



Concordia Student Union – Council of Representatives

CSU Regular Council Meeting – Agenda
Wednesday, October 14th, 2015
H-767, 18h30, S.G.W Campus

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of the Agenda

4. Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of the Minutes – September 16th Regular Council Meeting
- b) Reports from Committees
- c) CUSACorp Report
- d) Executive Reports
- e) Chairperson's Report
- f) Positions Book

5. Presentations and Guest Speakers

- a) Sustainability Policy Consultation
- b) Petition – Solidarity Economy Incubator

6. Appointments

- a) Student Life Committee
- b) Sustainability Committee
- c) Loyola Committee
- d) Clubs & Space Committee
- e) Concordia Council on Student Life



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f) Fund Committee

7. Returning Business

8. New Business – Informational

9. New Business – Substantive

a) Co-Curricular Record

b) Policy Committee Report – October 5th

c) Bylaw Ratification – March 2015

d) CSU Daycare Project Manager – Phase 2

e) Accessible Education – By-Elections

10. Question Period & Business Arising

11. Announcements

12. Adjournment



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CSU Special Council Meeting – Minutes

Wednesday, October 14th, 2015

H-767, 18h30, S.G.W Campus

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting is called to order at 18h46.

We would like to acknowledge that Concordia university is on the traditional territory of the Kanien'keha:ka (Ga-niyen-gé-haa-ga), a place which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst nations. Concordia recognizes, and respects the Kanien'keha:ka (Ga-niyen-gé-haa-ga) as the traditional custodians of the lands and waters on which we meet today.

2. ROLL CALL

Council Chairperson: *Mat Forget*

Council Secretary: *Caitlin Robinson*

Executives present for the duration of the meeting consisted of *Anas Bouslikhane* (VP Finance), *Gabrielle Caron* (VP Sustainability), *Lori Dimaria* (VP Clubs & Internal), *Marion Miller* (VP Academic & Advocacy), *John Talbot* (VP Student Life), *Gabriel Velasco* (VP External & Mobilization), *Terry Wilkings* (President) and *Chloë Williams* (VP Loyola).

Councillors present for the duration of the meeting consisted of *Omar Al Khin* (JMSB), *Jenna Cocullo* (Arts & Science), *Rachel Gauthier* (JMSB), *Jana Ghalayini* (ENCS), *Michael Giesbrecht* (Arts & Science), *Sanaz Hassan Pour* (Fine Arts), *Adrian Longinotti* (Arts & Science), *Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis* (Arts & Science), *Aloyse Muller* (Arts & Science), *Geneviève Nadeau-Bonin* (Arts & Science), *Terry Ngala* (Arts & Science), *Marcus Peters* (Arts & Science), *Jason Poirier-Lavoie* (Arts & Science), *Benjamin Prunty* (Arts & Science), *Fadi Saijari* (JMSB), *Leyla Sutherland* (Fine Arts), *Michael Wrobel* (Arts & Science) and *Rami Yahia* (ENCS).

Councillors absent for the duration of the meeting consisted of *Simon Dansereau* (JMSB), *Faddy Kamel* (ENCS), *Hassan Mogharbel* (ENCS) and *Melanie Romer* (Arts & Science).

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Marion Miller pulls the Policy Committee report from October 5th from 4. *Consent Agenda*, to be 9. *b) Policy Committee Report*.

Seconded by **Chloë Williams**.

Chloë Williams adds 6. *a) Student Life Committee*, 6. *b) Sustainability Committee*, 6. *c) Loyola Committee*, 6. *d) Clubs & Space Committee* and 6. *e) Concordia Council on Student Life*.

Seconded by **Michael Giesbrecht**.



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Michael Giesbrecht moves to approve the agenda and all items under 4. *Consent Agenda*.
Seconded by **Sanaz Hassan Pour**.

Chair: We will now vote on the approval of the agenda and all items under 4. *Consent Agenda*.

VOTE

In favour : 15

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

a) Approval of the Minutes – September 16th Regular Council Meeting

Ratified by consent.

b) Reports from Committees

Ratified by consent.

c) CUSACorp Report

Ratified by consent.

d) Executive Reports

Ratified by consent.

e) Chairperson's Report

Ratified by consent.

f) Positions Book

Ratified by consent.

5. PRESENTATIONS & GUEST SPEAKERS

a) Sustainability Policy Consultation



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Mark Underwood: **Gabrielle** has sent out some information about the sustainability policy for the university. Sustainable Concordia has been working on the getting the university to adopt one since 2011. That is when our initial research began, and it has been a long process dealing with the bureaucracy and getting them to create a policy that includes a comprehensive constitution.

