**Arts Undergraduate Society of McGill University**

**Legislative Council**

**February 8th, 2017, 6 PM**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to order at 6:04PM
   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: BASiC, MIRA
   2. Came late: HSA
   3. Left early:
3. Approval of Minutes from January 25th 2017 Council
   1. No amendments
   2. All those in favour? All. None against
   3. Agenda is approved
4. Approval of Agenda
   1. SLUM: Add new business item, motion to support students affected by US travel ban. Seconded. This item is added.
   2. VP Academic: Motion to approve videography and photography for purpose of AUS snapchat. Speaker of Council: No formal vote, just need straw poll.
      1. Straw Poll: All agree.
   3. All those in favour? All. None against
   4. Minutes are approved
5. Announcements
   1. Arts Rep Anderson: I’m going to share event on FB council page, Feb. 14th at 5:30pm event in Wilson Hall called Conversations with Muslims. To provide context, organized after tragic events in Quebec City, group of Muslims at McGill who want to go beyond compassion and promote dialogue, Muslims live similar lives to our own. Hope you all can promote this within your departments and attend.
   2. AUS President: Work Your BA almost done, one event left this Friday, MP of Liberal party coming to speak, really great.
   3. PSSA: Thank Latin American Student Association for coming out to consent workshop, and appreciate those who reached out after for further info. And having annual interdepartmental mixer with Comp Sci and Econ, tickets are $10 with two drinks included.
   4. ACE: embrACE week is coming up, March 20-24. Right now schedule is preliminary so taking suggestions. Link for event on FB with Google form for suggestions, trying to get students involved.
   5. Arts Rep Sadikov: First, social justice days have started, is an annual event series put on by SSMU and QPIRG, includes discussions, workshops, film screenings, etc. Second thing, winter SSMU GA will be held on Feb. 20th at 3pm, please come if you can. Will be motions relating to mandatory student fees at McGill, we want quorum.
6. New Business
   1. Motion to Amend ASEF By-Laws
      1. VP Academic: This is alternate version of what I brought forward the council before last, ensure that students get their money’s worth. Instead of losing 5k per year, the money going toward hiring students will be doubled. And money will be matched by faculty.
      2. Small changes in spelling wording and formatting, but no substantive changes. Have been brought to admin attention, no official sign-off from Faculty of Arts, but discussion over last 11 months.
      3. SUMS Q: In the appendix that’s attached it says, “students registered in 9 or more credits” for fulltime, but isn’t fulltime 12+ credits? Response: Idea being 9+ credits doesn’t fulfill university definition but is fulltime for fees set by the AUS.
      4. Voting: All in favour? All. Motion is approved.
   2. Motion to Amend the MPSA Constitution
      1. AUS President: Pretty standard, CBRC review made constitutional amendments that centered on MPSA wanting to change their process to electing some execs by appointment under certain circumstances. I met with them, it’s fine.
      2. Arts Rep Sadikov Q: Do these changes require any ratification by SUS? Response: For our purposes, no, but not sure what their process is for adopting amendments?
      3. Voting: All in favour? All. Motion is approved.
   3. Motion to Approve VP Finance Screening Committee
      1. VP Finance: As you know, with constitutional changes last year for VP Finance position, has to be screening committee that meets the candidates. I’ve left the structure the same and the same structure for Qs.
      2. No points of discussion
      3. Voting: All in favour? All. Motion is approved.
   4. Motion to Support Students Affected by US Travel Ban
      1. SLUM: This motion is mostly symbolic, not a lot of concrete action but think it’s important for AUS to take a stance since there are Arts students affected by this. Important for AUS to say we’ve got your back and support you.
      2. VP Academic Q: Motion to amend to add, “be it resolved AUS and all reps abdicate for extension of deadline for undergraduate admissions at McGill for all refugee applicants and applicants from before listed countries.” VP Finance seconds this, friendly to the mover. Clause is added.
      3. Arts Rep Sadikov Q: Speak in favour of this motion, to provide more context, a similar motion is coming to SSMU council tomorrow, will allow AUS to support SSMU in supporting that and Law Student’s Association have also implemented similar amendments. I encourage you to vote in favour of this motion.
