**Arts Undergraduate Society of McGill University**

**Legislative Council**

**January 30th, 2019, 6:00 PM [Amended as per February 14th’s Council]**

* 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 Minutes January 16th, 2019
     + Minutes Approved
  5. Approval of the Agenda
     + Motion to add Motion to Grant Fridge Door Gallery the Ability to Display Student Art in the Ferrier Computer Lab in the agenda
       - Motion passes
     + Agenda approved
  6. Announcements
     + VP External: There's a LinkedIn workshop on Friday, with professional headshots being taken at 12:30-2:00 and Work Your BA, I'll be posting both events in the Facebook group
     + Senator Wilson: The University is soliciting students on the revisions to the policy against Sexual Violence. The policy will be brought to sign in February with a vote in March. Please submit feedback to the online form linked in the Council Facebook group
     + HSA: There will be student consultations from February 6 to 13 on McGill's revised Sexual Violence Policy happening across campus. Check out the Facebook event to learn more. I encourage to get involved with that, as it's important
     + ACE: We're giving out free hot chocolate on Friday, February 1, from 11 am to 3 pm at Leacock lobby!
     + MUGS: We're having an open mapping group (openings are in-group accessible) on Friday from 3 to 5 pm as part of our partnership with Right to Campus. For those of you interested in getting involved, the Facebook event will be posted on the Facebook group soon.
     + President: We extended the nomination period for elections. Please run for AUS Elections. It changed my life. I encourage you. If you have questions, let me know!

6.1 - Motion to Suspend Robert's Rules so SUMS can present departmental report early

* 1. Motion passes

6.2 - SUMS Report

* 1. Had a hoodie sale (Jan 28 to Feb 1)
     + Come to our lounge!
  2. Book sale TBA
  3. Awkward semi-formal tickets TBA
  4. U1 movie night
  5. Wine and cheese yesterday
  6. LaTex tutorial Feb 4
  7. Career Fair TBA
  8. Women in math event TBA
  9. Awkward semi-formal TBA

6.3 - Motion to Suspend Robert's Rules to move 5th motion up to the 3rd spot

* 1. Motion passes

* 1. New Business
     + Motion to Approve the Decisions of AUIFC [PASSED]
       - Moving (VP Finance)
         * AUIFC met last week to allocate all its funds for one semester

The money was dedicated to different capital improvements on campus

We haven't let anyone ("anyone" being the applicants) know about the results

Most of the money went to the Library Partnership Committee, in accordance with the by-laws that state the LPC should be prioritized.

* + - * Questions
        + Senator Wilson: Is there anywhere we can locate the requests/applications and money allocations?

VP Finance: It's not attached but I can add it.

* + - * + VP External: Is it correct that the AUIFC's decisions are Appendix B on the website?

Speaker: The actual allocations are in the Appendix.

VP Finance: I can post brief descriptions of what the allocations were on the Facebook group.

* + - * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - Motion to Ratify AFS [PASSED]
      * Moving (VP Finance):
        + Audit finished in the end of November and we got the actual finished statements after we met last Council. We need to ratify them to send to McGill. The whole thing's attached if you have questions.
      * "Debate"
        + President: Props to Mia because it wasn't easy to do this audit. We need to acknowledge how hard she worked on this!
      * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - [Motion to Grant Fridge Door Gallery the Ability to Display Student Art in the Ferrier Computer Lab] [late] [PASSED]
      * Moving (VP Finance):
        + The walls are bare in Ferrier, so it can be depressing since it's open 24 hours. We have an art collective that doesn't any current space to display its art, so we had the idea to display its art on Ferrier's currently-bare walls. The contract would be signed between the artist and Fridge Door (for the responsibility of the art). No original artwork would be displayed. This would be a great opportunity to promote the Fine Arts and to liven Ferrier up.
      * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - Motion to Approve the Italian Trip Fee for LLCU 301 and POLI 344 [PASSED]
      * Second motioner: Arts Rep Karia
      * Moving: President
        + We have to approve any course trip fees due to the FIOs.
      * Questions
        + Arts Rep Figueredo: Are these fees just for the students in the class?

