

# SSMU LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

September 10, 2019

The regular bi-weekly Legislative Council Meeting of the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) will be held in Room 603, McConnell Engineering Building, Montreal, on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.

- 1. Call to Order 18:08
- 2. Land Acknowledgement

The Speaker reads out the land acknowledgement.

3. Attendance

Councillors that are absent are: Councillor Daryanani, Councillor Kersch, Councillor Kara.

The Speaker informs the Council that Councillor Dunkle has resigned.

There are currently no First Year, Residence, or Services Councillors.

VP External leaves at 20:05.

4. Approval of Minutes

The Legislative Council minutes 2019-04-04 were approved by Board of Directors; subsequent meetings will approve the previous meeting's minutes.

5. Adoption of the Agenda - UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

VP Finance adds a late motion, seconded by President Buraga. The Speaker notes a clear <sup>3</sup>/<sub>3</sub> majority.

VP University Affairs motions to adopt the agenda as amended, seconded by VP External.

The agenda is adopted unanimously.

6. Report of the Steering Committee



The Speaker reads out the report of the Steering Committee.

a. Motion Regarding Adoption of the Standing Rules for the 2019-2020 Legislative Council - **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED** 

The President explains the standing rules for the Legislative Council. It is adapted from Robert's Rule, but adjusted to fit the needs of the Legislative Council, including consent agendas and providing further leeway for the Speaker in order to enforce a safer space for all Councillors to debate.

Question Period:

VP Finance asks regarding clause 4.7.1., as to the colour scheme of the SSMU placards surrounding the preferred pronouns. Understanding that the current placards are all one colour, VP Finance asks if the placards will be reprinted, or will the clause be struck.

The Speaker looks favourably on clause 4.7.1 being struck.

The President indicates that in the interest of equality, as well as ensuring a lack of discomfort, the uniform change was made to incorporate SSMU red on all placards.

Member of the Gallery Asa Kohn, Science, asks the Legislative Council if an amendment will occur to fix the incorrect numbering regarding Sections 4.8 and 4.9 of gender pronouns.

Member of the Gallery Alex, of the McGill Daily, asks the Legislative Council if there is a potential for the pronouns on placards to 'out' individuals who do not wish to for their pronouns to be known, and if this issue is being remediated.

The Speaker explains that the recommendation arose from the work of the General Neutral Language researcher. The Speaker explains that Councillors are not obligated to include their preferred pronouns on the placards, and can have them added or removed at any time.

Debate:

VP Finance motions to strike 4.7.1, and amend 4.9, seconded by the President.

VP External objects to the amendment, citing that due to legitimizing the work of the researcher, as well as understanding the importance of equality versus equity.

VP University Affairs states taking partial responsibility for the recommendation to change the outline of the colours to all red, citing discomfort from previous year's council. VP University Affairs also notes that this is important in enforcing equity.



#### Senator Lametti arrives at 18:30.

VP External reiterates that on the question of discomfort, the entire proceedings of the Legislative Council being brought to the attention of an individual misgendering another individual would also create discomfort.

VP University Affairs adds that in exchange for removing the colour, has suggested increasing the font size of the gender pronouns to prevent misgendering.

Motion to amendment to strike 4.7.1 and amend section 4.9:

In favor: 19 Opposed: 1 Abstain: 5

This motion unanimously passes.

Senator Lametti observes that 6.1.2 is unclear regarding the reference to a faculty association.

The Speaker replies, indicating that Councillors from the same faculty may not be the mover and seconder of a motion.

Senator Lametti moves to strike section 6.1.2., seconded by Councillor Chase.

Debate:

Senator Lametti explains that motioning and seconding is used to prevent an imbalance of power between Councillors and Executives, and that an imbalance does not exist between Councillors of the same faculty, and as such, would restrict democratic rights.

The President explains that the benefit of the motion is to foster inter-faculty collaboration.

Councillor Flaherty agrees with the amendment, citing restrictions of supporting a motion by two members of the same constituency, especially in sitUniversity Affairs Wilsontions in which the main movers have the most expertise concerning the motion.

