



Students' Society of McGill University

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*Located on Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe, traditional territories*

# Legislative Council

**September 13, 2018**

## **1. Call to Order - 18:08:**

The Speaker calls the Council to order at 6:08 PM.

## **2. Land Acknowledgement:**

The Speaker presents the land acknowledgement.

## **3. Attendance:**

The Speaker conducts attendance:

- Councillor Bazylykut (Nursing) and Senator Lametti are absent;
- Julia Kafato (President of BASiC) is attending as the proxy for the empty Arts & Science seat;
- Julian Jaym replaces Michelle Nadon Belanger as the Music Councillor.

## **4. Approval of Minutes:**

The President motions to approve the minutes from previous Council meetings. The Minutes are approved unanimously.

## **5. Adoption of the Agenda:**

The Speaker offers the Council the option to change the Agenda if they have other items to bring up. No Councillors offer any, so the Speaker motions to approve the agenda as read. The Agenda is adopted unanimously.

## **6. Report of the Steering Committee:**

The Report has been given to representatives before the meeting and therefore is not read.



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Senator Buraga asks if the non-binding motion is addressed in this report. VP Cupido responds that after discussion with various folks, they decided this was not the appropriate forum to best discuss this issue and therefore will bring it up again at a later date.

## **7. Guest Speakers:**

### **a. Gender Neutral Language Researcher:**

The Gender Neutral Language Researcher of SSMU was offered a 35 hour contract with which to explore occasions of misgendering within the Legislative Council. They summarise their report briefly before giving further clarification on its main takeaways.

They recommend a renewed insistence that formal address be respected in Council Session, with representatives being addressed by their title rather than their pronoun. If misgendering occurs, the Speaker should call it to the attention of the Committee immediately and insist on a return to formal language. They also recommend allowing Councillors to bring up misgendering - if the speaker misses it - as a point of personal privilege. Additionally, there should be a follow up option if the Councillor does not feel comfortable addressing it publically. The Speaker would then bring it up in the next session.

A second recommendation is to provide placards for Councillors with coloured borders in order for the Speaker to be able to recognize their pronouns more easily from a distance. The proposed colours have actually already been trialled at today's session and are Black for they/them, Green for she/her, and Burgundy for he/him, with other colours to be added should other pronouns be used. These borders can always be changed or removed at the request of the Councillor. In addition, they recommend that observers be asked to give their preferred pronouns when being introduced to the Council.

Lastly, if Councillors prefer their pronouns be listed in French, this change will be made available to them.

If the Councillors have any further questions or concerns after this session, they may contact the Gender Neutral Language Researcher at [gnlresearcher@ssmu.ca](mailto:gnlresearcher@ssmu.ca).

Councillor Sanchez asks if the researcher can share any difficulties they had navigating the SSMU context and experience of non binary and transgender students. The Gender Neutral Language Researcher replies that they can only cover so much with the time limit of their contract, but they are hoping for extension to be able to recommend and implement more



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changes. They mostly worked with execs to generate this report, given the timing of their work, they did not get a lot of experience with the Legislative Council and it was hard to find people to consult on this, something they are hoping to improve on.

The Gender Neutral Language Researcher notes that now having seen part of the Council, they notice that the Speaker is referred to as Mr Speaker and wonders what would occur if the speaker preferred not to use Mr or Ms.

Senator Buraga mentions that as there are a few days left to their work, they could use this session for a sounding board for speaker address issues. For example, the option to use simply “Speaker” to address the presiding member would be encouraged. The Gender Neutral Language Researcher replies that this is an option they have considered, but that it may not necessarily be fair unless the Speaker has personally requested it.

Speaker Jamal notes that Robert’s rules indicate “Speaker” is the default way to address the presiding member with no salutation at the beginning of it, and hope this may alleviate some concerns. The Gender Neutral Language Researcher says they would therefore recommend just using “Speaker” in the future.

## **b. Elections SSMU:**

Leanne Young (she/her), the CEO for Elections SSMU, and Isaac Levy (he/him), the DEO for Elections SSMU, are presenting their proposed election timeline for this academic year.

