Post-Graduate Students’ Society of McGill University
3650 McTavish Street, Montreal, Quebec
Post-Graduate Students’ Society of McGill University
3650 McTavish Street, Montreal, Quebec
C12-06-#01
Council Minutes Approved
June 13, 2012, 6:30pm

Executives

Secretary-General Jonathan Mooney, Financial Affairs Officer Pooja Tyagi, Internal Affairs Officer Michael Krause, External Affairs Officer Errol Salamon, Academic Affairs Officer Adam Bouchard

Councillors


Commissioners and non-voting members

Environment Commissioner Kelly Nugent

Regrets

Member Support Commissioner Vikrant Bhosle, Health Commissioner Elizabeth Cawley, Equity Commissioner Gretchen King

Gallery and Guests

McGill Libraries Diane Cullen
Call to Order  
6:39 PM

1.0 Approval of the Agenda  
Motion to approve the agenda (D. Meadows, H. Dokainish).  
Move item 10.0 to immediately preceding the Speaker’s Report to allow for appointment of Council Speaker for this meeting of Council (Secretary-General/ D. Meadows).  
Motion passed.  
Add a 3-minute presentation in announcements as motion 3.1 by Diane Cullen from McGill Libraries in regards to LIF (Secretary-General/Internal Affairs Officer).  
Motion passed.  
Agenda approved, as amended.

M12-06-#001 – To accept recommendations of the Appointments Board (Appointments Board).  
BIRT the recommendations of the Appointments Board outlined in the report be accepted.  
Motion passed.

2.0 Speaker’s Report  
The Speaker delivered a brief, oral report.

3.0 Announcements  
3.01 McGill Libraries – Diane Cullen  
Diane Cullen from McGill Libraries gave a presentation regarding the library facilities at McGill and the PGSS Library Improvement Fund (LIF). In particular, Ms. Cullen expressed the desire of McGill Libraries to work with the PGSS to allocate the LIF monies to areas of the library specifically of concern to graduate students.

Move item 10.4 to directly following announcement by Mrs. Cullen, as she is present at Council to address questions regarding LIF (C. Ulmer/S. Avlijas).  
Motion passed.

M12-06-#004 – Library Improvement Fund (Executive Committee)  
BIRT Council enter committee of the whole for a period of ten (10) minutes to discuss the future role of the library improvement fund.  
Motion passed.

Motion to extend committee of the whole long enough to vote on proposed motions (S. Forte/A. Kaats)  
Motion passed.

Resolutions brought out of Committee of the whole:

BIRT the PGSS LIF committee undergo a consultation process with our membership regarding graduate student needs with respect to the LIF.
BIFRT the committee submits a report to Council at the beginning of the Fall 2012 term that outlines the method for consultation and at the end of the Fall term to report on the result.

Motion passed.

Move item 10.2 regarding the PGSS Budget to preceding announcement 3.2 (Secretary-General/S. Avlijas).

Motion passed.

**M12-06-#002 – Motion to approve 2012-2013 PGSS Budget (Financial Affairs Officer/Secretary-General).**

WHEREAS the PGSS has undergone a systematic and comprehensive budget overhaul which has made evidenced-based changes to the budget structure, format and content;

WHEREAS the PGSS has made explicit decisions over the past year to reduce and in some cases eliminate (i.e. individual executive discretionary line items) discretionary spending in favour of clearly identified categories of spending;

WHEREAS these efforts have curbed spending, contributed to the recently implemented fee reduction, and have significantly increased the transparency of officer spending, as evidenced by the fact that inarguably the most active year at the PGSS in recent history, the organization has disbursed less, not more discretionary funds;

WHEREAS the outgoing Vice-President (Finance) and incoming Finance Officer collaborated to produce the proposed 2012-2013 society activities budget and recommend that Council approve it;

WHEREAS the PGSS Board of Directors unanimously approved the 2012-2013 budget in its entirety;

WHEREAS the outgoing Executive Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the 2012-2013 budget;

WHEREAS the Corporate Operations Manual clearly prescribes a budget approval and amendment process which requires the approval of the Committee on Monetary Affairs (CMA); and

WHEREAS the CMA has approved the 2012-2013 budget, as well as its “structure and format ... designation of funds (columns) and line items (rows) as society, corporate, business, or shared activities;” therefore

BIRT the PGSS Council approve the society activities expenses and revenues in the 2012-2013 budget as presented in the report of the CMA included in this Council package.

The Financial Affairs Officer made a brief presentation of the budget and explained the revenues and expenses within each fund.

S. Forte requested information on the amount spend on solidarity contributions over the previous year. The Financial Affairs Officer explained last year it was a few hundred dollars whereas this year it is budgeted at $1000.

Motion to call the question (Y. Konokhova/T. Centea)

Motion passed.
Main motion passed.

Move item 10.3 prior to announcement 3.2 (D. Simeone/Secretary-General)
Motion passed.

M12-06-#003 – Bylaw and Society Manual Amendments (Executive Committee)
WHEREAS several changes to the bylaws are necessary to facilitate meeting quorum at Council meetings and the calling special meetings to deal with urgent business
BIRT the resolutions related to bylaw changes in Appendix A be approved.

The Secretary-General, on motivation, explained that some minor changes need to be made in the bylaws to ensure that quorum can be obtained for Council, and to be able to more easily call special meetings as it takes two weeks to call one now; suggesting that those two weeks be shortened to 72 hours. Upon questioning, the Secretary-General explained that the Society Operations Manual needs to be renamed to Society Activities Manual, as outlined in the bylaws.

Amend resolution in Appendix A: Replace “BIRT a referendum be held between July 2 and July 6 to approve these bylaw changes” with “BIRT a referendum be held between July 16 and July 20 to approve these bylaw changes, with a campaign period of July 2 to July 13.” (Secretary-General/Internal Affairs Officer).

Motion to call quorum (no mover or second indicated by the Speaker).
Quorum is met.

Motion to call the question (T. Centea/S. Avlijas).
A. Kaats, on a point of order, inquired as to the content of the question being called. The Speaker explained that the question at hand is just the amendment to the resolution contained in Appendix A.
Motion passed.

Amendment passed.

Motion to split the question so that the vote can take place on the amendment to the bylaws and the amendment to the Society Operations Manual separately (S. Avlijas)

Motion to split question and vote separately on the amendment to the special general meeting time frame (S. Forte/no second indicated)

Motion to call the question on each individual amendment (Y. Konokhova/A. Kaats)
Motion passed.

WHEREAS the Bylaws refer to a “Society Activities Manual”
BIRT the Society Operations Manual approved at the May 2012 meeting of Council be renamed “Society Activities Manual” and fill the role of the Society Activities Manual named in the Bylaws
Motion passed. Two abstentions (D. Simeone, S. Forte).

WHEREAS the composition of council differs from that envisioned when the bylaws were distributed to members prior to the 2012 Annual General Meeting
BIRT Bylaw 6.1.3.1 be amended to read, “as set out in the Society Activities Manual”
BIFRT Bylaw 6.1.5 be amended to read, “as set out in the Society Activities Manual”

WHEREAS Bylaw changes require approval by referendum
BIRT a referendum be held between July 16 and July 20 to approve these bylaw changes, with a campaign period of July 2 to July 13.”

S. Avlijas expressed that it appeared many people wanted to leave and suggested it would be better to table the discussion rather than vote on motions that are not properly considered or discussed.

Motion to consider the resolutions regarding the operations manual and bylaw changes via referendum is considered first so as to not lose quorum before vote (Secretary-General/D. Simeone).
Motion passed.

Motion to consider the resolution concerning referendum dates with resolution on the above motion (D. Simeone/T. Centea)
Motion passed.

Main motions passed. One abstention (A. Kaats).

BIFRT a new Society Activities Manual Article “Council” 3.5 be added, reading “The quorum of council is one third of the number of councillors.” Motion passed.

Motion to call quorum (S. Avlijas).
Quorum met (46).

WHEREAS special meetings provide a means to deal with urgent business
WHEREAS Society Bylaw 8.1 requires at least two weeks notice for all council or general meetings
BIRT a new Society Bylaw 7.2.8 be added, reading, “Notwithstanding Bylaw 8, special meetings may be called and the agenda may be distributed with seventy-two (72) hours notice”

Remove the word “Society” from the first resolution clause (A. Kaats/S. Avlijas).

Motion to call the question on the amendment (S. Avlijas/Financial Affairs Officer) Motion passed. One opposed (S. Forte).
Amendment passed. One opposed (S. Forte).

Amend “72 hours” in the first resolution to “five (5) days” (D. Simeone/C. Ulmer).
D. Simeone, on motivation, explained that the former constitution required five days, and that seventy-two hours’ notice is too short. Discussion ensued regarding notice for special meetings.

T. Centea, on a point of information, requested an explanation of the requirements for calling a special meeting. Explained that it can be called by the PGSS Secretary-General, the Executive, or through a petition of PGSS members (7% percentage of the membership for a special general meeting, 1% of membership to call a special meeting of council).

Amendment to “five (5) days” passed. One abstention (T. Centea)

Motion to amend the time period in the first resolution to fourteen (14) days (S. Forte/no second indicated).

Discussion ensued as to whether the motion was out of order as fourteen (14) days time frame is what is already in place. Speaker ruled this motion is out of order as fourteen (14) days is what is already in place.

S. Forte spoke in favour maintaining the time frame at 14 days and therefore voting against this motion to send this to referendum stating that if the time frame for calling a meeting is set to low there is a possibility that they will be used in substitute for Council meetings. This would result in a situation whereby PGSS Executive is accountable to a general meeting rather than to Councillors. Argued that 14 days is an adequate time frame and encouraged members to vote against the motion to change that time frame to 5 days.

S. Avlijas spoke in favour of the motion as the content of this motion is for special meetings where only a specific topic is discussed, therefore having a shorter time frame would allow members to meet in response to an unforeseen event.

A. Kaats asked how many times the PGSS has called a special general meeting that is being debated in the past five years. Indicated from membership that in the last 5 years none have been called.

S. Forte summarized that the main argument for lowing the time frame below fourteen days is to be able to respond quickly to unforeseen events. He argued that these responses should be dealt with by the Council as membership here is more representative of the PGSS body as opposed to who may turn out for a special meeting.

A. Kaats spoke against this going to referendum as there has never been an event in the past that required a rapid response in the form a meeting of the full corporation required such a low time frame and quorum threshold. He argued that lowering the ability to call a meeting of the highest authority of the company with low threshold is dangerous, especially in the case of a small group of people attempting to focus the direction of the company.

S. Avlijas spoke in favour of lowering the threshold as opposed to delegating decision making to higher levels of the Executive. This would allow more members to directly participate in the decision making process and discuss issues. A number of people (did not indicate their name on record) spoke in favour of the motion to allow more members to be involved in the decision making process of the PGSS or spoke against the motion due to increasing the ability of a small group of people using a low threshold to influence the direction and decisions of the PGSS.
An individual (name not indicated) spoke against the motion and against changing bylaws at a time when they may need to be used or enforced in the near future given the student and government relations.

Motion to amend to make this apply only to special meetings of Council and not to special general meetings by adding “of Council” following “special meetings” in the first resolution (T. Centea/A. Kaats)

T. Centea, on motivation, argued this would allow Council to meet quickly in response to unforeseen events, as well as prevent the issue of a small group of people using a low threshold special general meeting for their own advantage.

S. Avlijas spoke against this amendment arguing that quorum for special general meetings have not been lowered and therefore preventing any issues of low threshold for special general meetings. In particular, that calling a special general meeting requires 600 signatures of membership.

A. Kaats spoke in favour of the motion to give the ability to call a special meeting of Council together quickly, not the full membership in a special general meeting.

D. Simeone spoke in opposition of the motion arguing that the Executive needs to be responsible to the membership, and as such a five day notice as the resolution now reads is plenty of time for both special meetings.

S. Forte spoke in favour of the amendment and, if amended, would remove his opposition to the amendment as a whole. He believes that this is a sensible, balanced approach.

The Secretary-General spoke that he believed the special general meeting is a good way to have the general membership be involved and have a say on a specific topic. He believes that there are enough checks already in place that lowering the threshold to 5 days notice to hold special meetings will not compromise the integrity of the process.

A. Kaats spoke in favour of the motion arguing that for the vast majority of issues they can be adequately and representatively dealt with by Council as opposed to a special general meeting of the full membership.

Motion to call the question on this amendment to “of council” (A. Shapiro/J. Mills)  
Motion passed.

Amendment failed.
Count requested for vote: In favour (15), opposed (18).

Motion to call the question on main motion (S. Avlijas/F. Urzua).  
Motion passed. One opposed (T. Centea).

Main motion amended reading:
WHEREAS special meetings provide a means to deal with urgent business  
WHEREAS Society Bylaw 8.1 requires at least two weeks notice for all council or general meetings  
BIRT a new Society Bylaw 7.2.8 be added, reading, “Notwithstanding Bylaw 8, special meetings may be called and the agenda may be distributed with five (5) days notice.”

Main motions failed. Three opposed (T. Centea, S. Forte, J. Jensen).  
Count requested for vote: In favour (19), opposed (12).
Motion to call quorum (A. Kaats).
Quorum not met (42).

Motion to adjourn (D. Simeone/ A. Kaats).
Motion passed.

Adjournment
8:40 PM
Association étudiante des cycles supérieurs de l’Université McGill
3650, rue McTavish, Montréal (Québec)
C13-06-#01
Procès-verbal du conseil général
13 juin 2012 à 18 h 30

Membres du comité exécutif

Secrétaire général Jonathan Mooney, chargée des finances Pooja Tyagi, chargé des affaires internes Michael Krause, chargé des affaires externes Errol Salamon, chargé des relations universitaires Adam Bouchard

Membres du conseil général


Commissaires et membres sans droit de vote

Commissaire à l’écologie Kelly Nugent

Excusés

Commissaire à l’aide aux membres Vikrant Bhosle, commissaire à la santé Elizabeth Cawley, commissaire à l’équité Gretchen King

Tribune publique et invités

Bibliothèques McGill Diana Cullen

Ouverture
1.0 Adoption de l’ordre du jour

Motion pour approuver l’ordre du jour (D. Meadows, H. Dokainish).

Déplacer le point 10.0 pour qu’il soit suivi immédiatement du compte rendu du président d’assemblée afin de pouvoir nommer un tel président pour cette réunion du conseil général (secrétaire général/D. Meadows).

La motion est adoptée.

Ajouter une motion 3.1 à la demande de Diane Cullen des Bibliothèques McGill qui servira à annoncer des nouvelles portant sur le fonds d’amélioration des bibliothèques. Ce compte rendu durera 3 minutes (secrétaire général/chargé des affaires internes).

La motion est adoptée.

L’ordre du jour modifié est adopté.

M12-06-#001 – Approbation des recommandations du comité des nominations (comité des nominations).

IL EST RÉSOLU que les recommandations énumérées dans le compte rendu du comité des nominations soient approuvées.

La motion est adoptée.

2.0 Compte rendu du président d’assemblée

Le président d’assemblée présente un bref exposé oral.

3.0 Notifications

3.01 Bibliothèques McGill – Diana Cullen

Diane Cullen des Bibliothèques McGill présente un exposé sur l’état des bibliothèques de l’Université McGill et sur le fonds d’amélioration des bibliothèques de l’AÉCSUM.

Déplacement du point 10.4 immédiatement après l’exposé de madame Cullen pour qu’elle puisse répondre aux questions du conseil général à propos du fonds d’amélioration des bibliothèques (C. Ulmer/S. Avlijas).

La motion est adoptée.

M12-06-#004 – Fonds d’amélioration des bibliothèques (comité exécutif)

IL EST RÉSOLU que le conseil forme un comité plénier pour une durée de dix (10) minutes afin de discuter des orientations du fonds d’amélioration des bibliothèques.

La motion est adoptée.
Motion pour prolonger le comité plénier afin de pouvoir voter sur les motions à l’ordre du jour (S. Forte/A. Kaats).
*La motion est adoptée.*

Résolutions découlant du comité plénier :

IL EST RÉSOLU que le comité du fonds d’amélioration des bibliothèques consulte les membres de l’AÉCSUM afin d’établir leurs besoins quant à ce fonds.

IL EST AUSSI RÉSOLU que ce comité explique au conseil général au début du trimestre d’automne 2012 la méthode qu’il aura choisi pour consulter les membres. Il devra présenter les résultats de cette consultation à la fin du trimestre d’automne.
*La motion est adoptée.*

Déplacement du point 10.2 à propos du budget de l’AÉCSUM afin qu’il précède la notification 3.2 (secrétaire général/S. Avlijas).
*La motion est adoptée.*

**M12-06-#002 – Motion entérinant le budget 2012-2013 de l’AÉCSUM (chargée des finances/secrétaire général).**

CONSIDÉRANT que l’AÉCSUM a mené une réforme en profondeur de la structure, du format et du contenu de son budget en se basant sur des données probantes;

CONSIDÉRANT que l’AÉCSUM a sciemment décidé de réduire le montant de ses dépenses discrétionnaires au cours de la dernière année – allant même jusqu’à éliminer certains montants discrétionnaires, notamment celui alloué à certains membres du comité exécutif – pour les remplacer par des catégories clairement définies;

CONSIDÉRANT que cette initiative a entrainé une réduction des dépenses, ce qui a récemment permis de réduire les frais exigés tout en favorisant une plus grande transparence des montants dépensés par les dirigeants de l’AÉCSUM. Ainsi, l’AÉCSUM a réussi à diminuer ses dépenses discrétionnaires cette année, en dépit du fait qu’elle a été beaucoup plus active que par le passé;

CONSIDÉRANT que le vice-président aux finances sortant et la chargée des finances qui le remplace proposent conjointement un budget pour les activités de l’Association en 2012-2013 et qu’ils recommandent au conseil général de l’entériner;

CONSIDÉRANT que le conseil d’administration de l’AÉCSUM a unanimement approuvé la totalité de ce budget 2012-2013;

CONSIDÉRANT que le comité exécutif recommande unanimement d’entériner ce budget 2012-2013;
CONSIDÉRANT que le guide du règlement – Activités organisationnelles établit des directives claires quant au processus d’entérinement et de modification du budget, notamment que le comité des ressources financières doit approuver le budget; et

CONSIDÉRANT que le comité des ressources financières considère que le budget 2012-2013 est en bonne et due forme et qu’il l’approuve selon les critères des documents constitutifs de l’AÉCSUM; ainsi

IL EST RÉSOLU que le conseil général entérine les produits et charges qui figurent dans le compte rendu du comité des ressources financières sur le budget des activités de l’Association en 2012-2013, ce compte rendu se trouvant en annexe.

Motion de procéder au vote (Y. Konokhova/T. Centea).
La motion est adoptée.
La motion principale est adoptée.

Déplacement du point 10.3 avant la notification 3.2 (D. Simeone/secrétaire général).
La motion est adoptée.

M12-06-#003 – Modifications au règlement et au guide du règlement – Activités des membres (comité exécutif)

CONSIDÉRANT que le règlement doit être modifié en profondeur afin d’atteindre le quorum durant les réunions du conseil ou lorsque celui-ci doit être convoqué d’urgence;

IL EST RÉSOLU d’entériner les résolutions concernant les modifications au règlement qui figurent à l’annexe A.

Modification de la résolution à l’annexe A : Remplacer « IL EST RÉSOLU qu’un référendum aura lieu du 2 au 6 juillet afin d’entériner les présentes modifications au règlement » par « IL EST RÉSOLU qu’un référendum aura lieu du 16 au 20 juillet afin d’entériner les présentes modifications au règlement. La campagne pour ce référendum se déroulera du 2 au 13 juillet. » (secrétaire général/chargé des affaires internes).

Les délibérations à propos de cette modification ont duré dix (10) minutes.

Motion de procéder au vote (T. Centea/S. Avlijas).
La motion est adoptée.
Les modifications sont acceptées.

Motion proposant d’évaluer d’abord la possibilité d’organiser un référendum sur les résolutions à propos des modifications au règlement et au guide du règlement – Activités des membres afin d’avoir le quorum requis pour passer au vote (secrétaire général/D. Simeone).
La motion est adoptée.

Motion de scinder la résolution afin de voter sur chacune des clauses modificatives de l’annexe A séparément (S. Avlijas).
La motion est adoptée.

Les délibérations à propos des modifications figurant à l’annexe A ont duré vingt (20) minutes.

Motion de procéder au vote pour chacune des modifications séparément (Y. Konokhova/A. Kaats).
La motion est adoptée.

CONSIDÉRANT que le règlement mentionne un « guide du règlement – Activités des membres »;

IL EST RÉSOLU que le « Society Operations Manual » ratifié lors de la réunion du conseil général de mai 2012 sera dorénavant intitulé le guide du règlement – Activités des membres et remplira les fonctions de ce document énumérées dans le règlement.
La motion est adoptée. Deux abstentions (D. Simeone, S. Forte).

CONSIDÉRANT que les modifications au règlement doivent être entérinées par référendum;

IL EST RÉSOLU qu’un référendum aura lieu du 16 au 20 juillet afin d’entériner les modifications au règlement susmentionnées. Ce référendum sera précédé d’une campagne qui se déroulera du 2 au 13 juillet.
La motion est adoptée. Une abstention (A. Kaats).

