

SSMU Legislative Council Meeting

1) Call to Order

The meeting of the Legislative Council was called to order at 6:32pm.

2) Attendance

Speaker Malik does a roll call of all Councillors. The following list is of the Councillors in attendance:

President Larson
VP Shea
VP Harris
VP Fong
VP Hofmeister
Councillor Ibrahim
Councillor Reedijk
Councillor Jeong
Councillor Ayukawa
Councillor Lubendo
Councillor Lu
Councillor Rosentzveig
Councillor Rioux
Councillor Tong
Councillor Simpson
Councillor Jones
Councillor Vassanji
Councillor Benrimoh
Councillor Chen
Councillor Giannakakis
Councillor Sachal
Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk
Councillor Southey
Councillor Stewart-Kanigan
Councillor Dinel

3) Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda is adopted.

4) Report of the Steering Committee

President Larson: We had a very brief Steering Committee meeting earlier in the week. There was nothing controversial on the agenda. We will have a confidential session at the end of the meeting.

Councillor Rosentzveig: He thinks the date under Old Business for motion submission deadlines might be a week early.

President Larson: That is correct; the motion submission deadline is next Friday.

Speaker Malik: The deadlines will be changed.

5) Guest Speakers

a. TaCEQ: Paul-Antoine Cardin (Secretary General) and Guillaume Fortin (Vice-Secretary General, Internal Affairs and Communication)

Paul-Antoine: He gives an explanation of what TaCEQ is. The other members are REMDUS from Sherbrooke (graduate students), as well as AELIÉS (graduate) and CADEUL (undergraduate) from Laval. TaCEQ represents about 70 000 students. In our work we try to be a decentralized organization. There are three Secretary Generals: himself, Guillaume, and Xavier. Xavier is responsible for Administration and Financial Affairs.

There are three big subjects to discuss. The commission about the events of 2012, the reform of TaCEQ, and the Laurent Proulx case. About six months ago, Laurent Proulx presented something against the law of student associations. Student associations have the right to collect money and exist under the law. He said this restricts his freedom of expression and association. TaCEQ is defending the law because it allows them to exist, along with FEUQ and FEQ. The date of the trial is not set yet.

They are in contact with the commission on the events of 2012. The role of TaCEQ is to transmit some information from the association to the commission. We have to do something like an essay to bring as TaCEQ to the commission. At the moment CADEUL has a mandate to not work on the subject. REMDUS has a mandate to collect some information and bring it to TaCEQ. SSMU and AELIÉS do not have a position at the moment.

Last year CADEUL questioned its association with TaCEQ, which brought us to a reform and the other associations agreed. We were supposed to have a congress to work on the problems we see often at TaCEQ, such as how we are present to the members of all associations and how we can represent them to the government. People don't feel that they are members of TaCEQ and the question is how we can reform to fix this. The congress won't happen because one of the associations thinks it is too soon and they want to think about it more. We want to do the reform. We will continue the reform and we want SSMU to contribute.

Councillor Benrimoh: Thank you for your presentation. Could you go over the court case and the law and maybe give us a bit more detail? There is a lot of confidential work on the law suit and the trial.

Paul-Antoine: Laurent Proulx put forth the first injunction. He made the request because he feels that if he pays to be part of a university association, the association should not speak for him. We tried to demonstrate that the law doesn't restrict anything about his freedom of speech. He was in the media a lot, and that is speech. The main argument of defense is that it is not perfect.

Councillor Benrimoh: Do you have a timeline? Is it progressing well?

Paul-Antoine: The defense will be ready this week or next week, we are just waiting to find out who our witnesses will be. After that we will have to wait until March for the trial and

then we will see. We work together with a defender.

Councillor Reedijk: It is his understanding that the TaCEQ meeting that was supposed to happen in October is now off. Could you elaborate on what happened?

Paul-Antoine: Each association has a certain manner in how they work. It is really different for each association. In terms of the idea of the congress, at the start everyone was fine with it but with the time he thinks that some associations, mainly AELIÉS, re-thought it. They said they did not have the time to make a decision or to prepare their people to be ready at the congress. All of it is not clear, but the decision that has been taken is to postpone the congress because AELIÉS would not participate at that date. Their argument was that they wouldn't be ready. He thinks there was a misunderstanding at some point of what the congress was about and what the subject of it was. When they understood, they were not ready for that.

Councillor Reedijk: Can you elaborate on the misunderstanding?

Paul-Antoine: The main one is who the members of the congress are and can an executive or councillor be a member of the congress? They are asking for answers to those questions before but AELIÉS was not happy. That was one of the misunderstandings. The right opportunity to talk during the congress was also an issue, but the main argument was that they couldn't be ready in time.

Councillor Reedijk: Has the congress been moved?

Paul-Antoine: Right now it is cancelled, but the reform is not cancelled. We need to know if we need a congress and we need to do some thinking. He thinks we need a congress but he doesn't know if it would be in October; it would probably be after that.

Councillor Benrimoh: What are some of the reforms you expect to be topics at the congress?

Paul-Antoine: The membership – who can be members of TaCEQ, the finances – how we finance the organization, and other congresses about how we want it to work. For SSMU, you have four votes. One of the ideas of the congress – one of the main questions – is that if you want a national organization, what do you want? These are just some subjects to divide it up.

He thanks Council for the opportunity to present.

There are no more questions so the representatives from TaCEQ are thanked.

6) Announcements

Councillor Fletcher: One of the Arts Representatives to SSMU resigned his position on September 4th. This was due to a conflict between a course and AUS Council, which is one of the requirements. The AUS voted that he sit on SSMU Council until a new representative is elected.

President Larson: Next Friday in the Madeleine Parent room there is a Meet Your Student Representatives wine and cheese. We encourage all of you to come and we are inviting students; you can meet the people you are representing.

VP Farnan arrives.

Councillors Bissky-Dziadyk: A protest is being organized on Sunday called Stand up for Science at 12:00pm at Place des Arts. If you are interested he can give you more details.

VP Farnan: The Terry Fox Run is this Sunday in the Old Port. Registration is at 9:30am and the run is at 10:30am. He will be there. Traditionally the Scarlet Key Society has a big role, and hopefully SSMU will too. Try to get people down there; it should be a good one.

Councillor Fletcher: Principal Fortier and the new Deputy Provost of Student Life and Learning will be at AUS Council next week, and then the Deputy Provost will be there on October 30th. The meeting will happen in Leacock 232 at 6:00pm.

VP Harris: Before our next Council, it will be the week of Aboriginal Awareness Week. It is a fantastic week, you can check out their website. He didn't plan it, he just wanted to let everyone know that it is an amazing series of events.

VP Shea: On September 19th she has organized a library town hall in this room and the Madeline Parent room. The directors will be there and there will be an opportunity for everyone to ask questions about the changes made over the summer. There will also be sandwiches from La Prep.

Councillor Benrimoh: Will these dates be recorded for us to look at later?

Speaker Malik: They will be in the minutes. You can also contact the appropriate councillor.

7) Question Period

Councillor Lubendo: Will the first Board of Directors meeting happen at the end of the month?

President Larson: The first Board of Directors meeting will be after the GA when the Directors are formally appointed by the membership of the SSMU.

Councillor Rosentzveig: He was hoping that one of the Executives could tell us why, after a very long summer, all of their reports went up today and not earlier so we could look through and approve them.

President Larson: Her report was up last night. The Executives were asked to upload their reports and they are aware they were late.

Councillor Rosentzveig: What are you doing to make sure this happens?

President Larson: She will continue to do so, as she did today in the office and through multimedia, to remind people.

