**Arts Undergraduate Society of McGill University**

**Legislative Council**

**November 13th, 2019, 6:00 PM**

* 1. Call to Order (0:00)
     + 6:03 pm
  2. Territorial Acknowledgement (0:30)
     + 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 (0:55)
  4. Meeting Minutes for Approval: [AUS Council October 30th 2019](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/AUS-Council-October-30th-2019.docx) **| APPROVED** (4:16)
     + No amendments
     + Minutes approved
  5. Approval of the Agenda **| APPROVED** (4:40)
     + Amendments
       - PSA [Motion to Move PSA's Departmental Report Before New Business]: I have to leave today, but I'm also supposed to be giving a report. So, I was wondering if I could move my report up?
         * Speaker: Yes, we can move your report to right after the motions? When do you have to leave?
         * PSA: 7:30 pm?
         * Speaker: …We can move your report to before New Business, then.
       - President: Motion to Add the Late Motions to the Agenda
       - Speaker: Also just wanted to note to everyone that we're going to suspend the rules at the end of the meeting and break into a small, moderated discussion to address the issues brought out re: the trip to Israel Palestine this winter. So that's going to be a motion towards the end of the meeting after we've finished with reports. If anyone has questions specifically to any members of Council going on the trip about anything about the trip please keep those to the end. We're going to have one discussion on that stuff and have the floor dedicated to just that issue.
         * CSAUS [Point of Order]: How germane is it for this discussion to take place when it's not the order of the Society?
         * Speaker: So, in the past, what we've found has worked well here in the AUS was to suspend the rules and have a more informal, moderated discussion for things like this. I talked to the AUS execs beforehand and this is how we worked last year regarding some of the issues about POLI 339 and it worked quite well. The informality tends to be more accessible to general members and individual members sitting in the gallery. Unless CSAUS has a specific issues with going through the more informal route, that's what we're gonna do.
         * CSAUS: Point of Order withdrawn, thank you.
     + Agenda approved, with amendments
  6. Announcements (7:45)
     + VP Communications: So, we're going to try recording today. If it ends up being super trash I'm just gonna call McGill IT and get professional recording equipment. I guess we'll just play it by ear this time. Sorry if it is actually trash but we'll just improve for next time, I guess.
     + BASiC: Hi everyone. This Friday, we are having our semi-formal. BASiC is hosting a casino game semi-formal, it's called, "Where it's *BASiCally* Vegas!" It'll be a really great time. If you don't have plans for Friday, check it out. I shared the Facebook event on my Facebook and you can probably track me down on the AUS page, if need be.
     + VP Eternal: Hi everyone. [1] So, the Arts Internship Office's AMI program - basically it's a mentorship program! We'll be serving pizza! It's going on tomorrow, on November 14. [2] Elections SSMU's referendum questions are up, so please vote.
     + VP Internal: Hi everyone. This is just a reminder or an announcement that we're having an AUS holiday party on November 26 ("that's next-next Tuesday!") in Arts 160 from 6-8 pm. All of the departmental execs are invited, so please spread the word, thank you!
     + EASSA: Hi everyone. So, the EASSA is currently hiring for VP Finance so if you know anyone who's either majoring or minoring in East Asian studies and are interested in applying, the message is on Facebook and I'll send out the form.
     + VP Finance: This Friday, between 2 to 2:30 pm, there will be a meeting during my office hours to go over some preliminary expectations around the potential restructuring of the financial by-laws. I'm looking at creating an accumulated surplus/endowment fund for AUS. This has been brought up as a result of some concerns about the surplus decisions this year. Of course we'll be looking at this moving into the future, so it's going to be an informal session just to see what it'd be like to work with a committee in the future. At the moment, one member of council is attending (RSUS), so, the more the merrier.
     + VP Social: This is just a reminder that on Friday, November 22, EPIC is having their annual Stache Dash. Every November we have it, it's for the Movember Foundation to raise funds and awareness for prostate cancer. It's a great initiative, please make sure to show up! It's on a Friday, so if you don't have plans on November 22, then please consider grabbing your friends. It's food-themed. Dress up as your favourite food. It's gonna be really cute.
     + CSAUS: I have two announcements today. [1] As you all know, the CSAUS pub night is tomorrow (Thursday, November 14) at BDP (Bar des Pins). There have been memes made about it on the Fa. I can't make any promises as to whether or not I'll hold up my end of the bargain. It's my job to valiantly represent my constituents and I'll continue to do that. not be able 2 - It is my duty to inform Council that CSAUS has voted to oppose the changes outlined in the Comprehensive Governance Review Committee report, and that we will be joining the No campaign should any of these recommendations go to referendum. We stand in solidarity with BASiC.
     + Arts Representative Shreya: So, just a reminder that the SSMU Library Improvement Fund is now taking applications/proposals. If you have any ideas for how to allocate money towards the library, you just need explain to what you want to do and how much money it might take. Those are going to be accepted until Monday the 25th, I believe. If you have any questions and/or need help with the formal process, send me a message.
     + MUGS: This Friday (November 15) is MUGS' annual pub crawl. We are currently selling tickets all the way up until Thursday (November 14) in the MUGS lounge: Burnside 305. Please come if you like fun.
     + Arts Representative Adin: Movie Night next Wednesday in Leacock 132 at 6 pm.
     + PSSA: Tomorrow, the PSSA is holding an event with ASSA, called "The Theory of State Collapse." It'll be really interesting; Professor William Reno is presenting. It's at 11:30 am in Leacock 232. So, if you want to know or learn more about state collapse or anything about that, it'll be a fun time.

*Note: AGSEM was supposed to present at this time, but they were absent, so their presentation happened later (Item #10 in the minutes).*

* 1. Presentation of the AUS [Accountability Survey Results](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Accountability-Survey-Presentation-Fall-2019.pdf) by the Secretary General (14:00)
     + Presentation (Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General)
       - *(The AUS Executives leave the room)*
         * Speaker: The executives have to leave during the presentation of the results. When they come back afterward, we'll allow them to address negative comments right away, after we've seen the presentation.
       - Secretary General: Hello. So. First of all, I'm Nathan, and…
       - Deputy Secretary General: I'm Francois-Xavier,
       - Secretary General: And we're the Secretary General team this year. Just for quick context 'cause a lot of people probably don't know who we are, we are the accountability officers and human resources officers for the [Arts Undergraduate] Society. This means we mainly deal with contracts and payroll stuff. But also, with things like accountability of the executives, which is super important. Every semester, we run an AUS executive accountability survey, which is open to all members of Legislative Council and to any departmental executive. You should have all… I hope you guys all saw it. Unfortunately, we didn't get that many results, so I don't know if everyone filled it out, but… that's okay. First of all, on the survey, we had one question for the overall exec and then we had four questions for each individual exec.

The overall question for all the execs was related to the AUS equity policy: "'1.1 The AUS has a responsibility as representative service provider to undergraduate students enrolled in the Faculty of Arts, a diverse membership, to conduct itself by the highest standards of respect, fairness, integrity, safety, and equitable treatment for all persons.' Do you believe that the AUS executives have adhered to the Policy?" These are the results of that survey. 20 people responded on this question with an average of an 8.35 rating. For us, that seems like a pretty decent result. For us, we're judging 8 and higher as in a respectable zone. Below 8 is when we're looking at whether there needs to be an issue addressed. One person responded with a 2 - that is a little bit concerning for us because if someone feels they're not adhering to the equity policy that much, that definitely should be addressed. If you or anyone you know has entered this point or might know what it is about, because we didn't get any further information, please either send us an email/complaint or to the Equity Commissioners about it.

* + Deputy Secretary General: For the next few questions, we asked the respondents to rate every executive out of 10 on a scale of 1-10. Basically, the numbers you see are the mean averages of these out of 10. As [Secretary General] Nathan was saying, most of the people were over 8, with the VP Academic and Arts Representatives Chase and Chan on top, close to 9. Then we have the VP Communications and VP Finance that are below 8. So, for this question, "Do you approve of the Executive's conduct," we were looking at evaluating the conduct of this executive during Legislative Council and the overall conduct in representing the AUS.

For Question 2, "Has the Executive been available, approachable, and accountable," we were looking at whether the executive was present during his/her office hours and answering their emails in a timely manner. Again, Representative Chase, the VP Internal, and Representative Chan close to or above 9, everybody else above 8, and we have the VP Comms and VP Finance below 8, as well.

For the third question, "Is the Executive fulfilling the obligations and responsibilities of their position," we were basically evaluating, "Is there anything that the executive is not doing properly and is there anything that they're falling behind on in their responsibilities or duties of their position?" Yet again, most of the people were over 8, with the VP Finance just coming below 8.

* + Secretary General: Sorry, one thing we probably should have mentioned. Going back to the results, it is important to keep in mind that first of all, we did have very low turnout numbers, just 22 people out of 200+ eligible people… although it is still a 110% increase over last year when we only had 10 people. So, congratulations, guys! Still getting better! But yeah, one of the things is that not all the executives are getting the same number of results. The Arts Representatives to SSMU all received 15 responses for all their questions, whereas the other executives tended to get higher numbers of 19-20, with the highest being 21. So it's important in just understanding how the breakdown of this works, that if you get less results, then a more variable number does make a difference. I'm not in stats, so I'm not gonna pretend I know more about that than that.