Member of the Gallery Asa Kohn explains that seconding is used in Robert's Rules is to discourage interruption by one individual, and does not believe restricting seconding is necessary.

VP University Affairs motions to Call the Question, seconded by VP External.

This motion passes.



Motion to Strike 6.1.2: In favour: 22 Opposed:0 Abstain: 3

This motion unanimously passes.

Debate:

VP External motions to strike 2.7.5.2, seconded by Councillor Flaherty.

VP Finance motions to also strike 2.7.5.3 as well as a friendly amendment, seconded by VP External.

Debate:

Councillor Marcoux asks in the case of misgendering, could another Councillor make use of parliamentary privilege to point out the misgendering.

The Speaker replies to Councillor Marcoux, stating that only the individual being misgendered may bring attention.

VP External would like to consider to reinstate the motion 2.7.5.3 to change the wording from "they should" to "they may".

The Speaker strikes this as impermissible, as amending an amendment to an amendment is not permissible.

VP University Affairs motions to call the question, seconded by VP Student Life.

This motion unanimously passes.

Motion to strike 2.7.5.3:

In favour: 16 Opposed:0 Abstain: 10

This motion unanimously passes.

Debate:



Member of the Gallery Asa Kohn states that it does not seem responsible to leave interpretation up to the Speaker and the Judicial Board. VP University Affairs explains that their interpretation regarding the amendments is the fact that there is no one way that is most comfortable to everyone. If someone is misgendered, it is their own experience, and subsequently, objects to written proceedings present in regards to solving these forms of sitUniversity Affairs Wilsontions.

Vice-President External Gwiazda-Amsel disagrees with the interpretation put forward as it is responsibility to proactively create avenues for safe space creation.

Motion to strike on the amendment 2.7.5.2 and 2.7.5.3.

In favour: 19 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 5

This motion unanimously passes.

Debate:

VP External motions to reintroduce section 2.7.5.3., with the amendment of "should" to "may", seconded by VP University Affairs.

Vice-President External Gwiazda-Amsel explains that the motion provides an avenue of recourse for individuals being misgendered, but does not create the same enforcement as previously.

Motion of amendment of 2.7.5.3:

This motion unanimously passes.

Debate:

Senator Lametti seeks unanimous consent to amend to move .7 into the Appendix, seconded by VP External. This motion unanimously passes.

Motion to adopt the Standing Rules of 2019-2020 Standing Council as amended:

Voting Procedure:

In favour: 23 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 2



This motion is unanimously approved.

7. Guest Speakers

There are no guest speakers in tonight's meeting.

8. Announcements

The Speaker announces that there is one gendered bathroom on the floor, while Legislative Council is in session, gender-neutral washroom signs are placed over the washroom signs accordingly.

VP Student Life announces that Activities Night will take place tomorrow and Thursday, at Tomlinson Field House from 4-8 PM, and encourages all to come out.

VP University Affairs announces that applications are now open for SSMU Equity Committee and SSMU Library Improvement Fund Committee. VP University Affairs encourages Councillors to share them with their constituents. The Equity Committee application is a Facebook event, while the Library Improvement Fund Committee application is a Google Form posted on the SSMU University Affairs Facebook page.

VP External announces that the deadline for community submissions on the possible reappointment of Provost Manfredi is near, and encourages Councillors to encourage their constituents to submit. VP External also announces for all to look forward to faculty associations to possible motions of declaration of climate emergency in preparation for the September 27 demonstration.

Councillor Flaherty announces that nomination kits for the other Clubs Representative and Services Representative are now available on Facebook.

The President restates that the Clubs and Services election is ongoing. The candidate nomination period will continue until September 15 at 6 PM, with the campaign and polling nomination shortly after.

