



## Concordia Student Union – Council of Representatives

### **CSU Regular Council Meeting – Agenda**

**Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Room AD-308, 6:30 PM, Loyola Campus**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Approval of the Agenda**
- 4. Approval of the Minutes and Business Arising**
- 5. Chairperson's Report**
  - a. Student Status Verification Report**
  - b. Executive Resignation**
- 6. New Business**
  - a. Discussion Regarding Strike Fund**
  - b. Student Consultation**
  - c. Motion of Endorsement for Letter Regarding Azrieli Institute**
- 7. Consent Agenda**
  - a. Executive Reports**
  - b. Report from University Bodies**
  - c. Report from Committees**
- 8. Question Period & Business Arising**
- 9. Announcements**
- 10. Adjournment**



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### **CSU Regular Council Meeting April 11, 2012**

**1. The meeting is called to order at 6:48pm.**

#### **2. Roll Call**

Executives:

Lex Gill  
Chad Walcott  
Gonzalo Nieto  
Laura Glover  
Melissa Fuller  
Hasan Cheikzan

Councillors:

Irmak Bahar  
Melanie Hotchkiss  
Cameron Monagle  
Simon-Pierre Lauzon  
Emran Ghasemi  
Iain-Meyer Macaulay  
Eva-Loan Ponton-Pham  
Lina Saigol  
April Underwood  
Nadine Attallah  
Kyle McLoughlin  
Ali Moenck  
Anaii Lee-Ender  
Renee Tousignant  
Sabrina D'Ambra

#### **3. Approval of the Agenda**

**Lex Gill:** Remove 6. a) until we hear back from the lawyers.

**Chad Walcott:** Seconds.

**Irmak Bahar:** Add a new point 6 a).



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**Eva-Loan Ponton Pham:** Seconds.

**Eva-Loan Ponton Pham:** Under 6 b) Student Consultation

**Irmak:** Seconds.

**Simon-Pierre:** Moves to approve agenda

**Ali Moenck:** Seconds.

**Vote:** approval of the agenda: unanimous.

### 5. Chairperson's report

**Chairperson:** Addresses Amer and his response to not being a student. Can't resolve his student status issues, intends to resign.

**Lex Gill:** Morgan's on a late flight back from Alberta, Jordan is cramming.

**Iain Meyer-Macaulay:** Moves to excuse their absence.

**April Underwood:** Seconds.

**Vote:** all in favour of excusing Morgan Pudwell and Jordan Lindsay: unanimous. Irmak Bahar abstains.

### b) Executive resignation

**Cameron Monagle:** Calls for the orders of the day, the Chairperson does not accept it.

**Simon-Pierre Lauzon:** How are we going to deal with knowing her status?

**Cameron Monagle:** Impossible to produce a timeline of student status.

**Simon-Pierre Lauzon:** Right now she's not a registered student? How much time does she need to become a student? Are we going to keep paying her salary?

**Lex Gill:** We can discuss this in closed session, Morgan wrote a note.

**Irmak Bahar:** Moves to go into closed session.

Motion is seconded.

**Vote:** Cameron Monagle opposed, Anaii Lee-Ender abstains. Motion passes.

Open session resumes at 7:09 pm.

**Chairperson:** Secretary and Chairperson positions will be reopened in mid-May.



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### 6.a) Discussion Regarding strike Fund

**Chris, student at large:** Is a GUSS member, would like to see an enquiry into how the money is being spent. They are not allowed to use the money to join CLASSE, which allows them to be directly represented on a larger scale. Direct violation of the spirit in which the funding was given.

**Lex Gill:** Reads motion from previous meeting about the strike fund. Issue is payment to an organization. The CSU can't write a cheque to a person for an honorarium. Requisition system, inappropriate to have the funding go to individuals/wages, can't track the way the money is being spent. Transparency issue. When we wrote this it was never communicated that people intended to use the money for CLASSE membership. We could amend the motion to allow CLASSE membership if Council wants to. Students at Concordia are members of the CSU and the FEUQ. Bizarre for CSU fees to go to another national association without a referendum.

**Irmak Bahar:** Moves to reconsider the original motion.

**Eva-Loan Pontom Pham:** Seconds.

**Vote:** All in favour: unanimous, Iain Meyer-Macaulay, Emran Ghasemi, Ali Moenck, Sabrina D'Amra abstain.

**Irmak Bahar:** BIRFT the strike fund be used to pay membership fees to the CLASSE if the departmental or faculty associations vote to join.

