



Concordia Student Union – Council of Representatives

CSU Regular Council Meeting - Wednesday, September 19, 2018 MB-5.215 - 18h30 SGW Campus

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. The Concordia Student Union 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.

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of the Agenda

4. Consent Agenda

- a) Minutes of Previous Meetings – May 9th (RCM), May 16th & 23rd (Council-Elect), July 11th (SCM), August 22nd (SCM)
- b) Reports from Committees
- c) Executive Reports
- d) Chairperson's Report
- e) Executive Work Plans
- f) Budget YtD P0-P3

5. Presentations & Guest Speakers

- a) FPSTMA Presentation/UArctic Motion
- b) UTILE – Woodnote House Cooperative

6. Appointments

- a) Senate
- b) Loyola Committee
- c) Sustainability Committee
- d) Sustainability Action Fund
- e) External & Mobilization Committee
- f) Elections and Participation Committee

7. New Business – Informational

- a) CSU Bursary Distribution
- b) Deloitte Invoice Proceedings
- c) Judicial Board Pay

8. New Business – Substantive

- a) Food elections
- b) Student Parent Position
- c) Accessibility of CSU's Services
- d) Board of Governors
- e) Finance Executive Report
- f) July 19th Policy Committee

9. Question Period & Business Arising

10. Announcements

11. Adjournment



1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:58 pm EDT.

2. Roll Call

Executives present at the meeting: Sophie Hough-Martin (General Coordinator), John Hutton (Finance Coordinator), Princess Somefun (Internal & Clubs Coordinator), Alexis Searcy (Loyola Coordinator), Mikaela Clark-Gardner (Academic & Advocacy Coordinator), Michele Sandiford (Student Life Coordinator), Camille Thompson-Marchand (External Affairs & Administration Coordinator),

Executives absent from the meeting: Akira De Carlos (Sustainability Coordinator)

Councillors present at the meeting: Alex Karasick (Arts & Science), Sami Hanbali (Arts & Science), Patrick Quinn (Arts & Science), Rowan Gaudet (Arts & Science), Margot Bernier (Arts & Science), Caleb Owusu-Acheaw (Arts & Science), Marlène Iradakunda (Arts & Science), Christopher Kalafatidis (Arts & Science), Hilal Ghanem (Arts & Science), Zoe Zeitouni (Arts & Science), Paige Keleher (Arts & Science), Jad Faraj Abi Semaan (Arts & Science), Jarrad Haas (Fine Arts), David Ferraria (ENCS), James Hanna (ENCS), Sally Younis (ENCS)

Councillors absent from the meeting: Rory Blaisdell (JMSB), Daniel Abrams (JMSB), Sophie Beauchamp-Lizotte (Arts & Science), Samantha Candido (Arts & Science), P. Zhuang (Fine Arts), Abdouallah Taleki (ENCS), Bara Abuhamed (ENCS),

R. Gaudet moves to excuse councillors P. Zhuang, R. Blaisdell, S. Beauchamp-Lizotte and Sustainability Coordinator A. De Carlos. Seconded by M. Berner. Motion Carried Unanimously.

3. Approval of the Agenda

P. Quinn moves to approve the agenda. Seconded by H. Ghanem. Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Consent Agenda

- a) Minutes of Previous Meetings – May 9th (RCM), May 16th & 23rd (Council-Elect), July 11th (SCM), August 22nd (SCM)
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f) Budget YtD P0-P3

5. Presentations & Guest Speakers

a) FPSTMA Presentation/UArctic Motion

The two co-presidents of the First Peoples Studies Member Association provides a representation about the Arctic Council. The UArctic is a collaborative event that involves research and student exchange around the Arctic Circle. The two executives believe that CSU support and participation would actively encourage the university administration to get involved with the UArctic program as well acknowledge the First Nations representation on our campus.