Anyway, so the last question we asked was just an open form question: "Do you have any other comments, questions, or concerns about that executive? So, two big things that came up regularly across different executives was attending office hours regularly and checking emails regularly - response rates not being too high and some concerns when execs were not showing up on time or at all to their office hours. I will let you know, we are meeting with the executives on Friday, at their Executive Committee (ExComm) meeting, and we will be going over some of these things with them. After the presentation, you'll also have a chance to, if you have anything else you think should be communicated to the executives, that will be a time to do so. The last section we're going to look at is some of the specific concerns. The way this works: the executives get the responses, some positive ones and some not-so-positive ones, and what we do is we go through and see if there are any substantive concerns that should be addressed to Legislative Council. As the accountability body of the AUS, you guys hold the AUS Executives to account. This year, we had three executives with more substantial concerns. They will, after this presentation, come and address them to Council. If you have further questions about them, then that will be the time to ask them. Specifically for Arts Representative Shreya Dandamudi, there were concerns about not writing reports, not taking initiative on projects, tending to leave early for no reason, and not caring about students or representing them well. The VP Finance had concerns about consultation on budget changes, specifically the department budgets, not showing up for office hours, being unprofessional and generally unknowledgeable about different departmental associations. VP Services Haidee Pangilinan had concerns when dealing with some time taken off, wasn't checking her email, and departments needing things from her portfolio and not being able to access them. Just a couple comments about these things, because we are also reading them and taking notes on them. First of all, with the comment of taking time off for personal things, we are looking into how we can maybe streamline that a little better. There is a process where executives can request time off and take a leave of absence, but we're gonna look into perhaps making it a little more of an informal way so that if an executive needs time for, for example, just a week or like, half a week, because of midterms or illness, we have a process by which the work they're doing can still get done either by someone stepping in or other arrangements. We're still looking into it and open to suggestions if you have any. On the point of the VP Finance, Stefan Suvajac, and the department association budgets: our understanding is that this was one of the reasons why he did score the lowest in the executives survey. I believe he scored the lowest in all three questions. A couple of things: we are looking into this as well. This is something which, as we understand it, there was very little consultation done with the departments. I do want to caveat that, though, by saying that there are things that the departments can do. So, while the executives have quite a lot of power, one of the things I've noticed this year at Legislative Council is that the departments are not always fully accessing their abilities to hold the executives into account. Specifically with this example, the budget is something which the Legislative Council decides and votes on. At the time of the Legislative Council, there were no questions or comments about this particular issue. So while, obviously, that's a last resort, that is something that, if there are significant concerns about Legislative Council, the departmental executives can, in fact, ask the AUS executives to reopen that issue, if that makes sense. Yeah? We are going forward, going to look at making some changes. I know that [VP Finance] Stefan Suvajac has suggested that it's possible to change the by-laws to require them to increase the amount of budget money they're giving to departments. But it is important to throw it out there that you do have more power than you realize; you can shut down some of the things they are doing if it's not something you want to do, as is what the survey suggests is the result of the department budget allocations. I think that basically sums up our presentation. What we're going to do now, before the execs come up, we'll have a quick Q&A/concerns/anything you want to say. This is the one chance every semester that you guys have, when the executives are not in the room, to have a discussion or to ask questions about things which you may not know or are curious about.

