**Arts Undergraduate Society of McGill University**

**Legislative Council**

**October 19th, 2016, 6 PM**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to order at 6:11PM
   1. Territorial Acknowledgment: AUS would like to acknowledge that McGill University is situated on the traditional territory of the Kanien’kehá:ka, a place which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst nations. AUS recognizes and respects the Kanien’kehá:ka as the traditional custodians of the lands and water on which we meet today.
2. Roll Call
   1. Absent: ASA, ASSA, MIRA, NASSA, SSA
   2. Came late: HSA
   3. Left early: MPSA
3. Approval of Minutes from October 5th 2016 Council
   1. No amendments
   2. All those in favour? All. None against
   3. Minutes are approved
4. Approval of Agenda
   1. VP Finance: Motion to add a motion to suspend article 7.4 of financial bylaws until next council. Seconded. Motion added, with MESSA and Arts Rep Igor opposing.
   2. All those in favour? All. None against
   3. Agenda is approved
5. Guest Speaker: Associate Dean Gillian Lane-Mercier
   1. So first of all, I’d like to say how pleased I am to speak tonight. Last year I wasn’t invited at all, so felt it was time. Talk for about 10mins, I know my colleague Jim already met you last week.
   2. Let you know what my portfolios are, but your President has asked to speak more specifically to one part. You probably know that we’re academics, I do still teach and do research, we wear various hats. But admin side is pretty hefty, portfolios include space, and curriculum, I chair curriculum committee, also am chair of humanities and social sciences library advisory committee and sit on senate of libraries. This one very active last few years because of renovations to libraries and lot of resistance to sidelining of print in respect to huge surge in e-materials, hot issue about a year and a half ago. It’s a key committee, all library matters from Arts go to this committee, and I take it to senate of libraries.
   3. I’m also a part of program advisory committee for BA/BASCs, we work closely with BASiC, very important joint program. This is last year out of three years I chaired it, next year goes to science.
   4. Also oversee Arts Internship Office (AIO). I’m a part of a fund where I’m in charge of a few million dollars, used for TA budget. Every year I allocate TA budgets to various units. And I’m in charge of summer studies budget, unfortunately not increased for last years.
   5. Now coming back to Space portfolio, this is my most controversial role and takes up most of my administrative time. My portfolio includes every space imaginable in Arts: computer labs, Arts lounge, office spaces, student spaces, classrooms, public spaces, academic offices, admin spaces, etc. We have many buildings, and a lot are in terrible shape, ongoing challenge with renovations. I’m a literature person, not an architect or engineer, but find myself fascinated by this issue. Also deal with human concerns and issues related to leaks, floods, etc.
   6. Short list of things to be expecting: Birks building, AKA religious studies, is going to go through series of renovations starting next spring, change two small seminar rooms into a larger classroom. There’s ongoing struggle for medium sized classrooms and very large classrooms, debate over how many large classrooms we can have, depends on year. These small seminar rooms will be reconstructed elsewhere in Birks building, so no loss at all.
   7. Another large project in spring is Arts building main floor, there’s two old classrooms Arts 145 and 150, seats total of 145 students and will be merged into one large classroom. Will be interactive classroom, very state of the art, first interactive classroom for Arts. It’s going to be signature classroom for faculty, should be ready in January 2018.
   8. Ferrier building: Place for student spaces? Answer is unfortunately no. It’s a strange building and it’s where Arts computer labs are. Use of these labs is dwindling, we have stats of the use, and computers know when you log on. There are peak times, but overall have been declining quite visibly over last 5 years. Something that’s on my radar. Ferrier has lots of weird spaces, but first floor is to be completely renovated, need new academic offices and seminar rooms. And fourth floor we’re going to create new seminar room for 25-30 seats and more academic offices, we’re out of all kinds of spaces.
   9. Student spaces: I know your associations are in bit of a crisis, I know it’s due to things we can’t control like floods, but also Leacock terrace project. Will be in Leacock basement, just as bad on McTavish. I know that some of your offices have to be temporarily relocated, this is a huge problem as we can’t relocate anyone because we’re out of space. I’ve been talking with execs about idea of temporary sharing solutions. IE I’m sharing my office right now, only way as community to face these unforeseeable things, as underlying slab in basement needs to be completely refurbished. Probably renovations in basement until next Oct.
   10. Arts own two row houses, Peel row houses are sold and need to be emptied. Not sure where we’re putting them, there’s research centres in these spaces. McTavish row houses will remain, as of two years ago we partially repurposed them for student association offices, but there are accessibility issues we can’t solve. Discussion with AUS execs, maybe temporary swaps among associations?
   11. I’ve given several leads to execs where you might find compromise and sharing spaces, IE Birks might have an option or two. Very happy to discuss student spaces with you. Also involved in library spaces, lots of pressure from student groups to get more lounge space, and profs want more room for research centre. It’s a jigsaw puzzle. Portfolio full of constraints and difficulties.
