

**Minutes from a Meeting of the Concordia Council on Student Life
Held on October 22, 2021 10am
Virtual Meeting on Zoom**

PRESENT: Andrew Woodall (Chair), Lauren Broad (Secretary), Gen Alloï (replacing Matthew Fishman), Gaya Arasaratnam, Annette Bowen (replacing Amelia Candoleta), Thuy Trang Cao, Dianne Cmor, Margaret Colton, Christian Durand, Lauren Farley, Julie Foisy, Cassandra Lamontagne, Hemanth Lingraj, Laura Mitchell, Erin Mullins (replacing Temi Akin-Aina), Nigel Jonathan Ochieng, Irene Petsopoulos, Stephanie Sarik, Masoumeh Zaare.

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Gaelle Abou Issa, Marie-Josée Allard, Malcolm Asselin, Jeremya Daneault, Katerina Ivanov, Jordan Jerome-Pitre, Rosalie Lafrance, Elaine Cheasley Paterson, D'Arcy Ryan.

ABSENT: Paul Blouin, Melanie Burnett, Darren Dumoulin.

GUESTS: Mary Burns (minutes).

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Chair opened the meeting with Concordia's territorial acknowledgement.

Lauren Farley moved to approve the agenda. Stephanie Sarik seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote:

In favour: 11

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

The motion passed unanimously.

2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair welcomed the Council to the second CCSL meeting of the year and explained the procedures for conducting the meeting virtually. They remarked that the bulk of the meeting would be devoted to hearing the CCSL Special Projects presentations and deciding on whether to fund them.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

Lauren Farley moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of September 17, 2021 and Julie Foisy seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote:

In favour: 11

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

The motion passed unanimously.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

There was no business arising from the minutes of September 17, 2021.

5. REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INFORMATION

5.1 CCSL Sub-Committees

5.1.1 CCSL Special Projects: Update on review of projects requesting \$5,000.00 and less

Andrew Woodall reminded the Council that there was \$145,000.00 available to distribute to special projects for the year, with one deadline in the fall and another in the winter. HOJO had opted not to make a presentation to the CCSL at the first meeting of the year, therefore the \$20,000.00 in the Special Projects Fund that was earmarked for them was put back into the fund for the year. For the fall 2021 submission, there were 34 applications received: 28 requesting \$5,000.00 or less and 6 requesting more than \$5,000.00. This was many fewer applications than usual, yet similar to the previous year, and most likely due to the ongoing pandemic and continued restrictions on campus. There were normally about 100 applications per semester pre-Covid. The sub-committee had reviewed the 28 applications for projects requesting \$5,000.00 and less and it approved 24 projects for a total of \$41,316.00. Four projects were declined, some of which were encouraged to re-apply for the winter deadline after resolving specific issues. The total amount requested by the six projects presenting was \$65,453.34. Andrew Woodall mentioned that if the fund were split in half, there would be \$72,500.00 to allocate to projects each semester. The Chair emphasized that this was not a rule, but rather a guiding principle.

5.1.2 Presentations by applicants requesting over \$5,000.00

The Chair informed the Council that the Special Projects sub-committee had reviewed the six proposals requesting over \$5,000.00 and assigned a suggested amount of funding with a rationale for each. Andrew Woodall proposed that a motion be put forth to include this amount as a starting point, followed by a discussion by the Council members. The Chair asked any Council member who was directly involved in a project to recuse themselves from the discussion and voting on that particular project.

Applicants requesting over \$5,000.00 presented their projects one after the other to the Council. A brief question and answer period followed each presentation. After all the presentations were done, the Council began with a motion including the suggested amount from the sub-committee, followed by a discussion of each project individually, providing their comments and concerns.

The following provides a summary of the discussion for each project, as well as the motion put forth and approved.

***“Social & Environmental Impact R&D Mentorship Program”*, presented by Gaëlle Khairallah and Timothy Pereira. Amount requested: \$16,000.00**

The Chair informed the Council that the sub-committee had suggested funding of \$10,000.00 for the project. The sub-committee felt that the project had been successful in previous years and that it reached traditionally under-represented groups. The sub-committee believed that at some point the project would have to be sustainable without CCSL funding. The Council felt strongly about the project and suggested awarding a larger amount.

Julie Foisy put forth the following motion, seconded by Nigel Jonathan Ochieng:

Be it resolved that the project “Social & Environmental Impact R&D Mentorship Program” be approved for \$12,000.00 of funding from the CCSL Special Projects Fund.

