

SSMU Council Meeting I

Thursday, October 15, 2009

1. Call to Order

.....6.15

Newburgh: You have got a copy of the documents, and the agenda for the meeting after the pre-meeting for the SSMU Council. We will first attend the agenda on the screen. I would suggest that we adjourn this meeting at 6.45.

VP Olle: I motion to adjourn at 6.45.

Motion to adjourn at 6.45 passed.

President Neilson: I motion to move to part 8 of the agenda.

Motion to move to part 8 of the agenda passed.

8. New Business

A. Council initiated referendum question

i. Ambassador Fee

ii. Sustainable Projects Fund

iii. Abolition of QPIRG's \$3.75 Automatic Student Fee

Newburgh: You have a copy of those motions here. We are not allowed to talk about them until the next session.

B. Plebiscite

Newburgh: I would accept a motion to table the items until the next meeting.

Motion to table items until the next meeting passed.

Newburgh: We went through the process of Constitution, which requires us first to distribute the documents to be handled before the next meeting. This distribution has nothing to do with voting, will just table it until the next meeting.

President Neilson: I motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn passed.

Adjournment at 6.20pm.

SSMU Council Meeting II
Thursday, October 15, 2009

1. Call to
Order.....6.20

Newburgh: We left some things out before, which we would like to bring to your attention: We will engage in a debate session according to the process explained throughout Council retreat, please ask if you have questions. Lauren is writing down the procedure that you will need to follow during debate. This is a trial process, we are by no means sticking to the process, but it might move the meeting in a more efficient way. I would encourage you if you like it or not to tell us to improve the process. We will explain the process later on. We will call the roll.

Pedneault: I would like to suggest that the temporary representatives receive the documents and get put on the listserve.

Newburgh: The simple majority is 15, the full majority is 19 - please do not leave the room until you have said "point of personal privilege" and tell us that you leave the room.

VP Dooley: I motion to adjourn at 11pm.

Motion to adjourn at 11pm passed.

Newburgh: The time of adjournment can be changed by a simple majority.

2. Approval of the Minutes

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Newburgh: We should have the minutes of the last meeting and the meeting prior to this one.

Garofalo: I would like to motion to combine the question.

Mehta: I motion to table this item on the agenda.

Motion to table the item passed; approval of minutes is tabled.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

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Newburgh: The agenda that we have has been distributed to you.

VP Diaz: I motion to approve the agenda.

Motion to approve the agenda passed.

VP Diaz: Motion to adopt the agenda that we received to the one on the screen.

Motion to adopt agenda passed.

VP Diaz: Motion to bring announcements from point 5 to point 4 and reorder accordingly.

Motion to bring announcements from point 5 to point 4 and reorder accordingly passed.

VP Diaz: I would also like to motion to insert 8.D Report of Finance Committee.

Motion to insert 8.D Report of Finance Committee passed.

VP Brown: I motion to move Francophone Commissioners to 4.A and reorder accordingly.

Motion to move Francophone Commissioners to 4.A and reorder accordingly passed.

Newburgh: In new business, I would like to include Article 10 subsection f, Plebiscites, and subsection i. Course packs, and ii Release of exam schedule. I would also like to include Article 10 section e subsection iii. Referendum of QPIRG's \$3.75 Automatic Student Fee.

Motion to amend the agenda in aforementioned way passed

4. Announcements

Drew: The Green business week is next week, it is cooperating with one of the first social investment organizations, and talks a lot about sustainability in a business environment. There will be great workshops – you will be able to sign up in the Bronfman Lobby, it is a great event . Omer: SSMU as well as 14 other clubs have organized a food drive, I would especially like to commend the management, law and social work student societies. Please tell your faculties about this initiative, and there are several drop-off points including one at the Law Students' Organization. SSMU has been allocated a time-shift to table, it would only be for about 3 hours, we would love 3 councillors to sit for a 1 hour shift each, and just encourage people to bring in food. That will happen on Tuesday October 20th from 1 to 4 pm.

VP Ronderos-Morgan: SSMU will be providing a school bus to go to Parliament Hill on October 24th, where there will be a demonstration to reaffirm our commitment to addressing climate change issues, it will be a good opportunity to participate and encourage the government to address it. You can contact the Environment commissioners if you want a place on the bus – we will be closing reservations tomorrow at noon.

VP Olle: Since nobody sat on my Building Committee, I have created a Task Force as well which will be open to councillors and talk about bigger plans in the building. We will meet on October 28th in Lev Bukhman, so please come talk to me about our building.

VP Dooley: Course evaluations are being discussed right now at the university, so I would encourage you to get in touch with me if you want to sit on a focus group in that respect.

Garofalo: AUS is holding its graduate and Professional School Fair in October 20th from 9am to 2 pm in SSMU ballroom.

VP Brown: Today is James McGill's birthday. Tomorrow, Campaign McGill will give a honorary degree to Bill Clinton, and on October 29th there will be 4Floors, tickets will be on sale in the building.

VP Diaz: I would like to introduce Lev Bukhman, the Exec director of ASEQ, who was also a former VP FOPS, and who will come to council on October 28th.

Maze: I would like to speak in regard to the motion to revoke the Choose Life Club status, we are unsatisfied with the suspension of club status. We have been clear in the Daily, and in Council meetings, that for Choose Life, we will support nothing but a full revocation.

Newburgh: Please write a resolution, you can e-mail the speakers for help, if you would like council to address a particular item of business. If you do have a resolution, please send it in to us by Sunday before Council meeting, because we need to edit it and inform council of the coming items of business. Are there any other announcements?

5. Guest Speakers

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A. Francophone

Commissioners.....

Sarah and Alex: We are the new francophone commissioners, we have tons of projects that we want to carry out, next week will be our first event, an Improv night at Gerts, and we will still have FrancoFete and tons of other things.

Alex: Nous allons faire des activités culturelles pour le français, et des activités politiques aussi. On a déjà un premier combat, le Café Suprême affichage qui est seulement en anglais, inviter tous les personnes, si vous voulez vous engagez, nous sommes très accueillants.

B. Financial Auditors

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GM Gervais: I would like to introduce Mrs. Martine Crepault. She will do the presentation of the audited financial statements for the fiscal year of 2008/09. SSMU has had the same auditors since 2005/06, and since 09, they have undergone a merger, but it is still the same team and employees. I will let Martine Crepault present those documents.

VP Olle: We will start the presentation, and Ivan will make photocopies.

Omer: I motion to amend the agenda to switch 4.C to 4.B.

Motion to amend the agenda passed.

C. Assistant Vice-Principal, McGill

University.....

Glencross: I'm a student here at McGill, and will do the first part of the presentation.

Nicell: I am the Assistant Vice-Principal University Services, and have been around here for 20 years.

