



Concordia Student Union - Council of Representatives
CSU Special Council Meeting
Wednesday, September 02, 2020
Via Zoom, 18h30

1. CALL TO ORDER

The chairperson calls the meeting to order at **18h33**.

We would like to begin by acknowledging that Concordia University is located on unceded Indigenous lands. The Kanien'kehá:ka Nation is recognized as the custodians of the lands and waters on which we gather today. TiohEá:ke/Montreal is historically known as a gathering place for many First Nations. Today, it is home to a diverse population of Indigenous and other peoples. We respect the continued connections with the past, present, and future in our ongoing relationships with Indigenous and other peoples within the Montreal community.

2. ROLL CALL

Council Chairperson: Caitlin Robinson
Council Minutes Keeper: Michelle Lam

Executives present for the meeting were: Isaiah Joyner (General Coordinator), Sarah Mazhero (Academic & Advocacy Coordinator), Daniel Amico (Internal Affairs Coordinator), Manuella Simo (Sustainability Coordinator), Holly Mark-Hilton (Finance Coordinator), Eduardo Malorni (Student Life Coordinator), Victoria Pesce (External Affairs & Mobilization Coordinator) and Malcolm Asselin (Loyola Coordinator)

Councilors present for the meeting were: Tzvi Hersh Filler (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Paige Beaulieu (Arts & Science), Shaun Sederoff (Arts & Science), Christopher Vaccarella (Arts & Science), Mathew Kaminski (John Molson School of Business), Lauren Perozek (John Molson School of Business), Howard Issley (John Molson School of Business), Matthew Benzrihem (Arts & Science), Margot Berner (Arts & Science), S Shivaane (Arts & Science), Sarah Bubenheimer (Arts & Science), Diana Lukic (Fine Arts), James Hanna (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Jeremy Deneault (John Molson School of Business), Harrison

Kirshner (John Molson School of Business), Arie Barak (Independent), Desiree Blizzard (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Zach Williams (Independent), Roman Zelensky (Arts & Science)

Councillors absent for the meeting were: Natalia Whiteley (Gina Cody School of Engineering), Jarrad Haas (Fine Arts), Marlina Valenta (Arts & Science), Yasmine Yahiaoui (Arts & Science), Chelsea Okankwu (John Molson School of Business), Ahmadou Sakho (Arts & Science), Anais Gagnon (Gina Cody School of Engineering)

Sarah Mazhero moves to excuse **Victoria Pesce**. Seconded by **Isaiah Joyner**. Motion passes.

3. Appointments to Senate (JMSB & Fine Arts)

Sarah Mazhero: The senate is one of the highest academic bodies for decision making. We would look into having people who are student representatives from JMSB and Fine Arts. On a separate note, has James Hanna graduated? We may need to replace that seat on Senate

Chairperson: Even if he has, he is still a council member until the DNE deadline in September

Isaiah: Nicolas is here from JMSB to motivate for the senate seat, I will be reading Aaliyah's motivation on her behalf as she cannot be here with us tonight.

Nicolas Crevier: I am VP Finance for CASA. The Senate caught my name because of the ability to bring student ideas and JMSB ideologies to a higher level and heard by those making decisions at the university. I have the time and energy to commit to this.

Lauren Perozek: What past experience do you have to make you a qualified candidate?

Nicolas Crevier: I'm on the BoD of CASA, which has given me insights on board meetings. I used to run a Youth program that has a BoD. I'm able to voice my opinion and move meetings forward. CASA and six years of running a youth program are my experiences

Lauren Perozek: So you have experience with student life and in board meetings?

Nicolas Crevier: I will have to refine my knowledge to do my best in this position

Isaiah Joyner: This is on behalf of Aaliyah Crawford's motivation. I'm the GC of FASA. I am the General Coordinator here at FASA! I'm in the fourth year of my Print Media BFA, and have been involved with and have contributed to a variety of our groups, organizations and publications at Concordia, such as the Queer Print Club, Art Matters Festival and Yiara

Magazine. My involvement with these and other groups has brought me so much happiness, fulfilment, and experience and I am hoping to share that excitement with you all. Through workshops, by-laws, advocating and lots of emailing, my goal is to enrich the university and community experience of all Fine Arts students. I hope my work can contribute to making you all feel connected, excited, supported and welcomed this year

Chairperson: Were these made in the appointments committee?