Gabrielle Caron: Just to introduce Mark, he works at Sustainable Concordia. He is the office coordinator. He is presenting something that Sustainable Concordia con has been working on for a few years.

Mark Underwood: For a bit of history, in 2011 we got a bunch of people together and presented the President of the university with a manifest to say that Concordia needs a sustainability policy now. That is when the university created the sustainable governance framework of three (3) sustainability subcommittees, but for a really long time we have been spinning out heels in those committees and ideas go there to die. This year we have been working on getting concrete things put through there. The consultation process is part of the process of building this policy. First, the university was resistant to this community consultation as this is not something that they do for a policy, but we have been successful in getting them to do this. Unfortunately, the timeline is insanely tight – the decision happened three (3) or four (4) weeks ago and the consultation is happening though next week and the week after, with the hopeful deadline for the policy to be done and ratified by whoever needs to by January.

Gabrielle Caron: Basically we are having two (2) public consultations run by the university. These are the official public consultations. One will be next Tuesday, October 20th from 14h00 to 16h00 at Grey Nuns, and the second on October 29th at Loyola, which will be taking place from 14h00 to 16h00. These dates may not necessarily be as accommodating for everyone, so we are hosting two (2) other events at the Hive – one will be downtown and another at Loyola, and those events are taking place later in the evening from 17h00 to 20h00. One will be on October 22nd and then the one at Loyola will be on October 28th. We are not asking anything specific other than showing your enthusiasm, and it would be great for you to come to at least one of these and see how things are going. The ones running in the evening are drop-in sessions where we will be able to give you more information as well as just getting ready for the last one, accumulating everyone's thoughts, and having a dialogue between other people and what we want to see in the public consultations.

Mark Underwood: Part of the mission, vision and values of Sustainable Concordia is to democratize the university, students, staff and faculty in the way that decisions are made. For us, this is an insanely positive step forward in that regard. As student leaders and politicians it is our responsibility to show up and give our two cents and show what we are made up of. If people do not show up, the administration will have ammunition to say that these consultations are not successful and that no one ever comes. I do not expect you to come to all four (4), but I would really love you talking this up to people you speak to and sharing it on Facebook. Because the deadline is so tight, we are relying on word of mouth to have people meaningfully contribute to the formation of this policy. It will affect all aspects of campus life. If you talk to our group, they are really excited that it will now carry weight. It will be the responsibility of the vice presidents and directors and people who hold important positions in the university to uphold these values.

Gabrielle Caron: Also, so that you can prepare for these events, there is the policy draft I have sent to you all. The Hive event is October 22nd from 17h00 to 20h00, and the one at Loyola is on October 28th



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from 17h00 to 20h00. The locations are on the website. If you cannot attend any of these events, you are able to write a comment on the webpage at www.concordia.ca/sustainability.

Benjamin Prunty: I read the endnote – do you have any critique of the policy sent out?

Mark Underwood: One of the strengths is that it identifies accountability, but that accountability lies not in student hands. Something we would like to see is how students can get involved in action plans that come out with the governance framework. There is no other way besides seats on the subcommittees. There is no other way for students to speak up if the integrity of these action plans are not being upheld. Some of the language in the principles can be easily interpreted. Given the hype around things like divestment and other issues that we want the university to move forward on, take a look at that language and see if it works for you and make suggestions if it does not.

Benjamin Prunty: I was involved in the subcommittee, and do you feel as though there could be a place for a statement about an upper-level governance multi-stakeholder model? I brought this up and people were not sure.

Mark Underwood: I agree, that could be strengthened, but I have no idea how to work it into this policy. The framework is now in policy form, and before it was just on the website. Now it is written down and cannot just be disbanded by someone who does not like it anymore. In terms of upper-level though, I am not really sure.

Aloyse Muller: How much must be divested – around five (5) percent? How much implication do you expect from policy?

Mark Underwood: That is from the folks in Environment, Health and Safety who drafted this. It is not an action plan, but a policy, a statement of intent and a call to action about how we at the university view sustainability and how we want to uphold those values. This is outlined through the thirteen (13) principles adapted from the sustainable development pack. In terms of prescribing actions from a policy, this is more about someone from the university saying that a given action or inaction does not align with our sustainability policy, which gives up license to push forward. Having student voices on the subcommittee is the way to do that. The CSU and Graduate Students Association (GSA) have seats on the subcommittee, so there is student voice.

Terry Wilkings: Do you know how many points the uni is getting for this type of policy?