* + Questions (25:19)
    - SLUM: I noticed the same distribution for the results and I've noticed that sometimes, people have tabled motions that aren't necessarily popular. How confident are you guys that this isn't really just a measurement of popularity of the executives?
      * Secretary General: That's a very good question. Obviously, to some extent, it is, and some of the questions are designed to be that. I mean, when you're looking at politicians, it's always, in some sense, about popularity. The point of the survey, though, is not to say, "Oh, are the executives particularly popular?" It's more looking at whether they have areas they need to improve on. So for us, the thing that we look at the most at is the substantive comments. For example, both Arts Representative Shreya and VP Services Haidee Pangilinan received only one substantial comment, but it's something we asked them to bring up to Council. So it's not necessarily about popularity because they do have to address it to Legislative Council, a room of a million people and in a public space, any concerns that were brought against them. So that's for us the value of it. It's also a chance, if we find… that's definitely a concern with the questions. It seems unlikely that most of the execs are ever going to score lower than 7 or 8, just because so many people do tend to hit the 9 or 10 spot. That's something we can't control very much. But the substantial comments is the area that we're really targeting and looking at what can we look at going forward, and how do we talk to the execs about any issues that are coming up.
    - RSUS: Hi, so, thank you for the presentation. Unfortunately, I was also one of the people who didn't get to fill out this survey just because this point in the year, and also just because I kept putting it off because I was like, "I haven't had enough experience with this executive yet." I know this functions more as a midterm report, which makes sense to me, but especially since - and I do not at all… please don't take this as an opening to start debating what we've reserved for the end of Council, please - but especially considering what just came up and that the two people who ranked the highest are gonna be having to answer questions [about this issue]… It seems to me that this isn't gonna be very representative of what our concerns are going to be, going forward. Will there be any kind of accountability survey conducted a little later on? Like, I understand it's not really possible to do it at the very end because a lot of people won't be staying as execs, but… Will there be ongoing accountability stuff that we can submit, going forward? Will a survey or something be constantly open? Just because… you know. It's an issue.
      * Secretary General: No, that's a really good comment. So, we do run a second survey in the winter semester. The thing about the surveys is that there are certain requirements about when we have to start them and when we have to end them. According to the by-laws, we're required to have them started 4 weeks before the end of the semester. We also find that people tend to get very busy near the end of the semester, so we try to do it a little bit earlier. I really like the idea of a more constant feedback. Obviously, you are all completely welcome to send any concerns to us whenever you have them, that's what we're here to deal with. It's not anonymous, but we're looking at creating an anonymous form on the website. For now, if you have concerns, you can always send them to us. The idea of the survey is more about feedback for the executives. If there's anything that you've noticed anything that's come up that they need to address, unfortunately the nature of student government is that everyone's in these positions for one-year terms so it's very hard to give them proper feedback or hold them to account 'cause by the time things have been followed through in the correct process, they're within a month away from finishing, anyway. It is with that understanding that we're looking at, hopefully with the winter semester, we'll get more conclusive results. But we also hope that you don't feel you have to have a certain knowledge or experience of the executives to fill out the survey. The questions are all non-mandatory; if there's only one executive you have experience with and you feel we need to know about, that's also fine. That's definitely something maybe we should look at, maybe make it more approachable and make it so that everyone can answer it. The other thing we're gonna do, which is not mandated in the Accountability By-Laws, but which we're planning on adding is… right now, it's only available to departmental executives and voting legislative councillors. What we're going to do is add in a section for stipend volunteers of the AUS and employees of the AUS, because that's the people who tend to spend more time with the executives and also have a closer relationship, which means they tend to know a little bit more about what's going on in the actual day-to-day operations.
    - ASSA: I think the VP Communications scored pretty low in 2 out of 3 of these questions. I was wondering: do you know why? Did you receive any comments?
      * Secretary General: That's a really good question! It's also something we were looking at. The VP Communications didn't receive any comments at all in the feedback survey, so that's what we were surprised about. What we found was that, depending on certain execs, some of their scores were lower because they had one comment which was very low and the others were high. But with the VP Communications, there seemed to be a lot of middle ground scores. So we're not sure why that happened. One of the suggestions we heard was that the VP Communications' position, profile, and her personal conduct is that she doesn't tend to be quite vocal and, so, sometimes people perceive that as non-caring. And that's something that we've had comments for in the past with previous execs with similar scores. So, that's maybe a possibility. If anyone has any insight on this, we would be very interested in hearing it.
    - ASA: Sorry, I didn't do the survey, so I'm not sure what exactly the questions are. But I was wondering if, in the future, there could be a section with the comments or another section where it's not just people bringing forward their complaints, but possibly suggestions as well. 'Cause I feel like these are all valid complaints, but it doesn't give us the tools or ways to make these things accessible to people or to properly address how people want those things to be mitigated.
      * Secretary General: That's definitely a really good point. In the past, the way we operated was that when we get the complaints, we sit down and look at what are ways to fix it. In the survey, we could add a step for suggesting changes. One thing we find in trying to balance the survey is that… we do find that we get low turnout rates so we're trying to make it as accessible, fast, and simple as possible. But at the same time when you do that, you tend to lose some more information 'cause you just can't collect it. But that's a really good suggestion.
    - SLUM: Yeah, I dunno, I just feel like it's really easy to be critical of people and I see comments like, "Does not care about students and does not represent them well" and I think that it's really easy to just say but you can't know that for a fact. I don't really understand what the value of having a comment like that is. I think only things that should be included are things like evidenced claims, you know what I mean? What do you think about that?
      * Secretary General: Yeah, that's definitely interesting. I would just like to say that we do only include the constructive or substantial complaints/comments because the execs do get more positive comments, which we do send over to them; they get a full list of all their comments. A lot of them are just like, "Very good job! Really appreciate that you did this!" Which are not things that Legislative Council needs to see. I guess that's more the point of the numerical data is that you can see if most people seem to think that the execs are doing well. In terms of the substantive comments, especially the one about the Arts Representative, that is an interesting take. What we think… the idea for us… as accountability officers, are responsibility is to bring information to you guys - you guys are the ones with the power and you were elected to hold the execs to account. We have no individual power. Our position is that we try to bring forth any information which we feel might have some bearing on accountability and information you, as executives of departments and as Legislative Councillors, should have. In terms of how constructive the comments are, that is something which is hard to police because we don't police how people are writing the comments. And if it's between omitting comments and not, we try to be on the more including side because it's something that maybe Legislative Councillors, if there are a number of councillors felt it was something that should have been brought to their attention, at least.
      * Arts Senator Henrique: Just to follow up this comment about having more evidence-based requirements for the comments, maybe it'd be interesting to invite people who are filling out this survey to provide specific evidence or have a second question asking, "What are specific instances in which you think this happened?" Like, for Shreya, I'm not her lawyer but I saw her leave Council early once and she filled out the form to leave early. And I've never seen Shreya not submit a report. So I think it'd be interesting… maybe I'm missing it, not in defence of her any way, but maybe people should point out, "Well, this exec was not in office hours on this day," and it makes it easier to hold accountable. We can go through the records and see if they were there or if they submitted their report, makes things easier. Also invites people to think, "Oh, do I actually have a specific example of this happening?"
      * Secretary General: Yeah, that's definitely something we could add to the question. The one concern is that the idea is that it's supposed to be a feedback survey. It's not necessarily a judicial proceeding, so to speak. And one of the problems is if you ask them to fill out a survey which requires specific evidence, people don't always keep careful track of evidence. We still want to encourage them to fill out the survey, but definitely adding in specific instances are appreciated, or like ,examples, or something to add into the question, to encourage them to add those examples would be a good idea. But the main idea is that it's a feedback survey, so the executives see this and have a chance to reflect on it. And if they see something and think, "Oh! I didn't know people thought this way about things. Is there something I'm doing? Is there not something?" Then they can come up to Legislative Council to address it afterwards. Then they have a chance to say, "Well, I did submit my reports. I did do this and that." And Legislative Council then has the right to their own opinions.
  + Responses from AUS Executives with Substantive Concerns (38:32)
    - *(The AUS Executives re-enter the room)*
    - Arts Representative Shreya: Hi guys. So today, I'm gonna be addressing this complaint. Obviously as you saw, I would say, in general, I've received pretty good feedback in terms of numbers, so I don't want to draw too much negativity and act like every single person has this opinion. But of course, I respectfully engage with this comment. So, I will just read the comment, break it down really quick, and aim for brevity and not take too much of your time. I'll respond to the specific concerns. So the first concern is that I do not write reports. Um, I have not missed a single report for AUS Legislative Council, and I'm sure Marie (Speaker) can agree, so I'm not sure why someone has taken it upon themselves to spread information that is not factual. I have written my SSMU report, I have written every single AUS Legislative Council report, so… you know. It's difficult to respond to things that are not factually correct, but the best thing I can do is explain that I have not missed a report. In regards to not taking initiatives to do my own projects, I will just tell you the projects that I have done. First, is my responsibility for being AUS representative. I am responsible for being on AUS Legislative Council, SSMU Legislative Council, and AUS ExComm. I've been to every single meeting. I have one weekly meeting for ExComm and one bi-weekly meeting, usually alternating between AUS and SSMU. I also am on three committees: I'm on one AUS committee and two SSMU committees. Beyond that, I will tell you the projects I have been working on. I recently reached out to EXEM, I'm working on a library proposal for microwaves and hand dryers, I worked on making the Wellness Hub videos public, a mentorship project - I pitched it to the Senators and the President of the SSMU. I've logged over 100 hours on T-sheets. I just listed to you my own projects. I think that is going above and beyond. As I'm mandated to be on all these meetings and committees and still taking it upon myself to take on all these other projects. "Tends to leave for no reason"… First of all, I have four meetings on Wednesdays. The things I do for myself at this university are being on my sorority and being a member of the debating club. I have not been to any of them this entire semester because they're on Wednesdays on Thursdays, but I do have other meetings, like sometimes I have a SSMU Library meeting on Wednesday. Today, I have a mandatory event at 7 pm. I've only left AUS Legislative Council once. I left for a review session and following that review session, I actually came back from McConnell Engineering and gave my report. Also, I have a registered disability with the OSD, so if I do need to leave early, that is because I might have something like a migraine. So, I just encourage you to keep in mind that when people leave early, they generally have their engagements, responsibilities, and maybe, personal reasons. The next part of this statement is that I do not care about students. Um. Honestly, I don't know what to say to that. What I would encourage you guys to do when writing these messages is think about being constructive and specific. If you don't believe I care about students, I'd really like a reason as to why. Because honestly, I don't see a reason as to why I wouldn't care about students. I think it's a lot easier to tear someone down than to build someone down, and I think you should be very mindful of what you say. I think it is very sad to wake up in the morning and get a message like this. And I just want to encourage you to be specific and constructive in your feedback so that you can get what you want as well. And, y'know, make sure to check your biases and check why you're saying something like this. Check your facts before you say, "Oh, she doesn't write reports." Maybe check and say, "Oh, she actually has submitted every report she was supposed to." Oh, and, "She doesn't represent them well"… I think I've fulfilled my duties as Arts Representative. Obviously, I'm open to constructive criticism. Please come to my office hours - I haven't missed a single week of my office hours. Please come tell me what I can do better. I'm completely open to feedback. I just think a couple of these comments are not factually true and are a bit hurtful for no reason. I think, when you're writing these messages, please be mindful that we're here for constructive criticism and to check your biases and facts and think where you're coming from. If you have any other questions, come to my office hours, email me, I appreciate constructive criticism. If you have questions about my projects, double check with me. I try to choose my words carefully and I try to only present projects that are completed, so even though it may not seem to you that I am back here thinking about everything and doing everything, I mean, I obviously am, behind the scenes, and I don't feel the need to be like, "Well I'm working on this project every week until it's completed." Just keep that in mind and remember that we're here to build each other up and hold each other accountable but also, at the end of the day, we're just trying to be nice in a constructive way.
    - VP Finance (44:35): My concerns boil down to three camps, as far as I understood: one was I was not professional, one was I was not knowledgeable, and the third one was that I didn't communicate certain decisions as clearly as they could have been. I had one specific comment that indicated that I was "absent for a month." That is not true. I was here for a month. I was absent for 3 days. I have a medical note to that effect. I was asked to clarify that comment, just wanted to clear that up right away. Regarding office hours, I am on time, I would say, up to 80% of the time. I was late to two office hours in the beginning of October, and for that, I apologize. I strive to be on time as much as I can and… I am human. Occasionally, I do err in my ways. And for that, I'm sorry. Regarding being professional and knowledgeable… all I can say is that in my interactions, I do my very best to be as professional as I can with people, to be as helpful as I can, to respond directly and clearly to concerns in a way that is specifically to the subject matter at hand. I've met with dozens of departmental executives on a weekly basis, I meet with people in every one of my office hours to deal with problems. So, I can just say that. I certainly don't pretend to know everything so I try to… if somebody brings something to my attention that I am not aware of, I always try to take that into account and to learn more about it. It's an ongoing process. Like I said, it's very possible that I am not knowledgeable enough about certain things - I do not pretend to be. If, for some reason, somebody feels there is something specific that I lack, knowledge, tact, or anything, please do bring that to my attention. I'll try my very best to find a solution. Like I said, I can't really respond to your concerns of professionalism and knowledgeability. I do believe those are categories for other people to judge. If it's there, I guess it's worth something, but based on what I'm saying here, I can tell you that I do my very best to be as profesisonal as I can and I exercise the knowledge I do have as honestly and competently as I possibly can. So, um, with respect to the departmental funding: communication I can describe the measures that I took. Through so, I issued a memorandum, I believe, on the 4th of September, describing budget expectations, processes, that was extensive discussion of the memorandum in subsequent emails. There was, throughout the beginning of September up to the finalization of the budget, extension discussion during the departmental orientation presentations on September 20th and October 3rd, where I went through this and answered questions about the departmental funding situation for this year. Those decisions, for anyone that aren't aware, ("I suspect the two") in question are the removal of allocation of funding to Minors students and the cancellation of the so-called surplus. These were two measures… the allocation of funding to Minor students was not in the by-laws. To be frank, I'm not sure they were ever there in the first place. The departmental surpluses, like I said, there were accountability concerns and technical accounting concerns. However, I will not attempt to go over this verbally. Next meeting, I will go through an extensive memorandum outlining the technical reasons for these decisions. Those technical reasons, for the most part, will be restricted to the departmental surplus. The Minors funding is simply a question of by-laws. This, for the most part, summarizes the majority of the concerns. If there are any other concerns, professionally or personally, doesn't matter, I do encourage you to send me an email. Like I said, I don't pretend to know everything and I appreciate any criticism and any recommendations directed my way. Also, another thing, during FMC meetings, the previous two FMC meetings I've included a section specifically dedicated for constituent concerns and feedbacks, which is included in the agendas that you receive. It's not an active segment of the meeting, I'll say particularly, but it is there and it is open. So, taking all these things into account, this is my response to the substantive and specific concerns.
      * GSFSSA: Hi. So, I guess, regarding the VP Finance position I'm not a finance member, but I was in a meeting with other collective departments, and it seemed like a recurring complaint was a lack of response to emails, specifically. And also, in regards to the turnover… I do sort of recognize that this is something that precedes you and it seems like other AUS execs from previous years were following the procedures, but the thing was there was inadequate communication during the beginning of the year, and this was a widespread complaint. I don't know to what extent this was something that was under your portfolio or whether it was a previous executive and it was being pushed onto you, but I was wondering if you could respond to those concerns.

VP Finance: Thank you for your concern. Anything that happens under my portfolio, all the way from May 1, I take full responsibility for, just to be clear with that. The first part is with respect to the communication. Like I said, a memorandum was sent out to all departments as part of the budget outlining process, outlining expectations, and attached to that was a departmental financial guidebook. Now, there WAS a mistake in the guidebook outlining the concerns around Minor funding, however, it was noted in the financial guidebook that it was not final, it was finalized September 17, 2019. That said, many departments asked me questions and I clarified with them, especially with the surplus issue and the whole budget expectation. At some level, I assumed that people were familiar with the by-laws and with the expectations around putting together the budgets. I found out accidentally that, in the past, Minors weren't included. Of course, in the financial guidebook, well, it's a long document, I apologize for that confusion. With respect to responding to emails, in my experience, 95% of my emails are responded to within 24 hours. There was a week in October where I was sick that was slowed down and I didn't respond to all emails for a week. I do receive, on average, 40 emails a day, so sometimes I can't get through all of them. I do receive a large number of emails. If anyone has this problem, I genuinely apologize.

