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1 Approval of the agenda

1.1 Applications sent from the Appointments Board Committee for Approval

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<td>Internal Affairs Committee</td>
<td>Marie-Pier Girouard</td>
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<td>Health and Wellness Committee</td>
<td>Andrew Taehun Song</td>
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2 Approval of the minutes

3 Speaker’s report

4 Announcements

4.1 Presentation on McGill’s "Wellness Strategy"

Robyn Wiltshire, Interim Senior Director of Student Services, will give a short presentation followed by a question period.

4.2 CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS: Fall 2016 Post-Graduate Orientation

The Internal Affairs Committee is looking for sociable and enthusiastic individuals for the Fall 2016 Post-Graduate Orientation (August 28-September 11) for the following:

1. Orientation Planning: Volunteers to assist the Internal Affairs Committee in the planning and logistical aspects of orientation events
2. Discover McGill and PGSS BBQ on September 7th: Volunteers to be on site to greet new students and help guide them where they need to go
3. Promotion Team: Volunteers to help secure sponsors and to promote Post-Graduate Orientation Week
4. MTL Food Crawl and other guided tours: Volunteers to be Group Leaders (similar to Frosh Leaders)

If you are interested in volunteering, please email internal.pgss@mail.mcgill.ca.
4.3 Representatives needed for Search Committees

We are looking for PGSS representatives on the Advisory Committee for the Selection of a Vice-Principal (Research and International Relations), and the Advisory Committee for the Selection of a Vice-Principal (Administration and Finance). If you are interested in serving on either or would like more information, please email Danielle (sec-gen.pgss@mail.mcgill.ca) or Devin (academic.pgss@mail.mcgill.ca)

5 Business Arising

5.1 Course evaluation contestation procedure!

Research suggests that female and racialized instructors tend to receive lower ratings and more disrespectful comments. In partnership with the JBSCE subcommittee on Racialized and Ethnic persons, I was attempting to document complaints and issues that TAs have received. However, since February, anyone who wants to submit a complaint about an inappropriate comment will be able to send it to the office of Angela Campbell (Associate Provost). If the comment is judged inappropriate, the entire answer set of answers associated with it will be removed.

See more info on the bottom of this page: https://www.mcgill.ca/mercury/instructors/information

Course evaluation contestation procedure!

5.2 Changes to SAM - First View by Council

Whereas, Changes to the SAM were necessary to make the Standing Committees of PGSS more functional

BIRT, Council conditionally approve the changes included in the attached document, therefore, recommending a review by the Policy and Structure Committee.

Changes to SAM - First View by Council

6 Reports

6.1 Environment Commissioner Report

Environment Commissioner Report
6.2 Report of the Equity and Diversity Commissioner

Fire away!

2016-03-29 Report of the Equity and Diversity Commissioner

6.3 Report of the Member Support Commissioner to April Council

The meeting with student services was enlightening.
Also, we helped a couple of students switch supervisors.

2016-03-31 Report of the Member Support Commissioner to April Council

6.4 Report of the External Affairs Officer to Council

2016-03-30 Report of the External Affairs Officer to Council

6.5 Report of the Members Services Officer to April 2016 Council

Includes detailed update on Student Services budget.

2016-03-30 Report of the Members Services Officer to April 2016 Council

6.6 Secretary-General Report to April Council

2016-04-01 Secretary-General Report to April Council

6.7 Report from AAO

Here is what I have been up to

2016-03-29 Report from AAO
6.8 Report of the Internal Affairs Officer

2016-03-30 Report of the Internal Affairs Officer

6.9 Report from the Board of Directors

See you at Mac!

2016-03-30 Report from the Board of Directors

7 Question Period

8 Discussion

8.1 New budget template and draft of next budget proposal

Whereas the current template of the PGSS budget is complicated and confusing and is not easy to summarize and discuss.

Whereas the breakdowns of each budget line was not properly determined in the previous template and the template provided in the last fiscal years did not have functioning formulas and links.

Whereas a preliminary new template for the budget was presented to the council by the FAO in the fall of the current fiscal year.

Whereas clarity and comprehensiveness of the budget is crucial for better managing the financials of the corporation.

Whereas the FAO believes discussion and input from the council is essential before approval of the next year fiscal road map.

Whereas details of some cost projections require board approval and are in process (specifically salaries) hence the attached document is still a draft.

Attached is the new interactive template of the last year budget with preliminary proposal for the next year budget lines that are under the council's purview. Please take the time and review the template and bring your questions and concerns as the prospective financial planning of the organization requires full vigilance of the council in order to absorb the deficits that PGSS is facing in the next 5 years.

