

Minutes from a Meeting of the Concordia Council on Student Life
Held on March 3, 2017
Loyola GE-110, 10am

PRESENT: Andrew Woodall (Chair), Lauren Broad (Secretary), Leo Dixon A, Anca Baban, Lauren Farley, Jana Ghalayini, Laura Gallo, Emeric Guerrand-Anderson, Stavroula Karigiannis (replacing Annette Bowen), Yuliya Kondratenko (replacing Laura Mitchell), Beth McKenna (replacing Temi Akin-Aina), D'Arcy Ryan, Stephanie Sarik, Cameron Skinner, Brigitte St-Laurent, Lorraine Toscano.

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Marie-Josée Allard, Gaya Arasaratnam, Théo Denieul, Chantal Forgues, Julie Gagné, Alexandre Klaponski, Christina Massaro, Brad Nelson, Lisa Ostiguy, Tanya Poletti, Daniel Therrien.

ABSENT: Claudie Boujaklian, Darren Dumoulin, Rachel Gauthier, Armani Martel, Rami Yahia.

GUEST: Marcus Peters, Julia Sutura Sardo.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chair noted that in the absence of quorum, the agenda could not be approved. The Council agreed to continue with the meeting, however acknowledged that no formal motions could be voted on.

Andrew Woodall said that Gaya Arasaratnam was unable to attend the meeting, therefore item 5.1 would be removed from the agenda and the presentation would take place at the next Council meeting.

2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and acknowledged the horrible situation of the bomb threat at the university that had engulfed the community over the past few days. Andrew Woodall commended the many students, staff and faculty who showed immense leadership and humanity through such a stressful and overwhelming time. The Chair added that they were touched by the amount of support from the Concordia and the larger community in light of the events. They recognized the fact that the decision to move the Council meeting from the Sir George Williams campus to Loyola may have been misinterpreted as a decision based on fear, rather than practicality. The Chair stated that the choice to change the location was made when the timing of the re-opening of the buildings was still unknown and was based on a need to reach quorum at the meeting, when important decisions regarding the Special Projects funding were to be made. They had certainly never intended to add to the climate of fear that was on the downtown campus. They apologized for any of the unintended consequences that resulted from this decision and hoped that the Council members and others would trust the rationale for it and understand their motivation and dedication to creating the best possible post-secondary experience for Concordia students.

The Chair noted several highlights from Recreation & Athletics. The men's hockey team had made it to the second round of the playoffs before losing to Queen's University. The men's basketball team would play in the RESQ semi-final that night. The women's hockey team would play against McGill University in the RESQ over the weekend. The women's basketball team would play in the RESQ final over the weekend as well.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF JANUARY 27, 2017

The minutes from January 27, 2017 could not be approved without quorum.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2017

4.1 Motion to Approve Annual Funding to HOJO

The Chair referred to the motion that had been circulated by email to the Council members prior to the meeting. They reminded the Council that \$20,000.00 was earmarked annually from the CCSL Special Projects Fund to go towards the CSU run Off-Campus Housing and Job Bank (HOJO). Cameron Skinner asked how long the funding had been at that amount and how often the Council reviewed the decision of an annual contribution. The Chair said that it had been approximately three or four years since the annual contribution to HOJO had increased from \$15,000.00 to \$20,000.00. The increase in funding had been to support providing graduate students with access to HOJO, as well as expanding its services on the Loyola campus. They added that HOJO

was required to give a presentation each year to the Council and to provide their financials for review. Based on this, the Council was free to contemplate the amount of the annual contribution. Lauren Farley asked what had happened to the year-end surplus reported for 2015-2016. They also noted that while both the “Website” and “Other expenses” had actuals at year-end 2015-2016 that were much lower than the amount budgeted for during the year, HOJO had again budgeted for the same amounts in 2016-2017. The Chair said that they would follow up with the Coordinator of HOJO for clarification and would report back to the Council. Without quorum, no formal vote would be taken on the motion, however most Council members appeared to be in favour of continuing with the annual contribution of \$20,000.00. The Council would either be updated and asked for a decision by a vote through email, or the motion would be tabled for the next meeting.

5. REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INFORMATION

5.1 CCSL Special Projects: Update on review of projects requesting \$5,000 and under

The Chair said that the CCSL Special Projects sub-committee review meeting had been interrupted and cancelled because of the evacuation on the downtown campus that week, therefore no formal decisions were made for the requests of \$5,000.00 and less. The sub-committee would reconvene as soon as possible to make decisions on those projects. The Chair reported the following:

In the fall 2016 semester, \$80,030.66 was allocated to projects.

For the winter 2017 semester:

- There were 82 applications requesting \$5,000 and less to be considered, with a total amount requested of \$151,896.92.
- There were two applications requesting over \$5,000, with a total requested amount of \$12,750.00.
- Total amount requested for the winter semester: \$164,646.92.
- Total amount available for all winter 2017 applications: \$54,969.34.

Presentations by applicants requesting over \$5,000.00

The Chair confirmed that the Council would hear presentations from the two requests for over \$5,000.00 and would have a discussion about funding. However, without quorum, no formal decisions would be made.

Applicants requesting over \$5,000.00 presented their projects to the Council. A brief question and answer period followed each presentation. After both applicants had presented, the Chair suggested that the Council continue with a discussion of each project and to come up with a suggested amount of funding for each. In order to provide the applicants with a decision in a timely manner, the voting Council members would be asked to confirm their votes on the suggested amount by email.

***“ASFA – Menstrual Hygiene Products”*, presented by Julia Sutera Sardo. Amount requested: \$6,750.00**

Following the presentation, the Council members expressed their support for the project. Council members highlighted an interest in allocating more funding towards an awareness campaign to reduce the stigma surrounding menstruation. It was felt that funding the purchase of products was not a financially sustainable option for this important project. Despite this, the Council members agreed that funding should be allocated to support the project. The Council informally agreed upon a suggested amount of \$3,000.00 to be allocated to the project. Andrew Woodall confirmed that they would send a formal motion to the voting Council members via email to be voted on as soon as possible.

***“Climate Clock 2017”*, presented by Marcus Peters. Amount requested: \$6,000.00**

Following the presentation, the Council members expressed their support for the project. There was some discussion over the feasibility of acquiring a projector to ensure the sustainability of the project and also whether or not the projection could be moved to another high profile location for a portion of the time. However, the Council felt that the projection, combined with the added panel discussion, would have a significant impact on the Concordia community. The Council informally agreed upon a suggested amount of \$6,000.00 to be allocated to the project. Andrew Woodall confirmed that they would send a formal motion to the voting Council members via email to be voted on as soon as possible.

5.2 CCSL Awards: Update on nominations

The Chair reported that the CCSL Awards sub-committee had met the day before to make decisions on the nominations for the CCSL Outstanding Contribution Awards and they thanked its members for their time and efforts. Andrew Woodall noted that more nominations were received than in past years and thanked Shannon Baker of University Communications Services for her assistance with promoting the awards. The Chair confirmed that of the twenty nominations, the recipients included two undergraduate students, three graduate students and five staff members. No faculty nominations were received. They reminded the Council that the Student Life & Community Engagement Awards Night would be held on April 13th at the Loyola Chapel and that they would receive the invitation by email later in the month.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Points of Interest

Brigitte St-Laurent suggested that anyone who had not yet had the chance, to go visit the Technology Sandbox located on the second floor of the Library Building, LB-211. It was a place to discover new technologies, such as 3D printing and try out cutting-edge equipment. Workshops on how to use such technologies were also available, as well as knowledgeable staff able to assist with questions. Brigitte St-Laurent noted that up to date information on the library and its new spaces was available on the website. They added that the library would offer twenty-two different types of environments, a feature designed to meet the needs of the community.

Beth McKenna informed the Council about the Alumni Matters conference to be held from March 8th-9th. The conference was designed to help recent graduates in their transition from school to their professional life. They encouraged everyone to visit the Concordia website for more information.

Yuliya Kondratenko reminded the Council that the Student Success Centre had mentors available to assist students. They noted the upcoming conference on mentorship, which would include discussions on what mentoring is for those who offer it, as well as for those who have used it. Details were available through the events listing on the Concordia website.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for April 7, 2017, 10am at Loyola, GE-110.

8. TERMINATION OF MEETING

In the absence of quorum, the Council members agreed to terminate the meeting without an approved motion.