

**Minutes from a Meeting of the Concordia Council on Student Life
Held on October 28, 2016
Loyola GE-110, 10am**

PRESENT: Andrew Woodall (Chair), Lauren Broad (Secretary), Leo Dixon A, Anca Baban, John Bower (replacing Patrick Boivin), Théo Denieul, Chantal Forgues, Laura Gallo, Rachel Gauthier, Jana Ghalayini, Emeric Guerrand-Anderson, Steve Houde (replacing Darren Dumoulin), Stavroula Karigiannis (replacing Annette Bowen), Alexandre Klaponski, Beth McKenna (replacing Temi Akin-Aina), Laura Mitchell, Brad Nelson, Lisa Ostiguy, Tanya Poletti, D'Arcy Ryan, Stephanie Sarik, Cameron Skinner, Brigitte St-Laurent, Daniel Therrien, Lorraine Toscano, Rami Yahia.

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Marie-Josée Allard, Gaya Arasaratnam, Claudie Boujaklian.

ABSENT: Julie Gagné, Sharon Hunter, Armani Martel, Jason Poirier Lavoie.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Jana Ghalayini moved to approve the agenda. Rachel Gauthier seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair welcomed the newest member of CCSL, Alexandre Klaponski, a student representative from the Centre for Continuing Education (CCE). The Council had not had a student from the CCE in several years.

Andrew Woodall noted that the women's rugby team would be going to the national championship in Victoria the following week and that the men's basketball team would be in the national championship as well. They added that the men's hockey team was ranked in the top ten since the beginning of the season.

The Chair said that at the meeting, the Council would be looking at eight proposals for projects requesting over \$5,000.00 from the CCSL Special Projects Fund. With a higher than usual number of requests over \$5,000.00, the Council would have to limit their questions following each presentation in order to have enough time for proper discussion after all the presentations were done. Andrew Woodall apologized if the process appeared abrupt, however it was necessary in order to make final decisions on funding at the meeting.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

Rachel Gauthier pointed out that there were a few occurrences in the minutes from September 30, 2016 that were not gender-neutral, a feature that was agreed upon for the 2016-2017 academic year. Lauren Broad agreed to correct any inconsistencies.

John Bower moved to approve the amended minutes from the meeting of September 30, 2016 and Cameron Skinner seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

There was no business arising from the minutes of September 30, 2016.\

5. REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INFORMATION

5.1 CCSL Sub-Committees

CCSL Special Projects

Update on review of projects requesting \$5,000.00 and under

The Chair gave an overview of the sub-committee's review of applications requesting \$5,000.00 or less. They reminded the Council that there was \$165,000.00 in the fund, with \$20,000.00 earmarked annually for the CSU Housing and Job Bank (HOJO) and \$10,000.00 earmarked annually for the Committee Participation Awards

Program (CPAP). After taking into consideration the annual contribution to HOJO and the CPAP, the Special Projects Fund had a balance of \$135,000.00 to be allocated over two submission deadlines. The sub-committee reviewed new projects before recurring ones, considering both the breadth and depth of each project. They were particularly mindful of the real need of each project and questioned budgets that included unnecessary, luxury expenses.

Andrew Woodall provided a summary of the review meeting:

- 83 applications requesting \$5,000.00 or less were considered, with a total amount requested of \$153,591.83.
- 63 projects were approved, with a total amount allocated of \$56,470.41.
- 20 projects were declined; some will be asked to re-apply in the winter semester for various reasons.
- There were 8 applications requesting over \$5,000.00, with a total requested amount of \$134,907.86.
- The total amount remaining in the fund for requests over \$5,000.00 and all winter 2017 applications was \$78,529.59.
- The number of applications received was higher than usual: 10 more than fall 2015.
- If the fund were split in two equal amounts, there would be \$67,500 per semester, leaving \$11,029.59 remaining for the 8 projects presenting to the Council that day.