* + GSFSSA: I think what, in reference to people drafting the budgets, that was, again, something that was specifically mentioned: that your portfolio, I think, yes, you are responsible for budgets and leading us in that way. But because there are so many new execs who are unfamiliar and told certain things by previous execs, a lot of people felt that there weren't enough efforts to promote institutional memory and to ensure that those newcomers were adequately trained. And I wasn't trying to suggest that it was entirely on you but I do think that building institutional memory, especially for students who are in their first or second year, this is their first time having a job in that sort of way, is quite important. And I think it's a legitimate concern, not on you specifically, but on how the institution itself works.
  + RSUS: Just to sort of build on that, Stefan, you and I have discussed stuff outside of council regarding issues that RSUS has had on financial stuff. And, you know, I do think maybe it would have… just considering that maybe you got kind of a crap hand this year, considering what happened with the auditor and everything like that. I think it would have been nice, considering we got an 80-85% cut to our budget, if we had been reached out to individually, since we lost over $2500. But, like, I don't know. I definitely had my issues regarding finance but I think things haven't always been dealt with very well but you've also responded to complaints and you've been willing to work with me and others. Yeah, I've had issues, but you were, again, dealt a really crap hand this year and you're trying to help out with institutional memory and I appreciate that.
  + ASA: At the ASA meeting, our president went to the President's Round Table, and I think this was discussed a lot. A lot of this does seem like it was huge miscommunications between turnovers with different years. Our VP Finance didn't know this was happening. It seems like past VP Finances and other positions related to you weren't communicating with you, and then you were following rules that they hadn't been, which is just awful for everyone. I agree with RSUS, too, that you do seem to be trying to work with people. I was just wondering if you would be willing to, in the future, try to work with people, whether it be with committees or whatever, to make sure we have really coherent means of transparency about these rules that we're passing on to groups that come next. For us, it matters - if we thought we had over $500 from our previous VP Finance - and the next year matters. Had we not, it'd be fine, but we can all work together… Just making sure we're able to be as transparent about that as possible will help us plan for the future and for you to not be grilled every meeting about this stuff. If that's something you'd be willing to work on, I think that's something a lot of other people want too.
  + VP Finance: Thank you, I appreciate the constructive criticism. Like I said, I'm having the meeting on Friday to help with institutional memory and to standardize the rules. For me, the priority is to have clear and coherent rules that we follow consistently. Of course, that can't be done if people don't know the rules exist. We'll work hard and we'll work hard with departments to make sure that [1] these rules exist, and [2] that they pass on consistently year after year. Meeting at 2 o' clock. If you're interested, please be there, folks!
  + VP Services (57:45): Hello everyone. I really appreciated the time and effort some of you took to send in your feedback, particularly criticisms for the exec, it is very helpful. Especially the comment about the lack of institutional knowledge; it is very helpful to get feedback like this. That being said, my comment isn't a surprise to me. I knew that I kinda dropped the ball on this. I did explain my circumstances of absence during Legislative Council, following my week off, but I guess I'll kind of go over it again. I also have a medical note for my leave of absence, if anyone is interested in taking a look at it. A family member was submitted to Vancouver General Hospital for an acute medical condition on October 17. It's been an ongoing thing prior to that and my parents and I found it necessary for me to fly back between Friday October 19 and Friday October 25 to provide additional support, due to the fact that they didn't quite know how to navigate this issue and they couldn't get time off. That being said, I put an automatic email response notifying my absence between those times and that I'll get back to all emails sent during that time after I touch back in Montreal. I did reach out to my other exec members asking if they could take over my email responsibilities for me and I was gonna write them a summary of how to deal with stuff under my portfolio. At the time, it was the last thing on my mind. I didn't really have time to think about school or AUS during this period. That's it. It doesn't quite excuse it, doesn't quite justify it. In the future, if something like this comes up again, I will endeavor to take an hour or so to try to find an alternative contact. The one issue that did arose from this, the one thing that needed my attention, was the media portfolio; that needed coordination. But most of the other services in my portfolio, like the Essay Center, ran on their own; those services weren't interrupted with my leave. That being said, I really appreciate this comment.
    - VP Social: So, what I've just really wanted to say was that… Absolutely, I do not know who submitted this, it's anonymous for a reason. I don't want to invalidate this individual or their department's feelings. However, I personally don't understand why this is even a substantive concern for Haidee (VP Services). At the end of the day, I really emphasize with having personal things to deal with. I obviously don't know the exact details of what she had to deal with, in terms of that. But, I've also been in that similar position and other positions as well and have asked for empathy from this exact Legislative Council, which has given me that empathy before. And I hope that empathy can be extended to [Arts Representative] Shreya, as well, when she mentioned things, and to Haidee. Because at the end of the day, the last thing on your mind when dealing with something as personal as that is answering your email. Furthermore, if Haidee put an out-of-office notice, I've done the same thing when I was on my leave for like three straight weeks in September. People always just emailed the president or contacted the Facebook page if they really needed me. So, if there's a will, there's a way. If you know you need something before the date Haidee comes back, just contact someone else. Personally for me, I don't understand why this is even a concern, and it makes me a little bit uncomfortable, because again, I emphasize with both of their situations, especially Haidee's. Just in the future, if this is really a concern you have, think about that.
    - President: Thank you to all of you who filled out the accountability reports. Obviously we take this feedback to heart and definitely want to incorporate it, going forward. I want to put it out there that one thing I discussed a lot with the executives was their hierarchy: what they should consider important. First, we're people. Second, we're students. Third, we are AUS executives. In that hierarchy, if something comes up and it relates to a personal matter, that takes precedent over academic matters and over your duties as an AUS executive. So, we're going to be having another accountability report coming up in second semester, so I just wanted to implore everybody to look at it through that lens that if there is an issue that it doesn't relate to their role as an AUS executive, or rather an issue that has appeared in their personal or academic lives, that you just take some time to reflect on that and see if you can incorporate that in your feedback. As McGill students, I'm sure we're all familiar with the unexpected popping up and derailing even the best-laid plans. I just wanted to put that thought out there. Thank you all for your comments. Your concerns are valid, that's why we ran for these positions, to be held accountable and that departments can run smoothly.
    - BASiC: I just wanted to say that the same sentiments are… I want to relay the same sentiments as a member that isn't a member of the executives of the AUS. I can understand that being part of so many committees and going to so many meetings… I appreciate everything that you guys do. Make sure you focus on the positive remarks that I wrote for you!
    - SLUM: I just wanted to echo all those sentiments, too. I think you're all doing a great job and all doing a very professional job. And I just want to say that yeah, I don't know what necessarily the value is in including these comments in the reports. I don't know what the policy is, but I don't understand what the value is in including concerns that are either emotionally charged or don't have any evidence to back them up. 'Cause like, It's like.. where does it come from, right? Is it just a personal thing? I don't think it helps for anybody. If somebody reads the minutes, what are they gonna see? They're gonna get this impression about the person that isn't necessarily true and isn't substantiated. So, I think, if at all possible, it might be a good idea to review what comments are featured in the survey report.
    - ASA: I wanted to really quickly add onto what Kim said about empathy - can we make that a proactive empathy? 'Cause it's nice that a lot of people have felt comfortable enough to share that they have a disability that they need to take time off for… but I also feel like we shouldn't have ever cornered people into a place where they feel like they have to share that for them to be valid. Like, no one should ever have to say that they have a family member dying or that they have a mental illness for it to be valid that they have to take time off for this. Just, be empathetic first, and not after someone explains themselves to you all the time, within reason.
    - CSAUS: I think also for people to write emotionally charged complaints, it devalues and detracts any valid concerns you have, because it takes away your credibility right away and it makes it more difficult for the Secretary General team and for Legislative Councillors to hold the exec accountable for their actions, so that's also something we should take into account next time.
    - Arts Representative Shreya: I think there's a little bit of room for improvement for this process. I don't want to take my time explaining what these improvements could be, but maybe a couple of us could brainstorm how these surveys might be better in the future. I'd be willing to spearhead that. Thank you.
  + Speaker: Just a reminder: if you ever are concerned about reports, they're all on the AUS website and I send you guys the drive, which you're all free to share with your execs. I also have a tabulation of how many missed reports and lates you have, so if that's something you're concerned about for any member of Council, that's something you can reach out to me any time and ask. Because I have a lot of information, actually.
  + [PSA](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/PSA.pdf) (1:07:37)
    - Remarks added to report
      * It's come to my attention, while looking over the report just now, that there is one error on it, as I wrote this during a very sleep-deprived time. So, I will be rectifying that in discussing it now.
      * Departmental Updates
        + The tutoring is mainly for our logic class, PHIL 210. Still ongoing.
      * Current Projects
        + So, the error is that I just didn't finish writing this point in the Current Projects. It's supposed to say, "Our Social Events Coordinator, Kristen VanderWee, is currently working on setting up a trivia night."
    - No questions
  + New Business (1:10:29)
    - [Motion to Amend the RSUS Constitution](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/1-Motion-to-Amend-the-RSUS-Constitution.pdf) **| PASSED** (1:10:48)
      * Moving (RSUS)
        + We currently… we already amended our Constitution - thanks for passing it last time! We're back, though. Basically, we have three reasons that we're amending our Constitution - and the full amended one is not there, it's in the Google Drive, and it's posted on the page. There's a lot of changes, sorry. Also, the changes are highlighted [in the Constitution] in three different colours 'cause there's three reasons. The first update, as per my update, TUSA - the Theology Undergraduate Students Association - they are succeeding from us. We will miss them, but they need to be independent to properly serve their students. Our update is to change the fact that B.Th. students are gone from the Constitution, right after having added them in. We have included updates in keeping ties with them. Now, one of my mandates, aside from just coming to Council, is attending TUSA meetings. We also have stuff regarding the First Year Rep. We already have a First Year Rep, we just wanted to clarify stuff about that position. At the very bottom, and a little bit throughout, we created GA guidelines. We clarified things, we clarified quorums. We have a whole new GA section!
      * Second mover: CSAUS
      * No questions
      * No debate
      * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - [Motion to Approve ASUS logo](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/2-Motion-to-Approve-ASUS-logo.pdf) **| PASSED** (1:13:32)
      * Moving (BASiC)
        + Hi everybody. So, I'm not sure if everybody's aware, but last year, BASiC passed a referendum and had it approved by AUS and SUS to change our name to the Arts and Science Undergraduate Society. It better represents us and sounds better than BASiC. I'll miss that pun, I'm kinda sad that we're losing it, but. Be it resolved, that the AUS Legislative Council approve ASUS' decision to adopt the following logo and header.
      * Second mover: CSAUS
      * Questions
        + BASiC: I’m not sure if anyone's familiar with the memorandum agreement timeline and when we're allowed to start implementing our name change, logo change, question mark?