Speaker Malik: Also, the agenda and documents will not go up this late every week, there were technical issues with Vibe.

VP Shea: She would like to apologize for the lateness of her report. Activities Night was last night and they were all there helping. It is not an excuse, it is an explanation, and it will not happen again.

Councillor Lubendo: Regarding the approval of the Board of Directors at the GA on October 9th, what will happen if there is not quorum?

President Larson: If quorum is not met, it cannot go to referendum and the Board cannot be decided by Council. You should know you are responsible as a Councillor to go and bring friends.

Speaker Malik: It also can't be more than 50 % from one faculty, so really everyone should bring their friends.

Councillor Fletcher: Regarding quorum, other than bringing friends, what other methods are going to be employed, as this hasn't worked in the past?

President Larson: This year, as a new hired position, she will have two Secretary Generals: one for governance and administration and one for the GA. There will be a full marketing and promotion plan for the GA. She and VP Farnan talked about going to Councils, speaking at the faculties, and getting them to understand why it is important to go. At the end of the day, all SSMU members have a responsibility to go to the GA.

8) New Business

a. Motion Regarding Conflict of Interest Waiver (ECOLE Commissioner)

President Larson: This is a motion regarding Courtney Ayukawa's role as ECOLE Coordinator. She reads the motion:

Whereas, Courtney Ayukawa was approved by the previous Executive to the position of ECOLE Coordinator,

Whereas, Courtney Ayukawa is a sitting Councillor of the Student's Society of McGill University representing the Faculty of Arts & Science,

Whereas, Bylaw Book I Article 3.5 states "No Councillor shall be employed by the Society or its agents, except by special permission of Council",

Whereas, the aforementioned Bylaws require a special motion in order for Councillor Ayukawa to continue her employment while serving on Council,

Whereas, holding a seat on Council and working as ECOLE Coordinator may be perceived as a conflict of interest with respect to decisions made regarding the ECOLE project,

Resolved, Council grant special permission as per bylaw 7.8 to allow Councillor Ayukawa to continue working as ECOLE Coordinator;

Resolved, as per the SSMU Conflict of Interest Policy, Councillor Ayukawa will remove herself from the discussion of any in-camera matters with material impact or connections to ECOLE.

Resolved, as per the SSMU Conflict of Interest Policy, Councillor Ayukawa abstains from voting on matters with material impact or connections to ECOLE.”

She motions to amend the first Resolved clause. It should be by-law 3.5 instead of 7.8 in the first Resolved clause, just like in the Whereas clauses. This is a friendly amendment so the motion is automatically amended.

Councillor Lubendo: Motions to move to the previous question. This motion clearly passes and Council moves into voting procedure.

The Motion Regarding Conflict of Interest Waiver (ECOLE Commissioner) was amended and adopted.

b. Motion Regarding Commitment to Mental Health Promotion and Awareness

VP Shea reads the Resolved clauses of the motion:

“Be it resolved that, the SSMU be mandated to promote a mentally healthy community

Be it resolved that, the SSMU support students who are trying to bring awareness and reduce stigma and who are offering peer mental health support

Be it resolved that, an ad-hoc committee of Council be convened and dedicated to mental health issues and work to make connections with relevant parties across both McGill and the SSMU so that these services can work more efficiently together

Be it resolved that, this committee will draft a Mental Health policy before the end of the 2013-2014 academic year.”

Speaker Malik: Default speaking time will be set at one minutes, but you can motion to change it if you would like.

Councillor Lubendo: What is the minimum number of Councillors needed to move a motion?

Speaker Malik: Two. It helps if one is an Executive.

Councillor Fletcher: Can you ask questions to the mover?

Speaker Malik: Yes, you can ask while the floor is open for debate.

VP Farnan: Please speak up as it is hard to hear.

Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk: This is very much an acute need. Where do we see this committee hopefully going and what are we looking for as an end result?

VP Shea: The idea behind the motion is that right now there are a lot of different mental health groups both at SSMU and McGill that are not necessarily communicating well, like Sustainability a few years ago. She would like this group to be convened so that all the different groups can sit on this committee and work to network amongst themselves and make the mental health community stronger together.

VP Farnan: Also, the last “Be it resolved clause” is a clear end. Hopefully we can draft a

working mental health policy by the end of the year with work for both Executive and Councillor portfolios, finding out where mental health lies in each portfolio.

Councillor Fletcher: Thank you for answering questions about the committee. What are the goals of the policy, and how will they effect the operation of the SSMU?

VP Shea: Along the lines of Farnan, we don't know what the policy will be right now, why we are convening committee. want to find ways to better work towards mental health; this is one of our main priorities as an exec want to mandate so that it is.

Councillor Southey: She noticed that this resolution and the student mental health conference came up a lot in the minutes last year. What is the relation this year and what are the mental health conference's plans?

VP Shea: During the election we had one similar factor in our campaigns, which was mental health. She was approached by Claire Wu in the summer about organizing Students in Mind's mental health conference. She wanted to find a way to support it and make it institutionally within the SSMU. Bringing this motion gives us a mandate to help the conference in any way we can.

Councillor Stewart-Kanigan: Whose portfolio would the committee fall under?

President Larson: Something for us is to keep it vague is so the committee can do the work to figure out what we need as policy and then figure out where it fits

Councillor Stewart-Kanigan: Whose portfolio would the ad-hoc committee fall under?

VP Shea: It would be under her portfolio.

Councillor Ibrahim: Is this ad-hoc committee strictly for policy and institutionalizing, or is it also involved in awareness campaigns on campus?

VP Shea: The mandate of the committee is to connect all the groups on campus and the end goal is the policy. What happens in between is for the committee to design.

Councillor Benrimoh: He applauds this position on behalf of Medicine. This affects a lot of people on campus and leaving it vague for the committee is great. There are two things to focus on: funding and resources for these groups; because there is not a lot of funding which leads to the marginalization of people with these issues, and it should also focus on advocacy because there is no universal policy within the faculties and this has to be rectified in the long run, perhaps through Senate.

Councillor Stewart-Kanigan: Could the second last Resolved clause be amended to reflect that it would be under portfolio of the VP University Affairs?

This is a friendly amendment and the motion is amended to read "Council, under the portfolio of the VP University Affairs".

Councillor Dinel: She would like to speak in favour of this motion. It is a very good project to start on first day of Council. She applauds the Executive for bringing it forward.

Councillor Reedijk: Are there terms of reference?

Speaker Malik: As an ad-hoc committee they can be provided by the VP University Affairs. It needs to be created through this motion first.

Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk: Can the movers give any insight of who they were thinking of putting on the committee in terms of structure?

VP Shea: A few councillors, members at large, herself, any interested executives, Students in Mind and any other mental health student groups on campus. Also, the students on the Mental Health Advisory Board in Student Services should also sit on this Board so they know what is going on at SSMU and at McGill.

Councillor Benrimoh: If the committee decides that funding is necessary, can that be done at the GA or through her portfolio?

VP Shea: She thinks the committee would have to decide.

Councillor Benrimoh: If the committee requests allocation of funding, where would it go through?

President Larson: Fee levies would have to be initiated by Council; they are not done at the GA.

Councillor Lubendo: Motions to move to the previous question. This motion clearly passes and Council moves into voting procedure.

The Motion Regarding Commitment to Mental Health Promotion and Awareness was amended and adopted.

c. Motion Regarding Elections SSMU Timeline

President Larson: This is the elections timeline for this year. It will probably have to be amended after the GA and the new Constitution. This is what will apply for the year, so feel free to ask any questions.

Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk: For the first few lines, regarding the media and interest groups, are those new positions? Where do they come from?