Glencross: We are here to talk to you about the Sustainable Projects Fund. I will go slow through the important parts. My involvement started last year, when the former VP UA got me involved with the Sustainable McGill project. She got me interested about Applied Student Research as well. Slowly, the idea developed that the Green Fund was making up for all other initiatives that were started by students for sustainability, but that there is no formal structure for collaboration with McGill, and we need to amend that. We would like to have large scale projects funded by this Sustainable Projects Fee. The basic thing is stolen from Sustainable Concordia. There are

ample precedents – there are 67 Green Funds in North American universities, and ¾ of them are only students contributing, and the admin does not match the funds. Sustainable Concordia use strict guidelines, and has also not been matched by the university. Then there are also issues of students lacking administrative memory. Rebecca and I had the possibility to interview them, as well as meeting the founders of the Guelph energy conservation fund. This fund is great, but it is only for energy conservation, and students do not have much of a say on how the money is distributed. I want to show you that all parts of our idea are based on previous examples and consciously made. We would like to create a fund that can provide seed capital for projects – it should allow to get projects done faster, the distribution will be decided by a true consensus, there will be no polarizing debate, we want the projects to create a culture of sustainability, and make people engaged, the involvement of students is very important. There will be a 3 year trial period because of SSMU regulations, in which time we want the fund to prove its weight. It will raise \$840,000 annually. It would be \$0.50 per credit non-opt-outable, and we set a cap at 15 credits. For the second part, in the last weeks, the Provost committed to matching the funds, and raise \$420,000 a year if students are contributing. There will be a parity committee at request of the Provost, consisting of 4 students, and 4 representative of administration. Those 8 individuals will receive all project proposals, prioritize them, and if there is consensus, it will go through. They will also have the possibility to amend the project. On the student side, there will be 2 undergrads, 1 Mac campus, and 1 PGSS representative. It will be chaired by the VP UA as an impartial, non-voting member. Sustainability Coordinator would have to coordinate applied student research, communicate project to entire community, 3 student jobs working under him. All time I talk to people, I get asked what projects that would target. I have asked permission for people's ideas to show them as examples, I didn't come up with all of them myself –but events would include: the Open air Cinema, a Tap Thirst Global Water conference – they just got bottled water banned from Shatner, but they do much more than that, they are concerned about water access and water consumption. Organic Campus wants to create permanent infrastructure in Shatner, then there is the Sustainable food purchasing guide that we made over the summer, which suggests sustainable purchasing standards, then there is the curriculum component, there was a proposition for an urban field studies semester, and to have a living laboratory on the Mac campus – a building that represents sustainable living, design and education –, and another approach would be Edible Campus who are growing food for low-income families on campus. They want to set up a community garden in NDG and get high school students involved. These are just some of the projects possible. I will pass it over to Jim.

Nicell: It is very hard to follow up on such an enthusiastic speaker as Jonathan. I will give you a part of a presentation that I have already given before various bodies at the university, and which includes what sustainability at McGill means to me, and to show the proportions it can attain. We are the biggest real estate holder in entire Montreal region, with our 2 campuses downtown, MacDonald campus, the Gault Reserve, Glen campus, and we also have other major properties, just to give you a scale – we have 228 buildings, and our property is spread over 780,000 square meters. We are about 50,000 people on it, so we are really a microcosm of a bigger world. Because of the huge impact we have, from a sustainability standpoint, economical etc., we have to be role models. There is a multi-stake-holder group, composed by staff, students, and administration, that is trying to figure out an appropriate sustainability policy, which will

hopefully be approved in Spring. It says that we aspire to achieve the highest possible standards, and our biggest impact will not just be our campus, but how we reform the world. We are a leader in research and education. My hope is that we will become a living laboratory, and we can afford to take risks at small scale, and engage students and staff, in order to export it to the broader world. I have done my studies here at environmental engineering, and that's because I want to change the world, but first in the smaller realm of university. We are serious about it, I'm quite confident about it, and we only received 1 negative comment about some of the wording up to now about the policy. Some projects would be lighting retrofits (James Administration Building will be used as a try-out) – that would save us 40% of lighting electricity. Of course, it takes money to do it, but it is a very visible commitment, and any money we save later goes back towards sustainability. Our historic buildings are in major needs for renovations, that is a bigger issue, but a big part of sustainability is enforcing the value of our historical buildings, and also improving accessibility for the physical handicapped. The last two propositions wouldn't actually be funded by this fund, though. We also have to renew the energy sources at Macdonald campus, we have a very inefficient system right now, but I am glad that we are replacing them now, because we can shift to much more renewable energy. For the Green McGill project – we are in an exponential curve, we have many projects, and the commitment that we don't only fix the problems, but make it better. We will extend the park to our outer boundaries. We are creating an environment that will be like a second McGill beach, only a tiny amount of the concrete that you see now will stay, and there will be blocs for people to sit on, and celebrate the art moved into the location. As for the pedestrian zone on McTavish Street, we have been trying to get it handed over to McGill. We decided to go back to the city, and said that we would let go of our parking spaces and thus would be losing 600,000 on revenue for our university, but now the boundaries of campus will extent from University Street to Peel Street, and it will be a tight pedestrian zone. Of course, that investment hurts, but it is the right thing to do, and with support of alumni and the community, it will be very good investment. Then Steward Terrace, the ugliest zone in the entire university. Let's rethink that. These are first designs of the park we have planned. We want to move up the things that we achieve in James Park. As for Redpath Terrace, we will rebuild it completely, we moved out some benches, and are trying to create some life there, the student services area in McTavish are being centralized as well. As for the Leacock terrace, it will be improved, and there will be a bike path as confirmed by Major Tremblay and more high-density bike racks, many more are coming in. We are aiming for a vehicle-free lower campus. For all of these projects, we had to be very creative, because we do not have a lot of money. We are making sure that for these projects, sustainability objectives should be included in capital funding construction projects. People told me not to challenge parking, but we took a radical step and increased parking revenues, and I only got 12 hate-mails. We decided to carve out a lot of that money and put it towards sustainability improvements. There will also be donations to the Sustainability Fund and establishment Campus Restoration Fund. We hope to be able to match the funds. There is a good audience today, many people are nodding in agreement that this is right way to go, and I hope that Alumni are very aware of this. \$840,000 would be only the tip of the iceberg, we have to leverage, and if we show commitment, support will roll in. I'm very comfortable with that.

Questions:

VP Olle: There has always been much concern about putting more fees on students. What would you say to students unwilling to pay extra money?

Glencross: It has taken months to get to this point. We are committed to keeping student fees down. I understand. But I'm not very concerned about selling this. If you are taking 5 classes, you pay \$7.50 per semester. 67 other institutions have done it, and students have given more and the universities haven't matched it. I think that if you realize the possibilities and that the administration thinks that it is so important that they will match it, students will understand. Students have been driving the issue, but there is a commitment from both sides that can create change.

Garofalo: What would the Coordinator do?

Glencross: Right now, we have 2 permanent staff in the Sustainability office, and all other offices throughout Canada have Coordinators, which get into academics and can make more in-depth planning. Research has to drive priority, and it is important because I can't afford to commute and work at the same time, I can be dedicating my time to change here, but a Coordinator would be helpful. Also, any project under \$10,000 doesn't have to go to the whole committee, 3 people can review it. And the Coordinator can support that process. They will probably have to submit an annual report and have a community consultation session.

