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Dean Cook said she was not aware of that, but her e-mail is [colleen.cook@mcgill.ca](mailto:colleen.cook@mcgill.ca). She said she was very interested in hearing students' concerns "please meet with me." She also wanted to bring up that right now there are only 33 people who are providing face-to-



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about the police, and information on complaints about McGill security will be coming up soon. Let her know if you would like more information.

Vice-President Fraser said that advanced room bookings are pretty much done and will be confirmed on Monday.

Councillor Hernandez said that the varsity blood drive is coming up the week after this coming Monday.

President Knight said that there is a notice of motion today for changing the General Assembly bylaws. That will probably not be the final version that is passed and there will be a town hall to discuss this document more thoroughly which has not yet been asked.

#### 8) Question Period

Chair Nizam said that this is an opportunity to ask any questions about November 10<sup>th</sup>.

Councillor Clarke said that one recommendation at the event on Monday and at Senate was to naming the James Square Community Square, and asked what SSMU is doing to support that. President Knight said that ultimate decisions are made on the BOG. She and Vice-President Clare will be meeting with the Secretary General and bringing this up.

Vice-President Clare asked if any Councillors feel that SSMU should be providing more support services.

Councillor Uribe-Arango asked if she could list off the support services that are being offered.

Vice-President Clare said that there is active listening to be provided by Nightline and SACOMSS. If all Councillors feel that this should be extended further, or if you have any ideas of what you can do in the upcoming weeks, she would welcome that.

Councillor Bernard asked if the number of calls to Nightline and SACOMSS was more than they could be sustained. She suggested hiring a social worker or psychologist if that was the case.

Councillor Kunev said that there has been a differentiation between what the occupiers said and what the administration said. He asked what would be the proper avenue to address this and get to the truth and is there anything else we can do in helping the investigation.

President Knight said we don't have a completely unbiased, everything-recorded version of the events. She said she would encourage people to submit things to the investigation. Also there is an independent student inquiry ([independentstudentinquiry@gmail.com](mailto:independentstudentinquiry@gmail.com)) so you can submit things in writing or set up interviews with them. SSMU has been collecting testimonials as well. We will see a concrete series of events hopefully come forward through these.

Councillor Clarke said that while he understands the importance of a student inquiry, he is concerned about the lack of confidence in the Dean of Law's testimony. He asked "do you hope that these testimonies will be sent to the Dean of Law, as well, as his testimony will carry more weight?"

Vice-President Clare said that the people who wrote in to SSMU needed to write in to engage in some sort of healing process. She has sent e-mails in response to each of the e-mails received and



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asked if that could be sent to the Dean and to the Inquiry and whether it could be shared at Senate. Each respondent has requested different things in the ways that they would like their information to be shared.

Councillor Chaini said that opening up the SSMU office is a good thing. A lot of students are traumatized. She asked if students know where to go. She said that a lot of students want to have more information from SSMU.

Vice-President Fraser said that there could be a reminder about all of the services being offered and QPIRG and McGill Counselling are organizing more time for sessions. There is information on the website which should stay up-to-date. She said that for herself, things have been really hard this past week and she wanted to make sure that everybody is seeking support for themselves. It might be hard to seek support for yourself especially if you are in a leadership role.

President Knight said that an MRO sent by the Deputy Provost had a link to the SSMU blog post as well as other services. In terms of providing more information, they would like to have faith in the Dean of Laws investigation. More information could be sent out to students as a response after the investigation is published.

Councillor Hernandez said that there was a perfect opportunity to use the emergency communication service on November 1.

Vice-President Clare said that on Friday, they met with Professor Mendelson and the Dean of Students and different members of university safety. They said if they sent out the wrong message, there could be an inundation of students coming in to see what was happening. She said that Montreal has a significant history of having to clear people out of areas. Vice-President Clare said that the Dean will not be focusing on what the police did. She said there are remaining questions about why students weren't told not to go inside and, why students were not allowed to access medical care in McConnell.

Vice-President Pedneault said that he has less enthusiasm than some Executives in terms of the Dean's investigation. The way that the investigation is framed is supposed to "reduce the likelihood or occurrence" of this happening in the future, which opens the doors to securitization. This campus is already pretty heavy on security guards and one conclusion of the report could be to have more security guards or give them more police powers. Testimonies might be used in a way that a lot of people might not look upon favorably.



