



# Legislative Council

February 7, 2019

1. Call to Order - **6:10pm**
2. Land Acknowledgement

The Speaker reads out the land acknowledgement.

3. Attendance

Absent: Councillor Smit, Councillor Abdel Hamid, Councillor Jayme, Councillor Bazylykut, Councillor Milchberg, Councillor Kleiner and Senator Lametti are absent.

The Speaker informs the Council that VP Esterle will arrive late.

Proxy: Madeline Wilson for Senator Buraga, Alexander Yang for Councillor Cossette and Tamara Torrance for Councillor Hobbs

4. Approval of Minutes - **POSTPONED**

The Speaker informs the Legislative Council that the minutes from last council session are still not completed and so they cannot be approved by the council. The Speaker recommends that someone should motion to postpone the minutes.

Proxy Wilson **Motions to postpone the minutes, seconded by Sanchez - PASSES**

5. Adoption of the Agenda - **ADOPTED**

The President makes a point of order to explain that the guest speaker who was supposed to speak to the Council is scheduled to come for another Council session instead and should therefore be cut from the agenda.

The President **Motions to remove the guest speaker - Martine Gauthier, Executive Director of Student Services, from the agenda, seconded by VP Wang - PASSES Unanimously**



**VP Wang Motions to move VP Finance report after new business, seconded by Councillor Price - PASSES**

**VP Shapiro Motions to add nomination of Councillor to the Anti-Semitism committee to the as a motion in the end of new business, seconded by Councillor Karia**

**Proxy Wilson Motions to Approve the Agenda with the amendments seconded by Councillor Yang - ADOPTED**

**6. Report of the Steering Committee (3)**

The Speaker reads out the report.

**7. Motion Regarding Reinstatement of Julian Jayme (Music Representative) 2019-02-07 [5] - APPROVED Unanimously**

**Moved by:** The President, Senator Buraga, Councillor Frenette and Councillor Cossette

The President explains the motion that through the Internal Regulations (IR), since Councillor Jayme has missed two council sessions with unexcused absences, he was kicked off Council by the accountability committee. Now it has to go through the Steering committee to bring him back on Council. This motion will ensure that the Council wants him back on the Council with no penalties.

Councillor Abdelhamid arrives at 6:18pm

No questions and no debate on the motion.

Councillor Yang makes a motion of personal privilege to close the windows.

**Voting Procedure:**

**Voting on Motion 7 - APPROVED Unanimously 23-0-4**

**8. Guest Speakers (10)**

- a. There are no guest speakers for this council session.



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## 9. Announcements (5)

The President announces that the SSMU Winter General Assembly is on February 25 in the Frank Dawson Adams auditorium starting at 5:30pm and that everyone should come.

VP Shapiro announces that SACOMSS and SSMU are holding sexual violence policy consultations this week and the next week. He encourages everyone to come out to ensure a policy that reflects what the students want.

The Speaker announces that he will be departing at 9:00pm and then the President will be stepping in as the Speaker where he will not be able to vote or debate. This is in accordance with the IRs of SSMU.

## 10. Question Period (5)

Councillor Price asks the Council about the biking center and what is progress on that. The President responds that there is no progress but that he is waiting from the McGill administration on this.

Proxy Wilson asks when will there be more menstrual product baskets on campus to ensure greater distributions, including dispensaries. The President answers by saying that he will be meeting with building teams to ensure that the SSMU building has it. The President also explains that the other buildings are operated by McGill administration and cannot enforce them to do it, but imagines that it will be done over the summer by McGill.

Councillor Scarra asks why SSMU has partnered with "It's on Us" given that they have no formal training and haven't cooperated with McGill resources like OSVERSE and that it's not a McGill club. The President answers by wanting a clarification of the question. Councillor Scarra wants to know why SSMU is doing a video project with the club in question and why SSMU is cooperating with them on that. The President answers that the group has reached out to SSMU for the video project but there has been no follow-up for anything further between the two groups.

Councillor Sanchez asks if SSMU plans on partnering with "It's On Us", citing that she believes it is a bad group to associate with. The President explains that the SSMU executive hasn't decided yet.



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Proxy Wilson wants to know if there is a menstrual product coordinator and wants to know how can this service operate if there is no coordinator. The President explains that the coordinator left their role in December but has recently been re-hired. The President explains that the menstrual products fee is being used to create dispensaries for these products since they are very expensive.