Isaiah Joyner: For context, we previously brought up a motion where we're going to approach these faculties to see if they wanted to send anyone since these are elected positions and council decided to give them the opportunity to be with us on Senate, and to bridge the gap between faculty associations and the CSU

Chairperson: I just need a reminder on how the motion is

Tzvi Hersh Filler: I'm pretty sure that's not what the motion was. Can we take a look at the minutes from the RCM?

Lauren Perozek: I think we were debating between giving the seats to councillors vs. student representatives

Chairperson: The motion that passed is

WHEREAS the elected Senate positions for JMSB and Fine Arts were not occupied in the 2020 General Elections;

WHEREAS the positions are originally intended to be occupied by elected officials and not appointed officials;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the one elected JMSB Senate seat and the one elected Fine Arts Senate seat to be occupied by a Councillor from JMSB and by a Councillor from Fine Arts, respectively.

Isaiah Joyner: Go to the July SCM because I addressed it then. I asked if we can approach the faculty association to fill the senate seats. It was decided, and then we contacted them and got interest from them and confirmed that they had sent the members

Chairperson: That's what you said in the July 8 meeting. I'm trying to find the exact motion that was made

Isaiah Joyner: I knew we addressed it and received a consensus from council

Chairperson: In the minutes, there's only the motion where we voted to put in a councilor. I don't think this is violating anything

Isaiah Joyner: Can I make a new motion?

Chairperson: Who's currently in the Senate?

Sarah Mazhero: Elias and Natalie, Hanna and Alex Stojda

Chairperson: I recalled we appointed a fine arts and a jmsb councillor

Isaiah Joyner: The motion was brought because there were two vacant seats from the election, because they're elected seats we decided we should get a JMSB and Fine Arts councilor to occupy the seats. But in terms of bridging our relationship with the faculty associations and giving them an opportunity to bring in information from the academic caucus allowed me to reach out to the faculty associations as they are elected officials and fit the description, and add value

Chairperson: The motion that passed said that the seats be occupied by a JMSB and a Fine Arts councillor. I presume that means a CSU councilor?

Isaiah Joyner: Yes, but I asked for an amendment or at least asked the room about the alternative

Chairperson: It just may not be reflected in the minutes

Tzvi Hersh Filler: If I recall correctly, Isaiah mentioned it after we passed the motion and at that point we had already moved on from that motion

Chairperson: The motion to elect councilor carried and another motion made was to make the appointments now but it was voted down. Currently, we do have to put a JMSB and Fine Arts councillor in the Senate seats. We should table this to try to clarify, or make a motion to rescind the original motion? However, that goes against the spirit of the SCM agenda

Isaiah Joyner: Does it say JMSB seats or JMSB councillors on the agenda?

Chairperson: It just says Appointments to Senate

Isaiah Joyner: Is it up for interpretation that it's not against the spirit of the agenda to appoint them?

Chairperson: I think council needs to decide who they want to put on the senate, but that sounds fair

Lauren Perozek: What in the minutes was our reasoning to make it just councillors?

Chairperson: It's in the *WHEREAS* clause.

Tzvi Hersh Filler: The addition of a new motion would violate the bylaws

Chairperson: It's just the agenda that can't change. In the standing regulation it says that motions can be added so long as they're relevant to the agenda topic, which I would say it is.

Isaiah Joyner: The deadline for the Senate is relatively soon and we need to appoint. We called an SCM to ensure all appointments go through.

Chairperson: It would require $\frac{2}{3}$ as prior notice wasn't given for this new motion. We would have to rescind the motion passed on June 10th

Lauren Perozek presents the following motion. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**. Motion passes. *BE IT RESOLVED THAT* the motion passed on June 10th concerning the appointment of senators be rescinded;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT one elected JMSB and one elected Fine Arts Senate seats be allocated to faculty association executives

Lauren Perozek: Isaiah did his homework and brought forward to us two good candidates. If we already have council representation on Senate, we should also include others student representatives with experience in student life

Isaiah Joyner presents the following motion. Seconded by **Harrison Kirshner**. Motion passes. *BE IT RESOLVED* that we appoint the VP of Finance of CASA and the General Coordinator of FASA to the Senate seats

4. Approval of Committee Minutes

Chairperson: They can be approved at once, or can approve them one by one.

Tzvi Hersh Filler motions to approve all the minutes. Seconded by **Christopher Vaccarella**.

Tzvi Hersh Filler: If we need to split, we can do that

Isaiah Joyner proposes to amend the motion to separate them by committees. Seconded by **Harrison Kirshner**. Motion passes.