Mark Underwood: There will be many points, which is probably why we are seeing such a deadline. There are definitely political ends to why this is happening.

Terry Wilkings: At the top it says “Board of Governors”, so after the consultations are complete, will you return to Council with your experience on that? Perhaps Council can bring forward a motion for the Board of Governors on behalf of students in general. I invite you to return.

Mark Underwood: Information after the consultation will be sent out and we will have some time to edit and revise it – though only a month and a half – and then it will go to the Board of Governors and then



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there is a six (6) to eight (8) month delay for the policy to go through. Having an extra something on top is amazing. I would love to come back in December and give feedback.

b) Petition – Solidarity Economy Incubator

Benjamin Prunty: There is a petition that will be circulating to start conversation about a solidarity economy incubator. This is not the CSU working on this at the executive level, but I am working on this with a group of students, both graduate and undergraduate, to create a solidarity economy incubator. We want student input in the by-elections to see the conversation that starts surrounding this. We anticipate that this will be enthusiastic. Good examples of these organizations are the PUSH fund, the Hive, Burritoville, – these are projects that are democratic and have a public mandates other than exclusively private profit. The bylaws state that we have to come to Council before circulating a petition, so this is coming to Council with that. This is more of a conversation on a membership level rather than at a Council level.

Terry Wilkings: We are not supposed to interfere in this in the bylaws, it is just a procedural point. I just wanted to mention that I think that we should signify that we have received a petition in case there is confusion. We should signify that people have seen the wording, pursuant to articles 9.6.1 and 9.6.2. We should recognize that we did receive this petition.

Terry Wilkings: BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CSU Council formally approve the question for the By-Elections pertaining to the Solidarity Economy Incubator, pursuant to Bylaws 9.6.1 and 9.6.2.,
Seconded by **Sanaz Hassan Pour**.

VOTE

In favour : 15

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

Benjamin Prunty: Even if people do not have questions now, there is a chance that I might talk to you at great length about this.

6. APPOINTMENTS

a) Student Life Committee

Chloë Williams: **John's** committee is looking for one more person – you can help fund events, give **John** feedback on his events and generally help him out.

Michael Giesbrecht nominates himself.
Seconded by **Rami Yahia**.



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Michael Giesbrecht: I have been involved in CSU events and kind of helped out already.

VOTE

In favour : 15

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

b) Sustainability Committee

Chloë Williams: The Sustainability Committee is looking for one councillor – you can get involved in sustainability policies, make sure that events are sustainable and anything else that the CSU is working on is sustainable.

No nominations received.

c) Loyola Committee

Chloë Williams: This is my committee – you get to help out with everything happening at Loyola, help out with all the projects happening there, along with lots of sustainability-type things like the greenhouse.

Fadi Saijari nominates himself.
Seconded by **Jana Ghalayini**.

VOTE

In favour : 15

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

d) Clubs & Space Committee

Chloë Williams: On the Club & Space Committee you get to help **Lori** with all of the clubs. This is always an exciting time and you deal with budget approvals, new club approvals and reading over the documents they submit.

Lori Dimaria: Also, you cannot be an executive on a club due to potential conflict of interest.

Terry Wilkings: In case anyone is unfamiliar with the rules for appointments, if there are resignations we open up the seat and then if no one fills it, we will open it up at the subsequent meeting.



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Marion Miller: Since there are vacant seats and councillors coming in at the By-Elections it is alright to leave a couple of spots open.

e) Concordia Council on Student Life

Chloë Williams: You get to be on the university decision-making body pertaining to any projects having to do with funding student initiatives here on campus.

Jenna Cocullo nominates herself.
Seconded by **Benjamin Prunty**.

Jenna Cocullo: I have been wanting to sit on this since last year, I am interested in looking at how funding for student projects will go.

VOTE

In favour : 15
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

f) Fund Committee

Benjamin Prunty moves to enter closed session.
Seconded by **Jason Poirier-Lavoie**.

VOTE

In favour : 14
Opposed: 0
Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

Meeting enters closed session at 19h03.

Terry Wilkings moves to appoint Arij Riahi and Jason Prince to the Student Space, Accessible Education and Legal Contingency (SSAELC) Fund Committee.
Seconded by **Aloyse Muller**.

Motion carries.

Terry Wilkings moves to enter open session.
Seconded by **Marcus Peters**.

Motion carries.



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Meeting enters closed session at 19h18.

Marcus Peters moves to ratify the motions made in closed session.
Seconded by **Jason Poirier-Lavoie**.

VOTE

In favour : 15

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

Marcus Peters moves to take a recess.
Seconded by **Rami Yahia**.