Ianna Folkes, SUS VP Communications, has arrived as proxy for Councillor Milchberg at 6:32pm.

#### 11. Old Business [55]

- a. Notice of Motion Regarding Changes to the Internal Regulations of Governance on Freedom of Information 2018-11-15 [5]

**Moved by:** Senator Buraga, Councillor Figueiredo and Councillor Hu

Councillor Price **Motions to postpone the motion, seconded by Councillor Sanchez**, but then withdraws the motion.

Councillor Figueiredo explains the motion by deferring his time to the Speaker. The Speaker clarifies that only Senator Buraga understands the motion and would be able to explain it but he is absent this council session. The Speaker explains that the changes to the IRs are noted in red on the projector and that it is only a notice of motion and not a motion to adopt this motion.

- b. Motion Regarding Amendments to the Policy on Support for Family Care 2018-11-29 [20] - **APPROVED Unanimously**

**Moved by:** Councillor Sanchez, VP Shapiro, VP Esterle and Senator Buraga

Councillor Sanchez explains that she has made the motion clearer about what is being changed in the policy from the previous time she motivated the motion in Council. She explains that SSMU will be asking for a more comprehensive leave of absence for students who need to conduct breastfeeding.

There are no questions or debate for this motion.



## **Voting Procedure:**

Voting on Motion 11b - **APPROVED Unanimously 23-0-4**

- c. Motion Regarding Changes to the Internal Regulations of Elections and Referenda 2018-11-15 (1) [20] - **APPROVED Unanimously**

**Moved by:** The President, Councillor Frenette and VP Esterle

The President explains the motion. The President explains that Section 1.8 has changed substantially and that Council can ensure executives can be hired quicker. He explains that Councillors would have more power in ensuring that executives will be more accountable to the constituents and Council. The motion also ensures that campaigning is changed to prevent unfair campaigning like in residences.

## **Question Period:**

Councillor Figueiredo asks about section 5.5 and why campaigning members can't use social media platforms that aren't approved. He wants to know why the movers want to "squash creativity". The President explains that it is to ensure that the CRO can monitor all the campaigning going on to ensure that they catch all campaigning that violates the rules.

Councillor Karia asks if there is anything in the motion regarding students who campaign that are on exchange and if there is anything to accommodate them. The President explains that there isn't anything in the motion, but believes that these exchange students have the same accommodations and that this policy can change if Councillor Karia provides suggestions with how to change it.

Councillor Karia asks if there is anything regarding funding for campaigns to deal with students who cannot finance campaigns and if there is anything to ensure they get reimbursements for their campaign. The President explains that the reimbursements have increased in this updated motion from \$100 to \$200 but isn't sure with the exact numbers but more substantial matters on this can be debated on later in the year.

## **Debate:**



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Councillor Figueiredo asks about Section 5.3 and that it isn't explicit in what is an unsolicited message or not. Councillor Figueiredo asks by saying why can't there be an exception for a campaigning member's friend since it isn't unsolicited.

VP McLaughlin says that he doesn't agree with Councillor Figueiredo because it is not clear who a "friend" is in the case of campaigning.

Councillor Figueiredo **Motions to strike the part that says "and campaign committee members" in an amendment, seconded by Councillor Karia**

Debate on this motion:

Councillor Sanchez says that she wants to know the rationale for this motion.

The President explains that the rationale is that they made this to ensure that a campaigning person doesn't send unsolicited messages to people they aren't friends with to have them vote for them. He encourages that if they strike this, they might as well strike the entire clause.

VP Shapiro explains that the campaigning people should be free to message people to get people to vote for them. He also agrees with the amendment and the President's last point.

Councillor Figueiredo explains that the rationale is to ensure that people aren't spammed about going to vote.

Councillor Karia believes that this amendment reflects real-life politics and these type of politics have unsolicited messages. Therefore, she agrees with the amendment.

Councillor Price explains that there is a difference between event invites and personal invites. He believes that facebook events are okay but personal messages are personal and shouldn't be unsolicited.

Councillor Callaghan explains that she is in favour of the amendment because she needed unsolicited messages to beat out the competition for her elected position last year. She gets clarification from VP McLaughlin that it is a lot of labour to send unsolicited messages and he agrees.