Isaiah Joyner presents the following motion. Seconded by **Harrison Kirshner**. Opposed
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the motion to approve the appointments committee minutes be split so that external committee appointments be separately approved

Isaiah Joyner: We have some concerns on how the appointment was conducted. The minutes tie into each other

Tzvi Hersh Filler: If we're going to discuss individual candidates, we should go into closed session.

Tzvi Hersh Filler motions to enter closed session. Seconded by **Christopher Vaccarella**. Motion passes.

Isaiah Joyner motions to ratify all minutes except for external committee's minutes. Seconded by **Christopher Vaccarella**. Motion passes.

Isaiah Joyner motions to table discussion of external committee appointments until after discussion of external committee minutes. Seconded. Motion passes.

Lauren Perozek motions to ratify each of the external committee minutes separately. Seconded by **Harrison Kirshner**. Motion passes.

Tzvi Hersh Filler motions to approve the **July 7th External Committee** minutes. Seconded by **Matthew Benzrihem**. Motion fails.

Lauren Perozek motions to exhaust the speakers list. Seconded by **Harrison Kirshner**. Motion passes.

James Hanna motions to extend the debate by five minutes.

Tzvi Hersh Filler motions to amend the previous motion to extend the debate by two minutes. Seconded by **Roman Zelensky**. Motion passes.

VOTE:

12 YES

6 NO

2 ABSTAIN

Tzvi Hersh Filler motions to vote via secret ballot to approve the **July 7th External Committee** minutes. Motion passes.

James Hanna presents the following motion. Seconded by **Shaun Sederoff**.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CSU council requests that External Committee appoint a neutral third-party chairperson, notwithstanding standing regulation 27

James Hanna motions to reconsider the chair's ruling that it is not relevant to discuss the appointment of a non-voting third-party chair for the external committee. Seconded by **Daniel Amico**. Motion passes.

VOTE

10 YES

6 NO

1 ABSTAIN

Margot Berner motions to amend the motion to have the appointments committee appoint a third-party chair to the external committee. Seconded by **Harrison Kirshner**

James Hanna presents the following motion. Seconded. Motion passes.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CSU council requests that External Committee appoint a neutral third-party chairperson, notwithstanding standing regulation 27;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CSU's chairperson acts as External Committee Chair until further notice

Tzvi Hersh Filler motions to approve the **July 20th External Committee** minutes. Seconded by **Matthew Benzrihem**.

James Hanna motions to exhaust the speakers list. Seconded. Motion passes.

Eduardo Malorni presents the following motion. Seconded by **Harrison Kirshner**.

BE IT RESOLVED that the External Committee meeting minutes of July 20th be deferred back to External Committee for review

Lauren Perozek motions to amend the motion to the following.

BE IT RESOLVED that External Committee be mandated to reach out to Eastern Door for more information

Isaiah Joyner motions to amend the motion to the following.

BE IT RESOLVED that the External Committee meeting minutes of July 20th be deferred back to External Committee for review;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that External Committee be mandated to reach out to Eastern Door applicant for more information

Lauren Perozek motions to amend the motion to the following.

BE IT RESOLVED that the External Committee meeting minutes of July 20th be deferred back to External Committee for review;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that External Committee be mandated to reach out to the Eastern Door organization before its applicant for more information

Lauren Perozek motions to amend the motion to the following. Seconded. Motion passes.

BE IT RESOLVED that the External Committee meeting minutes of July 20th be deferred back to External Committee for review;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that External Committee be mandated to reach out to the Eastern Door's applicant;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if sufficient information is not gathered from the applicant than the External Committee be mandated to reach out to the organization

Tzvi Hersh Filler motions to approve the minutes from the **August 7th External Committee** minutes. Seconded by **Matthew Benzrihem**.

Matthew Benrihem presents the following motion. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes be split in two in order to address the complaint and the contracts separately.

Tzvi Hersh Filler presents the following motion. Seconded. Motion passes.

BE IT RESOLVED that Vincent Mousseau not be rehired by the CSU to run training in the future unless he issues an apology to Matthew Benzrihem.

Tzvi Hersh Filler presents the following motion.

WHEREAS Standing Regulation 16(g) states "The External and Campaigns Committee is responsible for overseeing the Student Union's relationship with organizations outside of the University ..."

WHEREAS the CSU seeks to operate in a manner which promotes the maximum transparency and accountability,

BE IT RESOLVED that henceforth any contract or negotiation negotiated with an external contractor or corporation not under the CSU umbrella, other than the CSU's lawyers, be approved by the External Committee before the CSU commits itself to the agreement or contract,

unless the agreement or contract is covered by the mandate of a different committee, or is approved directly by council.