Note: the summery sheets are interactive and by clicking on the + you can see more details. Also lines can be sorted by selecting and dragging rows.

New budget template and draft of next budget proposal
8.2 McGill Student Services FY17 budget update

I would like to update Council on the information we received from the Deputy Provost (Student Life & Learning) regarding the Student Service budget for financial year 2017 (FY17).

8.3 Report from GPS on Graduate Funding

Open discussion - What questions do you have for the Dean of GPS?

9 New Business

9.1 Motion to Approve: FEUQ Fee Discontinuation Question

Whereas the FEUQ assembly adopted a motion to cease levying membership fees starting Autumn 2015 as part of its winding down process (legal liquidation);
Whereas this motion is part of irrevocable legal process that leads to the cession of the FEUQ as an association;
Whereas this motion cannot be revoked, and cannot lead to a later demand for fees as was the case with the CFS;
Whereas the Chief Returning Officer will be running a referendum in October for which he has arranged for additional questions to be added to the referendum;
BIRT the following question be put to referendum with options to vote "for", vote "against", and to "abstain"

"As per the July 19th resolution of the University student federation of Quebec (FEUQ) to eliminate membership fees as part of its winding down process (liquidation), do you agree that PGSS cease to collect from members the FEUQ membership fee of 2.53 per semester (excluding summer) starting in September of 2016?"

9.2 Motion to Approve: QSU Referendum Question

BIRT, the following question be put to referendum with options to vote "for", vote "against", and to "abstain"

"Do you support the PGSS affiliating with the Quebec Student Union (QSU), understanding that the affiliation is associated with the creation of a non-opt-outable QSU fee of $4.50 per student per semester, payable on Minerva by all graduate students (downtown and Macdonald campus, excluding post doctoral fellows) who are members of the PGSS, starting in Winter 2017 and to be charged until Winter 2021"
9.3 Motion to Approve: AVEQ Referendum Question

BIRT, the following question be put to referendum with options to vote "for", vote "against", and to "abstain"
"Do you support the PGSS affiliating with the Association for the Voice of Education in Quebec (AVEQ),
understanding that the affiliation is associated with the creation of a non-opt-outable AVEQ fee of $3.50
per student per semester, payable on Minerva by all graduate students (downtown and MacDonald cam-
pus, excluding post doctoral fellows) who are members of the PGSS, starting in Winter 2017 and to be
charged until Winter 2021 (inclusive), adjusted annually to inflation as indexed by the Bank of Canada CPI
(Consumer Price Index), and understanding that a no vote will result in the PGSS remaining unaffiliated
from AVEQ?"

9.4 Second reading: Motion to Adopt a Policy on Procedures for Affiliation With
or Disaffiliation From a Student Federation

Second reading: Motion to Adopt a Policy on Procedures for Affiliation With or Disaffiliation From a Stu-
dent Federation

9.5 First Reading: Motion to Amend the PGSS Issues Policy: On Tuition Fees

Motion to Amend the PGSS Issues Policy: On Tuition Fees

WHEREAS the current PGSS issues policy on tuition fees was adopted in March 2011 and has not been
amended;
WHEREAS the financial accessibility of post-secondary education is a key priority for the PGSS in rep-
resenting its members’ interests;
WHEREAS differential fees place significantly higher financial burdens on out of province Canadian and
international students than Quebec resident students and many PGSS members are out of province
Canadian and international students;
WHEREAS the Quebec government in February 2015 announced plans to allow universities to increase
tuition fees for international students by up 25% of their current rate;
WHEREAS tax credits and work permits are means for out of province Canadian and international stu-
dents to decrease their financial vulnerability;
WHEREAS the PGSS Council recommended the creation of a policy on ancillary fees in March 2011 and
no such policy has yet to be adopted;
BIRT the following amendments be made to the PGSS Issues Policy: On Tuition Fees to better represent
the interests of PGSS members, in particular those of out of province Canadian and international students;
BIRT a committee be struck to look into creating a PGSS policy on ancillary fees.
Motion to Amend the PGSS Issues Policy: On Tuition Fees

9.6 First Reading: Proposed Changes to the Society Activities Manual

Whereas, Changes to the Society Activities Manual were necessary to make the Standing Committees of PGSS more functional

BIRT, Council conditionally approve the changes included in the attached document, therefore, recommending a review by the Policy and Structure Committee.

Proposed Changes to the Society Activities Manual

10 PGSA Announcements