Omer: Once the money is granted, what mechanisms will there be for accountability?

Glencross: Dana helped me through a lot of things, we want to keep accountability and get rid of bureaucracy, we have to bring it back to community, and there need to be elements of engagement with the student body, and demonstration to show what was done. They are also financially accountable, they give reports to the BoG and the Students' Society. Generations Pact gives money in parts, some parts are only given after a certain presentation of proceedings; that would be an option. Any questions for Jim? His kids are waiting.

Wang: Thank you for the demonstration. I was wondering about the timeline for the projects? They seem pretty ambitious.

Nicell: James will be done by end of November, and planting will start in May of next year, the bike path is on its way, the McTavish street changes has a pilot project, and we are having a consultation committee with the surrounding people who live in the area, and will evaluate this in the coming months, but according to the commitment we have, McTavish should be done by next summer. As for Steward – probably in 2 years. The other changes – our campus will be parking free by May 31st 2010. Things are moving, but there is a lot more to be done. The energy switch will probably happen in the next 20 years

Dana: Are there any other similar structures of parity committees in the administrative or governance structures?

Nicell: No. It is a prototype, it is a risk even for McGill, we have never done before. I would like to bring a consensus to the table, and if there are divisions on the issues, we need to work them out. I have a great deal of confidence, and the first intent will be to make a great difference. It is fabulous.

Glencross: I insisted on consensus, we should be informed by each other's positions, but the priorities of certain shouldn't influence decisions. I want the projects that we choose together to be governed by the same timescales and priorities.

Maggie: We have had a lot of excitement among the community, because large things from Green fund took money away from smaller events, and this fund will free up money to give to smaller events and student projects. It will be a great opportunity.

Abaki: As for the Green Fund- are you planning to abolish the Green Fund? What are you planning with clubs that are already doing some things with overlap?

Glencross: The plan is that there is absolutely no overlap. The environment commissioner made a 5 year plan for the SSMU executive and clubs, so they can focus on the 5 year plan for SSMU and Green Fund clubs. The clubs you saw are looking for much money, like Organic Campus want \$50,000, and that cannot be paid solely by the Green Fund. Also, students aren't the only ones benefitting. Gorilla Composting is not officially under SSMU, but the industrial composter makes a lot more sense to go to this fund. Focus for the Green Fund will be more student small scale things, we did think about that. There are also criteria that we have already written up for these types of projects. There are also things not allowed – we don't want green-washing, or to contribute to recycled paper, we won't subsidize small change. There are a lot of provisions in the proposal that address that concern.

VP Diaz: I saw that Greening McTavish would aim at getting rid of parking spaces - what is the plan for the basement of this building?

Nicell: We are working towards phasing out parking – we haven't issued any new permits, so that we have lost quite some spaces, and people shifted will be shifted into existing parking spots. We don't want to unfairly penalize people. We want to adhere to reduce our impact on the environment for the future – so all major parking proposals don't make sense at all.

Woolf: Thank you both for a great presentation. I apologize if this was answered previously, but when do you envision the committee being struck?

Glencross: We are hoping to start this January, we will start up Yes-Committee, and the vote will move forward on November 9th, so it will be under the responsibility of SSMU President to call the committee, and elections will be made by the executive.

Nicell: Many administrative committees struck are based on input from many people to find the right people. – I will probably have the responsibility to identify those people. We also want to be adaptable over time.

Glencross: We talked about a 1 year term, and students would be chosen based on their commitment to campus. There would also be students at large. I will be round when the question comes up later.

VP Olle: I motion to limit the auditor presentation to 30 minutes.

Motion to limit the auditor presentation to 30 minutes passed.

C. Financial Auditors

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Crepeau: We do the audit during the summer, which is a slow month for the association, and with the help of Steven, Pauline, and the VP FOPS. We review the way the procedures are followed, all income are recorded, and the expenses are also recorded. Nothing major was recorded during the audit, there were no major financial discrepancies. That means a good job for the administration. Just some major points: The first page is the balance sheet, it gives you the assets of financial statements. We have different funds, every fund is represented separately, it has its own reasons to exist. The Operating fund does all the activities, they collect student fees, etc. The Capital Expenditure reserve fund includes all capital assets, the MSF is the second capital asset fund, if you decided to make changes in the building, then there is the Queer McGill fund, Health and Dental Fund. If we look at globally, the SSMU has cash of \$2,900,000, which can be used to pay all liabilities or special projects, then there is the accounts receivable - money made but not cashed in, which are some rents and Haven Books. As for the inventory – that is the minimum stock that Gerts and Haven need to operate. The due from the Daycare was already cashed in. The longterm investment is the money received from McGill university regarding the bookstore, when you received it, you formed an investment committee, and if we go to page 8, you will see that the investments are done in 2 different ways – you have shares in corporations and bonds, but the portfolio was affected by the general dip in the market, especially the shares in corporations, you will see that the market value is 25% lower than the initial value. But since then, it's started going up again. As for bonds, they were not very much affected because it is already guaranteed by interest, the risk is less. The other item is the Capital Assets, there are 2 different sections, CERF is used by the operating fund, as of MSF – that is the ameliorations in this building over the years. There is separate funding for them. The Exec will have to decide that since the special fee is ceasing this semester, whether we could merge them. Our proposal is to merge them. The other part in the balance sheet are the liabilities per fund, the money that is owed to different parties, that includes the health and dental plan, there is a portion due to library funds, you have details on note 7, there was money due since a few years back, we reimbursed them by the instalment of \$75,000 a year, the last payment will be done in 2011. If we go to the next page, that will show the income statement. It shows you all income that the association made during the year. The major one is student fees, based on number of students in university, it increased because there were more students in 2009. Other major difference in income is the income coming from the University Center Building operation –in 2008, the ballroom was closed for a good portion of the year, but the association was able to solve the issue in 2009. The last line in the revenue section is the McGill subsidy – McGill is subsidizing the energy for the Shatner building, and we have to present the income, but also show the expense. This shows you that if you had to pay for the usage in those building, those are expenses. Then there are all expenses in the department throughout the year. There is an excess of \$277,000. The last pages of 12 and 13 are important for me and internal use because it shows you the actual numbers, it shows you the difference between budget and reality. You have a system of reviewing the budget twice, this is was the association was able to turn around. We compare services to budget, association accepts the fact that the operations are not profitable, but we have to follow the operation and make sure that the losses are reasonable. The other major issue is the bookstore, there are 2 reasons for that – because of the rules of McGill, you are not allowed to have any publicity on campus, that is why the bookstore isn't as known as it should be, but the loss was

expected in the budget. All is done to repay it. In the bookstore, when it was bought in 2007, there was a goodwill paid to former owner, which was included in the capital assets of the association. We couldn't say anymore that the goodwill has any value, and our accounting principle asks that every asset without value has to be written off, so you still had excess revenue over expenses. The financial statements were already approved by the executive. If you have any questions, you can ask me or Jose.

VP Ronderos-Morgan: For clarification – on page 13, the 2009 budget and actual: Services was budgeted as loss and we made profit.