The first election to be held will be for the Clubs and Services Representatives’ positions. They note that due to difficulty obtaining the electors’ list, the timeline needed to be amended in order to have it completed before the next Council meeting. Originally, they planned to hold it on Tuesday and Wednesday of this coming week, but now are hoping to have it on Monday and Tuesday of the week of September 24th, so as to have the member elected prior to the September 27th Council meeting.

The First Year Council election, which the CEO believes has already been approved by the Board of directors, will be held much earlier this year to allow the FYC more time to get involved and do things within their roles.

They plan to end the nomination period on September 30th at 5pm, with the appointments and elected positions planned to be completed by the end of September.



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They are also attempting to hold the Fall Referendum earlier and have already technically opened the nomination period. The goal is to keep it open as long as possible to encourage students to submit items and ask Elections SSMU questions about the process. They plan to send incremental reminders to students to keep it in their minds, and hope these changes will result in more ballot questions and therefore more involvement from students.

The example they are working off is the Fall reading week question from last year which stood out from any previous election. More votes were cast for that question alone than for the executives' election last year. In fact, the 1200 votes just for that question represented 5% of the vote increase total last year. In addition, more time for students to submit motions will hopefully result in more questions like the Fall referendum one and will in turn increase student involvement.

Elections SSMU pauses to take questions from the Council.

Counsellor Karia asks for an explanation of the nomination procedure for the Clubs and Services representatives. The DEO explains that they each have their own representatives on the Legislative Council (two for Clubs, one for Services). The elections for these positions were supposed to be held at the end of last year but did not happen due to timing restraints. The elections happen within the clubs and services of SSMU, and they hope to have the results soon.

Senator Buraga asks why the nomination period for questions regarding fees ends earlier than that for other questions. The DEO answers that some questions need McGill's approval and therefore need to be in earlier to be able to be processed in time for a vote. The DEO reminds the Council that Elections SSMU cannot force anything with this proposal, this will be a Council decision.

The Speaker asks for more questions, there are none, so Elections SSMU continues their report.

The Winter 2019 referendum will emulate the Fall 2018 one in terms of guidelines and thought process. The SSMU executive election will also be similarly structured to the referendum. They hope to open nominations at the beginning of the semester to allow students more time to consider running and collect signatures for nomination. In addition, they hope this will allow for more candidates to run and for more diverse contested elections.



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They also hope to ensure an active and engaged electoral base among students. The CEO points out that if there are more people interested in running this will lead to a more dynamic democratic culture at McGill. Indeed, many people felt their vote didn't matter last year with so many uncontested elections.

Elections SSMU is also already planning for the Clubs and Services Elections 2019 in order to ensure representatives are elected on time this year and not crammed at the beginning of the school year like in 2018.

The Quebec Election Poll they are planning will be a fun poll to get students used to McGill's ballot system and encourage a democratic vibe. September 28th will be the actual election poll closing date and therefore will tie in with Elections SSMU's poll. There will also be a Debate next Wednesday with 6 actual Quebec election candidates present.

The Speaker opens the floor to questions.

Councillor Price wonders if, given the plans to expand the number of people running for positions, what voting system is to be used for elections with more than two candidates. The DEO replies that they believe it is currently a preferential voting system, where you need to rank candidates by order of preference. The DEO also remarks that elections with 3 or more candidates actually tend to see a higher turnout.

Councillor Karia thinks the Quebec Poll is a great idea but wonder if it will be open to any student or strictly Quebec residents. The DEO answers that it will be open to any SSMU member to get the student body interested in voting. The CEO echoes this thought and adds that it will also serve as a voting experience for younger students who may not have had a chance to yet.

VP Cupido also loves the Quebec Poll, but is curious as to when Elections SSMU plans to release the results of it. They also ask if there will be a comparison between McGill's results and the actual election results. The DEO replies that they could release the results right away as there is not much to tabulate or do it progressively with actual results, but they have not yet decided on one.

VP Cupido believes that having a comparison of some sort and the results available to the public would be cool. The VP is also very much in favour of a longer nomination period for executives, especially with regards to voter participation. VP Cupido wonders whether Elections SSMU still plans to hold the thorough information session on the portfolios and the



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election/nomination process prior. The VP would like to see this information session happen before the nomination period, no matter when in the semester it is.