As well, the President announces that the First Year Council (FYC) is currently participating in elections. The nomination period is until September 15 at 6 PM, with the campaign period lasting from September 18 to September 25, and the Polling Period is from September 23 to 25. Encourages everyone to reach out to first year students to let them know that elections are occuring. The President also announces that SSMU General Manager Ryan Hughes has resigned, as of Monday, September 9, 2019. Following his resignation, SSMU Executive team and permanent staff will continue with the Society's operations as usual, but the President asks for everyone's patience during this time. A new job posting will be posted in the upcoming weeks, and the Board of Directors have divided the duties of the General Manager amongst the permanent staff and the Executives. The President, on behalf of the Executives, thanks Ryan Hughes for his contributions.



## 9. Question Period

Councillor Dixon raises a question on behalf of a constituent for VP Internal Bhalla regarding the bilingualism of the Listserv and inquires if there are currently any efforts being made to improve the French grammar and spelling mistakes.

VP Internal replies, identifying that the SSMU translator used a machine software instead of formally translating it. Moving forward, VP Internal will be reducing the student translating staff from two to one, and getting their work verified by an external translation agency that will be hired later this week. A formal apology will be in the Listserv and website.

10. Recess, Consent Items

The Speaker explains the motions and how people can vote right now to approve motions if they do not believe they are worth a debate.

- 11. Old Business
  - a. Motion Regarding Adoption of a Conflict of Interest Policy (2019-02-07)

The Speaker explains that the motion was postponed from a previous meeting of Council, and is being returned. The Speaker explains the Conflict of Interest policy, citing it as being both approved by the General Counsel of SSMU, as well as the Board of Directors.

There are no questions regarding this motion.

#### Debate:

VP External motions to alter the expiry date of the policy by one year earlier, citing it as a form to begin the timelining of stagnating policy expirations.

#### Questions:

Senator Lametti questions why the policy should be extended only by one year, understanding that this is a policy that will not need to change much in the future.

VP External explains that the policy is not the issue, but rather to create a timeline of stagnated expiration dates, as to increase the standard of care.

#### Debate:

Councillor Chan asks why the expiration should be set one year earlier, as opposed to one year later.



VP External motions to amend the amendment by increasing the expiration by two years, seconded by Councillor Dixon.

This motion unanimously passes.

Vote to approve Conflict of Interest Policy as amended:

Voting Procedure:

In favour: 23 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 2

This motion is unanimously approved.

Councillor Chan is excused from the room at 19:00, returns at 19:02.

b. Motion Regarding Plan on Clubs and Services as SSMU's Highest Priority (2019-03-28) -UNANIMOUSLY COMMITTED

The Speaker explains that the motion was postponed from March 28, 2019 Legislative Council meeting, allowing the Executive Committee to continue to work on the plan over the summer months.

Question Period:

There are no questions.

Debate:

Councillor Chase motions to amend Appendix A, seconded by President Buraga.

**Question Period:** 

Councillor FLaherty inquires if the mover of the amendment would be open to separating amendments 6 and 7, citing that the two amendments are different in nature.

Senator Lametti motions to consider the amendments in seriatim, seconded by President Buraga.

This passes unanimously.

**Question Period:** 



The President inquires if Councillor Chase had the opportunity to consult Clubs Representative Flaherty or the VP Student Life when creating the amendment

Councillor Chase replies, stating that he did not, though he did discuss with VP Student Life if #6 currently existed, and found out it did not. Councillor Chase explains that the creation of the amendments is for new Club executives who may not receive or be aware of the information.

Councillor Chan asks who will be responsible for creating the checklist.

Councillor Chase believes it under the purview of VP Student Life, though he is under the impression that the checklist currently exists, it is simply currently not being submitted to all club participants.

VP Student Life states that the checklist is available on the website, in the handbook, and on social media.

Councillor Chase believes it to be beneficial to also send through email, to ensure all have access to it.

Debate:

The President inquires if VP Internal believes it beneficial to send the checklist electronically to all McGIll students.

VP Internal does not see the value of sending the checklist, explaining that students already currently receive a large number of emails from SSMU, with many being deleted or sent to span. Those that are interested will find the checklist and contact VP Student Life.

Councillor Flaherty explains that sending a checklist to all McGill students takes away autonomy from the Executive to analyze the club's portfolio.