Margot Berner presents the following amendment. Seconded by **Lauren Perozek**. Motion passes.

BE IT RESOLVED that henceforth any contract or negotiation negotiated with an external contractor or corporation not under the CSU umbrella, other than the CSU's lawyers, be approved by a signing authority before the CSU commits itself to the agreement or contract, unless the agreement or contract is covered by the mandate of a different committee, or is approved directly by council.

Tzvi Hersh Filler motions to amend it to **two** signing authorities. Seconded by **Isaiah Joyner**. Motion passes.

Margot Berner motions to strike the first *WHEREAS* clause. Seconded by **Isaiah Joyner**. Motion passes.

The motion has been amended to the following.

WHEREAS the CSU seeks to operate in a manner which promotes the maximum transparency and accountability,

BE IT RESOLVED that henceforth any contract or negotiation negotiated with an external contractor or corporation not under the CSU umbrella, other than the CSU's lawyers, be approved by two signing authorities before the CSU commits itself to the agreement or contract, unless the agreement or contract is covered by the mandate of a different committee, or is approved directly by council.

Lauren Perozek motions to rescind the following motion, *previously adopted*. Seconded by **Margot Berner**. Motion passes.

BE IT RESOLVED that Vincent Mousseau not be rehired by the CSU to run training in the future unless he issues an apology to Matthew Benzrihem.

VOTE:

8 YES

7 NO

1 ABSTAIN

Lauren Perozek presents the following motion. Seconded by **Margot Berner**. Opposed by **Matthew Benzrihem**. Motion passes.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vincent Mousseau be asked to apologize to Matthew Benzrihem for the Anti Semetic remark, but not make the apology contingent on their rehiring.

VOTE:
14 YES
1 NO
1 ABSTAIN

Eduardo Malorni motions to table the External Committee appointments to the next RCM. Seconded. Motion passes.

VOTE:
11 YES
3 NO

Eduardo Malorni motions to return to open session. Seconded. Motion passes.

5. Standing Regulation 395

Tzvi Hersh Filler presents the following motion. Seconded by **Lauren Perozek**. Motion passes.

WHEREAS SR395 states that "All executive members are expected to attend Council meetings from beginning until end";

WHEREAS SR396 states that "Any executive absent without an exceptional excuse as determined by a majority vote of council shall be deducted 100\$ from their paycheck";

WHEREAS the "Council Meetings" include both RCMs and SCMs;

WHEREAS the CSU bylaws empower any 3 councillors to call a SCM at any time, including after normal work hours;

WHEREAS it would be wrong to penalize executives for failing to attend a meeting is called for after work hours and was not known of as of the time of signing of their contracts;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT SR395 be amended to "All executive members are expected to attend Regular Council meetings from beginning until end";

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this motion is notwithstanding the CSU policy for Policy Development and Review;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the budgetary impact of this motion is nil.

Tzvi Hersh Filler: Hypothetically we can call an SCM at any time on various matters, and the time of SCMs are not known ahead of time, it's only fair if they are only penalized if they miss the RCMs.

Isaiah Joyner: Did you consult the policy committee members? Or go through them in any vein

Tzvi Hersh Filler: No, there is a notwithstanding in there

Isaiah Joyner: When we bring policy updates to the council, will the policy committee have to make the change ?

Isaiah Joyner motions to task policy committee to change the standing regulations to reflect this motion. Seconded by **Harrison Kirshner**. Motion passes.

Lauren Perozek: Are they still mandated and required to be at these meetings?

Isaiah Joyner: There is no penalty but they are invited

6. Standing Regulations 13 and 15

Tzvi Hersh Filler presents the following motion. Seconded by **Lauren Perozek**. Motion passes.
WHEREAS SR13 states "... Additionally, should Council direct the Chairperson to perform additional duties, the exercise of which causes him or her to exceed 15 hours of work, then the Chairperson shall be remunerated for those additional hours at their regular honorarium rate of \$12 per hour...";

WHEREAS the clause "the exercise of which causes him or her to exceed 15 hours of work" refers to a previous Standing Regulation which has been modified, and therefore no longer makes sense;

WHEREAS SR15 states "... Additionally, should Council direct the Minute Keeper to perform additional duties, the exercise of which causes him or her to exceed 5 hours of work, then the Minute Keeper shall be remunerated for those additional hours at their regular honorarium rate of \$12 per hour..."