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**VP Shapiro Motions to strike the word “not” from the amendment and then withdraws it.**

The President recommends to caucus on the motion and the Speaker agrees and says that four people can leave to caucus on the motion.

**VP Scarra Motions to lay this motion on the table, seconded by Proxy Wilson - PASSES Unanimously**

Councillor Figueiredo makes a point of order but the Speaker has ruled it out of order.

The minutes will now continue with motion 11d.

The minutes are now back here since the caucusing Councillors have returned.

Councillor Figueiredo **Motions to Amend the motion with the shown amendments on the projector, notably section 5.3, seconded by Councillor Price**

Debate:

Proxy Wilson says there should be something against unwanted spam mail.

Councillor Figueiredo says that this is reflected in the unwanted communication portion of the amendment to ensure this doesn't happen.

Asa Kohn explains that some of the language is unclear with the word “they” used twice in the same sentence.

**Voting Procedure:**

Voting on the Amendment made by Councillor Figueiredo - **PASSES 25 - 0 - 2**

Return to debate on original motion.

Seeing no debate, we move into:

**Voting Procedure:**



Voting on Motion 11c with the amendment - **APPROVED Unanimously 23 - 0 - 4**

d. Motion Regarding Policy on Effective Committees 2019-01-24 [10] - **APPROVED**

**Moved by:** The President, Councillor Karia, Councillor Price and Councillor Frenette

The President explains the motion and wants to restructure it. He wants to ensure that there are exit reports from all the committees.

**Question Period:**

Proxy Wilson wants to see clarification on who unpaid workers are for each of the committees to make the committees more effective. The President explains that there is a paid student staff on every committee and the only ones that aren't paid are on the reading week committee.

No debate.

**Voting Procedure:**

Voting on Motion 11d - **APPROVED 24 - 1 - 3**

12. New Business [75]

a. Motion Regarding Exemption for SUS from the Standing Rules Proxy Limit  
2019-02-07 [10] - **APPROVED**

**Moved by:** Councillor Qiu, Councillor Lyons, the President and Senator Buraga

Councillor Qiu explains that the third SUS Representative to SSMU, Councillor Milchberg, has resigned but with no formal process towards SSMU. Councillor Qiu explains that the SUS have decided to appoint a new proxy for every SSMU Council session, where the executives take turns being the proxy on a rolling basis. She explains that the SUS does not want to have a by-election since there would be no point to have this position for a few months.

**Question Period:**





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Councillor Sanchez asks why hasn't the SUS VP Internal come to Legislative Council as one of the proxies since the Councillors want to inquire about some of the statements she made.

Councillor Sanchez explains that this was a request specifically made by members of the AUS Council. Proxy Folkes answers that the SUS VP Internal has the busiest schedule of all the SUS Executives and cannot come to the meetings. Councillor Lyons says that anyone can schedule a meeting with the SUS VP Internal if they wish.

Member of the Gallery Asa Kohn, Science U1, asks if this decision by the SUS Executive is consistent with the SUS constitution. Councillor Qiu responds that while it may not be consistent it is operationally the best course of action.

Councillor Sanchez asks why didn't he formally resign to SSMU. Councillor Lyons explains that Councillor Milchberg didn't formally resign because he simply didn't do it, it was his responsibility.

Councillor Karia asks why there is a report from Councillor Milchberg if he resigned. Proxy Folkes explains that she will provide the report to Council.

Member of the Gallery, Asa Kohn, reiterates the question he had before and references the SUS constitution that says if there is a vacancy that there must be a by-election. Proxy Folkes explains that although the decision the SUS executives are taking isn't formally in the constitutional this is operationally the best course of action.

Councillor Sanchez asks a point of parliamentary inquiry if Legislative Council can approve something if it doesn't adhere to the SSMU IRs. The Speaker explains that according to the steering committee and the IRs, the Speaker didn't get a resignation from Councillor Milchberg so he technically hasn't resigned. Therefore, the Council and the Speaker must treat him through proxies like the SUS said.

Councillor Sanchez asks why the Steering committee approved this thought process if he has resigned, but not formally. The President explains that they need Councillor Milchberg's resignation letter.

Councillor Scarra asks why SSMU needs a resignation letter if SUS gets one. The Speaker explains that this is required by the IRs.

VP Esterle has arrived at 7:10pm.