VP Fong: Those are the official names of the Clubs and Services Representatives in the Constitution. He would like to point out that Council changed the names of the representatives to two Clubs Representatives and one Services Representative last year. He will later be bringing a motion to officially make this change.

Councillor Lubendo: Motions to move to the previous question. This motion clearly passes and Council moves into voting procedure.

The Motion Regarding Elections SSMU Timeline was adopted.

Councillor Southey: Did we skip the SSMU committees?

Speaker Malik: That is an old version of the agenda. We can do it before we move into the last piece of new business?

President Larson: Motions for a five minute recess so everyone has time to read over the decisions made over the summer.

Councillor Southey: Can we add the Mental Health Committee?

Councillor Lubendo: The Committee Terms of Reference are out-dated.

Speaker Malik: updated two, one is the standard guide, one is the 12-13 version

Councillor Stewart-Kanigan: If we're going to vote on who goes into the ad-hoc committee can you specify how many councillors it would be?

Speaker Malik: There was a motion brought forward though so we have to deal with it first.

President Larson: During the five minute recess, if it passes, VP Shea would have time to formulate terms of reference.

Voting begins on President Larson's motion.

The motion passes and Council enters a 5 minute recess at 7:37pm.

Malik: Everyone has to vote on any procedural motion. It is 7:37pm, we are entering a recess, please be back at 7:42pm.

President Larson: Please read the document and be here in five minutes.

Council resumes at 7:47pm.

VP Shea: Motions to extend the recess by five minutes.

Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk: Are we voting on who goes on what committee today?

Speaker Malik: Yes.

Voting begins on VP Shea's motion.

The motion passes and Council enters a 5 minutes recess at 8:47pm.

Council resumes at 8:09pm.

d. Committee Nominations

Speaker Malik: We will go through this by committee.

Councillor Lubendo: What do we do concerning the representatives and councillors that have not yet been voted in or are not present?

Speaker Malik: The missing councillor did not email her preference so we will see what has not been filled and do it that way.

President Larson: There are also some committees that don't limit membership. Keep in mind that you have to sit on at least one committee.

Councillor Lubendo: So councillors elected in a month or later have the leftovers?

Speaker Malik: For everyone who was aware that they would not be at this meeting, they could have emailed her a preference, however, we could amend it after if they have a vast dislike for it. Otherwise, we should elect the councillors who are here so we don't miss a month of work for the committees.

Councillor Fletcher: As president of the AUS and interim representative, he will only be here for two sessions so he is not putting his name forward for any committees.

Councillor Dinel: She has been elected as a Senate representative, but will only be doing so for the next two sessions as such.

VP Harris: The Community Engagement Committee is missing. Will that be filled as well?

Speaker Malik: We will add it. If you can pull up the description for it, she will yield the floor to him so he can read it out.

Councillor Reedijk: Just to perfectly understand, the strategy of every councillor should be to nominate themselves for three or four committees?

Speaker Malik: Are going to go through each committee and go through the nominations? For committees with more nominations than spots we will go back.

President Larson: Please nominate yourself for committees you actually want to be on. Do so in good faith, don't just sign up for every committee. That is inappropriate

Councillor Ibrahim: Assuming these meetings take place at regular times, in the event of a conflict of timing, will there be an opportunity to change committees?

Speaker Malik: As far as she is aware, they will try to find a time to meet without conflict.

President Larson: Times will be scheduled (except Steering, but it can move) once the committees are formed.

VP Fong: He would like to mention that the Building Committee has permanent staff so we

have to respect the 9:00am-5:00pm schedule, so it will be meeting during the day.

VP Hofmeister: The Funding Committee can only meet on Monday evenings because of the permanent staff that sit on that.

Councillor Lubendo: The file on Vibe is from 2010-2011. Can you search the First-Year Council on Vibe?

Speaker Malik opens the file.

Councillor Lubendo: The First Year Council Representatives only get elected late in the semester and it is not good for the councillors. They proposed that for the Inter-Residence Council and First Year Council representatives, even though the committees might be full, they can have the option to sit on a committee they are interested in.

President Larson: That is a good suggestion, but suggestions from past councils don't have any weight right now. She would amend the Accountable Leadership Policy to show that later councillors can sit in additional seats.

Councillor Ayukawa. Could you zoom in on the screen?

Speaker Malik: Yes.

VP Farnan: Can you also add the Athletics Roundtable? Two councillors sit on it.

VP Harris: There are four councillors for the Community Engagement Committee.

Councillor Benrimoh: The University Affairs Committee has one councillor.

Councillor Stewart-Kanigan: Will there be the By-Law Review Committee?

President Larson: The ad-hoc committees are only relevant for the year they passed. It will have to be re-motoned. She intends to re-call it but did not do so tonight.

Councillor Benrimoh: What about the Mental Health Ad-hoc Committee?

VP Shea: It's ad-hoc and will have three councillors.

Councillor Simpson: Are we taking nominations on the committees that haven't been called back yet?

Speaker Malik: This will have to be done once President Larson brings them back.

Councillor Sachal: What are the hours you have to meet for mental health?

VP Shea: It would be bi-weekly.

Speaker Malik begins to read through the committees for nominations.

Steering Committee - 4 councillors and a third executive (in addition to the VP University Affairs and President)

Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk nominates Councillor Giannakakis.

Councillor Benrimoh nominates himself.

Councillor Reedijk nominates himself.

Councillor Giannakakis nominates Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk.

Councillor Southey: Can you put them on the Excel sheet?

Speaker Malik: She will do it after the nominations.

VP Shea nominates VP Hofmeister.

VP Hofmeister nominates VP Farnan.

VP Farnan nominates VP Fong.

VP Fong nominates VP Harris.

VP Harris: I begrudgingly accept VP Fong's nomination.

Councillor Fletcher: Will we be voting among the executives or is VP Harris on the committee?

VP Farnan rescinds the nominations for himself and VP Fong

VP Fong nominates himself.

VP Harris rescinds nomination

VP Hofmeister: Did we set a time for Steering?

Speaker Malik: Monday at 5:30pm. There is no set timeline, but we have to review every item on the agenda.

VP Hofmeister withdraws his nomination.

Councillor Lubendo: What is the minimum amount of committees for each councillor?

Speaker Malik: One.

President Larson: One has to accept the nomination from someone else, that is how it would be done.

VP Fong: He accepts the nomination of VP Farnan.

Nominating Committee - all of the executives and 3 councillors

Councillor Tong nominates herself

Councillor Lubendo nominates himself.

Funding Committee - 2 of the Clubs and Services Representatives and 2 councillors

Councillor Lubendo nominates Councillor Rosentzveig and Councillor Lu.

Councillor Rosentzveig accepts the nomination.

Councillor Liu accepts the nomination.

Councillor Rioux nominates herself.

Councillor Lubendo nominates himself.

Finance Committee - 3 councillors

Councillor Lubendo: When are the meeting dates?

Speaker Malik: They have not been set yet, but given that GM Gervais sits on the committee it has to be between 9:00am-5:00pm on Monday – Friday.

Councillor Chen nominates herself.

Councillor Lubendo nominates himself, pending checking his schedule for the hours.

Student Equity Committee - 1 councillor

Councillor Ibrahim nominates himself.

Councillor Southey nominates herself.

Councillor Rosentzveig: The Accountability Committee is under the Chair.

Financial Ethics Committee – 3 councillors

Councillor Jeong nominates herself.

Councillor Stewart-Kanigan nominates herself.

Councillor Benrimoh nominates himself, unless someone else wants the spot.

Councillor Lubendo: How are Members at Large decided?