Presentations by applicants requesting over \$5,000.00

Applicants requesting over \$5,000.00 presented their projects to the Council. A brief question and answer period followed each presentation. The Chair suggested that the Council begin with a short discussion of each project, to result in a suggested amount of funding for each. After an amount was proposed informally for each, the Council continued with a more in depth discussion of the projects individually, before presenting a motion for the project. The Chair added that the Council should not concern itself with the amount remaining in the fund until after they had fully reviewed each project, at which time the amounts allocated could be revised if necessary in consideration of the winter 2017 applications.

“#SDGGameJams”, presented by Fabio Balli. Amount requested: \$25,000.00

The Council questioned the project’s ability to have twenty events throughout the year, however it was encouraged to hear that the first event had been a success. The Council appreciated that the project brought together many different disciplines and its goals were in line with the university’s Strategic Directions. The members of CCSL were supportive of the project, but requested that the applicant to be encouraged to seek out local experts for the events, thereby lowering the expenses of the project.

Alex Klaponski put forth the following motion, seconded by Lisa Ostiguy:

Be it resolved that the project “#SDGGameJames” be approved for \$4,500.00 of funding from the CCSL Special Projects Fund.

For: 13

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

The motion passed.

“AUVSI SUAS Competition”, presented by David W. Dunleavy, Christopher Gallo and Kyle Gehmlich. Amount requested: \$5,900.00

The Chair reported that the sub-committee had tentatively approved another project from the same group for a different competition. They added that the other project would only receive funding if the one at hand were not approved. The Council pointed out that the budget contained an error that, when corrected, brought the project’s total expenses to \$9,150.00. Since the request for funding could not exceed 50% of the total expenses, the amount of funding that could be considered would be no more than \$4,575.00. Some Council members were uncomfortable with some of the other sources of funding for the project, as well as the potential use of drones in a negative capacity, although not by the student group itself. After much discussion,

the Council agreed that the project was worthy of funding, but that it would have to be used specifically for the competition registration fee.

Cameron Skinner put forth the following motion, seconded by D'Arcy Ryan:

Be it resolved that the project "AUVSI SUAS Competition" be approved for \$1,400.00 of funding from the CCSL Special Projects Fund for the competition registration fee.

For: 11

Against: 1

Abstentions: 2

The motion passed.

"Drone Research Lab", presented by David W. Dunleavy, Christopher Gallo and Kyle Gehmlich.

Amount requested: \$15,000.00

The Council was supportive of the work that the group was doing, however members were very concerned that the applicants had not been in discussion with the proper university departments, such as Facilities Management, to secure the desired location. The Council felt that the location of the lab could not be secured before the end of the funding year and therefore agreed not to fund the project. Members noted that the project could be considered in the future if the applicants confirmed the location.

Jana Ghalayini put forth the following motion, seconded by D'Arcy Ryan:

Be it resolved that no funding from the CCSL Special Projects Fund be allocated to the project "Drone Research Lab".

The motion passed unanimously.

"ConUHacks 2017", presented by Bernard Cloutier and Kimberly Noel. Amount requested: \$20,010.00

The Council was supportive of the project and noted its success in the previous year, when CCSL had approved \$7,000.00 from the fund. A concern that was raised was that a large part of the expenses were to pay for students from other universities to travel to Concordia and participate in the hackathon. It was explained that Concordia students would benefit from the same free participation when travelling to other universities for their hackathons, and that this was a requirement of any Major League Hacking (MLH) event. The group had been confident in their presentation that they would not come back the following year for funding, as this year would mark the second phase of the project. Success this year would allow them to become established enough to secure outside sponsorship in the future. The Chair agreed to see if they could help reduce the venue fees that the group was being charged by JMSB.

The CCSL acknowledged the large impact that the project could have for Concordia students and that it would give the university significant exposure. After some discussion over suggested amounts of funding, the Council agreed to match the amount it had approved in the 2015-2016 funding year.

Rachel Gauthier put forth the following motion, seconded by Alexandre Klaponski:

Be it resolved that the project "ConUHacks 2017" be approved for \$7,000.00 of funding from the CCSL Special Projects Fund.

For: 10

Against: 1

Abstentions: 2

The motion passed.

