principles to guide how we can allocate rules and tabling, etc. They also want to include basic principles of lease negotiations as well as the purposes of this building as being student space and sustainable. All of the other policies will be active policies. There is still the question of whether these should be bylaws at all or office procedure, but it is still really important for us to be talking about this in this forum. Wallace, the security manager, has been doing research into space. She will recommend to next year's Building Committee that their money be used to buy better set-ups for the office spaces so that more can be done with the space, instead of the big clunky desks not

have many options. Then the office can be the space for the club and they can still use them for Executive meetings. She is working on lighting. She did not go to CSU as Pauline was sick so we postponed it. The flood barriers on McTavish have been rented for two years and they look pretty silly

Councillor Larson: Do you have any updates on the peanut theory?

VP Cooper: She thinks it is in a confidential file, but there was a week where all the peanut machines in the SSMU building were violently vandalized.

President Redel: There are only 3 left out of 12. They covered one of the security cameras and ripped off the units.

VP Cooper: She is glad they brought up vandalism in the building as she needs to make a public announcement. In terms of graffiti, MUNACA workers are required to clean it, so please do not do it. It goes through the budget and if SSMU is paying, you are paying.

VP Reid-Fraser: Quickly refers back to the new structures on McTavish: you mentioned YOLO, so you only live once, but how often does the reservoir flood?

VP Cooper: There was talk of having students paint the structures, but this might not be possible as they may be rentals.

**b. Vice-President (External Affairs) – Robin Reid-Fraser**

In terms of community relations, the St. Patrick's day and evening street teams two weekends ago went well. It was pretty chill because it was cold out. She got to walk around the neighbourhood with Dean Costopoulos. He told her about being a security guard and she learned a lot. The Community Ambassadors have started working and have office hours on Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00-8:00pm, and on Saturday from 1:00-3:00pm at Presse Café on Sherbrooke. Hopefully people are starting to make use of them.

Coming out of the education summit and TaCEQ, four work groups are being put together by the government with various deadlines (two in June, one in August, and one in December) to coordinate research and contributions. SSMU is taking on the idea of a National Council on universities that would involve people from universities and communities, and take a research and advisory role into what role universities should have. TaCEQ is meeting on Saturday and it is her birthday. Only one delegate is coming since Alexandra had pre-existing Easter plans. They will be talking about doing TaCEQ promotion. TaCEQ's GA was scheduled for May 12 but might be pushed back because of changing positions.

On campus there was Labour Week with the Inter-Union Council which had a good labour conference on Saturday. Divest McGill co-organized Battle of the Profs with the Economics Student Association and the room was packed. The External Affairs Committee is helping her work on the chantier from the summit and will help her talk about that when it is written up. The political attaché (which is a permanent full

position) has his last day on Friday as he got a job with the Bloc Quebecois leader. They will be starting to advertise for his position next week.

Councillor Rosentzveig: What was your favourite part of labour week?

VP Reid-Fraser: The conference itself was really solid and had many interesting conversations about universities and labour and education, and the relationships between unions and student associations.

**c. Vice-President (Internal) – Mike Szpejda**

He congratulates new Executives. The Orientation work groups are under way. Councillor Farnan had come to a few in the past and is now coming to all of them. He is working on the schedule for next year. He also notes that when we are figuring out stuff for alternative events and when it does not relate to a specific group people say that SSMU will take care of it, so he cautions councillors to be careful of this. Leader recruitment for Orientation is also underway, and he needs two facilitators. He will be advertising the yearbook presale soon and will talk to the bookstore about selling them during convocation. The social media policy will be done by next Council. For SSMU Awards he still needs the three previously mentioned nominations. The Faculty Olympics went well and he thanks President Redel for all of his help. He will have the financials done soon, he is just waiting on a few refunds. For exam time he is working on converting the SSMU Ballroom into a study space, as well as getting a puppy room, bubble wrap, and a screaming room. He asks people to email him with their ideas.

Councillor Rosentzveig: Is bubble wrap sustainable? Also, he and VP Szpejda met a few times this year to work on the Events Calendar, has he advanced on preparing a job description for this?

VP Szpejda: He has been working on it, it is on his list of things to do.

Councillor Stewart-Kanigan: Are dietary restrictions being taken into account for the SSMU Awards?

VP Szpejda: Yes, there is already a vegetarian option and he is looking into a vegan option.

Councillor Lubendo: When do applications come out for Orientation?

VP Szpejda: It is done through each faculty's HR, they will email you.

Councillor Lam: For the SSMU Awards, can you bring guests?

President Redel: No, unless they also get a nomination.

Councillor Guan: How many people can a club bring to represent them?

Speaker Tong: The finalists get to go, and they can bring 3 people.

Speaker Tong: As VP Dinel is not here to give her reports, people can email her with their questions.