President Larson: Members at Large are decided by the Executives through their choice; it is

not defined anywhere. This could be a project if someone wants to take it up.

Councillor Simpson: If he doesn't sign up for a committee but intends to sign up for one that is not yet listed, is that fine?

Speaker Malik: If you submit it in writing it is fine. If it is not re-called, you will fill a spot or be added to a committee.

External Affairs Committee – 3 councillors

Councillor Benrimoh nominates himself.

Councillor Stewart-Kanigan nominates herself.

Councillor Harris nominates Councillor Rosentzveig.

Councillor Rosentzveig accepts the nomination.

Operation Management Committee

Speaker Malik: This committee has to meet between 9:00am and 5:00pm since the General Manager sits on the committee.

Councillor Jones nominates Councillor Vassanji accepts the nomination.

Councillor Vassanji nominates Councillor Jones.

Councillor Jones accepts the nomination.

Councillor Ayukawa nominates Councillor Southey and herself.

Councillor Southey accepts the nomination.

Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk nominates himself.

Councillor Lubendo: When there are more nominations than spots, are we voting at the end?

Speaker Malik: Yes, it will be done by secret ballot. For the Interest Group Committee, it is the three Clubs and Services Representatives.

Councillor Tong: If the spots are not filled, what happens?

Speaker Malik: It will be assigned through the people missing or in other kinds of ways.

SSPN

Councillor Southey nominates herself.

Commission des Affaires Francophones – 1 councillor

Councillor Rosentzveig nominates himself.

Environment Committee – 1 councillor

Councillor Jones nominates himself.

Councillor Ayukawa nominates herself.

Councillor Jeong nominates herself.

Councillor Sachal would like to nominate Councillor Ayukawa as well.

Library Improvement Fund Committee – 1 councillor

Councillor Rioux nominates herself.

Awards of Distinction Selection Committee – 2 councillors

Councillor Giannakakis nominates herself.

Councillor Simpson nominates himself.

Community Engagement Committee – 4 councillors

Councillor Fletcher nominates Councillor Ibrahim.

Councillor Ibrahim accepts.

Councillor Liu nominates himself.

Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk nominates Councillor Sachal.

Councillor Sachal accepts the nomination.

VP Harris would like to nominate someone who is not here.

Speaker Malik: This can be recorded but it cannot be official at this time.

VP Harris nominates Councillor Lowery, pending her attendance and acceptance.

Building Committee – 1 councillor

Speaker Malik: This committee has permanent staff on it, so meetings will have to be between 9:00am and 5:00pm, Monday – Friday.

VP Fong: It is a really fun committee.

Councillor Chen: How often does the committee meet?

VP Fong: Once a month.

Councillor Liu: What is the Building Committee?

VP Fong: The SSMU has the Space Fee and the committee can allocate up to 85% of the Space Fee funds. He reads from the Committee Terms of Reference:

“The primary responsibility of the Building Committee will be the disbursement of 85% the Space Fee internal fund, as well as advising long-term building visioning, and following up on approved Space Fee projects.

The Committee shall:

Meet at least twice per semester.

Have the authority to allocate monies from 85% of the Space Fee.

Allocate funds in a manner not inconsistent with SSMU’s building vision and relevant by-laws.

Approve all room allocation decisions.

Report preliminary decisions about the year’s Space fee budget allocation plans by November 1st.

Recommend by-law and policy changes as necessary.

Report to Council after every meeting (responsibility of Vice-President [Clubs and Services]).

Review fees associated with room bookings and building damages at least annually.”

Councillor Southey nominates herself.

Athletics Roundtable – 2 councillors

VP Farnan reads the overview of the Athletics Roundtable from the Committee Terms of Reference:

“The objective of this committee shall be to bring together stakeholders from across the McGill community to promote dialogue, information sharing, and cross-promotion of initiatives with the aim of supporting student athletics and recreation.

The Committee shall:

Facilitate communication and a mutually productive relationship between SSMU, the student body, and the various bodies of McGill Athletics and Recreation.

Meet at least three (3) times per semester.

Report at least one (1) time per semester to Council.”

Councillor Rioux nominates herself.

Councillor Reedijk nominates himself.

Councillor Vassanji nominates himself.

University Affairs Committee – 1 councillor

Councillor Benrimoh reads from the Committee Terms of Reference:

“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 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

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 Vice-President (University Affairs) in the planning and execution of the Annual Forum on Undergraduate Education & Research.”

Councillor Benrimoh nominates himself.

VP Shea: She would like to speak against Councillor Benrimoh's nomination due to his history as the Head Steward of PARC, which is supposed to be a neutral resource, and his position as a councillor is a conflict of interest. This is nothing personal.

Councillor Ayukawa nominates herself.

Mental Health Committee – 3 councillors

VP Shea: This committee will reflect the motion passed at the beginning of Council.

VP Fong: What is the membership of this committee?

VP Shea: It will consist of the students who sit on the Mental Health Advisory Board, a representative from the Inclusive Mental Health Collective, a representative from Unleash the Noise, and representatives from other mental health groups on campus.

Councillor Ibrahim nominates Councillor Southey.

Councillor Southey accepts the nomination.

Councillor Reedijk nominates himself.

Councillor Southey nominates Councillor Ibrahim.

Councillor Ibrahim accepts the nomination.

Councillor Jeong nominates herself.

Councillor Benrimoh nominates himself.

Councillor Chen nominates herself.

Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk nominates Councillor Sachal.

Speaker Malik: As was brought up by Councillor Rosentzveig, the Accountability Committee is missing.

Recording Secretary: Explains that an up-to-date version of the Committee Terms of Reference on Vibe under council says where it is on Vibe

Councillor Lubendo: The Interest Group Committee wasn't nominated.

Speaker Malik: They are the three Clubs and Services Representatives. She reads the Accountability Committee Terms of Reference:

“The Accountability Committee shall hold Executives and Councillors accountable to their contractual obligations, to their responsibilities under the SSMU By-Law Books and Constitution, and to their constituents.

The Chairs of the Committee shall be responsible for advertising the position of non-Councillor Members-at-Large not after the second week of September.

The Committee shall:

Compile and review performance evaluations for Executives and Councillors, including their adherence to the Society's Constitution, by-laws, and relevant mandates.

Investigate and subsequently inform Executives and Councillors when their actions contravene the aforementioned rules and regulations.

Collect and anonymously bring to Executives, to Executive Committee, or to Council complaints from members of the Society.

Report publicly to Legislative Council at least once every month.”

Accountability Committee – 3 councillors

Councillor Fletcher: Who is the Parliamentarian of the Society?

Speaker Malik: They have not yet been appointed. Once they are, Council will be informed as such.

Councillor Jeong: What is the time commitment for this committee?

Speaker Malik: They have to report at least once a month and have to be during regular hours because of permanent staff.

Councillor Jeong nominates herself.

Councillor Southey nominates herself.

Councillor Ibrahim nominates himself.

Councillor Giannakakis nominates Councillor Rosentzveig.

Councillor Rosentzveig does not accept the nomination because he has enough committees.

Councillor Stewart-Kanigan: In light of President Larson's upcoming By-Law Review Committee, she would like to rescind her nomination to FERC because of the hours. Would anyone else want to do it?

Councillor Lubendo would like to nominate himself, and also for the Funding Committee if there is a spot open.

Councillor Stewart-Kanigan's nomination was replaced by Councillor Lubendo.

Councillor Rosentzveig: Motions for a five minutes recess so Speaker Malik can put the nominations up on the screen.

This motion clearly passes and Council enters a 5 minutes recess.

Council resumes.

VP Harris: For transparency, who will be counting the ballots?

