



Minutes

GSA Regular Council Meeting

21 August 2012

GSA Lounge, 2030 Mackay, Montreal

Attendance

Chair: Roxanne Desforges

Voting Directors: Annelise Grube-Cavers (Arts and Science), Audrey Dahl (Arts and Science), Giuletta Di Mambro (Arts and Science), Simon Vickers (Arts and Science), Erik Chevrier (Independent Studies), Kavian Abhari (ENCS), Hasanain Al-rubaye (ENCS), Faisal Al-Saqqar (ENCS), Ahmed Atia (ENCS), Syed Abis Hassan Zaidi (ENCS), Zouhair Briqech (ENCS), Rachel Banton (JMSB), Mahmood Salehi (JMSB), Tara Walker (JMSB), Patrick Leonard (Fine Arts)

Non-Voting Directors: Daria Saryan (President), Roya Azarm (Vice-President Internal), Nadia Hausfather (Vice-President External)

Observers: Golam M M Aurup (Secretary), Roddy Doucet (Advocacy and Finance Manager)

Absent: Katherine Rossy (Arts and Science), Nirajan Bhakare (JMSB), Poya Saffari (Arts and Science), Gul Perrez (ENCS), Tareq Shawan (ENCS), Mark Schilling (Services Manager)

Documents

CD-120821-01 Agenda (long form)

CD-120821-02 Report of President

CD-120821-03 Report of VP internal

CD-120821-04 Report of VP external

CD-120821-05 Report of Services Manager

CD-120821-06 Report of Advocacy Manager

CD-120821-07 Report of Finance Manager

CD-120821-08 Meeting Minutes July 13 2012

CD-120821-09 GSA Draft Bylaws

CD- 120821-10 Letter re Azrieli Institute for Israel Studies

CD 120821-11 TRAC Proposal for Email Sharing

CD 120821-12 Motion for Political Campaigns Committee



1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 3:15 pm.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Discussion regarding the GSA Council Retreat (moved by Audrey), and Rouge Squad Coordinator (moved by Daria) was added to other business, CISA presentation for sponsorship (moved by Kavian) was scheduled to be discussed before item 8.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT GSA Council approves the agenda for the meeting. Moved by Annelise and seconded by Simon, it was unanimously resolved.

3. Council Business

3.1 Chair

Roxanne Desforges was nominated Chair for the meeting.

3.2 Secretary

Aurup was nominated the Secretary for the meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes from July 13 Meeting

It was decided that the council meeting minutes should contain a bit more details of the discussions.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT GSA Council approves the minutes for the previous Council Meeting on July 13. Moved by Simon and seconded by Annelise, it was unanimously resolved.

See document CD-120821-08 Meeting Minutes July 13 2012 for details.

5. Reports

5.1 President

Daria presented her report to council.

5.1.1 Motion to appoint Robert Sonin as delegate to the Annual General Meeting of the Rassemblement des Associations Etudiantes, and nominate him as a director of the same.

Robert Sonin explained the status of RAE and nature of GSA representation to the association. See document 'CD-120821-02 Report of President' for details of the issue.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT GSA Council appoints Robert Sonin as delegate to the Annual General Meeting of the Rassemblement des Associations Etudiantes (RAE), and nominate him as a director of the same. Moved by Tara and seconded by Simon, it was unanimously resolved.



5.1.2 Motion to form a Representative Caucus

There was a proposal to form a representative caucus comprising members of different representatives to the university bodies at Concordia. Council members agreed to the need for such an effort. See document 'CD-120821-02 Report of President' for details of the issue.

Moved by Annelise and Seconded by Rachel, all the following motions were RESOLVED unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT a Graduate Caucus is hereby created;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT all graduate student representatives to the following university bodies and committees thereof shall be invited to participate as members of the Graduate Caucus:

1. Board of Governors;
2. Senate;
3. Concordia Council on Student Life;
4. Council of the School of Graduate Studies;
5. Council of the Faculty of Arts and Science;
6. Council of the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science;
7. Council of the Faculty of Fine Arts;
8. Council of the John Molson School of Business;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Graduate Caucus shall choose a Chair from among its members;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Chair of the Graduate Caucus shall call a meeting at least once per month to:

1. Discuss and deliberate upon matters pertaining to student representation;
2. Discuss and deliberate upon matters and to share news and information arising in the course of representing graduate students on University bodies;
3. Coordinate student participation on said bodies in order to advance the Objectives of the GSA as specified in the GSA Bylaws, and in response to Council directives;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the chair of the Graduate Caucus shall report to Council at each regular meeting on the activities of the Graduate Caucus, such reports not to preclude reports upon the business of particular university bodies and committees thereof from their respective graduate student representatives.

5.2 VP Internal

See document 'CD-120821-03 Report of VP internal' for details.

Roya presented her report to council. She asked for participation of council members in the orientation activities. The council suggested her to send out an email to council members with details of events so councillors can decide on their availability.

In response to another question regarding associations, it was informed that maintaining liaison with departmental associations is mainly under jurisdiction of VP Internal, and VP External along with Campaigns Coordinator also contribute to the efforts because of the ongoing student movement.



5.3 VP External

See document 'CD-120821-04 Report of VP external' for details.

Nadia presented her report to council. She mentioned the progress about international student's health insurance issues regarding family enrolment.

5.4 Finance/Advocacy Manager

See document 'CD-120821-06 Report of Advocacy Manager' for details.