CONSIDÉRANT que la composition du conseil général est légèrement différente que celle prévue par le règlement qui a été distribué aux membres avant l’assemblée générale annuelle de 2012;

IL EST RÉSOLU que la règle 6.1.3.1 soit modifiée de façon à se lire comme suit en anglais : « as set out in the Society Activities Manual »;

IL EST AUSSI RÉSOLU que la règle 6.1.5 soit modifiée de façon à se lire comme suit en anglais : « as set out in the Society Activities Manual »;

IL EST AUSSI RÉSOLU d’ajouter l’article suivant au point 3.5 du guide du règlement – Activités des membres : « Conseil général – Le conseil général exige un quorum d’un tiers des membres du conseil général ».
La motion est adoptée.

Motion pour vérifier le quorum (S. Avlijas).
Le quorum est respecté (46).
CONSIDÉRANT que les réunions extraordinaires permettent de discuter de situations urgentes;

CONSIDÉRANT que selon la règle 8.1, les assemblées générales et les réunions du conseil général exigent un préavis d’au moins deux semaines;

IL EST RÉSOLU de créer une nouvelle règle 7.2.8 qui se lit comme suit : « Sans égard à la règle 8, une réunion extraordinaire n’exige qu’un préavis de soixantedouze (72) heures. Ce préavis sera accompagné d’un ordre du jour pour la réunion. »

IL EST AUSSI RÉSOLU de retirer le mot « Society » du libellé en anglais de la résolution (A. Kaats/S. Avlijas).

La modification est adoptée. Une opposition (S. Forte).

Remplacement de « 72 heures » par « cinq (5) jours » (D. Simeone/C. Ulmer).

La motion est adoptée. Une abstention (T. Centea).


Les délibérations à propos de cette modification ont duré quarante-cinq (45) minutes.

Motion de procéder au vote pour cette modification (A. Shapiro/J. Mills).

La motion est adoptée.

Les modifications sont rejetées.

Motion de procéder au vote pour la motion modifiée (S. Avlijas/F. Urzua).

La motion est adoptée. Une opposition (T. Centea).

La motion principale est rejetée. Trois oppositions (T. Centea, S. Forte, J. Jensen).

Voix : Pour (19), contre (12).

Motion pour vérifier le quorum (A. Kaats).

Le quorum n’est pas respecté (42).

Motion de lever la séance (D. Simeone/A. Kaats).

La motion est adoptée.
Post-Graduate Students’ Society of McGill University
3650 McTavish Street, Montreal, Quebec
C12-08-#02
Council Minutes
Approved
August 8, 2012, 6:30pm

Executives

Secretary-General Jonathan Mooney, Financial Affairs Officer Pooja Tyagi,
Internal Affairs Officer Michael Krause, External Affairs Officer Errol Salamon,
Academic Affairs Officer Adam Bouchard Member Services Officer Elizabeth Cawley

Councillors


Commissioners and non-voting members

Environment Commissioner Kelly Nugent

Regrets

Member Support Commissioner Vikrant Bhosle, Equity Commissioner Gretchen King, HGSS D. Meadows, GSS B. Margaret Donnelly, EGSS Y. Konokhova, AHCS-GSA G. King, BGSA E. Pedersen

Gallery and Guests

Call to Order
6:43 PM

1.0 Approval of the Agenda
Motion to approve the agenda (Academic Affairs/Secretary General).
Add an announcement from the Academic Affairs Officer on University Committees as item 3.1 (Academic Affairs/T. Centea)

Motion passed.
Add approval of May meeting minutes C12-05#011 under approval of minutes (Secretary General/Internal Affairs)

Motion passed.

Move item 5.1 to prior to the Speaker’s Report (Executive Committee)

Motion passed.

Add two emergency motions following 5.1 for PGSS appointments (Executive Committee)

1. BIRT the decision of the Executive Committee to appoint Pooja Tyagi to the Member Services Committee be ratified.
2. BIRT the resignation of the Health Commissioner, Elizabeth Cawley, be ratified.

Motion passed.

Agenda approved, as amended.

1.01. Motion R13-06#001 – Council Quorum: Second Reading (Secretary General/Academic Affairs)

WHEREAS the resolution below was approved during the June council meeting AND through the July referendum vote;

BIRT a new Society Activities Manual Article “Council” 3.5 be added reading “The quorum of council is one third of the number of councillors.”

Motion to call the question. (T. Centea/C. Melendez)

Motion passed.

Main motion passed. One opposed (S. Rahmi). One abstained (S. Avlijas).

2.0 Speaker’s Report

The Speaker delivered a brief, oral report regarding Council procedures and rules.

3.0 Announcements

3.01 Academic Affairs Officer – University Committees

The Academic Affairs Officer outlined committee vacancies at the University level which require a graduate student, and encouraged members to participate.

4.0 Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the meeting C12-05#011 were approved (Secretary General/Academic Affairs)

Motion to postpone approval of the minutes for the meeting C12-06-#01 until next council meeting (Secretary General/Academic Affairs)

Motion passed.
5.0 Business Arising from the Minutes and Standing Orders

5.01 Emergency Motion of member appointments for ratification by Council (Executive Committee)
   1. BIRT the decision of the Executive Committee to appoint Pooja Tyagi to the member services committee be ratified. 
      Motion passed.
   2. BIRT the resignation of the Health Commissioner, Elizabeth Cawley, be ratified. Motion passed.

5.02 Motion R13-06-#001 – To accept recommendations of the Appointments Board (Appointments Board)
   BIRT Council approve the nominations outlined in the report of the Appointments Board.
   Amend to remove from the report the two names for appointment to the Board of Directors, as these appointments are not ratified by Council and were included in error (Academic Affairs/Secretary General)
   Motion passed.

   Discussion ensued for twenty (20) minutes regarding the process of approval for committee members as well as criteria for appointment or denial of appointment.

   Motion to delay the approval of the report until it is updated to include the criteria for approval/denial of applicants as well the number of applications that are denied (without names) and the reasons for their denial (S. Peters/J. Wegner-Lohin).

   Amend the resolution clause to read “with the exception of candidates elected to uncontested positions” after “until” and the following two items after “include” (G. Lord/S. Avlijas):
   1. An explanation as to how selected candidates meet each criteria for selection as outlined in the bylaws;
   2. Only for those committees where there are still vacancies and candidates were rejected, the Appointments Board justify their rejections without mentioning the candidates name.

   Motion to call the question (Secretary General/C. Melendez)

   Motion passed.
   Amendment to the motion passed.
   Motion passed, as amended. One opposed (T. Centea).
5.03 Motion R13-06-#001 – Quebec Election (Secretary General/External Affairs)
WHEREAS it is likely that a Quebec provincial election will take place within the next month;
WHEREAS several issues pertinent to the PGSS and its members, such as the tuition fees policy and Law 78, will form a part of the election campaign;
WHEREAS the Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec seeks to ensure that its member associations offer their membership with fora to engage politically during the upcoming election campaign;
WHEREAS the purpose of the PGSS is "to offer opportunity for free and informal discussion of issues of concern to members" and "to provide representation and advocacy for members";
BIRT Council enter a committee of the whole for a period of up to 15 minutes to discuss the role of the PGSS in the upcoming Quebec provincial election.
Council entered into committee of the whole.
Council exited committee of the whole.
BIRT PGSS provide information to its members regarding voting eligibility and voting locations and provide information regarding the issues central to the campaign that affect graduate students and postdoctoral students and provide information regarding locations and times of events when political representatives will speak in debate (S. Avlijas/L. Gouigah).

Motion passed.

5.04 Motion R13-06-#003 – Bylaw: Special Meeting Notice (Board of Directors)
WHEREAS the Bylaw changes require a 2/3 majority to pass while the below clause only passed by a vote of 19 to 12 at the June meeting of council;
WHEREAS the Board of Directors therefore did not ratify the change and referred the motion back to council;
WHEREAS Society Bylaw 8.1 requires at least two weeks notice for all council or general meetings;
BIRT a new Society Bylaw 7.2.8 be added, reading, “Notwithstanding Bylaw 8, special meetings may be called and the agenda may be distributed with seventy-two (72) hours notice”

Main motion passed, by required 2/3 majority. One opposed (T. Centea).

The Financial Affairs Officer and Secretary-General on a point of order stated that the motion from the Board of Directors was to read “with five (5) days notice” in place of “with seventy-two (72) hours notice” and this motion in the agenda is incorrect.
Discussion ensued.

Amend to reinstate original motion as ...“seventy-two (72) hours notice” instead of “five (5) days notice” (G. Lord/L. Gouigah)
Motion passed. One opposed (T. Centea).

Add additional resolution: BIFRT a special general meeting can be called by petition with signatures from one hundred (100) PGSS members (C. L. Conway/F. Soler Urzua)
Motion to refer the above amendment for signature number to the Policy and Structure Advisory Committee (Secretary General/J. Choi)
Motion passed, amendment referred to Policy Committee. One abstention (L. Gouigah)

Typographical error amendment in the original motion to replace “Society Bylaw 7.2.8” with “Society Bylaw 7.4.4” and replace “Notwithstanding Bylaw 8” with “Notwithstanding Bylaw 7.4.1” (Secretary General)

Amend to add “of Council” following “special meetings” in the original resolution clause (T. Centea/G. Lord)
Motion to extend council by thirty (30) minutes (Secretary General/Member Services)

Motion passed.

Motion to call the question (C. Melendez/Secretary General)
Amendment failed.
Main motion passed, as amended to read seventy-two (72) hours notice.

5.05 Motion R13-06-#005 – Student Code of Conduct (G. King/Secretary General)

WHEREAS article 21A of the Student Code of Conduct (*) has been used against student strikers this semester;

WHEREAS the use of 21A does not require oversight by the Committee on Student Discipline (CDS);

WEHREAS currently the Code offers no definition of “good order” nor any restriction on the number of 21As that can be used consecutively;

BIRT PGSS advocate, through Senate and other relevant bodies that have purview over the Student Code of Conduct, to have article 21A of the code amended to bring it in line with Quebec and Canadian laws, including the Canadian and Quebec Charter of Rights and the McGill Charter of Student Rights;
From the Green Book (p. 31): 21 (a) The disciplinary officers listed in Article 20 or their deputies may require any student within their immediate areas of jurisdiction whose conduct therein, to the personal knowledge of such disciplinary officers or upon reliable information, gives rise to reasonable grounds to believe that the student’s continued presence in said area is detrimental to good order, or constitutes a threat to the safety of others, immediately to leave and remain away from said area or a part thereof, as the case may be, for a period not exceeding five working days, or in the case of the Directors of residences, five days, from any or all residences. No student shall be barred from taking any examination(s) or submitting any academic paper(s) because of this article but the disciplinary officer may make special arrangements as to time and place for the completion of such work.

Motion passed.

5.06 Motion R13-06-#008 – Executive Work Plan (Executive Committee)

WHEREAS the Executive Work Plan must be assembled over the summer;
WHEREAS Council input into this work plan would benefit the executive committee;
BIRT Council enter into committee of the whole for a period of up to fifteen (15) minutes to discuss the executive work plan.

Council entered committee of the whole.

Motion to call quorum; count at 29, quorum is met.

Motion to extend council for thirty (30) minutes (Secretary General/T. Centea) Motion passed.

Motion to extend committee of the whole by five (5) minutes (Secretary General/Internal Affairs).
Motion passed.

Motion to extend committee of the whole by two (2) minutes (Secretary General/T. Centea)
Motion passed.

Council exited committee of the whole.

5.07 Motion R13-06-#006 – Bill 78 (Executive Committee)

BIRT Council enter into committee of the whole for a period of ten (10) minutes to discuss actions items with regard to the PGSS response to law 78.

Council entered into committee of the whole.
Motion to call quorum; count is 23, quorum not met.

Council exited committee of the whole.

Motion to Adjourn (Secretary General/Internal Affairs) Motion passed.

Adjournment
9:50 PM
Association étudiante des cycles supérieurs de l’Université McGill
3650, rue McTavish, Montréal (Québec)
C12-08-#02
Procès-verbal du conseil général
8 août 2012 à 18 h 30

Membres du comité exécutif

Secrétaire général Jonathan Mooney, chargée des finances Pooja Tyagi, chargé des affaires internes Michael Krause, chargé des affaires externes Errol Salamon, chargé des relations universitaires Adam Bouchard, chargée des services aux membres Elizabeth Cawley

Membres du conseil général

Commissaires et membres sans droit de vote
Commissaire à l’écologie Kelly Nugent

Excusés
Commissaire à l’aide aux membres Vikrant Bhosle, commissaire à l’équité Gretchen King, HGSS D. Meadows, GSS B. Margaret Donnelly, AEDSE Y. Konokhova, AÉCS-HAEC G. King, BGSA E. Pedersen

Ouverture
18 h 43

1.0 Adoption de l’ordre du jour
Motion pour approuver l’ordre du jour (relations universitaires/secrétaire général).
Ajouter une déclaration du chargé des relations universitaires à propos des comités universitaires sous le point 3.1 (relations universitaires/T. Centea)

La motion est adoptée.

Ajouter l’adoption du procès-verbal pour la réunion de mai C12-05#011 dans la section réservée à l’adoption des procès-verbaux. (secrétaire général/affaires internes).

La motion est adoptée.
Déplacer le point 5.1 pour qu’il précède le compte rendu du président d’assemblée (comité exécutif).

La motion est adoptée.

Ajouter deux motions d’urgence après 5.1 pour les nominations à l’AÉCSUM (comité exécutif).

1. IL EST RÉSOLU que la nomination de Pooja Tyagi au comité des services aux membres par le comité exécutif est entérinée.
2. IL EST RÉSOLU que la démission Elizabeth Cawley au poste de commissaire à la santé est entérinée.

La motion est adoptée.

L’ordre du jour modifié est adopté.

1.01 Motion R13-06-#001 – Quorum du conseil général : deuxième lecture (secrétaire général/relations universitaires)

CONSIDÉRANT que la résolution qui suit a été approuvée lors de la réunion de juin du conseil général ET par le référendum de juillet;

IL EST RÉSOLU d’ajouter l’article suivant au point 3.5 du guide du règlement – Activités des membres : « Conseil général – Le conseil général exige un quorum d’un tiers des membres du conseil général ».

Motion de procéder au vote (T. Centea/C. Melendez).

La motion est adoptée.

La motion principale est adoptée. Une opposition (S. Rahmi). Une abstention (S. Avlijas).

2.0 Compte rendu du président d’assemblée

Le président d’assemblée présente un bref exposé oral à propos des règles et procédure du conseil général.

3.0 Notifications

3.01 Chargé des relations universitaires – Comités universitaires

Le chargé des relations universitaires souligne que plusieurs comités agissant à l’échelle de la communauté universitaire sont à la recherche d’étudiants des cycles supérieurs. Le chargé encourage donc les membres à présenter leur candidature à ces comités.

4.0 Adoption des procès-verbaux

Le procès-verbal pour la réunion C12-05#011 est adopté. (secrétaire général/relations universitaires)
Motion pour reporter l’adoption du procès-verbal pour la réunion C12-06#01 à la prochaine réunion du conseil (secrétaire général/relations universitaires).

La motion est adoptée.

5.0 Suivi de la dernière réunion et consignes générales

5.01 Motion d’urgence pour les nominations que le conseil général doit entériner (comité exécutif)

1. IL EST RÉSOLU que la nomination de Pooja Tyagi au comité des services aux membres par le comité exécutif est entérinée.

   La motion est adoptée.

2. IL EST RÉSOLU que la démission Elizabeth Cawley au poste de commissaire à la santé est entérinée.

   La motion est adoptée.

5.02 Motion R13-06#001 – Approbation des recommandations de la commission des nominations (commission des nominations)

IL EST RÉSOLU que le conseil général approuve les recommandations de la commission des nominations.

Modifier afin de retirer deux nominations pour le conseil d’administration. Ces nominations ont été ajoutées par erreur, car le conseil général n’est pas responsable d’approuver les nominations pour le conseil d’administration (relations universitaires/secrétaire général).

La motion est adoptée.

Les délibérations à propos du processus d’approbation des membres d’un comité, des critères d’évaluation d’une candidature et des caractéristiques à éviter ont duré vingt (20) minutes.

Motion pour reporter l’adoption du compte rendu afin d’inclure les critères d’évaluation, le nombre de candidatures rejetées (sans les noms) et les motifs du refus (S. Peters/J. Wegner-Lohin).

Modifier la résolution de façon à se lire comme suit après « until » en anglais : « with the exception of candidates elected to uncontested positions »; et à inclure les éléments suivants après « include » (G. Lord/S. Avlijas):

1. Revue des candidats qui répondent à chacun des critères d’évaluation énumérés dans le règlement;

2. Motifs expliquant le refus d’une candidature (sans inclure le nom du candidat) par la commission des nominations, mais seulement lorsqu’il y a des postes vacants au sein d’un comité particulier.

Motion de procéder au vote (secrétaire général/C. Melendez).

La motion est adoptée.
La modification de la motion est adoptée.
La motion modifiée est adoptée. Une opposition (T. Centea).
5.03 Motion R13-06-#001 – Élections provinciales (secrétaire général/affaires externes)
CONSIDÉRANT qu’il semble probable que des élections provinciales seront déclenchées au Québec d’ici un mois;
CONSIDÉRANT que de nombreux enjeux importants de la campagne électorale, notamment la politique des droits de scolarité et la loi 78, touchent l’AÉCSUM et ses membres;
CONSIDÉRANT que la Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec veut s’assurer que les associations qu’elle représente organisent des occasions d’échange pour leurs membres afin de les inciter à intervenir lors de la campagne électorale;
CONSIDÉRANT que l’AÉCSUM vise à « créer des occasions d’échange informelles à propos de sujets qui préoccupent les membres » et à « représenter et défendre les intérêts des membres »;
IL EST RÉSOLU que le conseil forme un comité plénier pour une durée ne dépassant pas quinze (15) minutes afin de discuter du rôle de l’AÉCSUM lors d’élections provinciales éventuelles.
Le conseil général forme un comité plénier.
Le conseil général met fin au comité plénier.

IL EST RÉSOLU que l’AÉCSUM informera ses membres quant aux éléments suivants : critères d’admissibilité pour participer au scrutin; adresses des bureaux de vote; enjeux touchant particulièrement les étudiants aux cycles supérieurs (maîtrise, doctorat, postdoctorat); date et lieu des rencontres avec les représentants des divers partis politiques (S. Avlijas/L. Gouigah).

La motion est adoptée.

5.04 Motion R13-06-#003 – Règle : avis pour les réunions extraordinaires (conseil d’administration)
CONSIDÉRANT qu’il faut une majorité des 2/3 pour modifier une règle, mais que la clause ci-après n’a récolté que 19 voix contre 12 lors de la réunion de juin du conseil;
CONSIDÉRANT que le conseil d’administration n’a donc pas pu entériner cette modification et a dû la retourner au conseil général;
CONSIDÉRANT que selon la règle 8.1, les assemblées générales et les réunions du conseil général exigent un préavis d’au moins deux semaines;
IL EST RÉSOLU de créer une nouvelle règle 7.2.8 qui se lit comme suit : « Sans égard à la règle 8, une réunion extraordinaire n’exige qu’un préavis de soixante-douze (72) heures. Ce préavis sera accompagné d’un ordre du jour pour la réunion. »
La motion principale est adoptée en bonne et due forme par une majorité des 2/3.
Une opposition (T. Centea).

Lors d'un rappel au règlement, la chargée des finances et le secrétaire général mentionnent qu'une erreur s'est glissée dans la motion du conseil d'administration. Celle-ci devrait se lire « cinq (5) jours » plutôt que « soixante-douze (72) heures »

Garder la motion de façon à se lire comme suit: « soixante-douze (72) heures » plutôt que « cinq (5) jours » (G. Lord/L. Gouigah).

La motion est adoptée. Une opposition (T. Centea).

Ajouter la résolution suivante : IL EST AUSSI RÉSOLU qu'une assemblée générale extraordinaire peut être convoquée par une pétition signée par au moins cent (100) membres de l'AÉCSUM (C. L. Conway/F. Soler Urzua).

Motion de renvoi de la modification susmentionnée quant au nombre de signatures au comité consultatif sur les politiques et la structure (secrétaire général/J. Choi).

La motion est adoptée et la modification est renvoyée au comité consultatif en question. Une abstention (L. Gouigah).

Correction d'une coquille dans le libellé anglais de la motion : remplacer « Society Bylaw 7.2.8 » par « Society Bylaw 7.4.4 » et « Notwithstanding Bylaw 8 » par « Notwithstanding Bylaw 7.4.1 » (secrétaire général).

Modifier le libellé anglais de la résolution pour ajouter « of Council » après « special meetings » (T. Centea/G. Lord).

Motion pour prolonger de trente (30) minutes la réunion (secrétaire général/services aux membres).

La motion est adoptée.

Motion de procéder au vote (C. Melendez/secrétaire général).

La motion est adoptée.

Les modifications sont rejetées.