   12. Curriculum Committee: It approves course retirements, revisions, and approved new school of public policy, a master’s program, coming into existence in new calendar. And we approve and retire and revise all programs, and look at ad-hoc program proposals. Want to underscore today that there’s huge problem of too many programs within the university, it’s hard to sustain resource wise. Arts has a lot of programs, some are very well subscribed and don’t want to see them disappear, but some are undersubscribed. This committee is looking at this, and enrolment in courses with this same trend. If you look at average, there’s 60 students/course, reason this is the average is because there’s so many lower enrolled courses, when most you see may be in the 100s. Start honing in on some of these programs, can’t go on. We have to look at this and create new programs and courses and get rid of failing ones.
   13. Discussion:
       1. VP External: Which courses do you see the lowest enrolment? Response: Have to be careful, some department are much bigger than others, IE one department that doesn’t have a course of smaller than 10 students is Economics, every other program does. This also includes 500 level courses, considered undergrad courses though grad students can register for them. Some courses are capped, IE in language courses, and higher-level courses like 500 level for honours obviously see lower enrolment. We try to weigh different concerns and considerations, but here we’re looking at normal 300-or so level classes that are way under-registered. Why aren’t these courses attracting students? Lots of creative ways of thinking about this, no one department stands out.
       2. AHCSSA: My other major is Asian Religion and in that smaller department, find that smaller courses are more rewarding, whereas larger ones are less robust or with students taking them as elective. How can you keep these diverse courses, how to maintain that by making the classes larger? Response: I meet with the chairs of each unit on yearly basis, and review each course that has had 10 or under enrolment for last 5 years. Look at objective parameters, we discuss things like this. Some courses seen as so integral to the program that it would be a tragedy to take them off the books, where other times the directors have said to rethink curriculum. Have come up with more diverse program, and streamline a little bit, given that programs have proliferated in such a strange way that they’re not coherent anymore, thinking more within the context of the program. Sometimes we wait for another couple years, and then move on and think outside the box. But they are taking resources in other ways that perhaps could be reinvested in more productive and creative manners.
       3. VP Internal: So you had touched on Arts computer lab, and said usage was going down. In that case, would idea be to close it? Would it be classrooms or student office space? Response: These are spaces we want to have, Arts students have opted to pay the fee, it’s your space and run by you, just oversaw by me. Last year there was proposals made by AUS exec whereby some of tables have been cleared of desktop computers so people can put their laptops on top, there’s been some reconfiguration. Not a space I could ever take away from you, it’s not my jurisdiction, but I am concerned about dwindling use and pressures are so strong from other areas. Maybe you, as an association would have better use for that space or portion of it? That’s where convo with my office happens.
   14. No more points of discussion.
6. Announcements
   1. PSSA: We’re going to be at BDA tomorrow doing promo, come by and show us some love.
   2. ACE: ACE is having its first event of year, open mic next Tuesday, around 7:30 in Arts lounge. Free snacks and selling samosas, sweet musical talent. If you go to FB page can share our event.
   3. VP Comms: Fine Arts Council have puppet and mask making workshop, admission is free, it’s from 6-8pm on Nov 1st at Morrice Hall.
   4. DESA: Having its first wine and cheese on Nov. 2nd, will be starting at 5pm before council. Event page will made shortly.
   5. AUS President: Leacock’s is having first potential contributors meeting on Monday at noon in Arts lounge, and also it’s looking for a layout editor.
   6. CSA: HSA and CSA are having a Halloween lecture series next Wednesday at 6pm in Arts 160. Will be four Profs giving lectures on supernatural topics.
   7. PSA: Early notice, but wine and cheese happening Nov. 16th, Arts 160. Mark in your diaries!
   8. AHCSSA: The Fridge Door Gallery, the student run gallery, is calling for submissions, deadline is Oct. 21st. Theme is processed, and it’s your interpretation. Also, on Oct. 26th Art History and Communication studies are having grad school sessions, in Arts west 220 at 10am. Other majors are welcome.
   9. VP Internal: Just because FEARC rep isn’t here, next Friday they’re having pizza party in the lounge, details on FB page.
   10. ASA: not sure how many people heard of Canadian Federation of Students on action. It’s on Nov. 2nd, no events for that explicitly scheduled, but there is a demonstration being organized by several associations that will be happening in Square Victoria on nova 2nd. Feel free to contact me if you want to show solidarity for affordable education.
   11. ESA: Hosting wine and cheese event to meet the Profs on Oct. 25tth, publishing our journal at the same event. Both major and minors students welcome, check FB.
7. AIO Fall Presentation
   1. VP Academic: It’s first time this is happening, but meaning to happen for last year. AIO receives approx. 241k each year, this is very significant. The fee per student is $14/semester, negotiated in the 2014/15 school year and approved by referendum last year. Fee only valid until 2020, but don’t want to go through process again.
   2. Part of reason why we have fee is that in 2015 McGill cut funding to AIO, no longer receiving money for salaries or operations from McGill. So AUS has decided to fund this money, about 202k this year to pay salaries, printing, etc., while AIO builds up $5 million endowment so they can run their interests on that.
   3. This is target for endowment in 2020, they’re starting second week of November to raise that money. Expecting about $1.2 million raised in that first year, we’re hopeful about that.
   4. Looking more at into status of where AIO is now, pretty tight ship, not much surplus ever. IE last May, had 33k, but by June after paid salaries, that was all gone. Times when they have to suspend paying salaries, because we only pay them twice a year, Sept. and Dec., because they had no money.