Professor: Yes, they are not tuition fees necessary to run the program. The fees apply just to the students who will take the summer course

* + - * + PSSA: Could there be more details on the class itself? Such as the context, syllabi, cost, and the location? The cost isn't included in the motion.

Professor: There are 2 courses, one POLI and one LLCU (history). I don't have the syllabi with me but they can be obtained from the professors of the courses. They'll be posted on the website that isn't quite complete yet (it's in the process of finishing details). The cost is $3000, which covers accommodation, meals, and ground transportation within Rome for the entire month (June 1-July 1).

* + - * + WIMESSA: How much of the program fees are provided by the students and how much are provided by the department/university?

Prof: The university isn't providing any fee. The university is only providing two professors to teach. The course fees are all student-provided fees.

* + - * + HSA: Is there a potential for students to apply for bursaries or funding similar to those for internships?

Prof: We don't have any scholarship for this particular course or school, but students can apply for mobility funds

* + - * + Arts Senator Wilson: What method did you go through to ensure all of the costs incurred were the cheapest possible options? For example, did you compare different buses?

Prof: For the buses, we're taking public transit. For the other costs, we negotiated for a residence; the residences quoted us some prices and we negotiated down because we were eager to have this program, so we were in a good place to negotiate. Compared to similar programs (many N. American programs have similar Italy courses), it's cheaper.

* + - * + DESA: On October 3, we had a similar motion for the East Asian course and we didn't approve it until we had a further breakdown of what the activities would be because we wanted more transparency. Is this similar here?

Speaker: It's up to the Council whether they want to table this and bring it back after more information is available

* + - * + ASA: Do these students apply and become accepted to these courses or do they just sign up for it?

Prof: They have to apply because there is a limited number of students in the course, exactly thirty students from McGill and five from La Sapienza. The selection process is based on applicants' student records.

* + - * + PSSA: If there are more than thirty students who apply, how are they going to be selected? Are there any barriers that would hinder a student form accessing this course other than finances, like nationality or disabilities?

Prof: Other than financial reasons, I don't foresee any barriers. The professors head the selection process. The whole purpose of the course (the reason why we gave La Sapienza the option to include 5 of their students) is to have as diverse of a group as possible. Both courses are focused on the issue of migration so it's important that the community of the students representing their schools can represent this issue and bring it right to the forefront.

* + - * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - Motion to Approve the POLI 339 Summer Course Fee [FAILED]
      * Second motioner: GSA
      * Point
        + Arts Rep Karia: Arts Rep Sanchez isn't here, but she'd like her vote to be counted as an Abstention.

Speaker: She should send an email beforehand

* + - * Moving (Arts Rep Figueredo)
        + This fee is only charged to students in that class. This is just a procedural matter. This isn't a political issue: this motion is to facilitate discussion, not to make a political statement. This is about education; POLI 339 focuses on domestic politics. It'd be shameful to deny students the opportunity to learn about the world. This is a once in a lifetime chance. Any student in McGill can apply. 170 people signed approving this course; this class has a 40 person cap. This is a procedural motion.
      * Questions
        + HSA: Could you introduce the substance of the motion and explain what the motion contains, what the course is, what the cost is, etc.?

Arts Rep: This is a class where any student at McGill is eligible and would be charged $1000 to fly to Israel and learn about the domestic politics in the region. The fee covers transportation and other expenses in the course and would only apply to students in the class.

* + - * + President: Who are the two movers?

Speaker: Arts Rep and GSA

* + - * + Arts Rep Karia: Do the movers know how long the course is meant to be?

Arts Rep Figueredo: The course lasts for two weeks in August

* + - * + WIMESSA: The entire cost of the program is $1000?

Arts Rep Figueredo: No, this student fee is just to help subsidize the cost of the course

* + - * + WIMESSA: Where's the rest of the money coming from?

Arts Rep Figueredo: From generous donors

* + - * + ASA: Where exactly are these donors and where's the money coming from?

Arts Rep Figueredo: Local business community and philanthropists

* + - * + GSA: Clarification - No money from other students is going into the course?

Arts Rep Figueredo: Yeah

* + - * + HAS: Who are the donors for the students' funding? A foundation? A non-profit?

