



Motion Regarding Changes to the Policy Committee Terms of Reference

Whereas, the Policy Committee was established April 2012 to help councillors and senators create and research internal and external policy;

Whereas, Student Advocacy Resource Committee (SARC) worked on a trial bases for 2012-2013;

Whereas, SARC was deemed successful;

Whereas, there is overlap in terms of committee mandates;

Resolved, that the Policy Committee be renamed to “University Affairs Committee”;

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

Moved by:

Haley Dinel, VP University Affairs
Max Zidel, Senate Caucus Representative

University Affairs Committee (Joint Senate Caucus-SSMU Council committee)

The University Affairs Committee (UAC) shall support the development of research and policy initiatives conducted by SSMU through the compilation of information and the presentation of research proposals. The committee shall also advise the SSMU and Senate Caucus on matters of external policy.

The UAC Work Group shall act as an advocacy resource for all students giving guidance and support to individuals or groups who seek systemic change. The Head Steward shall coordinate and chair this group.

The Membership Shall Consist of:

Academic Research Commissioner (Chair)
VP University Affairs
UAC Work Group Head Steward
Triage Steward
Steward (1) *nominated by Work Group*
Councillor (1)
Senator (1)
Members at Large (2)

The Committee Shall:

Meet and Report



- Bi-weekly meetings
- Committee members can expect to do 1-2 hours a week
- Monthly report to council and senate caucus

Mandate

Collaborate with SSMU executives, senators, councillors, and commissioners, develop a year plan of policy initiatives, to be completed by September 30th, and then presented to Council no later than October 15th;

Provide an advisory role through policy research for Senators and Councillors to make well-informed decisions. They may approach the policy committee with current projects or questions that requires further research. The committee members shall not be responsible for the execution of these projects. The committee shall:

- Compile information required to further SSMU initiatives, including time requirements and research design
- Where necessary, propose that a temporary research position be made for the project
- Confer with any relevant SSMU executive or student staff necessary to execute the project

Assist senators and councillors in the drafting of policies;

Encourage and provide avenues for collaboration between SSMU research projects where possible;

Liaise with the McGill Academic Roundtable (MART);

Advise SSMU on how best to provide more sustainable research (preserving institutional memory). Prepare an exit-report due on April 15th of each academic year on research and policy projects that need to be continued in the next school year;

Assist the Academic Research Commissioner and VP University Affairs in the planning and execution of the Annual Forum on Undergraduate Education & Research.