



Submitted for: November 1, 2018

Motion Regarding VP UA Mandate to Advocate for Change to S/U Grading Option 2018-11-01

WHEREAS, the Section 2.2 of the Internal Regulations on Representation and Advocacy mandates the “the Vice-President (University Affairs)... [to] promot[e] student rights related to academic affairs at both the University and faculty levels and [to] advanc[e] the interests of students with respect to academic matters.”¹

WHEREAS, McGill offers its “Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) option [a]s an alternative course-specific grading scheme that lets undergraduate students take courses outside their areas of specialization without fear of decreasing their GPAs... for up to 10 percent of their total degree credits completed at McGill”.²

WHEREAS, many universities have alternative S/U options, with notably both [Columbia](#) and [Yale](#) both allowing students to convert an “S” grade to their letter grade, “in order to encourage students to engage more fully in the courses they elect to take” S/U.³

WHEREAS, the current Vice President (University Affairs) campaigned quite vocally on this point, mentioning it on his platform, in press interviews, the SSMU debate, and notably featuring it as one of two concrete actions in his “pen sketch,” the 100-word text featured on the simply voting platform.

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the SSMU reaffirm the mandate the Vice President (University Affairs) received by virtue of his election to advocate for changes to McGill’s S/U option so as to allow students to uncover their grades.

Moved By:

Tre Mansdorfer, President
Jacob Shapiro, Vice President (University Affairs)
Gareth Price, Engineering Representative
Andrew Figueiredo, Arts Representative

¹<https://ssmu.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Internal-Regulations-of-Representation-and-Advocacy-2017-03-23.pdf?x26516>

² <https://www.mcgill.ca/students/courses/plan/s-u>

³ <https://www.college.columbia.edu/facultyadmin/grading>



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Located on unceded, Kanien'kehá:ka traditional territory

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APPROVED