M. Clark-Gardner believes that this program is a great initiative, but provides advice that they should reach out to the Arts & Science Faculty Council first to build up the credibility to the program. S. Hough-Martin compliments the comments by adding that the CSU representatives on the the University Senate can advocate for this project there.

S. Hough-Martin presents the following motion. Seconded by D. Ferrara.

Whereas the CSU has supported First People Student Member Association initiatives in the past [May 11th, 2016].

Whereas FPSTMA provides information, support, and advocacy for students of the First People Studies program and represent the interests of FPST students at the ASFA Council as well as within the Concordia community.

Whereas FPSTMA has been promoting and advocating for the adoption of the UArctic project by Concordia University.

Whereas the UArctic constitute a network of universities, colleges, research institutes and other organizations concerned with builds and strengthens collective resources and collaborative infrastructure that enables member institutions to better serve their constituents and their regions. Enhancing human capacity in the North, promote viable communities and sustainable economies, and forge global partnerships.

Whereas the CSU is representing all undergraduate students and is working on providing them with a wide range of services and opportunities.

Whereas the CSU pushes the university to offer high quality education to all students at Concordia. [Adopted March 9, 2016]

Whereas the CSU advocates for the university to increase offerings of experiential, hands-on learning opportunities throughout the Undergraduate curriculum, tailored to the specific and diverse interests of Concordia students and their communities. [Adopted March 9, 2016]

May it be resolved that the CSU supports the work of FPSTMA in relation to Concordia adherence to the UArctic network.

May it further be resolved that CSU works on providing a voice to FPSTMA in Senate regarding its projects, or in the case that it is not possible, to advocate on their behalf.

C. Kalafatidis wonders what would support mean to the First Peoples Studies Association. The two executives reply that CSU support would help in pressuring the university administration act on this initiative positively.

J. Hanna inquires more about the support notably on its expected outcome. C. Thompson-Marchand replies that at this moment in time the financial support, as an example, will not be considered until a further date.

b) UTILE – Woodnote House Cooperative

Laurent Levesque is a representative from UTILE. They provide a history and development of the project since its inception and partnership with the CSU. Ever since then, the land has been decontaminated and prepared for construction. They provide some additional design and interior space details on the project to make the space really student-friendly. The location of the housing project is in front of Parc Lafontaine. In terms of financials, the CSU has injected \$1.8 million on top of other external partners. The City of Montreal has provided \$0.5 million to the project while Ottawa is providing some funding as well. Unfortunately, the cost of the project increased from \$14 to \$18 million due to Trump administration's steel and aluminum tariffs. UTILE's mission is study and to provide affordable student housing. The provisional board will have six students to sit, hopefully from every faculty on campus.

M. Berner questions if the recent trade war with the Trump administration has played an impact with steel and aluminum costs. The UTILE representative replies that indeed it has, but they are working with architects to reduce the costs rather than to directly request for more funding.

M. Berner wonders if any considerations were made for student parents and other marginalized communities. The representative replies that HOJO will be providing some support and insight for that matter on top of implementing a solidarity housing policy.

6. Appointments

a) Senate

M. Clark-Gardner presents the following motion. Seconded J. Haas.

WHEREAS Standing Regulation 242 states: "Any vacancy on the Concordia University Senate can be filled by Council, preferably from the faculty of the vacant seat, for the unexpired term of the vacant seat."

WHEREAS Rim Hamila ran in the 2018 General Elections for the senate seat in Engineering and Computer Science;

WHEREAS there are 2 vacant Senate seats not filled in the General Elections;

BE IT RESOLVED that Rim Hamila is appointed to one of the vacant seats for Concordia Senate.

Rim Hamila explains that there was a confusion with their election result and the miscommunication with the Chief Electoral Officer. Basically, the purpose of the motion is to provide an appointment to the University Senate previously undeclared as an official one.

R. Hamila, in reply to a question asked by C. Kalafatidis, states that most of the work to advance student and academic interests is done at the Senate. They would see themselves as a perfect fit to advance those interests with adding on a female representative to the engineering representation bloc.