**Kyle McLoughlin:** Seconds.

**Simon-Pierre Lauzon:** Since we are only giving a limited amount of funds, are the MA's able to pay the fees when the fund runs out?

**Irmak Bahar:** FINCOM decided to base it on the number of students who vote in favour of a strike. CLASSE membership fee is a one-time only fee.

**Kyle McLoughlin:** The amount given is decided upon by the GA, proposed as a friendly amendment.

**Irmak Bahar:** Considers it friendly.

**Melanie Hotchkiss:** Specify that it could be for CLASSE membership fees and also for participating in the conference fees.

**Irmak Bahar:** Friendly.

**Lex Gill:** Decision of GA on an amount doesn't override the amount they've been given by FINCOM. Also wants faculty association to be removed from the amendment. It's their responsibility to find the money to do something mandated by the students.

**Irmak Bahar:** Friendly.



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**AJ West:** This money is intended to go to the strike- could someone not come and complain about lack of support for tuition increases? No opportunity to use money towards their own association.

**Irmak Bahar:** Can make the same argument for every penny every spent fighting tuition increase?

**Eva-Loan Pontom Pham:** For the first time in Concordia's history, a clear mandate has been given to join the CLASSE. We need to be good student representatives and support this clear mandate.

**AJ West:** Hopes that a subsection of JMSB doesn't decide they want to organize against the strike movement.

**Irmak Bahar:** Let's not generalize student's political beliefs based on their faculty.

**Cameron Monagle:** No one is striking for the hikes. Doesn't think AJ's fear is valid.

**Nadine Atallah:** Suggestion: can we send representatives to observe without actually paying the membership fees?

**Chris, GUSS:** Has observed, followed due diligence. Best chance for GUSS to be represented in the most democratic way possible would be to go through the CLASSE, not the FEUQ.

**Lex Gill:** You should ask the CLASSE for a breakdown of how the money is being spent.

**Irmak Bahar:** Calls question

**Vote:** all in favour of calling the question: unanimous, Sabrina D'Ambra abstains.

**Vote on amendments:** unanimous, Emran Ghasemi and Ali Moenck abstain.

**Cameron Monagle:** CSU money goes where the students want it to go. We have to represent what students want.

**Irmak Bahar:** CLASSE operates on direct democracy. Everything is up for debate at GA's, delegates then go to CLASSE conferences. They have to abstain from any vote that hasn't been voted on the individual GA level.

**Chad Walcott:** What gave you the impression that the money could be used to join CLASSE?

**Chris, GUSS:** The methodology with which it was presented. The general impression was that it could be.

**Andy Filipowich:** They don't exist on their own, they exist through Faculty Associations. Is this even legal?



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[**Cameron Monagle:** Calls the question.

**Kyle Mcloughlin:** Seconds.

**Vote:** unanimous, Melanie Hotchkiss opposed.

**Vote** on motion as a whole: 11 in favour, Sabrina D’Ambra, Emran Ghasemi, Ali Moenck, Iain Meyer-Macaulay abstain.

6. b) Student Consultation

Eva-Loan Pontom Pham:

WHEREAS we are FEUQ members,

WHEREAS hopefully the FEUQ will soon sit with the other national student associations to negotiate with the government,

WHEREAS we need to be consulted and have our voices heard on the government’s proposition,

BIRFT a Special Council Meeting be called upon such notice of the government’s proposition,

BIRFT our request will be duly brought to the FEUQ by the CSU executive,

BIRFT the CSU executive demand that the FEUQ also refrain from making a decision until this Special Council Meeting,

BIRFT that this Special Council Meeting be widely publicized so that students can attend in mass, that there be 48 hours’ notice given for this meeting, that student reps from departments on strike be specifically invited, and that even though it does not fulfill notice requirement by-laws it will be binding upon the executive.

**Irmak Bahar:** Seconds.

**Eva-Loan Pontom Pham:** As members we need to be consulted. It will be a huge decision made on our behalf. Normal for us, as members, to be consulted.

**Lex Gill:** Comfortable changing the notice requirement to 48 hours.

**Nadine Atallah:** Can we specifically ask the departmental associations who are striking to send representatives to this council meeting and give them rights on council?

**Lex Gill:** They have permanent speaking rights as students anyway.

**Eva-Loan Pontom Pham:** Friendly.

**Irmak Bahar:** Is it possible to give them voting rights?

**Lex Gill:** We're getting further away from a binding council meeting. Wants this to have some sort of legal ground.



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**Irmak Bahar:** Rescinds her amendment.

