



# MOTION REGARDING AMENDMENTS TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE 2022-01-20

Submitted for: 2022-01-20

<b>Submitted to:</b>	SSMU Legislative Council	<b>Document no.:</b>	LEG-PUB-MOT-2022-01-20-004
<b>Moved by:</b>	Sarah Paulin <i>Vice-President (Internal)</i>	<b>Current Status:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> FOR APPROVAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> POSTPONED <input type="checkbox"/> COMMITTED <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPROVED
<b>Seconded by:</b>	Yara Coussa <i>Arts Representative</i>		

## Issue

During the time the Steering Committee met in the Fall 2021 semester, a few issues were noted, particularly with the composition of the committee. There are only three (3) voting members, two (2) of which are Legislative Councillors. This year, both of those Councillors are from the same faculty. Therefore, there is a lack of diversity within the Steering Committee that must be rectified.

## Background and Rationale

The Committee Terms of Reference for this committee should be updated in order to properly represent the Legislative Council at the Steering Committee. In addition, if the movers of a motion find themselves as part of the steering committee, approving motions becomes more complicated as there is no impartiality. Therefore, by adding more members, this issue will no longer exist and the steering committee can remain as objective as possible.

## Alignment with Mission

This motion aligns with the SSMU's mission for adequate representation.



## Consultations Completed

The chair of the committee, the speaker, was consulted, as well as the current members of the Steering Committee, the Governance Manager, and the Policy and Advocacy Coordinator.

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## Risk Factors and Resource Implications

There are no risk factors for this motion.

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## Sustainability Considerations

There has been a notable issue with committee recruitment in the past year. Therefore, it could be difficult to find four (4) Councillors to sit on the committee every year.

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## Impact of Decision and Next Steps

Were this motion to be adopted, the Legislative Council would appoint two (2) additional Councillors to the Committee from two (2) different faculties immediately, as well as adopt the other changes in the councillor selection in Appendix A.

Should this motion be approved, the Governance Manager will update the Committee Terms of Reference book and SSMU Committees page to accurately reflect these changes.

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## Motion or Resolution for Approval

Be it resolved that the Legislative Council approve the changes to the Steering Committee Terms of References in Appendix A.

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## Results of the Vote

In favour	(UNANIMOUS)
Opposed	()
Abstain	()

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## Appendix A : Steering Committee Terms of Reference

### Steering Committee

#### 16.1. Oversight

The Steering Committee shall be a Committee of the Legislative Council.

#### 16.2. General

The Steering Committee shall be responsible for all matters relating to the operation and management of business at the Legislative Council.

#### 16.3. Responsibilities

The Steering Committee shall:

- a. review the content and constitutionality of all resolutions before they are considered by the Legislative Council, including proposed amendments to the Internal Regulations;
- b. set the agenda for all meetings of the Legislative Council;
- c. organize and maintain an annual calendar of business;
- d. ensure the accountability of all Committees of the Legislative Council;
- e. monitor deadlines and approval paths;
- f. set the agenda for all General Assemblies;
- g. recommend amendments to the Internal Regulations and Constitution that would improve the governance functioning of the Society and be permitted to have motions referred to it for review to be returned to Legislative Council with a report and recommendation as requested by Legislative Council; and
- h. review and make recommendations to the Steering Committee's terms of reference at the end of the year.

#### 16.4. Membership

The Steering Committee shall consist of

- a. the Speaker (Committee Chair, non-voting);
- b. the Speaker On-Call (non-voting);
- c. the Parliamentarian (non-voting);
- d. the President; and



- e. ~~two~~ **four** (4 ~~2~~) Councillors, **who are not Officers.**

## 16.5. Meetings

The Steering Committee will meet the week of meetings of the Legislative Council and General Assemblies.

## 16.6. Quorum

The quorum for the Steering Committee is a simple majority of the voting members.

## 16.7. Reporting

The Steering Committee will report at each Legislative Council.

## 16.8. Committee Specific

### 16.8.1. Consulted Members

The Steering Committee may have additional seats for Executives interested in the Committee. These Executives will serve as non-voting members of the Committee.

### 16.8.2. Subcommittees

The Steering Committee may, by its own resolution or by means of a resolution of the Legislative Council, create ad-hoc Subcommittees as it deems advisable. Such ad-hoc Subcommittees shall operate under the Terms of Reference of the Steering Committee, except that voting membership shall be opened to all interested Councillors, to a maximum of four (4) additional Councillors.

### 16.8.3. Councillor Selection

**The Councillors who shall be selected by the Legislative Council to serve on the Steering Committee shall not be members of the Executive Committee, with the exception of the President. The Legislative Council shall ensure that the selection of Councillors to the Committee is diverse and inclusive, as to allow members of different constituencies to serve on the Committee.**

**16.8.3.1. No more than two (2) Councillors shall be selected to the Committee from the same constituency.**