La motion principale (version modifiée) est adoptée pour se lire: « un préavis de soixante-douze (72) heures »

5.05 Motion R13-06-#005 – Code de conduite de l’étudiant (G. King/secrétaire général)

CONSIDÉRANT que le paragraphe 21A du code de conduite de l’étudiant (*) a été invoqué contre les étudiants en grève ce dernier trimestre;

CONSIDÉRANT que l’application du paragraphe 21A ne relève pas du comité de discipline étudiante;
CONSIDÉRANT que le code ne spécifie aucune restriction quant au nombre d’invocations consécutives du paragraphe 21A. De plus, le terme « bon ordre » n’est actuellement pas défini dans le code;

IL EST RÉSOLU que l’AÉCSUM incite le Sénat de McGill, ainsi que toute autre instance qui supervise l’application du code de conduite de l’étudiant, à modifier le paragraphe 21A de façon à respecter les lois en vigueur au Québec et au Canada, notamment la Charte canadienne des droits et libertés, la Charte des droits et libertés de la personne du Québec, et la charte des droits de l’étudiant de l’Université McGill;

Extrait du recueil des droits et obligations de l’étudiant (page 31) : 21 (1) Les responsables de la discipline énumérés à l’article 20 ou leurs suppléants peuvent enjoindre à tout étudiant se trouvant dans leur zone de responsabilité immédiate et dont la conduite dans ces lieux, à leur connaissance personnelle ou sur la foi de renseignements fiables, donne des motifs raisonnables de croire que leur présence continue dans de tels lieux nuit au bon ordre ou constitue une menace pour la sécurité d’autrui, de quitter immédiatement ces lieux et de se tenir en dehors de tout ou partie de ceux-ci, selon le cas, pendant une période d’au plus cinq journées universitaires ou, dans le cas des directeurs de résidence, d’au plus cinq jours en dehors de toutes les résidences. Aucun étudiant ne doit être exclu du passage d’examens ou de la présentation d’exposés universitaires du fait du présent article, mais le responsable de la discipline peut prendre des dispositions particulières quant au moment et au lieu de tels examens et présentations d’exposé.

La motion est adoptée.

5.06 Motion R13-06-#008 – Plan de travail du comité exécutif (comité exécutif)

CONSIDÉRANT que le plan de travail du comité exécutif doit être élaboré au cours de l’été;
CONSIDÉRANT que le comité exécutif pourrait profiter des suggestions du conseil général;
IL EST RÉSOLU que le conseil forme un comité plénière pour une durée ne dépassant pas quinze (15) minutes afin de discuter du plan de travail du comité exécutif.

Le conseil général forme un comité plénière.
Motion pour vérifier le quorum; le décompte est de 29, le quorum est satisfait.
Motion pour prolonger la réunion de trente (30) minutes (secrétaire général/T. Centea).

La motion est adoptée.

Motion pour prolonger le comité plénière de cinq (5) minutes (secrétaire général/affaires internes).

La motion est adoptée.
Motion pour prolonger le comité plénier de deux (2) minutes (secrétaire général/T. Centea).

La motion est adoptée.

Le conseil général met fin au comité plénier.

5.07 Motion R13-06-#006 – Loi 78 (comité exécutif)

IL EST RÉSOLU que le conseil forme un comité plénier pour une durée de dix (10) minutes afin de discuter des mesures que pourrait prendre l’AÉCSUM en réaction à la loi 78.

Le conseil général forme un comité plénier.

IL EST RÉSOLU que l’AÉCSUM doit souligner que la loi 78 constitue une érosion des libertés individuelles et une subversion des valeurs civiques (secrétaire général/S. Avlijas).

Motion pour renvoyer la résolution susmentionnée au conseil général. 
La motion est adoptée. Une opposition (T. Centea)

Motion pour vérifier le quorum; le décompte est de 23, absence de quorum.

Le conseil général met fin au comité plénier.

Motion de lever la séance (secrétaire général/affaires internes).

La motion est adoptée.

Clôture
21 h 50
Council Minutes Approved
September 12, 2012 6:30pm

Executives

Secretary-General Jonathan Mooney, Financial Affairs Officer Pooja Tyagi, Internal Affairs Officer Michael Krause, External Affairs Officer Errol Salamon, Academic Affairs Officer Adam Bouchard Member Services Officer Elizabeth Cawley

Councillors


Commissioners and non-voting members

Member Support Commissioner Vikrant Bhosle, Equity Commissioner Gretchen King, Environment Commissioner Kelly Nugent

Regrets

Lydiane Gaborieau

Gallery and Guests

Jessica Lukawiecki
O'May Che
Chaineau Nalhilde

CALL TO ORDER
6:43 PM

1. Approval of the Agenda

Move item 10.1. Motion R12-09-#019 to the top of the agenda after item 4 Approval of minutes (Secretary-General/External Affairs)

Motion passed.
Move item 10.2. Motion R12-09-#020 to top of agenda after Executive workplan. (External Affairs/Secretary-General).

Motion passed.

Agenda approved, as amended.

2. Speaker’s Report

The Speaker delivered a brief, oral report. It outlined the clarification of the roles and the ability to speak for new members of Council.

3. Announcements

3.1 APF – Association of Postdoctoral Fellows

Promotion of association

3.2 LIF - Library Improvement Fund

The Academic Affairs Officer requested feedback on projects, and announce there will be town hall sessions in January and March. Council will decide on one major and minor project to pursue from the shortlist.

3.2 Upcoming Social Events

3.4 Package for TH membership

3.5 Legal information Clinic Survey

3.6 AHCS GSA – Art History and Communication Studies

Notice of end of strike action

3.7 Pow wow event

4. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of August 8, 2012 were approved.

Secretary-General noted that the current June minutes do not have enough detail, for example, a long discussion is not recognised in the current format. He noted, on a point of information, the motion to discuss the content of the minutes contained in the agenda.

Motion to postpone approval of June meeting minutes until October Council (Secretary-General/Academic Affairs)

Motion passed.
5. Business Arising from the Minutes and Standing Orders

5.1. Motion R12-09-#019 · Executive Workplan (Executive Committee)

WHEREAS In accordance with the SOM the Workplan has been presented to the Executive-Commissioner Caucus (2.2.4);

WHEREAS the SOM states that the Workplan be presented to Council in September for approval;

WHEREAS the Workplan was circulated to Council 2 weeks prior to Council;

**BIRT Council adopt the Workplan provided in this package**

Motion to allow suspension of rules to allow Secretary-General to speak for five minutes to highlight work plan (Secretary-General/Academic Affairs)

Motion passed.

Secretary-General gave an overview of the Executive's work plan.

**Supervision project**

A number of items were discussed including supervision research report which will contain data from interviews and survey data from CGPSS and GPS survey that will be undertaken in October. The overall aim is to address weaknesses and improve supervisory relationships at McGill.

**University-Industry partnerships and partnerships with the community**

The development of the QI hub of innovation in Griffintown has put partnerships to the forefront. The goal is to ensure that the rights and responsibilities of graduate students are protected and the integrity of McGill is maintained.

**Representation**

There are several objectives within this portfolio: to improve the quality of committee representation, to provide committee members with policies and practices to ensure they present the views of PGSS; to ensure all the committee are filled and they are informed of all the issues; to involve postdocs more and represent their views at the university level.

Motion to extend length of speaking time for two minutes. No objections.

A number of issues were also mentioned:

- University Governance reform
- Reform of the student code
- Workings of the Student grievance committees
- Internal affairs survey
- New document management system
- More sessions with PGSAs, regular meetings
- Internal practices, membership office
- Policy manual update
- Sustainable audits
- Representation on education summit at provincial level
- Accountability of fees to better meet needs of students

S. Caldwell asked how the selection bias on supervisor equality survey was being addressed.

Secretary-General noted an expert is involved from GPS to ensure the survey is thorough and not biased.
S. Rahmi asked why Engineering was not included in the supervision pilot projects.

Academic Affairs advised that it meant generally one from a lab-based research program and one from a non-lab based program.

A. Best asked where Maths and Statistics fell in that binary description.

Academic Affairs responded that it is too early in the development to determine if it has been defined well or poorly. He also asked for volunteers to help with the project.

D. Simone asked the Financial Affairs Officer to outline her plans for the year.

Financial Affairs noted that the position encompasses a lot of responsibility, mainly relating to memorandum agreements with the university. In certain grants programmes, the university did not make the same contribution as last year. The needs-based bursary agreement needs proper structure for administration. The fee levies need to be made more accountable. Special projects will receive money from McGill in September.

Moved to extend by two (2) minutes (Financial Affairs/External Affairs). No objections.

The Financial Affairs Officer further described other initiatives, and advised that the transition was difficult due to a lack of records and no transition report. She stated that her role is to make sure Thomson House is financially sustainable and they have the right policies in place.

Main motion passed.

5.2. Motion R12-09-#020 · Quebec Election Result
(External Affairs Officer/…)

WHEREAS the election of a new Quebec government on September 4, 2012 will likely impact PGSS actions in 2012-2013;

BIRT Council enter committee-of-the-whole for a period of 10 minutes to discuss a PGSS plan with regard to the newly-elected Quebec government.

Motion to speak in support of the motion for five minutes (External Affairs/Equity Commissioner)

Motion passed.

External Affairs provided an overview of the PQ government's position of tuition and Law 12. He requested input from Council on how best PGSS can engage with the education summit.

Motion to extend for one minute. No objections.

He spoke in favour of showing solidarity with other student associations and dealing with the disciplinary charges that some students still face in relation to spring demonstrations.

Secretary-General, on a point of information, attended Principal's forum for student leaders last night in the ballroom. McGill will maintain their position of calling for increase to Canadian average.

Member Services, on a point of information, advised that the Principal mentioned the increase is for undergraduates, with full funding for graduates in research disciplines.

Council entered committee of the whole.
Motion to extend committee of the whole for five minutes. (External Affairs)

Motion passed.

Council exited committee of the whole.

Motion out of the committee of the whole (External Affairs/Secretary-General).

a. BIRT PGSS develop a local education summit here at McGill
b. BIRT PGSS advocate for amnesty for students charged with disciplinary offenses by their university related to non-violent political activity during the student movement

Motion to call the question (D. Meadows, C. Stevens).

Debate ensued.

S. Caldwell, on a point of information, asked whether members are involved in disciplinary actions.

External Affairs responded that at least four PGSS members were charged and this does not include those on strike.

S. Avlijas, speaking in favour of the motion, noted that it allows people facing disciplinary charges to come forward to receive support from PGSS

External Affairs, on a point of information, noted that a number of other FEUQ-affiliated associations have passed motions and this will help FEUQ advocate for students.

Motion to call the question (Equity Commissioner/Secretary-General)

Motion passed.

Emergency motion

BIRT PGSS make representation to the FEUQ supporting a policy of cooperation rather than antagonism toward other student federations. (Secretary-General/External Affairs)

External Affairs, on motivation, noted that organizations need to work together as a student movement even if they have different goals.

G. Lord, speaking in favour, approves the amendment of the motion as it strikes the right balance.

Motion passed.

5.3. Motion R12-08-#014 · To accept recommendations of the Appointments Board
(Appointments Board)

BIRT Council approve the nominations outlined in the report of the Appointments Board.

Add additional resolution: BIRT Council amend the circulated Appointments Board Report to include the recommendations for the Health Commissioner position and the seat on the Selection Committee of the Deputy Provost Student Life and Learning (Academic Affairs/D. Meadows).
Motion passed as amended.

5.4. Motion R12-06-#006 · Bill 78
(committee of the whole)

BIRT the PGSS draw attention to the undermining of civil liberty and the subversion of the principle of civil liability inherent in Law 78.

Motion to Amend Law 78 to read Law 12. (S. Avlijas, External Affairs)

Secretary General, speaking in favour of the motion, informed Council that the Executive met during the summer to discuss and analysed the opinion from the bar association of Quebec. It was a violation of civil liberties and held student associations liable for individual’s actions.

S. Avlijas, speaking in favour of motion, advised that Law 12 was used as a scare tactic to intimidate students and student associations from protesting and it should be denounced.

Motion passed as amended.

5.5. Motion R12-06-#007 · Office spaces
(G. Lord /..)

WHEREAS graduate student office spaces serve both as a place to work and as a social environment

WHEREAS without common office space within their department, graduate students, especially those in their thesis years, are likely to be scattered and isolated, with potentially serious consequence on morale, motivation and productivity

WHEREAS many departments lack common office space

WHEREAS advocating effectively for more appropriate working environments requires an accurate knowledge of the current situation of departments in that respect

BIFRT PGSS investigate potential ways of expanding on currently designated office spaces.

BIRT Council enters Committee of the Whole for 10 minutes.

Discussion ensued.

Council exited the committee of the whole.

G. Lord, on motivation, described the impact that the lack of office space has on graduate student moral and the creation of a feeling of isolation from departments.

Secretary-General, on a point of information, asked whether PGSS should investigate the issue broadly or focus on a particular department

G. Lord replied that it should focus on broad application of cases.

L. Harvey, spoke on a point of debate, argued that in some instances such as in Douglas hospital there is a lot of office space but it is an open plan and noisy so students work from home.
S. Avlijas, speaking in favour of the motion, stated that office space is vital for collaborative working and shared time was invaluable to quality of the work.

Motion out of the Committee of the Whole (Member Services/ T.Centea)

**Motion to Amend the BIFRT clause to:**
BIFRT the PGSS executive and the mover of this motion discuss this project at the next executive meeting and present a potential project proposal at the October council meeting. (Member Services, T. Centea)

S. Avlijas, speaking in favour, encouraged Council to accept the project and details should be provided at next Council.

Secretary-General, speaking in favour, stated that it was a great project but needs a clear set of goals to move it forward.

Amendment passed.

Motion passed, as amended.

**5.6. Motion R12-06-#009 · Strike Bylaw**
(H. Nikopour/..)

BIRT following section be added to the bylaws under Bylaw 5.7 on General meetings in section 2, "Purview restrictions":

Decision for starting a strike by PGSS should be made only through an electronic referendum where all PGSS members can vote online. If the majority accepts by the vote to go on strike, then PGSS will not provide legal support to members seeking injunctions and will allow the majority voice to take action.

Motion to object to consideration. (Equity Commissioner/External Affairs).
Motion failed.

H. Nikopour, on motivation, noted that a small minority of members voted on strike action at the General Assembly (GA). Other students complained they did not have any input in the decision. An electronic referendum would allow participation of the whole PGSS body. This process would be very easy and cost effective.

S. Avlijas, speaking against the motion, noted that an on-line poll does not support decisions, participation is historically low, and decision requires debate that is informed by discussion.

Secretary-General, speaking against the motion, noted that the GA is the best option in terms of deciding such decisions, as it provides better protection and allows for an informed discussion where people have the opportunity to hear both sides of the debate openly.

C. Stevens, speaking in favour, noted a lot of misinformation before the last strike, and agrees with the previous speakers’ comments.

R. Michael Winters, speaking against the motion, called for a GA then a popular vote.

A. Best, speaking in favour, argued that a discussion is needed but recommended a change of venue to ensure that more people could attend.
D. Meadows, on a point of information, noted that it should be in a forum to include everyone and recommended that it be put on the agenda for next GA.

The Speaker, on a point of information, noted that any change involved a bylaw change which involved three stages: Council, Board of Directors and a GA.

Council entered committee of the whole.

Discussion ensued.

Council exited committee of the whole.

Motion failed (18 in favour, 24 opposed).

5.7. Motion R12-06-#010 · Social Events for 2012-2013
(Internal Affairs Officer/..)

BIRT Council enter into Committee of the Whole for a period of 5 minutes to discuss social events for 2012-2013.

Motion passed.

Council exited committee of the whole.

5.8. Motion R12-08-#017 · Appointment of Council Speaker
(Appointments Board)

BIRT Council approve the nomination of the Appointments Board that Brittany Rocque be appointed to the position of Council speaker for the PGSS Council Session 2012-2013.

Secretary-General noted the rule for councillor to chair this part of meeting

G. Boukhaled takes chair.

Internal affairs outlined the process in selecting the candidate.

G. King, on a point of information, enquired who was interviewed and what candidates, conflicts of interests were addressed.

D. Meadows, on a point of information, confirmed that all those who had conflict of interest did not vote, the first candidate had no experience of council and the second candidate did not show up.

G. King, on a point of information, asked whether the conflict of interest was disclosed

Internal Affairs explained the conflict of interest. He noted that Academic Affairs excused himself from the discussion as did the Secretary-General who was the former speaker.

G. King noted that the Secretary-General engaged the Speaker on a number of occasions during Council. The duties of the Speaker should be left to the discretion of the individual and they should act independently.
Internal Affairs noted that any conflict of interest is not attached to the person but the very nature of the position. They must learn from previous holders of the role.

S. Avlijas spoke in agreement with Internal Affairs, stating that the same issue existed last year. PGSS should address the training issue and conflict of interest.

Motion passed. One opposed (G. King)

5.9. Motion R12-06-#012 · Motion to adopt a Tuition Fee Policy
(S. Forte /..)

WHEREAS the current policy on Tuition Freeze does not allow for the resolution of the conflict relating to the tuition fee increase originally scheduled to begin in fall 2012.

BIRT council adopt the propose policy on Tuition Fees, in first reading, to entirely replace the present policy.

Policy on Tuition Fees

The PGSS Recognizes:
1. There are financial concerns in the province of Quebec, but the allocation of public revenue is a choice;
2. Although there are alternative sources of governmental revenue that can be used to fund higher education, tuition fees remain an important contributor to the financing of academic institutions;
3. That the burdens of financing tertiary education should not fall entirely upon graduate students.

The PGSS supports:
1. Maintaining of tuition fees for Quebec resident, graduate students below the Canadian average;
2. The implementation of a freeze on tuition fees for Quebec Resident, Canadian as well as international students starting in September 2019 adjusted annually to correct for inflation based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Recommendation:

1. The PGSS should create a policy regarding ancillary fees.

No seconder. Motion not adopted.

5.10. Motion R12-08-#018 · Recording of Council Discussion
(Secretary-General/..)

WHEREAS the minutes of the June meeting of the PGSS Council contain only resolutions and no record of the content of discussions which took place;

AND WHEREAS Society Bylaw Section 7.8 ostensibly circumscribes the content of the minutes, resulting in these reduced minutes;

AND WHEREAS there was a precedent to record the content of discussions which occurred at council meetings, while careful attention must be paid to the time and resources required to record discussion content in minutes;
AND WHEREAS Robert's Rules of Order suggest that a summary of discussions which take place in assemblies be recorded in the minutes of the meeting;

**BIRT** Council enter committee of the whole for a period of up to 10 minutes to discuss the level of detail desired for the minutes of PGSS Council meetings.

Motion passed.

Council enters committee of the whole.

Council exits committee of the whole.

Motion out of committee of the whole.

**BIRT** a brief summary of discussions be included in council minutes.

**BIFRT** the executive committee be mandated to commence the recording and online distribution of recordings of council meetings pending legal consultation.

Motion passed, as amended.

Motion to adjourn (Equity Commissioner/ Secretary-General)

Motion passed.

**Adjournment**

9:15 PM
Council Minutes Approved  
October 3, 2012, 6:30pm

Executives

Secretary-General Jonathan Mooney, Financial Affairs Officer Pooja Tyagi, Internal Affairs Officer Michael Krause, External Affairs Officer Errol Salamon, Academic Affairs Officer Adam Bouchard Member Services Officer Elizabeth Cawley

Councillors


Commissioners and non-voting members

Member Support Commissioner Vikrant Bhosle, Equity Commissioner Gretchen King, Environment Commissioner Kelly Nugent Health Commissioner Helena Zakrzewski

Regrets

Jaime Wegner-Lohin, Karina Vold, Cora Lee Conway, T. Centea

Gallery and Guests

Professor Anthony C. Masi, Emily Young, Anne Elise Keen, Elizabeth Kaempffer, ESGSS Yoon Chi, Rahul Gawri, McGill Tribune Erika Friesen, Andra Cernavskis Anna Katycheva McGill Daily Micheal Lee-Murphy, FEUQ Leah Freeman Marc Andre Legault

CALL TO ORDER

6:41 PM
1. **Approval of the Agenda**

Move items 10.1-10.4 to just after motion 5.1 approval of appointments (External Affairs/ Secretary-General).

External Affairs, on motivation, did not wish to have guests from FEUQ wait. The timing was also very important given decisions were to be taken soon on FEUQ’s proposals for Education Summit.

Financial Affairs, speaking against the motion, was not aware of amendments to the agenda and wishes to present budget to comply with bylaw.

Internal Affairs, speaking against the motion, advised that the Appeals Board report has been outstanding for some time and this is the business of this Council.

Secretary-General, on motivation, argued that it was unreasonable for guests to wait all evening before given an opportunity to address Council.

Motion passed.

Table item 10.7 until the November meeting (F. Soler Urzúa)

Motion passed.

Student Support Commissioner, on a point of information, requested an amendment to agenda to reflect the new title of Student Support Commissioner position, now Member Support Commissioner.

Add recognition of Experimental Surgery Post-Graduate Student Association to the beginning of new business above 10.1 (Secretary-General)

Motions passed.

Agenda approved, as amended

2. **Speaker’s Report**

The Speaker delivered a brief, oral report. The Speaker reminded Councillors to state name, department and motivation for speaking. Councillors were reminded to address the Speaker, who then assigns speaking privileges.

3. **Announcements**

3.1. Teaching and Learning Services Working Group

Call for submissions on renovations of classrooms and IT upgrades. Require new representative, nominations can be sent to Appointments Board. Please contact guillaume.lord@mail.mcgill.ca for further information.

3.2 University Industry Partnerships

PGSS is undertaking research on university-industry partnerships at McGill. Those who wish to talk about their involvement with university-industry partnerships, please contact. Conor Farrell, researcher.pgss@mail.mcgill.ca.
3.3 Provost presentation.

The Provost gave a 25-minute presentation on the role of the Provost and the University’s budget and answered a number of questions from Councillors.

4. Approval of the Minutes

Motion to table approval of September minutes until November as wrong representative was listed. (D. Meadows/Secretary-General)

Motion passed.