      4. Voting: All in favour? All. Motion is approved.
7. Question Period
   1. None
8. Discussion about Student Assessment Policy:
   1. VP Academic: This is specifically about Faculty of Arts assessment policy as currently don’t have one. Want to bring this forward in March or April. Will govern over reassessments of assignments in clearer manner than university assessment policy. University policy will still apply, but this will clarify that. Want to make sure this very effective for both students and Profs, important for it to be passed and become policy.
   2. Discussion:
      1. PSA Q: Clarify clause 3? Response: Some departments adopted policy where you can have points deducted from your score, IE 5% from final grade for not submitting assignments in class that aren’t a part of the course grade, a penalty for not being in class that day.
      2. RUSS Q: Does this 15% percent in last 14 days of class apply to final exams too, IE if exam is in-class? Response: This applies to final exams or midterms, since they are limited to final exam period. But this prevents Profs from calling it a “midterm” on the last day of class.
      3. Senator Keita Q: For papers due at end of class, would paper deadlines have to be moved up? Response: Not necessarily, would apply more directly to IE multiple choice exams written in class period. Whereas couldn’t write essay within that day – like in class – but could have final paper due up until the last day of classes.
      4. Arts Rep Sadikov Q: One aspect of university assessment policy has requirement for reasonable academic accommodation, IE in case of disability, policy has a lot of flexibility. Any thought to narrow that down or specify that in this policy, where there’s opportunity to work on that particular aspect? Response: Room to try and improve on that area, but because specifically noted in university assessment policy it’s a little harder to work with, but something I’m definitely interested in tackling.
   3. No more points of discussion.
9. Reports of Departmental Associations
10. NASSA: We’re North American studies. Having wine and cheese event soon with LAPSA and MIRA, it’s good way to get interdisciplinary programs together.
11. And talking to program chair to change program a bit and get an honours program, right now have to do it through ad-hoc, it’s a huge process and takes 6 months? Needs to be improved. Once grant work done on that, reaching out to first years to advertise it, putting out flyers and having event with first years like we did last year.
12. PSA: Only major department update is we elected external affairs coord, me, that’s exciting, and I’ll make sure to come to all AUS council meetings. We’re small department so don’t have a lot of projects in the works, but organized two tutorial sessions for deductive logic and had wine and cheese soirée that went smashingly.
13. Projected to have samosa sale end of March or early April and having a philosophy movie night? Philopolis happening this week. On Sunday, David Davis who is a part of McGill department will be giving talk on aesthetic.
14. And we meet on Tuesdays at 5:30pm in Leacock 931.
15. PSSA: Has been really busy, started with welcome-back event in first week. Started data analysis club, all honours Poli Sci students have to take stats course, this is way for students outside of class time to get help with stats. Help info session for it, all spots for club filled up even before info session was over. And for second or third year in the row, selling notes for specific classes, students can sign up to receive them in various package deals, adds revenue and increases student support.
16. Having interdepartmental mixer on the 16th and planning daytrip to Ottawa to attend question period and meeting with MP and touring city a bit. And held “know your degree” event last week, in response that students are confused what to do to complete degree and what happens after grad. And having day long competition in SSMU soon called “Policy Hackathon” to simulate policy negotiation on current issue, visiting faculty attending that.
17. Arts Rep Anderson Q: For stats club, since spots filled up is there a demand to expand that so others can participate? Response: We have waitlist, reason we have tight cap of 14 students is because we’re paying people who run the session, don’t have more funding. But this is trial year, can get more funding in future years.
18. RUSS: Started semester with welcome back event held at Russian restaurant in Montreal, and we’re operating Russian help desk to help with language courses. We have Russian film club at 6pm on Wednesday in Sherbrooke 688 in Room 321 and conversation circles in Sherbrooke 688 Room 309 on Thursday evenings. Prof Talk mixed with wine and cheese event? Still working on logistics of that. And having annual Russian annual evening party to be held at the end of March.
19. RSUS: I’m Sybil. Wine and cheese event happened today, even better than last time, had 70 people today, 30 people the last time. And RSUS sweaters here, this one for ours execs, this is sweater for normal students. $35/each with different colors. RSUS already launched our official FB page, substitute for MyCourses, has a page for each class so students can help each other.