P. Somefun finds the lack of follow-up procedure a travesty and apologizes to them on behalf of the CSU. They critique the questions posed to them in a manner as "re-campaigning" for the post in which they were duly-elected for.

J. Hanna moves to call the question. Seconded by D. Ferraria. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Motion Carried: For:16 Against:0 Abstain:0

b) Loyola Committee

A.de Searcy explains that there are two seats available to sit on the Loyola Committee.

c) Sustainability Committee

P. Keleher moves to nominate themselves to sit on the Sustainability Committee. Seconded by J. Haas.

Keleher's motivation to sit on this committee is their advocacy for environmental protection.

Motion Carried: For:12 Against:0 Abstain:0

d) Sustainability Action Fund

C. Thompson-Marchand moves table the topic to the next meeting. Seconded by R. Gaudet. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

e) External & Mobilization Committee

J. Haas explains that they resigned from the committee to expand and to promote gender and racial parity on this committee per CSU's Standing Regulations and Positions Book

S. Hough-Martin moves to limit the qualifications for membership to this committee to better reflect marginalized groups as sent to the Chair of the Council of Representatives. Seconded by M. Berner.

A. Karasick moves to amend the committee to make it self-identified as a marginalized group. Seconded by S. Hough-Martin. **Amendment considered friendly.**

Motion Carried: For:10 Against:1 Abstain:1 (1 - C. Kalafatidis)

M. Iradukunda moves to nominate themselves to sit on this committee. Seconded by C. Thompson-Marchand.

J. Hanna moves to appoint M.Iradukunda Seconded by J. Haas. **Motion Carried Unanimously**

f) Elections and Participation Committee

P. Quinn explains the purpose of the committee is to investigate the issue of online voting and other similar initiatives.

J. Hanna moves to nominate themselves on this committee. Seconded by J. Faraj Abi Semaan

C. Kalafatidis moves to nominate themselves to this committee. Seconded by P. Quinn.

S. Hough-Martin raises a complaint about gender parity. The complaint is further emphasized by M. Berner.

P. Zhuang moves to nominate themselves to this committee. Seconded by M. Berner.

J. Haas moves to place conditions on the appointments on this committee. Seconded by M. Berner.

J. Haas believes that his motion would do justice to better advocate for gender parity considering how two of the three current nominations are straight Caucasian males.

A. Karasick finds it problematic to assume people's identities. Additionally, for themselves, they want to tackle issues other than online voting. Therefore that shouldn't be a restriction for those willing and interested towards this committee nor to promote an outing culture.

J. Hanna finds the proposed procedure as undemocratic. D. Ferraria compliments the opposition, but takes it from an individual freedom approach.

There is a disagreement on Council on the selection procedure explained in this moment. The topic at contention is to affix a quota on minority representation for membership on this committee. Additionally, some executives cite and criticize the language being used by some councillors concerning this topic.

S. Younis strongly believes in equality and doesn't want to make councillors feel insecure about their identities.

J. Haas apologizes for the wording on this motion. They acknowledge how this motion has the potential to promote an unnecessary outing culture.

P. Zhuang strongly wants more representation on this committee as a valiant effort to reach out to those who feel left out or are made unaware with the CSU.

D. Ferraria moves to call the question. Seconded by J. Haas.

Motion Not Carried: For:0 Against:14 Abstain:0

J. Haas moves to have one seat not elected for this committee until next Council meeting. Seconded J. Hanna.

J. Haas wants to stagger appointments to balance out minority appointments and to value democratic principles.

C. Kalafatidis moves to call the question. Seconded by H. Ghanem.

Motion Carried: For: 10 Against: 1 (1 - P. Zhuang) Abstain: 5 (5 - C. Owusu-Acheaw, C. Kalafatidis, P. Quinn, M. Iradakunda, H. Ghanem)

P. Quinn wants to make these nominations more expedient.

D. Ferreira motivates for J. Hanna for their motivation and tireless interest in the topic.

C. Kalafatidis motivates for themselves in having a vision to coordinate faculty associations on campus.

J. Hanna motivates themselves to bring forth a vision of decentralization to encourage more active student involvement.

J. Faraj Abi Semaan motivates for C. Kalafatidis bringing up their past experience with elections remarking that they would advocate for a better implementation of election procedures.

