

MINUTES

Concordia Student Union Council Meeting
May 12, 2010 SGW H-762

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of the agenda
4. Approval of the minutes and Business arising
 - a) February Regular Meeting
 - b) April Regular Meeting
5. Chairperson's report and Business arising
6. Executive Reports
7. Committees' reports
 - a) Clubs and Space committee
 - b) Events Committee
 - c) Custodial and Services committee
 - d) Appointments
 - e) Sustainability
 - f) Governance and Policy reform committee
 - g) External committee
 - h) Finance committee
 - i) Loyola committee
8. Report from Women's caucus
9. Report from University bodies
 - a) Senate
 - b) BOG
 - c) CCSL
10. New Business
11. Question period
12. Announcements
13. Adjournment

1. Call to Order

Chair Mossaded called the meeting to order at 18:34

2. Roll Call

Councilors

Vanessa O'Connor
Rasim Hafiz
Sabrina D'Ambra
Morgan Pudwell
Adrien Severns
Corey Crawford

Executives

Amine Dabchy
Kristen Gregor
Stephanie Siriwardhana
Alexander Oster
Auob Muntasar

3. Approval of the agenda

Motion to add a Bonus motion to the agenda

(Hafiz/ O'Connor)

Motion approved unanimously

Motion to amend the agenda to add two motions: one on New Signing Officers and another on a New CSU Representative on CFS-Q to be voted on omnibus
(Dabchy/ O'Connor)

Motions approved unanimously

Motion to add a Budget Revision point to the agenda
(Oster/ O'Connor)

Motion approved unanimously

Motion to approve amended agenda

Motion carried unanimously

4. Approval of the minutes and Business arising

- a) **February Regular Meeting**
- b) **April Regular Meeting**

Motion to approve the minutes omnibus

(Dabchy/ O'Connor)

Motion carried unanimously

5. Chairperson's Report

Mossaded was working on approving everything from the minutes to updating the standing regulations that had been modified throughout the year. He would be putting them online once updated. He congratulated the room and wished council luck in their future endeavors.

Dabchy congratulated the Chair on his work throughout the year.

6. Executive Reports

a. President

Dabchy had been working on the transition. Recently they went to a 24-hour training session retreat for the incoming executives. He had also been dealing with CFS stuff with Muntasar. As well Dabchy attended Senate Steering committee meeting and the Executive Committee of BOG.

Dabchy added that he had been working on the president's report for the AGM and that there were copies of the report for any councilors or others who wanted one.

b. Vice President Clubs and Promotions

Siriwardhana had been training incoming executives Morgan and Rami. She had organized the recent Birthday Party at Reggies. She had been assisting with preparations for the CSU AGM, and was currently planning a little staff appreciation event. She also noted there would be a final Clubs and Space committee meeting.

c. Vice President Sustainability and Projects

Oster had been working on the transition and on facilitation for the incoming team. He had worked with the Network Admin and the Loyola Luncheon coordinator to understand the Hive Space and was working with admin too.

The Sustainability Action Fund would be doing summer funding allocations. One new initiative was a library set up at the Hive, with help from the university and from the co-op bookstore. Oster had been attending committee meetings like exploratory committees, senate committee, where they approved a new minor in Human Rights in the Political Science department and a minor in Law and Society in the history department.

Oster added there was a Bottled-water-free campus petition on the sustainability section of the CSU website, he was hopeful for next year that they continue the project.

d. Vice President External

Muntasar had been working with Severns who would be transitioning into position. As well he had been spending time on the CFS-Q project. They were winding down as three of four schools in Quebec were no longer members. This had taken up the majority of his time, in terms of making sure all records including financial records were complete and balancing. He was also prepping for the CFS conference at the end of the month going over the motions proposed and hoping that they approve the CSU's referendum.