WHEREAS the clause "the exercise of which causes him or her to exceed 5 hours of work" refers to a previous Standing Regulation which has been modified, and therefore no longer makes sense;

WHEREAS the regular honorarium rate is no longer a thing;

WHEREAS 12\$ per hour is less than the minimum wage in Quebec;

WHEREAS it would seem like best practice to not pay less than the minimum wage;

WHEREAS Policy Committee has already been mandated to address this;

WHEREAS Policy Committee seems to have a backlog of things to address;

WHEREAS it is good governance to not pay below minimum wage in the meantime;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT SR13, which currently states:

"The Chairperson shall receive an honorarium of \$250 for regular and \$200 special council meetings. Notwithstanding should the meeting not reach quorum the honorarium shall be \$100. Additionally, should Council direct the Chairperson to perform additional duties, the exercise of which causes him or her to exceed 15 hours of work, then the Chairperson shall be remunerated for those additional hours at their regular honorarium

rate of \$12 per hour, contingent on maintaining a 'timesheet for all such work done that shall be approved as a part of their Chairperson's report.'"

be replaced by:

"The Chairperson shall receive an honorarium of \$250 for regular and \$200 special council meetings. Notwithstanding should the meeting not reach quorum the honorarium shall be \$100. Additionally, should Council direct the Chairperson to perform additional duties, then the Chairperson shall be remunerated for those additional hours at a rate of \$12 per hour, or minimum wage in the province of Quebec, whichever is higher, contingent on maintaining a timesheet for all such work done that shall be approved as a part of their Chairperson's report." notwithstanding the CSU policy for Policy Development and Review;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT SR15, which currently states:

"The Minute Keeper shall receive an honorarium of \$100 for both regular and special council meetings. Notwithstanding should the meeting not reach quorum the honorarium shall be \$100. Additionally, should Council direct the Minute Keeper to perform additional duties, the exercise of which causes him or her to exceed 5 hours of work, then the Minute Keeper shall be remunerated for those additional hours at their regular honorarium rate of \$12 per hour, contingent on maintaining a timesheet for all such work done that shall be approved as a part of the Chairperson's report."

be replaced by:

"The Minute Keeper shall receive an honorarium of \$100 for both regular and special council meetings. Notwithstanding should the meeting not reach quorum the honorarium shall be \$100. Additionally, should Council direct the Minute Keeper to perform additional duties, then the Minute Keeper shall be remunerated for those additional hours at a rate of \$12 per hour, or minimum wage in the province of Quebec, whichever is higher, contingent on maintaining a timesheet for all such work done that shall be approved as a part of the Chairperson's report.", notwithstanding the CSU policy for Policy Development and Review,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the budgetary impact of this motion is less than 500\$ CAD.

Tzvi Hersh Filler: The removal of the word regular rate, which refers to a policy that doesn't exist. There is also a reference that claims that if the Minute Keeper does work for less than five hours, they will not be paid. It is also important to not pay them less than minimum wage. We should not pay our contractors less than minimum wage

Desiree Blizzard: We had something similar last year to increase the wage for Chair

Chairperson: We used to be paid a flat rate per meeting, predetermined that we would do a fixed amount of work. In 2017, that was changed because the system didn't make sense. Last

year the council changed it from \$12 to minimum wage, but it was voted down. It refers to something that doesn't exist and we can't change it without changing the standing regulations

Desiree Blizzard: The living wage is ~\$16-17 an hour, I hope the next person amends this motion to reflect that wage rather than minimum wage

S Shivaane motions to amend all mentions of \$12 to \$17, which corresponds to the living wage as outlined by IRIS.

Chairperson: The only issue I see is if the minimum or living wage changes, which would mean we have to change it when it reflects so

Tzvi Hersh Filler: What if we amend it to set to a living wage

S Shivaane motions to amend to motion to the following. Seconded by **Tzvi Hersh Filler**.

Motion passes.

“... the Chair/Minute Keeper shall be remunerated for those additional hours at a rate of \$17 per hour, or minimum wage, whichever is higher in the province of Quebec...”

Tzvi Hersh Filler: Who determines the living wage? Minimum wage is set by the government

S Shivaane: For MK, can we add something about formatting minutes and paying an hourly wage to do so? It's time consuming. Is there anything about MK and Chairperson being paid past the 11PM marker?

Chairperson: It's a flat rate for the whole meeting, but it can be discussed in policy committee

Tzvi Hersh Filler: This is already being discussed in policy, we can continue the discussion there

7. ADJOURNMENT

Isaiah Joyner motions to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by **Margot Berner**. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 23h00.