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1 Approval of the agenda

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3 Speaker’s Report

4 Announcements

4.1 Looking for students or researchers familiar with university policies & rights

The Committee for Member Support deals with cases that involve PGSS members who feel their rights have been violated, or who find that the nature of McGill policies or the enforcement of such policies result in unfair outcomes. To deal with such cases, we’d like to reach out to students or researchers at McGill or nearby who have expertise in university policies including student rights policies and assessment policies, especially as it pertains to graduate students and postdocs. Please contact the Committee for Member Support at ssc.pgss@mail.mcgill.ca if you can help, know of someone who can, or want to help. Thank you!

4.2 CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS: Fall 2016 Post-Graduate Orientation (August 28-September 11)

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS: Fall 2016 Post-Graduate Orientation (August 28-September 11)

We are looking for volunteers for the Fall 2016 Post-Graduate Orientation for the following unofficial committees:

1. Planning Committee in charge of organizing Logistics of orientation events. Need individuals with good organizational skills.

2. Sponsorship Committee in charge of contacting sponsors and negotiating contracts. Need individuals with good communication and/or negotiation skills.

3. Media and Outreach Committee in charge of outgoing media, including design of printed media and social media advertising of orientation events. Need individuals with good design and/or social media skills.

4. Promotion and Engagement Committee in charge of running the events, on-site during orientation. Includes Discover McGill "Ask me" staff and Food Crawl, Pub Crawl and tour leaders. Need outgoing, sociable, enthusiastic individuals to welcome newcomers and break the ice and energize the crowd. Similar to Frosh leaders.

No experience required. Anyone can volunteer.

Please email internal.pgss@mail.mcgill.ca if interested.

Please indicate if you are currently involved with a PGSS committee, PGSS council or a Post Graduate Student Association.
5 Business Arising

6 Reports

6.1 Environment Commissioner Report

2016-03-10 Environment Commissioner Report

6.2 Member Support Commissioner Report - Winter AGM

Yearly report with details on:
1. Nature & number of inquiries received (graph)
2. Applications & funding provided to PGSS members from Member Legal Support Fund
3. New initiatives from the Committee for Member Support

2016-04-27 Member Support Commissioner Report - Winter AGM

6.3 Yearly Report of the Equity and Diversity Commissioner

2016-04-27 Yearly Report of the Equity and Diversity Commissioner

6.4 Health Commissioner Report

2016-04-27 Health Commissioner Report

6.5 Internal Affairs Officer Report for Winter General Meeting (Updated)

2016-04-27 Internal Affairs Officer Report for Winter General Meeting (Updated)
6.6 2016-03-16_SecGen_Report_WinterGeneralMeeting

2016-03-09 2016-03-16_SecGen_Report_WinterGeneralMeeting

6.7 2016-03-16_FAO_Report_WinterGeneralMeeting

2016-03-09 2016-03-16_FAO_Report_WinterGeneralMeeting

6.8 Member Services Officer Report to General Meeting, March 2016

Member Services Officer Report to General Meeting, March 2016

Addresses the following topics and is accompanied by previous Council reports for full detailed information:

* Services at McGill
* Services at PGSS
* Family Care
* Mental Health
* PGSS financial issues

2016-03-09 Member Services Officer Report to General Meeting, March 2016

6.9 External Affairs Officer Report to Winter Annual General Meeting

2016-04-27 External Affairs Officer Report to Winter Annual General Meeting

6.10 Report from AAO

Please feel free to ask any questions.

2016-03-10 Report from AAO
6.11 Grants program report

Whereas in the PGSS Society Activities Manual Chapter 14 section 1 3.2 states that "The CMA shall maintain appropriate statistics and analyses thereof regarding the applications it receives in order to inform its decision-making procedures. These statistics shall be presented at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the end of the financial year by the Financial Affairs Officer (FAO).

Attached is the current year grants statistics and a comparison with the previous years (as much as the documentations allowed for the previous years).