Meeting enters recess at 19h21.

Meeting reconvenes at 19h39.

7. RETURNING BUSINESS

No returning business was discussed at this meeting of Council.

8. NEW BUSINESS – INFORMATIONAL

No informational new business was discussed at this meeting of Council.

9. NEW BUSINESS – SUBSTANTIVE

a) Co-Curricular Record

Marion Miller: BE IT RESOLVED THAT that Council sign onto a memo of support for the co-curricular record changes, and implement mechanisms to encourage the use of the co-curricular record by its subsidiaries.

Seconded by **Chloë Williams**.

Marion Miller: This is for those of you who have ever tried to file one of your activities onto the co-curricular record, which is a digital record which exists on myconcordia.ca somewhere in SIS. This is supposed to document your engagement on campus outside your official classwork. It is quite tedious and complicated, and kind of difficult to see where the benefits will come. It is unfortunate because this could be an interesting tool, but it does not have the support that it needs around it. The GSA has been working over the past year on trying to put strategic pressure on different parts of the university. Three



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(3) places to work on this is with the Dean of Students, to simplify the process, Student Associations, to commit to making sure that they enter their activities in to the database, and School of Graduate Studies, which has to recognize the co-curricular record as a valid piece of information. If it is not recognized within Concordia, why are we doing it? We have documentation from Keroles Riad of the GSA who talked to us about the main issues and that now his project and personal mission has been getting all of the faculty associations, the Dean of Students office and the school of graduate studies to sign onto participating in this initiative. The Dean of Students said yes and the School of Graduate Studies submitted an internal memo saying yes. The GSA, the Engineering and Computer Science Association (ECA) along with the Engineering and Computer Science (ENCS) council, and the Teaching and Learning subcommittee framework have signed onto this. Keroles presented to us and asked if we would draft a CSU memo for this. The Policy Committee recommends to adopt this memo and, as we said in our report, we look forward to sitting down with the Clubs & Space Committee to bring changes to the structure of the CSU to make sure that we integrate the use of the co-curricular record.

Marcus Peters: Will any of this process become mandatory? I mean this in the sense that a direct connection to the Dean of Students is good, especially for people who want to apply for grad school, but will this be mandatory when applying for funding from the CSU?

Marion Miller: That is envisioned for group participating, and what they are looking at is tying this to funding. We do not necessarily have to tie it to finding, but maybe have it just be an incentive process. One thing to understand is that we are signing on to work with the three (3) entities previously mentioned. There will be no stringent policy if the Dean of Students does not make it simpler, and the School of Graduate Studies does not recognize it. We will sit down with **Lori** and the Clubs & Space Committee to tie this to policy.

Marcus Peters: I am in favour of all of this, but I am just skeptical of having mandatory affiliation with any kind of Concordia's administration, especially since they have a lot of ability to politically profile people, though that has been taken into consideration.

Lori Dimaria: I just wanted to mention that it is important to have an inflow of information. It is important to talk to different clubs and see how we can favour the community. We have to look at the holistic approach. University academia is very important, but it is also important to get involved and feel like we are a part of a community, and that is what clubs do. It is important to give credit and merit where it is deserved. If we pursue this, we can incentivize some students to get involved and this is an important element when looking at university and student life. This is a nice complement to education and works hand-in-hand. In order for Concordia to be a great institution, we need to look at things with a holistic approach and frame it so that we embrace academic and engagement and community involvement.

Marion Miller: We were talking earlier about the stars rating of the university and how many points they get, and what is interesting is that they could be getting points that they are missing out on because the university has no way of documenting student engagement, when we all know that there are a ton of activities which go on. If we start pushing to recognize community engagement, that could be something that becomes more institutionalized. There is win to be had on many different sides.



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VOTE

In favour : 13

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 1 (**Jana**)

Motion carries

b) Policy Committee Report – October 5th

Marion Miller moves to approve the Policy Committee Report from October 5th, 2015.

Seconded by **Terry Wilkings**.

Marion Miller: I just wanted to highlight the changes to Standing Regulation 192 – it was recommended to the Policy Committee by the Finance Committee that we make these changes. They looked over the first and as it stands, in terms of transparency mechanisms, we are supposed to present up-to-date financials at every Regular Council Meeting, but there are months where there are two (2) of these meetings and the Finance Committee found it hard to produce an up-to-date financial report in just two (2) weeks. We felt that this was excessive and we are all for transparency, but recommend to revise the Standing Regulation such that the financials be presented at the first Regular Council Meeting each month. The Policy Committee unanimously felt that this was a reasonable change.