President: Starting in 2020, I'll be re-negotiating our memorandum agreement contract with the DPSL office.

* + - * No debate
      * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - [Motion to Approve Ferrier Display](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/3-Motion-to-Approve-Ferrier-Display-1.docx) **[updated room numbers] | PASSED** (1:15:29)
      * Moving (VP Finance)
        + So, you'll see in the attached motion here that there was a motion passed last year as well to display art provided by Fridge Door Gallery in the indicated rooms. The only room here that isn't 100% certain is Ferrier 223, but the motion does say "subject to administrative approval" so that doesn't complicate the motion. If you are confused about this, there is a floor plan in the Appendices. Again, Ferrier 223 is not indicated on this floor plan because it is not final. This motion is meant to compliment the motion that increased the AUIF funding for the FAC. These funds would, in large part, go to finding a permanent space for student art on campus.
      * No questions
      * No debate
      * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - [Motion to Approve FMC Decisions](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/4-Motion-to-Approve-FMC-Decisions.docx) **| PASSED** (1:16:58)
      * Moving (VP Finance)
        + Standard procedural motion. The FMC met on Thursday, November 7 - the agenda from that meeting is provided in the Appendices so you can go through the decisions made in detail. But the purpose of this motion is to approve funding decisions, including departmental budgets and external applicants.
      * Questions
        + MPSA: We were supposed to receive a cheque, and you said that you could let us know after the FMC meeting, but it isn't on that spreadsheet.

VP Finance: 'Cause it was related to the funding for last year, which was an issue. It's fine, you'll get the cheque on Tuesday.

* + - * No debate
      * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - [Motion to Approve New EASSA Logo](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/5-Motion-to-Approve-New-EASSA-Logo-.pdf) **| PASSED** (1:18:21)
      * Moving (EASSA)
        + It's the same dragon logo - we just flipped it around and made it a bit curvier. The logo is just a dragon and we made two letterings: one with the abbreviation and one with the whole name.
      * Second mover: Arts Representative Adin
      * No questions
      * No debate
      * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - [Motion to Approve the By-Laws of Mental Health at AUS](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/6-Motion-to-Approve-the-By-Laws-of-Mental-Health-at-AUS.pdf) **| PASSED** (1:19:22)
      * Moving (VP External)
        + Hi. So basically, the Mental Health at AUS committee has been meeting regularly. It is an official committee of AUS, but it didn't have by-laws, so the AUS Mental Health Commissioners took the time to write them.
      * Second mover: VP Finance
      * No questions
      * No debate
      * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - [Motion to Approve the CSA’s New Logo](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/7-Motion-to-Approve-the-CSA_s-New-Logo.docx) **| PASSED** (1:20:25)
      * Moving (CSA)
        + We're trying to change our old logo. I didn't bother putting on the old logo because it had McGill, martlet, AND the crest, so it's not looking good. So we're trying to change it to [our new logo].
      * Second mover: VP Services
      * No questions
      * No debate
      * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - [Motion to Approve the LAPSA logo](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/8-Motion-to-Approve-the-LAPSA-logo.pdf) **| PASSED** (1:21:21)
      * Speaker: LAPSA! They've never had a logo before!
      * Moving (LAPSA)
        + Hi… We would really like to have a logo, so please vote "Yes"… And thank you to the amazing AUS graphic designers for this work!
      * Second mover: RSUS
      * No questions
      * No debate
      * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - [Motion to Create a CLASHSA Co-VP Journal Position](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/9-Motion-to-Create-a-CLASHSA-Co-VP-Journal-Position.pdf) **| PASSED** (1:22:20)
      * Moving (CLASHSA)
        + Hi, everyone. This is just to make sure that CLASHSA has two VP-Journal positions, instead of one. Because last year, CLASHSA determined that having just one person do all the tasks was too difficult to handle, so we'd like to have two.
      * Second mover: HSA
      * No questions
      * No debate
      * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - [Motion To Ratify the Amended HSA Constitution](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/10-Motion-To-Ratify-the-Amended-HSA-Constitution.docx) **| PASSED** (1:23:14)
      * Moving (HSA)
        + Essentially, we're just making a few changes with regards to membership. We expanded it to clearly only include students with a History major/minor and a clause for U0 students to become part of the association if they want. We have the general meetings clause, whereas the HSA previously didn't have a mechanism to formally ask for a GA. All the other changes were very minor, like changes to the numbering. We have had a first-year representative for a while now, but we did not have it constitutionally agreeing, so it's just adding the first-year rep to the Constitution. The other change is just changing the number to be a five-person majority required, 'cause we changed the total number of execs on the exec committee.
      * No questions
      * No debate
      * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - [Motion to Approve the New SSA Logo](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/11-Motions-to-Approve-the-New-SSA-Logo.docx) **| TABLED** (1:25:01)
      * Moving (SSA)
        + So we're just trying to change our logo from what it was before to what it is now. It looks way better now as you can see, so please say "Yes," thank you.
      * Second mover: CSAUS
      * Questions
        + VP Internal: I think the logo looks great, but unfortunately, it does violate the memorandum of agreement (MOA), because, in this case, the use of the martlet in this case… it is a trademarked logo by McGill. It stipulates really specifically in the agreement that you can't use this logo, unfortunately.

RSUS: Aren't they grandfathered in, considering they have the martlet in their previous logo?

VP Internal: I don't think the MOA says anything about that… Yeah, I'm not sure. Andrew?

Arts Representative Andrew: I also don't believe it; I don't believe it's grandfathered. And if it was, it would have only applied to the current logo, and not the new one.

VP Finance: There's also no reason why perhaps this motion couldn't be tabled and DPSL could be asked for clarification.

* + - * VP Finance: Motion to Table this Motion **| PASSED**
        + Second mover: CSAUS
        + Motion passes
    - [Motion to Approve the Updated MHAUS Logo](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Motion-to-Approve-the-Updated-MHAUS-Logo.pdf) **[late] | PASSED** (1:27:07)
      * Moving (VP External)
        + We need a seconder. I hope you guys like the logo. Also, follow the Mental Health at AUS Facebook page.
      * Second mover: MPSA
      * No questions
      * No debate
      * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - [Motion to Approve the AUS Media Usage ByLaws Amendments](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Motion-to-Approve-the-AUS-Media-Usage-ByLaw.pdf) **[late] | PASSED** (1:27:50)
      * Moving (VP Services)
        + This came from an issue that arose while I was on my leave of absence. All photos and videos taken by any media team member for the AUS are property of the AUS. Therefore, they forfeit all the rights to photos and may not be distributed commercially or personally, unless with the permission of the Executive Committee. Departmental groups are not really subject to the same conditions. So, be it resolved, departmental associations under the AUS groups don't own the rights to photos or videos taken by the AUS team. They cannot distribute them personally or commercially, unless with the permission of the AUS Exec Committee. Those photos or videos can only be used for AUS purposes (Facebook groups, website, publications, etc.) For example, if you feel like you need to crop out the watermark, just let us know, shoot me a quick email, and if we say, "Yeah sure," tag us.
      * Questions
        + MUGS: What motivates the ban on personal use?

VP Services: That was a great question. I will just share the sentiments of the photographers, who have previously worked as freelancers or as photographers of businesses and companies. Headshot photography is very expensive. We provide these services for free, so the photographers would prefer that these photos stay within the AUS, and not as personal photos, like profile pictures. That's work they do that they could have earned a lot of money for. With media and with creative artists, it's very hard to gauge who owns what property, It's easy to share something without their consent. So, this is to dissuade people from doing this. I don't see anyone doing this in the future if we write out the rules.

* + - * + HSA: For associations that have already applied for headshots and have gotten them and are using the headshots for personal use, how will this by-law affect them?

VP Services: It won't apply to previous cases; it'll apply to future cases.

* + - * No debate
      * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - [Motion to Approve ASEFC Membership](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Motion-to-Approve-ASEFC-Membership.pdf) **[late] | PASSED** (1:33:05)
      * Moving (VP Academic)
        + The ASEFC Committee meets once per semester and allocates the ASEFC funding to the applications that we get. In consultation with the Dean, we're meeting on Thursday, November 21, so approval is needed.
      * Questions
        + VP External: Can I second this?

Speaker: No… there's already a seconder, you lost your chance.