Motion to postpone approval of June minutes until November meeting (Secretary-General/D. Meadows)

Motion passed.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes and Standing Orders

5.1. Motion R12-08-#014 · To accept recommendations of the Appointments Board

Motion passed.

5.2. Motion R12-10-#001 · FEUQ Vacant Positions (Executive committee)

BIRT Council enter COTW for a period of up to 10 minutes to discuss the FEUQ's method of advertising vacant positions on their executive.

Amendment to motion (External Affairs/Secretary-General)

BIRT Council enter COTW for a period of up to 10 minutes to discuss the FEUQ's method of electing people into vacant positions on their executive.

Amended motion passed.

External Affairs, on motivation, noted that he has a number of concerns about the appointment process of the FEUQ Executive. Individuals had commenced Executive duties before being appointed on an interim basis.

Council entered committee of the whole for ten (10) minutes.

Motion out of the committee of the whole.

BIRT PGSS advocate to amend the FEUQ bylaws so that candidates for executive positions will only begin their executive duties if they are elected as an interim executive. (COW)

Motion passed.
5.3 Motion R12-10-#002 · Leah Freeman Candidacy
(Executive committee)

WHEREAS Leah Freeman is a candidate for an executive position with the FEUQ;

WHEREAS Leah Freeman is a member of PGSS;

**BIRT Council enter COTW for a period of up to 10 minutes to discuss the candidacy of Leah Freeman.**

External Affairs, on motivation, noted it was a great opportunity for PGSS to have a representative on the FEUQ Executive and also to have an Anglophone voice on the FEUQ Executive. He called on L. Freeman to make a brief presentation.

Council entered committee of the whole.

Motion to extend speaking rights for five (5) minutes (External Affairs/Secretary-General). No objections.

Motion to extend committee of the whole by five (5) minutes (External Affairs/Secretary-General). No objections.

Council exited committee of the whole.

Motion out of committee of the whole.

**BIRT PGSS endorse Leah Freeman as a candidate for the FEUQ executive committee (COW).**

Motion to lay on the table in order to allow Councillors to view a copy of L. Freeman’s c.v. (Secretary-General/Member Services Commissioner).

5.4 Motion R12-10-#003 · Quebec Education Summit
(External Affairs Officer/…)

WHEREAS the newly-elected PQ government will be holding a summit on higher education in Quebec;

WHEREAS the FEUQ will be seeking input from its member associations and adopting a plan to present to the government in October regarding the summit;

**BIRT Council recommend to the FEUQ a plan with regard to the structure and logistics of the Quebec education summit, as outlined in the External Affairs Officer’s report.**

External Affairs, on motivation, outlined how PGSS will be attending a meeting this Friday with FEUQ to discuss FEUQ’s proposals for structure of education summit.

Motion to enter committee of the whole for 10 minutes to discuss configuration of Education Summit (External Affairs/Secretary-General)

Motion to extend committee of the whole for five (5) minutes (D. Simone/Secretary-General). No objections.

Motion passed.
Motion to extend committee of the whole until the end of the current line of speakers (External Affairs/D. Simone). No objections.

Motion passed.

Motion to extend Council meeting by thirty (30) minutes (D. Meadows/L. Harvey). No objections.

Motion out of committee of the whole.

BIRT PGSS advocate to amend the FEUQ document on the Summit on University Education in the following areas:
- Presidential committee: add one committee member who is a post-graduate student, one committee member who is an undergraduate student, a committee member who is part of university support staff, and an external committee member who is neither part of the university or the government
- Partners: create 5 distinct partner groups. Adding two groups and giving each group 20%. Groups: undergraduate students, post-graduate students, representatives of university community, government, and external partners.
- Themes: Add the following – university teaching, international, out of province, and Anglophone students (recognizing the unique character of these groups), campus life (university security, corporate partnerships, student rights and responsibilities)
- Meetings should be public and accessible for everyone to attend

Amended Motion passed.

Motion to take from the table Motion R12-10-#002, Candidacy of L. Freeman (Secretary-General/Member Services)

Motion passed.

BIRT PGSS endorse Leah Freeman as a candidate for the FEUQ executive committee (COW)

Motion passed.

5.5 Motion R12-10-#004 · McGill education summit
(External Affairs Officer/…)

WHEREAS PGSS Council passed a motion to “develop a local education summit here at McGill”;

WHEREAS the local summit should take place in the fall semester before the Quebec-wide education summit;

BIRT Council enter committee-of-the-whole for a period of 15 minutes to discuss the logistics of the McGill summit, including its dates, format, location, potential participants, etc.

External Affairs, on motivation, stressed the importance of the McGill Summit in terms of informing the overall debate and the provincial Summit. Contact has been made with SSMU External to get their input.

Council entered committee of the whole.

Council exited committee of the whole.

Speaker noted that the Council meeting is short of quorum.
Motion to adjourn (Secretary-General/Academic Affairs)

Motion passed.

**Adjournment**
9:06 PM
Post-Graduate Students’ Society of McGill University
3650 McTavish Street, Montreal, Quebec
C12-11-#05
Council Minutes
Approved
November 07, 2012, 6:51pm

Executives

Secretary-General Jonathan Mooney, Internal Affairs Officer Michael Krause, External Affairs Officer Errol Salamon, Academic Affairs Officer Adam Bouchard, Member Services Officer Elizabeth Cawley

Councillors

Commissioners and non-voting members
Equity Commissioner Gretchen King, Student Support Commissioner Vikrant Bhosle, Environment Commissioner Kelly Nugent, Health Commissioner Helena Zakrzewski, Council Speaker Brittany Rocque

Regrets
Financial Affairs Officer Pooja Tyagi, K. Ho, L. Klaponski, A. Mapara, E. Larson, M. Rigby, D. Simeone, T. Ameri, W. Kim, B. Kasaai, L. Bourdages

Gallery and Guests
MDGSS Mohammad Ahmed Javaid, Biotech Alex Lin, Martin Montiel Roiz, Religious Studies Richard Graydanus, McGill Tribune Erica Friesen, LICM Angela Beck, Hugo Collin Desrosiers, Navda Tonge, Biology Danny Leung, Biology Kayla Hamelin

Call to Order
6:51 PM

1. Approval of the Agenda

Agenda approved.
2. Speaker’s Report

The Speaker delivered a brief, oral report. New Council voting cards were given.

3. Announcements

3.1. Academic Affairs Officer

Academic Affairs announced that committee recruitment is underway.

3.2. Free Flu Shots

The Health Commissioner announced that free flu shots will be provided for PGSS members, and their spouses, with a Health Care Card.

4. Appeals Board and Appointments Board Lotteries

The duties of the Appeals Board and Appointments Board were explained. Two scrutineers checked the lotteries, with results as follows:

Appointments Board: John Tabaka and Mikhail Smilovic
Appeals Board: William Ferrell

5. Approval of Minutes

Motion to change minutes for September – Motion R12-8-17 regarding Council Speaker’s appointment, to remove details of the conflict of interest of the Academic Affairs Officer in relation to the Speaker because this is a public document. (D. Meadows/F. Siddiqui).

Amend to place name in the motion, once the conflict of interest is removed. (C. L. Conway)

Amendment approved.

BIRT the minutes read“...Internal affairs explained the conflict of interest. He noted that the Academic Affairs Officer and Secretary-General excused themselves from the discussion.” (D. Meadows/F. Siddiqui)

Motion passed unanimously.

June minutes are approved. No objections.

September minutes are approved. No objections.

October minutes – correction by T, Centea. T. Centea’s name should be in regrets.

October minutes are approved, as amended. No objections.
6. Business Arising from the Minutes and Standing Orders

6.1. Motion M12-11-#009 - To accept recommendations of the Appointments Board
(Appointments Board)

BIRT Council approves the nominations outlined in the report of the Appointments Board.

Amendment: E. Cawley is listed as Members Affairs Officer, should be changed to Member Services Officer. Amendment passes unanimously.

Motion passed.

6.2. Motion M12-09-010 - Budget Update
(Financial Affairs Officer/ Academic Affairs Officer.)

BIRT the Council enters a Committee of the Whole for 10 minutes to discuss the budget update.

Move to postpone to next meeting because Financial Affairs is not present. (Academic Affairs Officer)

Motion passed.

6.3. Motion M12-10-008 - Motion for Recognition of the Experimental Surgery Graduate Student Society (ESGSS)
(Secretary-General/Health Commissioner)

WHEREAS the Experimental Surgery Graduate Student Society (ESGSS) wishes to be recognized by the PGSS as the official representative of their respective membership at the University;
WHEREAS their constitution has been submitted to the PGSS Student Life fund Coordinator and fulfills the PGSS requirements for recognition;
WHEREAS the membership of ESGSS unanimously voted to seek PGSS recognition in an executive committee meeting of duly appointed members held on July 9th 2012 and September 9th 2012;

BIRT the PGSS recognize the Experimental Surgery Graduate Student Society (ESGSS) as the official representatives of their respective membership.

Motion amended to add to ESGSS recognition, two more societies: McGill Institute of Islamic Studies Student Council and Desautels Doctoral Student Society. (Secretary-General)

Secretary-General, on motivation, noted that these two student associations met all requirements of our Bylaws.

Motion passed as amended.
6.4. Motion M12-10-#005 · Submission of Motions and Reports
(Executive Committee/ D. Meadows)

WHEREAS Councillors should be afforded the maximum possible time to submit motions and documents while respecting the time required to assemble the council package.

BIRT Society Activities Manual 4.12.1.3 be amended to read, “Documentation for regulation Council meetings (specifically Officer reports, motions and accompanying documentation to each motion) must be submitted to the Speaker by 5:00PM one (1) calendar days prior to the meeting of CSC. The CSC shall meet, at the latest, one day before the council package is distributed.”

Secretary-General wished to amend this motion to two days, instead of one, and noted that this was to ensure that the Council Speaker can proceed with Council matters more smoothly, using less time to compile the packages.

Motion amended (Secretary-General) to read as follows:

BIRT Society Activities Manual 4.12.1.3 be amended to read, “Documentation for regulation Council meetings (specifically Officer reports, motions and accompanying documentation to each motion) must be submitted to the Speaker by 5:00PM two (2) calendar days prior to the distribution of the council package. The CSC shall meet, at the latest, one day before the council package is distributed.”

Friendly amendment to add the name of Council Steering Committee following the acronym CSC. (C. L. Conway)

Motion passed as amended.

6.5. Motion M12-10-#006 · Petitions Bylaw Change
(Executive Committee)

BIRT Council enter a committee of the whole for a period of up to 10 minutes to discuss amending Bylaw 10.3.1: “A regular member petition must bear the signatures of the lesser of seven (7) percent of the regular membership, or 525 regular members.”

Secretary-General, on motivation, advised Council to discuss whether these numbers were too high. Research was done on other societies such as SSMU, student associations at Concordia and University of Toronto. This research was in the Councillor package.

Council entered committee of the whole.

Council exited committee of the whole.

Committee recommends that requirement should not be reduced below 5% of membership and a new bylaw be added, stating that Chief Returning Officer be the person to be responsible to check the petition for validity.

Motion from Committee of the Whole:
BIRT the new bylaw be added to the proposed bylaw SAM changes for December.

Motion passed.

This new bylaw, to be considered in December, will be added to the December council package.

6.6. Motion M12-10-007 · Legal Information Clinic
(Financial Affairs Officer/ Internal Affairs Officer)

WHEREAS PGSS members pay $4 per person per year as the Legal Information Clinic (LIC) Fee;
WHEREAS PGSS members are not recognized as full LIC members and do not readily have access to their bylaws;
WHEREAS it is not clear whether PGSS has ever held a referendum of its members regarding LIC;

BIRT Council enter committee of the whole of 10 minutes to discuss the services provided by the Legal Information Clinic.

Council entered committee of the whole.

Council exited committee of the whole.

Committee of the whole was extended for five (5) minutes.

Council exited committee of the whole.

7. Executive Reports

C. L. Conway asked for clarification on the number of days of the Executive retreat. Member Services Officer clarified the number of days of the Executive retreat: arrived 11 pm on Friday; on Saturday, there was a 12 hour meeting; on Sunday, the group left after waking up. Thus, it can be interpreted as a one (1) day or three (3) day long retreat.

Breakdown of financials of retreat: spent $1000 from $3000 in budget ($100 spent on a car, $600 overnight location, extra money on food and gas)

Executive reports are approved.

8. Commissioner Reports.

No objection for all Commissioner and Executive reports from months August, September, October, and November.

Academic Affairs Officer noted that the procedure for Committee reports is that once the report is published, Councillors can read it, and submit any motions. Example: Appointment Board nominations.
Question was divided that all reports that don't have motions in them from other reports, be approved except Appointments Board and Appeals Board.

All reports without motions are approved.

9. Other reports

Appeals Board directed Appointments Board to prepare up to eight written questions for G. King to which she responded in writing in a document distributed to Council according to ordinary procedures.

BIRT Council enters in committee of whole for ten (10) minutes to discuss her candidacy.

G. Lord changed to Speaker.

Motion for closed session of Council: all non-voting members leave to discuss the candidacy of G. King. (D. Meadows/T. Centea).

Motion passed.

Motion out of closed session:

BIRT G. King be appointed to CSC for remainder of PGSS term of 2012-2013

Motion passed. (four (4) opposed)

10. New Business

10.1. Motion M12-11-#012 • McGill Education Summit Proposal
(External Affairs Officer/…)

WHEREAS PGSS Council voted at its 12 September 2012 meeting to hold a local education summit at McGill;
WHEREAS consultation with the PGSS Executive and with PGSS members is essential to ensure that the McGill Summit is participatory, inclusive, and accessible;
WHEREAS the Executive Committee approved and recommended to Council a proposal for the McGill Education Summit;

BIRT PGSS Council approve the McGill Education Summit proposal, as outlined in the External Affairs Officer’s report, which will be used to organize and promote the Summit.

Secretary-General, on motivation, explained that the Summit is likely to be held first week of December – during this one day, there will be McGill students, administration, FEUQ, CREPUQ, and PGSS groups represented on panels for consultation.

Motion passed.
10.2. Motion M12-11-#014 • International Students’ Day

(G.King/ C. L. Conway)

WHEREAS since 1941, November 17th has been declared International Students’ Day;
WHEREAS currently an International Student Strike week is being organized in Quebec from November 19-23, 2012;
WHEREAS more than 3000 students and their allies still face criminalization for their participation in the 2012 student strike in Quebec;
WHEREAS McGill students have paid the tuition increase and have yet to be refunded the 254$ hike imposed by McGill;
WHEREAS Council passed in September 2012 a motion calling for PGSS to advocate for amnesty for students charged with disciplinary offenses by their university related to non-violent political activity during the student movement;

BIRT Council enter into a 10min committee of the whole to plan activities for PGSS members around International Students’ Day.

G. King, on motivation, noted that the International Students’ Day would institutionalize the struggles that international students faced last year.

External Affairs Officer, in favour of the motion, noted that the External Affairs Committee can take on planning responsibilities of the event.

The motion is referred to the External Affairs Committee.

10.3. Motion M12-11-#013 Review of PGSS Translation Policy

(Executive Committee)

CONSIDERANT QUE le règlement intérieur de la PGSS fournit la traduction de « governing documents » et des « minutes »;
CONSIDERANT QUE cette année le budget traduction de 15 000$ est bien plus élevé que celui de 2011 qui s’élevait à 3000$;
CONSIDERANT QUE cependant, ce budget a été consommé plus rapidement et devrait l’être totalement début avril 2013;

Déclare qu’un comité spécial de conseil, consistant en sept membres et présidé par le « Member Services Officer », soit mobilisé pour revoir la politique de traduction de la PGSS et émettre des recommandations au conseil d’ici février 2012.

WHEREAS the current PGSS bylaws provide for the translation of governing documents and committee minutes;
WHEREAS this year's translation budget of $15,000 is significantly greater than the 2011 expenditure of $3,000;
WHEREAS nonetheless, this budget being consumed faster than expected and is predicted to be exhausted in early April 2013;

BIRT a special committee of council, consisting of up to seven members and chaired by the Member Services Officer, be struck to review PGSS’ translation policy and bring a recommendation back to council by February 2013.
Secretary-General moved to postpone this to the next Council meeting.

Motion passed.

10.4. Motion M12-11-#016 Position of the Deputy Provost
(Member Services Officer/…)

WHEREAS there are only two seats for students on the Advisory Committee on the Selection of the Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning), one for a graduate student and one for an undergraduate student;
WHEREAS this is one of the most important senior administrators to build a relationship between the senior administration and the students;
WHEREAS the opinion of the larger student population should be represented on this Committee;
WHEREAS the graduate student representative on this committee has asked for an opportunity to hear the opinion of the PGSS members;

BIRT Council enter committee of the whole for up to 10 minutes to discuss the position of the Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning).

The Member Services Officer, on motivation, noted that she would like to know from the Council what it thought the position of Deputy Provost should be.

Council entered committee of the whole.

Council exited committee of the whole.

Motion to adjourn (Academic Affairs/Secretary-General)

Motion passed.

Adjournment.
10:25 pm
Post-Graduate Students’ Society of McGill University
3650 McTavish Street, Montreal, Quebec
C12-12-#06
Council Minutes
Unapproved
December 05, 2012, 6:38 pm

Executives
Jonathan Mooney Secretary-General, Michael Krause Internal Affairs Officer, Errol Salamon External Affairs Officer, Adam Bouchard Academic Affairs Officer, Elizabeth Cawley Member Services Officer

Councillors

Commissioners and non-voting members
Gretchen King Equity Commissioner, Vikrant Bhosle Member Support Commissioner, Kelly Nugent Environment Commissioner, Helena Zakrzewski Health Commissioner

Regrets
Pooja Tyagi Financial Affairs Officer, Aditi Kapoor, Stephanie Tremblay, Altaf Mapara, Emma Vincent, Veronica Somos

Gallery and Guests
Stephen Peters, EGSS, Joel Prudent, N/D, Michael Tong, SSMU, Carl St-Denis, EGSS, Richard Graydanus Religious Studies
Call to Order
6:38 pm

1. Approval of the Agenda

D. Meadows serves as Speaker.

Motion to move Question Period before New Business (Member Services Officer/B. Rocque)

Motion passed.

Motion to insert motion M12-11-#011 before current 5.3 (B.Rocque/ T. Centea)

Motion passed.

Amended agenda passed.

2. Speaker’s Report

3. Announcements

Lilith Wyatt from Sustainability Projects Fund presented the goal of McGill for long term sustainability. She welcomes contact at lilith.wyatt@mcgill.ca

4. Approval of the Minutes

November Minutes are approved.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes and Standing Orders

5.1. Motion M12-08-#040 · To accept recommendations of the Appointments Board
(Appointments Board)

BIRT Council approve the nominations outlined in the report of the Appointments Board.

Motion passed. (W. Farrell/E. Larson)

N. Nizam changes to Speaker.

5.2. Motion M12-09-#021 · Budget Update (Financial Affairs Officer/…)

BIRT the Council enters a Committee of the Whole for 10 minutes to discuss the budget update.

Motion to postpone the Budget update to January when there will be more accurate data. (Secretary General/D.Meadows)

Amended motion passed.
5.3. Motion M12-11-#011 · Ratification of ESAC Working Group Appointments
(Executive Committee)

BIRT the decision of the Executive Committee to appoint Lerona Lewis and Laura Risk as PGSS representatives to the Enrollment and Student Affairs Working Group on policies for students caring for dependents be ratified.

Motion to call the question. (W. Ferrell/Secretary-General)

Motion passed. One abstention.

5.4. Motion R12-09-#036 · Review of PGSS Translation Policy (Executive Committee)

CONSIDERANT QUE le règlement intérieur de la PGSS fournit la traduction de « governing documents » et des « minutes »
CONSIDERANT QUE cette année le budget traduction de 15 000$ est bien plus élevé que celui de 2011 qui s’élevait à 3000$
CONSIDERANT QUE cependant, ce budget a été consommé plus rapidement et devrait l’être totalement début avril 2013.

Déclare qu’un comité spécial de conseil, consistant en sept membres et présidé par le « Member Services Officer », soit mobilisé pour revoir la politique de traduction de la PGSS et émettre des recommandations au conseil d’ici février 2012.

WHEREAS the current PGSS bylaws provide for the translation of governing documents and committee minutes;
WHEREAS this year’s translation budget of $15,000 is significantly greater than the 2011 expenditure of $3,000;
WHEREAS nonetheless, this budget being consumed faster than expected and is predicted to be exhausted in early April 2013;

BIRT a special committee of council, consisting of up to seven members and chaired by the Member Services Officer, be struck to review PGSS’ translation policy and bring a recommendation back to council by February 2013.

Motion to amend (Executive Committee) and add after ‘expenditure of $3,000’;
WHEREAS PGSS has not yet established a language policy, unlike McGill, FEUQ, and SSMU

Motion to amend (G. King) as follows:

BIRT at least 3 out of 7 the committee members are Francophone, and that the other members be Allophones.

External Affairs Officer, speaking in favour of the motion, stated that it was passed at the External Affairs Committee, that 50% of the committee members should be Francophone.

Academic Affairs Officer, speaking against the motion, stated that Council should not narrow down to Anglophone versus Francophone, and that real accessibility is making the committee available for those with international backgrounds.
A. Kazarine noted that the committee should be accessible to people of international background.

Secretary-General, speaking against the amendment, noted that when the rules are too precise, Council may not be able to find the required people to populate the committee.