   5. Fee is $14/student, brought on more student staff, and using work-study to fund those positions, lower cost to AIO. And they’ve managed to increase internships per year, about 200 students last year, and four more ARIAs, which are research awards to work with Profs. These are popular, but inconsistent how much we get each year. Try for 38-40/year, one per Prof every 5 years, but have gone as high 50s, and low as 15 ARIAs. Trying to stabilize this fund, we only have enough money for 8, but optimistic we can get around the 38-40 range.
   6. Internships and distributions by department: we’re a bit heavy in POLI and IDS, latter is most easy to get internship from AIO, but at same time, look at who is receiving funding, actually represents pretty good spread of departments overall. AIO sponsored internships: these are POLI heavy, working with English and Classics this year to bring more internships with them next fall. Also looking at geographical distribution will get back to that during winter presentation.
   7. General focus is trying to look at operations of it, like can we cut the fee? Can’t do anything to the fee, but rather look at overall breakdown to see we’re getting the best services. If you have concerns, come to me. It’s your money and constituents’ money.
   8. EASSA Q: Would working with English and Classics department decrease number of internships available to POLI and IDS? Response: We’re not cutting internships anywhere, only increase numbers across the board. EASSA: How are planning to raise the $5 million? Response: Through private donors, big benefit dinner in Nov.
8. New Business
   1. Motion Regarding Support for AMUSE Collective Bargaining
      1. Speaker of Council: Be it resolved that AUS approves of AMUSE bargaining in Appendix A, and listed approval of these on social media channels. Appendix A is attached to these channels. Looks at bargaining priorities, IE $15 wage minimum.
      2. Arts Rep Igor: Move to extend time to 5mins and invite President of AMUSE that’s here up to speak. Seconded. Time added.
      3. AMUSE President Claire Michela: I’m here from AMUSE, the Association of McGill University Support Employees. We represent a lot of students who work at the university, including work-study employees. They’re covered by our bargaining unit, and we’re in negotiations for second collective agreement in order to determine working conditions at base level. Right now they’re not great, especially compared to other unions on campus, so trying to bring them up.
      4. Rights of pay are up to $12.24, whereas most students we represent are being paid $10.85, and hard to determine what they’re doing. Our priority in getting more accurate job titles, and trying to have wages that reflect our work and living wage, that’s $15. Means that from student perspective, that work-study position is based on financial need, but then getting wage lower than living conditions in Montreal. A student pays rent, buys food, etc. You need this job, especially for those with financial need.
      5. Areas of concern are: no. 1 is respect, no. 2 is job titles, no. 3 is wage that reflects living wage, and no. 4 is work study.
      6. Discussion:
         1. AUS President: Just to confirm, you’ve received support for this motion from other student societies? Which ones have approved something along these lines thus far? Response: SSMU endorsed bargaining priorities last week. But after that meeting we learned on Friday that university did not consider our monetary demands, based on ongoing complaint that doesn’t have anything to do with bargaining, refusing to compromise on those terms. So what we’re going to have to do is strike vote, happening during BDA.
         2. CLASHA: Where would funding come from for increase in pay? Response: That’s up to the university, that’s to do with management. We know McGill has large budget, it’s their decision what to do with it, currently spending a lot on upper salaries. IE between 180-200k/year not including the bonuses for upper admin positions. So a lot of discrepancy between upper administrators and us.
         3. Arts Rep Igor: Speak in support of this motion, the reasons why have been clearly outlined. This is crucial moment to show support for AMUSE with negotiations and potential strike coming up. AMUSE numbers are our members are well, a part of AUS, so see it as our responsibility to support them in this event.
         4. AUS President: I want to recommend that people do consider this motion and consider debating it, this is something important and impacts a lot of people’s lives in different ways, engage with it and vote accordingly.
         5. VP Social: Speak in support of this motion, mostly because it underlines things AUS is always trying to achieve, which is student employment. This motion serves as reminder to ourselves, especially with things like AIO, to pay people we’re funding with liveable wage, using our bargaining power with Dean, increase stipends, etc. As someone who employs 12 frosh coords, it’s sensitive to me, as I keep people over the summer, and it’s hard to apply for positions when you know you can’t afford to stay here.
      7. No more points of discussion.
      8. Voting: All those in favour? All, with abstentions from AUS President and VP Academic. Motion is approved.
   2. Discussion of Info-Tech Expenditure
      1. AUS President: Igor and our tech coords, Laurence and I, had interesting meeting with admin on Friday for this fund, the info-tech fund. We have two separate fees that feed into tech at McGill. One is administered by admin, whereas comp lab fee is administered by AUS, sit on both committees between the two of us.
      2. Had idea with what to do with money accumulating in fund, so bringing this forward to give me thoughts on it. For last few years, Arts has been interested in enhancing its image through social media updates, improved website and accessibility of info. Would like to use portion of fee surplus to hire a comms officer who would overhaul Arts website.
      3. In long run, hope this position to expand with work-study, but want to do test run through contract for a couple years first. See how it goes, if it goes well, they’re going to consider extending it and adding positions for students.
      4. I have draft summary for positions, there’s 15 points. Different suggestions: redesigning and managing content on Arts website, crafting new comms materials, editing website on daily basis, etc.