Roddy mentioned of the new policy of Concordia University to de-register students early in September who has outstanding account balance from Summer/Winter. A letter would be sent to students in this regard, he mentioned. He also mentioned of pursuing Concordia to start a text message alert system to notify students of any change of student account policies.

See document 'CD-120821-07 Report of Finance Manager'.

5.5 Service Manager

Tabled

6. Motion for the GSA to enter into the proposed agreement as found in the document entitled "TRAC Proposal for Email Sharing"

See document 'CD 120821-11 TRAC Proposal for Email Sharing' for details of issue.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT GSA approves the proposal to provide contact information of only TRAC members from GSA database. Moved by Audrey and seconded by Mahmood, it was unanimously RESOLVED.

7. Endorsement of Letter re Azrieli Institute for Israeli Studies

See document 'CD- 120821-10 Letter re Azrieli Institute for Israel Studies' for details.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT GSA endorses the letter to be sent to Dean of Faculty of Arts and Science. Moved by Tara and seconded by Annelise, it was RESOLVED unanimously.

There was a discussion to nominate Tareq to represent GSA to the committee.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT GSA appoints campaigns committee to look into the issue and recommends to council.

8. GSA Committee Appointments

8.1 Campaigns Committee

There was a discussion on the motion regarding formation and functioning of the Campaigns Committee and corrections were suggested to the original proposal. It was decided that GSA managers will not be part of the committee. The following motion was resolved unanimously after moved by Ahmed and seconded by Rachel.



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Political Campaigns Committee will be defined by the following regulations:

1. Composition

The Political Campaigns Committee shall be composed of

- a) The President, ex officio;
- b) The Vice President External, ex officio;
- c) A minimum of three directors, to be appointed by Council;
- d) BE IT RESOLVED THAT the cap from number of members a committee can have be removed, any GSA member (along with directors) can be member of the Political Campaigns Committee. However, in order to vote on this committee, members must:
 - Be approved by Council
 - Review the by-laws and agree to respect them

2. Term

- a) The term of a member of the Political Campaigns Committee shall be coterminous with their term as a member of the Council of Directors.
- b) Notwithstanding 2 (a) an appointed member of the Political Campaigns Committee by virtue of 1 (e) may be removed by a 2/3 vote of Council at a meeting called for that purpose for the following reasons:
 - i) Absence without reason from two meetings of the Political Campaigns Committee;
 - ii) Absence without reason from two meetings of Council or the annual general meeting;
 - iii) Written request of a majority of the other members of the Political Campaigns Committee.

3. Purpose

The purposes of the Political Campaigns Committee are to assist the Vice-President External in the conception, planning, mobilization, and logistics of GSA political campaigns.

4. Powers and Responsibilities

- a) The Political Campaigns Committee shall be provided with access to funds sufficient to its needs, and shall provide budgets for each campaign pursued, amended from time to time as circumstances dictate priorities;
- b) The Political Campaigns Committee shall pursue research into what campaigns are amenable to the objectives of the GSA as set out in the GSA Bylaws.
- c) The members of the Political Campaigns Committee shall assist the Vice President External, the Vice-President Internal, and the Advocacy Manager with mobilization, logistics, and publicity with respect to GSA political campaigns.
- d) The Political Campaigns Committee shall submit a written report, which shall include details of all campaign activities planned and executed as well as a full financial accounting of all income and expenses, to the December 2011 and the May 2012 meetings of the Council of Directors.

See document See document 'CD-120821-12 2 Motion for Political Campaigns Committee' for original motion with adopted changes



8.2 Student Life Committee

Tabled

8.3 General Assembly Committee

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Patrick Leonard is appointed member of the GSA General Assembly Committee.

9. University Governing Body Nominations

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following students (names in brackets) are appointed to the committees they are placed in. The committee without any names be considered tabled. Moved by Ahmed and seconded by Kavian, it was unanimously resolved

9.1 Concordia University Senate (Tareq Shahwan, Audrey Dahl, Robert Sonin)

9.2 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee

Tabled

9.3 Special Graduation Awards Committee (Babber Pervez)

9.4 Council of the School of Graduate Studies (Faisal Al-Saqqar, Babber Pervez, Ahmed Atia)

9.5 Steering Committee, School of Graduate Studies

Tabled

9.6 Graduate Curriculum Committee (Babber Pervez)

9.7 Arts and Science Faculty Council (Katherine Rossy, Simon Vickers)

9.8 Steering Committee, Faculty of Arts and Science

Tabled

9.9 Curriculum Committee, Faculty of Arts and Science (Stefanie Corona)

9.10 Concordia Council on Student Life (Kavian Abhari, Emily Sheepy)

9.11 Fine Arts Faculty Council (Adam Szymanski, Patrick Leonard)

9.12 Student Tribunals (Rushdia Mehreen)

9.13 Provost Search Committee (Daria Saryan)

10. Scheduling of Fall Meetings

It was decided that a Doodle for the Fall council meeting would be set up after the DNE deadline. It was also decided that GSA House would be an appropriate venue for council meetings. Council suggested putting a sign on the door to inform students of ongoing meeting.



11. Other Business

11.1 Rouge Squad Coordinator

There was a discussion regarding extension of the contract for rouge squad coordinator. Nadia informed the council of the ongoing activities related to translation of student movement documents.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the GSA extends contract for the rouge squad coordinator for another month.

11.2 GSA Retreat

Following a discussion regarding unavailability of many of the GSA council members, it was decided that the visioning session for the retreat would be moved to a later date than the retreat.

12. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5.27 pm.