G. Lord, speaking in favour, wishes to further amend to have two Francophones and two Allophones as a minimum, noting that the current amendment should not exclude Anglophones altogether.

**BIFRT that a minimum of the following: (2) Francophones and (2) Allophones be maintained amongst the members of this committee.**

Members Affairs Officer, speaking in favour of the motion, stated that people who only speak English and pay to PGSS should be able to sit on the committee.

Motion to call the question.  
*Motion passed.*

Sub-Amendment passed.  Two (2) opposed.

Motion to call the question.  
*Motion passed.*

Amendment passed.  One (1) opposed (M. Simard)

Motion to call the question.  
*Motion passed.*

Motion voted on as a whole.  *Main motion passed.*  One (1) opposed (M. Simard).

*Final motion as passed:*

**CONSIDÉRANT QUE le règlement intérieur de l'AÉCSUM fournit la traduction des documents constitutifs et des procès-verbaux;**

**CONSIDÉRANT QUE cette année le budget de traduction a été consommé plus rapidement et devrait l’être totalement début avril 2013;**

**CONSIDÉRANT QUE l' AÉCSUM n’a pas encore établi de politique linguistique, contrairement à l'Université McGill, FEUQ, et AEUM;**

**IL EST RÉSOLU QU'un comité spécial du conseil, composé de jusqu’à sept membres, tous parlant au moins une langue autre que l’anglais, et présidé par le «Member Services Officer», soit mobilisé pour revoir la politique linguistique de l'AÉCSUM et émettre des recommandations au conseil d’ici février 2013.**

WHEREAS the current PGSS bylaws provide for the translation of governing documents and committee minutes

WHEREAS PGSS’ 2012 translation budget is being consumed faster than expected and is predicted to be exhausted in early April 2013
WHEREAS PGSS has not yet established a language policy, unlike McGill, FEUQ, and SSMU

BIRT that a special committee of council, consisting of up to seven members, all of whom speak at least one language other than English, and chaired by the Member Services Officer, be struck to develop a PGSS language policy and bring a recommendation back to council by February 2013.

5.5. Motion R12-09-#037 · Online Distribution of Council Recordings
(Executive Committee)

WHEREAS a motion was passed at the September meeting of the PGSS Council mandating “online distribution of recordings of council meetings.”;
WHEREAS the executive committee has expressed a concern that extracts of speeches by councillors could be taken out of context and used for nefarious purposes;
WHEREAS the potential for such decontextualization may inhibit free expression at council;

BIRT the motion emerging from committee of the whole Motion R12-08-#018 · Recording of Council Discussion be amended to strike “and online distribution of recordings of council meetings pending legal consultation” and to add “BIFRT these recordings be accessible at Thomson House to any member of the PGSS to listen to”

Secretary General, on motivation, noted that some councillors were not comfortable having their speeches made available on sites such as Youtube. Speeches should just be made available at Thomson House, not online distribution.

C. Stevens, speaking against the motion, noted that councillors’ statements should be made freely accessible.

Motion to amend to reflect McGill’s policy with Senate recordings (Executive Committee):
“BIFRT these recordings be made available online, upon the implementation of PGSS’ new content management system, to members of PGSS members who sign in to the PGSS website and agree to the following statement:

1) this material is provided exclusively for personal listening and for representative purposes by members of the PGSS; any other use is prohibited without the written permission of the Board of Directors of PGSS Inc.
2) A breach of these considerations may constitute a violation of the House Rules and may result in the revocation or suspension of the privileges of PGSS membership.”

B. Rocque, spoke in favour of this amendment, noting that councillors should be able to say what they want to say in Council.

J. Tremblay asked how long records are kept online.

Secretary General responded that they are kept for a minimum of three (3) years.

Friendly amendment (Y. Bresle), as follows:
1) this material is provided exclusively for personal listening and for representative purposes by members of the PGSS; any other use or redistribution of these recordings is prohibited without the written permission of the Board of Directors of PGSS Inc.
Motion to call the question.  
*Motion passed.*

Vote for motion as a whole. *Motion passed.*

Final motion as passed:

**BIRT** the motion emerging from committee of the whole Motion R12-08-#018 · Recording of Council Discussion be amended to strike “and online distribution of recordings of council meetings pending legal consultation” and the following two clauses:

“BIFRT these recordings are accessible at Thomson House for any member of the PGSS to listen to”

“BIFRT these recordings be made available online, upon the implementation of PGSS' new content management system, to members of PGSS members who sign in to the PGSS website and agree to the following statement:

1) This material is provided exclusively for personal listening by members of the PGSS; any other use or redistribution of these recordings is prohibited without the written permission of the Board of Directors of PGSS Inc.
2) A breach of these considerations may constitute a violation of the House Rules and may result in the revocation or suspension of the privileges of PGSS membership.”

5.6. Motion R12-09-#039 · Invited Speakers  
(Internal Affairs Officer/D. Leung)  
Whereas council runs notoriously late and whereas there are often invited speakers who’s deliveries extend council further.  
**BIRT** that a new SAM clause be added to Chapter 5 Section 14 (1.1.5) be added reading:  
The Council Steering Committee shall not approve announcements or presentations by invited speakers unless they have been approved by resolution at a previous session of Council or the Executive.

Internal Affairs Officer, on motivation, stated that CSC is highly political and that Council should decide who they want to listen to.

B. Rocque stated there should be a control mechanism that Council is progressing.

T. Centea moves to amend the motion:

**BIRT** that a new SAM clause be added to Chapter 5 Section 14 (1.1.5) be added reading:  
The council steering committee will not approve presentations exceeding fifteen minutes

D. Meadows, speaking against the 15 minute time frame, noted that some speakers need more than 15 minutes.

Secretary-General noted that Council can decide whether presentations can be more than 15 minutes.

Motion to call the question  
*Motion passed.*
Amendment passed.

Motion to call the question
Motion voted as a whole. *Motion passed.* One (1) opposed (M.A. Xhignesse)

6. **Executive Reports**

   6.1. **External Affairs Officer**
   Report Online.

   6.2. **Academic Affairs Officer**
   Report Online.

   6.3. **Finance Officer**
   Report Online.

   6.4. **Internal Affairs Officer**
   Report Online.

   6.5. **Member Services Officer**
   Report Online.

   6.6. **Secretary-General**
   Report Online.
   Secretary-General gave an update on Education Summit.

7. **Commissioner Reports**

   7.1. **Equity Commissioner**
   Report Online.

   7.2. **Environment Commissioner**
   Report Online.

   7.3. **Member Support Commissioner**
   Report: position should be corrected as Member Support Commissioner. Committee opening if interested to join.

   7.4. **Health Commissioner**
   Report Online.

8. **Question Period**

   No questions from the floor.

9. **New Business**

   9.1. **Motion R12-09-#041 · Executive Workplan**
   (Executive Committee)
WHEREAS Society Activities Manual Chapter 3.2.2.6 requires that the Workplan “Be reviewed and updated at the December and April meetings of Council. “

**BIRT Council approve the updated work plan.**

G. Lord, wished to amend the motion to strike everything regarding the moon.

Motion to call the question.
Motion passed.

Amendment passed. One (1) opposed (E. Larson).

Motion to call the question.
Motion passed.

Motion voted on as a whole. Motion passed, as amended.

**9.2. Motion R12-09-#042 · Motion to amend the Society Activities Manual – Special resolution – Requires 2/3 majority to pass**

(Education Graduate Students’ Society (EGSS))

WHEREAS the adoption of the Society Activities Manual led to the loss of council seats for large GSAs;
WHEREAS the Education Graduate Students’ Society is directly affected by this change;
WHEREAS the purpose of Council is to make decisions about Society Activities;
WHEREAS Council represents the membership at large;
WHEREAS the members of the Education Graduate Students’ Society represent approximately 10% of the PGSS membership;

**BIRT the Society Activities Manual section 3.2.3 be amended to read “A PGSA with between one hundred (100) and two (200) hundred members shall be allotted three (3) Council seats;”**

**BIFRT a Society Activities Manual section 3.2.4. be added to read “A PGSA with between two hundred (200) members and four hundred (400) members shall be allotted five (5) Council seats;”**

**BIFRT a Society Activities Manual section 3.2.5. be added to read “A PGSA with over four hundred (400) members shall be allotted (7) Council seats;”**

C.L. Conway, on motivation, noted that the Faculty of Education has a population of 900 students with representation of 3 councillors, but this is a faculty that represents 10% of the student body and 10% of student budget. If a GSA has more than 100 students, it is underrepresented at PGSS. It seems arbitrary that as a faculty organization, there is less representation, whereas if separated by departments, there is more representation.

Speaking rights extended to gallery that includes EGSS.

G. Lord noted that there would be 24 new seats added to PGSS, according to the proposal.

Council extended meeting for another 30 minutes at 8:30 pm.

T. Centea, speaking against the motion, noted that this is a big issue to be decided in the middle of the year.
B. Rocque suggested that an ad-hoc committee be set up.

Secretary General proposed a motion to commit to the Policy and Structural Advisory Committee. G. King asked to amend that the motion to commit and asks that these three (3) members, APF, EGSS and MCGSS, would be part of the decision making process of PSAC.

**Motion to commit: Policy and Structural Advisory Committee with 3 ad-hoc members (APF, EGSS and MCGSS), in consultation with the Equity Committee.**

T. Centea, speaking against the motion, noted that there are also medium-sized groups that are affected, in addition to the groups listed above. The motion does not account for those other groups.

D. Meadows suggested that motion to commit to PSAC should be with an open invitation to all PGSA’s.

Motion to call the question.

*Motion passed.*

*Motion to commit passed.*

**Adjournment**

9:04 pm
Post-Graduate Students' Society of McGill University  
3650 McTavish Street, Montreal, Quebec  
C13-01-#07  
Council Minutes  
Unapproved  
January 16, 2012, 6:46 pm

Executives

Jonathan Mooney Secretary-General, Michael Krause Internal Affairs Officer, Errol Salamon External Affairs Officer, Adam Bouchard Academic Affairs Officer

Councillors

K. Siegel, ADAMS CLUB R. Roussel, M. Simard, ADELFIES K. Strand, AGSA  
G. King, D. Sanader, AHCS-GSA C. Stone, ALLCGS D. Leung, BGSA K. Hamelin, E. Pedersen, BGSA L. Van der Kraak, J. Ma, BGSS A. Olanrewaju, P. DeCorwin-Martin,  
MAGSS B. Keith, A. Best, GSAMS P. Vanessa Guerra, R. Krause, MCGSS  

Commissioners and non-voting members

Gretchen King Equity Commissioner, Vikrant Bhosle Member Support Commissioner, Kelly Nugent Environment Commissioner, Helena Zakrzewski Health Commissioner, Nida Nizam Council Speaker, Sharon Gai Recording Secretary

Regrets

Elizabeth Cawley Member Services Officer, Alyson Parker, Boran Xu

Gallery and Guests

Shona Watt PGSS Sustainability Coordinator, Theo Bourgery Le Delit, Laurent Bastien Daily, Erika Friesen Tribune, Jana Luker Executive Director of Services for Students
Call to Order 6:46 pm

1. Approval of the Agenda

G. King proposed to have emergency motion to submit to agenda: McGill Daily (DPS) to have a referendum for fee levy renewal would like endorsement by council

Internal Affairs Officer spoke against the motion because the motion was not brought before the Steering Committee.
Motion Failed.

Secretary General moved to bring motion of permanent funding for SEDE to the top of New Business.

*Motion passed.*
Motion to approve the agenda passed

2. Speaker’s Report

Email the Speaker about proper procedures to bring a motion up. Guide to motion writing coming out in the next week or two.

3. Announcements

Shona Watt, Sustainability Coordinator, presented the STH Operations Report.

4. Approval of the Minutes

M. Bastarache proposed to amend minutes regarding French language policy. Two corrections were made.

*Motion passed.*

*December minutes approved as amended.*

5. Business Arising from the Minutes and Standing Orders

5.1. *Motion R12-08-#048 · To accept recommendations of the Appointments Board* (Appointments Board)

BIRT Council approve the nominations outlined in the report of the Appointments Board.

The Internal Affairs Officer motioned to extend the deadline because more people applied, so the list is updated.
*Motion passed.*
5.2. Motion R12-09-#021 · Budget Update (Financial Affairs Officer/…)

BIRT the Council enters a Committee of the Whole for 10 minutes to discuss the budget update.

The budget is postponed until February.

5.3. Motion R12-09-#043 · Bylaw and society manual amendments (Executive Committee)

WHEREAS the proposed bylaw and society manual amendments were distributed to Councillors in early November or discussed at the November Council meeting

BIRT Council approves the Bylaw and society manual amendments in Appendix A.

The Secretary General, upon motivation, explained that this set of amendments were online for several months. They are “clean-up” amendments that would resolve contradictions among existing governing documents.

G King moved to divide the question, vote on the amendments one by one.  
Motion passed.

The following are the amendments voted on. All motions passed with the required 2/3 majority.

Naming of a President (Executive Committee)

WHEREAS Section 89 of the Quebec Companies Act requires the President of a company to be articulated

BIRT Bylaw 6.3.3.2 be amended to read: “The Board of Directors shall be chaired by the Secretary-General, who shall act as President of the Corporation. In the absence of a chair, the Board may appoint a Director to serve as interim chair.”  
Motion passed.

Procedure for Appeals Board (Executive Committee)

WHEREAS clarity in the process of convening an Appeals Board meeting is essential
WHEREAS members of the Appeals Board should be enabled to participate by electronic means

BIRT Bylaw 7.1.5 be amended to read:
“The Appeals Board shall meet within three (3) working days of notice of appeal being delivered, in writing, to one of the Officer or Director members of the Appeals Board. In the event that a meeting the Appeals Board does not meet quorum, another meeting shall be held within three (3) working days. The notice requirement for a meeting of the Appeals Board shall be twenty-four (24) hours.”

BIFRT Bylaw 7.3.4 be amended to read:
“The Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Appointments Board, Appeals Board, and Committees of Council, may conduct business by electronic means, in the manner set out in governing documents.”
Motion passed.
Procedure for Appeals Board (Executive Committee)

WHEREAS the Bylaws state that the time limit during which the Appeals Board must meet upon receiving notice of appeal

BIRT Society Activities Manual 12.2.1.1 be amended to read, “Hear and pass judgment on cases of appeal concerning any decision or actions of the CRO within three (3) working days of being notified of any such appeal;
Motion passed.

Composition of Appointments Board (Executive Committee)

WHEREAS the Appointments Board requires the expertise of members of the Executive Committee charged with both Internal and University representation

BIRT Bylaw 6.6.3.1 be amended to read: “Six (6) members of Council from at least four (4) different faculties, as well as two (2) members of the Executive Committee, as set out in the Society Affairs Manual.”
Motion passed.

Composition of Appointments Board (Executive Committee)

WHEREAS the current Society Activities Manual grants a tiebreaking vote on the Appointments Board to someone who is not even a member of the Appointments Board

BIRT Society Activities Manual 11.4.6 be amended to read, “All decisions of the Appointments Board shall be made democratically and documented. In the event of a tie, the vote of the chair shall count twice.”
Motion passed.

Motion to amend a something previously adopted regarding special meeting notice (Executive Committee)

WHEREAS the PGSS executive committee has taken note of the need to specify “working days” in PGSS bylaws
WHEREAS Francois Corriereau, LL.B. of la FEUQ has provided an impression regarding proper notice requirements in a private communication entitled, “Délais raisonnables pour un avis de convocation à une assemblée générale d’association étudiante”, which is available to Councillors in the PGSS office

BIRT Motion R13-06-#003 – Bylaw: Special Meeting Notice be amended to read, “BIRT a new Society Bylaw 7.4.4 be added, reading, “Notwithstanding Bylaws 7.4.1 and 7.4.2, special meetings may be called and the agenda may be distributed with three (3) working days’ notice”
Motion passed.

Motion to specify responsibility for validating petitions (Policy and Structure Advisory Committee)

WHEREAS PGSS bylaws do not specify who has the responsibility for approving or rejecting a petition
BIRT a new bylaw 10.1.2 be added with the text, "The Chief Returning Officer shall be responsible for validating petition signatures and judging whether a petition is valid"
Motion passed.

5.4. Motion R12-09-#044 · Society Manual Change Regarding Appointments Board (Second Reading) – Special resolution – Requires 2/3 majority to pass (Governance Committee)
WHEREAS the following motion was approved at the previous meeting of the PGSS Council:
WHEREAS the SAM requires a public question and answer period for meetings of the Appointments Board
BIRT the SAM be amended to read:
Chapter 11 - 4.1
The appointments board shall evaluate candidates based on information submitted by applicants. For candidates applying to specific University committees deemed necessary by the Appointments Board additional information may be gathered through a public question and answer period. For candidates applying to titled positions a public question and answer period shall be conducted by the Appointments Board.
WHEREAS the governance committee has recommended changes to the proposed motion.
BIRT the SAM be amended to read:
Chapter 11 - 4.1
The appointments board shall evaluate candidates based on information submitted by applicants. For candidates applying to University committees, additional information may be gathered through a public question and answer period. For candidates applying to titled positions, a public question and answer period shall be conducted by the Appointments Board.
Motion passed.

5.5. Motion R12-09-#045 · Society Manual Change Regarding Council Steering Committee (Second Reading) – Special resolution – Requires 2/3 majority to pass (Governance Committee)
WHEREAS the following motion was approved at the previous meeting of the PGSS Council:
WHEREAS the governance committee has not recommended any changes to the proposed motion
BIRT Society Activities Manual 4.12.3.1 be amended to read:
Documentation for regulation Council meetings (specifically Officer reports, motions and accompanying documentation to each motion) must be submitted to the Speaker by 5:00PM two (2) calendar days prior to the distribution of the council package. The CSC shall meet, at the latest, one day before the council package is distributed.
Motion passed.

5.6. Motion R12-09-#046 · Motion regarding grants program funding policy (Finance Officer/..)
WHEREAS the Member services committee has found it necessary to make changes to the current funding criteria for the grants program in order to: (1) make the program more accessible, and (2) to ensure that the grants policy fulfills the mission of the grants program
BIRT that the attached amendments to the grants program funding policy be approved
Mover of this motion was changed to Secretary General. Upon motivation, he said that the committee felt that some applications only affected a small number of people. The committee wants to approve applications with philanthropic purposes to affect a greater number of people in the PGSS population. The amendment is on page 41 and 42 in the December package. The grants committee voted in favour to submit the change.

G. Lord, on a point of information, asked about the voting procedure of the committee. Since one committee member holds one point, how would voting work if a committee member was absent?

Secretary General answered that the committee would not approve a grant application if there were not enough members present.

C. L. Conway said steps were taken last year to have decisions made more objectively. It seems that we are moving away from that direction, because currently the committee is seeking the individual opinions of each member on committee.

E. Pedersen, speaking against the amendment, stated that we have no knowledge of how many grants don’t satisfy the requirements. Looking at the point system on page 41 and 42, if every member of the committee agrees this is a terrible grant, the grant could still pass.

E. Pedersen moved to Strike Part C and add “If the Grants Committee votes with a 2/3 majority that the grant does not meet the conditions of the Grant Policy, the grant will not be approved”.

Secretary General moved to commit the whole motion back to the Grants Committee, to let them look over the suggestion and bring something back to Council.

C. L. Conway, speaking for this motion to commit, said the grants committee is probably in a better position to decide than Council.

G King has a concern to make this in consultation with other bodies.

Motion to commit passed.

5.7. Motion R12-09-#047 · Thompson House on the Moon (T. Centea/G. Lord)

WHEREAS the executive workplan approved in September included a commitment to investigate the possibility of building a new Thompson House on the Moon WHEREAS this ambitious project raises significant concerns about the financial impacts on the society, the safety of its staff and consequences for the environment.

BIRT that the executive committee provide an update of this investigation at the next meeting of Council BIFRT this update address the financial, environmental and safety considerations related to this project

Motion withdrawn by mover.
6. Executive Reports

6.1. External Affairs Officer

Report online.

6.2. Academic Affairs Officer

Report online.

6.3. Internal Affairs Officer

Report online.

6.4. Secretary-General

Report online. The report of the Secretary-General was moved to New Business, following motion regarding SEDE.

7. Commissioner Reports

7.1. Equity Commissioner

Report online.

7.2. Environment Commissioner

Report online.

7.3. Member Support Commissioner

Report online. Committee is open for positions, contact him for questions.

7.4. Health Commissioner

Report online.