The DEO notes they are planning to do something like this and to continue to host similar sessions throughout the nomination timeline to keep people on top of what is going on.

Councillor Sanchez asks for clarification regarding when candidates are officially announced. The DEO confirms it is at the end of the nomination period. The Councillor continues to say that they worry about having only one day for an extension to the nomination period and that some people may choose to run simply due to a lack of competition. The DEO replies that he believes the IRs only allow for 40 hour extensions, and if no one signs up after that time, they are to keep extending it until it has been filled. If after that there are still no nominations, the Council will be involved, but hopes it will not come to that.

VP Shapiro asks if the principle of extending the extension period is something Elections SSMU would consider if it is not solely restricted by the IRs. The DEO says they would consider it and continues to say that the trick they have used in the past, given that the extension needs to contain at least one full week day, is to have the deadline on a Friday which would extend the nomination period over the weekend to Monday. If they are not restricted by IRs they would be ok with 4-5 days as an extension period.

Councillor Qiu asks whether the FYC election system, which was elimination style for ballots last year, will be the same again this year. The DEO replies that yes, it will be preferential ballot style for any election with more than two candidates.

## **8. Announcements:**

The Speaker gives a brief overview of how the Announcement period will run. The Speaker specifies that this is not the time to ask questions of other members of the Council. Today, the Council will begin the Announcement Period by introducing themselves briefly with their pronouns, name, faculty and a fun fact.

Le Speaker rappelle au conseil en ce moment que l'AEUM a deux langues officielles et que les représentants peuvent choisir de présenter et poser leurs questions ainsi que recevoir une réponse dans la langue de leur choix.



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Councillor Hersh brings to attention the Dentistry run for outreach happening soon which will raise money to provide free dental care to underprivileged people in Montreal. More info can be found at [www.runforoutreach.com](http://www.runforoutreach.com).

VP Cupido informs the Council that student voting for the provincial election will be held in the Carrefour Sherbrooke ballroom. The VP stresses that this is a very important election in terms of the issues at stake and urges the Councillors to ask their constituents to check if they are eligible to vote and, if so, to register and get informed.

The VP also wishes to mention that the McGill Senate voted to support the idea of divesting from fossil fuels yesterday and wishes to bring to attention the hard work done by members of Divest McGill to continually bring this matter to the spotlight.

Councillor Abdelhamid reminds the Council that the Terry fox run is this coming Sunday and urges anyone interested to take part.

The SSMU President wishes to highlight the good work done by Elections SSMU in organising the candidates' debate which will be held next Wednesday in Burnside Hall and will involve the candidates for the Westmount St Louis area. More info will be in this week's listserv.

## **9. Question Period:**

The Speaker reminds the Council that the point of this agenda item is to allow members to ask questions to other members of the Council, as well as an opportunity for Council media and other students in attendance to ask questions as well.

Councillor Qiu inquires about the Washroom situation in McConnell Hall. The Councillor has noticed that there is only one gendered washroom on this floor and that the nearest women's washroom is three floors down. Speaker Jamal replies that a rudimentary sign has been taped over the gendered sign for today but that in the future it will be formally printed and displayed prominently.

VP Cupido asks if there is a gender neutral bathroom in this building at all. Speaker Jamal answers that there is not and that in the future they will be converting the gendered one to an all-gendered one for the purposes of the Council. The Speaker reminds the Council they can also ask individual questions to Executives when they present their reports.

## **10. New Business:**



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**a. Motion Regarding the Adoption of the Standing Rules for the 2018-19  
Legislative Council - **APPROVED:****

**Moved by:** Councillors Price and Figuerido

**Questions:**

Councillor Sanchez refers to point 2.5.2 and asks how an absence will be evaluated by the Committee. Speaker Dolmat replies that a medical emergency or faculty event with your constituency will be acceptable, and that Councillors will need to give sufficient prior notice. These definitions are included in the documents for the Accountability Committee.