Arts Rep Figueredo: I don't know

The Geralt Schwartz & Heather Reisman foundation is donating to the course. The Faculty of Arts will subsidize 18 students; travel costs to Israel is part of the program

* + - * + WIMESSA: What is the syllabus for this course? Is it available for us to see?

Speaker: No, the syllabus is not available. The course itself is about domestic politics.

* + - * + HSA: Is there anything about the content of the course other than domestic politics?

Arts Rep Figueredo: The course is about comparing Israeli and Canadian domestic politics. Reach out to the professors of the course for more information.

* + - * + PSA: Would there be any extra cost(s) beyond those outlined and covered by the student fees and donations?

Arts Rep Figueredo: Not that I know of, no.

* + - * + ASA: How will they select which students will get the funding?

Arts Rep Figueredo: Through an application process. Any student in McGill welcome to apply.

* + - * + WIMESSA: What input do the donors have for the content of the course?

Arts Rep Figueredo: None. The content of the course is chosen by the professors

* + - * + Gallery: What's the application process like for the course? On what criteria are students chosen?

Arts Rep Figueredo: I'm not 100% sure of the application process, but it definitely involves sending in a transcript, maybe some recommendation letters, etc., like one would for other similar courses.

* + - * + WIMESSA: Is the course not available for students with Middle Eastern passports who are banned by Israeli government?

Arts Rep Figueredo: The course is open to all McGill students, regardless of ethnicity or nationality.

* + - * + WIMESSA: My question wasn't whether Middle Eastern students can go into the program, my question was whether students banned by the Israeli government can participate in the course and go to Israel.

Arts Rep Figueredo: I heard what you said, and yes, any McGill student can participate in the course.

* + - * + WIMESSA: Any student, regardless of their passport or nationality, can participate?

Arts Rep Figueredo: This is what I was told by the people in the course.

* + - * + HSA: For the application form, you mentioned it's available. Could you direct Council to where they could find it?

Arts Rep Figueredo: Email the professor

* + - * + Gallery: Is this the first year this course is being offered at McGill?

Arts Rep Figueredo: For this specific course, yes

* + - * + Gallery: So do you know which groups on campus have influenced the decision to have this course be offered?

Arts Rep Figueredo: PSSA?

PSSA: There are no student associations that have influenced the offering of this course. We made an announcement about it but we had no influence on it at all. It's just the Political Science department's responsibility to make POLI courses known.

* + - * + Arts Senator Omu: Could we table this motion to another session where the professors could speak on this?

Speaker: Yes, you could, it's up to you.

Arts Rep Figueredo: I've given the same information as the professor who was here earlier. It'd be a double standard not to vote for this. It would be hypocrisy of the highest form.

* + - * + President: If I had the application form, would people like to see it?

Speaker: I think it's a good idea but could you post it on the agenda page? Or send me the link.

* + - * + AHCSSA: Was the previous course's application form available to us?

Speaker: No

* + - * + DESA: Given that most of the funding is coming from private donors, why does there need to be additional funding from the AUS? Is this a symbolic endorsement? I don't see why the AUS should be allocating money if there's enough money from elsewhere.

Arts Rep Figueredo: The AUS is not giving any money. This is not just an endorsement, this is just allowing students to pursue an academic opportunity on their own terms

* + - * + Gallery: The course will be held at the Hebrew university in Jerusalem. Sometimes Jerusalem courses have field trips. Do you know if there are any?

Arts Rep Figueredo: I don't know.

* + - * + Gallery: You've been talking about how this is a procedural matter. What are the implications if AUS does not pass this motion?

Arts Rep Figueredo: This means that a course, which would be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, wouldn't be offered. McGill would lose out on a key opportunity and the Hebrew University students would lose out on coming to McGill and to learn about our school.

President: Technically even if we don't pass this motion today, this can be brought to SSMU, since the FIOs say only one student governing body can fund this. This can be overridden and brought to SSMU.

* + - * + Gallery: How can I, as a Palestinian, take this course if I'll just be detained by the Israeli government?

Arts Rep Figueredo: There have been other Palestinians who have taken similar courses.

* + - * + WIMESSA: Which campus on the Hebrew University would this course take place?