The motion was put to a vote.

In favour: 11
Against: 0
Abstention: 0

The motion passed unanimously.

“Space Concordia Rocketry: Liquid Rocket”, presented by Oleg Khalimonov. Amount requested: \$20,000.00

The Chair informed the Council that the sub-committee had deliberated between recommending \$10,000.00 and \$15,000.00. The sub-committee expressed concern that CCSL had been one of the main sponsors of the initiative for several years and felt that other areas of the university should be more involved. They agreed that the project provided great exposure for the university. There was also unease regarding the environmental sustainability of the project.

The Council agreed that financial and environmental sustainability was a concern. They suggested to recommend that Space Concordia put resources into grant-writing to secure funding from other sources.

Julie Foisy put forth the following motion, seconded by Laura Mitchell:

Be it resolved that the project “Space Concordia Rocketry: Liquid Rocket” be approved for \$11,000.00 of funding from the CCSL Special Projects Fund.

The motion was put to a vote.

In favour: 9
Against: 0
Abstention: 2

The motion passed.

“Take the Leap! Make an Impact”, presented by Cindy Balan, Sonia Di Maulo and Elizabeth Graham. Amount requested: \$6,000.00

The sub-committee was strongly in support of the project and had suggested \$5,000.00 of funding. The Council agreed, but expressed some concern that the project was replicating services already existing at Concordia. The Council was impressed with the fact that the project targeted students “in the middle”, who often did not receive consideration.

Julie Foisy put forth the following motion, seconded by Laura Mitchell:

Be it resolved that the project “Take the Leap! Make an Impact” be approved for \$5,000.00 of funding from the CCSL Special Projects Fund.

The motion was put to a vote.

In favour: 11
Against: 0
Abstentions: 0

The motion passed unanimously.

“Concordia Baja Racing”, presented by Matthew Wendling. Amount requested: \$8,203.34.

The sub-committee noted that the group was applying for a total of three large projects and suggested funding of \$3,000.00 for “Concordia Baja Racing”. The sub-committee recommended that the group reach out to the Advancement & Alumni Relations Office to seek other sources of funding. The Council expressed concern about the environmental sustainability of the project. It was noted that due to the pandemic, it was harder than ever for students to initiate projects and secure external sources of funding and that needed to be taken into consideration.

Julie Foisy put forth the following motion, seconded by Margaret Colton:

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

The motion was put to a vote.

In favour: 9
Against: 0
Abstentions: 2

The motion passed.

“Custom Designed Welded Electric Formula Chassis”, presented by Leandre Guertin-Jodoin. Amount requested: \$8,250.00.

The sub-committee suggested \$2,500.00 of funding for the project, again considering that the group should be reaching out to other areas of the university for funding. The Council expressed concern that the group was forced to go outside the university to build key parts of the chassis.

Julie Foisy put forth the following motion, seconded by Lauren Farley:

Be it resolved that the project “Custom Design Welded Electric Formula Chassis” be approved for \$2,500.00 of funding from the CCSL Special Projects Fund.

The motion was put to a vote.

In favour: 9
Against: 0
Abstentions: 2

The motion passed.

“SAE Aero Design East”, presented by Christopher Khoury. Amount requested: \$7,000.00.

The sub-committee felt that the project offered great experiential learning, but again noted that they should access other external funding. The sub-committee suggested \$2,000.00 of funding. The Council expressed concern about the environmental sustainability of the project. The Council was impressed that this project had reached the top five out of 70 competitors in the previous year.

Gaya Arasaratnam put forth the following motion, seconded by Hemanth Lingraj:

Be it resolved that the project “SAE Aero Design East” be approved for \$2,000.00 of funding from the CCSL Special Projects Fund.

The motion was put to a vote.

In favour: 8

Against: 0

Abstentions: 3

The motion passed.

Lauren Broad confirmed that the total amount allocated for the fall 2021 projects was \$76,816.00, leaving \$68,184.00 for the winter 2022 projects.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Points of Interest:

- October was Sustainability Month
- The Centraide campaign was ongoing from October 12-November 12, 2021
- Week of October 25, 2021: Fair trade banana walk around campus
- October 29, 2021: SDG Simulation game

The Chair wished the students good luck on their midterm exams that were currently underway.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for November 26, 2021 by Zoom, at 10:00 am.

8. TERMINATION OF MEETING

Stephanie Sarik motioned to terminate the meeting. Gaya Arasaratnam seconded the motion.

In favour: 11

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

The motion passed unanimously.