Crepeau: Services includes Midnight Kitchen, Nightline, etc. You made more money in those services than expected. For information on which services made more money, please go to Steven.

Omer: Last year, the total expenses of bookstore was \$175,000, now \$325,000?

Crepeau: Yes, the expenses in bookstore increased.

Tamas: As sales went up, the costs went up as well since we give 80% back to students.

Omer: For Health Care – what is this administrative fee? What is that? Why do we pay them \$50,000?

Crepeau: There is an administrative fee to collect the money.

Tamas: There is a 2% charge for administrative fee, that goes towards answering questions from students, and being the liaison to Lev Bukhman, and if the student fee and expenses are different, the excess goes into the Health and Dental Fund.

Crepeau: The excess revenue this year was \$38,000. That money plus excesses of prior years is put aside, and later, a decision will be taken how to use that money. The operating fund is managing that fund, you want to give all the services to students.

VP Brown: I motion to adopt the financial audit.

Motion to adopt the financial audit passed.

6. Question Period

.....8.10

Newburgh: It will be limited to 30 minutes, until 8.40.

No questions on the floor.

7. Reports of Officers

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A. VP University Affairs, Rebecca Dooley

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VP Dooley: I will try and get through it quickly. The first thing is a new idea that came out of Council retreat, we will be striking our own Task Force on the McGill we want. I attached a mini-preliminary proposal on what we want. There is a lot of concern with my portfolio and Sebastian's portfolio in making sure that we have good mandates of students, and can properly guide our lobbying, so if I am in a meeting, I can say that I had widespread consultation with students. It's important that this taskforce will not only increase the lines of communication with faculty associations, but will have a report that it produces, which will focus on different areas at McGill and really outline some key student priorities. It will strengthen our lobbying effort at McGill and the administration can recognize that. The SSMU is here to represent all undergraduate students. Please look over the proposal, get back to me on it, it has a strict timeline, but if you are interested, be prepared to make a commitment. The Roundtable meeting is on Monday, not Friday. Senate happened yesterday, there were 2 questions asked – the first question to the new clause on course outlines – changes in course structure or evaluation possible due to external factors – which was included because of H1N1 pandemic planning. The admin ended up suggesting a very broad question. There was a great concern about the definition of extraordinary circumstances, because there was the possibility to lose the collegial atmosphere. There was concern of professors that there is a lot of stuff asked to put on course outlines, concern from grad students and TA's that those circumstance could be strikes, so it is a concerning clause that they put in, and we are in discussion about that. A student made a question about the aboriginal representation in Medicine – she was calling on the faculty of Medicine to consider their responsibility in the greater society, and how accessible Medicine is. The Principal made a comment on the events of last week, she called it a “dark cloud over McGill's history”, and showed disagreement with the actions of protesters. This was responded to by myself and Senator Woolf, asking the university to consider that there are circumstances in which people will be coming in contacts with hostile environment that may affect their possibility to engage in dialogue, which was responded with the point of unregulated free speech. We also talked about the new hike in tuition for the MBA program – that question was raised by professors – there was discussion about how the university shouldn't be moving to a change in culture like self-funded tuition models, that will have an impact on students, and how it should be brought to Senate if it is an academic matter, a motion to the issue of the privatization of program might be brought to Senate, it is important that Senate does have a say and has the possibility to oversee decisions. We have a new Engineering Senator, who has been attending Senate meeting, Also, Ivan and I met the principal and Prof. Mendelson, and we talked about the task force, the undergrad/grad issue, and tuition. Ivan will report on meeting with Prof Mendelson of this week. Relating to H1N1, the vaccine is a matter of interest right now, because we have been trying to get the health authorities to get a health vaccine station at McGill, but that was not possible. Instead, it will be made available at community residences, your residency will make your station, you can look at the Pandemie Quebec website, but we are worried that since vaccination stations will be spread out, students won't be getting vaccine. The document Jonathan was referring to is the sustainable projects fund, please have a look at it.

B. VP Finance, Jose VP Diaz

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VP Diaz : Pur le budget – je suis en train de travailler sur le budget. En esprit de transparence, je vais présenter les états financiers dans la prochaine réunion. Pour Gerts, nous sommes en train de réparer la machine à frire. Aussi, on a besoin de quelqu'un à Gerts dans les soirs, surtout quand Tanya n'est pas là, alors j'essaierais d'être là plus souvent. Pour Haven, notre manager a fait la suggestion d'aussi vendre des guides des études, je vais donner la question au comité des opérations. ASEQ et les minicourses vont bien. On a discuté avec Café Supreme, et ils ont fait la décision de faire la transition de pas avoir de l'eau embouteillée.

Pedneault : Tu travailles avec la CAF ?

VP Diaz : Sur ce point, oui, normalement, c'est plutôt Alex qui est responsable pour eux.

GM Gervais : We have asked them to do everything in French and English, they asked whether it was possible to do it only in English. We allowed them to do that.

VP Diaz: McGill a une exception spéciale.

GM Gervais: Parce c'est une institution privée, ils n'ont pas l'obligation avec la loi 101.

Normalement, ils font l'anglais en grand et le français en petit ou seulement l'anglais.

Dourley: Are there any student employees at Café Supreme?

VP Diaz : I don't know whether there are any student employees, I can look into it.

GM Gervais: They have to be trained by Café Supreme, and in our contract we say that they must hire students, but it's new and the owners haven't completely trained all the staff yet. We can sit down and discuss it.

C. VP External Affairs, Sebastian Ronderos-Morgan.....

VP Ronderos-Morgan : the Big event in my week was the TaCEQ meeting on Thanksgiving Monday, it lasted for 8 ½ hours, but was very productive and necessary. We are spearheading some future campaigns against the governance bills, and also, will have our inaugural general assembly on November 21st, and a policy meeting the following day, so we will invite the press to come and check it out. We might be looking at getting a new member, there will be a referendum at a UQAM faculty. I have been working with the education rep to get the ball rolling on the campaign "Paid Practicum" – students are obliged to go on practicum for a year, they work long hours and are not remunerated. It is unfortunate, and the provincial government should adjust it. As for research – we got feedback on the constitutionality of the age-limited transit fares – many people see it as discriminatory, and we are in communication with legal scholars. If you have any more questions, please come and see or e-mail me.

D. VP Internal, Alex VP

Brown.....

VP Brown: Some things I was working on include council retreat, a lot of work on the GA, 4Floors, finishing the website, I took over SSMU blog, and other stuff. Just read my report and ask me questions. There are many really exciting things going on. I stand for questions.