Arts Rep Figueredo: Main campus

* + - * + PSA: What's the process of choosing locations, providers, etc.? Are we getting the best deal and in turn giving the best experience?

Arts Rep Figueredo: I personally went and it's great.

* + - * + Gallery: I was wondering how this could be presented as an equal opportunity if many students can assume they can't enter Israel?

Arts Rep Figueredo: There have been students all over the world who have done this program (from other universities)

Speaker: These questions are substantially similar to other questions so please don't ask questions that have already been asked that we cannot answer at this meeting.

* + - * + Gallery: I just want to know the name of the person who brought this motion forward?

Arts Rep Figueredo: Andrew Figueredo.

* + - * + Gallery: Which student association are you affiliated with?

Arts Rep Figueredo: I'm an Arts Representative.

* + - * + Arts Rep Karia: For PSSA - Is there a time limit on passing this motion? When do you need a decision?

PSSA: PSSA doesn't know anything about this class. We were just asked by the professor to share the announcement for this class. We don't have a lot of substantial information beyond what's on the application form.

* + - * + GSA: PSSA doesn't know anything, but to get this class to exist would the professors have had to present some plan for the course or did McGill approve it to some extent?

Arts Rep Figueredo: The PSSA approved this class in conjunction with the Hebrew University *(Note: This is false. The PSSA did not have any role in approving POLI 339)*. It's just up to AUS to approve these fees. The FIOs mandate that we approve fees like these.

VP Finance: The course approval process is as follows - The department approves it then the curriculum committee approves it

* + - * + President: Where are we on time?

Speaker: Debate hasn't started so there's no cap.

* + - * + PSA: Money - How will it be given to students? Is this going directly into the university and the university will spend all the money on the expenses?

Arts Rep Figueredo: Pretty sure the university takes care of the travel

* + - * + BASIC: Is it possible to get a list of countries from the people who've already done this course? When you say "all around the world" it's not very specific

Arts Rep Figueredo: I can confirm there have been Palestinian students who went in the past. Please ask the professor

* + - * + Gallery: The $1000 fee would be paid by the students?

Arts Rep Figueredo: Yes, by just the students

* + - * + Gallery: If a student gets detained or barred, would the money be refunded along with damages?

Arts Rep Figueredo: Yes.

* + - * + AHCSSA: How long has it been?

Speaker: At least 20 minutes

* + - * Points
        + WIMESSA: Point of Order: Can we make sure no councillors or members of the gallery are video taping anyone

Speaker: Recording meetings are not outlawed in the by-laws or Constitution, so I'm not going to rule that out of order. But out of respect, I will ask that you please don't video tape people.

* + - * + Arts Rep Karia: Point of Parliamentary Inquiry - Is there any way for us to suspend the rules to ensure that we can put in a temporary ban on video taping?

Speaker: We would need to motion to add them to Robert's Rules or the Constitution. But what you will have is my personal disappointment if you film and post it later.

* + - * + PSSA: Point of Information: Would there be any way for us to suspend the rules and put in a motion to prohibit recording for the rest of the discussion of this specific motion? I recognize this topic is very identity-based and no one should feel threatened voicing their opinion especially when it comes to personal identity and politics.
      * Motions
        + Arts Rep Karia: Motion to enter debate

Motion passes

* + - * + WIMESSA: Motion to amend existing motion as it stands - to strike the 5th whereas clause

Speaker: No, the 5th whereas clause is not a substantive clause, so there's no reason to strike it.

* + - * + CSA: Motion for a 2-minute recess

Motion passes

* + - * Debate
        + PSSA: I want to clarify a bunch of misunderstandings. PSSA made a post with the application at the request of the professor, but we deleted it afterwards because of the discourse it generated. We did not mean to insult or offend anyone. We encourage academia but we also encourage people. The announcement or the subsequent deleting of the announcement were not meant to reflect solidarity for either side of the debate. This also does not reflect any of the PSSA's exec's opinions on this matter. We have no control over what courses are offered.
        + PSSA: I want to bring into discussion that there are probably people wanting to take this course. I believe this is a conflict of interest to vote for the course. Please recuse yourself from the vote if you intend to take this course

[Point of Parliamentary Inquiry] ESA: Is there anything in the by-laws about that?

