



STUDENT SERVICES

Concordia Council on Student Life

**Minutes of the Concordia Council on Student Life
Held on May 5th, 2023 10:00am
Virtual Meeting on Zoom**

PRESENT: Andrew Woodall (Chair), Lauren Broad (Secretary), Elana Bloom, Dianne Cmor, Matthew Fishman, Julie Foisy, Sumaiya Gangat, Adia Giddings, Victoria Gorman, Abigail Koff, Harley Martin, Laura Mitchell, Sarah Rahimi, D'Arcy Ryan, Antoinette Scaringi, Julianna Smith, Masoumeh Zaare.

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Ashley Allen, Melanie Burnett, Sarah Caille, Margaret Colton.

ABSENT: Paul Blouin, Annette Bowen, Lou Collin, Darren Dumoulin, Hua Ge, Lawrence Khoury, Cassandra Lamontagne, Stephanie Sarik, Nour Shbib.

GUESTS: Daniel Amico (minutes), Tanou Bah (CSU), Andrea Taylor (SSC).

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

D'Arcy Ryan moved to approve the agenda. Sarah Rahimi seconded the motion.

The motion was put to a vote:

In favour: 12

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

The motion passed.

2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair started the meeting with a Territorial Acknowledgement. He recapped the highlights of the current academic year regarding student life and adjusting to a campus post-COVID 19. He thanked the students and staff members for their participation in both CCSL and the campus community. In reviewing the work that CCSL had accomplished during the academic year, it was noted that \$145,000 was approved for 92 student projects. The Council's second *Big Hairy Ideas* competition was held: 3 proposals out of 19 applications were approved for a total of \$133,000 in funding. The Council also reviewed the Special Projects Fund application guideline to include Environmental Health & Safety guidelines for training requirements, as well as the Office of Sustainability's Sustainability Checklist for events funded by CCSL. The Council received 29 nominations for the CCSL's Outstanding Contributions Awards, 8 of which were selected to receive the award at the Concordia Engagement Awards Celebration. The Chair reminded the Council that \$20,000 was earmarked for the Committee Participation Recognition Program for students that sat on high-level governance committees who were not already paid for doing so.



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3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF APRIL 14, 2023

Julie Foisy moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of April 14, 2023, seconded by Sumaiya Gangat.

Matthew Fishman made an amendment to the minutes under New Business. He asked to have it clarified that the Bourses Perspectives' application process would begin in May, starting with communications to students to apply.

The motion, including Matthew Fishman's amendments, was put to a vote:

In favour: 10

Against: 0

Abstentions: 2

The motion passed.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF APRIL 14, 2023

4.1 Motion to Update the CCSL Awards Application & Guidelines

Sarah Rahimi put forth the following motion, seconded by Julie Foisy:

Given that during the 2021-2022 academic year, the CCSL discussed the possibility of offering a financial reward to the recipients of the CCSL Outstanding Contribution Awards;

Given that during the 2022-2023 academic year, the CCSL voted against using the Special Projects Fund as a source for the financial reward;

Given that the CCSL Awards sub-committee was mandated to review the guidelines and application process during the 2022-2023 academic year in order to provide the Council with recommendations;

Given that the CCSL Awards sub-committee recommended not to provide a financial reward to the award recipients based on the fact that:

- 1. the funds would have to come from the CCSL's annual budget, resulting in less funding for student projects; and*
- 2. the CCSL Awards recipients are nominated by a Concordia community member rather than applying for the award themselves, as is usually the case for a bursaries or scholarships; and*

Given that, as a way to improve the quality of nominations received, the CCSL Awards sub-committee recommended to update the application form to include mandatory fields that would force nominators to provide sufficient details as to why the nominee is worthy of the award;



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Be it resolved that:

No financial reward be given to recipients of the CCSL Outstanding Contribution Awards and that the application form be updated to include a mandatory field where nominators must describe in detail the reason for the nomination.

The motion was put to a vote:

In favour: 11

Against: 1

Abstentions: 1

The motion passed.

5. REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INFORMATION

5.1 Negotiations with the CSU Regarding the Role of Students within Student Services

The Chair reminded the Council that the Concordia Student Union's Board of Directors voted to add a question to their Winter election referendum ballot requesting an increase to the Student Services' fee levy that had not been increased in over 13 years. Part of the negotiations involved reviewing the role of students within Student Services. The Chair shared that discussions have begun with the CSU's Executive team that will continue into the new mandate year of the CSU. There would be more updates to come regarding the discussion in the fall semester.

5.2 Summary of the Student Services Annual Report 2022-2023

The Chair explained that the Directors within Students Services would provide a brief update about the departments within the sector. A summary of the Annual Report was shared with the Council by: Elana Bloom on behalf of Campus Wellness and Support Services; Julie Foisy on behalf of the Student Success Centre; D'Arcy Ryan on behalf of Recreation and Athletics; Laura Mitchell on Student Services at large; and Andrew Woodall on behalf of the Dean of Students Office.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Points of Interest

Harley Martin introduced Tanou Bah, the incoming Student Life Coordinator of the Concordia Student Union, who would be sitting on the CCSL as a voting member in the next academic year.

The Chair thanked Antoinette Scaringi, Margaret Colton and all the student representatives, whose mandates were ending, for sitting on the Council. He also thanked all the other members for their participation throughout the year.

Dianne Cmor shared that the Technology Sandbox's programming in May is underway and that all students and staff members were encouraged to visit.



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7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for September 2023; the date, time and location were to be confirmed.

8. TERMINATION OF MEETING

Sarah Rahimi motioned to terminate the meeting. Masoumeh Zaare seconded the motion.

The motion was put to a vote:

In favour: 10

Against: 1

Abstentions: 0

The motion passed.