* + - * No debate
      * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - [Motion to Approve AIOAC Membership](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Motion-to-Approve-AIOAC-Membership.pdf) **[late] | PASSED** (1:33:56)
      * Moving (VP Academic)
        + Again, the AIO Advisory Committee is meeting on Thursday, November 21. We sit down with the Dean in the AIO office and basically meet as the administration and student oversight body. So, again, the members are here for approval. That's it!
      * No questions
      * No debate
      * Voting
        + Motion passes
    - [Motion to Approve the AHCSSA logo](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Motion-to-Approve-the-AHCSSA-logo.docx) **[late] | PASSED** (1:34:33)
      * Moving (AHCSSA)
        + It's coming back to this week because we redesigned it to remove the word "McGill." That's all.
      * Second mover: CSAUS
      * No questions
      * No debate
      * Voting
        + Motion passes

President: Motion for a Five Minute Recess **| PASSED**

* + Second mover: CSAUS
  + Motion passes

* + [Presentation from AGSEM](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/AGSEM-Presentation.pptx) (1:36:06)
    - Presentation (AGSEM)
      * We represent graduate TAs and graduate invigilators at McGill. Prospectively, we're also hoping to represent teaching support workers, so this is what this is about More specifically, I chair a committee at AGSEM tasked with unionizing and protecting teaching support workers at McGill; this is happening right now. I'm going to tell you very quickly about why this is happening, how our campaign works logistically, and finally, how you, at AUS Council, come in. So, why this is happening: our principle message we want to get across to everyone at McGill, including AUS, is that working conditions are learning conditions. We have a close relationship between the work that academics do and the education they can provide, such that when their working conditions are neglected, the work they can provide inevitably declines. Unfortunately, we've been seeing this with particular class of workers known as teaching support. These are positions like grader, tutor, marker, course assistant, student assistant, note-takers, "and others" because I cannot provide you with an exhaustive list of all of these positions, that's part of the problem. These terms have no legal precedent. A grader in Management can mean something different from a grader in Arts. Of course, we understand intuitively that a grader grades, but it turns out, and I speak from experience as a former grader in management, that graders are often assigned many other tasks and responsibilities. I want to go over some working condition problems we've seen and we've had reported to us about some of these positions. I'll talk briefly about graders. I'm speaking from experience as a former grader of the Faculty of Management last year: I faced a number of recognition problems. I'll focus on one related to compensation: a salary cap. So, many graders face unreasonably low salary caps at McGill. I was tasked for grading a class of sixty with fifty hours over the semester - that's about 500-600 individual assignments. If you do the math, that's roughly five minutes per essay - and it's actually less, because I had other things to do as well, like write comments to each essay. Grading an essay in five minutes is not possible, it's not even remotely possible, it's a joke. As an academic, we face an impossible decision between either doing the work ("putting in our own time to spend extra time reading assignments, giving proper grades, so on"), but in doing so, not being compensated ("effective hourly rate of $4/hour, which is completely unacceptable"), or not doing the work ("skimming through an essay because you're not paid for it, giving a hasty grade, and determining the future of actual students at McGill in their hard work in the matter of 2-3 minutes. Both options are unacceptable. And we hope to change this for the better. This is just one example of the conditions we're talking about right now. These are two graphs. On the left, we have the mean unionized vs non-unionized teaching support wages at McGill over the few years, just to illustrate the wage gaps over what is protected and what is not. The other graph is the notetaker's compensation with the OSD, which was completely cut over the beginning of the semester, so we're trying to protest that as well with this campaign. This does not just affect the notetakers, the people being paid, but also people with disabilities who need notes and are now concerned whether they will even receive notes in the first place. How this actually works: we're following provincial guidelines here. We're working with CSM, who give us legal advice to make sure we're on the right track. Here's a timeline of our drive. We have a unionization period that we've already entered, we've gone public. I'd like to thank many of the departmental associations that we've talked to and have endorsed our campaign. Off the top of my head, History, Religious Studies, Psychology, BASiC… there are others. Thank you all, and I've already sent emails to everyone here so if you've seen my email, let me know in the future. Anyway, we have our unionization period: we try to reach every teaching support worker that we can find with this message that we're trying to improve their working conditions and to do so, they must join AGSEM. They must do so voluntarily. For the first time in McGill history, they can do so online: agsem.ca/join, and you must pay a legally required $2 or $2.37 if you use Paypal, because of their service fees. The legal minimum is 35%, once we have 35% or higher, we go to the government and request certification for defending teaching service workers at McGill. That would be provisionally, this December. We wait some time, they certify us, and from that point on we're able to defend McGill teaching service workers from situations I've just described. Where does AUS come in? Well, in 2 key ways. From what I understand, this goes as a motion for endorsement in two weeks' time at November 27's Legislative Council. I'll be here as well, just to see the results. Endorsement is huge. We're also seeking endorsement from other Faculties, as well. Beyond that, dissemination. The whole point is to put this message in front of the people facing these precarious and often totally degrading working conditions, to make a difference, and have them make a decision themselves whether they want to join AGSEM themselves. You can go to our website. If you so happen to be a teaching service worker right now, you can join us in 2 minutes. At this link: agsem.ca/join. We also have a lot more in-depth info on how this works, things I couldn't fit in this 8-minute presentation. Thank you all so much for your time and I'm looking forward to two weeks from now.
    - Questions
      * PSSA: For OSD notetakers, would the plans to unionize, is there any kind of motion to provide more compensation or leveraging those?
        + AGSEM: Right now, we're not at that stage. In order to negotiate specifics of working conditions, first, we must be certified by provincial government. We'd begin to formulate our response, in terms of real changes to working conditions, once we're at that step. It's on the table, but we're not at that step quite yet. This would be for 2020.
      * VP Finance: Given notetakers' students' status as workers, is it possible for you to bring them into the union at all?
        + AGSEM: Absolutely! So, we already represent students. We represent Tas and invigilators who are students and also workers. There's no dichotomy between these; they aren't mutually exclusive. This drive is open to students. I personally took this grading position after graduating. For the most part, they are students out there. They apply to graduates and undergraduates, of course.
      * IDSSA: Would unionizing make it difficult or impossible for people here on student visas to become a notetaker/teaching assistant?
        + AGSEM: I understand the concern. We've had concerns whether this would make labour more difficult in the future, but frankly, there's no evidence, that we're aware of, that supports that, so, no.
        + President: I don't know about union laws, so don't take this as Gospel, but I did work as a Floor Fellow the past two years, and we are in a union. A lot of the Floor Fellows are international students and not Canadian students and there was no problem of being in the union. In my experience, this hasn't been a problem for international students and visas.
        + CSAUS: I'm a citizen of the United States, and it's stipulated in our student visas that we're allowed to work on campus for *n* hours.
        + GSFSSA: It just tends to be, for international students, part time work tends to be fine. The only concern is if hours were increased substantially, like if your hours were doubled, that might be problematic. But otherwise, no.
      * VP Finance: You mentioned something about the Quebec government - could you expand on the exact nature of that collaboration?
        + AGSEM: There's no collaboration, we're just following Quebec guidelines. We collaborate with CSM, which is not a governmental organization. It's called a trade union or an affiliate union; it's the second largest in Quebec and they provide us things like legal resources to make sure we follow the rules. But we don't collaborate with the labour ministry, we just go to them as is legally required as we prepare to certify.
  + Executive Officer Reports (1:48:38)
    - [President](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/President.docx) (1:49:04)
      * Remarks added to report
        + I had a busy week.
        + President Round Table

There were a lot of questions asked during the Round Table that were already answered or voted on in Legislative Council. if you're a VP external, please make sure you're bringing all the info from Legislative Council to your executives. For example, some departments didn't know that their budgets had been passed. We did vote on the budget and the departments were listed, so just make sure you're communicating and that the execs should also have better communication.

* + - * + Miscellaneous

There have been changes to the Mercury Course Evaluations; they're on MyCourses right now, so fill those out. I enjoy the changes they made; they should be easier to experience.

Referendum questions will be out mid-November, please vote.

* + - * No questions
    - [VP Academic](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/VP-Academic-1.pdf) **[updated]** (1:51:44)
      * Remarks added to report
        + Library Partnership Committee

I believe we have $100,000 to spend this year, so I would appreciate student input. If you have any recommendations, go to the form or email me.

* + - * + AIO Mentorship Initiative

There are people who had mentorships in Political Science, so if people in your department are seeking internships, I highly recommend you look into the google form.

* + - * + Mercury Course Evaluation

Something we really want is a mid-semester evaluation that could be given to professors during the semester, and they implement changes accordingly. They weren't open to it, but MTSS is doing it independently.

* + - * + ASEF

Meeting with the Dean to work out allocations. Something I do want to note: I don't know what it is with the Psychology VP Academic or what they did, but… so we did get a lot of psychology applications.

* + - * No questions
    - [VP Communications](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/VP-Communications.pdf) (1:54:28)
      * Remarks added to report
        + Fine Arts Council

We've had two meetings so far.

* + - * + The Fridge Door Gallery

Increased funding! We wanted to give money to the fine arts club with arguably the most clout and influence.

* + - * Questions
        + VP Services: Would the VP Comms mind sharing the haiku about samosas?

VP Comms: I mean it's not good. I can pull it up, but I think we should just move on.

Speaker: Yeah, we do have a lot to get through tonight. She can post it on the Facebook page later.

* + - * + AHCSSA: Thanks for your guys' work on Fridge Door. It means a lot. I saw in a previous version of the agenda that the Motion to Display Art in Ferrier was coming back. I just wanted to know what happened? Am I mistaken? Was that deleted?

VP Finance: The motion lacked certain clauses regarding liability for lost paintings, the contracts were insufficient, and the rooms weren't clear in the old motion. So it needed to be brought with the updated information which was relevant and appropriate to be passed once again. It was sufficiently different for it to have to come back.

* + - [VP External](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/VP-External.pdf) (1:56:58)
      * Remarks added to report
        + If you have anyone who could be on the panel, please let me know!
        + Creating a Work your BA Committee motion and formalizing a Grad Fair Committee for next Fall.
        + Possibility of career fair. I received a question about it and I'd like to address it. I'm working with the ESA to decide whether or not to have a career fair.
      * No questions
    - [VP Finance](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/VP-Finance-1.docx) **[updated]** (2:00:19)
      * Remarks added to report
        + Quickbooks, Financial By-laws and Internal Bookkeeping Restructuring

If you submit a cheque issue any time from Monday to Friday, you'll receive it on Tuesday of the following week.

* + - * + SNAX

There's another item of the working conditions in SNAX. It's come to my attention that it's very cold there. So we're gonna be looking at getting some kind of a space heater.