“Concordia SAE Formula Expansion”, presented by Loïc Lajoumard de Bellabre, Jeremy Fong San Pin and Eric Del Basso. Amount requested: \$25,000.00

The Council saw great value in the experience gained by students involved in the project, however it questioned how great of an impact it would have beyond that relatively small group of students. The Council was also concerned that the group SAE had consistently come to CCSL for funding over the past several years and it wondered if the fund should continue to support its projects each year. The CCSL felt that the budget did not provide enough details of the project expenses, however the presentation drew support for the work being done in the Formula Electric category of the expansion.

Rachel Gauthier put forth the following motion, seconded by Leo Dixon A.:

Be it resolved that the project “Concordia SAE Formula Expansion” be approved for \$2,000.00 of funding from the CCSL Special Projects Fund, to be used for expenses in the Formula Electric section of the budget.

For: 8

Against: 2

Abstentions: 3

The motion passed.

“Space Concordia Competitions”, presented by Michael Li and Nick Moore. Amount requested: \$25,000.00

Several members of the Council questioned whether or not it should continue to fund Space Concordia for their initiatives, since the group had come to the CCSL several years in a row for funding. The argument was made that by funding a recurring project, albeit inspiring, perhaps a new initiative would not receive the funding needed to get off the ground. Despite this, the Council saw great value in the projects that Space Concordia was embarking on and believed that they were achieving truly impressive goals. It was also reasoned that their success should encourage, not discourage, the Council to continue funding their projects.

Emeric Guerrand-Anderson put forth the following motion, seconded by Stephanie Sarik:

Be it resolved that the project “Space Concordia Competitions” be approved for \$3,000.00 of funding from the CCSL Special Projects Fund.

For: 11

Against: 0

Abstentions: 2

The motion passed.

“Hip Hop Heads Concordia Presents: Rap Battles For Social Justice!”, presented by Max Miller and Dan Parker. Amount requested: \$9,300.00

The Council admired the premise of the project, however had a difficult time accepting the relatively large honorarium for the coordinator of the shows. They felt that the coordination of the shows could be done by an executive of the group, free of charge. Some members of the CCSL questioned the fact that the group would be donating money collected from each show to the community organizations taking part. However, it was reasoned that the purpose of the social justice group was to raise funds and awareness, therefore the donation was an expected goal of their events. Overall, the Council felt that the project would bring awareness of many important issues to students at Concordia in a creative and inclusive way.

Rachel Gauthier put forth the following motion, seconded by Emeric Guerrand-Anderson:

Be it resolved that the project “Hip Hop Heads Concordia Presents: Rap Battles For Social Justice!” be approved for \$5,000.00 of funding from the CCSL Special Projects Fund.

For: 8

Against: 3

Abstentions: 2

The motion passed.

**“2017 Montreal Real Estate Conference”, presented by Etienne Pelletier Gagné and Eugene Joannides.
Amount requested: \$9,697.86**

While the Council appreciated the benefits that such a conference could have on students at Concordia, they did not like that a large expense in the budget was “swag” materials. The CCSL acknowledged that it was a relatively new project, in only its second year, and believed that if it were to be successful again this year, it could attract more external sponsors in the future. After some discussion over the amount of funding to approve, the Council proposed an amount that they hoped would encourage the project organizers to cut back on some unnecessary expenses.

Alexandre Klaponski put forth the following motion, seconded by Jana Ghalayini:

Be it resolved that the project “2017 Montreal Real Estate Conference” be approved for \$3,000.00 of funding from the CCSL Special Projects Fund.

For: 8

Against: 3

Abstentions: 2

The motion passed.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Points of Interest

Tanya Poletti congratulated all the students who would be graduating in the fall semester and recalled that convocation would be taking place on November 7, 2016. They also said that the university Open House would be happening on October 29, 2016 on both campuses.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for November 25, 2016 at 10am in SGW-H-769.

8. TERMINATION OF MEETING

John Bower motioned to terminate the meeting. Jana Ghalayini seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.