20. Reports of the Arts Representatives and Senators
    1. Report of the Arts Representatives to SSMU
       1. Arts Rep Sadikov: A lot coming on SSMU council, last council was uneventful, this one coming up has lot of motions including suspension of Canada-US third safe country agreement. Some of the motions I didn’t include on report are: motion to sign letter to McGill Board of Governors from labour and student unions and Profs to promote greater democratization of Board of Governors, and motion to increase checks on Board of Directors, and set of notices on which we’ll have another opportunity to consult IE potential decrease to athletics fee? Lowered to $4 instead of $7?
       2. At the SSMU GA, policy on increases to mandatory McGill fees. In addition, some revisions to the equity policy, indigenous solidarity policy, policy on unpaid internships, and there’s also potential increase of SSMU equity fee.
       3. Committees: Maria working on mental health de-stress event, for me the SSMU Board of Directors started meeting again, QPIRG and social justice days, and Isabella collab with Casarina and other women execs across campus to talk about women in exec positions.
       4. PSSA Q: Go back to one of motions that are going to SSMU? Wedged in there, the amendments to the internal regulations? Reading it over, think it’s awesome to see students putting a lot of thought in our governance and respect that, but confused by it? Goal is awesome to make it all more democratic, but don’t think this motion does that? Clarification why this is effective as opposed to other ideas that were considered? Response: Motion is fairly extensive? PPSA: Specific clarification is helpful; these are sweeping modifications of governance system, helpful to understand the reasoning behind these changes. Igor: I don’t think I can go through changes in detail to time that’s allotted to me, but following changes made to Board of Directors in SSMU at end of last year, given more responsibility than last year, now in charge of overseeing legal and financial resources of SSMU but these powers given without procedural checks? This motion make it that board doesn’t not ratify resolution of council, sends it back to council for further amendment, and policy and plans have to be approved by GA or legislative council, a lot of strict procedure on how board meetings are supposed to be run, IE held at regular frequency, etc.
       5. IDSSA Q: Reading over motions to amendments of internal regulations, seems to give more power to legislative council, in democratic institutions there are several governing bodies. These motions supposed to create these checks and balances are lost since you just have one governing body? Why giving more power to legislative council? Response: We’re removing some of the unilateral powers the board has, but not giving more power to legislative council, per se. Board of Directors not able to pass policies on its own, but policies of legislative council need to be ratified by Board of Directors. Our main political body in SSMU is legislative council.
       6. Equity Q: There’s been some talk about how this effects legality of Board of Governors with Quebec law, I know this isn’t the case but speak more to that? Response: This motion still undergoing legal review on the SSMU side, will hear back tomorrow. Don’t necessarily expect there to be many changes on that end? Can’t really speak to that until tomorrow.
       7. PSSA Q: There was one part of it, seemed one of more troubling parts. Part that changed it to 4/5 majority to overturn J-board ruling? Explain why? Response: In order to become effective, has to be ratified by Board of Directors, which is simple majority, but also has option to overturn in exceptional circumstances, IE in cases of racism or sexism or bribery. So this requires 4/5 vote. But problem because board may not have majority to ratify? The judicial board decision then doesn’t take effect. If motion doesn’t get ratified or get majority to be overturned there’s ambiguity? This clarifies this, so motion either gets ratified or overturned, but overturning board ruling is still exceptional.
       8. HSA Q: As member of Board of Directors, depending on feedback from legal review, willing to table this motion at SSMU council tomorrow for further review and consultation? Response: Can motion to that at council if changes made are substantial, but that’s not up to me to say.
    2. Report of the Arts Senators
       1. Senator Hocevar: Haven’t had Senate for a while, but happening next Wednesday. Motion going through with BSN and Charles on having Black History Month officially recognized by Senate and McGill. SEED doing it more, have campus events, but this is official recognition.
       2. Senate Caucus: discussions on how to support people affected by travel ban and social-political environment today. Feel free to contact us, can direct you to the right resources.