President Larson: She would like to formally motion to have the vote conducted by secret ballot and counted by the Speaker and verified by the General Manager.

VP Harris: Do we have to vote if the amount of candidates is the same as the amount of slots?

Speaker Malik: No. That is why not all of the committees are on this sheet.

Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk: Will we have a chance to speak as to why we want to sit on a certain committee?

VP Farnan: Motions to limit speaking time to one minute for Councillors.

Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk: Can we limit the speaking time to 30 seconds?

Speaker Malik: Lots of councillors are here for the first time so they should have a chance to speak, so she rules that out of order.

VP Farnan's motion passes and the speaking time is set at one minutes.

VP Farnan: How many votes are there?

Speaker Malik: There are 8 elections.

President Larson: She believes there are four councillor seats on Steering, so an election is not needed.

Speaker Malik: President Larson is right, there are 7 elections.

Councillor Fletcher: Why are we voting on the Nominating Committee?

Speaker Malik: We are not. There will be 6 elections.

Councillor Fletcher: Will there be time for questions?

Speaker Malik: No.

Student Equity Committee

Councillor Ibrahim: He really wants to be on the Student Equity Committee. He started a group for equity in his high school and it has given him a lot of insight. He very passionate about it and would love the opportunity to be on this committee.

Councillor Southey: She is also very passionate about equity. She sat on SSMU last year and was very interested when they were working on the Equity Policy. She wants to continue working on this. Also, the main goal for the SUS this year is to institute an Equity Policy.

The councillors have 1 minute and 30 seconds to make their decision before they vote.

Operations Management Committee

Councillor Vassanji: He wants to be on this committee and wants to be involved with Finance and Operations. He wants to learn about MiniCourses and Gerts to make them more efficient, and he wants to get the student-run café started since it hasn't happened in the past.

Councillor Jones: He echoes a lot of Councillor Vassanji's sentiments. Gerts is a big part of that position. He likes Gerts. He was on the 4 to 7 committee so he has a micro understanding of that type of work in terms of pricing and budgeting.

Councillor Southey withdraws her nomination.

Councillor Ayukawa: She is really interested because she also really likes Gerts. She is very interested in the student-run café and has a lot of ideas for it. She had the opportunity to talk to people about that project last year and having been around SSMU this summer, it was interesting seeing everyone work. Being a part of that would be really great.

Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk: He would like to echo the sentiment that we all like Gerts. He was on this committee last year and has a good knowledge of the obstacles we faced last year and hopefully how to overcome them. He would like to see the committee push forward in terms of the student-run café. He can offer institutional memory.

Speaker Malik: The results will be read.

For the Student Equity Committee, **Councillor Southey is elected** with 15 votes for Councillor Southey, 11 votes for Councillor Ibrahim, and 1 spoiled ballot.

The councillors submit their votes for the Operations Management Committee.

Councillor Lubendo: Outside of all of these nominations and elections, does every councillor already have a spot? What if one councillor is trying to get onto a committee?

President Larson: Some committees have unlimited numbers, such as the SSPN.

Speaker Malik: Extra councillors can sit there. We will do this at the end if anyone doesn't have a committee.

President Larson: There will also be the ad-hoc committees for By-Law Review and Political Campaigns.

Councillor Stewart-Kanigan: She was on the SSMU Equity Committee last year and they went through policy, and she is not sure that they elect anyone from Council. Justin, the Equity Coordinator said that no Councillors sit on the committee anymore.

Councillor Rosentzveig: It should be in the most recent version of the Equity Policy

Environment Committee

Councillor Jones: It is good to be speaking again. Much like the last position, he is passionate about this. In the MUS he was the Environmental Consultant so he has managed events pertaining to the environment. He has an idea of what is realistic within the budget. He has some knowledge in the field. This is something he cares about and has experience in.

Councillor Ayukawa: As a student in the Sustainability Sciences program, she really cares about the environment and has taken a lot of courses about it, including an independent study on sustainability. She has also worked on a sustainability project this summer. She also met with the two Environment Coordinators who are lovely people; you will have a great time with them. She would love to be able to continue working with them.

Councillor Jeong withdraws her nomination.

The results are read for the Operations Management Committee. **Councillor Jones, Councillor Vassanji, and Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk are elected to the committee**, with 19 votes for Councillor Jones, 19 votes for Councillor Vassanji, 22 votes for Councillor Bissky-Dziadyk, 18 votes for Councillor Ayukawa, and 2 spoiled ballots.

For the Environment Committee, Councillor Ayukawa is elected to the committee with 22 votes for Councillor Ayukawa and 5 votes for Councillor Jones.

Councillor Reedijk withdraws his nomination for the Athletics Roundtable.

University Affairs Committee

Councillor Benrimoh: He was the PARC Head Steward last year and he helped write up this committee. He loves this committee dearly and has the knowledge for it. He helped structure this working group. He knows about these issues at the university and thinks he would be qualified. He cares about helping research the policy for councillors and students. If there is a conflict of interest it is that he cares about it immensely and wants it to be successful.

Councillor Ayukawa: She finds University Affairs in general to be interesting, especially behind the scenes with the administration. In terms of research, she knows it is very broad in terms of getting back to what students want. Research on this campus is what our professors and grant providers want. She would like to provide this to our constituents.

Ad-Hoc Mental Health Committee

Councillor Southey: She thinks mental health is one of the most important on campus. It has been called an epidemic. She knows a lot of people who have used the services and she would like to review how to change access to mental health services on campus to make sure it is the most accessible to students on campus.

Councillor Reedijk: He can't express how much he would appreciate votes for this. He can only say that he has personal experience with dealing with McGill Mental Health. He understands it is a hidden epidemic. It is a position he would take very seriously and he understands the harms that can come from mental health.

Councillor Ibrahim: He would like to withdraw his nomination.

Councillor Jeong: As other councillors have mentioned, mental health is very important to her and she wants to make it more accessible to McGill students. She is a Psychology major and could bring it back to that association. This wouldn't limit the students she is representing. She would like to put her knowledge and interests to use.

Councillor Benrimoh: You have heard his remarks before. He has personal experience helping students deal with mental health services on campus; it is very difficult. Because he has experience working with them, he wants to sit on this committee because he thinks it is past time to have a policy on this. He thinks it is a great idea to have this committee sit together and be stronger. He cares deeply about it and wants to go into psychiatry. He cares about it deeply and can bring the Medical Students' Society to the table.

Councillor Chen: Just from walking around the Music building and talking to fellow Music students, one thing about musicians is that we are becoming more aware of our health. There is the stereotype of musicians being introverts and many people are aware that there are issues and we need to be dealing with it. We don't let ourselves take time to deal with these resources. As the Music Representative it would be a good voice for Music students.

Councillor Sachal: In BC he founded an association called SAMHAA, the South Asian Mental Health Institute. Little kids who he was at camp with thought about suicide because they went to foster homes and had mental problems. He deeply cares about this issue. He only signed up for two committees and this is the second one.

Councillor Ibrahim: Are we obliged to vote for three, or only a select number?

Speaker Malik: It will be counted as a spoiled ballot if you don't vote for all three spots.

The results for the University Affairs Committee are read. There are 13 votes for Councillor Ayukawa, 10 votes for Councillor Benrimoh, 3 spoiled ballots, and missing ballot. The election cannot stand and has to be redone because everyone needs to vote; there cannot be ballots missing.

Councillor Southey: Why is it necessary that it has to be re-voted?

Speaker Malik: There is no reflection of if someone was out of the room or not. Everyone has to have a voice even though it is done by secret ballot. Does anyone feel like they need to hear from councillors again?

No one asks for this.

