



Celebrating over 100 years of SSMU

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SSMU Council Meeting
Thursday, September 17, 2009

Attendance: Pauline Gervais, Sarah Olle, Tom Fabian, Nick Drew, Annie Ma, David Marshall, Sarah Woolf, Sebastian Ronderos-Morgan, Joel Pedneault, Corey Omer, Joel Lightbound, Marco Garofalo, Nathan Goldstein, Quyen Su, Claudia Gucciardi, Joshua Abaka, Ivan Neilson, Jose Diaz, Myriam Desrosiers, TalNewburgh, Janina Grabs, Billi Wun.

1. Call to Order 6.12

Newburgh: I would like to run through all of the documents before we start our business. Sorry for starting late and getting the documents in only by and by. I'm Zach Newburgh, this is Lauren Hudak, and we are both your co-Speakers. W

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3. Adoption of the Agenda

Newburgh: Can we have a motion to adopt the agenda?

President Neilson: Motion to adopt the agenda. (Seconded by VP Brown).

Motion to adopt the agenda approved.

VP Diaz: Motion to amend the agenda. (Seconded by President Neilson). I'd like to include announcements before the question period.

Motion to include announcements before the question period approved.

3.5 Announcements

VP Diaz: Hello, I would like to welcome you to the SSMU Council, and congratulate you on your elective positions. We will have a Meet and Greet with student leaders on September 23rd, so I hope you will all be there. And on September 24th is the Hot Tub Party at Gerts, and everyone is encouraged to come, it will be amazing.

VP Ronderos-Morgan: There will be a demonstration against the governance laws on October 1st at 12.30 in the Berri UQAM Parc. This law is not in the best interest of the universities of Quebec, and now it seems as if there will not even be a debate at the national assembly, so you should please get the word out on the issue of the demonstration.

Newburgh: Please use the microphones.

4. Question Period

Newburgh: This is your o



to get more promotion out over the general listserve, and distribute information not just over the C&S listserve. However, it was the first 2 night - Activities Night that we ever had,





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VP Dooley: Actually, there have been very f



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functional for the bar tender. We also considered redoing the floor to get a tavern feeling, and we already got rid of the old pool table and got two new ones, and started charging for pool. It now costs 6\$/hour with a deposit of \$20, and Tuesdays are free pool nights. We are also starting a strong marketing initiative – we want to give Gerts a facelift. We want to move away from the disco feeling to more of a pub. We invested in promo-items, got several thousands of pens with the slogan 'Gerts till it hurts', the bar staff have Gerts shirts with Moosehead ads on them, we made them in

collaboration with MacAuslan, and we are currently playing with the logo to change it, but as of yet, no one is totally for one or the other. We are again serving food, so after the cafeteria is closed, you can get food at Gerts! There will be a trial period to ensure that it is a success. (t)-8(e)-8(r)-6()



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Minicourses, Raimi, the previous manager, was hired to provide transition training, and others of my projects included trying to improve the relations with faculties, groups and clubs by going to their events, and planning to work jointly on different things. For Transparency, we will put a lot of documents online, all financial statements since 1992 can be found on the website now, and the budget soon placed on website as well. For my long-term plan for Finance and Operations, I envisioned to cooperate with FinCom. WE have also been working at the visibility of ourselves, so we

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summer. Currently there are





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VP Ronderos-Morgan: It took place in the end of August, they decided with 58% for an affiliation with FEUQ. They had a 10% voter turnout, but their quorum was 5%, so they were way over it.

Abaki: How much has SSMU been jumping from one organization to another?

VP Ronderos-Morgan: We exited the FEUQ in 2006, and had an agenda to act as an independent player, but we came to wn



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trying to promote dialogue



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up spaces. We should also be receiving our subsidy soon. Over the summer, some environment



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important to do as much as possible to leave them independent. They will still have any support that they need.

Newburgh: I would like to underline that Council is open to all, so please, members of the gallery, ask questions if you have any.

Pedneault: Can you elaborate on the Controversial town hall?

President Neilson: This was an idea brought to us by Professor Mendelson. McGill campus has seen its fair share of controversial events, and there does not seem to exist a consensus of what McGill students would like to have or not, and if they do, how sheltered it should be. We would like to invite as many student groups as possible to discuss the issue.

Pedneault: Would the outcome of the Town Hall be binding?