       3. Teaching and Learning Services met last Monday, we didn’t meet with OSD, cancelled at last minute, so misreported on report because due earlier.
       4. I’m organizing with other female student leaders on campus to have open forum on sexism in these positions and what might deter women from taking these roles, and successes as leaders. If you’re interested and not male, talk to me, we want to have as many identities/voices as possible.
21. Reports of the Executive Officers
    1. Report of the President
       1. Centered on elections, we’re in middle of candidate elections for AUS exec and department elections in March. Working to make them more accessible? Had President’s roundtable with Kira, got good feedback from department presidents, this is where idea to make elections more accessible came from, plus different ideas for money collection for events/clothing orders.
       2. Deepak and I resuming weekly meetings, looking for 3 AUS counsellors to be on SNAX committee. Want to know more about most financially important part of this society?
       3. VP Internal Q: Be open to SNAX sponsoring these meetings? IE coffee? Response: Have to consult with SNAX managers on this one, but doesn’t seem unreasonable. We have a burnt muffin problem, could donate those to this meeting.
    2. Report of the VP Academic
       1. Eventful two weeks, Committee on Student Affairs met today, was eventful meeting, discussed attendance policies in language departments, new task force for that. Rep from that will be East Asian studies, their VPA. And big discussion on tackling issues of religion and violence with US and refugee crisis and how that can be addressed on campus. Strides to make in this direction, like with Conversation with Muslims event. Happy to go into more detail, and hoping to post Prof Talk in March with Profs from Islamic studies and Jewish studies and one from Christian/Catholic studies to talk about religion on campus. And how can Profs deal with micro aggression in classrooms, issue Profs have been increasingly aware of in last year.
       2. Misc.: Most of student rights violations have been settled. Academic Affairs Committee meeting cancelled, essay centre going great and increasing number of tutors. And check out Prof Talk en Français on March 14th.
       3. Received $100k worth of applications for ASEF, $70k for committee this year, will have allocations for you next council.
       4. And teaching awards ceremony and valedictorian apps now open, app is daunting but it’s rewarding experience.
    3. Report of the VP Communications
       1. FAC had successful dance workshop, literary rep wrapping up her event. Music rep made her workshop proposal, same techniques and skills, coming soon. 17 applications for winter FAC funding, reviewed yesterday. Reminder that Nuit Blanche is on March 23rd and callouts for volunteers going out soon. And working on bylaws, started but continuing for council next year.
       2. Francophone Commission in touch with campus space and planning, lots of applications. And working with collab event with Délit.
       3. Marketing Committee in touch with Urban Groove for flash mob, waiting on their response, location secret. Began brainstorming with Beck for potential service week with workshop.
       4. McGill Talks had feminism video, Profs and students at BDA and MWIL participated. And filmed “Get to Know AUS” this week with exec members, video will come out on Monday.
       5. For TaskForce, want your opinions. This is good opportunity for what you want to see changed in and out of the classroom, please send me an email.
       6. Graphic design, working on FMC logo, done soon. And doing promo for valedictorian, and grad ball geofilters.
    4. Report of the VP External
       1. ACE wine and cheese happened and well attended, no leftovers. As my commissioners already mentioned, starting to plan for embrACE, few events in mind, but not sure if they already posted link in FB group. Please go check out event page, fill out response form for ideas. Can be anything on community engagement or social justice.
       2. International Student Affairs Committee: trivia night at Gerts last week, turnout wasn’t incredible. One of commissioners resigned a couple weeks ago, hiring another one. If interested, can send email to external.aus@mail.mcgill.ca, and working on setting ISAC agenda for rest of semester.
       3. MHAUS: Another commissioner hired, finishing up video and talking about starting office hours for commissioners either in champagne room or library study room, where you can have active listening.
       4. Sponsorship Committee going through contracts, and event on Monday.
       5. Career Coord, last event for Work Your BA coming up. And McGill 24, emphasis on philanthropy as lot of funding comes from donations. Talked with EUS about Alumni Relations Coord, looking to do that with AUS.
       6. VP Social Q: Since you’re the fourth arts rep to SSMU what are you doing for controversial motions coming to floor this week? Response: Meeting with other arts reps to discuss the motions in depth.