      5. Discussion:
         1. VPA: Want to say that I’m very supportive of this, but suggest that include OASIS if not already, problems of how advising get set up with students. In recent surveys, in how easy it is to find info, they’re scoring terribly.
         2. CLASHA: Are there any other options about what this surplus could be used for? How much will pay coord? Response: Looking at salary range of 50-80k/year, first advertising job internally but then advertise it externally. About 700k goes to this fund per year, little reluctant to let us know where this money is going, sounds like it’s sitting there building up, but weren’t giving us full, clear answers. There are infinite options on how to use this fee, but depends on demands on campus. This wouldn’t cut into huge surplus entirely, just a fraction of what they have there. There’s room for conversation.
         3. VP Social: Once again, think that this should be student job, don’t think it’s something you need a finished bachelor degree for, know lots of undergrads that can run a FB page. Give students a chance, even if split between 2-3 people. And if that doesn’t work, think we should be a part of hiring committee if we’re contributing monetarily, have a stake in this. See if person’s values mirror our own.
         4. SSA: More of inquiry from sociology department POV, this surplus driven from Arts students, can it go towards things for us, like we got our funds cut for tutoring? Why focus funds externally and not internally? Response: We can’t cut into other funds if they don’t overlap in mandate with other funds. This fund is a base fee, can’t opt out. This is area of tech and info, there are other issues with tutoring costs since it comes out of Arts fees, where this is surplus of money in InfoTech fee for sake of tech, can’t cut into that for internal of AUS.
         5. Senator Charles: Apart from keeping up with social media and the website, what else is this person doing? Don’t see it justifying 50k/year? Response: Regulating and editing Arts website, don’t know if anyone deals with website programming, that takes a lot because there’s layers in there. Writing content, guiding comms strategies, responsibilities of PR nature, providing profs with strategic comms advice, writing and moderating blog posts, etc. Very nebulas thing that’s comms. Charles: How long is proposed contract for? Response: 2 years?
         6. VP Social: Think there’s a lot of Qs to be answered before proposal taken seriously, real breakdown of where money is going. Why university thinks this is real cost, where people in this position are getting minimum wage. This structure needs to be explained, whose portfolio is this currently under? Are they slacking off and not doing it properly? Are we promoting inefficiency? This is Band-Aid solution.
         7. ESA: Able to tell us required qualifications? Response: Undergrad or three years work experience.
         8. VP Comms: To talk about Band-Aid solution, see where you’re coming from. This is a lot of things that fall under my portfolio, we have a webmaster and media team, need to clarify that overlap. But understand where it’s important to have certain level of expertise, although it seems like something doable by anyone, can see it done by students, don’t think it’s worth 50k. Response: This is specially a comms officer for Arts, separate from AUS. Deals with administrative level, like the Dean, etc. IE if you have a question about program, it was a nightmare to find answer online. This person will deal with that presentation of info.
         9. SSA: Wondering if it’s part of mandated fees, shouldn’t there be a structure in place if you can’t opt out of fees? Starting from scratch for something that already should have structure? Why hasn’t anything been done in past 5 years, how can something so permanent or purposeful have no purpose? Response: This fee was created in 1997 and recommended to charge to all BA and BASC students, must be distributed by needs of Arts computer lab, and reduction of other student fees, improving chain of student consultations, and maintaining equipment and improving internet. So not that nothing has happened form this fee, but it’s supporting resources we have on campus. In more recent years, newer projects haven’t been emerging, so it’s been accumulating. But IE it also pays salaries for people working at comp labs.
         10. ASA: Is the proposal for the position available online? Response: No, reading draft can’t get approval until we approve it. Told not to disseminate it except verbally, don’t want rumour of job getting out.
         11. CLASHA: What would it entail, making a draft and whether we support or reject the draft? Like VP Social said, can students focus on specific things, like website or media? Response: Just interested in generating feedback to talk about concerns brought up at council to integrate into strategy going forward. And then they’d present amended version of this proposal, which I’d bring back to council. So this feedback is really relevant, this is your job and where consultation comes in.
         12. ESA: Could I make suggestion about wage conditions? Do you think you could suggest the human capital division? Maybe better if they lowered the wage but increase the bonus, motivate employee to work better. Response: Heard suggestion that should go to student jobs, want to do that in long-term. But now, want to hire a full-time employee working 40hrs, so reminder that this is supposed to be living wage for full-time employee.
         13. AUS President: Are people comfortable with me taking feedback you’ve given me, and coming back to this later?
             1. Straw poll: Majority in favour
         14. ASA: Think maybe if you could them if it’s necessary to have a full-timer to cover everything vs. part-timer who covers specific portfolios. Whether we need a central person is unclear.
         15. EASSA: I think 50k is justifiable it’s living wage, but maybe ask exactly why it’s 50k as a baseline?
      6. No more points of discussion.
9. Motion to Suspend Article 7.4 of Financial Bylaws Until Next Council
   1. VP Finance: Reason behind this is that up until 3pm today I thought I had until Nov. 25th to get budget out, that’s what financial bylaws say on website. But found out that this isn’t the case, new one says this needs to be out by Oct. 31st. Hoping that it’s alright to push this back.
   2. Discussion:
      1. Arts Rep Igor: Yeah, question regarding whether we can do that? I don’t think we can just suspend bylaws on temporary basis, if want to amend bylaws that’s a different thing. Response: It’s unconventional if not completely not allowed, but suggest we can forward with it.