* + - * No questions
    - [VP Internal](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/VP-Internal-updated.pdf) **[late] [updated]** (2:04:33)
      * Remarks added to report
        + Room Bookings& Liquor Permits

For liquor permits, please let me know if you're going to do an event where you're having alcohol and if there's an entry fee involved. Make sure your event is free, then that's a permit to serve alcohol. If there's an entry fee, that's a permit to sell, which is more expensive.

New rules for future Wine and Cheeses (in ARTS 160). A faculty member must approve the event; I'll get the approval, so don't worry about that.

* + - * + FEARC

We're inviting people in the panel to speak about their programs and minors experiences. You'll see more about that as we ramp up communications.

* + - * Questions
        + RSUS: About the Wine and Cheese rules: we hold our wine and cheese in Birks. Would this apply to us if we're holding it not under AUS?

VP Internal: This only applies to ARTS 160 specifically.

* + - [VP Services](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/VP-Services-updated.pdf) **[updated]** (2:07:38)
      * Remarks added to report
        + Didn't mean to overshare for the accountability survey. My bad.
      * No questions
    - [VP Social](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/VP-Social.docx) (2:08:52)
      * Remarks added to report
        + Bar des Arts

Le Coin is now called The Tipsy Cow…?

* + - * + EPIC

The exam self-care week will have a bake sale ("idk if that's allowed, but honestly I don't care"), therapy dogs, colouring books, puzzles, just a bunch of small de-stress things.

* + - * + Other

Interfaculty Restriction Policy (IRP) - When we're done ratifying it, then SSMU will ratify it, too. SSMU has a little easier ratification process than us. MUS has ratified it now, so we're getting there. Also, we are actively working on addressing some of the other concerns that were brought up at Council, and those statements were shared with the members of the other Faculties, as well. So, we're discussing it. Namely, the appeals process, how long a probation period is, and a new concern we have right now is that the current after the IRP is not very survivor or victim mindful, and what I mean by that is that it doesn't take into account the trauma that a survivor might go through while recounting their experience. So, we're reformatting the IRP to be more compassionate.

* + - * No questions
  + Reports of the Arts Representatives and Senators
    - [Arts Representatives](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Arts-Reps-Report.pdf) (2:11:09)
      * No remarks
      * No questions
    - Arts Senators (2:12:32)
      * *Arts Senator Chloe Kemeni was absent and did not submit a report.*
      * [Arts Senator Henrique Mecabô](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Arts-Senator-Henrique-Mecabo%CC%82.pdf) **[late]**
        + Remarks added to report

I wasn't at Senate Caucus yesterday, but they received a guest speaker, the Registrar and Director of Enrolment Services, but what I'll start doing is I'll post on the Legislative Council Facebook group who's coming up on [Senate Caucus as guest speaker] the next week and channel the questions from the Faculty representatives to the person who shows up to Caucus

* + - * + No questions
  + Reports of Departmental Associations
    - [BASiC](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/BASiC.pdf) (2:14:21)
      * Remarks added to report
        + Our First Year Committee is pretty big this year. There are thirteen first-years involved! Pretty big number for Arts and Science.
        + The report says we're waiting on our Fall clothing order to arrive, but it has arrived. I'm wearing it right now.
        + "It's BASically Vegas!" semi-formal. Please come out, if you're not going to the MUGS event. The afterparty's at Tokyo! *(Council groans.)* Uh, guys, I happen to work there, so I could get you guest list any time, you know?
      * Questions
        + CSAUS: I just wanted to clarify: the decision to host the afterparty at Tokyo was not influenced by the number of first years, but by your employment?

BASiC: Uh. Yeah.

* + - [MESS](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/MESS.pdf) (2:15:45)
      * No remarks
      * No questions
    - [EASSA](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/EASSA.pdf) (2:16:10)
      * Remarks added to report
        + General Update re: EASSA VP Finance

Our co-President, who had to take a leave from school, was doing our finances. But now that he left, we're in a limbo.

* + - * No questions
    - [CLASHSA](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/CLASHSA.pdf) (2:17:18)
      * No remarks
      * No questions
    - [SLUM](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/SLUM.pdf) (2:17:57)
      * Remarks added to report
        + We're considering abolishing VP Fundraising because they serve a very limited role right now and they might not be necessary.
        + Framework to hold GAs - reached out to RSUS and PSA's VP Externals with that in mind.
      * No questions
    - [ASSA](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/ASSA.docx) (2:19:56)
      * Remarks added to report
        + General Updates

One of my objectives as VP External this year was to increase partnership and involvement of our association within the African community in Montreal, so I created a list with a bunch of organizations that showed interest to us. If you want to have access to this list let me know

* + - * No questions
    - [AHCSSA](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/AHCSSA.pdf) (2:21:21)
      * Remarks added to report
        + Now that our new logo is approved, we'll get into the process of ordering merch.
      * No questions

PSSA [Point of Privilege]: Is there any way to make the room warmer? It's really cold in here.

* + Speaker: Not as far as I know, I don't think so. It's complicated enough to change the lights, so I don't think we have control over literally anything else.

* + [ASA](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/ASA.pdf) (2:22:39)
    - Remarks added to report
      * VP External Grace Hennigar
        + Interdepartmental collaborations - To try and make things more inter-departmental and applied within McGill. Right now, Anthropology is a little too theory heavy. We want to make it more applied (kinda like Concordia's ethnographies).
    - No questions
  + [CSUS](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/CSUS.pdf) (2:25:37)
    - Remarks added to report
      * Tricks and Trottier
        + Gave snacks out to people studying for midterms super late in Trottier.
    - No questions
  + [RUSS](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Russian-Undergraduate-Departmental-Report-131119.docx) **[late]** (2:26:59)
    - No remarks
    - No questions
  + [QSSA](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/QSSA.pdf) (2:28:26)
    - Remarks added to report
      * Departmental Updates
        + Apple Shack, our biggest event, was a success! We went apple picking and had a meal.
        + 2 Montreal - hosted influential members of the Montreal community to give a presentation.
    - No questions
  + Question Period (2:29:54)
    - CSAUS: Motion to Set the Time of Adjournment to 9:00 pm **| PASSED**
      * Second mover: VP External
      * Motion passes
    - GSFSSA: So I know this is going to be informal, but if the discussion needs to be continued next week, would there be an allowance for that? There were some concerns about that.
      * Speaker: Yeah! So, if people decide they want to bring it back, they can. If people have specific motions or want to bring it up as an official point on the agenda, they are welcome to submit that to me, same deadlines apply as for motions and reports.
    - PSSA [Attempted Motion to Set the Time of Adjournment to 9:30 pm]: I'm not sure about the rules of procedure regarding this. However, I was wondering if I could make a motion to set the time of adjournment to 9:30, as a lot of people might have concerns they want to share and [adjourning at] 9pm, I feel, will cut people off.
      * Speaker: The room is only booked until 9pm and they (Building Services) do kick us out.
    - Arts Representative Adin: [Attempted] Motion to Enter a Q&A Period Regarding the Latest Developments, with an opportunity for execs to read a statement before the Q&A period
      * Speaker: We're gonna go with the original motion we had set to suspend the rules for informal debate, and we'll proceed through those as we already agreed upon earlier, just to make sure that it's a streamlined process.
    - President: Motion to Enter an Informal Q&A Session **| PASSED**
      * Second mover: Arts Representative Adin
      * Motion passes

15.1 - Informal Q&A

* + Statements from Executives re: "Face to Face" (2:32:30)
    - Arts Representative Adin (2:32:46): In early October, I was approached by a close friend to apply for a program to visit the Israel Palestine region over winter break. The trip in question, Face to Face, is run by Hillel Montreal - a Jewish organization under the Canadian Jewish Federation. I applied to the program the week before Thanksgiving, was interviewed, and accepted last Monday. Face to Face was advertised to me as a trip with the purpose of promoting dialogue and a deeper understanding of the Israel-Palestine region. The trip involves meeting with both Israeli and Palestinian politicians, community leaders, and journalists. This includes speaking with Fatah, the political party of the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank. I recognize Hillel is not an objective or neutral organization, but they have explicitly told me many times they have no obligation for me upon arrival. This was an important precondition for me before applying to Face to Face.

I accepted this opportunity entirely in my capacity as an individual. As a Christian, the opportunity to visit the most important sites of my faith is deeply meaningful to me and an opportunity that I would not otherwise have. I am not attending this trip in my capacity as Arts Representative whatsoever. However, I recognize that by attending Face to Face – no matter my reason for accepting – will justifiably upset many of my constituents. They have legitimate concerns, many of which I share, about the objectivity of Face to Face. It is my duty as the Arts Representative to SSMU to hear your concerns and understand your perspectives. I have been and continue to be open to conversations about this issue and I welcome the opportunity to discuss further. Thank you.