Senator Baraga asks if the Council can be informed of the significant changes made since the last standing orders. The President replies that it used to be a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote to suspend rules, now it is  $\frac{3}{4}$  to allow everyone to read motions prior to Council. Parts 7.1-7.4 are also new, and represent an extension to the proxy system to prevent year-long proxies. Section 2.4.1.3.3 has also been added to prevent this in the future.

Speaker Jamal also notes that they worked with the Gender Neutral Language Researcher to add a section on misgendering during Council, which can be found at point 2.11, as well as points 4.7-4.9. Section 6 was also not clear in the past with regards to which motion yields to another, now there is a stepped hierarchy to better clarify which one has priority. In addition, friendly amendments will no longer be able to be made once debate has started on a motion. The meeting schedule for Council sessions is in drive, and it will clarify the Councillors who are expected to present reports to the parliamentarian before the next session.

The President notes that Councillors no longer need to submit a report for every Council, now they can have intent behind their reports and make them worth more. The reports per faculty have also been split up.

Councillor Pilote asks if the standing rules can be amended. The Speaker answers that they can be, but not during a question period.

**Debate :**

Councillor Pilote mentions with regard to point 2.7.3 that, as a law student, it is odd that the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms would be here, as it is normally for corporations,





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and the Councillor does not feel it corresponds to this situation. Councillor Pilote feels the Quebec Charter may be more appropriate as it refers to relationships between individuals.

Speaker Jamal replies that the Canadian Association of Parliamentarians does suggest this as a best practice which is why it was included. Councillor Pilote says that it is important to actually look at what is contained in the Canadian charter as she does not see how it fits with the SSMU structure.

VP Shapiro sees no reason legally to disagree with Councillor Pilote, but also notes that no one is trying to use this in a legal context, that it is more something to use to declare the values the Council is trying to portray.

Councillor Sanchez refers to point 2.5.2 and remarks that the standards of evaluation are vague for the Accountability Committee. The Councillor thinks it may be irresponsible in terms of equity to have the Committee review physical or mental illness reasons for not attending Council, and would not feel comfortable having her info reviewed by a Committee.

Speaker Dolmat notes that the rules say it “will” be excused, so the absence will be excused at the time of asking, as mental health has been excused in the past without evaluation. Councillor Sanchez continues that using absences, excused absences, and evaluated absences makes for confusing languages and would prefer for the wording to be more clear.

Councillor Pilote returns to 2.7.3 to stress that there is much more in the Canadian Charter than just values and the Council needs to be aware of that. The important, value based parts are also in Quebec Charter so the Councillor would prefer we use Quebec Charter for this Council. VP Shapiro adds the Council could even add in UNHR values, why be restrictive, there is no need for the Council to keep it to just one.

Councillor Karia **Motions to extend by 5 min, Councillor Scara seconds - PASSES 17-6**

Councillor Karia brings back point 2.5.1-2 and the Absences issue. To make it clearer for those reading the document, the Councillor suggests for 2.5 to use “Absences” rather than “Excused Absences” to differentiate between the two, as it currently appears as though those absences, even relating to mental health, will be evaluated by a Committee. Councillor Scara agrees and does not know if it is necessary for people to reveal personal issues for the evaluation of excused absences.



The President **Motions to amend 2.5.2. to say “Unexcused Absences”**, Seconded by Councillor Milchberg.

**Debate on the amendment:**

Proxy Kaputo believes the wording to be confusing, but without the wording the clause does not say why the Accountability Committee would be evaluating absences at all.

The President agrees that wording can be added in to better reflect the actual process taken by the accountability Committee, or the wording can be removed altogether.

The President **Motions to amend the amendment to 2.5.2 to remove the wording altogether**, seconded by Sanchez - **Passes Unanimously**

VP Shapiro asks how the acceptability of absences is determined if not through the Accountability Committee. The Speaker defines the role of the Accountability Committee and their role in evaluating the attendance records of Councillors throughout the semester. The speaker also reminds the Council that an absence is only an absence until evaluated by the Committee at which point it may be termed an excused absence.

Senator Buraga asks, given that the Accountability Committee only meets once a semester, if a Councillor does not attend 3-4-5 meetings then that constituency is already not represented for a significant time without any action taken. The Speaker clarifies that the Committee meets more often than once a semester.