E. VP Clubs and Services, Sarah VP Olle

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VP Olle: The first thing – congratulation for Councilor Yu for bringing forward the first councillor-initiated motion. Choose Life is still happening, I have been responding to hate-mail, and talking to concerned students, the admin is being mad, it's pretty tough, but will probably be over soon. I talked to Natalie, and we had a very productive discussion. Do you have friends who want to be Editor-in-Chief of Old-McGill? It is so cool. The Tribune independence seems to be moving along. CBC contacted us, they want to use the Tribune in a pilot about a McGill student turned spy. The interior signage is up, we are very excited. Organic Campus storefront – under the VP External portfolio, I have been working to make draft for Generations Pact. We have worked with McGill on the cafeteria breakout room. Our cafeteria is very big, and the last part of the 'L' is often not used, while people want more meeting room. We want to make a second Lev Bukhman room. It would come out of CERF. As for the controversial events town hall, I quite disappointed with Prof Mendelson's statements, he said that he wouldn't stop events, he basically said that hateful speech is okay, as long as it isn't 'hate speech'. I don't know why we had the town hall if he is the only person who approves it, doesn't listen to students and refuses to draft any policy to make it more transparent.

Bay: What hate-mail you receiving?

VP Olle: A lot of mails asking SSMU to discipline protesters for childish behaviour. We were compared to Nazis, they called us oppressive, etc.

Pedneault: Could you elaborate on the content of your meeting with Natalie Fohl? Was there anything of note?

VP Olle: In the main topic of discussion, I expressed as a person the concern that their events have turned the debate towards free speech, not towards abortion, and she totally agreed. She had the expressive desire to turn future events specifically towards abortion, and we clarified that she was going to talk to me more, she said that she would be more forthcoming to me, so that there would be a better chance of having events happening.

Wun: As for our relationship with Choose Life – do you see them disagreeing with our policies so much that they would do anything against us? Would they speak out against us aggressively?

VP Olle: They are allowed to say whatever they want.

Calver: I have a question for VP Dooley, considering the policy for Prof Mendelson, could you clarify that?

VP Dooley: There are probably some possibilities open. Unfortunately, after the town hall has proven that he is not interested in making policy, some other avenues would turn away from him and towards other bodies – there are several senate committees on equity, unfortunately they are very inactive, since the university does not give them much things to do, but we could start a

debate on policy there, and possibly while doing that make some recommendations to the Principals' Task Force. It references diversity at McGill, and it is pertinent to bring that up there, I'm open for suggestions, but Senate proved not ready for such a discussion.

Keresteci: Is Choose Life planning on rescheduling the event?

VP Olle: Natalie affirmed that they were not interested, although the Principal was very much for them rescheduling.

Garofalo: When we passed the motion, we included an amendment for them to lose funding forever, but they tried to go ahead with the event, but it was cancelled. – what does that mean?

VP Olle: They chose to proceed with the event. The interruption had nothing to do with their intentions.

Garofalo: So SSMU Council is recognizing that Choose Life did go forward with the event and will not receive funding?

VP Olle: Yes.

E. President, Ivan Neilson

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President Neilson: For Council retreat – thank you for coming, I was very happy with the engagement brought forward, and for everybody who wasn't there, I sent out some required reading, we will schedule a make-up session on Saturday or Sunday to go through the topics you need to know about. GA – is happening next week, we received all the motions, they are listed here. Please start thinking about ideas to get people involved, it's next Wednesday at 2.30 pm. There will be a slight issue with the GA, I have a meeting with the advisory committee, but we will go ahead with some motions before I'll be back to give the exec report. The deadline for student initiated referendum is tomorrow. Then, for PGSS and Daycare- they expressed interest in providing funding for our daycare against receiving promised spots. I also did some research on alcohol consulting, a risk management person is likely to come in and talk to us about our alcohol policy. In a meeting with the Deputy Provost – we cleared an issue where interim clubs weren't allowed to book space on campus, and then set the timeline for Tribune independence, the referendum question is probably coming in March. As for the timeline to extend the lease, we are hoping to get the proposal by December, and hope that will be done in March and April, and signed in May. The same with the MoA – he said that if we want to sign it as it is, we could do that tomorrow – but I rejected that offer. I stand for questions.

8. Reports of Committees

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A. Executive

Committee.....

President Neilson: Very briefly – on October 7th, we gave the approval of the stipend of Fraser Dickson for his project of 100 Years of SSMU, we approved a contract for Old McGill for HF Foto, we approved having a TaCEQ meeting in the building although it was closed over Thanksgiving, we approved the hiring of Jacob Stern, and we approved the audit of the financial statements. In the meeting of October 14th, there was nothing for approval.

VP Ronderos-Morgan: Did anybody else have access to the Shatner building at that day?

President Neilson: Sebastian had a meeting in that building. All day there was an on-campus emergency simulation, so that there were 100 McGill security staff in our building, and we normally hire cleaners to do some work for us, but we found out that McGill was in here doing things, which is really disconcerting. Even though it is our building, McGill security has access to it and can control it. Keep that on your radar.

Garofalo: Motion to approve Executive report.

Motion to approve Executive report passed.

B. General Assembly

Committee.....

Stern: I'm the Campaign Coordinator of GA. It will happen next week on Wednesday on 2.30. We need 100 people there from 4 faculties, there needs to be a broad distribution. Our goals are to encourage attendance among a broad array of students in society. We are targeting students engaged in student clubs and committees, we are campaigning there, we will be placing posters around campus, make announcement in large campus, reaching out specifically to classes with many students interested in specific motions, will be reaching out to First Years through Floor Fellows, will be staffing tables on campus, and will also be engaging in skits in public area. We need you guys' help to increase turnout. We need you to come and bring your friends. We also need help staffing for class announcements, that should be done on Monday and Tuesday, we are trying to advertize event that it is important for most students on campus. We might also need help with more specific classroom announcements. We will have a schedule, if you have any time, we would love you to help.

Dourley: Will you be contacting the faculty associations? They have a pretty great audience through their websites and listserves?

Stern: We would be more than happy to contact them.

Goldstein: When is the schedule going to be up?

VP Brown: At the bare minimum, according to constitution, you have to be there, I have posters in my office, and you can stand up in your own class and tell people about it.

VP Ronderos-Morgan: I want to stress that you do participate, the GA is an institution that took a lot of mobilization to actually exist for students, and it's a very important forum to influence student policy. It is your personal responsibility to be there, and your constitutional responsibility to bring your friends.

Sampson: How are you getting in touch with the floor fellows?

Stern: I have been composing e-mails and forwarding them to listserve.

VP Olle: How many of the past 4 GA's have failed to reach quorum?

President Neilson: I think it was just 1. We have trying to promote it, the format has been changing a lot, what happened is that last year we had a ridiculously high quorum, but we still want a lot of students to come out. There was one last year that did not reach quorum last year and one that did. On the day of, you are required to be there, we have to clear out all the tables and chairs.

VP Olle: Given the issues with quorum, are any of the skits going to be directed towards the motion re: Porn!?

VP Brown: It will not be especially about porn as currently, we have an anti-porn policy, but it will target the discussion about porn.

Su: Do you know the estimated time?

President Neilson: About 3 hours.

Wun: How about the first years not living in rez?

Stern: Like all other students, they will be contacted through classroom announcements, posters, listserves, etc.

Ma: Motion to adopt report of GA committee.

Motion to adopt report of GA committee passed.