He also noted much time had been spent on the tuition waiver issue, but now student representatives on the Senate, the BOG and the CCSL will still get the tuition waiver of 3 credits each semester that they sit on these bodies.

e. Vice President Student Life

Gregor had helped Siriwardhana with end of year party at Reggies. As well she was assisting with the staff BBQ to be held May 28th tentatively.

She had been working on the COI application and bookings for next year, and trying to decide on what artist to bring next year. She was also working on being sure staff hiring announcements went out on time for next years events. The theme had already been decided which was exciting. She had discussed some of the changes that would happen on MacKay and the terrace with various people and how they could best use these.

Dabchy stated he and his executives were very honored to serve over the past year and it had been a great year. The last meeting was very nostalgic. He thought it had been a fruitful year. If given the chance to do it again all of them agreed they would run again. Dabchy thanked council for their support.

7. Committee reports

- a. **Clubs and space committee-** would be meeting soon and they will discuss spaces for clubs.
- b. **Events committee-** might meet once more before the end of the term.
- c. **Custodial and services committee -** There was no meeting.
- d. **Appointments committee –** There was no appointments to be made.
- e. **Sustainability committee-** There was no meeting.
- f. **Governance and Policy Reform committee –** There was no meeting.
- g. **External committee–** The committee would meet soon.
- h. **Financial committee-** No meeting as all special projects applications were already processed.

i. **Loyola committee**– There was no meeting.

8. **Report from the Women’s caucus** -There was no meeting

9. **Report from University bodies**

a. **Senate**

There would be a meeting next week.

b. **BOG**

The meeting was coming up on May 27th.

c. **CCSL**

They met and approved reinstating the tuition waiver. As well they set the amount of funding for Graduate students to take advantage of CSU Advocacy and LIC services. Muntasar explained that the waiver was for 6 credits = 600\$ a year. This year it would be a check and not simply a waiver. The waiver amount was based on the Quebec rate charged per credit.

10. **New Business**

a. **Motion for a 10% increase in the salary for this year’s executives as a bonus.**

(Hafiz/ O’Connor)

Motivated that their work ethic was strong and that they had accomplished a lot over the year. They had accomplished what they set out to do in their platform and had to clean up a lot of corruption. He thought it was a good incentive for current and for the future executive.

O’Connor: wanted to know if that amount was possible in the budget.

Dabchy: Responded it would come from the rollover, they were expecting a 65,000\$ surplus.

D’Ambra: Asked if it was just for this year or would it continue next year.

Hafiz: Responded it was a bonus only for this years’ executive.

Motion carried unanimously

b. **Motion for change of signing officers**

(Dabchy/ O’Connor)

Dabchy motivated that councilor Del Vecchio was a signing officer and she moved away. Yu the executive assistant was in China and the council needed to urgently appoint 2 signers. Motion to switch signers from Yu Hui Yu and Leah Del Vecchio to Sumaiya Ganghat and Adrien Severns (Dabchy- O'Connor)

Motion carried unanimously

c. Motion for CFS-Q appointment to become Adrien Severns

(Dabchy/ O'Connor)

Dabchy Motivated that Muntasar was the chair and was the outgoing VP External and Severns was the incoming VP External, it was only natural that he become the CSU's CFS-Q representative.

Motion carried unanimously

d. Transfer of Funds Motion

(Oster/ O'Connor)

Oster motivated that the Concordia Greenhouse had changed a lot and part was becoming an organic seedling farm for places across Montreal. It had received a lot of press coverage and attention from many faculties. It was a student-led initiative but they had applied for funding from the CSU special projects fund late. The student leader was an incoming Masters student. Oster had set aside his remaining discretionary funds in hopes council wanted to allocate it to the seedling project. He had 1100\$ in his discretionary and was hoping to give \$1500. To do this Oster wanted to move 415\$ from the conferences line to the green initiatives line to go to the greenhouse seedling project.

Motion carried unanimously

11. Question period

Crawford: Asked about opt out for fees, he thought there was going to be an option for students to opt-out online from certain fees when they register.