President Neilson: It is planned to be mainly consultative, to flesh out some points all can agree on before policy suggestions are created. These recommendations will presumably be part of Mendelson's thought process in creating a guideline.

Omer: I was interested if you could elaborate about the PGSS deT-8()--5(:)3(P)-8(G)-11(S)-9(S)-9()-4(d)-8(e)-8

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VP Dooley: It would be a new service point for students services. They had a review completed and came up with some recommendations, I w



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sustainability policies, to talk about what we can do with each faculty. We will be reporting to you once per semester, and our meetings are every Wednesday from 5.30 to 6.30 in the SSMU conference room. We always end on time and have free vegan food. Also, please check out our website and contact us under environment.ssmu@gmail.com.

Knight: We would love to hear what is going on in terms of environmental initiatives in faculties, ro0 Td(2e)-8(n)-8



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President Neilson: Then, we approved that the 100 years of SSMU project was shrunk to 30 years, we bought 200 chairs for the ballroom, and also approved minor changes to the by-laws. We approved a modification of the job description of the Legal and Political Affairs Advisor, in order for him to split his attendance at the office and at his lobbying locations in Quebec.

VP Dooley: I would like to motion to strike the decision of July 14th. (Seconded by VP Olle)

Decision of Jmm





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President Neilson: I don't have the exact numbers, but it certainly didn't surpass the numbers we set as caps.

VP Diaz: A lot of these decisions were only rubberstamped, since they were already budgeted for like the cleaning contract or Scanabar. It is hard to estimate the costs of things. Most hirings have been budgeted for as well, and research budgets are there as well. These budgets were approved, so people can use them more or less how they like it.

Lightbound: It would be interested to have a full number to see the full amount of expenses.

Garofalo: How many Old McGills did we sell last year?

President Neilson: We did a lot of work to revitalize it, it was the first year in a long time to try to produce an actual yearbook. The result is quite stunning. A lot of the work was done over the summer trying to promote it.

VP Olle: It will be under my portfolio this year, although Julia Webster, the VP Internal, bottomlined the yearbook last year. Unfortunately, our yearbook isn't as widely accepted and we have a hard time selling it, we printed 400, and didn't sell all of them. It is not widely embraced, people don't get their photos taken, I am still getting lots of feedback, but there is the feeling that campus is disjointed and

people don't identify as much with their graduating class. I would love to hear ideas of yearbook strategies if you have them.

President Neilson: Alumni has a strong presence at homecoming and convocation, so there were some problems for us getting permission to sell Old McGills.

Sam, Editor of Daily: How did you come to the decision to allow BMO tabling in the building?

President Neilson: We have a strong policy of commercial activities in the building and they have strict guidelines what they are allowed to do.

VP Diaz: I would like to move the question.

Newburgh: According to the by-laws, you have to use "move to previous question". If that happens, I will take a straw poll, then I would ask for a second, and if there is a 2/3 majority, we will vote on it.

VP Diaz: I would like to move to previous question.

Move to previous question approved.

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Newburgh: I will now approve by general consent. Please say "dissent" if you do not agree.

Executive Committee Report approved by general consent

B. Internal Audits of Council

President Neilson: This will be handled by the presidential affairs committee, it will be an exciting year, so anybody who is interested in reforming the council committee structure or changing the by-laws tell me.

VP Olle: Motion to recess for 10 minutes. (seconded by Neilson)

Motion to recess approved. Resumed at 10.04

Committee Elections

President Neilson: I sent around a memo on committee elections, every councilor has to sit on at least one committee, I sent around a list of all of them. This is the list of all the committees that are on the agenda for the year.



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have friends, encourage them to join the committee as members at large. Then, for the Equity committee, we need 1 member, and please encourage others to join that committee as well.

VP Olle: The building committee hasn't met in recent years, but I am calling it this year since we are negotiating a longer lease with McGill for the Shatner building, because if it is only 5 years again, there is no time to pour money in for long-term renovations. It is a cycle – if we put more money in, they might give us a longer lease. We need to act on the Deputy Provosts recommendation of compiling a plan of what would we do with the building. What are the things we prioritize in this building? Do we think that the tenants in the cafeteria would be worthwhile? Is Gerts bar too big? We have a lot of authority



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also to hear input. The budget committee decides on the priorities in which SSMU should be putting its resources. And FERC m



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Permission granted to have Steven Tamas present at confidential session.

10. Adjournment at 12.56.....