C. Clubs and Services Committee

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VP Olle: Anushay is my assistant, she is great, her report is hilarious, I'm very happy because it is following in a long line of hilarious C&S reports written by hilarious women. As for Interim Status: Gardens was tabled, Helping Darfur was rejected, Traductions was tabled, Bilingual Improv club was approved, Magic Club approved, Ahmadiya Muslim Association approved. For Full Status: Iraqi's Student Association was tabled, Students Offering Support was approved, the Egyptians Student Society approved.

To: Which aspect of the Egyptians' Students' Society did you disagree with?

VP Olle: They wanted to collaborate with other universities to do research—they were confused as to their purview.

VP Brown: Interest in introducing the translation club to the translation team?

VP Olle: Yes.

Report of Clubs and Services Committee approved.

Newburgh: As to the agenda, item 9 A will be Plebiscites.

D. Report of the Finance Committee

VP Diaz: Hello everyone again. We had our first meeting yesterday, and settled criteria for the rest of the year about funding. We will not give out any funding for consumption, food, travels. There will be no perks for executives, and we want clubs to avoid running deficits, even if the club is donating money. We committed 25% of CLF to Athletic Clubs. The decisions we made are as following:

1. Cinema Politica: **\$300** out of the **Club Fund**;
1. Bangladeshi Students Association: **\$450** out of the **Club Fund**;
2. New Earth Voices: **\$100** out of the **Club Fund**;
3. Making Waves: **\$296** out of the **Club Fund**;
4. Caribbean Students' Society: No funding;
5. Korean Students' Society: **\$300** out of the **Club Fund**;
6. Hong Kong Student Network: **\$350** out of the **Club Fund**;
7. Abhilasha: No funding;
8. Hillel McGill: **\$3,000** out of the **Club Fund**;
9. Debating Union: **\$6,000** out of the **Club Fund**;
10. Powershift Canada: **\$2,500** out of the **Green Fund**;
11. Desautels Business Conference on Sustainability: **\$2,000** out of the **Campus Life Fund** and **\$2,000** out of the **Green Fund**

Mehta: Could you go into more detail about the \$3,000 and \$6,000 – is it normal that this much money is spent on one event?

VP Diaz: Normally, every club submits an application, and they give a budget for the different activities they plan. The amount of money clubs are applying for ranges from very little to \$12,000. We look how well developed a budget is, and at their audit score, what they presented and did with that money, and that score is used later on. Clubs have to submit overall budgets plus the budgets of the events, and then we decide how much we are going to fund.

Omer: Are there any other clubs waiting to find out about funding? Are all applications informed in the end?

VP Diaz: We do have some applications pending, we met 3 or 4 hours, and will be meeting again next week, we want to present all applications by next council. Once the committee makes recommendation, it presents it to council, then we can write cheques and inform clubs.

Garofalo: I motion to adopt report of finance committee.

Motion to adopt report of finance committee approved.

Garofalo: Motion to recess.

Motion to recess rejected.

9. Old

Business.....
.....

A. Plebiscites

i. Coursepacks

Newburgh: The plebiscites are not binding on the society, they are just questions to the society. I would ask that that the authors of the plebiscites read out the entirety of plebiscite question.

VP Dooley: [reads out plebiscite]. There is no binding decision pending on the plebiscite.

Omer: Does SSMU have any say at all?

VP Dooley: We do have a bit of a say, the university comes to us in terms of what students want. We are on the fence to know about what students want. We are curious to have an informed opinion.

Mehta: Would students be paying for coursepacks over Minerva?

VP Dooley: You would pay to access the online documents. You would unload the printing responsibility to students. You pay in the fees to the university the copyrights. A lot of work has been done to reduce those prices. That is still up to see what happens.

Bay: I move to vote.

Plebiscite re: Coursepacks passed. 23 yays, 2 abstentions

ii. Release of Exam Schedule

VP Dooley: [reads plebiscite]

Marshall: Were you able to talk to administration how it would affect the process?

VP Dooley: Shortening the add-drop period by a week, would mean getting the schedule out a week earlier. This year, they got it out relatively early, but again, we are very curious to know students' opinion.

VP Brown: Did they specify how far they are willing to go?

VP Dooley: That will remain to be specified, it is more to know whether students are actually considering this alternative at all.

To: Why can't the people who organize it just work faster?

VP Dooley: I am in no place to speak to the amount of work that it takes, but there are hundreds of courses every year, and they did get the schedule out 2 – 3 weeks after add-drop this year.

President Neilson: They need to know how many people will be in each class, because there are only so many classes with so many sizes, and only when it is set, they can start working. They run it through a computer program, and then check departmental regulations.

Briones: Were you consulting how moving the add-drop period would really change the release?

VP Dooley: We would see how students respond to the plebiscite before going ahead with it. It is a big issue, so far the consultation was with the registrar's office.

Lightbound: Would the shortened add-drop period apply to all faculties? We in the law faculty know the schedule in the summer.

VP Dooley: You are very lucky. It would only apply to the students whose schedules come out after add-drop.

Wang: If you shortened it by one week, sometimes there is Labor Day on Monday, so the add-drop period would be over before you would have one class.

VP Dooley: We would be interested to see if students are interested at all, and then we will move forward with the details.

Dourley: Will that come back after more consultation and will you cast another plebiscite question?

VP Dooley: If I can put forward a plebiscite in the winter semester, I would be very willing to do that. It has such a great impact on students' schedules.

Marshall: I motion to vote.

Plebiscite passed; 20 yays and 3 abstentions.

Newburgh: Now, in terms of the resolutions, here we have a great chart with a common way of having a debate under Robert's Rules of Order with legislative body. The 'be it resolved'-clauses are all that will be read by the author. Afterwards, we have amalgated the systems that we used. The author will be open to questions regarding specifically the clarification of the resolution. Other questions will not be accepted. Then the Pro-side will have 10 minutes, the author will be the first speaker, then can he can yield to questions (new point made), to a friendly speaker, or to the floor.

VP Olle: If the speaker yields to questions – does the time stops?

Newburgh: No, the time continues. After yielding to the floor, we move into automatic 3 minute caucus, when amendment sheets can be submitted. Please specify the proposed amendment section, if there is a result clause, Lauren will collect all amendment sheets during that time, she will give you that letter, she will be discussing with the author if that is a friendly or unfriendly amendment. Amendments may only take place in caucus period. Then time will resume again. After the pro-side has yielded to the floor, the con-side will start with 15 minutes, with the same structure. We have tried to include a 5 minute–pro-rebuttal slot to respond to arguments stated by the con-side, but they are not allowed to any new arguments. Then there is time to extend the debate, or we can move to vote.

10. New

Business.....
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A. *Resolution Regarding Councillor
Participation.....

President Neilson: [reads the resolved clauses]

Question period:

Pedneault: What do the bylaws provide for disciplinary measures?

President Neilson: There isn't anything right now. It would have to be evaluated by the executive committee, if someone really wants to come, it would be no problem.

Lightbound: Article 27.3 – does that failure refer to failure to send regrets or failure to attend meetings?

President Neilson: To the failure of sending regrets.