Councillor Sanchez makes a point of parliamentary inquiry asking if the Council can kick him off the Council if Councillor Milchberg will not formally resign. The Speaker says they can do this but Councillor Milchberg will therefore have an option to appear before the Council before they are kicked off.

Councillor Karia **Motions to extend the question period by 3 minutes, seconded by Councillor Figueiredo - PASSES 16 - 11**

Councillor Sanchez **Motions to postpone the motion indefinitely**

The Speaker explains that according to Robert's Rules of Procedure, Councillor Karia's motion takes precedence over Councillor Sanchez's.

Proxy Folkes asks if the SUS will still need to have 3 SUS Reps if he is kicked off. The Speaker says yes.

Member of the Gallery Asa Kohn asks why there wasn't a vote on this course of action at the SUS Council. Councillor Qiu explains that this was just a general consensus not a vote.

Asa Kohn asks if it was mentioned in the SUS Council that this was a direct violation of the constitution. Proxy Folkes explains that there was no mention that this was a direct violation of the constitution.

Asa Kohn asks if Councillor Milchberg has resigned off of everything he was a part of. Councillor Qiu explains that the only committee he was on never formed, so it's fine. It was the financial ethics committee.

Debate:

Councillor Price explains that it is not the responsibility of the SSMU Leg Council to kick off an executive of the faculty, there should be no "policing". It is the responsibility of the faculty in this case.

VP Shapiro explains that he agrees with Councillor Price but that SSMU should always follow their own IRs.



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Asa Kohn explains that there is a difference between vacancy of positions and kicking people off their position for violations of some sort.

Councillor Karia explains that it is important for Council to have communication and cooperation with other faculties in this case. And that the Council will follow what is correct according to the IRs.

Councillor Callaghan agrees with Councillor Price and that the Council should respect the respective faculties since they don't know about each other's IRs.

Councillor Kara explains that there should be accountability for councillors and he believes that the SUS knows how to run it's society and that there should not be this much debate.

Councillor Sanchez echoes what Councillor Kara said, but believes it is ridiculous that SSMU should play no role in this and that the Council should play a role.

Councillor Hersh **Motions to call the question, seconded by Councillor Karia - PASSES 28 - 1**

#### **Voting Procedure:**

Voting on Motion 12a - **APPROVED - 22 - 2 - 3**

Councillor Karia asks if the Speaker can repeat section 8.5 of the SSMU constitution regarding resignation. They do so. The Speaker explains that a resignation must be done via electronic mail, courier or a formal letter.

The President **Motions to take from the bale 11c, seconded by Figueiredo - PASSES**

#### **Unanimously**

For: 29

Against: 0

Minutes are returning to 11c from here.

Minutes are back on agenda schedule now.

b. Notice of Motion Regarding Adoption of a Conflict of Interest Policy 2019-02-07

[5]



**Moved by:** The President, Councillor Cossette and Councillor Frenette

The President defers to the Speaker for this motion. The Speaker explains that he rewrote the conflict of interest policy with the SSMU General Manager (GM) and SSMU Human Resources (HR) and that there hasn't been an updated policy for a while. He explains that the updated motion is in front of the Councillors via the projector. The Speaker clarifies that this is just a notice of motion.

c. Motion Regarding Vice President Operations Position 2019-02-07 [10] -  
**APPROVED**

**Moved by:** The President, Councillor Cossette and Councillor Frenette

The President explains that the SSMU executives do not want the VP Operations executive position for the upcoming year. He explains that it was created because the GM resigned and the SSMU executives needed a role to fill in the vacancy of that position in 2016. The position was in charge of the operations of Gerts and the student-run cafe. The cafe ran a \$100,000 deficit. The President also explains that there is no point for this role since it would be unclear what the position does, especially with the building currently closed.

Question:

Proxy Wilson asks if there will be some guideline for how to run this position for the future and when to do so. The President explains that there are permanent adult positions associated with operational facilities such as Gerts and SSMU mini-courses. Therefore, these employees will be able to provide guidance to the future VP Operations.

VP Esterle asks why wasn't this position run last year if VP Student Life had to deal with the building closure. The President explains that this position wasn't run last year because it wouldn't be effective with the building closure and with the last executive's resignation they saw no reason to have that position with the permanent operation staff.

