



Arts Undergraduate Society of McGill University
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Motion to Stand in Solidarity with the Social Work Students' Association

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests that faculties to support one another and stand in solidarity with their mobilization;

WHEREAS, Social Work Students' Association has voted at their general assembly on October 24th to strike from classes and field placements for the week of November 19th to 23rd (APPENDIX A);

WHEREAS, as an interdisciplinary faculty many Arts students take SWRK coded classes for their programs;

WHEREAS, students in the School of Social Work are required to work 600 hours of unpaid internships over the course of their degree;

WHEREAS, citing the second whereas clause from the SWSA motion: "unpaid field placements are an unjust barrier to access for both potential and current students in the School of Social Work and whose effects are compounded for those living multiple, intersecting marginalizations";

BE IT RESOLVED, that the AUS write a statement in support of the SWSA strike which would include asking arts students to not attend their SWRK coded classes in solidarity.

Moved by,

Jennifer Chan PSSA VP External
Maeve Botham HSA VP External
Mia Trana, AUS VP Finance

APPENDIX A: SWSA General Assembly Motion

WHEREAS SWSA-McGill constituents have repeatedly expressed their frustration to their elected representatives about the fact that field placements are unpaid;

WHEREAS unpaid field placements are an unjust barrier to access for both potential and current students in the School of Social Work and whose effects are compounded for those living multiple, intersecting marginalizations;

WHEREAS at the last General Assembly of the Society, SWSA-McGill was tasked with “planning events and political actions in order to advocate [against unpaid internships], including but not limited to the organization of potential strike days”;

WHEREAS previous days of action against unpaid internships were well-received by the administration of the School of Social Work, who ensured that students faced no adverse effects from their field placements for taking part in actions denouncing unpaid internships;

WHEREAS undergraduate students in social work at UQAM and Université de Montréal have voted for a limited strike from classes and field placements for the week of November 19th to 23rd, 2018 to protest unpaid internships;

WHEREAS a day of action against unpaid internships is being organized on November 21st, 2018 by the Montreal Coalition for Paid Internships;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT undergraduate students in the BSW program declare a limited strike from field placements and classes for the week of November 19th to 23rd, 2018;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the executive council of SWSA-McGill is tasked with ensuring that assessments and class presentations be rescheduled;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the executive council of SWSA-McGill is tasked with communicating the details of the strike with the Director of the School of Social Work, the BSW Program Director, and the Field Placement Coordinators, with the goal of ensuring that students do not face adverse effects for not attending their field placements;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the executive council of SWSA-McGill is tasked with promoting the details of the strike to relevant media outlets and community partners.