7 New Business

7.1 Motion Regarding Sexual Assault at McGill University

WHEREAS, sexual assault occurs disproportionately to certain groups, including women, trans and gender nonconforming people, queer people, racialized and ethnic persons, indigenous people, people with lower socioeconomic status, and people with disabilities;
WHEREAS, sexual assault occurs disproportionately on university campuses;
WHEREAS, sexual assault is under-reported and inadequately supported;
WHEREAS, adequate response to sexual assault requires the institutionalization of proactive and reactive measures;
WHEREAS, stand-alone policies on sexual assault help reduce under-reporting on campus;
WHEREAS, a comprehensive policy on sexual assault does not exist at McGill University;
WHEREAS, the McGill Administration recently rejected the sexual assault policy written by the Sexual Assault Working Group after two years of student-led research, extensive consultation with the community, and negotiation with the university;
BIRT PGSS endorses the Sexual Assault Working Group’s open letter to the McGill administration;
BIFRT PGSS recognizes that sexual assault is an urgent issue that must be addressed on campus;
BIFRT PGSS endorses and promotes the adoption of a sexual assault policy and the implementation of protocol and resources at McGill University that are accessible, proactive, pro-survivor and intersectional, as outlined in the demands of the open letter.

4 “McGill Administration Continues to Fail Survivors of Sexual Assault: An Open Letter to the Administration of McGill University.” 7 April 2016.
5 https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pNNUPLwtlMTk_wNhWnXoYIsk2_n5jr-dWCOxITekwV0/edit
Motion Regarding Sexual Assault at McGill University ()
Motion Regarding Sexual Assault at McGill University ()
Motion Regarding Sexual Assault at McGill University ()

7.2 Motion to Ratify Appointments to the Board of Directors

WHEREAS the Board of Directors has approved the appointment of two (2) new Board members, which were recommended by the Appointments Board;
WHEREAS Emily Moore has been appointed to fill one (1) of the two (2) seats reserved for Internal Members;
WHEREAS Andrew Dixon has been appointed to fill one (1) of the two (2) seats reserved for Internal Members;
BIRT the appointment of these Directors be ratified.

7.3 Motion to Approve Revisions to the Bylaws

WHEREAS, Commissioner positions are not currently considered "titled" positions in the existing bylaws. WHEREAS, the proposed amendments make Commissioner positions titled positions thus better governing their place in the society. WHEREAS, the PGSS currently has a joint Policy and Positions Manual that serves as a manual for "evidence-based positions touching on areas of political interest to the PGSS" but does not have a systematic place for storing governance-related policies. WHEREAS, the proposed amendments create two separate Manuals to better store political positions (the Positions Manual) and governance-related policies (Policy Manual). WHEREAS, Roberts Rules of Order are currently used in all bodies as rules of parliamentary procedure but the existing bylaws related to parliamentary procedure are vague. WHEREAS, the proposed changes stipulate Robert's Rules of Order as the primary rules of order for the Society while allowing for additions and amendments when necessary for effective operation. WHEREAS, there are currently no listed grounds for removal or censure in the Bylaws. WHEREAS, the proposed changes cite violations of the Code of Conduct or agreed-upon best practices to be grounds for removal or censure. WHEREAS, other minor changes have been proposed to aid understanding or increase ease of readability of the bylaws. BIRT, the PGSS General Meeting approve the proposed amendments to the Bylaws. BIFRT, the proposed amendments take effect immediately following approval at the General Meeting.
Motion to Approve Revisions to the Bylaws ()

Motion to Approve Revisions to the Bylaws ()

7.4 Approval of Frank Santillo Inc as the external financial auditor of PGSS

Whereas according to PGSS bylaws Section 9 1.10 The PGSS shall submit to an annual audit. Auditors shall be approved by the Board of Directors and at the Annual General Meeting in accordance with the Quebec Companies Act.

Whereas Frank Santillo has done audits for PGSS in the past and the board of directors have expressed their satisfaction with his reports.

Whereas Frank Santillo is currently auditing the quarterly reports and overseeing the accounting transitions.

BIRT Frank Santillo CPA, Inc. be approved as the financial auditor for 2015-2016 fiscal year

8 Discussion Items