      2. VP Finance: Could post the budget I’ll come out with next council on FB group by the 31st, by some degree then it’s met. Would present same budget I’d post at next council. VP Academic: So motion to amend this motion to amend Oct. 31st to Nov. 3rd?
      3. HSA: Point of order, doesn’t changing of bylaws require notice of motion? Response: What they’re proposing is suspending the bylaws, not changing them. I’ll have to check procedure whether that’s allowed. If there’s better way to phrase it, now is the time to think of that.
      4. VP Social: What’s quorum for AUS council? Response: It’s simple majority, but for bylaws it’s 2/3, we have well above it here. If we can find no way to go around the bylaw, call emergency council session to just technically have council go over the budget?
      5. VP Academic: Point of info, has to be passed in order. Budget has to be presented, not passed before that point. If that’s the case, that’s a possibility. But would involve doing emergency session next week.
      6. Arts Rep Igor: Do you have exact wording of bylaw? Only have access to web version. When was article changed, the operating point being “presented and passed,” by 31st? Response: Only old version online.
      7. CLASHA: Why wasn’t this updated on the website? He said online that there’s old version, why wasn’t updated? AUS President Response: I will partially take that one, I’m person updating bylaws from last year except for financial bylaws, consolidated by portfolio under which they fell. I had requested consolidated version of financial bylaws far before this council, but didn’t receive one. Deepak: Which was my bad.
      8. VP Finance: Motion to table motion that I just brought up?
      9. HSA: What’s going on right now? Speaker of Council: The VPF has tried to pass motion to suspend the bylaws 7.4 which require him to finish and report on his budget before Oct. 31st. That’s deemed out of order because you can’t just suspend the bylaws like that. Because he can’t report before 31st, trying to find way to put off until Nov., but procedurally has come to an impasse.
      10. Arts Rep Igor: Say that if there’s violation of bylaws in this regard, I guess we can keep execs accountable for that, but also don’t think it’s responsibility of council to make ad-hoc governance changes. If budget is presented a couple days late, don’t think it’s huge concern for people there. AUS President: I fully agree.
      11. HSA: It’s not possible to have emergency council on Oct. 31st? AUS President: Reason we have bylaws is for sake of transparency and to hold execs accountable, not legally binding to government of Quebec, but only to ourselves. We’ve had this conversation, evident that exec messed up on executive, but I advise against taking time out of midterm life for emergency council. Not sure whether taking time on Halloween is best solution. So accept that we screwed up on this one?
      12. HSA: Then why do we have bylaws if we’re to ignore them? VP Academic: We’re also bound to obey them with MOA. AUS President: We’re technically not disobeying constitution, only bylaws. HSA: The constitution, current version, points out that bylaws are to be followed. I guess article 5.3 of constitution says this, so if constitution says we have to follow bylaws…?
      13. Arts Rep Igor: Yeah, just to clarify, constitutional bylaws need to be allowed, but if you want to sue AUS over being two days late, feel free. Doubt this warrants that.
      14. Senator Charles: Motion to move onto next item of the agenda?
      15. EASSA: Question to VPF about what solution is right now, I need clarification. Response: I can have it done by Friday, make it available to be presented, just wouldn’t’ have means to presenting it to council. Some degree of consequences for me, outside of that can’t think of too many options. Can do by email?
      16. IDSSA: I think that as long as it’s available before deadline and it’s only two days late, that’s not a problem.
      17. ESA: Motion to table the motion indefinitely. Seconded
   3. No more points of discussion.
   4. Voting: All those in favour? All, with HSA opposing. Motion is approved.
10. Question Period:
    1. Arts Rep Igor: Q for speaker, is it possible to make the agenda available at least 24-48hrs before the meeting? Response: Yeah, I apologize, I’ve had midterms. Under normal circumstances, will be up 24hrs in advance.
    2. SSA: Getting notion of a lot of leniency, love that, but would that apply to when we hand in our reports a day or two late? We’re all students, but there’s the penalty if you don’t hand reports in before 72 hours. Speaker Response: Was passed at last council, I’m not really going to be lenient with it, think it’s valid in order to get agenda out. So no. I mean if it’s a one time thing, I’m not going to go crazy on rules, but not making it habit of being lenient.
    3. VP Internal: Speak to that as well, that if you do miss one report, it’s not grave consequences; it’s more about a culmination of things. If you feel passionately about this, love to chat with you. But there are clear reasons for this.
    4. SSA: Point of clarification on my own point, just to make sure if it’s handled on case-by-case basis, IE for midterms. Just like we’re handing this case, that same leniency will apply to us? Speaker Response: There’s no leniency with bylaws, just decided to leave as is. If someone wants to sue, they’re allowed to. But in terms of reports submitted 72hrs before, if there are extenuating circumstances, okay, not trying to be bad guy. We all have midterms, not that much of an excuse if 2hrs, but 2 days late is not going to fly.
    5. Arts Rep Igor: To clarify, we did adopt those rules, no time limit for positing the agenda. If you want to change that, bring this forward. Move the rules of order, ask if people wanted more specific times for thing, can certainly add that in.