Wun: On what behalf are they to be punished by the president and executive and not the faculty.

President Neilson: Once they're here, there is a "this is my house" feeling. They would discipline you for not bringing the details back, but you are here as a SSMU Councilor.

Drew: It only says to notify the speakers before the meeting begins – are there any specifications on how much before?

President Neilson: I wanted to keep it open; if you have something in beforehand, you should send your regrets as soon as possible. People sometimes didn't come, but it only needs a minimum level of effort to let somebody know. I don't want it to be Draconian, I want it to have minimum effort.

Bay: Why can't SSMU just go to the faculty association?

President Neilson: Informally, if a councillor wasn't doing anything, we would report him to the head of faculty, but that is awkward if the president of management is also the councillor. We didn't have a rule like this before, but it's not even for 1 meeting, it's for 2, so it really applies to people that tend to fall off the map.

Woolf: If a seat becomes vacant and the faculty cannot fill the seat, will it still count towards quorum?

President Neilson: No, vacant seats don't count towards quorum.

Calver: Is there a limit on how many they can miss when they send regrets?

President Neilson: If they have a continuing reason why they can never come would be decency to step aside, but not to regulate this issue.

Omer: Motion to limit question period to 3 minutes.

Motion to limit question period to 3 minutes passed.

Newburgh: If an individual speaking sees that there is consensus, you can yield to the floor and move to previous question.

President Neilson: I was thinking about this all last year, particularly frequently in the middle and end of the year, when many people didn't show up. We always tried to get a 2/3 quorum for bylaw changes, and so now I had an idea how this could be done, as everybody active on council should be able to say so if you are not able to do it. For the rest, it would be up to executive committee, but I don't see it going that far. I yield to friendly speaker.

VP Brown: There were many unfortunate instances where people had legitimate excuses and didn't communicate them, which prompted angry phone-calls during exams and other scenarios, so it would be create more respect to the legislative body.

Newburgh: Now the caucus over: we have 2 updates in the resolution, article 27.3 will now read "failure to **send regrets to the speaker of council** for two (2) consecutive meetings..." while 27.4 will be "Disciplinary measures will be decided by the executive committee **and ratified by a two-third majority by Council at the next meeting.**"

Bay: I yield to the floor.

Motion to move to previous question passed.

Resolution Regarding Councilor Participation passed; 21 yay, 0 nay, 4 abstentions.

B. *Resolution Regarding MBA Tuition Hike

.....

VP Ronderos-Morgan: [reads be it resolved-clauses]

Questions:

Dourley: “Desautels” has a spelling mistake.

VP Brown: The question is very similar to the question of the GA?

VP Ronderos-Morgan: No, this is a reaction to current events, specifically to the MBA, whereas the GA motion discusses it in much broader terms.

Ma: What is involved in the self-funding model?

VP Ronderos-Morgan: As you are aware, we have a system which is subsidized, and our universities are subsidized, since our tuitions don’t cover our full costs of our education. Self-funding is very common throughout the USA, this is not that common in Canada, but almost non-existent in Quebec.

VP Olle: Are there any relevant policies that we already passed?

VP Ronderos-Morgan: In 1992, the SSMU Council passed a motion to create a policy manual whereby SSMU take a position against all increases in tuition. In 2006, in GA, there was a motion that SSMU take the official policy position for reduction of tuition until full abolition. We are bound by these.

Keresteci: Would this apply specifically for undergraduate tuition? To McGill? Or anywhere?

VP Ronderos-Morgan: Yes. In 2006, it applied to all tuition generally, and in 1992 it was also general. Quebec as a province sets the law on tuition throughout the province, so we are talking about tuition foremost in Quebec.

Mehta: are MBA students under SSMU?

VP Ronderos-Morgan: No, they are not under SSMU, but they are still relevant, there are also many professional programs at McGill are considered undergrads.

Abaki: What radically different would this motion bring to the table?

VP Ronderos-Morgan: This motion is intended to empower our representatives to the university to prevent any other kinds of self-funding model.

VP Dooley: The PGSS are currently drafting a response on this matter, they are organizing lobbying efforts, and we were asked to show our support as a matter of adding strength to their appeal.

Debate:

VP Ronderos-Morgan: I will present this as follows – firstly, the university has shown lack of respect in procedure on 2 levels – this change in funding from the model was not brought to university senate, so the administration has not been paying respect to that body, and secondly, the political attaché to the Minister of Education said that McGill had contravened section bylaw 3.7 of financial bylaws of ministry of education, which is very worrying. The administration has tried to effectuate this change in funding model, but has not regarded the formal rules of the ministry or university. If this is a test, and the university is looking to expand these funding plans, it's very worrisome that they are not even respecting the channels that they should be going through. This could affect many other professional programs as well. It's a tuition hike of 1,600% - that contravenes our policies, and we should take that into consideration. The administration has been argued that the self-funding model will improve the status of the faculty as well.

Pedneault: Is there a grandfather clause?

VP Ronderos-Morgan: No. There is no grandfather clause, and it is not always the case that all people have a certain amount of wealth to get into program. The program that exists right now is very successful but has become that way due to funding of the public sector. We have a prestigious university and program that has been funded by the public mind, it's unfortunate to see that the people who have been putting money in there will not be rewarded, tuition will be exactly the same for Quebec, Canadian or international students.

VP Dooley: I just wanted to clarify that it wasn't even brought to the full Board of Governors, it was only brought to executive committee, so it would be a possible culture change. I would like to yield to friendly speaker.

Marshall: I have an issue with the heavy academic implications that this decision has set out. It was seen at Senate as an issue that couldn't be addressed, this document is the best way to express the frustrations of students and faculty.

Newburgh: Caucus time has ended – and there have been amendments proposed that are supposed to be ready. One amends the last be it resolved clause – but it was retracted.

Dourley: I will talk about the MBA programs– they are very specialized and very expensive. A lot of the time, employers will pay for their employees to do the program. After the student completes it, he can expect a large increase in salary. McGill MBA accepts students with an average of 8 years of working experience in the corporate world, so they are able to pay for their tuition. The move was inevitable, and we have seen the move coming. Right now, tuition in Canada is almost twice as expensive as at McGill, McGill has slipped in the rankings and will continue to do so, it will be detrimental to the Desautels name, and therefore also to BCom students, etc. My answer to the question about current BCom students is that you don't do your MBA at the same place where you do your BCom. Don't want the same managerial philosophy. Also, an MBA student will have a much better disposable income than normal graduate student. One more thing, there has been much talk about this being a tester for other professional programs– but this is not like other programs, it is unique and speaks for itself. The MBA Student Society are pretty separate from PGSS, and they support the tuition hike, they say $\frac{3}{4}$ of

students agree. I don't agree how the faculty proceeded, and we should make noise about the fact that Senate wasn't involved, but this is not the way to do it.

Mehta: I agree that we should be more concerned about how it was presented at Senate. But MBA applicants have 5 years of work experience, and they have raised student aid from \$4,000 to \$6,000 per student, and are take a lot of funding from undergraduate students –it is our interest to get our money back.