By a majority vote, C. Kalafatidis has been appointed to the committee.

7. New Business – Informational

d) Accessibility of CSU's Services

P. Quinn moves to go into closed session. Seconded by J. Haas. **Motion Carried Unanimously**

S. Hough-Martin moves to permit Stephen Brown to attend this closed session. Seconded by J. Haas.
Motion Carried: For:14 Against:0 Abstain:0

J. Haas moves to allow a motion to be made pertaining to this matter. Seconded by S. Younis.

P. Quinn moves to call the question. Seconded by C. Owusu-Acheaw
Motion Carried: For:7 Against:0 Abstain:3

Motion Carried: For: 9 Against: 2 Abstain: 1 (1 - C. Kalafatidis)

R. Gaudet presents the following motion. Seconded by C. Owusu-Acheaw.

BIRT that the CSU council approves the following statement to CUPE local 4512
The CSU acknowledges the receipt of the complaint filed by Mr. Tom on behalf of LIC on Sept. 19th.
The CSU as an employer recognizes its responsibility to uphold the terms of the collective agreement and takes complaints made by employees seriously. The complaint will be investigated in a thorough and fair manner.
That CSU council confirms its commitment to preventing harassment.
That the CSU assures CUPE local 4512 that it is considering this situation seriously.
That council mandates the executive to ensure the safety and comfort of the staff.
BIFR that a special council be had within ten business days.

Motion Carried Unanimously

e) CSU Bursary Distribution

M. Clark-Gardner informs Council, per the Standing Regulations, that there is a backlog of CSU bursaries from previous mandate years. They will ensure that this does not happen in the future to clear up the miscommunication.

f) Deloitte Invoice Proceedings

Nil

g) Judicial Board Pay

M. Clark-Gardner comments about that Judicial Board members have decided to rescind their request to be paid.

8. New Business – Substantive

g) Food elections

J. Hanna presents the following motion. Seconded by C. Owusu-Acheaw

Whereas the CSU bylaws and standing regulations entitle council to a meal during regular and special council meetings;

Whereas the current Standing regulations, ratified in November 2017, clearly state in Article 6 of Annex E (Ethics and Sustainability Policy), lines 27 and 28

“27. In the interest of offering increased dietary choices to the student population that one-third (1/3) of food offered at any Concordia Student Union (CSU) related event must be vegetarian.

28. At least one option be offered at any Concordia Student Union (CSU) related event must be vegan”

With no further restriction in either standing regulations or by-laws regarding this matter at all; Whereas the executive has many responsibilities and council should have some say in the provision of their sustenance;

Be it resolved that each CSU regular council meeting in the current mandate (2018-2019) end with a binding vote that shall determine the restaurant which shall provide the meal for the next regular meeting.

Be it further resolved that in order to further this goal, all approved catering establishments listed the official list of approved restaurants compiled earlier this year via Google doc shall receive a number increasing numerically from 1 as they are listed in the document

Be it further resolved that to further this goal the electoral system be as follows:

A random number generator be used to choose three restaurants from the list. They are to be chosen of their assigned number was generated

A ranked instant-runoff secret ballot be used to determine the first and second place restaurants

The first place restaurant will be the primary source of food for the next council meeting

The second place restaurant will serve as a backup in the case problems arise ordering food from the first place restaurant

Be it further resolved the food order or other measures leading to the acquisition of nutrition for council shall be made prior to the beginning of each council meeting.