Councillor Karia asks what to do with the responsibilities that other executives had to take on when the VP Operations position was absorbed by the SSMU Executives. The President explains that the responsibilities weren't that significant and it was easy to re-allocate those



responsibilities. The President explains that this position has only operated for one full year. He does not see a point to have it right now.

Councillor Kara asks why have the position at all then, referencing the indefinite future. The President explains that since the position's role revolves around the SSMU building, the executive cannot gauge what the role will/should be when the building opens again. Therefore, the executives aren't sure if they will need the role and that is why they aren't making a firm opinion about it currently.

#### **Debate:**

Proxy Wilson explains that she wants to ensure for the future that executives are made aware of the operational responsibilities they will have to take on or if the position of VP Operations will be re-visited, it would be good to have notice for.

#### **Voting Procedure:**

Voting on Motion 12c - **APPROVED 26 - 2**

Councillor Karia point of inquiry wants to know what the voting results were for the Family Care motion.

- d. Motion Regarding Changes to the Rubric for Full Status Clubs 2019-02-07 [45] - **POSTPONED**

**Moved by:** Councillor Flaherty, Councillor Kara and Councillor Hu

Councillor Flaherty explains that she went in support of this motion to ensure that they approve clubs to ensure that Clubs Representatives improve the students' lives. She explains how they want to be more specific with the interim clubs. They want to rehash the clubs to ensure that people are approved if they are making meaningful contributions with their clubs. She is open to questions and debate on the motion.

#### **Question:**

Councillor Hersh asks why haven't some clubs been continuously given full club-status. Councillor Flaherty believes the answer is confidential and does not answer it.



Councillor Hersh clarifies the question and stresses that his question is intended for clubs in general, not about specific clubs. Councillor Kara explains that there would be clubs who wouldn't follow the full process of club autonomy and that is why they wouldn't be given full status, but it is rare and it usually happens when the executives of that club graduate and no one continues the club afterwards.

Councillor Lyons asks if this affects current interim status clubs, new clubs or current clubs. Councillor Flaherty explains that this only affects interim status clubs and new clubs.

Member of the Gallery Andrew Chase asks if there is anyway to reduce stress for students to apply to make a club, since it makes it harder to make a club. Councillor Kara explains that this won't create stress to create clubs, it just makes the interim status a bit more strict.

#### **Debate:**

VP Esterle believes that this motion will waste time for the clubs. She believes this motion will restrict clubs with interim status, whereas in the past it did not restrict resources for interim status.

VP Wang explains that he agrees with VP Esterle because under his portfolio the resources that are diverged to interim status and full-status are the same. He believes this motion should change towards clubs applying to interim status instead of interim status club.

Councillor Kara explains that SSMU resources are being drained through the current process because in the past SSMU would pass all interim status clubs and all full status clubs and this way they wanted to ensure a more fruitful process.

The President believes the motion should be postponed since this way it could outline the changes said by the councillors and to ensure everyone is on the same page.

VP Esterle **Motions to Postpone Motion to the Next Legislative Council, seconded by VP McLaughlin**

Debate on Motion:



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Councillor Flaherty explains that the Clubs Representatives have been advised to slow-down on the approval of clubs and this motion would ensure a more restrictive process and better for SSMU overall.

VP Esterle explains that the statement made by Councillor Flaherty was never consulted with her and so the club committee wouldn't change their stance on this issue since VP Esterle heads the committee.

VP Wang believes this motion will at least ensure there is something in effect, so he is indifferent.

Councillor Figueiredo leaves at 8:01pm.

The President believes the Clubs Representatives and VP Esterle should consult on this since they are the ones most dealing with this issue. This would ensure consensus.

VP Shapiro explains that he will vote in favour of the postponement and that the conversation about this motion doesn't have to happen in Council, it can happen outside of Council.

Councillor Kara agrees that this motion can be postponed for more clarity but explains that he sent the email about this motion to all relevant parties with 2 weeks to spare.

#### **Voting Procedure:**

Voting on Postponement of Motion - **PASSES 28 - 0**

**The motion is postponed.**

- e. Motion Regarding Exemption for BASiC from the Standing Rules Proxy Limit  
2019-02-07 [5] - **APPROVED Unanimously**

**Moved by:** The President, Senator Buraga, Councillor Sanchez, VP Wang and Councillor Hobbs

The President explains that the BASiC representative, Councillor Hobbs, cannot make the SSMU Legislative Council anymore and they want proxies to replace Councillor Hobbs for the



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remaining Legislative Council session, but that Councillor Hobbs is still exercising their role in every other way.