Speaker: No, but it's the Councillor's right to request something out of morality

[Point of Parliamentary Inquiry] GSA: Is this binding or a suggestion?

* + - * + ASSA: Hebrew University is built on occupied land. The refusal to approve the land isn't referring to boycotting, we just find it problematic that we're acknowledging that Palestinians on campus will be refused the very basics of human rights. We find it problematic that we will be paying for the continued existence of an Israeli settlement. We do understand that this is just a procedural matter and an educational trip, but we still find it problematic to endorse a trip by endorsing its finances.
        + President: I also want to say, in regards to PSSA, that you are here as a representative of your constituents, not your own opinion. You are here for your department, not your own view, unless you are a member of the gallery.

DESA: As DESA, we have it in our Constitution and mandate that we actively oppose settler colonialism. Given that the Hebrew University campus is situated on occupied land, this is the view of our department, not my personal opinion.

* + - * + CSA: A response to PSSA'S statement - Having talked to some CSA's members, we think that it's the job of the student association to challenge the professors and the relationships between professors and students. Even just passing along a message is showing complacency to the professors. Refusing to give the course exposure and instead trying to challenge professor-student relations and creating debate within the department is important.
        + HSA: I'd like to speak to concerns brought up by gallery including certain nationalities' hindrances to participate in course. This is concerning and creating inequal opportunities for Arts students. We have an equity policy and we value equity and non-discrimination in the association. I think it'd be bad to pass this program.
        + WIMESSA: This is a discriminatory exchange. Through this exchange, it's not just the University but the University of Jerusalem that discriminates against Palestinian, and the state that it's located in, which discriminates against people based on nationality, ancestry, and political opinion (decreed in Israeli legislation). This does not affect just people with Middle Eastern passports but also Canadian, American, Arab heritage; people with Muslim names are likely to be deported. It's no longer the case that just Palestinians are being discriminated against. We're representing our constituents. We, as a body, constantly try to promote equal discourse and yet we're creating a partnership with a discriminatory university.
        + PSA: I understand this is politically-charged and I won't make a statement against or for. We just voted on a motion about a fabulous set of courses for Italy. The Italian government, just as with any government, have also set in place rules and laws determining who can and cannot offer. That's on the students and professors to look into. Sometimes people go and get denied. But we must also recognize that we're voting on fairness and if that happens, then that's tragic BUT we have to vote on the facts of the matter that there's a student risk and that you're subject to investigation and the border's rules.
        + Gallery (Daniel Minden[?]): I heard the statement that the Hebrew University is on an illegal Israeli settlement. That's not the case. The campus is located in a part of Jerusalem called Mt. Scopus which is recognized as Israeli territory. Israeli sovereignty over that territory is NOT questioned. UN and Palestine came to an agreement that that territory would be part of Israel. A large fraction of university students Hebrew is at Palestinian; a plurality of students is encouraged
        + Gallery (Maya?): It's about equal access. What we have in Israel is systematic discrimination against Palestinians and other people of Arab origins. To let people of those nationalities into an Israeli university isn't "equal access," it's just the exception to the rule.
        + ASA: Why are we comparing Italy to Israel? Italy is NOT an occupied territory and there is no discrimination in their laws or private donors sponsoring this exchange.
        + Gallery (Noah Lew): The motion being debated is whether the fee is a reasonable fee for the students who want to take this course. Attempting to use this vote as a proxy vote for Israeli-Palestinian politics would be a misuse of your constituency. The price is $1000. If you feel $1000 is too steep, please debate this. If you feel that $1000 is reasonable, I can only assume you're approving this motion. There's been a reference to issues with the territory, those were cleared up by gallery member Daniel Minden.
        + Gallery: I am defending constitutional rights and academic rights. This course is a simple academic and apolitical issue. This course is about two universities seeking to collaborate about domestic politics, that's it. To deny this course would be anti-Semitist.
        + Gallery (Liam M): A response to PSA - the Italy VS Israel comparison doesn't hold. I disagree with Italian migrant policies but they don't bar passport holders from entering their borders based on race or political views. However, Israel does do this: it's enshrined in their law. BDS supporters are literally outlawed. I don't see how this body can, in good faith, can approve this course, when there's a very serious reality that students cannot enter. This isn't conducive to a safe atmosphere for McGill students, which should be this body's primary concern.
        + Gallery (Noah Lew): One of the issues is whether there's a chance that people of certain nationalities can't go because they're banned by the state of Israel. I looked into that, they have a list of nationalities banned: Palestine (4, none of those Israelis), Israelis are banned from 14 states, banned from the US, Armenians banned from Pakistan, Canadians barred from Libya and Syria.
        + Gallery (Anthony): The class is problematic and I'm concerned about academic integrity. This course's professors have biases in some places.
        + Gallery (Jo): Responding to apoliticism and neutrality - There is no such thing as neutrality in an issue like this. When you claim neutrality, you're siding with the oppressors. Approving finance is not neutral, because you're inherently saying you want this program to function and to have funding.
        + President: I would like to cede my time to Mo.
        + Gallery (Mo Barbier[?]): We began today's Council with a land acknowledgement, and it's ironic that this land (along with Canadian territory) is considered to be Canadian territory by the UN while this same land which is considered Israeli territory was in any ways forcefully annexed (not in the same way as Canada). It's ironic. Additionally, responding to accusations of anti-Semitism - As a Jew, when we consider that this is apolitical, people have made political statements toward me that are inherently political despite claiming apoliticism
        + WIMESSA: This might be some political proxy vote. This is representatives asking real questions with legitimate concerns. Stolen land: yes, a large portion of it was stolen. Extension was objective. Nine Palestinian families were evicted from their homes.
      * Motion
        + President: Motion to extend debate by fifteen minutes