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Councillor Burnett would like to group his concerns in three categories. There have been structural problems in the process and not addressing the root problems of getting students involved in SSMU and things like online surveys about whether or not we should vote online. The second category has to do with the type of reforms that have been proposed. These things good ideas and some are things that students have expressed in but others are not being addressed; for example there is something to do with accessibility to francophone students, but he does not think this is enough. Thirdly, the ratification of general assemblies by referendum in the bylaws (28.1



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Vice-President Fraser asked if this will be brought to next Council. It is her understanding that this takes three readings.

President Knight said that the second reading will be at the steering committee and the third will be at the Legislative Council's next meeting. The deadline for reports is Friday at 5pm.

Chair Nizam said that any questions should be brought to the Steering Committee.

#### 9b. Motion Regarding SSMU Council Meeting Time Constraints

There was a change to the resolved clause to read "end by 1:00am"

Councillor Kunev said that the aim is not to reduce debate but just to standardize the time for Council but to make sure that there is a large quorum. There would be a special Council meeting if one session ends up being too long. Other student groups have expressed an opinion that SSMU takes too long to make decisions. We need to be more effective.





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This amendment to strike the first three operative clauses passed with a vote of 15-4-5.

Vice-President Fraser made a motion to amend this motion to say that the speaking time would be a maximum of five minutes as opposed to two minutes and instead of one minute for question and answer she would like to have two minutes.

Vice-President Plummer asked whether the Council can move to change speaking time by suspending the rules. Chair Nizam said yes, and if a speaker needs more time to answer she will exercise discussion. Vice-President Fraser rescinded her amendment.

Councillor Jean-Claude said that debate should be done on urgent matters. He asked that at 11pm there could be a vote to reconsider the agenda. This was ruled redundant because anyone can move to amend the agenda at any time.

Councillor Chaini made a motion to previous question.

Councillor Kunev said that in terms of the maximum number of minutes his first priority is to make sure that there is enough time for important sessions. The spirit of the motion is also about having respect for Councillors who cannot be there after 1am or 2am. He said that they can be required to stay very late after their vote.

Chair Nizam said that Councillors can motion to table a topic at any point.

The motion to previous question passed. With a vote of 20-3-1, the amended motion passed.

#### 9c. 2011-2012 SSMU Budget

Vice-President Patel said thank you Madame Speaker. It is his honour and privilege to present the revised budget of 2011-2012. He said that you will see that there is a table of contents immediately after the title page. He encouraged Councillors to take some time to actually look at it and not just go with it. There is a lot of money that we're spending. He said he would take time to go through most of it, but the Finance Committee will be yielded some time to talk about it. Vice-President Patel thanked Steven Tamas and Pauline Gervais. He said he is proud to be sitting next to them today and be presenting this budget because it is very student-oriented. This budget will be presented three times for Council. The first is today. In February, there will be an update on the finances. The last presentation will be of the budget in 2012-2013. He said that the most significant change is in the salaries to the general administration budget. The only departments where this isn't true is after-hours agents, security, Gerts, services, and mini-courses. Other significant changes are funding—the club fund has increased for SSMU full-status clubs at \$100,000. Funding overall has increased and opt-outs were the same as last year. He is really happy about this. He said one other note he'd like to make is sponsorship. James Campbell, the marketing manager, was thanked for an increase in sponsorship last year. He already exceeded the budgeted amount from last year's Council. Vice-President Patel said that page 5 is a budget break-down for those who want to understand how