**Voting on the amendment:** 23 for, none against, 2 abstentions - **PASSED**

Councillor Pilote **Motions to amend 2.7.3 to remove the mention of the Canadian Charter**, seconded by Councillor Figuerido.

**Debate on this amendment:**

Councillor Scara is unsure as to why the Council is looking to strike this from the point, as the SSMU represents individuals and a corporation who work within Canada, and is uncertain as to why the Council would not be held to this standard.



Councillor Sanchez asks why specifically the Canadian one is being mentioned and not all charters of human rights. Councillor Figuerido agrees and notes that he is not entirely sure why this point is present here in the first place.

La Conseillère Pilote informe le Conseil que la Charte canadienne s'applique au gouvernement du Canada et aux instances qui servent en tant que gouvernements. Les universités ne sont pas sur cette liste et ce n'est pas pertinent pour les règles de l'inclure. La Charte du Québec s'applique plus aux relations entre les individus qui est d'abord plus pertinent pour ce conseil.

Councillor Milchberg remarks that "Statements" is pretty vague, and asks if this constitutes verbal statements, written or both. The Speaker replies that official speeches in this room in a member's capacity as a member of this society, with successful points of order called on them, could be ruled out of order based on this clause if found to be in contradiction to the Charter Values.

Senator Baraga understands Councillor Pilote's arguments, they make sense, but the appearance of removing this wording seems off to the Senator, especially given that it is something that represents Canadian values and the action of removing it may be misinterpreted by those who do not fully understand its complexities.

Councillor Sanchez asks if it may be better to say "in the spirit of the Canadian charter" to accommodate the symbolism of it without being legally bound to it. Councillor Pilote indicates that this would already be better.

Councillor Hersh understands that this is not applicable to the SSMU Legislative Council, but given that they can change Robert's Rules anyways he is uncertain why this discussion is happening. Councillor Abdelhamid asks what is the potential harm of keeping this clause.

La Conseillère Pilote répond que le problème avec la Charte est que toute personne même juste un peu habile avec ce texte pourrait se faufiler par les craques de la constitution de l'AÉUM et l'invoquer pour une question non reliée. Surtout, les aspects de la charte qui portent sur les langues et l'emprisonnement n'ont pas rapport avec le mandat du conseil. Il y aura plus de chances que cette situation arrive étant donné que cette charte n'a pas été créée pour des cas comme ce conseil.



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Councillor Karia acknowledges both Pilote's concerns and the Public Relations aspect of keeping it and encourages the change of language to "in the spirit of".

VP McLoughlin **Motions to extend the debate by 3 min**, seconded by Tre **7-17 FAILS**

Councillor Sanchez **Motions to amend the amendment to say "in the spirit of the Canadian Charter of rights and freedoms"**, seconded by Councillor Karia **20-6 PASSES.**

VP Shapiro **Motions to amend the wording of the amendment for both charters to "in the spirit of"**, seconded by VP McLoughlin.

Councillor Pilote **Motions to allow debate on this motion**, seconded VP Shapiro **6-19 FAILS.**

The Council votes on the Motion to amend the amendment proposed by VP Shapiro: 4-21 **FAILS.**

The Council votes on the original motion to amend point 2.7.3. 18 for, 5 against, 1 abstention, **PASSES.**

Councillor Lyons: **Motions to remove from 2.5 "Excused"**, seconded by VP McLoughlin: 24 - 0-1 **PASSES.**

Councillor Sanchez: **Motions to amend 2.5 from "evaluated" to "given"**, seconded by Councillor Lyons.

VP McLoughlin notes that grammatically, you cannot give an absence, rather it should be "permit the absence". The Speaker interjects that an absence is actually "granted".

VP McLoughlin **Motions to amend the amendment to read Granted**, Seconded by Lyons **PASSES unanimously.**

The Council votes on the amendment: 23 for, none against and 1 abstention - **PASSES**

Proxy Kapano asks about the rules in IRs regarding proxies for unelected positions, or if a Councillor is removed, and whether those constitute absences for the position. The Speaker



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reassures her that Proxies holding positions prior to the election are not held against the newly elected Councillors.