8. New Business

8.1. Motion R12-01-#052 · Motion to Support Permanent Funding for SEDE

(Equity Committee)

WHEREAS the Social Equity and Diversity Education (or SEDE) Office provides information, education and training to all areas of the University in order to cultivate a respectful, diverse and supportive campus;
WHEREAS each academic year graduate student participants account for 35-40% of SEDE's ten core workshops, and SEDE has facilitated trainings tailored for PGSS Executives and Commissioners, graduate student Teaching Assistants, and Graduate Student Associations. SEDE also provides support services to international students, which include PGSS members;
WHEREAS the Equity Committee of PGSS has worked for the last three years with the SEDE office, which commits staff and financial resources, to co-host the Annual Equity Social at Thomson House;
WHEREAS SEDE has, for five years, published and distributed thousands of copies of an annual wall calendar highlighting important equity and diversity related work. The most recent calendar includes the research of five current or recent McGill graduate students as well as twelve McGill graduate students are involved;
WHEREAS the SEDE office has largely operated on a delicate balance of permanent funding and external temporary funding (the latter largely provided by Students Services), in addition to project-related income, this semester funding from Student Services will cease and SEDE also faces a reduction in its permanent budget. These changes may have a negative impact on the number of staff positions at SEDE and thus threaten SEDE's valuable service to the McGill community;
WHEREAS PGSS is mandated by our Policy on Equity and Diversity to call upon McGill University “to continue to pursue initiatives designed to actively educate, heighten awareness and provide opportunities for dialogue about equity and diversity-related issues.” In addition, PGSS is mandated by the same policy “to actively support projects that aim to end discrimination or to promote diversity and inclusiveness in the McGill community;”

**BIRT PGSS actively support permanent funding for SEDE from McGill (through Student Services or otherwise) by writing a letter from the Secretary-General and Equity Committee to Associate Provost Lydia White (Policies, Procedures and Equity) and Deputy Provost Morton Mendelson (Student Life and Learning) that acknowledges SEDE’s achievements and requests maintaining financial support for SEDE's ongoing work.**

Gallery guests' speaking rights extended.

Jana Luker, Executive Director of Services for Students, explained that Student Services is a self-financed unit in which student service fees goes directly to student services, through which SEDE is funded, and not considered part of central operating budget. She advocates that SEDE continue its funding through the Associate Provost’s office and the central operating budget.

Secretary General, as a point of information, said that in the past, Student Services was able to use the surplus budget for special projects to fund SEDE. Now the budget is insufficient to maintain the cost of SEDE.

Jana Luker advised that currently they are not able to even sustain salaries of staff at Mental health, Student Aid, Chaplaincy, First Year Office, etc. Priority is on mental health, as it is a highly demanded service. More councillors were needed. Reducing the number of staff to cut costs would be radical.

W. J. Edward Lee, spoke in favour, stated that SEDE provides an essential service, so funds should come from central operating budget. The current service of SEDE is not met through any other program; thus, SEDE should be maintained because PGSS benefits.

Academic Affairs Officer, speaking against the motion, criticized the narrow scope of the proposal and said it lacked nuance that is required to consider funding systems.

Internal Affairs Officer, speaking against the motion, moved to postpone the motion indefinitely. Either the student budget is cut, endangering students with disabilities and international students, or, higher fees must be called. However, the student population has just battled off the high tuition fees. Since there is no concrete proposal, PGSS should not endanger any party.
G. King, spoke against postponing, pointing that Council has purview to speak on this motion. Pitting SEDE against other student services is a false debate.

F. Rifai, speaking against postponing, said PGSS can give moral support to SEDE as this is a service PGSS uses and benefits from.

Motion to postpone motion failed. Debate ensued.

T. Centea pointed out that all services that students get are good and that students want all of them.

G. Lord, on a point of information, asked about the timeline.

Jana Luker responded that funding is in place until the next fiscal year, which begins May 1st. However, due to elections, this is why it’s coming up now. Usually, this is the time of year to set the operating budget.

Y. Bresler asked what percent of budget goes to SEDE.

It was calculated that 0.63% of budget goes to SEDE.

Secretary General, spoke against motion, explaining that he is speaking against it not because he doesn’t support SEDE, but believes we shouldn’t pit interest groups against each other.

G. King, speaking for the motion, mentioned that it is in the mandate of PGSS to support groups like SEDE whose work is in community engagement.

Motion to call the question passed.

Motion failed.

8.2. Report of the Secretary General

Since Board of Governors usually operates in closed session, the Secretary General has been pushing for students to interact with the Board. On February 11, there will be a session where Board will come to Council. He encourages people to sign up through email.

PSAC report asked membership at large if there is interest from Council on transferring from PGSA representation to faculty representation.

8.3. Motion R12-01-#049 · Resignation of Finance Officer
(Executive Committee)

BIRT Council ratify the resignation of the Finance Officer.

External Affairs Officer asked why the Finance Officer resigned.

Secretary General explained that on December 18, the Finance Officer’s email of resignation was received. There are two reasons that led to her resignation: frustration in working relationships and because the Finance Officer is in India and will be there for the next four months.
C. Conway mentioned that Council had tabled the budget update for the past three months and asked what is next in terms of finance.

Secretary General responded that solicitation for candidates and election will be held online. For now, different executives will take different parts of the role of the Finance Officer.

*Motion passed.*

**8.4. Motion R12-01-#050 · Protocol Discussion**

(Gretchen King)

WHEREAS the McGill Administration released the Protocol Regarding Demonstrations, Protests and Occupations on McGill University Campuses on November 30th with a closing deadline for comments sent by email on January 7th;
WHEREAS numerous concerns have been raised about the protocol by students, faculty, staff, and legal advisers, including the possible adverse effect on charter rights;
WHEREAS there is no evidence in the current protocol of suggested changes made by PGSS and its members;
WHEREAS several PGSS Executives met with Vice-Principal Michael Di Grappa on December 10th;

**BIRT PGSS raise awareness among members of these concerns by publicizing a statement in addition to providing support and mobilizing for the upcoming events around the protocol on Wednesday, January 23rd.**

G King, upon motivation, explained the upcoming demonstration with regard to consultation process. The Canadian Civil Liberties Association asked that students assemble a committee to review the protocols.

Secretary General, on a point of information, asked what is planned for the demonstration.

G King, responded that a gathering will take place in Victoria Square on January 23rd.

*Motion passed.*

**8.5. Motion R12-01-#051 · Athletics funding model**

(Secretary-General)

**BIRT the PGSS advocate a funding model weighted more heavily toward user fees at the upcoming consultation process for the athletics budget.**

Secretary General, upon motivation, stated that Varsity athletes are using a third of the budget of athletics. The funding model should be weighed more heavily to the general population, such as the users of fitness center.

T. Centea spoke in favour of the motion, stating that in light of budget cuts, a user fee system would promote responsibility.

L. Harvey, on a point of information, asked at what level is this fee levied as post doctorates don’t pay student service fee.
Academic Affairs Officer explained that this fee is seen on the student bill on Minerva. McGill Athletics is self-funded. No money goes into the university, and no money goes out. Cuts for the university do not affect McGill Athletics.

G. Lord asked how varsity teams would support themselves if we turned to a user fee system and how the athletic departments at other universities are funded.

Secretary General explained that moving to user fee system causes the varsity athletes to pay larger share of cost and allows us to subsidize the use of fitness center. Whereas UBC has 60% of costs relieved by sponsorships and sales, McGill has most of its costs put on students.

E. Pedersen pointed out that there are large fixed costs on buildings. Maintenance of the gym should not be part of the user fee system.

Secretary General moved to amend the motion.

BIRT the PGSS advocate the upcoming consultation process for the athletics budget for modestly reducing the subsidy of varsity athletics and diversifying revenue sources and instead subsidizing services more widely used by students.

Motion passed.

Motion to extend Council.

Council extended.

8.6. Motion R12-01-#053 · Motion to amend the quorum of the Academic Affairs Committee (Academic Affairs Officer)

WHEREAS The Academic Affairs Committee is unusually large with a current roster of forty members and cannot regularly obtain a quorum of 50%.

BIRT the Society Affairs Manual be amended to include:
Chapter 5, Section 6
3. Quorum
3.1 Quorum for the Academic Affairs Committee shall be twelve (12) or a quarter (1/4) of members, whichever is lower.

BIFRT bylaw 6.2.5 be amended to add “with the exception of the Academic Affairs Committee, the quorum of which shall be set out in the Society Activities Manual”

Academic Affairs officer, upon motivation, stated that this motion would allow him to start using this committee.

M. Bastarache suggested reconsidering the number of members of this committee.

C. L. Conway stated that people on the committee might not know they are on this committee, resulting in the low attendance.

Motion passed.
9. Other Reports

9.1. Appointments Board

9.2. Policy and Structure Advisory Committee

Get in touch with Secretary General as to how the committee allocates seats.

9.2. Governance Committee

9.3. Academic Affairs Committee

9.4. Steering Committee

9.5. STARS Report

10. Question Period

No further questions.

Adjournment

8:48 pm
Post-Graduate Students' Society of McGill University
3650 McTavish Street, Montreal, Quebec
C13-02-#08
Councl Minutes
Unapproved
February 13, 2013 6:46 pm

Executives

Jonathan Mooney Secretary-General, Michael Krause Internal Affairs Officer, Errol Salamon External Affairs Officer, Adam Bouchard Academic Affairs Officer, E. Cawley Member Services Officer

Councillors


Commissioners and non-voting members

Gretchen King Equity Commissioner, Vikrant Bhosle Member Support Commissioner, Kelly Nugent Environment Commissioner, Nida Nizam Council Speaker, Sharon Gai Recording Secretary

Regrets

WooJin Kim, Bahar Kasi, Carlos Melendez, Fay Strohschein, Helena Zakrzewski

Gallery and Guests

Andra Cernavski, Simon Poitrimolt McGill Tribune, Theo Bourgery, Camille Chabrol Le Delit Cameron Monagle, Leah Freeman, Marc-Andre Legault FEUQ, Michael Lee-Murphy Daily Justin Marleau AGSEM, Hera Char Guest
Call to Order 6:46 pm

1. Approval of the Agenda

   Academic Affairs Officer moved to remove Survey on the Performance of University Administrators from the agenda.
   
   Survey on the Performance of University Administrators was removed from the agenda.
   
   Academic Affairs Officer moved to remove Justin Marleau’s presentation from the agenda. He motivated by saying that time should not be spent on things that Council has already received information for.
   
   G. King spoke against the motion in saying that the presentation must be presented before the Summit and that this is an invited speaker who has committed time to be present at Council.
   
   Motion failed. The item remained.
   
   Member Services Officer moved to remove Motions 10.16 to 10.22 regarding referendum questions from the agenda. Upon motivation, she said that these motions are still under discussion and are not ready for Council.
   
   Motions 10.16 to 10.22 are removed.
   
   Agenda approved.

2. Speaker’s Report

   Amendment to the Report of Appointments Board: External Affairs Officer has been nominated for the Arts Faculty Council Language Policy Committee.
   
   Councillors who have been told by their departmental chairs that they will have repercussions to what they say in Council should email the Speaker with their concerns.
   
   Sometimes the Speaker will wield Chair’s discretion to adjust procedures to expedite meetings. If anyone has concerns regarding Chair’s procedure, please email the Speaker.
   
   The Speaker would appreciate members of Council presenting respectable behaviour towards colleagues’ motions that have passed or failed.

3. Announcements

   Leah Freeman from the FEUQ presented Plans for Education Summit.
   
   Secretary-General presented the PGSS Budget update.
General Assembly of Art History and Communications Studies voted unanimously to endorse boycott on Quebec Summit for Education and organizing a vote to go on strike during the Summit if tuition increases or is tied to indexation.

4. Approval of the Minutes

G. King proposed two changes.

5.6. Motion R12-09-#046 · Motion regarding grants program funding policy: “G King has a concern to make this in consultation with other bodies”. This should then specify Equity Committee within the “other bodies”.

8.4. Motion R12-01-#050 · Protocol Discussion: “G King, responded that a gathering will take place in Victoria Square on January 23rd.” Victoria Square should be changed to Community Square.

Changes made. January minutes approved.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes and Standing Orders

5.1. Motion R12-02-#054 ·To accept recommendations of the Appointments Board (Appointments Board)

BIRT Council approves the nominations outlined in the report of the Appointments Board.

Motion passed.

6. Executive Reports

6.1. External Affairs Officer

Update to Report: After FEUQ Congress from last weekend, PGSS has made positive gains, and amended governing documents to ensure agendas are translated into English with sufficient notice.

6.2. Academic Affairs Officer

G. King asked if the Report on the Poll will have a summary of the comments of the Poll when it is brought back to Council.

Academic Affairs Officer said yes.

Secretary General asked what we are doing to make sure we have representation in Arts Faculty Council and why there is no representation there.

Academic Affairs Officer said the Arts Faculty Council regularly advertises the vacancies that are available. Eight seats are open. Please email info.pgss@mcgill.ca for application.

G. King asked for the PGSS’ response to Arts cuts.
Academic Affairs Officer had an Ad Hoc meeting with Dean of Arts, who was responsible for the Arts cuts and concluded that no classes currently taken by graduate students will be affected by the 100 classes being cut.

6.3. Internal Affairs Officer

No questions.

6.4. Member Services Officer

D. Meadows asked for a summary of where the talks are at with the Member Services Officer.

Member Services Officer said Committee of Student Services met today for a proposed budget. Talks at the Director level will meet tomorrow.

6.5. Secretary-General

G. King asked Secretary General to elaborate on Board of Governors meeting.

Secretary General said to respect confidentiality, he could not elaborate further as the meeting was held in closed session.

7. Commissioner Reports

7.1. Equity Commissioner

D. Meadows asked if the Equity Commission have a direction of where it wants to move with the recommendations of the STAR report.

G. King ceded her speaking right to Veronica, the propeller of the STAR report, who said Shona, who is in charge of the Thompson House Sustainability Project, integrated all of the recommendations into the report that was presented to Council to form a Sustainability Action Plan.

7.2. Environment Commissioner

7.3. Member Support Commissioner

7.4. Health Commissioner

8. Other Reports

8.1. Appointments Board

8.2. Policy and Structure Advisory Committee

8.3. Library Improvement Fund Committee

8.4. Steering Committee

9. Question Period
No questions were asked.

10. New Business
10.1. Motion R12-02-#055 • Motion Regarding Council Seat Apportionment
(Policy and Structure Advisory Committee)

WHEREAS the Policy and Structure Advisory Committee has considered a motion referred to it by
council to consider changing the apportionment of council seats to PGSA
WHEREAS a report from PSAC has been included in this council package

BIRT Council approves the Society Manual and Bylaw changes recommended in the
attached PSAC report.

Bylaw change regarding PGSS Council seat apportionment:

3. Composition

3.1. The composition of Council shall consist of regular members appointed from each PGSA, in
a democratic manner according to the constitution or practices of the PGSA.
3.2. Each PGSA shall be entitled to a number of council seats as follows:

Number of seats = 0.15*(number of members)^0.5

3.5. The number of regular members for a PGSA for the purposes of this calculation shall be
that of the most recent membership list as made available by the University as of February
15 of the most recent year.
3.6. For the purpose of determining PGSA sizes, postdoctoral fellows shall count 50%
toward the size of their PGSA and 50% toward the size of the Association of Postdoctoral
Fellows, which shall be entitled to a number of seats following the same proportionality as
those allotted to PGSAs.

T. Centa, upon motivation, said that conclusions in the report are an accurate representation of
discussions.

W. Farrell noted that the figures looked fair. He also asked what would happen in the case of
decimal numbers.

Secretary General, in response, moved to amend to have rounding to include two bars: round up if
it is 0.5 and up and round down if it is less.

G. Lord first commended the committee for what it had developed, then spoke against the motion.
This motion reduces Council size by a third. Since Council is a great way to have people get
involved in student society, this motion would be detrimental to participation in student government.

Academic Affairs Officer, in favour of this amendment said that as a guest at PSAC, he had
advocated for a smaller number than what is presented, but noted that PSAC developed a good
compromise with this equation that results in a clean number and manageable size.

D. Meadows, who sit on PSAC, noted that PSAC consulted with Jacinthe, the Post Graduate
Student life Coordinator, to see how many people actually show up to meeting and asked Council
to keep this in mind.
T. Centea asked Council to think about this motion not as Councillors from different departments but as one PGSS unit. If there are 150 people on Council, we would not be able to fit in the meeting room. In considering different Council sizes, he mentioned that PSAC found the optimal solution.

M. Bastarache spoke in favour of the motion despite being part of the association that will experience a loss in seats from 3 to 2. Though there is less chance to be on Council for students, it’s better to have fewer but more committed people.

C. L. Conway spoke in favour of the motion. Even though Council is reduced, there are still ample chances for students to participate in student affairs by sitting on committees.

Academic Affairs Officer said Council’s responsibility is to hold standing committees responsible as these groups do not have the final say to pass motions on behalf of the entire society. Students can still get involved by sitting on those committees to have discussions on student affairs to bring forth recommendations to Council.

W J Lee spoke in favour by noting that Council will still be able to move for motions and execute current processes in passing this motion.

*Motion passed.* G. Lord opposed.

**10.2. Motion R12-02-#056 • Motion to Approve Referendum Question on Accreditation**

(Executive Committee)

WHEREAS the PGSS is not recognized as the official legal representative association of postgraduate students at McGill
WHEREAS the PGSS can achieve this recognition via a referendum of its members

BIRT the following question be placed on the annual PGSS referendum: « Do you agree that the Post-Graduate Students’ Society of McGill University Inc. (PGSS) becomes accredited to represent postgraduate students at the institutional level in accordance with An Act Respecting the Accreditation and Financing of Students’ Associations R.S.Q., c. A-3.01? » (yes/no)


Secretary General, upon motivation, explained the purposes of accreditation. PGSS right now is not recognized as the legal body to represent graduate students. To do that, we need to have a vote in which 25% of people vote in favour. This motion pushes for PGSS to have legal representation for graduate students and the legal right to assess a fee through referendum.

G. Lord, speaking in favour, said this motion also helps every PGSA to gain recognition within their departments.

Academic Affairs Officer, speaking in favour, said with this referendum question, we could achieve the legal strength to dictate and represent students.
T. Centea asked the movers if placing this question would put PGSS in confrontation with the university.

Secretary General said upon recommendation of lawyers, it was suggested that before the referendum, we were to talk with the university first. Talking with Professor Mendelssohn, we found out that this question is not going to change the relationship with the university. The wording in French will be changed to:

« Acceptez-vous que l'Association étudiante des cycles supérieurs de l'Université McGill inc. soit accréditée et reconnue comme l'Association représentative des étudiants et étudiantes inscrits aux cycles supérieurs de l'Université McGill en vertu de la Loi sur l'accréditation et le financement des associations d'élèves ou d'étudiants L.RQ., c. A-3.01?»

Reference to the Ministry of Education is deleted.

W. Farrell asked why this was not been done before as PGSS has been around for decades.

Secretary General said that the biggest difficulty is that 25% of people have to vote. From the election it seems that 13% of the people are voting. This year we have extra tools to get people to vote: Student Affairs Coordinator, Jacinthe, will implement a big campaign to get people to vote and we also have support from the FEUQ.

P. McCamphill asked if other PGSA are accredited.

Secretary General said this is only in response to a specific law in Quebec on legal representation for student associations and not in the rest of Canada. Typically in Canada there are contracts struck between the association and the university.

Motion passed with new French wording.

Guest Speaker Justin Marleau from AGSEM presented the McGill budget and described how the McGill budget has done since the 2007 fiscal year.

Time extended for questions.

Academic Affairs Officer said every single graduate student is told to outperform in their granting applications and questioned if this was the case for students at University of Toronto.

Marleau responded that Quebec has its own funding bodies which do not compete with those of Ontario or BC; therefore that is not a valid comparison.

Secretary General wished to clarify between operating revenue and total revenue and asked how we account for our operating revenue.

Marleau said restricted funds do not just include research grants. Financial statements need to be looked at and see if funds are internally or externally restricted.

Secretary General asked what the average ratio of academic to administrative salaries is in Canada.
Marleau said he did not have those figures available.

T. Centea asked for the key take away of the presentation.

Marleau explained he was here to inform, not to advocate for a particular point.

Speaker clarified that this presentation was to support a following motion.

Internal Affairs Officer asked if Marleau factored in the increase in enrolment and 13% inflation rate and how the dollars in maintenance of buildings factor into the numbers.

Marleau explained that costs have not increased by adding more students. We have to decipher if we are adding more classes or more students to the same class.

D. Meadow asked to clarify who the “administrative staff” is in the presentation.

Marleau answered the staff would be those under MUNACA, MUFASA, and SEIU.

W J Lee asked for examples of where the administrative costs were distributed.

Marleau said the increase in administrative costs were mainly hiring of M-class employees, managerial employees which had increased by couple of hundreds.

10.3. Motion R12-02-#057 • Motion Regarding Statement on Budgetary Priorities and Objectives at McGill
(Gretchen King)

WHEREAS the Quebec Summit on Higher Education will be held from February 25-26, 2013;
Whereas despite substantial increases in operational revenues since fiscal year 2006, Principal Munroe-Blum has argued that McGill University cannot meet its objectives at current levels of financing;
WHEREAS the provincial budget cuts to universities announced in the lead-up to the Summit represent $19-million less for McGill’s budget;
WHEREAS the recent cuts affect current budget priorities at McGill University, which do not necessary reflect the needs of graduate students;

BIRT PGSS issue a statement based on council’s discussion before the Quebec Summit on Higher Education concerning budgetary priorities at McGill and offering new budgetary objectives that actually address the needs of graduate students.

G King, upon motivation, said that the McGill budgets are poorly managed and that financial oversight should be a must. She would like to see a statement advocating the formation of an internal committee of students that have prevue over setting the budget in McGill.

T. Centea spoke against the motion. He said we need administrative and managerial staff for operations and didn’t think decisions should be made based on what is shown in pie charts.

Academic Affairs Officer, speaking against motion, said graduate students, who bring in money to McGill for doing research, are well reflected in priorities of provost. He thinks that the university is looking out for the students.
Member Services Officer said the student services budget is different from the operating budget. As someone who has spent weeks in meetings regarding student services, she says students are well taken care of.