* + VP Finance (2:34:38): Face to Face is organized by Hillel Montreal: an extension of the Montreal Jewish Federation. This trip was shared with me by friends and colleagues. I applied to join a cohort of 20 other students for this trip. As many of you know, the trip’s cost is covered by the Montreal Jewish Federation. The itinerary includes travelling to Ramallah ("though I am not sure on which road"), communities around the Gaza strip, Bethlehem, Jerusalem ("presumably both sides"), Druze villages and Tel Aviv. the trip involves meeting with politicians ("I do not know who yet"), academics, regular community members, religious leaders… etc. of, to the best of my knowledge, diverse backgrounds. I was attracted to the trip because of curiosity for the region, the opportunity to meet people from the region, be introduced to conflicting ideas, as well as personal religious considerations ("the trip’s dates coincide with Christmas according to the Julian calendar"). Furthermore, I could not afford to go a trip of this scope otherwise – my financial means would simply not allow it. To clarify and reiterate: I do not go on this trip as VP Finance of AUS, I go as Stefan Suvajac. This statement closely resembles what I shared with McGill SPHR and the McGill Daily. Beyond general remarks, I would like to address one point specifically: the trip’s objectivity. It is one’s highest ethical duty to speak and expose the truth under all circumstances. Myself and my colleagues are acutely aware of this trip’s similarity to other trips aimed at stifling discussion about human rights on campuses. This trip presents itself as objective. Naturally, we do not expect it to be of its own accord. It is thus our active ethical duty to hold this trip to its own standards and challenge it where/if it devolves into the intellectual bludgeon which is propaganda. We are surrounded by biased and propagandistic information. Just as it is our duty to confront and challenge this propaganda when it presents itself, it will be our duty to confront and challenge propaganda during this trip and at all times. I will now answer questions from councillors and members of the gallery to the best of my ability. I look forward to it. Thank you.
  + Arts Representative Andrew (2:36:49): I know that many of you are concerned after reading the article this morning. But I wish you to assure you all that my participation in this program is completely personal in nature. The reason the coordinators invited me to apply is because I have attended a couple of Hillel events, I know the coordinators personally and they knew I would be interested in a topic of this nature. That is why I have always seen this as personal in nature and completely unrelated to my position as Arts Representative. I also wish to assure you all that I am in complete compliance with all the rules and procedures governing AUS and SSMU, regarding this.
  + AUS Exec Accountability Questions (2:37:33)
    - Speaker: I have already received a list of questions from departmental reps and have them here. Jayden (Recording Secretary) will also be receiving them and be including the exact text of this in the minutes if anyone would like to access them. So, RSUS, would you like to-
      * CSAUS [Point of Order]: Was there any particular reason why this document wasn't made available to Councillors, pursuant to the Standing Rules of our Society and adhering to making documents available to Councillors as early as possible?
        + Speaker: I received this today in Council. This is an informal session. I will post it in our Facebook group, but I received it literally as we were starting Council today so I did not have a chance to [share the list of questions.]
        + Arts Representative Adin: [Attempted] Point of Order?
        + Speaker: Usually we don't put questions up, so like, yeah.
    - Arts Representative Adin [Point of Order]: Any chance you could expand the screen?
      * RSUS: Oh, about that, we're not going to read the statements, so if you could just focus on the top [of the list of questions].
    - RSUS: Also, to Brent's (CSAUS') question: shit hit the fan today, so we typed this up today. So, sorry. We prepared a statement, but because we're closing in nine minutes, we're not gonna read it, so I'm just gonna rapid fire through these questions. We're also gonna post this document in the Facebook group so that this discussion can continue. Feel free to not answer 'til after, 'cause there's a lot.
    - RSUS: [1] Are you aware of the organization funding this trip, being the Maccabee Task Force, and their explicitly anti-BDS goals in promoting trips to visit Israel, and do you think that this presents a problem?
    - RSUS: [2] Some student leaders, when approached, were asked that this offer remain confidential —was the same asked of you?
    - RSUS: [3] If you were not asked for this to remain confidential, why did you not include this offer in your reports to Legislative Council at previous sessions?
      * RSUS: Note - I know that many of you consider this to be personal/personally to yourselves, but a lot of us here don't see this as being entirely personal, and it should have been in your reports, we believe, regardless of how you view this.
    - RSUS: [4] Are you aware of the issues with transparency surrounding McGill’s involvement with Israel and BDS efforts during the controversy surrounding POLI 339 last year at AUS, which many of us were present for?
    - RSUS: [5] What precedent does this set for student leaders to abuse their position of power to accept offers from particular interest groups for their personal benefit?
    - RSUS: [6] Do you believe, in light of taking this offer, that you are justly representing your Palestinian students and all other student negatively affected by Israeli occupation?
      * RSUS: I would also like to point out that I am a student who is negatively affected by Israeli occupation, and that my family has suffered many injustices because of this. So, I would like you to answer that to me, as well as many other students.
    - RSUS: [7] How can you be expected to act responsibly in the future on behalf of all students under your mandate, beyond the scope of the Israel-Palestine conflict?
      * RSUS: This is important, because while we are justifiably upset by the nature of this, McGill is a very prominent school in the international sphere, and you are open to possibly having other interest groups come to you and come to other people, in light of this. This does set a precedent, that you guys accepted.
    - BASiC [Point of Personal Privilege]: Can you (Speaker) please scroll the document?
      * Speaker: Yeah.
    - RSUS: [8] Were any other students in this room offered this trip who feel comfortable speaking up, whether they accepted or not?
      * RSUS: I know for a fact that there are other students in this room who were offered this trip.
    - RSUS: This is put forward by myself ("RSUS"), Dalton Liggett of the History Students Association (HSA), Matt Gery, ("who had to leave early, but is") representing the Philosophy Students Association (PSA), and Andreas Koch, representing the World Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies Students Association (WIMESSA). Thank you.
  + Q&A (2:41:37)
    - HSA: I understand that [the execs] would like to answer, but may I clarify, briefly? Clarify, in general… may I have ten seconds? I would just like to clarify that the reason that I signed this document is because I feel like students who are upset or are attached to this issue that have approached me have a right to have their questions answered. I just wanted to clarify that I believe that all of you (execs) are genuinely trying to do your jobs well and I appreciate the answers that you've already given. However, I would like to note: something that I would like us to stray away from doing is having people's questions, genuine concerns, or feelings of oppression be weaponized against them to somehow imply that they do not care about their students, on all sides, of any issue. Because everybody, I think, cares about everybody deeply. So I would just like to preface these questions in acknowledging that from all the execs, who I respect deeply, and I ask that they answer these questions as honestly as possible.
    - GSFSSA: Not sure if I'm allowed to ask a follow-up question, so…?
      * Speaker: Because these [questions] were published, I feel like you guys can also address them at the next meeting if we could move those. And maybe, if other people wanted to raise questions, then you guys could have a list for next time?
      * Arts Representative Adin: Personally speaking, I would feel more comfortable having more time to prepare for these [questions], but I don’t' want that to come across as if I'm skirting it. So, I'm wondering… maybe I'll reach out to… I ask my coworkers from RSUS if they would be amenable to that? Or if they want a response on the spot, now, or if they want a more thought-out response ready for next Council. I ask them.
    - RSUS: First of all, my place is not meant to weaponize, it is simply meant to situate the issue, in light of what Dalton (HSA) said, although it is a very valid concern. Second, given we have five minutes left, since the adjournment was officially set at 9:00 pm by CSAUS, it would probably be best to have a more thought-out response for later. Though, we were initially hoping to get more on-the-spot things. But just considering what happened with the adjournment… yeah.
    - CSAUS [Point of Personal Privilege]: I first want to say that my motion to set the time of adjournment has no relevance to the discussion we are having. This is purely a procedural motion because we only have the room booked 'til 9:00 pm. And I know many of us in this room… we want to hear our constituents' concerns and we want to hear the discussion around this issue. But we also have midterms and exams to get to, and we quite simply do not have this room booked until past 9:00 pm. So, I ask and I beg for respect, and I beg to be treated with such: that my motion was simply procedural and I don't appreciate it being misconstrued, otherwise.
    - GSFSSA: So, I just have a few questions for you (execs). Specifically, in the statement that was posted by SSMU, it said that the SSMU executives were selected because of their student leadership experience and connections in campus, and that that was the reason the trip would be all-expenses paid, to my understanding. You all cited personal reasons for going [on the trip], which are legitimate, but I would like to know what differentiates you as AUS executives and SSMU executives. What contexts do you feel are different from SSMU that separated you from not having to follow the same procedures or not having to uphold the same guidelines? [2] To all three of you- you also noted that this was done completely independently and that you have no political reason - but… what's sort of confusing to me is that if you recognize your positions as representatives, did you feel that it was pertinent to share this with your constituents or did you feel it was pertinent to share with the executives? The reason I'm bringing this up is that in your statements, you also say the fact that you recognize how politically charged this is, but if you did recognize the politically charged nature of this, did you not feel that it would be pertinent to perhaps speak to other members of the executive about this or speak to Legislative Council?
    - ASSA [Point of Information]: I see a lot of people in the gallery and I'm wondering if they can ask questions, just 'cause we're gonna be here in 2 weeks but they might not wanna sit for 3 hours until we get to this point. I know there's not a lot of time left but I was wondering if we could maybe give the attention to them?
      * Speaker: Unfortunately, we're out of time, so not tonight. If people want to submit questions, I will speak to Jamal (President) and we will work out some kind of way for a formal and orderly question submission process and have those be ready for next Council, in advance, so people can look at them, think about them, and raise comments so we can have a more productive and constructive discussion in this framework. So, I will post that on the Facebook group.
  + CSAUS [Point of Order]: It being 9:00 pm, I would like to bring the Speaker's attention to it being 9:00 pm and to the duly-adopted motion to set the time of adjournment is now in force. And that motion to adjourn shall be enforced.
  + Recording Secretary [Point of Information]: Should I be sending the questions that have been asked, that aren't the official questions, to the execs in question?
    - Speaker: We'll figure that out, afterwards.
  + Next Meeting is 27 November at 6pm!
  + Adjournment
    - CSAUS: Motion to adjourn
      * Second mover: Everyone
    - Adjourned at 9:00 pm

Appendices

[Appendix A Nov 07, 2019 FMC Meeting Decisions](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Appendix-A-Nov-07-2019-FMC-Meeting-Decisions.xlsx)

[Appendix B AUS FY2020 Operating Budget](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Appendix-B-AUS-FY2020-Operating-Budget.xlsx)

[Appendix C Meeting Agenda FMC November 07, 2019](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Appendix-C-Meeting-Agenda-FMC-November-07-2019.doc)

[Appendix D RSUS Constitution](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Appendix-D-RSUS-Constitution.pdf)

[Appendix E Ferrier Map](http://ausmcgill.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Appendix-E-Ferrier-Map.pdf)