Motion passes

* + - * Debate (continued)
        + RSUS: This issue is politically charged. I want to counter notions that this is purely procedural. I hope we can be careful when we discuss this. I heard someone say the word “anti-Semitism.” Anti-Semitism is real and has many forms. Sometimes, anti-Semitism can take the form of criticizing Israel. I don't think it's helpful today to jump the gun and say, "Watch out for anti-Semitism!" Let's not let this get ugly.
        + Gallery (Noah Lew): Responding to concerns about settler colonial land - We are students at McGill University, a university also situated on settler colonial land. I don't understand why we're preventing this course since it'd be hypocritical. Turn the discussion back to the funding.
        + Gallery (Shara[?]): This is about students being able to attend Hebrew University, so the point about other countries and what countries Israel is barred from is irrelevant. As a McGill student, I should have access to any course. McGill University's responsibility is to make sure their courses are inclusive. As a Palestinian student, this course is not offered to me.
        + Gallery (Teddy): Everyone has the opportunity to attend the course. I don't understand where these accusations of "not being allowed" are coming from when we don't know anything. Maybe research before you open your mouth. Please research before you speak.
        + WIMESSA: We have done our research. I'm the president of Islamic Studies. This is what I studied. I'm Palestinian. I'm under good authority when the things I say are true and are done on behalf of my department. We'd be automatically barred from participating in this program. We need to understand that this is something that affects every single person in our department.
        + ESA: I know the professor very well, and the professor says that he believes that no student should be barred from this course. If the Israel authorities bar a student, he would rather cancel the course than give that student the emotional grief of missing it. The professors take the idea of students being rejected by Israeli authority very seriously and are doing their best to make sure it doesn't happen.
        + Gallery (Ethan Berg[?]): Responding to whether Hebrew University's main campus is located on occupied land or not - I did the research: Mount Scopus is located in an area that is located in Israel but since 1967 they've expanded and built dorms and other facilities in East Israel (Palestine), so it is partly on colonialized land.
        + GSA: I'm surprised that AUS has to encourage anyone voicing these concerns to getting this course cancelled. This is a vote on money. Technically no passport is banned from Israel
        + HSA: Responding to Noah Lew that McGill University is also on indigenous land - I think that debate trivializes the processes of neo-colonialism that are still taking place. I'd discourage anyone using that as a debate point, especially if you are not Indigenous. It trivializes neo-colonialism and genocide that are still happening and goes against the environment that we want to cultivate at AUS Council.