Be it further resolved the nourishment for special council meetings be acquired with some prior consultation with attending councillors and that effort be taken to take their opinion into consideration

J. Hanna desires for more council input when it comes to food at meetings and desires for the choice to be democratic.

M. Clark-Gardner is concerned at the research made for their motion. According to them, council food isn't mandatory nor required in Standing Regulations.

M. Sandiford moves to restrict discussion to 10 minutes. Seconded by M. Berner.

Motion Carried: For:14 Against:2 Abstain:1 (1 - C. Owusu-Acheaw)

C. Kalafatidis is against the motion, however acknowledges the effort made by J. Hanna. In their view, food provided at council should be a form of compensation for spending one night once a month dedicated to Council meetings. A more collaborative approach should be considered to all councillors interests.

R. Gaudet moves to call the question. Seconded by M. Bernier. Motion Carried Unanimously

Motion Not Carried: For: 5 Against:5 Abstain:6 (6 - S. Hanbali, S. Younis, J. Haas, A. Karasick, P. Quinn, P. Zhuang)

S. Hough-Martin states that CSU food choices at Council meetings are strongly made in consideration of allergies, religion and faith and safety considerations.

h) Student Parent Position

M. Clark-Gardner presents the following motion. Seconded by C. Thompson-Marchand. Motion Carried

Whereas Student-Parents face a number of unique challenges that create barriers to academic achievement and inhibit their ability to access education.

Whereas Student-Parents may require additional accommodations to succeed academically.

Whereas Student-Parents often live in financial precarity because of their inability to study full-time while working and fulfilling parental duties

Whereas Student-Parents experience an unhealthy amount of emotional distress, including stress surrounding academic and financial situations, social isolation because of lack of free time, and loneliness as they do not feel they can be involved in the university community.

Be it resolved that the CSU calls on the federal and provincial government to improve access to education for student-parents through assistance services and accommodations, such as but not limited to:

- a. Recognizing student-parents studying part-time as full-time
- b. Providing specific student-parent bursaries
- c. Creating an easily accessible parental leave plan
- d. Provide funding for the development of childcare services and family residences on campuses
- e. Mandating universities to institute policies that provide academic accommodations for students regarding missing an academic obligation due to pregnancy or childcare, for both planned and unplanned reasons.

Be it further resolved that the CSU calls on Concordia University to recognize and address the challenges student-parents face at the university in regards to their academics, financial security, and community involvement.

Be it further resolved that the CSU calls on Concordia University to consult student-parents to ensure that pertinent demographic information regarding student-parents is maintained and assessed on a regular basis to determine where additional support is needed.

Be it further resolved that the CSU advocates for and assists groups at Concordia that support student-parents, especially in regards to funding, location and resources.

Be it further resolved that the CSU strives to implement policy that recognizes and supports the unique needs of student parents who are single, Indigenous, queer, trans, disabled, racialized, of a lower socioeconomic status, and international student parents, due to additional barriers faced by these groups both institutionally and societally.

A.de Searcy explains that there hasn't been enough research on student parents.

i) Board of Governors

C. Thompson-Marchand moves to table this point. Seconded M. Berner.

Motion Carried: For: 11 Against:0 Abstain: 2 (1 - P. Zhuang)

j) Finance Executive Report

R. Gaudet moves to approve the Finance Coordinator Executive Report. Seconded M. Berner.

Motion Carried: For:12 Against:0 Abstain:1

k) July 19th Policy Committee

P. Quinn moves to change the policy minutes to "I do not feel comfortable contributing the sexual violence and equity policy think it would be great to have outside groups come in contribute to these policies." Seconded by. J. Haas. **Motion Carried Unanimously**

Policy Committee minutes are going to be resubmitted.

9. Question Period & Business Arising

C. Kalafatidis moves to councillor S. Candido from this meeting. Seconded by P. Quinn. **Motion Carried Unanimously**

10. Announcements

Nil

11. Adjournment

H.Ghanem moves to adjourn. Seconded by C. Thompson-Marchand. **Motion Carried Unanimously**

Meeting adjourned 11:15pm EDT