Councillor Fakih asks if there is currently an email bank of all SSMU Club Exec's emails.

VP Student Life explains that under the SSMU Recruitment Information form, SSMU is reliant on those to complete the form. If the form is completed, then the information is available. However, the contact information for all club's mailboxes is available.

Councillor Chase explains that this method would be a more general and broad way of informing individuals of this information

VP External supports the motion, citing it due to the large amount of support Activities Night receives.

Councillor Fakih suggests including the checklist as part of the regular SSMU Listserv.



Senator Lametti understands the amendment as the wording being inclusive, and is up to the discretion of the SSMU Executives in order to determine how to best share the checklist.

Councillor Chase agrees that the wording is inclusive, and explains that the reason for the motion is for those who "may fall in the cracks" in receiving communications from SSMU.

Councillor Bhutkar moves to call the question, seconded by Councillor Chan. This unanimously passes.

Motion for the amendment to add Item #6 under Section 2 of Appendix:

In favour: 11 Opposed: 4 Abstain: 10

Item #7 Debate:

Senator Lametti asks for the rationale from reducing the minimum number of points in the rubric.

Councillor Chase states that moving the amendment is due to the principle of SSMU's goal of providing clubs to students, that students should be able to choose how they plan their own clubs, and as such, should make it easier for students to establish SSMU-affiliated clubs.

Councillor Chan asks if there is a particular point on rubric that Councillor Chase would like removed.

Councillor Chase believes simply that the threshold for being able to pass both interim and full-status clubs is too high, and by increasing the number of clubs available to students, would be able to grant students further opportunities.

Councillor Bhutkar asks if there is a specific decrease in number of points.

Councillor Chase believes the answer is vague, with simply a goal in mind of increasing the number of clubs.

Councillor Flaherty asks Councillor Chase why there was no consultation, being under the impression that changes to the rubric must be passed by the VP Student LIfe in consultation with the Clubs Committee. Councillor Chase apologizes for lack of time for consultation, but hopes that any problems the amendment may have will arise in the Legislative Council meeting.

VP External motions to call the question, seconded by Councillor Chan. This unanimously passes.



Motion to add item #7 to the Appendix:

Voting procedure:

In favour: 4 Opposed:11 Abstain: 10

This motion fails.

Debate:

Councillor Flaherty motions to commit to Clubs Committee, seconded by President Buraga.

Debate on motion to commit:

Motion to commit to Clubs Committee. This motion passes unanimously.

The Speaker explains the motion, stating that the motion was postponed from a previous meeting of Legislative Council. The Speaker explains that it was presented by the previous Clubs representative, stating that SSMU must give sufficient notice of Clubs workshops.

Question Period:

VP Student Life asks if the motion would apply to make-up club workshops, or just the mandatory workshops.

The President believes it most suitable for the question to be committed to VP Student Life or Clubs Committee. VP External asks if the inclusion of the word "further" includes make-up workshops. President Buraga reiterates that this should be committed to VP Student Life or Clubs Committee.

Councillor Flaherty states that she has heard that the motion is futile, and thus, is inquiring if there are currently any other existing policies that would deem this motion futile.

The President states that VP Student Life was able to communicate with Club Executives in the scheduling of Club workshops three weeks prior, but believes this would be beneficial in the time forthcoming to ensure it is consistent.

Debate:

VP Finance motions to commit the motion to the Clubs Committee, seconded by Councillor Marcoux.



VP External motions to bring the motion back to the Legislative Council two meetings from today's meeting, seconded by VP Finance and Councillor Marcoux.

Councillor Flaherty states that it is not appropriate, understanding that Clubs Committee has not convened yet. VP Student Life agrees with Councillor Flaherty, identifying the timeline is too soon.

VP Student Life moves to amend the amendment, moving the timeline to extend to the second to last Legislative Council meeting of the semester.

Councillor Morgan is excused from the room at 7:33.

Motion to commit to the Clubs Committee. This motion unanimously passes.