Terry Wilkings: I think that this was brought up by the finance team. For our accountant Vikan, it is quite laborious to reproduce information when there is just one single pay period. It is just a lot of accounting work for him to do given that two (2) weeks following, he will be providing the same information. This is more about trying not to add additional work, along with eliminating redundancy. The Bylaws say that we need to produce monthly updates, so we are trying to adhere to this through the Standing Regulations.

VOTE

In favour : 15

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 1 (**Jana**)

Motion carries.

c) Bylaw Ratification – March 2015

Terry Wilkings moves to ratify the Bylaw changes from the General Election.

Seconded by **Aloyse Muller**.

Terry Wilkings: In the General Elections of March last year we had made two modifications to the Bylaws, one being the allocation and distribution of the fee we collect, and the second being the introduction of Special Bylaw K which delineates the maximum amount of no more than \$1.50 per semester in terms of administration and reserve fees collected through AESEC for the health and dental plan. Procedurally we had a successful election in terms of these questions and they were received by



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the membership at the Annual General Meeting, as stipulated in the Standing Regulations, so the membership approved and recognized the changes from the election. At the May Regular Council Meeting we approved the minutes from the Annual General Meeting, but to be procedurally sound, for Bylaw changes, instead of just approving the minutes we should have a specific resolution pointed directly at the Bylaw changes since ultimately we are held responsible for these.

VOTE

In favour : 13

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 1 (**Jana**)

Motion carries.

Terry Wilkings: If anyone read the committee minutes from various committees like Finance and External & Campaigns, at the moment we are going through the Bylaws and making housekeeping changes and trying to update the language, like making everything gender neutral and reflecting the day-to-day of what the executives do. At the end of the week this will come to the Policy Committee, but in the meantime, I will be sending minor adjustments for review. This is the same process.

d) CSU Daycare Project Manager – Phase 2

Marion Miller:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the expense of \$5000 (before taxes), to be used with the purpose of hiring a Project Coordinator for the Daycare Permit Application, to be taken from the Student Space, Accessible Education and Legal Contingency (SSAELC) fund.

Seconded by **Leyla Sutherland**.

Marion Miller: The daycare is moving forward and big piece moving forward is to submit an application to the Ministère de la famille, which is a pretty substantial dossier to send. We hired Mme. Pauline Gervais to work on the initial application process and consult, and that was the first phase in her contract, and the second phase is to pull together all these documents. We have been in touch with her to see if she would be available for the second phase. We have thirteen (13) substantial documents to submit to the Ministère like the lease agreement, a big operations document structuring how the governance framework works, all the little policies of the daycare like how a child is admitted or expelled, how families are given advance notice if the daycare is closing, etc. Another big part is the educational program. Mme. Gervais is saying that she can do most of the work, but in terms of the education plan, she wants a partner, who worked with the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) daycare. The contract is for both professionals to work together to get this dossier together since most CSU people do not have the knowledge to teach two-year-olds like skills. It will probably cost \$4000, but we are giving ourselves a buffer so as not to come back to Council asking for more money.

Caroline: will there be another phase or last one?



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Marion Miller: This is for the submission for a permit. Once we have the permit then we go forward with building and renovations. In that phase, we will be hiring a different project manager with skill in terms of that phase, and then a director for doing all the start-up for the daycare. A single daycare project can have different managers along the way to help with specialized sections of what needs to be done.

VOTE

In favour : 15

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

Marion Miller:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the expense of \$2000 for the fees associated to the application for a Daycare Permit, to be taken from the Student Space, Accessible Education and Legal Contingency (SSAELC) fund.

Seconded by **Sanaz Hassan Pour**.

Marion Miller: We need a cheque for the Ministère des finances to process app, close to 554\$ but just want to make sure we have enough in case other associated fees but mainly this cheques.

Geneviève Nadeau-Bonin: Will all the fees be transparent in the next budget report? Will we be able to see how much was used?

Terry Wilkings: In the Bylaw which outlines this, it is stipulated that we are to put these in an annual report at the end of our mandate. It will have not only all the motions approving the use of funds, but the actual amounts used.

VOTE

In favour : 15

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

Terry Wilkings: I figured that since there are people here who help us communicate with students, that it would be fruitful to notify folks that recently **Marion** and myself have been in discussion with Roger Côté, the Vice-President, Services, and at the next meeting we will be able to announce where the daycare will be. We have been withholding this information just because the final lease details are being put together. At the next meeting we also plan to submit the outline of the operational side of the daycare, based on the market study and survey. There will be quite a vigorous document produced leading to securing the necessary finances and securing the overhead cost and paying our employees. I am just trying to signal folks here that we will be making an announcement.