Councillor Scara **Motions to Call the Question**, Seconded by Councillor Figuerido. The Speaker reminds the Council that this will end discussion and move into voting procedure for this Motion. **PASSES unanimously.**

#### **Voting procedure:**

The President moves to hold the vote by placard. The Speaker agrees and allows this to be the case.

This motion is **APPROVED unanimously.**

Councillor Qiu **Motions to recess for 5 minutes**, seconded by Councillor Figuerido. 5-18 **FAILS**

- b.** Motion Regarding Amendments to the Committee Terms of Reference -  
**APPROVED:**

**Moved by:** Councillor Lyons and Senator Buraga;

#### **Questions:**

Councillor Figuerido asks if the Committee being debated is Governance reform or another one. The President replies that currently it is only the Fall reading week Committee being debated but that the Governance reform one will be added later, however the President will still allow applications to this Committee from Councillors.

Councillor Sanchez asks if the Buildings and Operations Management Committee is still in operation this year. The President responds that BOMCOM is actually one of the most important Committees this year and will help with the reallocation of space as well as the future of 3501 Peel.

**No Debate.**

#### **Voting procedure:**



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23 in favour, none against, 3 abstentions, **APPROVED**

c. Motion Regarding Nominations to the SSMU Board of Directors - **APPROVED:**

**Moved by:** Councillors Price and Karia.

**No Questions.**

**No Debate.**

**Voting procedure:**

**APPROVED** Unanimously

d. Motion Regarding the Elections Timeline - **APPROVED:**

**Moved by:** Councillors Figuerido, Karia, Qiu, and Vice-President McLaughlin.

**Questions:**

VP Shapiro asks if the Council should amend IRs to allow more than a 48 hour extension period. Speaker Jamal reminds the Council that Motions to amend the IRs need to be sent in as a notice of motion before the next Council, but that yes, the Council can consider it.

Councillor Sanchez asks if the date can be changed to the 15th in order for the weekend to be included as part of the extension period. VP McLaughlin remarks that this could be a stop-gap solution for this year but for future there needs to be a more concrete solution. The President agrees.

**Debate:**

Senator Buraga asks if the Council can move to amend the IRs. Speaker Jamal again reminds the Council that IR changes need to first be submitted as a notice of motion before the next Legislative Council.

Senator Buraga mentions speaking to Elections SSMU regarding amending the IRs to include more than 48 hours for an extension period, as it does not look well on SSMU to have so many



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short periods in succession. The Senator plans to send in a motion to amend this to a 5 day period.

The President notes that he is planning a lot of IR changes for the next Council session so is open to talking about that before the next Council. VP Shapiro echoes that it is good to hear others on board with these changes.

### **Voting procedure:**

24 in favour, none against, 2 abstentions - **APPROVED**

- e. Motion Regarding Policy on VP Internal Intoxication and V.I.P Culture at SSMU Events - **POSTPONED:**

**Moved by:** Councillors Briand, Figuerido, and VP Shapiro.

### **Questions:**

Councillor Scara asks if there is a reason why there is an expiry date to this policy. VP McLaughlin replies that policies can only last a maximum of 5 years, and that after working with the Parliamentarian, this is the date they agreed on.

Councillor Pilote asks why this policy targets only the VP Internal. VP McLaughlin answers that the VP Internal is the only Executive charged with planning drinking events at the moment. If ever that changes, the VP is open to amending this policy but for now it will only apply to this portfolio.

Councillor Sanchez expresses their uncertainty regarding the meaning of the name of the Motion. VP McLaughlin responds that he is open to changing the name, Grad frosh was a real eye-opener for him and the VP realised there that there was a VIP section for Internal, which is also where the problematic bottle service tends to occur and so therefore thought to name it to reflect this.

### **Debate:**

Councillor Sanchez **Motions to amend title to “VP Internal Intoxication”**, seconded by VP Shapiro:

### **Debate on the amendment:**



VP McLaughlin agrees with the change but says it does not cover the VP Internal spending money on other people as well, as was discussed in the policy.