11. Reports of Committees and Departmental Associations (AGELF-WSSA)
    * 1. IDSSA: I’m here for IDS, taking over for Nick. We had to leave our office for construction, trying to find a space. Got one, Leacock 514 from 12-5pm on Tues/Thurs, haven’t been kicked out yet. Meeting on Monday still in IDS office.
      2. Had our welcome back event on Oct. 5th that turned out well, not sure if it was the free pizza or people actually wanted to hang out.
      3. Been given rights to offer screening for National Geographic’s “*Before* *the* *Flood*,” movie that Leonardo DiCaprio is involved in. It’s on Oct. 25th in engineering 304.
      4. Our apartment crawl with PSSA was planned for mid Nov., but still a maybe. Will update at next council.
      5. Wine and cheese scheduled for Nov. 1st from 5-7:30pm in Arts 160.
      6. VP Internal Q: Contact me later about your office.
      7. EASSA: We held our first language exchange at Gerts on Oct. 10th, had good turnout of 20 students. But difficult to find Japanese speakers.
      8. Not in report, but announced today that we have tutoring program: two mandarin, and one Chinese-language tutors.
      9. Wine and cheese today, turnout was great.
      10. ESA: We haven’t made a lot of plans yet, but we’re hosting wine and cheese with Economics Profs next Tuesday, Oct. 25th from 6-8pm in Arts 160. McGill economics journal will be presenting during that event, is planned for interaction between students and Profs, all majors and minors and honours are welcome. Find more info on FB page
      11. We had LinkedIn photo shoot for econ students, from 11:30am-2:30pm. All registered people came, we’re satisfied.
      12. GSA: Our former president has stepped down due to personal reasons, so VP has been elected to step in, looking for someone to take over for VP.
      13. First trivia night at Gerts for Oktoberhaus was successful.
      14. Been having movie nights every second week, first one had 30-35 people turn out.
      15. Convo sessions every week at Java U, language coord helps us speak in German.
      16. Study away info session for internships working in Germany, Switzerland, etc. Had students and profs, etc.
      17. Journal team hiring is complete, and peer tutoring started last week. Next event is movie night next week on the 27th in Sherbrooke 688, Room 223.
      18. HSA: Keep this brief; under finance we’re finalizing budget and different fundraising options.
      19. Comms working on Haunted History event series, and on that day will be launching part two of our Historical Discourses journal. Editors for Historical Discourses journal have been hired.
      20. Increasing outreach to students over twitter.
      21. Working with President who is in contact with external groups, forget their name, which have run photo exhibition about indigenous groups in North America and Australia. Possibility of having event for that.
      22. Attending constitutional bylaw committee, emailing Erik about the tutoring situation with history courses.
      23. Arts Rep Isabella Q: What’s haunted history event about? Response: Had to look this up, it’s like four different Profs giving different lectures about supernatural historical things. IE ghosts and grief in the Iliad, one lecture about curses, ghosts, other hazards. I’ll share the event page on the FB group. And one about Hungary ghost festival in China.
12. Reports of the Arts Representatives and Senators
    1. Report of the Arts Representatives to SSMU
       1. Arts Rep Igor: Had our council meeting on Oct. 13th, heard from equitable governance researcher, who had ideas to reform board of governors. Also passed motion in support of AMUSE. Next council meeting is tomorrow
       2. Steering Committee met on Oct. 6th, nothing new. Met for first time this week, looks like mostly concern austerity and fighting that in different ways.
       3. AUS CBRC is looking over constitution and bylaws, settle issues we’ve been having.
       4. Computer Lab Fund Committee considered proposal to hire comms officer.
       5. Curriculum Committee: Oct. 17th meeting was cancelled, at Oct. 3rd meeting approved changes to POLI program.
       6. Attended SSMU Student Academic Summit: couple things to note was that OSD will have launch event coming up for new website. Outreach to faculty members, contact OSD and they’d be happy to support you in that.
       7. Mental health coords looking for support in different departments, maybe AUS can organize something for that?
       8. Student Affairs: advising health and wellness strategy checklist.
       9. Coming up at council tomorrow: posted referendum Qs and motions, policy regarding national hygiene products, latest estimate is 90 cents for the fee. If you want to give feedback, message me or say now.
       10. HSA Q: At SSMU meeting, VP Operations talked about communications with SNAX and cooperating on there. Have arts reps talked to university exec committee, update? VP Finance Response: Conversation where they reached out, I heard about that and put a stop to it, since it’s not allowed. So it’s not going to happen.
    2. Report of the Arts Senators
       1. Senator Charles: Keep this short, had Senate meeting last week but didn’t talk much because it was on Tuesday and thanksgiving weekend took over. But had one on Monday and talked to Dean of Students.
       2. 4floors, SSMU Halloween event, tickets on sale now. They’re about $26, should be fun.
       3. The university teaching labs working group: there was a point about Stewart Bio closing down in next two years, received grant from government for renovations. Psych is moving out of Stewart Bio and probably into Leacock? There’s also a 2 million budget to improve labs, Arts uses that budget the least because we don’t have courses that require labs, and that budget is specific for labs.
       4. Subcommittee on teaching and learning: as you know, Leacock has a lot of construction sounds, university made push to move some classes out of Leacock, but turned down idea of adding more classes online. Made agreement with city to halt construction during finals.