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Marion Miller: To add onto that, we are excited because we got over 250 respondents on the survey looking at the specific childcare needs of student parents on campus, like the hours of the day they need childcare, how close to their home is their current childcare, and what they are currently paying.

e) Accessible Education – By-Elections

Gabriel Velasco:

WHEREAS the government has imposed austerity measures and cuts of approximately \$340 million dollars to University funding;

WHEREAS, this translates to more than \$36.6 million dollars in cuts to Concordia University alone;

WHEREAS article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that, higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit;

WHEREAS accessible postsecondary education is a fundamental pillar for a more equitable and democratic society;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following question be added on the 2015 by-election:

“Do you as a member of the Concordia Student Union (CSU) agree to adopt an accessible education position, as outlined in the supporting document provided at the ballot station, which opposes any increase in student fees for all students, whether Quebec resident, out of province, or International, and supports universally accessible postsecondary education free of all financial barriers.”

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the following wording be included in the supporting document provided at the ballot station;

“WHEREAS the government has imposed austerity measures and cuts of approximately \$340 million dollars to University funding;

WHEREAS this translates to more than \$36.6 million dollars in cuts to Concordia University alone;

WHEREAS article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that, higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit;

WHEREAS accessible postsecondary education is a fundamental pillar for a more equitable and democratic society;

That the CSU adopt the following positions regarding accessibility to postsecondary education:

- *Support for high quality, universally accessible postsecondary education as a human right.*
- *Opposition to any increase in student fees for all students, whether Quebec resident, out of province, or International.*
- *Call for a public reinvestment in postsecondary education from all levels of government.*
- *Call for the elimination of all financial barriers to a high quality postsecondary education, and advocate for a progressive reduction and elimination of all tuition fees and obligatory institutional fees (FIOs).*



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- *Work with elements of the Quebec student movement and civil society that share these goals.”*

Seconded by **Jenna Cocullo**.

Gabriel Velasco: As you already know, the CSU has a Positions Book where all positions that we take, either through referendum or Council, are followed through the decisions that we make as an organization. With respect to accessible education, there is a certain clarity which is lacking. We have quite a few motions from Council with respect to education, and the document lists them out, but with respect to our membership, we have only one motion pertaining to accessible education. This was taken back in 2011 at the heels of the 2012 student movement, where we took a motion against fee increases, and a specific amount, not broad motion. This year we are trying to pass a coherent and all-encompassing motion with respect to accessible education. We would like to get a motion from the membership which is timely and in a broad sense. This is also good for the longterm continuity of the CSU, so that the organization has a framework with respect to accessible education. Education is one of the most fundamental topics at the CSU, and having a strong position on the topic is important. This will help us navigate the discussions around accessible education. With the austerity cuts, the university and postsecondary education is being put into a corner. There are not many options and there will either be a re-investment in public education, or we will see a dramatic tuition increase. Universities cannot continue to function running a deficit, and Concordia is running an \$8 million deficit. We are on the lower end of the deficits, so it is very clear that the postsecondary education system is being put in a corner. In preparation for that, the CSU must look to the membership with respect to their opinion on accessible education. To clarify the second “be it resolved”, on the ballot we need a specific question and cannot include all of the “whereas” clauses. The specific questions refers to supporting documentation.

Jason Poirier-Lavoie: I am glad to see this motion come along and I speak in favour of it but have one concern – when a Bylaw amendment comes along, people can consult the change in the supporting documentation, but right now we are adding a positions in the Positions Book asking if this should pass. The resolution as it is worded refers to documentation and we are going to have to change that resolution once it goes into the Positions Book or else it will be out of context.

Chair: When positions are adopted into the Positions Book they have to include the minutes of the meeting when it was approved for the sake of context.

Aloyse Muller: For clarification what is going to go into the Positions Book? Will it include the bullet points as well?

Gabriel Velasco: Yes.

Terry Wilkings: I just want to put it out there that as original as we would like to feel with our progressive work, the inspiration for this was taken straight from the SSMU which has a similar position on accessible education. We decided to float this idea with our membership given that there are lots of out-of-province and international students.

Michael Wrobel: has there been any discussion about potentially framing it as two different questions? Specifically it seems like you are asking people to simultaneously take positions on two different



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phenomena – opposing tuition raises on student fees regardless of status, and simultaneously on students being in favour of free postsecondary education. I was wondering if there had been any discussion as to whether it should be two (2) questions.