There are no questions

### Debate:

Member of the Gallery Asa Kohn explains that this motion doesn't violate the BASiC Constitution and that he is favour of this motion.

### Voting Procedure:

Voting on Motion 12e - **APPROVED Unanimously - 21 - 0 - 2**

- f. Appointment of a Legislative Council Representative to the Antisemitism Committee - **APPROVED Unanimously**

VP Shapiro explains that to fulfill the mandate of the anti-semitism committee there must be a Council representative on the Anti-Semitism Committee and so he looks in favour of that happening right now.

Councillor Sanchez makes a point of parliamentary inquiry asking what does the Council do if Councillor Kleiner wants to run for the position but he is not present at the current council session. The Speaker defers to VP Shapiro. VP Shapiro asks if Councillor Kleiner's name could be put into the nomination even if he is not present. The Speaker agrees.

The Councillors who have nominated themselves for the represented position: Councillors Callaghan, Kleiner and Flaherty.

VP Shapiro asks if Council would be okay to laying on the table this motion until Councillor Kleiner responds to his messages since he wants to run for it. They are waiting for the reply via electronic messenger to see if Councillor Kleiner wants to run for this position. The Speaker is in favour of that proposition.

Councillor Price **Motions to lay on the table the motion, seconded by Councillor Karia - PASSES Unanimously 28 - 0**





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The Minutes will now proceed to the next motion until this motion is taken from the table.

Minutes have returned as the motion has been taken from the table.

The Speaker informs the Council that speeches will be given for why the self-nominated councillors should be selected for the committee.

Councillor Callaghan explains that the reason she got involved in student politics is because of the underlying sentiment of anti-semitism in McGill student politics. It's what motivated her to run for her current MUS position and it is what motivates her for going for this position on the anti-semitism committee. She also explains that she attends the Shabbat dinners often and she has received endorsement by Jewish groups to go for this position.

Councillor Sanchez explains the speech of Councillor Kleiner. Councillor Sanchez explains for Councillor Kleiner that Councillor Kleiner is a Jewish student, part of Jewish organizations on campus and believes a Jewish student should sit on this committee to ensure no more anti-semitism happens on campus.

Councillor Flaherty explains that having heard the other speeches that she believes she is not the most qualified individual for the position and that a Jewish person should be prioritized because she is a Christian person, so she understands why others should receive the position over her. She is still happy to help in anyway she can.

**Voting on Councillors:**

Councillor Callaghan: 14 votes

Councillor Kleiner: 7 votes

Councillor Flaherty: 0 votes

Through the vote taken at Legislative Council, the representative to the anti-semitism committee is Councillor Callaghan.

g. Report of the VP Finance

VP Wang reads out their report. Highlights include how he is expanding the accountable guide, he worked on the independent contractor agreement with SACOMSS and will improve club auditing for clubs.



### 13. Reports by Committees (15)

#### a. Executive Committee (5)

The President reads out the report. Highlights include that Pooja Patel is approved as the DEO, vacation days are approved and contract for students of consent Canada.

#### b. Mental Health Committee (5) - POSTPONED

The President **Motions to postpone the committee report, seconded by VP Shapiro**

Debate:

Councillor Sanchez asks why is this being postponed if Mental Health is a very important issue that ought to be updated to the Council.

VP Esterle explains that there is no update because no report exists, but VP Esterle can ask her commissioners to create one for next council session.

Councillor Abdelhamid leaves at 8:25pm.

**Voting Procedure:**

Voting on the Postponement of the Report - **POSTPONED 25 - 0 - 0**

#### c. Community Engagement Committee (5)

Councillor Fletcher reads out the report. Highlights include how there were resignations from the committee, so they are looking for replacement for this and to aid with the Milton-Parc community.

Councillor Sanchez **Motions to Take from the Table the Anti-Semitism Committee Councillor Nomination Motion, seconded by Councillor Karia - PASSES 25 - 0**

The Minutes will now continue where Motion 12f was put on the table.

The Minutes can also proceed from here.