       5. Return to last week, the deferred exams: if you defer an exam, it counts for more than one exam, the exams that happen during that three days don’t have to file as separate things.
       6. If you look at report, there are few surveys we want you to circulate among your constituencies.
       7. Arts Rep Igor Q: My understanding that there was senate meeting today? Response: We brought up sexual assault policy, went through without people saying anything about it, shockingly. Also questioned university on bookstore and how it was inaccessible, response was wishy-washy, so will contact them later about that.
13. Reports of the Executive Officers
    1. Report of the President
       1. I was excited to talk about Leacock’s, but more important to talk about CBRC. In past, was committee that only met on ad-hoc basis, but this year we decided to meet biweekly based on purpose of going through constitution and bylaws to make sure what happened today doesn’t happen again.
       2. CBRC: We spent Friday going through the constitution, discussing how you can articulate references to bylaws, it’s in the works. Re-evaluating how knowledge is transferred year-to-year, unsustainable to have one person accumulating and consolidating and articulating same info.
       3. And accountability is super important, circulated email on participation in accountability committee. Looking for someone who isn’t stretched out among a lot of commitments, would love to have you. Meets only once per month, necessary to have people need to check in with.
       4. Leacock’s: We hired full team of editors, their contributors meeting on Monday, just had access to old website, working on updating it. Actually was a beloved publication before it died a painful death…
       5. Equity commissioners keeping eye on events coming out on AUS.
       6. Mental health had expo last week, not a lot of people came out, but great for mental health communities to connect with each other.
       7. Meeting with FMC on Friday to go through funding, if you have journals applying for funding, we need details. Budgets are under detailed, hard to allocate spending if we don’t know what it’s going towards. We want to support your initiatives, let us.
       8. Meeting with Sec Gen every two weeks to discuss revamping.
       9. Followed up with McGill Spaces meeting from the summer, see if they want me to do promo, student consultation?
       10. Fielded email from Science, if they could get into our computer lab for free. Meeting with Sci President to discuss why they don’t have 24hr lab access, see way if there’s way to strategize letting science opt into fee, and increase traffic, but not jeopardizing the space. It’s first for Arts students, since it’s our space.
    2. Report of the VP Academic
       1. ASEF: Talked about and dealt with.
       2. Curriculum Committee met on Oct. 12th, primary focus on health and wellness, creating community in the classroom.
       3. Library Advisory Committee meeting in about a week, looking for an additional member. I’m desperate.
       4. Prof Talk for wed next week is cancelled due to room booking conflicts with HSA’s talk for Halloween. So first Prof Talk will be on Nov. 9th from Psych.
       5. More student rights complaints in last few weeks, addressing them. Each department has right to pursue it if they want to.
       6. Publications: if you’re applying for funding through FMC, have to email them.
       7. ASEF: Receives 100k in student fees/year. Historically 55k to Profs for first 3 years they’re here, for hiring undergrad research assistants. We’ve recovered funds from 2013-2014 year that total about 13k and discussing a few applications to use it. Some Profs want to keep that money for hiring, looking to bring that to council at next meeting.
       8. MESSA Q: To my understanding, reason Prof Talk was cancelled not just about room booking, concerns not to addressed to council, but disingenuous? Response: Issue that caused direct cancellation was acute room booking, but VP Internal can comment on that. VP Internal: I badgered Erik to fix some room booking issues, graciously relented, but right now there’s deficient number of rooms available to us. That’s a current issue.
    3. Report of the VP Communications
       1. For Fine Arts Council, I mentioned they’re going to have their first workshop.
       2. Nuit Blanche will be on March 23rd, theme of outer space. Applying for funds, want extra money.
       3. Told you guys about the Francophone Commission logo, it looks like this. Give the FB page a like. They also post francophone music and author on page every week, if want to listen to French tunes, visit it. One of francophone commissioners resigned, so apps will be open until Oct. 24th.
       4. Marketing Committee met yesterday, first meeting. Discussed a bit of what we’re doing this year, talked about flash mob for Nuit Blanche promotions and for more recognition of execs on campus, maybe a lip dub for every department? Shout-out to Maria for the idea. Talked about Grad Ball, ticket giveaway, etc. Just a brief meeting, we’re mainly promoting grad fair right now and open mic night and workshop for Fine Arts.
       5. AUS media team took headshots for ESA, FEARC tbd. SSA headshots scheduled soon.
       6. Free printing services: want to happen, have tech coord in touch with McGill IT and uPrint, but it’s midterm season and task force is composed by students, so will follow up after midterms.
       7. No McGill Talks video in listserv because she’s a student, has a lot to do. But filming tomorrow.
    4. Report of the VP External
       1. Committees: ACE having first open mic night next Tuesday at AUS lounge at 7:30pm, please come check it out.
       2. International Student Affairs Committee: nothing new.
       3. MHAUS had resource expo last week, attendance was okay but was important to meet with other groups on campus, good forum for discussion. Planning on starting video series of people on campus talking about their experiences with mental health, if interested send an email. Got good response so far.
       4. Sponsorship committee hiring coords, finished by end of week.
       5. Career coord and I finished planning for grad fair, which is on Nov. 1st. Posting link to that in council group, super important that it’s visible in Arts community. AIO and scholarship and aid office will be present as well, looking for volunteers for staffing the actual event. Send me an email.