- 12. New Business
  - a. Motion Regarding Nominations to the Society's Board of Directors (2019-09-10) -UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

The President explains the motion, explaining that the Constitution requires four Councillors to serve on the Board of Directors, explaining the requirements. The President also expresses the Executives' decision to abstain from voting.

Senator Lametti moves to commit the motion to a committee of the whole, with rules determined by the Speaker, seconded by VP External.

Motion to commit the motion to a committee of the whole. This passes unanimously.

Councillor Morgan returns at 7:39.

The Speaker asks for councillors interested in serving on the Board of Directors to raise their placards.

Councillor Chan, Councillor Wright, Councillor Fakih, and Councillor Bhutkar volunteer to serve on the Board of Directors.

Councillor Wright asks what the difference between a full-term capacity Director, and an interim-capacity Director.

The Speaker explains that interim-capacity Board Members will have all the regular rights and privileges as a Director, without waiting until November 15.

President Buraga motions to ask all Councillors if they are interested in serving as interim-capacity Board members effective immediately.



The Speaker asks the Councillors if they are interested in serving as interim-capacity Board members immediately. Councillors Chan and Councillor Fakih are not, while Councillor Bhutkar and Councillor Wright are.

The Speaker returns the motion to the Legislative Council, closing the committee of the whole.

Motion that effective November 15, Adin Chan, Jordyn Wright, Mustafa Fakih, and Rohan Bhuktar will be appointed to the Board of Directors, with Councillors Wright and Bhuktar begin their term as interim-capacity board members by ratification of the board until November 14.

**Question Period:** 

Councillor Wright asks when the next Board meeting is, and if there is a set time and day for all future meetings.

The President indicates that once all interim-members are ratified, there will be a set date, but until then, meetings will occur from 6-8 PM on either Tuesdays or Thursdays.

Debate:

There are no issues for debate.

Motion regarding Society's appointment to Board of Directors:

In favour: 20 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 7

This motion unanimously passes.

Councillor Gurvey is excused at 19:47.

VP University Affairs is excused at 19:48.

b. Motion Regarding Committee Allocations 2019-09-10 - UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

VP External motions to suspend the rules, seconded by The President.

VP External explains that urgent business has arisen, but believes it is the right of Council to hear the report.

Motion to suspend the agenda: this motion passes unanimously.



VP External proceeds to reading his report and explaining what he had been working on during the summer, and what his plans are for the year.

The President then proceeds to discuss the motion from the Agenda, explaining that all Councillors being expected to serve on at least one committee.

**Question Period:** 

Councillor Fakih asks if it is necessary to join a committee if he will be serving on the Board of Directors. The Speaker indicates that Councillor Fakih must join a committee, but can withdraw from the committee after November 15. The Speaker stresses however the important work that Council committees complete.

Senator Lametti moves to go into a Committee of the Whole, seconded by Councillor Wright. This unanimously passes.

Legislative Council enters a recess until committees are allocated.

Recess is adjourned.

VP University Affairs advocates for a Councillor to join Equity Committee, as they do important work.

Councillor Morgan wishes to compete for the Councillor position of the Health and Dental Review committee.

VP Finance believes it important to have both the PT/OT Representative and the Nursing representative, and as such, should wait for a proposed provision to the Terms of Reference.

Councillor Flaherty asks if suspending the rulers at the next Council is possible in order to determine the Terms of Reference. The Speaker states it is not.

The President states that an interim provision for the Terms of Reference will be presented at the next Legislative Council.

Councillor Mackie motions to approve the committee allocations, seconded by Councillor Wright.

Question Period:

There are no questions.

Debate:



The President asks the candidate for the Indigenous Affairs Committee, if they have taken the time to read the Indigious Solidarity policy, and understands the gravity of the position. Councillor Morgan understands the position is significant, but withdraws her name due to her participation on the Health and Dental Review committee.

Motion with regards Committee Allocations:

In favour: 19 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 5

This motion unanimously passes.

c. Motion Regarding Interim Provisions for the Internal Regulations of Governance 2019-07-09 - UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

This motion is motivated by the President, seconded by Councillor Marcoux.