## 14. Reports by Councillors (15)

### a. Mu Rong Yang (Education) (3)

Councillor Yang reads out their report. Highlights include how their faculty is now having a speaker position as an elected position instead of an appointed position.

Question:

Proxy Wilson asks why their faculty opted to make the speaker an elected position if the speaker should be a neutral voice and not elected. Councillor Yang explains that their faculty did this because they have had problems with recruiting the Speaker in the past and so the election they believe will be a better way of getting this position.

### b. Gareth Price (Engineering) (3)

Councillor Price reads out their report. Highlights include how e-week happened, reports show that their EUS executives are doing a good job, EUS general assembly will take place in March, nomination period for EUS will be underway soon and that OAP will be on lower-field.

Question Period:

Councillor Sanchez asks if OAP will return to Three Bears Park. Councillor Price wants to make sure it doesn't return there.

Councillor Lyons asks what is the plan with the Schulich Library closing for study spaces. Councillor Price responds by saying that the Dean of Engineering isn't sure what to do either but that they are looking into space both in the EUS spaces and in non-EUS spaces like McLennan Library.

The President asks how long will OAP Lite be, asking if it will be longer than 2 days. Councillor Price says he doesn't know.

Councillor Scarra asks about the Local Wellness Area (LWA) and what is the progress on that. Councillor Price mentions how he loves the acronym "LWA" and that he hopes there will be more progress with the group.

### c. Rebecca Scarra (Arts) (3)

Councillor Scarra reads out their report. She highlights how AUS Grad Ball will be on March 30, there will be a cleaning of the Arts Lounge, writing an exit report and how they got on the



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LWA advising session.

### Question Period:

Councillor Kara asks if the pool table will be replaced. Councillor Scarra says they haven't looked into it but they will in the future.

#### d. Natalie Constantin (Services) (3)

Councillor Constantin reads out their report. Highlights including having meetings with services and how they will be meeting with VP Esterle.

#### e. Moses Milchberg (Science) (3)

Proxy Folkes reads out their report. Highlights include how science games was a success, SUS Gala went well, green week did well, a fee increase from \$12.50 to \$15.50 for SUS students, CRO has resigned, website is being re-designed and there will be proxies for future SSMU Councils.

### Questions:

The President explains that it was very insensitive to say that "no one died" for Science Games, citing how Proxy Folkes used this phrase to describe how Science Games went in the explanation of their report, where Proxy Folkes was citing the SUS VP Internal. He explains that since people get hurt at these events, with sexual violence happening at these events and how people can die at these alcohol-events that it was very insensitive to say that. The President asks that Proxy Folkes brings this sentiment from the Council back to the SUS Executives. Proxy Folkes says that this question will be brought back to them.

Councillor Sanchez explains that this language is harmful and that she doesn't understand why the statement was made given how inappropriate this was of a statement.

Councillor Karia asks why was this statement put into the SUS report with how insensitive it was, and asks if there is an equity training given to SUS Executives or if an apology should occur. Proxy Folkes explains that the SUS Executives didn't know there was the McGill Tribune present at the SUS Council and promises that the executives will watch what they say next time.

Councillor Callaghan explains how she hopes the SUS will be more thoughtful in the future with their remarks because of how harmful it was to people who have faced situations of death in their family or friend group. They ask how will the SUS ensure this doesn't happen again and that the SUS VP Internal will not do these statements in the future. Proxy Folkes



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explains that she will look into exactly what the SUS VP Internal's response is to the question made by Councillor Callaghan and how the SUS Executives didn't know that the McGill Tribune was present at the SUS Council meeting and will watch what they say in the future. Folkes explains how the meetings are informal due to the small quantity of people on the Council and that is why the SUS VP Internal's statement was taken out of context.

Councillor Scarra says that regardless if the Council was closed or not, this statement by the SUS VP Internal should not have been said because it's very bad. Councillor Scarra asks how will this accountability training go forward to ensure this doesn't happen. Proxy Folkes explains that there haven't been concrete measures, but the SUS executive is sorry for what happened and they will take measures to ensure that it doesn't happen again.

Councillor Sanchez **Motions to extend the Question Period by 1 minute, seconded by the President - PASSES 17 - 9**

Councillor Sanchez asks what sorts of actions will be taken to ensure this doesn't happen again given how harmful this SUS VP Internal statement was. Proxy Folkes explains how there aren't concrete steps but she will be sure to share these sentiments to the rest of the SUS executives.