Drew: There are benefits of the MBA moving towards a self-funded model. It can sustain investments better, will improve its facilities, and it was up to now heavily subsidized by the undergraduate student fees. Also, any surpluses will be recycled into the program again. Outside of Quebec, the leading universities charge \$35,000 for Canadian students, and Queens charges \$65,000 to \$67,000. McGill's strategy makes sense.

VP Brown: A lot of my friends in management brought up that undergraduate Management students have to fight for their right to use the career services because it is used up by MBA students.

Omer: I motion to move the question.

Strawpoll didn't succeed.

Newburgh: The pro-side has 2:45, the Con-side 0:59 minutes left.

Woolf: I think that councillor Dourley's points were very persuasive, but if we have a policy, it is our policy, and people come into programs with different backgrounds. It's a growing trend in privatization which nobody of us would like to see to leak out in other programs.

VP Dooley: Privatization is like putting a bandaid over a very severe wound. We have to acknowledge that the faculty doesn't have resources because of the underfunding of universities, but it is our belief that we shouldn't download responsibility on students.

VP Ronderos-Morgan: Other professional programs also yield high wages at the end, and self-funded tuition models might very much be in the line of what McGill will achieve, we don't know where it will stop.

Keresteci: I would like to refute the claim that the resolution doesn't concern the problem, it is about the Quebec government, and would be more general aimed at students than just to undergraduates.

Bay: As SSMU, we need to fight for undergraduate students, and help undergraduates by freeing resources to them.

Bay: I move to extend debate by 2 minutes for each side.

Newburgh: That requires a 2/3 majority.

Motion to extend debate by 2 minutes for each side passed.

Pedault: This supports the dangerous logic that university is just a service to a customer, which was used to justify great tuition increases in the past.

VP Ronderos-Morgan: The mandates do apply to all tuition in Quebec, when we have a mandate to deal with tuition, this is definitely an event that evokes our actions. The MBA program is currently ranked not very high, but assessments vary

Omer: I motion to extend adjournment to 1am.

Motion to extend adjournement to 1am passed.

VP Ronderos-Morgan: Fundamentally, we have a very prestigious university, which has come from public funding, and if we have to create inequalities, we concede to the logic that underfunding our institutions is okay, that is why it is an important issue.

Bay: We have a mandate to undergraduates, not to post-graduates, that is the PGSS.

Mehta: In regards to offering people more accessible education – if you fail to give them a high-ranking education, that is failure in this regard. All students who need it get \$4,000 to \$6,000.

The students who don't agree with it won't apply. We need to cater for our costumers.

Dourley: There is the idea of “we” as all Management students that are affected by the hike – but a part of that we are still BCom students, and we have to think about them too. The money from the privatization will still go to general university use, it will not be a net drop in university income. We are talking about the ranking of Desautels.

Briones: The whole MBA tuition hike should sound an alarm to all of us, it's not the first time that this happened. I think that this is a tester-balloon, we should all vote for the motion, we need to oppose the tuition hikes.

Pedneault: It would take a position against all the tuition hikes in Quebec. The decision was done without consulting the Quebec government regardless of whether that was procedurally correct.

Marshall: We can't take this issue and make it about Senate. We are recognizing that it didn't go to senate, it won't go to senate, and there is no other possibility for us to address this point that we have been twice mandated to uphold.

Bay: I motion to vote for the resolution.

Motion to vote for the resolution unanimously approved.

Resolution Regarding MBA Tuition Hike failed. Yay 8, Nay 14, Abstention 2.

VP Brown: Motion to amend the agenda to address the council initiated referendum questions first, and Table point C and D until after.

Motion to amend the agenda passed.

D. Council Initiated Referendum

Question.....

i. Ambassador Fee

.....

Newburgh: It cannot be amended. I will read the question. [reads question]. If there is opposition to this, I would entertain a motion to debate.

Pedneault: I motion to vote.

Ambassador Fee Referendum Question approved unanimously.

ii. Sustainable Projects Fund

Newburgh: [reads question]

Marshall: I motion to vote.

Sustainable Projects Fund Referendum Question approved.

iii. Abolition of QPIRG's Student Fee

Pedneault: The speaker said at the first meeting that they would defer to the other chair if they are in conflicts of interest. Would the speaker consider deferring? I think it would be a good situation.

Newburgh: If there is a motion to appeal to the chair, I will entertain it. But I do not feel that I have a conflict of interest.

President Neilson: If he had a particular conflict of interest, he would have said so.

VP Diaz: I motion to debate.

Newburgh: Please don't repeat yourself, you will be stopped by the chair if that was the case.

Omer: I think that the personal opinions on QPIRG aren't an issue at all, it was put forward by the clubs that brought up the opt-out fee. The opt-out mechanism by the university is a flawed process, a higher threshold should be put. There is no reason why somebody for QPIRG should be against this motion.

Mehta: It's been 21 years since QPIRG exists, but in the 2 ½ years that I have been here, I haven't hear much of them except to opt out of it— they only hold 2 public meetings this year, their recent events have been controversial, the most well-known one is the Israeli Apartheid week— students should vote on this, if it is still that important, people will donate money to keep it up.

VP Olle: I will keep it brief, but I have a lot of support behind me. It is very important that student only pay for what they want. But all student groups go on referendum anyways according to our bylaws, and we asked the same question 6 months ago. It would be a harassment against QPIRG, we can't just make them do it again and again. If you don't like QPIRG, there is a huge opt-out movement that you can take part in.

President Neilson: I received an earlier written version yesterday, was submitted to the CEO, and whatever people's thoughts on QPIRG might be, it is the wrong way to go. This is basically attacking all our student groups, because if there is that much dissent obvious, McGill would turn around right away and we would have the same process for all of them. I think that is important – McGill is questioning the system as it is. I think it is good, it works, and we must let them do it.

VP Diaz: QPIRG didn't only campaign 6 months ago, they also campaigned last fall, and campaigning is very draining because it takes away money, time, and organization from their events. The resolution has also very confusing wording, it's a huge burden that is unnecessary, and students already spoke last year.

VP Ronderos-Morgan: I want to reiterate – QPIRG is not only about Israeli-Apartheid week, it is very dynamic, it includes Jew for Social Justice, RadFrosh, and if you take down QPIRG by taking away their fee, you are taking away all those events as well, please don't just equal QPIRG with only the Israeli-Apartheid week, that is very ill-informed and unfortunate.

VP Diaz: I motion to move the question.

Motion to move the question passed.

Resolution re: Abolition of QPIRG's Student Fee failed with 2 abstentions.

President Neilson: Motion to amend the agenda and table the acclaimed councillors.

Motion passed; Resolution Regarding Acclaimed Councillors tabled until the next meeting.

C. *Resolution Involving TV

McGill.....

Keresteci: [reads resolution]

President Neilson: I motion to vote.

Motion to vote passed.

Resolution Involving TV McGill passed with 1 abstention.

11. Confidential Session

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No confidential session.

VP Brown: Motion to adjourn.

12.

Adjournment.....

..... 11.44