Dabchy: Responded it was a question for the Policy Reform Committee.

O'Connor: Explained that the committee ruled against it. She said they felt it was too ambitious for the committees

Dabchy: Continued it was very difficult based on CSU bylaws to have a position on the issue. He met with VP external of the university and they said they would move ahead with or without the CSU. Knowing the VP Freedman it would be quick. If they wanted to establish something like McGill had online, they could do it with our without the CSU.

Oster: Responded he thought it was a dangerous precedent, people could opt out very easily if that were to happen, it was a small amount of money per student, but it added up to a substantial amount for the fee levies. He thought it lent itself to an increase in student apathy towards the

levies that fought very hard to get their funds. He understood if it was opting out of some of the ancillary fees but he thought it showed a lack of support for student activism.

Crawford: Asked if one university could do it why not Concordia.

Dabchy: Stated he knew it was hard to know how when and where to opt out of each fee, because each fee had a different time. He thought they could work on a specific process, to bring together the times.

Oster: Responded streamlining or standardizing was something he understood. However he thought just clicking a box did not show the proper respect to the groups.

12. **Announcements**

Dabchy thanked everyone for all their hard work that had made for an amazing year.

13. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn

(Dabchy/ Severns)

Motion carried unanimously meeting was adjourned at 19:05.

Attached Executive reports May 2010

Prince Ralph Osei VP Services and Loyola

- Month of transition, been working with both old and new executives
- Worked with the team to hold a well attended AGM on the 3rd
- Presence at the Lieutenant Governor's award where 3 Concordia Students were awarded, including our own VP Sustainability & Projects
- Presence at successful End of Year party
- Our LIC extension program fell through but we secured the services of a Criminal lawyer who will work 2 days a week for free
- Attended the last CCSL meeting, approved the new tuition rebate for students on university bodies (rebate up to 12 credits per year)
- Interview with the Concordian Journal
- Working on the Loyola kitchen expansion
- Successful Coffee breaks
- I must also inform Council of my absence at this meeting due to my participation on a trip for student leaders from across Canada to Germany/Poland to learn about the holocaust
- It's been great working with you all this year, all the best.

Stephanie Siriwardhana VP Clubs and Promotions

Hi Everyone.

So I organized the end of year party, which took place at Reggies on the 29th of April. It was a huge success. At around 1130pm we all sang happy birthday to the CSU and cut a huge cake for everyone to enjoy.

I also got a cake for the AGM and had the place set up. Quite a few ppl attended.

I have been training the incoming VP Clubs Ramy and VP Promotions Morgan.

Helen Downie - VP Academic and Policy Reform

May 12th 2010

This past month has largely consisted of planifications for the incoming VP Advocacy and Loyola, Hassan Abdullahi. The transision has consisted setting up meetings with Concordia community members and administration that I have worked with this year. I have also attempted to convey to him, and the rest of the executives, how to connect the dots between the committees that need student representation etc. on campus.

The Library Service Committee is to meet this week as the official Memorandum of Understanding between the CSU and University was signed two weeks ago. This committee is to meet at least once a year, but I believe we will meet a few times each year. Details of the Memorandum of Agreement can be available to council and the student body as requested. I believe that the incoming executive might host town halls for additional feedback needed by students on the improvement of the library services on both campuses.

Winter Bursaries: We are in the midst of finalizing the results of the 21 (\$500) bursaries. There were over 50 applicants for the Winter semester, and their cheques will be issued in the next week. Overall, \$15,500 was given back to outstanding and deserving students. The CSU would like to thank the Financial Aid and Awards Office for their great assistance in ensuring due process in selecting the lucky recipients!

For the rest of the month I am largely closing up any commitments or outstanding issues, and cleaning up the office space!

I would like to sincerely thank this year's council for their dedication and commitment to students and their student union. It was an honour to serve students and work with you all.

I wish the best to next year's council and executive!