VP Farnan: What was the final word on the Equity Committee?

Speaker Malik: The most updated version states that it is the commissioners and the responsible executive (VP Shea, unless there is a conflict and VP Shea can't sit on the committee. In that case, Council elects a councillor to sit there. VP Shea can sit on the committee so there is not an issue.

Councillor Stewart-Kanigan: You can apply to be a Member-at-Large. The deadline to apply is tomorrow.

Speaker Malik: We need to re-do the Mental Health Committee vote because there was one extra vote.

In voting time, once you enter voting no one can enter or exit the room. Andrea will bar the doors.

The results are read for the University Affairs Committee. **Councillor Ayukawa is elected to the committee**, with 19 votes for Councillor Ayukawa, 16 votes for Councillor Benrimoh, and 2 spoiled ballots.

The results are read for the Ad-Hoc Mental Health Committee. **Councillor Reedijk, Councillor Benrimoh, and Councillor Sachal are elected to the committee**, with 20 votes for Councillor Reedijk, 19 votes for Councillor Benrimoh, 17 votes for Councillor Sachal, 11 votes for Councillor Southey, 10 votes for Councillor Jeong, and 7 votes for Councillor Chen.

9) Reports by Committees

a. Executive Committee – Summer Report

President Larson: This is a pretty long report because it is the details of the decisions made over the summer, from June until this week. If you've had a chance to look through it, we can answer your questions.

Councillor Lubendo: So the committees we just formed, because they weren't here for the summer, did you just do those decisions?

President Larson: During the summer the Executive Committee functions as Council, so the Executive Committee can make that extension. For example, funding applications were dealt with by the Executive Committee over the summer.

Councillor Rosentzveig: Is there any more information on the Red Cross situation?

President Lars: We will not be going through the whole report, but we can do questions.

VP Fong: The allocation of \$2500 for legal fees for the Red Cross is a matter left over from last year. The Red Cross' contract with us is expiring this year so M-SERT can no longer provide courses to SSMU members. We reviewed the contract, however, SSMU wanted to make amendments that the Red Cross was unwilling to make, so M-SERT wrote a letter to the Red Cross on behalf of SSMU to explain it. We had our legal team look over the letter because it was being sent on SSMU's behalf. It was stalled because they were responding to Lac Megantic and now our correspondent is on vacation, so it is stalled until at least the 16th of September.

Councillor Lubendo: Motions to adopt. This motion is seconded.

The motion clearly passes and the report of the Executive Committee is adopted.

10) Reports by Executives

a. VP University Affairs

VP Shea: In her report she goes through all the research projects she has conducted over the summer and that are still ongoing. The most relevant is the announcement that the Science Senator resigned in May because she got into Medical School. We will be filling that spot. The Science Undergraduate Society is in the nominating process. They will be interviewed and then voted on in Senate Caucus. Only one Senator put their name forward to be a Council Representative (Councillor Stewart-Kanigan). They held elections and put all the names on a ballot whether they wanted to or not. The other two people elected expressed that even if they were elected they would not fill the position. We have decided that whoever Senate Caucus elects as a Science Representative will sit on Council and the other seat will be rotating.

She has been filling committee spots with the University Affairs Secretary General. She sat on a lot of committees. The libraries will be having a town hall next week. She encourages people to come and to tell people to come and ask questions. She gave Principal Fortier and Olivier a tour of the building yesterday and had them meet the staff and see how many student groups there are. They went into a few offices and were amazed by the amount of services that SSMU provides to students. This will be helpful in political issues like lease negotiations.

Councillor Lubendo: What is the composition of the APC?

VP Shea: It is large committee. There are three student representatives - we have them from different faculties so right now it is herself, Farzan, and the Science Senator when that spot has been filled.

Councillor Fletcher: What is Corporate Campus?

VP Shea: It is a research project that came from Emily Clare's year. The research was done last year but was kept in a Google doc. Because SSMU money went into that project, she was looking into where it had actually gone. Now she has found it and is talking to Emily Clare about how to utilize it.

Councillor Fletcher: What is the goal?

VP Shea: To make known to campus the corporate role on campus.

Councillor Ibrahim: Can you elaborate on IDEAS?

VP Shea: She has been working with Sam Gregory on this. It came out of his summer job and they made this document which looks at trying to bridge the gap between being a student and not being a student. It is giving students the tools they need to pursue their own projects and better integrating them into the McGill community. We have our idea of what we want it to be; it is a bit ambiguous and we are taking it around to the faculties. It is an

extension of CAPS for when you have a project and don't know where to go.

Councillor Ibrahim: What is CEELR?

VP Shea: It is Jana Luker's baby. It is similar to IDEAS and we are trying to get more applied research and student engagement. It brings actors from all across the university together to try to find different ways they can facilitate applied student research and community engagement.

Councillor Ibrahim: What is Citizens' Council?

VP Shea: It came out of the Manfredi Report and it is a forum for discourse on campus. People believed Senate wasn't the body for this or wasn't being used as that body. All of the unions are represented. It is a bit of an informal forum for all of these different actors across the university to discuss the issues they think about already.

Councillor Fletcher: Will the town hall also address issues on the closure of two libraries and 24 hour access?

VP Shea: It is meant to address all issues that have happened with the libraries over the summer, including the laptop lending program. She thinks its termination is ridiculous.

Councillor Benrimoh: Do we have any plans to pursue any campaigns to replace the books or change things after this town hall?

VP Shea: In terms of libraries, a lot happened over the summer and she had a lot of strong opinions but didn't feel unilaterally that she had the power to deal with it. She thinks it is very important for Council to deliberate on these and decide how to move forward. She thought it was inappropriate to do it herself.

Councillor Fletcher: Was SSMU consulted in erection of the new Milton Gates? He and Councillor Stewart-Kanigan are working on a motion about the new gates.

VP Shea: Absolutely not, we were not consulted. We were not informed they were going up at all.

President Larson: She thinks it comes out of the longer plan of having no bikes on campus, from consultation done two or three years ago.

Speaker Malik: Over the summer at the end of last year, a study was done about people's bike use and which entrances they use and the feeling is that this was used to decide where these gates would go.

Councillor Benrimoh: Do we know how much they cost? He is upset that they are spending money on that.

President Larson: As anything that is a capital expenditure of the university, it would have been budgeted years in advance. You could get that information from the university if you

ask.

President Larson: We don't have to adopt these reports.

b. VP Internal

VP Farnan: He is going to speed through his report. He refers to a PowerPoint presentation he has made. He has been trying to keep himself accountable to his platform; it is very easy to find this in his report. It has all his platform stuff on there. You learn more and more as the position goes on, but it stays true to why he ran and what he hopes to accomplish. This link is to what he read on the retreat.

This is what came out of the Frosh Coordinator retreat. These are the parties involved in each area of planning. These are what the faculty committees would look like. He shows the OPG workgroup and the IOC, which was made by the Coordinators, and these are the task forces that came out of that. There are community tip posters, a how to frosh guide, and lots of online reading. In terms of reflections, security services claimed it was the best from they've seen. The media has portrayed the event in a positive light. He wanted to highlight various initiatives that we launched this year. There were almost no obscenities on the t-shirts. The new Beach Day bus system was implemented. They had the most successful all ages programming. The interface collaboration was perfected. He did the debrief meeting with the faculty coordinators and Provost. They have had negative criticism from the Milton-Parc Citizens' Council regarding loud cheering. They brainstormed good ways to help with these concerns. M-SERT had difficulty receiving support. They were understaffed and weren't able to distribute water at the venue. We need to get around this next year because we had water but the venue wouldn't allow us to distribute it. There were lots of pilot things such as compostable plates and utensils and having Compost Montreal doing pickups. Also, people need to be trained better.

