



STUDENT SERVICES

Concordia Council on Student Life

**Minutes of the Concordia Council on Student Life
Meeting held on January 23, 2026 10:00am
at SGW H655**

PRESENT: Katie Broad (Chair), Lauren Broad (Secretary), Meghan Atherton, Anna Barrafato, Philippe Caignon, Dianne Cmor, Zoë Erika-Okoye, Matthew Fishman, Lauren Farley, Nadia Hardy, Justin Reid (on behalf of Darren Dumoulin), Maria Safos, Karthikeyan Umesh.

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Elana Bloom, Melanie Burnett, Sarah Caille, Beatrice Doran, Julie Foisy, Cassandra Lamontagne, Brad Nelson.

ABSENT: Maria Chitoroaga, Sabrina Lavoie, Vanessa Massot, Erin Mullins, Maria Oliveira, Maya Youngs-Zaleski.

GUESTS: Daniel Amico (minutes), Aicha Boubacar Moussa Rilla, Cecile-Antonia Makebe and Muriel Tchatchouang (African Students Association of Concordia).

1. Approval of the Agenda

Nadia Hardy motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Maria Safos.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Remarks from the Chair

Katie Broad started the meeting and wished everyone a happy new year. She shared that Fripe Concordia, Zero Waste Concordia's new thrift store, had opened in the J.W. McConnell (LB) Building basement (LB-018), next to the Book Stop. As awards season was beginning, the Chair encouraged the Council to nominate Concordia community members for the various university awards, including the CCSL Outstanding Contribution Award. A save-the-date would also be sent out to all Council members for the Concordia Engagement Awards, which would be held on April 15 at the Loyola Chapel.

3. Approval of the Minutes from the Meeting of November 21, 2025

Maria Safos motioned to approve the minutes from the meeting held on November 21, 2025, seconded by Lauren Farley.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes of November 21, 2025

The Chair reminded the Council that at the previous meeting, Alex Oster from the Office of Student Life and Engagement had presented an overview of the findings from the National Survey on Student Engagement. The Council had asked for more information regarding Concordia's data relative to other universities. Alex Oster had inquired with the Office of



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Institutional Planning and Analysis, however they confirmed that the data could not be shared widely. Considering this, he would provide a more detailed summary of what could be shared at a future Council meeting. The Chair encouraged the Council to reach out to Alex Oster with any specific questions or if they wished to be connected with the Office of Institutional Planning and Analysis.

5. Presentation by Recipients of CCSL Special Projects Funding

The Chair welcomed Aicha Boubacar Moussa Rilla and Cecile-Antonia Makebe from the African Students Association of Concordia and invited them to present their project *Uzuri Gala and Conference*, which was approved for funding in the Fall 2025 semester through the CCSL Special Projects Fund. The Uzuri Gala would take place on March 28th and the Embracing Pan-Africanism Conference would be on March 13th. The Council was invited to ask questions and share comments. The Council helped brainstorm different funding options and cost-saving ideas with the presenters. The Chair thanked the students for their time.

6. Presentation by the Library: GenAI Quickstart for Students

The Chair invited Dianne Cmor, Associate University Librarian, to present the Library's new *GenAI Quickstart* guide. The guide helps students, faculty and staff navigate Artificial Intelligence for professional, academic and personal projects. She demonstrated how to use the website and its different tools and invited the Council to share feedback and ask questions. The Chair thanked Dianne Cmor for her time.

7. Reports and Items of Information

The Chair reported that student-facing offices on campus had noticed the impact that increasing global unrest was having on students. As an example, Iranian students were looking for different types of support on campus. With the support of different stakeholders, University Communication Services was putting together a one-stop resource of information for those in crisis. Complementing the resources from Campus Wellness and Support Services, the site would connect students to the Financial Aid and Awards Office, as well as to explain how to pursue academic accommodations. The website was expected to go live in the coming weeks.

8. New Business

8.1 CCSL Representative for the FAAO Undergraduate Scholarship & Awards Committee

The Chair shared that the Financial Aid and Awards Office (FAAO) was looking for a staff or faculty member from CCSL to sit on the Undergraduate Scholarship & Awards Committee. She invited Maria Safos, Director of FAAO to explain the purpose of the committee and what would be required of the committee members. The Chair encouraged any interested staff or faculty member to email Lauren Broad.



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9. Points of Interest

The following items were shared with the Council:

- *Le Fripe* was now open to the community on Thursdays from 11:00am – 6:00pm. Clothes, small items and appliances were accepted for donation. The thrift store is located in LB018, beside the Bookstore.
- The *Explore Services* fair hosted by First Year Experience, in collaboration with the Concordia Student Union, would be in the LB Atrium, on Wednesday, January 28th from 11:00am – 3:00pm.
- The next Wear Concordia event would be on February 10th
- Stingers Women's Hockey rookie Emma Nonnemacherand and alumnus Alice Philbert would be playing for Team France at the 2026 Winter Olympics. Former alumnus and NHL player Jim Corsi carried the Olympic torch through Italy.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for March 13, 2026 at 10:30am at the Loyola Campus, room to be confirmed.

11. Termination of Meeting

Nadia Hardy motioned to terminate the meeting, seconded by Anna Barrafato.

The motion passed unanimously.