G. King, in responding to the Academic Affairs Officer, said it did not meet her constituents’ priorities that $70,000 were spent on advertising of the principal’s job and to have the principal be paid more than the Prime Minister of Canada.

W J Lee, speaking in favour of the motion, said transparency is always good in terms of budgetary concerns and that we should always ask our university to be transparent.

G. Lord, on point of information, asked when is the Summit happening.

Secretary General said Feb 25 and 26.

G. Lord spoke against the motion as he believed the presentation was too short for Council to make an informed decision.

T. Centea, speaking against the motion, brought another reason for his dissent to the motion as he thought the BIRT clause was unclear.

G. King responded that through the discussion in Council, it can be inferred that Council does not have enough information on budget priorities to make an informed decision, but Council does have enough information to bring forth a committee that allows key stakeholders including graduate students in determining the budget priorities.

D. Meadows said, as a member of the Appointments Board, she encouraged people to join committees that are already in place to discuss detailed matters like the budgets.

G. King proposed an amendment to replace existing BIRT clause to:

**BIRT PGSS issue a statement to strike a university wide committee that includes key stakeholders including graduate students that holds a transparent forum in determining the budgetary priorities of McGill**

Secretary General said that this committee seems similar to Board of Governor’s Finance Committee and proposed if we should have an open session of that committee.

G. King said that budgets are always made in closed sessions. This clause aims to change the structure of how committees make budgets. She motivated by saying that this amendment reflects upon the discussion of tonight.

W J Lee asked what is transparent what is not in the Board of Governors.

Secretary General said all committees operate in closed sessions. Only open when they want to. He approximated that 60% of meetings happen in closed sessions and 40% in open. Four students are on the board who serve as members or observers.

W J Lee, upon motivation for this motion, said that this motion advocates for transparency.

C L Conway spoke in favour of the amendment, a statement that clears ambiguity.
S. Sahakian, speaking against the amendment, found that the amendment is different from the purpose of the original motion. Perhaps Council can work with the Board of Governors in a different way.

L. Harvey said McGill has 600 to 1000 postdoctoral fellows and does not have a dedicated person to represent them and proposed to amend the amendment to include postdoctoral fellows.

Amendment to add postdoctoral fellows passed.

Internal Affairs Officer called the question. Motion to call the question passed.

Amendment passed.

Internal Affairs Officer, spoke against the main motion, saying that McGill is audited by Deloitte, who has significant responsibility. Creating another layer of bureaucracy is not helpful. The statement will not create any positive outcome but animosity between governors and PGSS.

T. Centea spoke against the motion again. Closed sessions are valid because things like salaries cannot be exposed. Both Board of Directors and PGSS Executive operate in closed session.

W. Farrell, spoke against the motion, agreeing with the previous speaker.

G. King said auditors don’t set budgetary priorities, we should. Transparency is not an aggressive act. We saw salaries in the presentation, because it is part of the budget line.

Motion passed.

BIRT that PGSS issue a statement to strike a university-wide committee with key stakeholders, including graduate students and post-doctoral fellows, that offers a transparent forum and affords participation in determining the budgetary priorities and objectives of McGill University.

10.4. Motion R12-02-#058 • Adoption of Policy Statement for Upcoming Education Summit (Executive Committee)

WHEREAS the upcoming education summit will address several issues on which PGSS does not have standing policies

BIRT the following Policy Statement Regarding the Summit on Higher Education be adopted

WHEREAS the PGSS researcher issues a report in November 23, 2012 regarding the alleged underfunding of Quebec universities which concluded, “The system must also take account of the unfolding deficit crisis in the university employee pension funds along with future infrastructure requirements. The Quebec university system needs to put on a more financially sustainable footing. This cannot be achieved without some increase in funding.”
WHEREAS several research reports in addition to that of the CREPUQ, including a report of the Council of Ontario Universities, have suggested that Quebec universities are insufficiently funded 
WEHREAS nevertheless, further investigation and an assessment of the absolute needs of Quebec universities is required
WHEREAS additionally, an evaluation of the particular programs and sectors in need of potentially more funding must be carried out in order to properly direct funds to where they are needed rather than leave all decisions regarding the spending of funds in the hands of university administrators.

BIRT the PGSS recognize that there is meaningful evidence that the Quebec university system is underfunded.

BIFRT the PGSS support the FEUQ in its call for the absolute funding needs of Quebec universities and programs/sectors in need of funding to be clearly identified in a process with participation from all sectors of the university community.

WHEREAS the current funding model for Quebec universities is based primarily on enrolment weighted by sector.
WHEREAS this grid is in need of constructive revision.
WHEREAS other metrics, such as the attainment of university-specific objectives as evaluated by the CEUQ, ought to be considered in university financing.

BIRT the PGSS support the FEUQ in its call for a review of the financing grid.

BIFRT the PGSS support a broader financing model that incorporates as one factor the attainment of university-specific objectives as evaluated by the CEUQ.

Speaking rights extended to the FEUQ.

Sec Gen, upon motivation, said in September 2012, the Executive Committee looked at underfunding. Findings are that Quebec universities are underfunded from the researcher that was hired to look at the facts.

Freeman (FEUQ) said that though there is a cut in investments this year, there is still an increase in investments vis-à-vis last year. Next year there will be an 8.6% increase.

M. Bastarache, spoke against the motion, saying there isn’t enough information recognizing there is a underfunding through reading the report developed by the researcher.

Internal Affairs Officer spoke strongly for the motion. There is no proof that the letter sent in May was received by the directors as they would have publicized it. He asked that the FEUQ address the document from FEUQ from 2010 that says we have underfunding.

Academic Affairs Officer spoke for the motion as a whole. He stressed one BIRT clause: BIRT the PGSS support the FEUQ in its call for a review of the financing grid.

D. Meadows gave an example of how underfunded McGill is: there is $622 million in our deferred maintenance budget, which is 30% of our assets. Other universities are 10%.

T. Centea spoke about how the idea of being overfunded or underfunded is part of operations. Universities have plans for expansions which are plans that we should work for as graduate students. It seems to him that the idea of being underfunded is something we should absolutely support.

Freeman said we need to take into account all money coming into universities for us to see that there is a surplus in budget.
Legault (FEUQ) pointed out that the underfunding that CREPUQ talks about is a comparison between Quebec and the rest of Canada, and doesn’t specify the needs of the university. The FEUQ advocates knowing the needs for universities. If we looked at the big picture, we have more money per student.

A. Best said a report with conflicting conclusions doesn’t mean it is a flawed analysis; instead, it means a thorough one.

N. Hyba moved to amend the motion because the clauses were contradictory. She proposed we strike the clause on underfunding (and its first two WHEREAS clauses), and keep the one on funding assessment.

G. King, in favour of this amendment, agreeing that this eliminates the contradiction.

W. Farrell, spoke against the amendment, saying that it confounds him that we are discussing issues where we need more money and voting to put forward a motion that says we are not underfunded.

Secretary General, spoke against the amendment, and said that Quebec was dead last in getting funds from the government. Funding goes to hiring professors in international market to get the best teachers. If we believe in evidence and data, we can see that we don't have enough money.

Monagle (FEUQ) said that crying for more money is something that everyone does. It is not a good way to manage public money if we keep asking for more money.

WJ Lee spoke in favour of the amendment, saying that key stakeholders need to be consulted, not just the university administration. There is evidence of inadequate management.

Internal Officer spoke against amendment, and asked the Council to imagine the day after meeting, as they tell their friends, in buildings that need maintenance, about how we voted against the motion that we are underfunded.

Freeman said that FEUQ will always advocate more money from government. They are just addressing the mismanagement of funds.

Academic Affairs Officer called the question.

Amendment failed. Debate on main motion ensued.

Academic Affairs Officer spoke in favour of the motion, spoke about how disasters like McGill flooding and asbestos ceilings come out of the operating budget.

B. Keith spoke in favour by sharing a personal anecdote, that both he and his supervisor are leaving McGill at the end of the year because of lack of funding.

G. King, spoke against the motion, saying there is a contradiction in motion.

Secretary General said there is no contradiction in the motion. The motion asks for an assessment for the right places that funding should go.
W J Lee moved to amend to **BIRT the PGSS recognize that there is meaningful evidence that the Quebec university system is underfunded as a function of their needs.** Upon motivation, he said that this is making sure that people do things in an accountable manner, not to paint the picture that administration is evil.

Internal Affairs Officer called the question. Amendment passed.

Motion passed.

Meeting extended for 30 minutes.

**10.5. Motion R12-02-#059 • Motion Regarding General Meetings**

(External Affairs Officer)

WHEREAS the Policy and Structure Advisory Committee submitted a recommendation to PGSS council to decrease the size of council;
WHEREAS PGSS members have the potential to participate directly in the governance of the Association only once per year at the Annual General Meeting;
WHEREAS General Meetings increase the potential for more individual members to participate directly in the governance of the PGSS;
WHEREAS SSMU holds two General Meetings per academic year, one in the fall semester and one in the winter semester;

BIRT the PGSS Society Bylaws, Section 7: Meetings of Governing Bodies, be amended from, “1.2 An Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of February or March, ideally at the time typically reserved for PGSS’ regularly scheduled Council meetings” to read,

“1. Regular Meetings

1.2 Two General Meetings shall be held, one in the fall semester and one Annual General Meeting in the winter semester, ideally at the time typically reserved for PGSS’ regularly scheduled Council meetings.”

BIFRT the PGSS Society Bylaws, Section 8: Appointments, be amended from, “5.3. Internal, External, and Council Directors are appointed by special resolution of the Appointments Board, subject to ratification by the Board of Directors. A Director so appointed assumes office immediately after ratification by the Board of Directors; however, such appointment must be ratified at the next Annual General Meeting, failing which the Director is removed” to read,

“5.3. Internal, External, and Council Directors are appointed by special resolution of the Appointments Board, subject to ratification by the Board of Directors. A Director so appointed assumes office immediately after ratification by the Board of Directors; however, such appointment must be ratified at the next General Meeting, failing which the Director is removed.”

External Affairs Officer, upon motivation, said this motion would increase the number of GMs from one to two since Council is now smaller.

W. Ferrell spoke against the motion by saying that GMs are complete failures, a lesson to be learned from SSMU.
G. King, spoke in favour of the motion because her constituency is one that is losing seats. Because GA is the highest authority, only meeting once a year limits the things to be done.

Secretary General, spoke in favour, saying that we will have scheduled well in advance for meetings, so we don’t run into disorganization. Vetos are increased, so there is more accountability.

Question called.

Motion passed. W. Ferrell opposed. T. Centea abstained.

10.6. Motion R12-02-#060 • Elections Budget
(Secretary-General)
WHEREAS the annual election and referendum period is approaching,
WHEREAS an additional by-election is being held for the Finance Officer position,
WHEREAS this is the second by-election held this year,
WHEREAS proper advertising of postings and voting periods by such means as posters and notices is important to inform the membership about elections and referenda,
WHEREAS the PGSS is facing an unprecedented number of referendum questions this year, for which "yes" and "no" campaigns may need to be funded,
WHEREAS nearly one third of the year’s election budget has already been consumed,
WHEREAS the Chief Returning Officer has requested a budget increase to ensure sufficient resources are available to properly conduct the election and referenda

BIRT the line item "Elections" in the budget be amended from $3000 to $6000

Motion passed.

10.7. Motion R12-02-#061 • Procedure for Appeals Board
(Governance Committee) – Second Reading – 2/3 majority vote

WHEREAS the Bylaws state that the time limit during which the Appeals Board must meet upon receiving notice of appeal

BIRT Society Activities Manual 12.2.1.1.1 be amended to read, “Hear and pass judgment on cases of appeal concerning any decision or actions of the CRO within three (3) working days of being notified of any such appeal;

Motion passed.

10.8. Motion R12-02-#062 • Composition of Appointments Board
(Governance Committee) – Second Reading – 2/3 majority vote

WHEREAS the current Society Activities Manual grants a tie-breaking vote on the Appointments Board to someone who is not even a member of the Appointments Board

BIRT Society Activities Manual 11.4.6 be amended to read, “All decisions of the Appointments Board shall be made democratically and documented. In the event of a tie, the vote of the chair shall count twice.”

Motion passed.
10.9. Motion R12-02-#063 • Motion to amend the quorum of the Academic Affairs Committee (Governance Committee) – Second Reading – 2/3 majority required
WHEREAS The Academic Affairs Committee is unusually large with a current roster of forty members and cannot regularly obtain a quorum of 50%.

BIRT the Society Affairs Manual be amended to include:

Chapter 5, Section 6

3. Quorum

3.1 Quorum for the Academic Affairs Committee shall be twelve (12) or a quarter (1/4) of members, whichever is lower.

Academic Affairs Officer said they can do business if Council allows this motion to pass.

C. L. Conway said that it is important for the people who are on this committee to know they are on it. She thinks it is easier to obtain quorum if these people were notified.

G. King stressed that these people should be notified.

Question called.

Motion passed.

10.10. Motion R12-02-#064 • Motion Regarding External Affairs Officer Job Description (External Affairs Officer)

WHEREAS the structure of PGSS is similar to other Anglophone student associations in Montreal;
WHEREAS the demographics and composition of the PGSS student body is similar to other Anglophone student associations in Montreal;
WHEREAS the External Affairs Officer has regularly met and worked with the other Anglophone student associations in Montreal because of these similarities;

BIRT the PGSS Society Activities Manual, Section 3: External Affairs Officer, be amended to read,

“Representation
1.1.2. Represent the PGSS at all meetings of student associations of which the PGSS is a member and at all meetings with other Anglophone student associations in order to build a coalition of Anglophone student associations within the Quebec student movement.

Communication

1.2.1. Represent the PGSS at all meetings of student associations of which the PGSS is a member and at all meetings with other Anglophone student associations.

Campaigns
1.3.1. Be responsible for effectively communicating and implementing relevant programs and research projects that are consistent with the policies and positions of the PGSS, and that are developed in collaboration with groups of which the PGSS is a member and with other Anglophone student associations.”

External Affairs Officer, upon motivation, said this motion institutionalizes what is already happening. He already works with the VP Externals of SSMU and Concordia. He wants it to be part of the job description.

G. Lord asked if this is too specific for an amendment. Perhaps it should be more general so we don’t change the bylaws each time a project changes.

External Affairs Officer said that it is important that the VP external be collaborating with associations of Anglophone student associations. This is why he wants it to be part of the description.

Question called.

Motion passed.

10.11. Motion R12-02-#065 • Motion Regarding Duties of the Environment Committee (Environment Commissioner)

WHEREAS the current role and actions of the PGSS Environment Committee (PEC) are not in line with the purpose and duties outlined in Chapter 5 Section 11 of the PGSS Society Affairs Manual; WHEREAS the role of PEC has grown and this committee has been given additional responsibilities over the past year such as maintaining the Thomson House permaculture and vegetable gardens and organizing the Green Drinks Montreal Chapter events; WHEREAS the added responsibility outlined above has had a positive impact by allowing more opportunities for PGSS member engagement and education through events and workshops; WHEREAS the composition of PEC outlined in Chapter 5 Section 11.2 has too few positions to be able to complete the tasks being undertaken; currently there are two volunteers other than the regular members sitting in on committee meetings, participating in event planning and execution; WHEREAS the PGSS Society Affairs Manual should reflect the updated role of PEC; WHEREAS the role of PEC should explicitly include providing advice to the PGSS on environment related issues;

BIRT Chapter 5 Section 11 of the Society Affairs Manual be amended to read:

Section 11: PGSS Environment Committee (PEC)

1. Purpose
   1.1. The PGSS Environment Committee shall:
       1.1.1. Assess, monitor and make recommendations for the improvement of the PGSS’ operations in relation to the environment;
       1.1.2. Elicit opinions of PGSS members on the environment;
       1.1.3. Collaborate with other environmental groups and offices;
       1.1.4 Be responsible for the education of PGSS members on environmental issues;
       1.1.5 Make recommendations to the PGSS on environmentally related matters.

2. Composition
2.1. The Environment Commissioner (chair);
2.2. Five (5) at-large regular members of the PGSS;
2.3. All society representatives to:
   2.1.1 The Senate Committee on Physical Development (SCPD);
   2.1.2 The Sustainability Projects Fund (SPF).

The Environment Commissioner, upon motivation, said that there has seen extensive responsibilities for the new green initiatives. PEC has been struggling with existing responsibilities so we need one more member.

Question called.

Motion passed.

10.12. Motion R12-02-#066 • Motion Regarding Duties of the Environment Commissioner
(Environment Commissioner)
Acronyms: PEC = PGSS Environment Committee

WHEREAS the current role and actions of PEC are not in line with the purpose and duties outlined in Chapter 2 Section 3 of the PGSS Society Affairs Manual;
WHEREAS Chapter 5 Section 11.2.3 is written in a confusing manner such that it is not clear whether it is referencing two specific committees or the type of committee that PEC should appoint representatives to;
WHEREAS the Subcommittee on the Environment referenced in Chapter 2 Section 3 1.1.5 was dissolved in Fall 2011;

BIRT Chapter 2 Section 3 of the Society Affairs Manual be amended to read:

Section 3: Environment Commissioner

1. Duties of the Environment Commissioner

1.1 The Environment Commissioner shall:

   1.1.1 Be the Environment Committee’s direct liaison to the Executive Committee;
   1.1.2 Represent the PGSS’ interests in all environmental issues on campus;
   1.1.3 Monitor the implementation and success of the PGSS’ policies with respect to environmental concerns;
   1.1.4 Be the liaison with the SSMU Environment Commissioners;
   1.1.5 Represent the PGSS on the Sustainability Coordinating Group;
   1.1.6 Under the direction of the Member Services Officer, ensure that the PGSS is represented on University committees, subcommittees and work groups whose mandate includes environmental issues.

The Environment Commissioner, upon motivation, said that this motion clears the confusion in the Society Affairs Manual.

Question Called.

Motion passed.
10.13. Motion R12-02-#067 • Motion Regarding Duties of the Health Commissioner (Member Services Officer)

Background:

In 2012 the position of Member Services Officer (MSO) was created so that a position on the PGSS Executive existed to increase the level of service offered by the PGSS as well as advocate for improved services at the University level. A key component of the MSO portfolio is the relationship with our insurance broker and maintenance of the Health and Dental Insurance Plan, a task previously under the VP Finance portfolio.

Preamble:

Whereas a key component of the Member Services Officer is the maintenance and management of the Health and Dental Insurance Plan in addition to the management of services at PGSS and advocate for Services at McGill University, and

Whereas previously the Health Commissioner was significantly involved in the Health and Dental Insurance Plan because of an obvious disconnect between the VP Finance and the health needs of the student population

Whereas this disconnect has been rectified with the creation of the Member Services Officer

Whereas the Health Commissioner, given the limited hours that should be worked by commissioners, should not be occupied by addressing questions and concerns better addressed elsewhere and whereas the Executive would like this position and the Health and Wellness Committee to focus on Health and Wellness events, advocacy and outreach,

BIRT the Society Activities Manual Section 2: Commissioners Section 4: Health Commissioner be amended to remove 1.1.3. Assist the Executive Committee in negotiating health, dental, and vision insurance plans for the Society to offer its members,

Section 4: Health Commissioner
1. Duties of the Health Commissioner.
1.1. The Health Commissioner shall:
1.1.1. Be the Health and Wellness Committee’s direct liaison to the Executive Committee;
1.1.2. Represent the PGSS’ interests in all health and wellness issues on campus;
1.1.3. Assist the Executive Committee in negotiating health, dental, and vision insurance plans for the Society to offer its members;
1.1.4. Under the direction of the Member Services Officer, ensure that the PGSS is represented on University committees, subcommittees, and workgroups whose mandate includes health or wellness issues, including but not limited to the Committee for Student Services, the Health Services Advisory Committee, the Mental Health Services Advisory Board, and the Advisory Committee.

BIFRT the Society Activities Manual Section 4: Committees of Council Section 12: Health and Wellness Committee (HAWC) 1.1.4 be amended to read “Advise and make recommendations to the Member Services Officer on the state of the PGSS Health and Dental Insurance Plan”

Section 12: Health and Wellness Committee (HAWC)
1. Purpose
1.1. The Health and Wellness Committee shall:
1.1.1. Survey, assess, monitor and work towards improving the health and wellness of the PGSS community;
1.1.2. Be responsible for the education and promotion of health and wellness issues;
1.1.3. Collaborate with other health and/or wellness groups;
1.1.4. Advise and make recommendations to (Council) the Member Services Officer on the state of the PGSS Health and Dental Insurance Plan;
1.1.5. Make recommendations to Council on any health related matters.

Member Services Officer, upon motivation, said that the motion clarifies roles of who should look after the health plan.

Question called.

Motion passed.

10.14. Motion R12-02-#068 • Motion to Remove Member Services Committee from Society Activities Manual
(Member Services Officer)

Background:
In 2012 the position of Member Services Officer (MSO) was created so that a position on the PGSS Executive existed to increase the level of service offered by the PGSS as well as advocate for improved services at the University level. In addition to the Executive position a committee was written into the Society Activities Manual to be chaired by the MSO and to have a representative from all relevant service areas of PGSS and the Student Services.

Preamble:
Whereas the Member Services Committee is unusually large, and in practice could include over 30 members and,
Whereas the diverse range of members and the unique nature of each Student Service unit and PGSS service would make it impossible develop one cohesive services strategy and
Whereas the objectives of the Member Services Committee are/can be adequately or superiorly addressed by existing PGSS committees (e.g. the PGSS grants program by the Committee on Monetary Affairs)

Action:
BIRT the Society Activities Manual Chapter 5: Committees of Council Section 4: Member Services Committee (MSC) be removed.