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increases are here and there is a graph to show changes from year-to-year. Salaries have gone up not just for student staff salaries but staff salaries. Two new individuals were included (HR Advisor and Sustainability Coordinator). On the next page is a breakdown of professional fees including legal fees. Right now, there are a lot of fees including the MOA and lease, anything to do with tenants, the membership list, and the audit by Richter. Salaries for the after-hours agents are listed under the Security budget. There is an amount for approval tonight which is different from other which has to do with assets. Revenues and expenses are been discussed in the building budget because rent has been increased to the university (this is not confirmed but was kept high to be conservative). Under Operations, Haven Books and Book Bazaar have no budgets anymore. Gerts and Mini-courses had a small surplus. This is a conservative estimate just to be safe, because actual will be more available. In Governance, there is a budget for each portfolio. Vice-President Patel's Operations budget has money for food for committees or supplies like binders. These are lower because salaries for student staff have been transferred. These have been most relevant to the Vice-President University affairs and Vice-President External. Events are mostly relative to the Vice-President Clubs & Services and Vice-President Internal. This deficit is projected to be realistic. Students are not charged more for the event and SSMU pays for part of it. The biggest change is the sustainability case competition being led by the President. Actual from last year were quite expensive. Homecoming as a huge event was not supported, though there was an event at Gerts.

Questions:

Councillor Latham said that on page 19 funds are discussed, and asked for more information. Vice-President Patel said that there is a \$40,000 increase in funds including \$34,000 increase in the ambassador fund is because of the increase brought forward to referendum. These funds are distributed to campus groups. Environment fund has gone down to pay environment commissioners.

Councillor Bi said that Media and Communications should be closer to breaking even because revenue generated from the handbook is greater than the cost. She would like SSMU to make more money.

Councillor Kunev said that in terms of services, revenues here do not include the fees.

Vice-President Patel said that this is the end of the budget. Student groups have put forward first. He said it is pleasure to serve you. He would be happy to listen to concerns.

Vice-President Fraser asked why there is no revenues for Nightline, because they have an opt-outable fee.

Vice-President Patel said that revenues listed on services page are not the revenues that they make on their own.

Councillor Bi asked why the Council budget has been slashed on page 16.

Vice-President Patel said that some of that amount went into the Executive Committee budget because it was put towards the Executive retreat. This year it the retreat amount was calculated separately. President Knight said that stipends for speakers and the recording secretary are under general admin.



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Councillor Paterson asked what the external affairs covers and why it needs \$12,000, on page 16. Vice-President Patel said that some money from external affairs was put to campaigns and that is why there is less than in previous years. In terms of what each Executive does with their budget is dependent on the Executive. In the vice-president External's case, money could apply to a bus trip, for example. Regarding specific transactions, he would be happy to see specific information. In 2006-7 the external budget was double what it is right now.

Councillor Bi asked why there are bank charges because we have no loans  
Steven Tamas said that the bank charges are automatic for the use of the money. Checks, deposits, payroll, and statements are charged.

The budget for the 2012 school year was moved for approval. The budget was approved unanimously.

#### 9d. Committee Elections



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Questions:

Councillor Bi said that she is looking at this letter and is confused about paragraphs two and three. She thought the sit-in was to do with tuition hikes. She asked if he would be open to striking paragraph three.

Vice-President Pedneault said that he is not really comfortable re-drafting it but would be open to that. He would recommend signing the letter as it is. What happened last Thursday was not just in relation to tuition hikes but also in regards to MUNACA and the general state of the world. This mentions tuition hikes and the presence of police on campus because they are all related and this is a wise and symbolic step to retaining justice.

Chair Nizam said that the question is whether to sign this letter as it is. Otherwise, it could be sent with edits.

Vice-President Plummer said that he is uncomfortable signing this based on the first sentence of the third paragraph. He said that is not true as it was told to us. SSMU does not have enough information on both sides of the story about what happened. The occupiers themselves will be biased about this.

Vice-President Pedneault said that the people who said that this was not peaceful was the administration

The peaceful not

Councillor Clarke asked if there are actual instances of staff being threatened

Vice-President Pedneault said that this is probably referring to one professor whose job was threatened when she was known to be teaching off campus

Councillor Chaini said that this has already been signed as is. She asked about a change that would be grammatical.

Vice-President Pedneault said that we might as well just sign because a lot of unions would have to ok this. Small grammatical changes would not need to be changed if we basically want to sign this as it is.

Chair Nizam said that smaller edits would have to be approved by a number of unions and it would be better to either re-draft the letter, or send it exactly as it is.

The floor was opened to debate on whether or not to sign the letter:

Councillor Uribe-Arango said that on the first line of the third paragraph he asked what would happen if the Quebec Minister disagreed with this in principle.