The President explains that this motion would stop any resolution from the Executive Committee from taking effect if voted on by email or through any other improper method. It was first agreed on informally within the Executive Committee.

**Question Period:** 

Senator Lametti asks for the precedent for the motion, finding it unlikely that it arose simply out of mutual agreement.

The President explains that during the summer, situations arose in which some executives wanted to discuss items immediately, while others wished to wait until the next Executive Committee. Senator Lametti asks that if there is a dispute within the committee, why it simply does not go to the Board of Directors instead.

VP University Affairs clarifies that the disagreement may not necessarily be on the matter of the question, but rather if those items should wait for an in-person meeting to be discussed or through email.

Debate:

There is no debate.

Voting Procedure:



Motion Regarding Interim Provisions for the Internal Regulations of Governance:

In favour: 17 Opposed: 1 Abstain: 6

This motion is unanimously approved.

 Motion Regarding Transfer of Affiliation of McGill Cycling 2019-09-10 - UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Vice-President Finance Haward motivates, explaining that Cycling at McGIll has asked to remove its club status, and transfer all funds to McGill Athletics. McGill Athletics has been contacted, and has been willing to accept the funds.

#### Question Period:

Councillor Flaherty inquires if anyone has looked at other possible clubs whose jurisdiction could be moved to be under that of McGill Athletics. VP Finance states that by bringing this to Council, this will establish precedence, and predicts that the Clubs Committee will look at this for reference when considering the status of other clubs. Senator Lametti asks why the club wishes to be under the purview of McGill Athletics. VP Finance states that cycling will be formally recognized as a sport by McGill, as well as the fact that as they are currently under SSMU, no insurance policy adequately covers their organization. They felt they would be best served by being with other sports.

Senator Lametti asks if, in the hypothetical it is under McGill Athletics, will it still be subject to SSMU regulations. VP Finance replies that they will not, and will instead be under regulations of McGill Athletics. Senator Lametti asks about the origin of the funds in the bank account, and in what way will they continue to receive funding by SSMU.

VP Finance explains that the majority of funds in the bank account are self-raised funds, and under the assumption that the motion will pass, after this week they will no longer receive funding or assistance from SSMU.

#### Debate:

Senator Lametti moves to amend the fourth 'whereas' clause, as it is apparent the organization will no longer receive funding from SSMU, seconded by Councillor Patzer.

**Question Period:** 



There are no questions.

Debate:

VP Finance reminds everyone that the funds in Clubs bank accounts belong to SSMU.

Senator Lametti motions to retract the amendment - this motion fails.

Councillor Morgan understands that currently, the amendment is for the funds of the club, but future VP External may understand otherwise, and may think they are responsible for funding of cycling even though they are not under SSMU.

Councillor Fakih motions to amend the amendment to the "whereas" clause, but change the phrase to "would be able to receive their current funds or balance".

The Speaker rules Councillor Fakih's amendment out of order, as the original amendment was to strike.

Councillor Chase states that as the first "be it resolved" clause states that funds will be transferred to McGill Athletics, whether the "whereas" clause is included or not, it is clear that the balance of the funds will be transferred.

Motion to strike the fourth (4th) whereas clause:

In favour: 9 Abstain: 7 Opposed: 8

This motion unanimously passes.

Question Period on the Main Motion:

Senator Lametti motions to move an amendment to the first operative clause.

The Speaker asks for it to be submitted in writing.

Senator Lametti requests a 90-second recess to complete the motion, seconded by Councillor Chase. This motion unanimously passes.

The President moves to call the question.

The Speaker deems this out of order, as the call for a recess takes precedence.



Upon returning from a brief recess, Senator Lametti motions to amend, seconded by VP Finance.

Question Period:

There are no questions.

Debate:

Senator Lametti explains that the primary nature of his amendment primarily concerns the origin and basis of the funds.

Motion of the amendment:

In favour: 24 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

This motion is unanimously approved.

Councillor Chan motions to return to the previous question of calling the question, seconded by Councillor Bhutkar. This motion passes.