Councillor Lyons **Motions to amend the amendment to include both titles**, seconded by Councillor Karia **17-5-3 PASSES**

Councillor Figuerido complains that SSMU wasting time talking about amendments on the title of Motions is what has made most of the student population disillusioned towards it and insists that the Council should move to just voting on the motion.

Councillor Sanchez asks if the secondary amendment can be retracted. The Speaker says yes, as it is the property of the floor.

Senator Buraga remarks that there are no punitive measures outlined if a violation occurs, and no formal mechanism to deal with this.

Senator Buraga **Motions to amend Motion to add punitive measures clause**, Councillor Figuerido seconds

Councillor Lyons notes that the term “Intoxicated” is very broad, and not clear enough for punitive measures to be set in stone. Councillor Figuerido agrees this is a good step but that suspension may be too hard. The Councillor remarks that the level of intoxication where duties cannot be carried out needs to be determined.

The Speaker reminds Council of their caucusing ability - the opportunity to discuss comprehensive amendment to this motion outside of the Council hall. Senator Buraga, VP McLaughlin and Councillor Figgy leave to caucus outside.

The President **Motions to table the Motion temporarily**, seconded by Lyons. This motion is **APPROVED unanimously**.

#### f. Committee Selections

The President notes that this is the process that was used two years ago and is the correct way to do it. The Speaker will go Committee by Committee and interested Councillors will be able to say why they wish to be on the Committee, in order of most Councillors interested to least. Councillors will then vote on which Councillors will sit on each Committee.





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Name selection will be randomised and each Councillor will have x votes per Committee, with x representing the number of seats available for Councillors on this Committee.

## **SSPN (2)**

### **Debate:**

Councillor Figuerido notes that Councillor Scara would be a good choice for this given her experience in AUS.

### **Voting:**

Councillor Yang - 5

**Councillor Lyons - 10**

Councillor Bazylykut - 4

**Councillor Scara - 10**

Councillors Lyons and Scara appointed to this Committee.

## **Health and Dental (1)**

Councillor Michlberg asks why only one spot is allocated to this Committee when there are representatives from both Medicine and Dentistry. The President replies that this Committee has not met in a very long time and he is trying to get at least one person on each one. The President notes that he is open to changing the terms of reference to add the Medicine and Dentistry Representatives as automatic members of the Committee next week.

The President's proposal is agreed upon and Councillors Abdelhamid and Hersch remove their interest as they will both be added next week. **Councillor Sanchez** is therefore acclaimed to the Committee.

## **Financial Ethics and Risk (3)**

Councillors Milchberg, Qiu, and Smit are acclaimed to this Committee.

## **Equity (1)**

Councillor Kleiner is acclaimed to this Committee.



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## **Environment (1)**

### **Voting**

Councillor Price - 8

**Councillor Briand - 9**

Councillor Briand is appointed to this Committee.

## **Francophone Affairs (2)**

### **Debate:**

Councillor Fletcher just wants to clarify that she can also speak French. Councillor Abdelhamid asks what Councillor Pilote's first choice was so as to give everyone a chance to get their first choice of Committee.

### **Voting:**

**Councillor Karia - 13**

Councillor Fletcher - 7

**Councillor Pilote - 11**

Councillor Karia and Pilote are appointed to this Committee.

## **Community Engagement (2)**

Councillor Fletcher is assigned to this Committee.

## **Funding (3)**

Councillor Callahan and Senator Buraga assigned to this Committee.

## **Library Improvement Fund (1)**

Councillor Price assigned to this Committee.

## **Mental Health (2)**



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Councillor Bazylykut is assigned to this Committee, as is the Arts and Science representative.

## **Steering (2)**

Councillor Cossette and Senator Buraga assigned to this Committee.

## **BOMCOM**

Councillor Buraga assigned to this Committee.

## **Finance**

Councillor Yang is assigned to this Committee.

## **Fall Reading Week**

Councillor Bazylykut and Senator Buraga assigned to this Committee.

## **Governance Reform**

Councillors Figuerido and Sanchez are assigned to this Committee.

## **Indigenous Affairs**

Councillor Kleiner assigned to this Committee.

