**Arts Undergraduate Society of McGill University**

**Legislative Council**

**November 28th, 2018, 6:00 PM**

* 1. Call to Order
     + 6:04 pm
  2. Territorial Acknowledgement
     + 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.
  3. Roll Call
  4. Meeting Minutes for Approval: AUS Meeting November 14th 2018
     + Motion carries
  5. Approval of the Agenda
     + Motion carries
  6. Presentations from Applicants for the VP Internal Position
     + Applicants:
       - Billy Kawasaki
       - Ashton Mathias
     + Motions:
       - VP External: Motion to move to a confidential vote
         * Second motioner: Equity Commissioner
         * Motion carries
     + Vote:
       - Billy Kawasaki
  7. Announcements
     + VP External: AUS Holiday Party happening Dec 4 ARTS 160 @ 5 PM (food and snacks, drinks, both alcoholic and no alcoholic). Come chill! Come to the holiday party!
     + Arts Senator Wilson: If you're enrolled in/were enrolled in ECON 208, MATH 141, HIST 214, apply for open resources student division. Circled on HSA/ESA listservs
     + VP Finance: Everyone's journals (if you have a journal in your department, it should be included in your Constitution): please check if it's reflected in your Constitution, if not, please update that
     + VP Finance: ARI Applications open, due January 15. If you want any physical improvements (e.g. microwave in your lounge) and need funds for that, apply to the ARI! The application is available on the AUS website under Funding Applications, on the council Facebook page, or by emailing me!
  8. Unfinished Business
     + Motion to Approve the Involvement Restriction Policy
       - Motions:
         * VP External: Motion to table until the motioners come? *(The motioners were absent at this time of the meeting)*

Motion carries

* 1. New Business
     + Motion to approve the new logo of the Sociology Student Association [TABLED]
       - *Both motioners were absent from the meeting, but the motion was valid and thus discussed.*
       - Questions
         * VP External: Isn't the McGill name copyrighted according to the MOA?

Speaker (President): Yes, departmental logos can't have the McGill name, unless the department name itself has "McGill" in it

* + - * + Arts Senator Wilson: What ever happened to the Classics logo approval?

CSA: It was tabled, and we haven't drafted a new logo yet

* + - * + ESA: Aren't we misinterpreting the MOA? SSMU clubs are able to use the martlet and the McGill name in their logos.

VP External: I think SSMU has a separate MOA from AUS.

* + - * Debate
        + Arts Senator Wilson: Clarifying from the AUS MOA: the name "McGill" and the McGill martlet are protected copyrights.

Speaker (President): The MOA is always available on our website.

* + - * + VP External: Since the logo is ineligible, we should table or decline this motion.
      * Motions
        + VP External: Motion to table this motion until the SSA has a new logo

Second motioner: VP Finance

Motion tabled

* + - Motion to Hold the CSA Elections Internally [DENIED]
      * Moving
        + CSA: This is in our Constitution and was approved in Council last year. But with the workshop that was held recently, we were told we have to bring it up at Council again. We want to opt-out of the AUS' online voting platform because our department is small (170 students across all its programs) and only a fraction of people vote in the elections. We want to continue holding an in-person meeting after school hours and ballot voting there for our elections. To summarize, we'd like to opt-out of the online voting platform and hold CSA elections internally as we have before.
      * Questions
        + Arts Rep Sanchez: So you've done this in the past before?

CSA: Yes.

* + - * + PSA: Do you allow proxy voting in your Constitution?

CSA: I'm not sure. I don't think the Constitution goes into that much depth. My instinctive answer is "no."

* + - * + VP Academic: How would proxy voting work to reflect an accurate vote?

GSA: You could have a livestream or candidates present their platforms in advance so that they can be known by the proxy. Traditionally, you'd show up to vote through another person, your proxy. You can either give them your ballot or let them vote using your name.

* + - * Debate
        + Arts Rep Sanchez: I'm concerned because students may not be able to come to an in-person session. Just keep in mind that that's why most departments have online elections - because it's accessible.

CSA: Internal voting gives candidates the opportunity to give small speeches. And a lot of the time, candidates run unopposed for their positions and it's easier to see in person. We usually hold it around 6 pm so it's as accessible as possible.

* + - * + PSA: The PSA have done internal voting as well, for years. I can speak for the fact that it allows our tight-knit departments to vote effectively. Students tend to not vote online and they'll usually come out in person to vote if they're passionate. Online AUS elections, especially when you only have 178 people, are just a bureaucratized hassle.
        + Arts Rep Sanchez: I think it's important to keep in mind that for people, it's not just a matter of "prioritizing things." People can have jobs and other responsibilities that could prevent them from voting at an internal in-person election. Just because you have 20 people who'd vote in person, you could also have 20 other people voting online, etc. This seems like a voter turnout issue which could easily be solved by marketing or other venues to help people decide to vote.