    5. Report of the VP Finance
       1. I’ve heard that handful of departments want to accept payments over Tilt. I’m looking into it, I’m new to the platform but we can work through it together, send me an email.
       2. SNAX: As Becky mentioned we do have new inventory sheet due to assistant manager Holly. And shown uptake, since we raised prices and sales don’t change quantity wise.
       3. AUS VP Finance screening committee, went over that in earlier motion. Same as last year in terms of makeup of it, and also have liaison officer from the faculty to sit on it, for my successor to have relationship with admin.
       4. AUIF meeting this Monday. Steering Committee went over submitted apps, one of Profs who applied broke a bylaw so that was rejected, but everything else is going forward for review.
    6. Report of the VP Internal
       1. AUIF application, need a projector and hoping it’ll happen?
       2. President’s Roundtable happened, excited Deepak is down for Tilt. And financial accessibility for different departments, finding way around that. Super excited about addressing accessibility and accountability for how we operate. And discussed table booking issues and how to fix for next year.
       3. AUSec had first meeting, went well, supporting initiatives. If want to collab let us know. I couldn’t be there, was in Ottawa.
       4. FEARC had Quebec City trip, see on snapchat? Debrief more later.
       5. CSA not attending Student Affairs Committee today. And I’m working on tool kit for Associate Dean, IE faculty training, inclusivity and accessibility in classroom, etc.
    7. Report of the VP Social
       1. BDA: We cancelled it tomorrow, important to take back our space and reaffirm our commitment to respect. Few incidents that happened last week that was completely inexcusable. If didn’t do something big like cancelling BDA then would continue with racism and disrespect?
       2. EPIC planning charity event in March for cleaning up of our oceans. Venue is Nesta, have drink deals and raffle. And doing smaller pottery event. Reaching out to different pottery studies, 20 people going out and making pottery and would organize pickup, come by Arts office to grab theirs.
       3. Grab Ball has been selling out faster than we anticipated, faster than ever. Tier 2 sold out in 1min, whereas last year was 1hr. In terms of this volume, gets Qs of “how many people are you thinking are graduating?” Based on years prior never through we’d get this interest, been talking about this contract since November but definitely recommendation that next year we need bigger venue or two events? But launching tier 3 soon, pro tip to you guys to make a Tilt account now so you can hop on it. And next year make payments outside out Tilt?
       4. And meeting with potential candidates for VP social, was fun.
       5. VP Internal Q: Graduating students afraid they’re not getting tickets, priority given to them? Response: We only have 30 non-graduating people, mostly as dates of graduating students. We want to give priority to graduating students, IE people who don’t have a date and wanted to come don’t account for high percentage of the sales.
22. Next Meeting Time and Date (**February 22nd, 2017 at 6:00pm in LEA 232**)
23. Adjournment at 7:18PM.

**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 | Yes |  |
| **Arts Senator** | Casarina Hocevar | Yes |  |
| **Arts Senator** | Charles Keita | Yes |  |
| **FEARC** |  | Yes |  |
| **AUS Environmental Council** |  | Yes |  |
| **AUS Equity Committee** |  | Yes |  |
| **AGELF** |  | Yes |  |
| **AHCSSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **ASA** |  | Yes |  |
| **ASSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **BASiC** |  | No |  |
| **CLASHA** |  | Yes |  |
| **CSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **CSAUS** |  | Yes |  |
| **CSUS** |  | Yes |  |
| **DESA** |  | Yes |  |
| **EASSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **ESA** |  | Yes |  |
| **GSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **HSA** |  | Yes | Late |
| **IDSSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **ISSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **LAPSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **MESS** |  | Yes |  |
| **WIMESSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **MIRA** |  | No |  |
| **MPSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **MUGS** |  | Yes |  |
| **NASSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **PSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **PSSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **RSUS** |  | Yes |  |
| **RUSS** |  | Yes |  |
| **SLUM** |  | Yes |  |
| **SSA** |  | Yes |  |
| **SUMS** |  | Yes |  |
| **Speaker of Council** | Jonathan Glustein |  |  |
| **Recording Secretary** | Amylea Doiron |  |  |