**AJ West:** Isn't there a clause about the FEUQ not voting until we've had the meeting?

**Lex Gill:** They would probably act in good faith and let us consult out members.

**Vote:** All in favour: passes unanimously.

Motion of endorsement of letter

**Kyle Mcloughlin:** Reads letter and motion.

**Iain Meyer-Macaulay:** Seconds

**Kyle Mcloughlin:** This letter was brought forward by members of community, mix of faculty and students on campus. Not sure whether Hillel was contacted, doesn't believe it has been. What they're asking for is totally reasonable.

**Lex Gill:** Israeli Institute for Israel Studies- 5 million dollar donation to the school so that this could be created. Largely an issue of the privatization of education and not geopolitics. An individual can donate money to ensure that an academic route be taken. There are very few academics in this institution, mostly activists. Not to do with politics of the Middle East, more to keep this an academic institution.

**Irmak Bahar:** Concerns about institution's academic integrity. Exam was just cancelled, Academic integrity of this university is in question.

Vote: All in favour: unanimous, Emran and Renee abstain.

### **Consent Agenda**

#### **a) Executive Reports**

**Lex Gill:** gives synopsis of her exec report, which will be sent out to council in the next few days. Arrangements regarding student centre fund. Stable financial management by the end of the year. Fine balance between speaking on behalf of people striking and the ones who aren't, would like feedback.

Received 0 emails about the min agreement, so she forwarded nothing to the FEUQ.

**Nadine:** We had talked about an exec coming in, receiving a proposal from the university, and just signing it. We wanted to put procedures in place to stop that from happening.

**Lex Gill:** 4 things: Student centre fund, Student space legal contingency and access to education fund, contract with university for building and management of a student centre building, issue of management of the money itself, also an issue of how those funds are dispersed. Looking into creating a trust arrangement so that people external and internal to the union would need to sign off on that the



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money was being spent in accordance with the bylaws of the csu. Protecting the money is as many ways as possible, while using it in a way that students have voted on. Intention of the fun. Can't just go and sign an agreement with the university for a student centre.

**Gonzo:** We had a unanimous vote in September, realistically the university wouldn't be able to purchase a building with a legitimate, well-thought out plan.

**Nadine:** Is Council supposed to motion to call an AGM?

**Lex Gill:** Yes, will take care of that later on in the meeting.

**Melanie:** Question for Gonzo. Student Space Survey: in his report it says the questions for the survey were already submitted to the marketing company. When will this actually happen?

**Gonzo:** hirings are done, paid 2/3's of price, web survey needs to be programmed, surveys physically produced. Earliest end of next week or the week following.

**Melanie:** Students in certain departments are on strike. How many people are you looking to get to do the survey?

**Gonzo:** Took a multi-pronged approach for this reason. Being done in 2 parts: 2 surveyers are going to be present on campus doing face-to-face surveys. QR codes on posters around the school.

**Nadine:** Question for Melissa. Rate your landlord website. Having trouble funding the website. Have we found a solution to that?

**AJ West:** Nothing is happening right now, Mel is already working on it.

**Melissa Fuller:** you probably heard this before AJ and I realized that we were both doing things without communicating with each other. CSU general website is also currently being redone, trying to decide if everything will be put together. In terms of funding, not at that point yet, she's not particularly concerned.

**Gonzo:** We now have a Yoga Club.

**Simon-Pierre:** You said you were working on sustainable policies, what are they?

**Laura Glover:** Sustainability committee has been working on a live document since December. Our goal is to present a new document at our next meeting. REva-Loan Pontom Phammping Annex E.

### **b) University Bodies**

**AJ West:** Went to a BoG FINCOM meeting, talked about if we could look into what if tuition is frozen, Fred Lowy's response was "well it won't be," right after the Town Hall. The next meeting is April 19<sup>th</sup>.



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Encouraged everyone to bring cameras again.

**Lex Gill:** Has been consistently asking this question.

**AJ West:** Basically they said they'd go into deficit.

**Chuck Wilson:** Same story on Senate.

### c) Committees

**Nadine:** Library Committee. End of year report for library services committee is online [library.concordia.ca](http://library.concordia.ca). Tonight there's an ASFA midnight breakfast, it's collaborating with it. Chair painting, a box with papers about why you love the library. Installed plug, new chairs, shelving system for Vanier, moving things from DT for more study space, on track for a fifth floor. Open source initiative.