Vote on the amended Motion Regarding Transfer of Affiliation of McGill Cycling (2019-09-10):

In favour: 23 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 1

This motion is unanimously approved.

Senator Lametti departs at 21:05.

13. Reports by Committeesa. Executive Committee

The President presents the Executive Committee report.

The President introduces two new employees, as a result of the SSMU base improvement fee.

Yasmine introduces herself as Communications Coordinator at SSMU. Michal is the new Governance Manager at SSMU, and welcomes all those with questions or inquiries to reach out to her by email.



The President explains that the Executive Committee acts in lieu of BoD between meetings, noting that certain details have been redacted, due to HR, legal, and financial reasons.

14. Reports by Councillors

There are no Councillors scheduled to report.

The Speaker reminds Councillors that the reporting schedule is in the Google Drive, a failure to submit a report is equal to one absence, while late submitting a report is equal to half an absence. After Councillors have received two absences, their seat is suspended.

- 15. Executive Reports
  - a. President

President Buraga presents the report.

b. Vice-President University Affairs

VP University Affairs presents the report. Highlights include meeting with the Dean of Students, meeting with Special Investigator on Sexual Violence, working on a project to combat food insecurity on campus, pressuring administration to divest from fossil fuels, as well the "know your student rights" campaign, instalation of menstrua hygiene products spensers in Redpath, and the hosting of the first annual Textbook Exchange.

The President motions to extend the speaking time by four minutes, seconded by Councillor Mackie. This motion unanimously passes.

President Buraga motions to extend all executive reports to five minutes, understanding that reports cover the summer months, seconded by Councillor Morgan. This motion unanimously passes.

c. Vice-President Internal

VP Internal presents the report. Highlights include Frosh, Halloween, hiring Yasmine as Communications Coordinator, revamping the Listserv, rebranding SSMU's social media, and upcoming Homecoming and Halloween events.

The President motions to extend speaking time, seconded by VP Student Life. This motion unanimously passes.

d. Vice-President Finance



VP Finance presents the report. Highlights include incoming credit cards for clubs for the 2019-2020 year, Midnight Kitchen receiving a credit card, in the process of hiring a Financial Commissioner, increased funding for first-year projects, and revamping current health and dental policies, including EmpowerMe.

**Question Period:** 

Councillor Dixon inquires about the decision to reinstate EmpowerMe.

VP Finance explains that the decision to reinstate EmpowerMe had to be made over the summer. Negotiations were made with StudentCare in order to cover only one-third of the year.

Councillor Fakih asks when the SSMU Funding Handbook will be available. VP Finance states that the Funding Handbook will be available shortly.

The President inquires about the amount of the international student health and dental plan, and how it has changed from the previous year. VP Finance states that it was \$1095 last year, and this year it is \$1165, making it the highest international health plan in all of Canada.

e. Vice-President Student Life

VP Student Life presents the report. Highlights include updating the clubs portal, upcoming Activities Night, upcoming Services summit and Club workshops, redesigning student group resources on the website, hiring a Clubs and Services Coordinator, and reviewing the Mental Health policy.

The President motions to extend speaking time by three minutes, seconded by Councillor Fakih. This motion unanimously passes.

f. Vice-President External

VP External presents the report. Highlights include attending various meetings with ASSE, AVEQ, UEQ, facilitating at OCX and established a relationship with Campus Life & Engagement, working on policy re-writing and renewal, the Milton-Parc Citizens' Committee, identifying the priorities of Francophone Affairs, the desire of the Indigenous Affairs committee for further independence and presenting directly to the Board, and updates on Bills 9, 21, and 101.

### Question Period:

VP Finance asks how SSMU is involved in the climate march occuring on September 27. VP External stresses that SSMU should offer financial and non-financial support in the forms of representation and advocacy.



VP External completes the report and departs at 20:05.

16. Confidential Session

There is no confidential business this evening

17. Adjournment 21:37.

Councillor Chan motions to adjourn, seconded by Vice-President University Affairs Wilson. This motion passes.

The Speaker calls the meeting for adjournment at 21:37.

Bryan Buraga, President