       6. SSMU council this past Thursday, was the third one.
       7. Continue meeting with CAPS and OASIS and also in contact with Bob, head of alumni association to follow up on that.
    5. Report of the VP Finance
       1. First thing, sorry about earlier. My bad, I take responsibility.
       2. I’ve written that SNAX has reported a loss, last year was 9.5k, which was very significant. We cover it with student fees and that’s something that needs to be fixed. Will continue to happen, since we haven’t raised prices for last two years, but cashier wages go up, rent goes up, general prices of products go up, etc. In next 2-3 weeks, have to raise prices. Realize that it’s a student café, has to be affordable, but also needs to stay open.
       3. Audit was done, couple changes made to statements, will be available by end of this month. Bonus of that is that they’re significantly cheaper, cost a 1/4 or 1/3 less than last year, saving of 10-15k.
       4. Calculating rollovers, need budgets from last year. Getting in touch with departments, need most up to date budgets they have. Rollovers have to be contingent on departments finishing their final budgets. Obviously impedes operations for everyone.
       5. Found ourselves in position with too much cash in safe, moved to bank account today. Also formed method to make sure doesn’t happen again.
       6. Reimbursements with works-study had bit of difficulty with the office, but will be in soon.
    6. Report of the VP Internal
       1. Normal, keep booking things in advance. With room booking issue, essentially Erik and I decided to repurpose Arts lounge, can have Prof Talk in lounge.
       2. Said last council would provide report on feedback on activities night and departmental orientation, not a lot of people filled out latter. Departmental Orientation had 95% positive, some thought it was too long, but 100 percent that it was important. Altogether make sure it’s shorter, improved AV and more appropriate venues. For Activities Night, wished there was greater turnout, better venue and better traffic.
       3. AUSec: Didn’t meet last week because I was out of time, but working on paper policy, Emma here as well.
       4. FEARC met on Oct. 11th and meeting weekly on Tuesdays, super keen. Pizza happening right away, lots of ideas for events. Discussed yearlong plan.
       5. Met with Associate dean, essentially said we have no more spaces, but talk to you individually how we can work with the spaces we have.
       6. Arts Rep Igor Q: For Prof Talk this month, if something is confidential, it’s not okay to double-down on it. Would just appreciate if execs don’t do that in the future. Response: It’s a genuine issue, but on my part there was a room booking issue, from my portfolio didn’t say anything that was misleading.
    7. Report of the VP Social
       1. Not lot happening, biggest news is that BDA is doing a lot of check-ins, with popularity comes with unsavoury behaviour. There are more people in basement on Thursday night, not that great for McGill admin. More changes coming to make it more pleasing to McGill University.
       2. EPIC: Stachedash coming back, update on FB page. Maybe we can do council team? Their event staff is getting hired this week.
       3. Grad ball still looking at venues and getting quotes, for those who really want to plan it, committee will be formed right after winter break.
14. Next Meeting Time and Date (**November 2nd, 2016 at** **6:00pm in LEA 232**)
15. Adjournment at 8:35PM

**Membership of AUS Council**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Name** | **Present?** | **Late / leave early?** |
| **AUS President** | Becky Goldberg | Yes |  |
| **AUS VP Communications** | Chanèle Couture De-Graft | Yes |  |
| **AUS VP Internal** | Kira Smith | Yes |  |
| **AUS VP Social** | Kat Svikhnushin | Yes |  |
| **AUS VP Academic** | Erik Partridge | Yes |  |
| **AUS VP Finance** | Deepak Punjabi | Yes |  |
| **AUS VP External** | Kia Kouyoumjian | Yes |  |
| **Arts Representative to SSMU** | Isabella Anderson | Yes |  |
| **Arts Representative to SSMU** | Igor Sadikov | Yes |  |
| **Arts Representative to SSMU** | Maria Thomas | Yes |  |
| **Arts Senator** | William Cleveland | No | Excused |
| **Arts Senator** | Casarina Hocevar | No | Excused |
| **Arts Senator** | Charles Keita | Yes |  |
| **FEARC** |  | Yes |  |
| **AUS Environmental Council** |  | Yes |  |
| **AGELF** |  | Yes |  |
| **AHCSSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **ASA** |  | No |  |
| **ASSA** |  | No |  |
| **BASiC** |  | Yes |  |
| **CLASHA** |  | Yes |  |
| **CSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **CSAUS** |  | Yes |  |
| **CSUS** |  | Yes |  |
| **DESA** |  | Yes |  |
| **EASSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **ESA** |  | Yes |  |
| **GSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **HSA** |  | Yes | Late |
| **IDSSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **MESS** |  | Yes |  |
| **WIMESSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **MIRA** |  | No |  |
| **MPSA** |  | Yes | Left early |
| **MUGS** |  | Yes |  |
| **NASSA** |  | No |  |
| **PSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **PSSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **RSUS** |  | Yes |  |
| **RUSS** |  | Yes |  |
| **SAWC** |  | Yes |  |
| **SLUM** |  | Yes |  |
| **SSA** |  | No |  |
| **SUMS** |  | Yes |  |
| **Speaker of Council** | Jonathan Glustein |  |  |
| **Recording Secretary** | Amylea Doiron |  |  |