**AJ West:** Also, to clarify, the committee didn't spend CSU money on compact shelving. Paying to create the space that will exist after everything is moved. Renovating everything- green walls. Open source- stay tuned.

**Emran:** Impressed by what they've achieved so far. Question is: do you have anything planned in regards to the noise problems?

**Nadine:** If you send emails to the librarians they would be happy to respond.

**Gonzo:** Fifth floor: Where are the current things that are up there going? Also is there a projected date?

**Nadine:** I don't think they've gotten that far in their plans yet. Don't have a date yet. Study groups (10-12 students), furniture arranged in such a way that you can visualize

**Cameron:** Nearing end of year, exciting projects coming out of this fund. Would it be reasonable to ask members of the committee to present a budget and a justification for why it's not an operational expense? See if there's a possibility to figure out a way to justify why it's being spent on a larger range of services than what students voted for. What are our current financial obligations?

**Nadine:** It was created for more than just 24 hour access. We are under budget. Collection will end on its own, in a matter of a couple of years we will stop collecting these fees.

**Lex Gill:** Wants to move on in the agenda.

**Emran:** If you're looking for people to help out, expresses interest.

**Simon-Pierre:** the student who was assaulted was a McGill student, we're considering suing the admin?



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**Chad Walcott:** Issue with us taking issue with that incident, we found out it was a mcgill student after the fact. We're going to look into violations outside of the assault itself. Safety as opposed to intimidation on campus.

**Lex Gill:** They have the responsibility to abide by the reEva-Loan Pontom Phamnt laws and regulations for security conduct. The CSU is not acting as the girl's representative, but we are in a position to support her.

**Lex Gill:** CUSA report. Reggies closed early this year. We're savings something like \$17 000.

**Melanie:** Wondering, why is it that the employees barely got any notice? Couldn't have been a spontaneous decision. This year we had labour negotiations with our workers, hypocritical for us to have barely given any notice to employees at the bar.

**Lex Gill:** not going to speak publicly about HR issues, not appropriate. If want us to arrange a CUSA meeting to discuss we could do it.

**Melanie:** It came out of left-field.

**Lex Gill:** The performance of Reggies has not been good for a long time, it didn't come out left field. The board made the decision to close slightly early after 2 meetings about the appropriate way to do that. Wasn't done hastily, there was a thought out process. It can be discussed privately.

**Emran:** Is Reggies open in the summer?

**Lex Gill:** No, unless for a special event.

**Laura:** Thanks Events Committee because she wasn't able to make it to the last cultural night and they did it themselves.

### **Question Period**

**Irmak Bahar:** Call out. University is continuing to ignore the strike going on at Concordia at various levels. Concerning for various reasons. Right now, because the university is in denial, students have been given two options: fail or take incompletes. Some students have missed almost 40% of class. Precedent in the province is to care about the academic integrity to make up class time. Concordia is not doing this, are giving credit for classes that have not been completed. How much does our institution value class time? Invites people to consider what a semester cancellation would look like. Crunch time for everyone, but important for council to be aware of its role as advocate for students.

**Gonzo:** Yesterday Lex Gill did an awesome interview on CBC, calls her out on the fact thatshe did a great job.

**Iain:** Respond to what Laura said before, all throughout this year Laura did a great job at keeping



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events committee engaged.

### **Announcements**

**Nadine:** Holding midnight breakfast tonight at 11pm. LSFC and ASFA.

**Chad Walcott:** Demo happening on the 14<sup>th</sup> at 1pm.

**Lex Gill:** At last council meeting we committed to having 2 consultation meetings for changed to the bylaws, met with Morgan about bringing it to Policy Committee, not going to do this during the summer. If council is okay with this, it could a recommendation to the incoming executive.

**Nadine:** We'll do it. Wants a clarification for the AGM.

**Lex Gill:** Moves to suspend the rules.

**Nadine:** Seconds.

**Vote:** unanimous.

**Lex Gill:** BIRT that the CSU call its AGM for April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11 am.

**Seconds:** Iain.

**Vote:** unanimous.

**Cameron:** Reinstate Roberts Rules.

**Emran:** Seconds.

**Vote:** unanimous.

**Cameron:** We should have the consultation this year. A lot of frustration, there's a reason that it was called this year.

**Laura:** thank you party for volunteers, councillors, orientation staff, etc. April 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Emran:** Moves to adjourn

**Lina:** Seconds.

Vote: Unanimous.

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:25.**