



Concordia Student Union

CSU Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, April 25th, 2017

CSU Lounge – Hall 7th floor, 16h00, S.G.W Campus

We would like to acknowledge that Concordia university is on the traditional territory of the Kanien'keha:ka (Ga-niyen-gé-haa-ga), a place which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst nations. The Concordia Student Union recognizes, and respects the Kanien'keha:ka (Ga-niyen-gé-haa-ga) as the traditional custodians of the lands and waters on which we meet today.

1. Call to Order

Annual General Assembly is called to order at 17h16

2. Roll Call & Attendance

Aloyse Muller (Arts & Science), Thomas David-Bashore (Arts & Science), Sophie Hough-Martin (Arts & Science), Vince Morello (Arts & Science), Johnathan Cook (Arts & Science), Eaman Toohey (Arts & Science), Jonathan Milton (Arts & Science), Caleb Owusu-Acheaw (Arts & Science), Alexander Decarie (Arts & Science), Rowan Gaudet (Arts & Science), Stephani Moukhaiber (Arts & Science), Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis (Arts & Science), Marcus Peters (Arts & Science), Neal (Arts & Science), Lana Galbraith (Arts & Science), Corina Moraru (Arts & Science), Rebecca Battat (Arts & Science), Chris Tate-Terris (Arts & Science), Dahlia B. (Arts & Science), Jody Philoyene (Arts & Science), Sharon Yonam R. (Arts & Science), Taran Jeet Singh (Arts & Science), Ali Sherra (Arts & Science), Artem Mikhalitsin (ENCS), Oumar Ba (ENCS), Adrien Neret (JMSB), Rachel Gauthier (JMSB), Caitlin B. (JMSB), Omar Riaz (JMSB), Marion Muller (Fine Arts), Morat Rahn-Campbell (Fine Arts)

Marcus Peters moves to appoint Caitlin Robinson and Caleb Owusu-Acheaw as Chair and Minute Keeper respectively of this Annual General Meeting. Seconded by L. Galbraith.

For: 13 Against:0 Abstain:0

3. Presentation of the CSU Executive end-of-year report

M. Peters reads the 2016-2017 CSU Executive End-of-Year Report. Peters comments on the CSU events in saying that there were two orientation week-long events for the year, one that occurred in the Fall semester and the other during Winter semester. Honest efforts were made in generating awareness about this year's CSU Fossil Fuels Divestment initiative and the successful campaign efforts in pressuring the school against tuition hikes for international students. There were policy improvements and decisions included changes to promote a non-hierarchical structure, support for international migrants and taking a stand for international students in designating the University as a sanctuary campus.

Adrian N. asks about the main highlights of this year as compared from last year. M. Peters answers with the following achievements as highlights: the CSU Housing Project, the Divestment Campaign, the BIPOC Committee, the extensive call-out for a new Health and Dental Plan for undergrad students, advocating for international students and their protection on campus.

L. Marshall-Kiparissis mentions that this year's Executive continued the work of the previous year's executive. Marshall-Kiparissis cites that the Executives attempted to streamline as well as consolidate efforts in implementing projects already in motion.

4. Presentation of the Chief Electoral Officer's Report for the 2017 General Elections

Stephani Moukhaiber, the CSU's Chief Electoral Officer cites the highlights of this year's General Elections as follows:

Voter turnout was fairly low because of a high number of candidate disqualification, the CEO as well as the DEOs had a hard time in verifying student signatures from nomination forms due to the lack of access to student IDs from the University's Dean of Students, the election debate was held at SGW campus rather than at the Loyola campus in a fair attempt to gather more of an attendance, JMSB voter participation was significantly remarkable due of the high number of candidates from that faculty, most of the election contestations were put against the Embrace ConU slate as well as the candidacy of an now-elected Senator. Recommendations will be brought forward by the CSU's Judicial Board.

As for the CEO's recommendations, a training guide should be manufactured for the future to enshrine a mandate as well as a set a procedures and actions in the event of contestations and issues.

Artem M. questions on the correlation of candidate disqualification to low voter turnout. Moukhaiber replies in saying that the former contributed in low student engagement. The argument brought forth is the loss of the disqualified candidates' social circles to generate

more awareness about these elections. In their report, Stephanie recommends on the part of CSU to confirm confidentiality from the Dean of Students to obtain the Student ID database.

The CEO cites that the lack of administrative and logistical assistance as a source of marketing hindrance in generating of a voter turnout. The CEO states that they hired

Marion questions the Provisional Voting that had occurred in the VA Lobby. The CEO replies in stating that laptops were not provided in time in verifying the identity of students. Moukhaiber mentions about a dozen students had casted a ballot during that time.

Marion, in reply, raises concerns about the lack of advertising space available in the VA and EV buildings. The CEO states that the Faculty of Fine Arts did not want their advertising boards to be tagged with CSU election material. However, candidates were allowed to advertise their content as long as they got their posters stamped by the CSU. As for the EV building, advertising space was only available a day late due to an event being held at the time.