Ryan Hughes is SSMU's archivist and Communications and IT Director. The Communication Guides were put together over the summer. We want to make the Communications Guide and then qualify all parts of the SSMU. The Style Guide is the style and design guide, the Communications Guide is the practices, and the Communications Plan is the strategies, with biannual revision and annual redrafting. This allowed for more content to be showcased. They might add external affairs to the website and highlight external affairs a little better. We are awaiting the Soapbox launch. He had a slip up in the most recent listserv. He is working on a best practices system, such as sending it to someone else first. He will do SSMEWS this year. There will be an Ad-Hoc Communications Committee. He will send an email to everyone who is interested. SSMU app development will be touched on later. There will be an overhaul of social media. The Handbook went great.

There will be change with the yearbook this year after the large disappointment last year. They will revamp staffing and management. Lots of research has been done on design and content. They have a marketing and advertising strategy. There will be more photo-centric content, more sections, and better promotion and marketing.

He will hopefully be expanding francophone events. He will have sustainability and equity on the SSPN. For Awards Night there will be better standards and protocol as well as a

better ceremony and venue. For 4floors, he has talked about it a lot. He is working to get best practices and is working with equity and sustainability. He wants to have policies and a dress code. He is going to collaborate with VP Shea for the first ever costume awareness campaign. There will also be the spare costume initiative. Justin did a presentation on this last year.

Please join the SSPN! He is in the interview stage for the commissioner and will hopefully be doing the Francophone Affairs Commissioner by the end of the month. The Communications Team for Frosh was great for Frosh and he hopes to replicate this. For mental healthiness, he will work with the new committee and collaborate with other things on campus.

There was lots of research into a SSMU app over the summer but none of the options really fit our requirements. We are continuously working on that.

For Soapbox, Justin Trudeau uses Soapbox. You can go to the slide and click on the links. It shows how the software works and how you can rank ideas and get submissions.

For the Marketplace, he hopes to collaborate with student groups because it has a good infrastructure.

For Terry Fox, there was a run this Sunday. He was approached by the regional director from Terry's Cause. He will do a night event in the winter.

There are good student groups that are simplifying McGill well. He is working with them and trying to get the best information to students.

Councillor Jones: In terms of the SSMU app, you should talk to the MUS because we just launched an app. Talk to their VP Communications because he knows a guy.

VP Farnan: We talked to that guy. We have a lot of options and they are not all ruled out. We are looking at launching in January or at the start of next year.

Councillor Tong: Will it be a free app?

VP Farnan: Yes, definitely.

Councillor Lubendo: Regarding the lack of water at SSMU, do you think it will be free next year, because it was \$4 this year?

VP Farnan: He believes he violated the purchasing policy when buying the water bottles but he did it because of the need. Either we pre-buy the water needed or we figure out a solution. It is almost worth switching venues. M-SERT had to deal with a lot of that. Next year that is a big priority. They tried to do this with the harm reduction teams but venue had exclusivity over selling water. It has been noted and will be dealt with next year.

Councillor Stewart-Kanigan: Can you elaborate on the training changes for leaders?

VP Farnan: The feedback for frosh leaders was one area of concern. This year we implemented two training sessions, which is double last year. There was one run by SSMU with various student services and then faculty-specific training to reiterate and reaffirm the culture change we have been trying to instill. The Coordinators worked hard to implement these initiatives. This way they could see recognizable faculty Coordinators. The first ever O-Staff training was held which was a daylong event, and they changed the contract to include more specific restrictions. There were presentations at the SSMU and faculty trainings and a lot more scenarios were put in place. There was a lot more sensitivity training, and they are trying to make it so they weren't just told, they were shown scenarios and how to react. They may not grasp the big concepts but they do know how to act or react.

Councillor Stewart-Kanigan: Is there a document that outlines the goals or targets of the culture change in frosh?

VP Farnan: He has done a lot. In the PowerPoint, this is the best for goals coming out of the retreat and how they materialized in outcomes. The link in the PowerPoint would be the best source.

Councillor Benrimoh: For the app, are we looking more at getting students at McGill who know how to program, or professionals?

VP Farnan: That is definitely a possibility. The biggest decision is if we lease it out to someone or start from scratch on our own. Now that opening week has passed there is less rush. Getting students involved is a big goal.

Councillor Tong: Would you be interested in software development students?

VP Farnan: We are back at the beginning. He will keep reporting on it and when we make a decision it would be great if you could do a callout. If you are interested in it, don't hesitate to email him.

Councillor Benrimoh: It would be cool for if it could count for programming credits.

Councillor Larson: Keep questions to the report.

Speaker Malik: This is for points of clarification.

VP Farnan: You can also email him.

c. VP Clubs and Services

VP Fong: His report is short as yesterday was the culmination of Activities Night. Tomorrow he is taking a vacation day for his dad's birthday. Students are coming back to school and it is getting busy; he is getting 100 emails a day. There is a lot of stuff we need to get worked out.

The Interest Group Coordinator is doing training with the previous IGC. He hopes he can take on the more procedural aspects of portfolio soon. The club archiving project is done

and the former IGC contract was extended to complete it. There are now searchable PDFs of all of our club records. It is a lot easier to look up club constitutions now. It is a very convenient tool to have at his disposal.

He has been meeting with all of the services over the summer. The President of MRC has officially told him that he did not have a successor to carry on the services so it will be inactive for the following year. M-SERT submitted a campus coverage proposal to SSMU and the Office of the Deputy Provost. They would want to have three offices. We are looking over the proposal and making sure it is not contravening any McGill issues. For Frosh, M-SERT, WalkSafe, and DriveSafe were happy to be included. M-SERT is excited because they had never covered Frosh to that extent. They were getting a lot of calls and were happy they could respond as a service.

For ISGs, he has an ex officio seat on the CKUT Board of Directors as the SSMU Representative. For QPIRG, there will be a SSMU Representative that has to be elected from Council.

Activities Night is finally done. He is very happy. This year we expanded the event to include security concerns and the waitlist. He talked to the director of the Brown building to negotiate whether or not we could use it. Every group that applied by the deadline this year got a table. We were able to have fewer tables in each room and have more students in each room. Because we could use the Brown building we could define a path through the building. He has a lot of good comments about that. They also changed the pass system. Last time 800 passes were lost, which cost \$500 to replace and is not within our budget. This year we implemented a pass/ID exchange so we don't have to make this purchase every year. Carol Fraser got laminated cards two years ago so they could be reused. After doing the count, 42 IDs were unclaimed, so 42 passes were lost, which is 6% instead of 32%.

Kaplan, the test prep company, has been blacklisted from being able to book rooms in SSMU. For those of you who don't know, they have tried to get around the room booking fee from SSMU by booking through clubs. Clubs cannot sign contracts alone. We don't want to put individual students into that kind of liability. They have done this twice and they were soliciting people in the Activities Night line.

For room bookings, we have made a change that influences a lot of people. Now, instead of only being able to book two weeks in advance, internal groups can book the ballroom, Madeleine Parent, and/or Lev Bukhman three months in advance and external groups can book them two months in advance. They did this so internal groups have priority. For recurring events, it is three weeks in advance. He has had a lot of good comments on that as well.

Councillor Fletcher: What is the SSMU doing to ensure that clubs don't sign contracts with Kaplan? We should talk after Council.

VP Fong: In general, clubs shouldn't sign contracts on their own for anything, including having ads in listservs. He has been explaining to them why they can't sign the contracts. They may not be happy but they understand that they don't want to be personally liable.