**d. Vice-President (Finance & Operations) – J.P. Briggs**

The winter budget revision is complete and there is only a slight change. The expense of the Club Fund was increased. Because we cannot run budget deficits we will motion to suspend the bylaw that requires us to transfer \$50 000 and will instead transfer the amount that is left. He feels this is appropriate as we have reserve funds and we face uncertainty, so this is justified with the level of service we are offering without cutting back. The difference is that the Club Fund is the only fund that comes from the operating budget. They had been using the previous year's accumulated funds and were going to use all of the available funds, but now this will be \*\*\*\*\*.  
(check report).

Preparation for next year's budget is underway with his successor. The cash management and banking investment option is underway and he is looking at the full picture before making any decisions as this will play a huge role in the budget revision for next year. Gerts is status quo and he will have a presentation at the end of the month. On St. Patrick's Day it made \$45 000, but that is just sales and is not accounting for other information such as the operation costs. In terms of Gertrude's Corner, they are looking into the fire and how it can best suit Gerts and student life. He will have more to come on that in a second. The minicourses schedule and classes should be going up soon and will be running for May. He encourages people to take one if they haven't yet. For the student-run café they are working on a hub of information for all of the information that has been collected. This will include all proposals, design sketches, and work that has been done, and all of this will go up on the website. There will be room for blog posts and more room for open communication.

They do not have reports from the FERC Coordinator yet, but they will be presenting final reports. He says bravo to the entire committee. The equity holding portion is complete. Most of our energy holdings were red-flagged right away. This makes up about 20% of the entire portfolio and is marked for divestment. There will be a presentation about this at the next Council. FERC will be taking the work that has been done and turning it into an actual plan. In the Fall there will be much more of a tangible database to work from. They discussed Gertrude's Corner and are trying to implement the ideas behind the student-run café, but because this is not taking place for awhile it is difficult. A lot of these things can be turned into items that can be implemented in Gertrude's. Over the course of the year we can model what this would look like if it was a student-run café.

Councillor Georges: You mentioned a fire?

VP Briggs: Sorry, there was no fire, the smoke alarm was set off by smoke from bacon.

Councillor Rosentzveig: Thinks it's cool that FERC is doing summer research.

VP Briggs: The Funding Committee is up for a notice of motion to establish a baseline for the most fair and efficient funding, so that they can get as much funding as possible. He looks forward to seeing this carried forward. Bravo to the Funding Committee.

Councillor Larson: Especially Councillor Rosentzveig.

Councillor Rosentzveig: Can you elaborate on the research topics?

VP Briggs: They want to look into the Funding Policy as it is not fair that someone who works hard to plan a trip and do a proper budget and therefore uses less money while other people do not do it properly and need more funding. They want to establish baselines for travel and look at arrangements, deals and where people have gone before. This will be a research position.

**e. President – Josh Redel**

He has been working with the faculties, which is confidential right now but will be very beneficial. The VP Finance roundtable designed by the AUS will be taking place on April 7, and he hopes this happens more than once. There was a great Bylaw Review Committee meeting on Wednesday, and they are about halfway through the bylaws. They have decided on a printer for the handbook and are just waiting for a response. One of the Secretary Generals is working on an outline for the handbook. In terms of the Space Campaign, there will be a big final push before the end of the year, and then a party at Gerts to celebrate the signing of lease and/or the Space Campaign being done. He is also working on healthy living stuff for exam time. In terms of the Board of Governors, Divest McGill is on the agenda for CAMCER. They have set the business agenda for the rest of the calendar year to look into this and other things. Senate has been okay, they did work with the teaching and learning services work group on students perspectives on renovations in classrooms. There will be a presentation on the most recent MyCourses survey. He will be working on this with them, and there is some interesting feedback. People complain about getting emails, but also love getting email notifications. There will be an e-waste event for the opening of the e-waste bin, which will be the 7<sup>th</sup> annual McGill e-waste event on April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> all day at the Roddick Gates. The event will highlight the permanent e-waste bin in SSMU that you can use throughout the year. The executives are starting their transitions now. The new term starts on May 1<sup>st</sup> and they are out of the office on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Recruitment is underway and we are going to be scheduling for interviews, starting with the high priority jobs (summer jobs). Some positions have been reopened for submissions, so they can still be applied for.

Councillor Lam: Can you apply for more than one position?

President Redel: Yes, but if you do so it would be a good idea to email Marie-Elaine Reid because the website is strange.

Councillor Farnan: In terms of the handbook, is it possible to make it smaller?

Speaker Tong: The only way to deal with this is to make it bigger if you don't like the thickness.

President Redel: Next Council will be pajama themed.

**13) Confidential Session**

At 10:03pm the gallery leaves the room and a recess is held for a Confidential In-Camera Session.

At 10:09pm the Confidential In-Camera Session is adjourned and Council resumes.

**14) Adjournment**

There is a motion to adjourn, which clearly passes. The meeting of the Legislative Council is adjourned at 10:09pm.

Adopted