Section 4: Member Services Committee (MSC)
1. Purpose
1.1. The Member Services Committee shall:
1.1.1. Coordinate strategy for matters flowing from University student services, and campus-wide student organizations;
1.1.2. Continuously assess and evaluate all services offered by the PGSS;
1.1.3. Consult on and evaluate any new services to be offered by the PGSS;
1.1.4. Administer the Grants Program including production of a monthly report to Council of funded grants, applications received, grants awarded, and applications rejected or delayed following procedures described in this Manual.
2. Composition
2.1. The Member Services Officer (chair);
2.2. One (1) member from Macdonald Campus Graduate Student Society (MCGSS);
2.3. One (1) PGSS member from the Family Care Caucus;
2.4. The PGSS representatives to:
   2.4.1. Committees within the athletics department;
   2.4.2. Committees and Advisory Boards for Student Services;
   2.4.3. The CKUT Board of Directors;
   2.4.4. The QPIRG Board of Directors.

BIFRT the Grants Program be removed from the purview of the Member Services Committee and fall under the duties of the Committee on Monetary Affairs and Chapter 5: Committees of Council Section 7: Committee on Monetary Affairs (CMA) be amended to include “1.1.3. Administer the Grants Program including production of a monthly report to Council of funded grants, applications received, grants awarded, and applications rejected or delayed following procedures described in this Manual.”

Section 7: Committee on Monetary Affairs (CMA)
1. Purpose
1.1. The Committee on Monetary affairs shall:
   1.1.1. Consider and make recommendations to the relevant governing bodies on all financial aspects of the operation and administration of the PGSS, including but not limited to PGSS budgets, administration of all funds and programs financed from them, corporate and business activities, and all fees levied by the University on behalf of the PGSS;
   1.1.2. Be responsible for helping the Finance Affairs Officer prepare all necessary financial documents, analyses, and budget.
   1.1.3 Administer the Grants Program including production of a monthly report to Council of funded grants, applications received, grants awarded, and applications rejected or delayed following procedures described in this Manual.

Member Services Officer, upon motivation, said that the committee never convenes and makes no sense.

G. Lord, on a point of information, asked Member Services Officer to explain grant portion of this motion.

Member Services Officer said this will now be sent to Committee of Monetary Affairs.

L. Harvey said the grants program is about money, but it has already been part of budget. Whoever is working in the grants program is under a defined budget.

Member Services Officer said the way that the grants are allocated has little room for personal opinion as these people sit on university committees.

*Motion passed.*

*Council adjourned 9:35 pm*
Post-Graduate Students’ Society of McGill University
3650 McTavish Street, Montreal, Quebec
C13-03-#09
Council Minutes
Unapproved
March 20, 2013, 5:46 pm

Executives

Jonathan Mooney Secretary-General, Michael Krause Internal Affairs Officer, Errol Salamon External Affairs Officer, Adam Bouchard Academic Affairs Officer, E. Cawley Member Services Officer

Councillors


Commissioners and non-voting Members

Gretchen King Equity Commissioner, Vikrant Bhosle Member Support Commissioner, Kelly Nugent Environment Commissioner, Sharon Gai Recording Secretary

Regrets

Maxim Bastarache, Alyson Parker, Matthew Rigby

Guests

Emma Windfeld Tribune, Amanda Winegardner, Benjamin Elgie
Call to Order 5:46 pm

Secretary General moved to nominate Daniel Simone as Chair.

Motion passed.

Council proceeded to announcements and nominations of several individuals in this Council meeting.

Helena from the Health and Wealth Committee said there are two positions to apply in this committee. Applications must be in by Thursday.

Council did a draw for the Appeals and Appointments board.

Two applications: B. Keith and D. Meadows.

Appeals board: Daniel Simone.

The Nomination of the Chief Returning Officer

C. Briggs gave a brief introduction of himself and his previous position in running the elections at Concordia.

L. Harvey said she had read in his statement that he was successful in achieving good voter turnout.

C. Briggs said that Facebook was part of the success. Online voting helped. The team of candidates was trained appropriately to stimulate people to go and vote. He will study how PGSS operates to make you want to vote.

External Affairs Officer asked C. Briggs what his plans are for this position in the long term and his plans to integrate people with PGSS culture.

C. Briggs said the nature of student unions is very transient, so there are problems. A rigid and easy-to-follow structure for elections can help ease the problems. In his previous position, there were clear and detailed procedures when he left. He would like to be here for more than a year. In the case of engaging people into the culture, he proposed to use PGSS as a network opportunity.

G. King asked if he read the bylaws, how he would render legal ambiguities and also asked him to speak to his experience in “hostility” in his statement.

C. Briggs said in his BA in Sociology, his specialization was in different minority groups. He gave an example of how his forms ensured that people who were third-gendered were included in everything. He has an academic understanding on how to be inclusive. In response to legal ambiguity, C. Briggs said he will base his decisions off of the constitution of the organization. In regards to “hostility”, he believes there is a judicial bar that looks over things.

Question called.

CRO approved.

Council adjourned at 6:21 pm.
Post-Graduate Students’ Society of McGill University
3650 McTavish Street, Montreal, Quebec
C13-05-#11
Council Minutes
Unapproved
May 1, 2013, 6:38 pm

Executives
Jonathan Mooney Secretary-General, Michael Krause Internal Affairs Officer,
Adam Bouchard Academic Affairs Officer, Elizabeth Cawley Member Services Officer, E.
Larson Financial Affairs Officer

Councillors
K. Siegel ADAMS CLUB, J. Baker AGSA, D. Sanader AHCS-GSA, C. Stone ALLCGS, D.
Leung BGSA, K. Hamelin BGSA, E. Pedersen BGSA, L. Van der Kraak BGSS, J. Ma,
BGSS, S. Caldwell BGSS, A. Olanrewaju BMESS, P. DeCorwin-Martin BMESS, L.
Bourdages CAOS, W. Farrell CEGSS, O. Bushuyev CGSS, A. Kazarine CGSS, H. Erythropel
CHEGSS, M. Dick CHEGSS, J. Tremblay CSGS, B.-J. Oakes Shared, X. Shi Cai Shared,
D. Mastroianni DDSS, J. Labrecque EBOSS, S. Rahmi EEGSS, Y. Feng EEGSS, G. Lord
EGSA-economics, K. Pinder EGSA-English, C. L. Conway EGSS, S. Shah EGSS, M.
Serrano EGSS, B. Huor EMGSS, C. Melendez EMGSS, S. Sahakian ESGSS, J.A. Purat
ESGSS, K. Charamba GLSA, B. Por GLSA, G. Sorrento GRSS, B. Dawe GSAN, P.
McCampill GSAN, D. Meadows HGSS, M. Akpa HGSS, S. Mokhtar HGSS, J. Degeer
MAGSS, B. Keith GSAMS, A. Best GSAMS, P. Vanessa Guerra MCGSS, R. Krause
MCGSS, A. Ahmed MGAPSS, F. Siddiqui MGAPSS, M. Sesay MGAPS, G. Dupuis MGAPS,
B. Schmidt MGAPS, Y. Bresler MGAPS, R. Michael Winters MGSS, A.-S. Pratte MGSEAS,
M. McCallum MIGSA, S. Radjavi Shared, M. Bouchard MLISSA, F. Strohschein NGSA,
G. Boukhaled PGSA-Physiology, B. Rocque PGSA-Physiology, J. Tabaka PGSA-
Psychiatry, M.A. Xhinesse PPSMUA, R. Greydanus RSGS, N. Hyba SWAGS, W. J.
Edward Lee SWAGS, M. M. Chaineau Postdoctoral Studies, L. Harvey Postdoctoral
Studies, C. O’May Postdoctoral Studies.

Commissioners and non-voting members
Gretchen King Equity Commissioner, C. Briggs Chief Returning Officer

Regrets
Maxim Bastarache, Alyson Parker, Alina Geameana, Jamie Woods, Emily Yung, Vikrant
Bhosle

Gallery and Guests
Lucy Lu MCGSS President, Abigail Shapiro AHCS, Robert Smith AHCS, Cayley Sorohan
AHCS, Claire Girard AHCS, Francois Mouillot AHCS, Patrick Kobeck AHCS, Laurent Bastien
Corbeil The Daily, Andru Cernavsleis The McGill Tribune, Li Cornfeld AHCS, Paul Fontaine
AHCS, Saelan Twerdy AHCS.
Call to Order 6:38 pm

Secretary General moved to nominate Daniel Simone as Chair.

Motion passed.

1. Approval of the Agenda

   Y. Bresler moved to change 8.1 to 5.1 for benefit of Board of Directors. G. Lord seconded.

   Motion passed.

   C L Conway moved to add the presentation of a GSA letter to the agenda. Acting Chair rejected
   motion as it was previously refused by the chair; however permitted its presentation during the
   Speakers’ Reports.

   Member Services Officer moved to strike the motion to censure the External Affairs Officer; however
   as it had been previously removed by an executive motion it was redundant. Member Services
   Officer withdrew the request.

   Agenda approved.

2. Speaker’s Report

Chair presented expectations.

3. Announcements

C L Conway and Mouillot from AHCS commenced presenting an open letter ratified by their GSA,
among others. Chair reminded speakers that reading is prohibited. Speakers commenced
summarizing letter which spoke of abuses of power at PGSS.

4. New Business

Secretary-General moved to extend speaking rights to the Board of Directors. Member Services
Officer seconded.

Motion passed.

Financial Affairs Officer moved to go into close session. G. Lord seconded.

Motion passed.

Council entered into closed session.

Unknown member raised a point of person privilege – claiming Council had exceeded its time limit by
30 minutes. Said member moved to extend council by 30 minutes. Y. Bresler seconded.

Chair called to vote. Vote failed.

Council adjourned.
Post-Graduate Students’ Society of McGill University
3650 McTavish Street, Montreal, Quebec
C13-05-#11
Council Minutes
Approved
May 29, 2013, 6:39 pm

Executives

Jonathan Mooney Secretary-General, Erik Larson Financial Affairs Officer, Adam Bouchard Academic Affairs Officer, Elizabeth Cawley Member Services Officer, Navid khosravih Ashemi External Affairs Officer

Councillors

Commissioners and non-voting members
Helena Zakrzewski Health Commissioner

Gallery and Guests
Jacob Sagrans Equity Committee, Patrick Kobek ALLCGS
Call to Order 6:39 pm

D. Meadows and M. Akpa nominated B. Rocque to be speaker.

B. Rocque became Speaker.

1. Approval of the Agenda

   Agenda approved.

2. Speaker’s Report

   Cross talking is not allowed

   The Speaker asked that Council maintain a spirit of respect during the meeting.

   The Speaker allotted 2 minutes of speaking time for debate, 1 minute speaking time for asking a question.

   Jacob Sagrans from the Equity Committee was given speaking rights.

3. Announcements

   Financial Affairs Officer proposed 20 minutes to present the budget.

   Motion passed.

   3.1. Draft Budget Presentation (Finance Officer)

   Financial Affairs Officer presented Year End Budget.

   Secretary General asked if we were to separate out the operations from the business, is the business breaking even?

   Finance officer said we are breaking even with +1% or -1% of our goal.

4. Approval of the Minutes

   A. Best moved. G. Boukhaled seconded.

   April meeting minutes were approved.

   Secretary General moved. B. Keith seconded.

   February meeting minutes were approved.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes and Standing Orders

   5.1. Motion R12-04-#088 • To accept recommendations of the Appointments Board (Appointments Board)
BIRT Council approves the nominations outlined in the report of the Appointments Board.

V. Somos asked if all positions are unopposed.

D. Meadows said that three of them were unopposed and one of them was opposed but they were advertised for the recommended amount of time on the website.

V. Somos in the December Council meeting, the Appointments Board said it would justify its decisions in choosing one person over another.

Academic Affairs Officer apologized for the oversight. For the Health Commissioner position, we had one person for the position and then two. Due to this, the Health Commissioner position was pushed back for late.

Motion passed.

6. Executive Reports

6.1. Academic Affairs Officer

We need to approve three people, two primaries and one alternate, to sit on the committee of the Dean of Education. If anyone interested in the position, approach him after Council.

6.2. Finance Officer

6.3. Secretary-General

If someone has a problem with a way that an officer’s conduct is, or how a decision is made, please ask during question period. Let’s use the democratic process for everyone to engage in debate.

There were people who breached the confidentiality of the closed session. This is serious because we should be able to divulge as frankly as possible in those sessions. He reinforced that Council can not break those rules.

6.4. Member Services Officer

7. Commissioner Reports

There were no Commissioner Reports because Council is in a transition period.

7.1. Environment Commissioner

7.2. Member Support Commissioner

7.3. Health Commissioner

8. Other Reports

8.1. Policy and Structure Advisory Committee

The policy to adopt in this report is gender parity on Board of Directors of PGSS.
Secretary General, upon motivation, said that at AGM, two members submitted a motion for gender parity. In the past, there has been a large representation of men. Women are still underrepresented this year. We looked at non-profit organizations out of PGSS that is effective in maintaining gender parity and developed a policy that is as follows: If there are vacancies on the Board and there aren't two women on the Board already, we will try to find a female candidate so that at least two of those five appointed positions are filled by women. The policy also states that if we can't find females with enough expertise, we will not be tied to the rule.

G. Lord congratulated PSAC for a well done job. He thinks that this strikes a good balance. He asked if this was for non-elected members and suggested that something in the preamble should indicate that this policy does not apply to already elected Directors.

Secretary General said that PSAC shouldn't have an outcome on democratic elections so this rule would apply to appointed positions only.

Parliamentarian was given speaking rights.

He asked what about the Council Director?

Secretary General said that G. Lord is Council Director.

Motion passed.

8.2. Equity Committee

Jacob Sagrans, from the Equity Committee, said he was happy to field any questions. He said that the rationale is laid out pretty clearly in the statement. He thinks that the Equity Committee should be involved in the process that involves the idea of equity.

G Lord, speaking in debate, said this motion is putting Equity Committee into the role that belongs to the PSAC. It sounds like the equity committee is going to be involved in all procedures, even when it doesn’t have purview. He suggested a different wording as an amendment.

**BIRT the Policy and Structural Advisory Committee be convened to develop with appropriate consultation of other PGSS committees policies and procedures taking into consideration the reports and recommendations issued by the BOD to the May 1st Council, the BOD March 1st statement, and the report on Conflict Resolution Processes commissioned by the BOD.**

V. Somos, on the Equity Committee for the past two years, spoke against the amendment, saying that she didn’t understand why the equity committee can’t be part of PSAC procedures. She thinks that the PSAC is not well versed enough to decide when Equity committee should be involved.

G Lord said that not all changes that need to be made involve equity issues. We are mandating PSAC to have appropriate consultation with committees involved, which is what they are doing anyway, but we are stressing this in the amendment.

Amendment passed.

The Secretary General and Chair of PSAC, speaking in favor of the motion, said it doesn’t matter if this motion will pass; the equity committee will be involved.
Motion passed.

8.3. Governance Committee

Amendments to the SAM require two readings and they have to pass with 2/3 majority. This is the second reading.

5.1. Motion R12-02-#065 · Motion Regarding Duties of the Environment Committee

Motion passed.

5.3. Motion R12-02-#067 · Motion Regarding Duties of the Health Commissioner

Motion passed.

5.4. Motion R12-02-#068 · Motion to Remove Member Services Committee from Society Activities Manual

Motion passed.

8.4. Language Policy Committee

Member Services Officer, Chair of Language Policy Committee, said they were getting operating documents translated. Before they came up with a general policy, they changed specific bylaws regarding translation. One item to be added is the official language policy. They are bringing this to Council to obtain Council’s recommendations. Based on Council’s comments, they will go back to develop the policy. She noted that bylaws are things that have to happen while policies are more for discussion, and open to modification.

D. Meadows questioned the MSO, and asked what the costs are to changes being made.

Secretary General said currently the cost is $15,000 and he believes that it will be around the same with the changes.

9. Question Period

10. New Business

10.1. Motion R12-05-#089 · PGSS Response to Proposed Library Closures
(Education Graduate Student Society (EGSS))

WHEREAS McGill University Library website states that the “McGill Library has become a 24-hour hub for student life, study, and group learning. More than 100,000 people use McGill’s 13 libraries and special collections daily to conduct research, study, or collaborate on group projects” [1].

WHEREAS libraries are essential in educational institutions both to provide materials and resources to foster learning and the advancement of knowledge, and to provide a physical study space for students;

WHEREAS PGSS Secretary-General Jonathan Mooney was quoted in the Montreal Gazette (April 16th, 2013) stating that, “For graduate students, the library is an essential service” [2]
WHEREAS on May 23rd, 2012, the PGSS Council passed a motion to donate approximately half a million dollars from the Library Improvement Fund (paid for by graduate students) to the university libraries [3];
WHEREAS the Student Society of McGill University (SSMU) collected $651,848 for the Library Improvement Fund in the Summer 2012 with approximately $77K donated to Education Library’s Improvement Project [4];
WHEREAS in a report dated April 12th, 2013, the CBC reported that McGill University is considering shutting down libraries at two of its faculties – Education and Life Sciences – in the face of a $1.8 million budget cut to the university library system [5];
WHEREAS the Education Graduate Student Society (EGSS) passed a motion on April 15th 2013 to immediately initiate and coordinate a campaign to prevent the closure of the Education Library [6];
WHEREAS on April 16, 2013 the Education Faculty Council passed 2 motions deploring the possibility of the closure or merger of the Education Library and committed to supporting all reasonable efforts to avoid this outcome and called for a townhall to take place.
WHEREAS the Education Undergraduate Society (EDUS) released a statement on April 17th, 2013 deploring the proposed closure/merger of the Education Library and Curriculum Resources Centre. [7]
WHEREAS the elimination of library services would negatively impact the ease of access to materials and resources by both undergraduate and graduate students;
WHEREAS the University should consult the student body in decisions that affect students directly;
WHEREAS the PGSS is mandated to work towards improving the quality and accessibility of post-graduate education at McGill[8];

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (BIRT) the PGSS Council enter into a committee of the whole for 10 minutes to discuss potential library closures;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT (BIRFT) the PGSS members serving on various deliberative bodies within the University community advocate for increased consultation with students and communications regarding any proposed changes to library services;
BIRFT the PGSS seek active participation in discussions regarding changes to any forthcoming changes to university services in lieu of the cuts to the University’s budget;
BIRFT that PGSS support efforts to retain library services for students and to keep library spaces open and available for student use.

Speaker used her discretion to divide the question.

Council entered committee of the whole.

Council exited committee of whole.

J. Karpetz said the last resolution was categorical and lacked specificity. He is unclear to the effectual purpose it serves.

Academic Affairs Officer explained with an example like people helping students do researching and those who do shelving are the “services” in the last resolution.

Secretary General said that PGSS doesn’t want to see any libraries close. If there is anything that we can do to affect that, we will. We need to present a case of how it can be managed to prevent it from closing. In the conversation that he has had, it seems that we need to propose an alternative if we don’t want to go to that direction.
D. Meadows said we need to keep in mind that the $1.8 million dollars will be cut. She would rather that money go to access of online journals, at least in terms of the life science library, and not the physical space.

S. Shah, in response, said that Education students physically use the space though Life Science might not. She appreciates that when cuts are done, that PGSS at least support this motion.

Academic Affairs officer moved to postpone this motion to next meeting when there will be more information.

Motion passed.

10.2. Motion R12-04-#090 · Resignation of the Environment Commissioner
(Executive Committee)

BIRT Council ratify the resignation of the Environment Commissioner.

Secretary General, upon motivation, said the Environment Commissioner said that PGSS accept her resignation.

Motion passed.

10.3. Motion R12-04-#091 · Resignation of the External Affairs Officer
(Executive Committee)

BIRT Council ratify the resignation of the External Affairs Officer.

Secretary General motivated by saying that we received a letter from External Affairs Officer for resignation.

Motion passed.

10.4. Motion R12-05-#092 · Recognition of Friends of the Society
(Executive Committee)

BIRT Council approve the recognition of Friends of the Society as outline in Appendix A

Secretary General motivated by saying that this was a tradition that has fallen out over the past couple of years. Friends of Society are those who we recognize the people who went above and beyond in serving graduate students. Appendix A lists those people.

Academic Affairs Officer moved to amend to add name Scott Kushner, who worked on McGill Writing Center.

Amendment passed.

G. Lord asked what it means to be a Friend of Society, and how many “Friends” we can have.

Secretary General thought we can have certificates for these people to say thank you and recognize them to present at the next Council meeting.
The Health Commissioner, amended to have one more name added, Amanda Unruh, Health Promotions Coordinator.

Amendment passed.

Secretary General added Martine Desjardins, Yannick Gregoire, Cameron Monagle, and Leah Freeman.

G. Lord, on a point of debate, said that it would be nice if Council could know what these individuals have done to deserve the title of Friend of Society. He moved to table this to next meeting of Council so that Council can read a few lines of why these people have been added.

Secretary General spoke against motion, saying that this is the last meeting of the year. He offered to take a few minutes to go down the list to introduce what these people have done. Next time Council convenes, we can come to Council with a report.

V. Somos, in support the postponement, said that these names are chosen in an ad hoc fashion.

Member Services Officer, spoke in favour of postponement, because the Executive has some disagreements as to who to add to the list.

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned 8:22 pm