Councillor Karia **Motions to recess for 2 minutes, seconded by Councillor Scarra**

Councillor Callaghan and Proxy Torrance leave at 8:59pm.

Speaker Jamal departs at 8:59pm as announced previously. The President will now be taking over as speaker from this point forward.

#### 15. Executive Reports (18)

VP Wang and Councillor Sanchez leave at 9:03pm.

##### a. President (3)

The Speaker asks VP Shapiro to read out the report for the President in replacement. VP Shapiro defers to the Speaker. The Speaker reads out the report. Highlights include how there have been a lot of submissions to the health and dental survey, fall reading week committee has met, pizza oven is approved for Gerts, SSMU Winter GA is on February 25 and selection of Deputy Provost role.



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## VP McLaughlin **Motions to extend the report by 1 minute, seconded by Councillor Yang - PASSES - 20 - 4**

The Speaker continues the report by explaining how Nimbus is launching their tutoring service also and that there will be architectural plans for 3501 Peel.

The President rules Councillor Kara's statement out of order.

### b. VP University Affairs (3)

VP Shapiro reads out their report. Highlights include the scholarships, equity, increasing the amount of undergraduate students in the Senate and filling in the Anti-Semitism Committee.

#### Question:

Councillor Pilote asks if the report could be accessible to the Councillors. The Speaker explains how it is being dealt with currently.

Councillor Karia asks if VP Shapiro has considered hiring permanent equity staff for the betterment of the portfolio. VP Shapiro explains that things move slowly in his portfolio and that the former equity commissioner is currently doing research to improve the portfolio.

Councillor Lyons asks about the "Know Your Rights" campaign and the rules regarding having graded assignments during Add/Drop. She wants clarification if this is only affecting students who weren't registered for the class when assignments were being assigned or students who were registered for the class when assignments were being assigned. VP Shapiro explains that he wants to assure that students who don't get penalized for add/drop don't have missing percentages thrown at them in different grading criteria not in add/drop. VP Shapiro wants to assure that students are doing fine in the end and aren't penalized.

### c. VP Internal (3)

VP McLaughlin reads out their report. Highlights include that Faculty Olympics are coming up and that captains have been selected, listserv theme has changed, SSMUperbowl event was a success, held first meeting of the francophone commissioner and that he had an interview with the Delit and the McGill Tribune.



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#### d. VP Student Life (3)

VP Esterle reads out their report. Highlights include the mental health awareness week, services have moved to 680 Sherbrooke, workshop with social workers, Eating Disorder Awareness Events and meeting with counselling and services.

#### Question Period:

VP Shapiro asks how many events there were for eating week disorder in the past. VP Esterle says there were none last year and wants it to continue for future years.

Councillor Flaherty wants more clarification on the social workers' workshops and what the attendance was like. VP Esterle explains the break-down of the events where they talked about the stigma with eating disorders and breaking down the "fatphobia" that society has. VP Esterle explains that the attendance varied per day and that the people liked the event because they got to ask the social worker very specific questions about eating disorders which is helpful.

#### e. VP External Portfolio (3)

VP Shapiro reads out the VP External Portfolio report. Highlights include how he hired people for the political campaign committee and indigenous committee has met with McGill regarding the "Change the Name" campaign. VP McLaughlin continues the report by highlighting how he met with a French Radio Station and how there is a Francophone Affairs Commission up and running. VP Shapiro continues by saying how l'AVEQ no longer exists and how SSMU cannot continue with them and about the partnership of SSMU with UCRU.

#### Question:

Councillor Frenette asks about "UCRU" and the relationship between SSMU and UCRU. VP Shapiro defers to the Speaker to answer the question. The Speaker explains that UCRU represents larger universities/colleges across Canada, such as the largest 15 and that these schools get to work with government policies and directly with MPs. Whereas, CASA you cannot go directly to the MPs and they are smaller schools and do not reflect McGill's values. VP Shapiro continues the answer by saying how there is more policy construction possible through UCRU than CASA.



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**16. Confidential Session**

- a. There is no confidential business this evening

**17. Adjournment - 9:35pm**

**Councillor Kara Motions to Adjourn, seconded by Councillor Scarra - PASSES Unanimously**

*Tre Moran*

**APPROVED**