

REPORT: ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

2021-01-14

Submitted for: January 14, 2021

1. Context and Background

The Accountability Committee is a committee of the Board of Directors and is mandated to hold Officers, Senators, Directors and Councillors accountable to their obligations and responsibilities under the Society's governing documents.

2 Process and Guiding Principles

The Accountability Committee is composed of five Members-at-Large who may not be Councillors or Directors and up to two Directors who may not be Councillors.

The process adopted by the Accountability Committee in developing the Fall 2020 Accountability Survey was based on the guiding principles of:

- Equity;
- Constructiveness;
- Fair assessment;
- Quantitative assessment;
- Qualitative assessment.

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2.1 Quantitative Assessment

Under these guiding principles, the Accountability Committee referred to the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 Accountability Surveys and proceeded to develop a set of more descriptive and relevant criteria for assessment of Executives and Councillors.

Working under the guiding principles, the Accountability Committee determined that the following dimensions would be fair and appropriate measures of Executive and Councillor performance:

- Availability/Approachability in Office Hours (Executives only)
- Responsiveness to Questions/Requests (Executives only)
- Fulfilment of Mandate/Platform (Executives)
- Participation During Council (Councillor as Executive)

Constructiveness During Council (common)
Conduct in/Respect for Elected Office (Executives)
Conduct during Meetings (Councillors only)
Effort to Speak French (Executives only)

3. Changes from the 2019-2020 Accountability Survey

Reflecting on changes from the 2019-2020 survey:

The survey was conducted virtually (as opposed to both paper and digital copies).

Optional opportunities to submit qualitative feedback were provided, in cases in which the dimensions failed to capture relevant perspectives and information.

The Committee chose to utilize a practice of the 2018-2019 survey, allowing opportunities to provide qualitative feedback for Executives.

The 2020-2021 Committee also chose to include a qualitative feedback opportunity for Legislative Councillors/Council-at-large.

meetings of Legislative Council, to highlight specific items, such as behaviour during the livestream, guest speakers, etc., to ensure that scores are better reflective of reality.

The inclusion of opportunities for qualitative feedback was included in the survey, to better provide an opportunity to provide feedback on an individual's performance that otherwise, may not be reflected within the set survey dimensions.

Regarding next steps, the full report (including Councillor score) will be presented to the Board of Directors in a confidential session. As well, following the presentation of the report, all Councillors will receive an email from the Speaker, detailing their scores.

6. Results

6.1. Executives: General Comments

6.2 Executives: President Jemark Earle

Qualitative Comments/Concerns:

Should participate more in discussion and debate, given that he is the spokesperson of the Society, and offers a unique perspective.

Very eloquent speaker.

Excellent in his position of President.

Keeps meeting proceedings interesting. As a speaker, he

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Located on unceded, Kanien'keháka traditional territory

A natural leader.

Utilizes concise language allowing all to understand.

Encouragement to speak more French

Exceptional in his role as VP Finance.

Respected by all.

Should contribute more in Council, as the position of VP Finance can give a lot of insight into determining the best course of action for SSMU on many issues, and Legislative Council could benefit from VP Marpole's eloquence and knowledgeability.

6.5. Executives: Vice-President (External) Ayo Ogunremi

Availability/ Approachability in Office Hours	Responsiveness to Questions/ Requests	Fulfillment of Mandate/ Platform	Constructiveness During Legislative Council	Conduct in/Respect for Elected Office	Effort to Speak French During Meetings
82	7.7	80	7.5	89	7.0

Qualitative Comments/Concerns:

Very professional conduct.

Lack of urgency and conciseness in delivering information hinders constructiveness and responsiveness grades.

VP Ogunremi may benefit from working on speaking more concisely during Legislative Council.

Participated consistently in discussion during the Legislative Council, providing thoughtful and thorough answers to questions. He has consistently done so not only regarding his own portfolio, but also in discussions pertaining to other executives and their portfolios, displaying dedication to his teammates.

6.6. Executives: Vice-President (University Affairs) Brooklyn Frizzle

Availability/ Approachability in Office Hours	Responsiveness				