Terry Wilkings: When it comes to this question, you have to be conscious of how students could vote in favour of one and oppose the other and result of that might conflict. Just to be in line with the positions we already have, we thought it best to have both together, in the same way that the motion was brought forth at the SSMU, as a single policy position.

Benjamin Prunty moves to amend the motion to change the wording from “which opposes any increase in student fees” to which opposes “any increase in tuition fees”
Seconded by **Chloë Williams**.

Benjamin Prunty: Basically if you look at other models with free education, there are still a certain amount of fees, namely for “student welfare organizations,” which are their version of student unions. That is a fee and it is there because the students still need representation.

Michael Wrobel: The rationale about the wording of “tuition fees,” is that an ancillary fee is in reference to university fees not fee levy groups.

Benjamin Prunty: If you are sure about that, then it makes sense.

Terry Wilkings: If we wanted to be more precise, we could say FIOs (frais institutionnels obligatoires), instead of ancillary fees. This delineates specific fee levy fees which could encompass student fees.

Benjamin Prunty moves to amend the amendment to replace “ancillary fees” with “FIOs (frais institutionnels obligatoires).
Seconded by **Rachel Gauthier**.

Amendment to the amendments is adopted via unanimous consent.

Marion Miller: In English, this means obligatory institutional fees.

VOTE

In favour : 14

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Amendment is adopted.

Gabriel Velasco moves to amend the motion to reword “ancillary fees” on fourth point of the second “Be it resolved” clause to “FIOs (frais institutionnels obligatoires)” such that the motion remains consistent.
Seconded by **Jason Poirier-Lavoie**.

Amendment is adopted via unanimous consent.



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Rachel Gauthier: About the way that this will be put into the Positions Book, since it is presented with information on austerity, if in the future there is no more austerity, should there be a different position about tuition fees in the university with nothing to do with austerity?

Chair: It is within Council's power to amend positions, according to the Standing Regulations.

Gabriel Velasco: It would not necessarily include austerity. In the Positions Book there would be four (4) bullet points and the third would be a call for a reinvestment into public education. This does not mean that if there is a reinvestment we stop holding the position, it still remains valid. The "whereas" clauses are also not included in the Positions Book, they are just for the sake of reading the motion.

VOTE

In favour : 15

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

10. QUESTION PERIOD & BUSINESS ARISING

Terry Wilkings: Next Wednesday there will be a really short Special Council Meeting to approve the selection of a CEO. In year's past, we have the same CEO from the General Elections lead into the By-Elections, and in terms of the time to prepare, it was less. Given that the new CEO will have to acclimate themselves to the process and put into operation the elections themselves, giving them an extra week is appropriate and respectful for someone getting into a new job. The meeting should be no longer than thirty (30) minutes.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jenna Cocullo: Thursday, October 20th, 21st and 22nd are the Arts and Science Federation of Associations (ASFA) elections, so for the Arts and Science councillors, go vote and get your friends to vote so that there is quorum. Tomorrow in H-762 is the ASFA debates if anyone wishes to attend and ask questions. The debate will be moderated by **Jason**.

John Talbot: The last day to apply for Student Life Special Project Funding is October 20th, so spread that through your networks. On October 21st we are hosting a talk with Chance the Rapper and Yassin 'Narcy' Alsalman. The talk will be about hip hop in Chicago, and it will be from 17h00-19h00 in H-110 if anyone wants to help organize lines and stuff.

Geneviève Nadeau-Bonin: The Geography Undergraduate Student Society (GUSS) and the City Farm School are having a harvest party tomorrow and there will be this really wicked band playing that **John** plays in. It will be a potluck from 17h30-23h30 at Loyola in the Hive and we will be collecting garlic from 12h00 to 17h00. Information can be found on the Facebook event called *Harvest Party!* or at www.cityfarmschool.org.



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Terry Wilkings: If you helped with the volunteering that **John** asked for, do you get to meet Chance the Rapper?

John Talbot: Yes.

Marion Miller: If we volunteer, do we get it on our co-curricular record?

John Talbot: No.

Terry Ngala: Just to add onto what **John** was saying about Chance the Rapper, I am part of the hip-hop class and first dibs go to students in the class, then Concordia student and then after that the general public. Capacity is 450 and Facebook event has over 600 people attending, and the class alone is 250 students and every one of us will be there because we have to be.

John Talbot: The capacity of H-110 is 700 people.

Benjamin Prunty: I do not know if people have heard, but there is a petition on the solidarity economy incubator going around. If anyone wants to help, it would be greatly appreciated.