Councillor Lubendo: The Princeton Review is starting to do the same thing because they gave a contract to the First Year Council.

VP Fong: He got an email from a club wanting to sign contract with the Princeton Review. He and the General Manager reviewed it and signed it because they were comfortable with it.

Councillor Ibrahim: For events where we are dealing with problems because we forgot to book it in advance, is it the responsibility of the external groups to book room in the SSMU? Will there ever be away to book in advance?

VP Fong: We did make an exception in the summer to allow the principal to waive the time requirement. Given the nature of this, in the future Council might make its own decision.

Councillor Liu: Can clubs still partner with Kaplan, or is it just that they can't book rooms?

VP Fong: Blacklisting means that they can't book rooms in the building and we won't sign contracts with them, since they have broken our policies.

Councillor Liu: For groups that do grad school auction things online, is that still considered a partnership with Kaplan?

VP Fong: If group has to sign a contract they won't be able to.

d. VP External

VP Harris: For Community Engagement Day we are planning an event in Milton-Parc. It is going to be a great day; it is happening October 3rd. The Community Ambassadors have been chosen. He is still waiting on the HR paperwork from the Dean's office. The important parties know the paperwork needs to be written, so it will be done and we will have Community Ambassadors for this year. He had a meeting with a McGill alumnus about how he had to call the police on neighbours 11 times. His neighbours keep getting ticketed and he still can't sleep. The Ambassadors as a mediating role would be helpful for that. He met with the police about Frosh with André Costopoulos. They said there were a lot less noise and drinking infractions this year. There were still noise complaints. They agreed it was helpful to have police in the area to help prevent issues in person.

We might have to take a position about this at the GA because it is external. The Quebec Charter of Values has been introduced. It is very discriminatory, in his opinion. It is something we need to take a position on and it is something personally frustrating for him. We have got numerous media requests but we cannot take a position about it because this has to respect our democratic process. That has been very frustrating but there is a lot of potential for us. If we brought up a GA motion it could help us get quorum at the GA. He has a feeling there would be a lot of people that want to contribute to making a motion at the GA about this.

Paul-Antoine talked about the Commission on the Special Affairs of 2012. You can check it out on the website. We should also take a position on that. He forgot to upload the most recent TaCEQ budget. It is a pretty big document and there is a level of detail that has never been done before. Now we have reported TaCEQ to the government. This is the

year it is a June to June budget, which lines up with SSMU's. TaCEQ will be meeting on Saturday in Quebec City. He will be doing a callout soon for TaCEQ delegates. It would be great if people came; he enjoys company. That would be cool. We can work on it together to determine the priorities of SSMU in working with TaCEQ.

There was an Inter-Union Council meeting to plan Labour Week for November. The committees will get going now that there is membership.

In terms of municipal affairs, he hasn't been able to organize much lately, but was approached by the Concordia VP External, who is in contact with people to organize a mayoral candidate debate. He offered our ballroom as a free venue. It would be a free contribution on our part and would be very accessible to our members. She is trying to get the Masonic Temple for free. He will follow up with her because the debate would be fantastic. It is an important campaign after having the past two mayors resign.

He has had probationary goals meetings with his newly hired staff, and they will start to work in earnest next week.

e. VP Finance and Operations

VP Hofmeister: His report is not confidential; the watermark was an error on his part.

The Frosh budget is currently being balanced and it will be completely balanced by the end of the week. He won't have the actuals until later in the semester. The Building and General Administration budgets have been reviewed and received. Governance is due September 16, as well as all executive budgets. The Gerts budget is due September 20th as well as every event budget. Services' budgets are due September 27th. He met with the services about creating budgets and he is helping them get off to a good start. The Executive Committee presentation will happen on October 23rd and the Council presentation will happen on October 24th. The by-laws state that the deadline is October 15th, but he is pushing it back a week. He wants this time so he can have greater specificity with the services.

The club audits are being completed. He has been meeting to go through the budgets that have been started. He met with the Volunteer Network, First Year Council, Players Theatre, and M-SERT.

Clubs workshops are being planned by himself and VP Fong. In terms of staff hiring for Gerts, they are focussing on fewer staff and more hours per staff member. The Administrative Manager is no longer with SSMU.

For sales, due to the transition of the Administrative Manager, the sales reports will be presented next week.

MiniCourses are 9/10 of the way to profit. The research for FERC should be completed for next week.

The Funding Coordinator provided a follow-up form for every group that applies for funding. This is going to be instituted in the future so that SSMU knows where its money is going. The Ambassador Fund research is completed. He will make it public so it can be

used.

Councillor Lubendo: At the retreat, you said there were complications with Lester Asset Management?

VP Hofmeister: He doesn't want to get into it right yet because of the time and because it is the first Council meeting. He is almost done a PowerPoint about it. It is more of a Board of Directors issue. The deadline is October 15th so there is lots of time to discuss it.

Councillor Rosentzveig: Can you say very briefly how far you are in the club audits?

VP Hofmeister: There was an issue with the club auditor over summer which delayed it significantly. They should be sent out in the next two weeks.

f. President

President Larson: She apologizes because there is nothing from the summer in her report. She has been working on the SSMU Handbook, which is available for free in the SSMU office.

She has been working closely with GM Gervais and her assistant. She did a lot of work with the lawyers on the Constitution review with the Executives. We have been working on our governance documents up to this point.

The Meet your Executives Wine and Cheese will be happening next Friday from 1:00-3:00pm in the Madeleine Parent room. You are all invited, come meet the students you are representing!

For governance, she has had lots of difficulty recruiting people for J-Board. Most candidates are not qualified because they have been on student associations in the past. If you know someone in Law that has nothing to do with SSMU, please let us know.

First Year Council elections are coming up, which will give us another new Councillor.

Save the date for the GA: it will be on October 9th from 4:30pm onwards. Everyone will receive information in the following weeks. It is your duty as a councillor to attend.

In terms of the governance documents review, she is excited to start working on the By-Law Review Committee. Things that were removed from the Constitution will be reflected in the by-laws.

The Board of Governors is status quo, there will be a meeting at the end of the month.

The first Senate will be next Wednesday in Leacock 232 at 2:30pm.

She has a meeting tomorrow with VP Farnan and the Alumni Association about an upcoming project. Stay tuned, it will be a good report.

In terms of the principal, she is excited to see how she will set the tone with students.

The Student Life Coordinator is Mitch Miller, who is looking into student engagement. We collaborate with him on a conference called SEAMLESS for student executives at McGill. Stay tuned. Once her GA Secretary General has hours left over, they will work on this. They are doing grad work in the coming few weeks, including close surveys and working with student groups and student associations.

For the Presidents' Round Table, she sent the invitation emails to the old list. The next meeting is tomorrow at 7:30pm.

For sustainability, the Environment Committee meets on Monday, so go see that committee if you want to see a committee that is well run.

She explains the approval of executives' in office hours. The front desk receptionist keeps track in the office. These are additionally kept on Vibe under a folder called Executive Attendance.

VP Shea: Also, if you get in at 8:00am and the receptionist isn't there, it is noted that you first arrived when you returned, so it does not show when you are coming in before.

VP Hofmeister: Also, hours after 5 are not recorded.

The Executives' in-office hours are approved.

Councillor Jeong: Will we be given notice when the ad-hoc committees are created?

President Larson: Yes.

Councillor Southey: Motions to move into a confidential in-camera session. This motion is seconded.

It is confirmed that everyone has submitted their signed confidentiality forms.

This motion clearly passes and Council enters a Confidential Session at 11:32pm.

11) Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made and clearly passed. The meeting of the Legislative Council was adjourned at 11:32pm.