



MOTION REGARDING THE 2023-2024 SSMU OPERATING BUDGET 2023-05-11

Submitted for: 2023-05-11

Submitted to: SSMU Legislative Council **Document no.:** LEG-PUB-MOT-20223-05-11-005

Moved by: Marco Pizarro **Current Status:** FOR APPROVAL
 Vice-President Finance APPROVED
 POSTPONED
 COMMITTED
 NOT APPROVED

Seconded by: Benson Wan
 Medicine Representative

Issue Every year, the operating budget of the Society needs to be approved by the Executive Committee, the Legislative Council, and the Board of Directors in turn. As such, this motion is presenting and seeking approval for the budget for the coming year.

Background and Rationale Last year's rationale was: "This budget was produced in concert with the managers and officers of the society, with a lot of help from the Comptroller and Assistant Comptroller of the Society. The main quirk of this budget is the deficit that is being run. Over the last few years, the Society has produced budgets that indicated a modest deficit or surplus, but every year we have seen the surpluses become massive, in the hundreds of thousands. As such, this budget was created with the knowledge that it portrays a significant deficit, using the surplus accumulated over the past few years. Next year, we will be able to evaluate how much this deficit actually is, and determine how much we actually need to raise the base fee by. Thus, our members will be asked to pay an accurate amount of money rather than continue to contribute to massive surpluses year-over-year."

This year, we project to finish the year with a deficit that corresponds to the budget: around \$650,000.00
 However, we did not go to students with a fee increase referendum. It is projected to be put in the Fall 2023.



Last year's Legislative council voted for a budget that wanted to be accurate to the needs of students. However, there were a few issues that could not predict: Bill 96. This bill is costing us around 200,000.00\$ for instance. Also, in last year's budget, there were a lot of salaries not accounted for. In addition, a lot of policies were voted that imply hiring staff. Finally, being in person increased our needs a lot. Staff logged in more hours for instance. Also, we have a new executive and their responsibilities which also increases last year estimations.

One another note, permanent employees represent most of our budget. In next year's budget, it is 75%. It is not only about paying their salary, but all the benefits that come with them. We also need to increase the salary every year based on the CPI on performance evaluation.

Alignment with Mission

This is in line with the responsibility of the VP Finance to present the operating budget to the Legislative Council, as well as the responsibility to maintain the finances of the Society.

Consultations Completed

Consultations were completed with the Communication manager, HR Director, Gerts Manager, Student Life Operations Director, Building Director, the executives of the society, the Comptroller, and the VP Finance.

Risk Factors and Resource Implications

The main risk factor is that we are willingly running a large deficit.

Hence, while we are planning the deficit, we are working on a plan to solve the issue during the next year.

The plan would be to ask for a fee increase divided in different sections that represent a certain aspect of the services SSMU provides: faster accounting, accessibility, etc. The sections that would not be voted on would represent a part of our budget where we would cut down expenses. This would happen before the next budget presentation.

It would mean that next year, we would have a fee that represents the level of service that students want. And we would have expenses that are accurate per the fee. Hence, we would not have a projected deficit anymore.



Also, there has not been a fee increase in the past 5 years. Hence, it is in line with the timeline for referendum.

Sustainability Considerations

This budget is not sustainable as it is. However, as it comes with a plan to have the revenues equal to the expenses over the next year, it shows sustainability considerations.

Impact of Decision and Next Steps

Once this motion passes, this will be the effective budget for the 2023-2024 Financial Year.

Motion or Resolution for Approval

Be it resolved that the Legislative Council approve the Budget attached in Appendix A.


Results of the Vote


<input type="checkbox"/>	In favour	(12)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Opposed	(1)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Abstain	(3)



Appendix A : Relevant Appendices

(NOTE: Download in excel for proper readability)

 SSMU 2023-2024 budget (4).xlsm

 SSMU-2023 Actual - Summary 12mths + 2024 Budget

APPROVED