S. Hough found concern with the gender distribution of the election debate speakers and audience questions. Hough felt that speakers other than the masculine individuals had less chances to voice their questions. Moukhaiber replies that individual attendance was out of their control in terms of first come first serve. The CEO cited that there simply wasn't enough time to monitor the speakers list of audience members. Hough provides some insight in terms of recommendation in alternating speakers to promote gender parity.

Moukhaiber, in reply to O. Riaz, states that they cannot comment about the potential recommendations that the Judicial Board might bring as a result of these elections. All that the CEO can say is that certain issues were made aware to the Board itself for their recommendations.

L. Galbraith wonders if there are any recommendations to counteract that the online bullying that occurred with these elections. Moukhaiber's reply is that it is hard to control the online behavior of candidates and their respective friends. In recognizing that, the CEO made it clear that Facebook would be the only platform allowed for the campaign.

Moukhaiber, in reply to question posed by Adrian, stated the lack of available advertising space at the beginning was mostly due to miscommunication with the JMSB facilities.

O. Riaz states that it was hard to campaign first until his slate, Embrace ConU, had been completely verified by the CEO as acceptable candidates for the 2017 elections.

L. Galbraith ponders of the CEO's thoughts are about online campaigning and social media outreach. Moukhaiber, in remarking on their limited experience with student elections, stated that they heavily relied on previous CEO work to provide judgement and discretion. L. Galbraith, as a suggestion, asks on the CEO to inquire with the Judicial Board about allegation of bribery in exchange for votes as being a violation of the Standing Regulations.

L. Marshall-Kiparissis thanks Moukhaiber for their commitment in being the CEO in knowing of the limited training they received at the last minute.

L. Galbraith moves to suspend Robert Rules of Order. Seconded by Marion.

For:9 Against:0 Abstain:0

T. David-Bashore moves to add "Current year Financial Presentation" point before "Presentation of the CSU's audited financial statements". Seconded by S. Hough

For:8 Against:0 Abstain:1

L. Galbraith moves to return back into Robert Rules of Order. Seconded by Adrian.

For:10 Against:0 Abstain:1

5. Current year of Financial Presentations

T. David-Bashore, as the CSU Finance Coordinator, cites the lack of persistence of the university administration in delivering all of the CSU's revenue funds from student fees as an explanation of the discrepancy with the association's revenues. CSU IT infrastructure is lacking, therefore Council approved funds for improving it, lowering costs in the long-run. In terms of the financial and legal Fees, they have been concentrated on the recently acquired Health & Dental Plan and negotiation of the union collective agreement. At the same time, some legal bills have not arrived yet to the CSU. For the association's banking fees, most of them not kicked in yet, but they are likely to occur nearing the end of the mandate. In looking over their expenses, David-Bashore states that Clubs file will produce in a surplus.

Adrian wonders as to what the line 5980 "Reggies Activity Expense" is. R. Gauthier replies in saying that since the location of Reggies is a student space, the student nar pays a form of rent to the CSU in order for the association to get a tax break in which the money gets returned back to the bar.

Pertaining to Budget line 4080, David-Bashore states that an agreement was made between Advocacy Services and Graduate Students Association in order to establish a position for graduate students at the university.

R. Gaudet desires for an explanation of the impacts of the fee-levy reallocation per the referendum result. David-Bashore replies that due to new initiatives, the reallocation is a

reflection of the priority and structural changes that will occur in the near future for the association.

Adrian ponders at the accuracy of the reported numbers. David-Bashore, in noting of how students drop classes through the year, hinders on providing accurate enough numbers especially on the part of revenues.

6. Presentation of the CSU's audited financial statements

T. David-Bashore states that the previous year's (2015-2016) audit report is presented rather than this year. Simply put, the 2016-2017 fiscal year will not end until early May.

T. David-Bashore, in reply to a concern brought forth by O. Riaz pertaining to the Auditor's opinion, states that it because of the CUSACorp financials. Marshall-Kiparissis and David-Bashore mentions that the CUSACorp financials are made absent from this report due to a separate audit. T. David Bashore states that a division of the Student Center Fund and the SSAELC Fund had existed. The division is now defunct as a result of a referendum vote. The audit's numbers aren't fully reflective of the association's finances as evidenced by money being taken out of the SSAELC fund for renovations such as the Reggies Bar.

L. Galbraith moves to approve the CSU's audited Financial Statements. Seconded by O. Riaz.

For:11 Against:0 Abstain:1

7. Appointment of auditors for the 2016/17 year

T. David-Bashore moves to keep Deloitte LLP as the CSU's Auditor for 2016-2017 fiscal year. Seconded by L. Galbraith

The CSU is required to do a RFP every three years for its auditor. Up to this point, Deloitte LLP has not failed in its mandate to the CSU. Since no alternative has been presented to the association, David-Bashore recommends keeping Deloitte LLP.

M. Peters mentions that they involved of the RFP as it provides both oversight and accountability.

For: 12 Against:0 Abstain:0

8. Adjournment

M. Peters moves to adjourn the Annual General Meeting at 18h26. Seconded by O. Riaz.

For:12 Against:2 Abstain:0