John Talbot: Reggie's is hiring bartenders, servers, dishwasher and cook positions. Councillors cannot work there, but distribute this information to networks, as Concordia student are prioritized.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Marcus Peters moves to adjourn.
Seconded by **Jason Poirier-Lavoie**.

VOTE

In favour : 17

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion carries.

Meeting is adjourned at 20h36.



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CSU Special Council Meeting
Wednesday, October 14th, 2015
H-767, 18h30, S.G.W Campus

Summary of Motions Carried

5. PRESENTATIONS & GUEST SPEAKERS

b) Petition – Solidarity Economy Incubator

The following motion was carried:

Terry Wilkings: BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CSU Council formally approve the question for the By-Elections pertaining to the Solidarity Economy Incubator, pursuant to Bylaws 9.6.1 and 9.6.2.

– Terry Wilkings (*Sanaz Hassan Pour*)

6. APPOINTMENTS

a) Student Life Committee

A motion was carried to appoint Michael Giesbrecht to the Student Life Committee.

– Michael Giesbrecht (*Rami Yahia*)

c) Loyola Committee

A motion was carried to appoint Fadi Saijari to the Loyola Committee.

– Fadi Saijari (*Jana Ghalayini*)

e) Concordia Council on Student Life

A motion was carried to appoint Jenna Cocullo to the Concordia Council on Student Life.

– Jenna Cocullo (*Benjamin Prunty*)

f) Fund Committee

A motion was carried to appoint Arij Riahi and Jason Prince to the Student Space, Accessible Education and Legal Contingency (SSAELC) Fund Committee.

– Terry Wilkings (*Aloyse Muller*)



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9. NEW BUSINESS – SUBSTANTIVE

a) Co-Curricular Record

The following motion was carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT that Council sign onto a memo of support for the co-curricular record changes, and implement mechanisms to encourage the use of the Co-Curricular Record by its subsidiaries.

– Marion Miller (*Chloë Williams*)

b) Policy Committee Report – October 5th

A motion was carried to approve the Policy Committee Report from October 5th, 2015.

– Marion Miller (*Terry Wilkings*)

c) Bylaw Ratification – March 2015

A motion was carried to ratify the Bylaw changes from the General Election.

– Terry Wilkings (*Aloyse Muller*)

d) CSU Daycare Project Manager – Phase 2

The following motion was carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the expense of \$5000 (before taxes), to be used with the purpose of hiring a Project Coordinator for the Daycare Permit Application, to be taken from the Student Space, Accessible Education and Legal Contingency (SSAELC) fund.

– Marion Miller (*Leyla Sutherland*)

The following motion was carried:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the expense of \$2000 for the fees associated to the application for a Daycare Permit, to be taken from the Student Space, Accessible Education and Legal Contingency (SSAELC) fund.

– Marion Miller (*Sanaz Hassan Pour*)

e) Accessible Education – By-Elections

The following motion was carried:

WHEREAS the government has imposed austerity measures and cuts of approximately \$340 million dollars to University funding;
WHEREAS, this translates to more than \$36.6 million dollars in cuts to Concordia University alone;



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WHEREAS article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that, higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit;

WHEREAS accessible postsecondary education is a fundamental pillar for a more equitable and democratic society;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following question be added on the 2015 by-election:

“Do you as a member of the Concordia Student Union (CSU) agree to adopt an accessible education position, as outlined in the supporting document provided at the ballot station, which opposes any increase in tuition fees and obligatory institutional fees (FIOs) for all students, whether Quebec resident, out of province, or International, and supports universally accessible postsecondary education free of all financial barriers.”

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the following wording be included in the supporting document provided at the ballot station;

“WHEREAS the government has imposed austerity measures and cuts of approximately \$340 million dollars to University funding;

WHEREAS this translates to more than \$36.6 million dollars in cuts to Concordia University alone;

WHEREAS article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that, higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit;

WHEREAS accessible postsecondary education is a fundamental pillar for a more equitable and democratic society;

That the CSU adopt the following positions regarding accessibility to postsecondary education:

- *Support for high quality, universally accessible postsecondary education as a human right.*
- *Opposition to any increase in in tuition fees and obligatory institutional fees (FIOs) for all students, whether Quebec resident, out of province, or International.*
- *Call for a public reinvestment in postsecondary education from all levels of government.*
- *Call for the elimination of all financial barriers to a high quality postsecondary education, and advocate for a progressive reduction and elimination of all tuition fees and obligatory institutional fees (FIOs).*
- *Work with elements of the Quebec student movement and civil society that share these goals.”*

– Gabriel Velasco (Jenna Cocullo)