*ASSA attempts a Point of Order, citing the violation of her rights POLI 339 poses to her.*

* Speaker: That is not a Point of Order. Please do not use mislabeled points as an attempt to speak. If you would like to debate, wait until I call on you. If you do not know the points, please look on the back of your placards, as they are all listed and defined there. If you are a gallery member, feel free to take an unused placard from the front of the room. If you need them, we have active listeners on standby.

*ASSA and WIMESSA leave the room to speak to the active listeners.*

* ? (Point of Order): I don't think the Speaker should be raising their voice, that's not facilitating a safe space for councillors to express their thoughts.
  + - * + Arts Rep Figueredo: I'd like to refocus the discussion. This is an academic opportunity. If we deny it, we deny it to McGill students and Hebrew students. Canadians, Israelis, and Palestinians, go ahead. We're voting on simply approving the summer course fee. $1000 is very reasonable. We saw everyone else approve $3000 fee to Italy. It'd be a shame if constituents couldn't take this opportunity
        + Gallery (Ian Grier): As a Poli Sci student, I expect poli sci courses will balance all political ideologies and stances. It seems like a course dealing with Israeli policies in Israeli university in the Israeli state, so the professors and students can't do this in a neutral way.
        + FMC: It'd still be taught by a McGill professor, that bias wouldn’t be there
        + WIMESSA: Insinuations that anyone's ethnic backgrounds is making them an unbalanced member of this discussion is uncalled for. These are very serious concerns about the course being offered. I refute the idea that this is just a procedural matter. Setting a price for this course says we're okay with this course existing and that we want to discriminate against our students. The points being brought up are very real and we should be listening to these students when they're explaining the harmful effects this course would have against their student experiences.
        + Gallery (Judanna[?]): Responding to WIMESSA - You're disserving WIMESSA constituents. Since Israel is also a Middle Eastern country, you're doing a disservice to the constituents. Hebrew University is a left-wing campus with lots of Palestinian students and BDS who have the right to speak and do so.

WIMESSA: The village of Vista and people who are exiled from that village went to the village of Ah'Houdssa: Hebrew University stole the land from them.

* + - * Motion
        + Equity Commissioner: Motion to recess for 10 minutes

Motion passes

* + - * Debate (continued)
        + PSA: We should listen to all the Speakers. There are questions as to where the money is going. These are questions that could be asked for anything. In theory, these funds could be asked for the same way that textbook funds could be asked for. Ultimately, this is a motion about whether we should allow McGill to take money from students to spend it on this course. I hope we can have a civilized discussion.
        + Gallery (Eva Torna[?]): I want to address a point earlier that was confusing, saying that going to Israel to learn Middle Eastern politics would be biased. Bias? What better place to learn about Israeli politics than in Israel? That made no sense to me. I think it's petty that we're exciting all these arguments about the state of Israel. If we're interested about the conflicts, why not go to the land itself and see it with our own two eyes?
      * Motions
        + GSFSSA: Motion to Call the Question
        + PSSA: Motion to Call the Question and make it a closed vote

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry Arts Rep Figueredo: Is the closed vote a debatable

Speaker: It is not debatable but it requires 2/3 majority

Gallery: Can we clarify "closed vote"?

Speaker: We ask the gallery to leave, write down the votes anonymously, then announce the results.

Motion passes

Moving into a closed vote

* + - * Voting
        + Motion fails

13 YES

**14 NO**

9 ABSTAIN

7.1 - Motion to Suspend Rules to Table Everything On Today's Agenda to Next Council

* 1. Motion Passes
  2. ~~Executive Officer Reports~~
     + ~~President~~
     + ~~VP Academic~~
     + ~~VP Communications~~
     + ~~VP External~~
     + ~~VP Finance~~
     + ~~VP Internal~~
     + ~~VP Social~~
  3. ~~Reports of the Arts Representatives and Senators~~
     + ~~Arts Representatives~~
     + ~~Arts Senators~~
  4. ~~Reports of Departmental Associations~~
  5. ~~Question Period~~
  6. Next Meeting: February 13th, 6:00 pm
  7. Adjournment
     + Motion passes