Steering Committee Report

Convened on Sunday, October 14th, 2018 at 12:00 PM

Present: Speaker Jamal, Parliamentarian Haward, President Mansdoerfer, Councillor Buraga (Senate Caucus), Councillor Frenette (Engineering), Councillor Cossette (PT/OT) (remote)

Regrets: Speaker Dolmat

Guest Speaker

- There was no guest speaker at this committee’s session.

Old Business

- Motions postponed at the previous meeting of Legislative Council were approved to carry forward and inscribed on this meeting's agenda.

New Business

- Motions reviewed by the committee are listed below. The committee undertook the formatting, stylistic, spelling, and grammatical changes it deemed necessary to all motions submitted by the deadline.
  - Motion Regarding Council Length 2018-10-18
  - Motion Regarding Mandating the Finance Committee to Focus on Restructuring SSMU's Fees 2018-10-18
  - Motion Regarding Amendments to the Standing Rules of Council 2018-10-18
  - Motion Regarding Adoption of General Assembly Standing Rules 2018-10-18

- The Steering Committee made the following recommendations to *Motion Regarding Amendments to the Standing Rules of Council 2018-10-18* with the rationale that the draft minutes are often lacking detail, place additional burdens on the Recording Secretaries, and the transparency objective can be better met by the new live-streaming arrangement:
  1. During Legislative Council meetings, a link to the live document where minutes are being taken be posted to the SSMU website as a council document.
10.2. This link shall also be posted in the Google Drive for Councilors to access during the meeting.

10.3. The SSMU shall take steps to disseminate this information via social media.

10.1. Steering Committee shall endeavour to work with on-campus partners, including TVM: Student Television at McGill, the McGill Daily, Le Délit, the McGill Tribune, and the Bull and Bear to ensure that meetings of Legislative Council are live-streamed whenever possible.

10.2. The SSMU shall take steps to disseminate this information via social media.

- The Steering Committee is pleased to announce that in partnership with TVM: Student Television at McGill, all future Legislative Council meetings and General Assemblies for the 2018-2019 year will be live-streamed.

- Steering Committee discussed the potentially problematic nature of votes by unanimous consent insofar as they may place Councillors in an uncomfortable situation. In accordance with the Standing Rules, the default voting method shall remain an electronic ballot with results posted after the meeting.

- Steering Committee discussed the length of the previous Legislative Council meeting and has brought forward a motion to specify suggested time limits on debate for each motion and a goal to end Legislative Council meetings no later than 10:00 pm. Steering Committee will also exercise its power to more evenly schedule presentations and debate on motions.

Respectfully submitted,

Husayn Jamal, Speaker of Council