CSA: We put voting out in the listserv, on Facebook, and during classes. There's no lack of awareness that this election is going to happen. Even then, usually only 20 people show up. We've felt that this system has worked for years, but if there are any complications with someone who wants to show up but can't, we can try to accommodate that.

* + - * + Arts Rep Figueiredo: If it ain't broken, don't fix it. I think they know best so let them do their thing.
        + Equity Commissioner: Maybe CSA should think about how best to accommodate the most amount of people. Arts Rep Sanchez brought up valid points and I think most points lead to the best course of action being AUS electric voting through the online system
        + GSA: I think it's perfectly fine if the CSA wants to make a proxy-voting system. Considering the small number of the department, their voting system is valid. They can look towards accessibility but that doesn't mean their voting system isn't valid.
        + VP Academic: I understand online voting might not be the most feasible for small departments, but I think it's important to understand that you don't know whether students would only be able to vote online, and you need to know what stops people from voting or from prioritizing voting. If there's a way to mediate or livestream and still keep the online forum open, I don't think you should deny people the right to vote.
        + CSA: I understand and respect all the viewpoints as far as accommodation goes. Our point is that, last season, only two positions on the whole exec board were contested positions. There's a whole disparity of how much voting interest there actually is. The people who care are actually going to show up. It's unnecessary to go through the online voting platform when only one or two positions are actually going to be contested. And there's only a few voters for those too.

Arts Rep Sanchez: I think it's unfair and judgmental to assume people who show up care the most about the elections. That's not how life works for most McGill students. I think that perhaps further consultation with CSA students should be made to see how to best handle this situation. Just because something has worked for years doesn't mean that it will work now.

* + - * + CSA: Do any other departments do this? If it's in other Constitutions and it's been approved by Council before, I don't see why our department isn't allowed to do this.

Equity Commissioner: Wording, opinions, and circumstances throughout time and life change. Sentiments change with every Council. This precedent can't be used as a tool to silence this debate.

* + - * + CSA: We already have internal voting in our Constitution. If we didn't try to bring this up again as per the workshop's recommendation, we wouldn't be in the midst of having to change our system. We're trying to feel/be as upfront as possible, and if we're the only department not being allowed internal voting even when we're being upfront, this feels unfair.

President: The way our electoral by-laws work is that departments can apply to get internal votes through Council with a 2/3 majority vote. Usually, the vote is only in February. This is not the only case where small departments weren't allowed to have internal voting.

* + - * + PSA: I understand what the Equity Commissioners and Arts Rep Sanchez are alluding to: there are issues of accessibility in various forms. But I think, as the GSA and Arts Senator Wilson stated, proxy votes, if the CSA deems it friendly, would largely overcome these issues, allowing for a broad range of accessibility, while maintaining this more traditional way of voting. I can speak from our department's experiences too: we have a lot of people who vote via proxy and it's a very effective system. I see no reason to see any negligent moving based on not taking up the AUS Elections interface system.
      * Motions
        + Arts Senator Wilson: Motion for CSA bring forward a motion at the subsequent AUS Council meeting to amend their Constitution to allow for proxy voting.

CSA: Motion considered friendly

* + - * + Equity Commissioner: Motion to change "blind voting" to "anonymous voting"

CSA: Motion considered friendly

* + - * Points
        + VP Finance: Point of Order, one of the movers needs to be outside of the CSA (at this point, the second motioner was the CSA President)

Speaker (President): Yes, you need a second mover within Council

Second motioner: PSA

* + - * Vote
        + Motion denied

8.1 - Motion to Approve the Involvement Restriction Policy [PASSED]

* 1. Moving
     + VP Social: The IRP has been edited slightly and I am motioning for the IRP now with the amendments offered by the general constituents.
  2. No questions
  3. No debate
  4. Vote
     + Motion carries

* 1. Motion Approve Departmental Budget [PASSED]
     + Moving
       - VP Finance: Every year we have to get departmental association budgets approved, first by FMC, and now by Council.
     + Motion
       - VP External: Motion to amend to add BASiC and CLASHSA to the motion, who were approved but not added to this motion
         * Motion considered friendly
     + Vote
       - Motion carries
  2. Motion to Approve FMC Decisions from November 27th and 13th [PASSED]
     + Moving
       - VP Finance: As per the by-laws, FMC Decisions have to be approved by Council. These are the decisions being approved.
     + Vote
       - Motion carries
  3. Executive Officer Reports
     + President
     + VP Academic
     + VP Communications
     + VP External
     + VP Finance
     + VP Internal [NA]
     + VP Social
  4. Reports of the Arts Representatives and Senators
     + Arts Representatives
     + Arts Senators
  5. Reports of Departmental Associations
     + CSUS
     + EASSA
     + MPSA
     + ESA
     + RUSS [Late] [Absent]
     + WIMESSA [Absent]
  6. Question Period
  7. Next Meeting: January 16th, 6:00 pm
  8. Adjournment