Vice-President Pedneault said that this has already been signed and sent by others. There will be a response given to the letter if more people sign it. Vice-President Pedneault said that this should at least be a starting point so that SSMU can take a stand in order to provoke response. Having a large number of groups sign on would give an opportunity to point out the situation with the government and all of these groups would like to change the situation and get MUNACA back in negotiations.





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The vote was two for yes, six no, seventeen for writing our own letter, and one abstention.

Vice-President Fraser proposed that the Vice-President Pedneault write this letter with any interested Councillors and proposed that it keeps references to November 10<sup>th</sup> with a nuanced understanding and be a bit more carefully written.

Councillor Chaini said that the writers of this letter were confused about the connection between these two events and would like this point to be made more clear.

Chair Nizam reminded that this letter is to be mandated to a committee, so suggestions should be sent directly to the Chair of that committee.

Councillor Bi said that when this letter is drafted, action items be kept to the last paragraph. This is too much a blanket statement and this should be kept short.

Vice-President Clare made a motion to mandate this to the External Affairs Committee. This letter-writing process will now go to the External Affairs Committee.

Vice-President Pedneault asked to discuss what the letter should contain.

Councillor Winer said that the way the student investigation is being run is not a good idea and McGill's investigation will probably not help, so this letter should address the request a public inquiry.

Vice-President Clare said that the minister probably does not have the capacity to call a police inquiry.

President Knight said that the focus of an inquiry would be based on the fact that this happened on a university campus. That is why she would suggest this. However, that is probably under the jurisdiction of the SPVM. She said many students feel that the type of policing was inappropriate for the type of campus setting and the way that students and professors were hurt on campus. She said she would feel comfortable asking the External Affairs Committee to further consider this.

Chair Nizam said that the initial confusion would be to address this to a particular bureau.

Councillor Paterson said that they would not address this.

Councillor Bi said that the public safety minister and the attorney general of Quebec would be the right people to conduct an inquiry.

One Councillor would like the external affairs committee to talk about specific things. He feels an opportunistic sentiment because supporting MUNACA is a good cause but the 10<sup>th</sup> November is different. There should be two different letters to the ministry about these two different things.



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Councillor Qin said that this report will be given to the next Council at which point questions regarding the report will be appropriate.

#### 11c. Funding Committee Report

Councillor Chaini said that \$2,000 was approved for clubs to order checks. The form for ordering checks will be up by tomorrow and clubs can order online through the SSMU website. If you have any question about specific clubs, ask the Vice-President Finance & Operations.

Councillor Kunev asked what clubs refused funding.

Vice-President Patel said that only the approved ones are listed.

Councillor Chaini said that you can always talk to Vice-President Finance.

President Knight said that decision does not always need approval. This would be legislatively inappropriate.

This report was adopted.

#### 11d. Executive Report

President Knight stood for questions.

The report of the Executive Committee was adopted.

Vice-President Fraser said that normally the attendance is recorded. President Knight said that she did not have the attendance in the minutes but that will be provided in further reports by the recording secretary.

#### 12) Reports by Executives

##### 12a. VP Finance and Operations

Vice-President Patel stood for questions.

##### 12b. VP Clubs & Services

Vice-President Fraser stood for questions.

##### 12c. VP Internal

Vice-President Plummer said that SSMU is hiring a new translator and alternative orientation researcher.

##### 12d. VP External

Vice-President Pedneault said that SSMU will be sending out information on how to be a good neighbour. He is looking for ideas about what to put in the report.

Councillor Kunev asked what the steps were that were discussed at the TaCEO meeting.

Vice-President Pedneault said that it was discussed to organize symbolic actions on campuses, visit departmental associations, and a boycott. Vice-President Pedneault said that he was not at all of this meeting. He is not completely sure what the whole discussion was. He said that he brought up the fact that there was police brutality on campus on November 10<sup>th</sup>. The secretary general of TaCEO and others were not interested in denouncing police presence, and they expressed that their concern was to appear that the demonstration had gone on without bumps along the road. What happened





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on Thursday was unacceptable and the response from some members of TaCEQ is that they were not available to comment.

Vice-President Clare asked if there has been any reaction from Hélène regarding the e



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like as much as possible to keep