

**Minutes from a Meeting of the Concordia Council on Student Life
Held on November 23, 2018
SGW MB 9 EGF, 10am**

PRESENT: Andrew Woodall (Chair), Sabrina Catalogna (Secretary), Nora Amar, Gaya Arasaratnam, Boshra Arghavani, Dianne Cmor, Lauren Farley, Paige Keleher, Cassandra Lamontagne, Laura Mitchell, Hamed Molaei, Anais Loriston (replacing Temi Akin-Aina), D'Arcy Ryan, Alice Wei.

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Marie-Josée Allard, Nedgy Augustin, Amy Caron, Orenda Boucher-Curotte, Christian Durand, Terry Kyle, Elaine Cheasley Paterson, Tanya Poletti, Michele Sandiford, Stephanie Sarik, Lorraine Toscano

ABSENT: Melanie Burnett, Erin Campbell, Darren Dumoulin, David Ferrara, Jad Abi Semann, Ilze Kraulis, Anne Whitelaw.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chair noted that in the absence of quorum, the agenda could not be approved and a new item had been added to the agenda, 6.2, a presentation on the recently released Student Health and Wellbeing Review by Gaya Arasaratnam. The Council agreed to continue with the meeting, however acknowledged that no formal motions could be voted on.

2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair welcomed the members of CCSL to the meeting and introduced Emily Andrews. Emily Andrews, a Concordia undergraduate student, and the Chair were registered in a course titled ULAB. Andrew Woodall explained that Emily Andrews was part of a pilot project, a team of three, to shadow staff members at the university. The project could be a great opportunity for both students and staff, allowing for active dialogue. The pilot project would continue and build throughout the winter semester.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 26, 2018

The minutes from October 26, 2018 could not be approved without quorum.

4.1 Sub-committees

Andrew Woodall addressed the Council regarding the sub-committees. The CCSL Special Project sub-committee required one undergraduate student and Paige Keleher volunteered. They then noted the CCSL Outstanding Contribution Awards committee. Nora Amar, Alice Wei, Paige Keleher, and Dianne Cmor volunteered. The Chair spoke on behalf of Terry Kyle, who was absent, as the Student Staff Representative.

5. REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INFORMATION

None arising.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1. Role for CCSL on new student groups

Andrew Woodall presented the Council with a proposal for a new sub-committee regarding student group selection. The Chair explained most student groups were under an umbrella and have their own registration requirements. Those students groups not associated with an umbrella and are independent were registered with the Dean of Students Office. The current registration process requires a petition with 50 signatures and a constitution or by-laws. The CCSL sub-committee would develop guidelines for any new independent student group and propose them to the Council at a later date. The Chair asked for questions or comments from the Council. Nora Amar asked if the registration criteria would be the same or different as umbrellas. The Chair replied noting that registration could be the same except that CCSL would be making the decisions.

The discussion furthered in regards to the independent student groups. Cassandra Lamontagne asked what were the benefits or recourses to student groups to be registered with the Dean of Students Office. Andrew Woodall responded it was recognition. D'Arcy Ryan noted the sub-committee was a great idea and that it would allow

for control and any oversight as they are a representative of the university. D'Arcy Ryan continued and brought up the concern that this would not solve space and funding issues. Andrew Woodall agreed and added that this might push the groups to file under their umbrella.

The Chair encouraged the Council to take the proposal into consideration.

6.2 Health and Wellness Report – Presented by Gaya Arasaratnam

Gaya Arasaratnam presented the Council with the results of the recently released Student Health and Wellbeing Review. In 2017, Alan Shepard had asked for a review on health and well-being including mental, physical and social well-being. Universities are increasingly taking a holistic approach and therefore a framework and committee reflecting this was created at Concordia. The committee was co-chaired by Gaya Arasaratnam and Lisa Ostiguy and included undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty members, and staff representatives. There was a comprehensive literature review conducted by an external consultant and internal consultations with various stakeholders were hosted to collect community feedback. The report includes twenty-five recommendations.

Gaya Arasaratnam noted various themes such as wellness in the curriculum, identifying the various skill sets required to be healthy, teaching resiliency, support services for students' health and wellbeing, connections between members of the Concordia community, and creating more opportunities for recreation. The presentation ended with the importance of fostering culture change and supporting students. There is also a focus on staff and faculty wellbeing. A five year timeline has been set in place and a website will be developed to keep the university informed of the progress.

Dianne Cmor congratulated Gaya Arasaratnam and recognized the amount of time and effort put into the initiative. They acknowledged the benefits of the five year plan as it showed how the recommendations can be tracked, commitment and accountability.

Gaya Arasaratnam took the opportunity to also address the Council on the National Standards for Post-Secondary Mental Health. The project was in development and focused on creating a standard across the entire country, at all levels of education, to support student mental health. As a member of the Technical Committee, Gaya Arasaratnam, was exploring opportunities to involve Concordia University and will be applying for funding from the university to create more discussion and community involvement.

6.3 Points of Interest

Nora Amar addressed the Council about WUSC, World University Service of Canada, which helps sponsor refugee students. The project has existed on campuses across Canada for many years and asked the undergraduate students on the Council to sign the petition to support WUSC's efforts.

Andrew Woodall stated undergraduate elections were ongoing and would continue for the following two weeks and encouraged the students to vote. They also congratulated the men's ruby team who won provincial championship and will be competing at nationals.

D'Arcy Ryan stated that the men's and women's basketball teams won against McGill and noted the Fond de solidarité FTQ had sponsored half time \$10,000 shot.

Upcoming events at the university:

- Dec 1: 4 home games, men's and women's hockey and basketball.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for January 25, 2019 at Loyola AD 311

8. TERMINATION OF MEETING

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