VP McLaughlin **Motions to Take from the table : Motion Regarding Policy on V.I.P. Culture at SSMU Events**, seconded by Councillor Figuerido. **Motion Passes.**

## **Debate:**

Councillor Sanchez remarks that this motion is too vague with regards to the kind of intoxication. Senator Buraga states that he likes the wording as it is, as it still allows for the VP Internal to have a drink and enjoy their night while staying in control. The Senator believes this is a good compromise of punitive measures and common sense.

Councillor Price mentions that this is a contentious issue to bring forward in Council, and therefore it needs to be extremely well written in order to prevent confusion if ever anything



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with regards to it is brought forward to the Council. The Councillor states that vagueness when possibly suspending someone is very unhelpful for decision making.

Councillor Figuerido sees this vagueness too but also likes the wording of the motion this way as it is less vague than the original one. The Councillor thinks the Legislative Council is the best judge of whether the VP Internal was within their capabilities or not at the time of the incident.

Councillor Sanchez asks whether postponing this motion to a later date in order to allow for more modifications to be made to the language would be in order. Upon receiving confirmation from the Speaker, Councillor Sanchez **Motions to postpone this Motion to September 27th**, seconded by the President.

18 for, 1 against, 2 abstentions - this Motion **PASSES** and so is postponed.

## **11. Reports by Committees:**

### **a. Executive Committee (5):**

#### **Questions:**

Councillor Sanchez asks why there is no mention about the current lawsuit against McGill by Prof Ibrahim. The President replies that this is in the Board of Directors' mandate, not the Legislative Council's, and any mention of it can be found in their minutes.

Senator Buraga asks about the matter related to former VP Earle's credit card statement. VP Esterle replies that it was for an expense related to TVM.

## **12. Executive Reports:**

### **a. President (3):**

The President presents his report.

#### **Questions:**

Councillor Scara notes that the Champagne room is now called the Gould room, as of last year.



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Claire from the McGill Daily (she/her) asks if these documents will be available to the media. The Parliamentarian replies that yes, they will be available tomorrow at 10 AM.

**b. VP Finance (3):**

VP Wang presents his report.

**Quorum was lost during this report.**

**No Questions.**

**c. VP University Affairs (3):**

VP Shapiro presents his report.

**No Questions.**

**d. VP External (3):**

VP Cupido is absent so VP Shapiro reads their report.

**Questions:**

Councillor Figgy asks for clarification as to what “promoting external debates on social media” means. VP Shapiro answers that VP Cupido has done a good job of doing engaging work on the social media pages to give students up to date information with what’s going on on campus with regards to social equity

The Speaker notes that Councillors can also submit questions to the Speaker to be put on the next agenda to be asked of the absent VP.

**e. VP Internal (3):**

VP Mclaughlin presents his report.

**Questions:**



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La Conseillère Pilote remarque que ceci est un très beau rapport. Elle demande si l'idée du calendrier centralisé sera seulement pour les événements de l'AEUM ou si les activités des facultés y figureront aussi. VP McLaughlin replies that yes, all events from all faculty and branches of SSMU and McGill will be features on the centralized calendar.

La Conseillère Pilote demande si une formation obligatoire pour la réponse aux violences sexuelles est en considération pour les organisateurs des "Frosh". VP McLaughlin confirms that this is a very important issue and that there are extensive trainings for leaders and organizers for all the faculty froshes.

La Conseillère Pilote questionne si c'est obligatoire pour les facultés de prendre cette formation ou si c'est plutôt une initiative facultative de l'AEUM. VP McLaughlin responds that all faculties who reach out to SSMU for these trainings do receive them and are actually incentivised to do so.

Councillor Yang asks if it may be possible to get an App linked to MyCourses to get notifications regarding grades and documents, especially given that no one uses the McGill App. VP McLaughlin replies that MyCourses is not a McGill proprietary software so they are not sure SSMU would have the authority to do that but is definitely interested and will look into it.

#### **f. VP Student Life (3):**

VP Esterle presents her report.

#### **No Questions.**

#### **13. Confidential Session:**

The Speaker informs the Council that there is nothing to address in the Confidential Session today.

#### **14. Adjournment - 22:28.**