



Minutes

GSA Regular Council Meeting

18 January 2012

GSA House, 2030 Mackay, Montreal

Attendance

Chair: Robert Sonin

Voting Directors: Adnan Abueid (ENCS), Natheer Alatawneh (ENCS), Mohammed Khader (ENCS), Manu Jain (ENCS), Roxanne Desforges (Arts and Science), Daria Saryan (Arts and Science), Richard Hinton (Arts and Science), Erik Chevrier (Arts and Science), Eric Martineau (JMSB), Nadia Hausfather (Independent), Edyta Niemyjska (Arts and Science), Nathan Williams (JMSB), Vinith Anand (ENCS), Matthew MacDonald (Arts and Science),

Non-Voting Directors: Holly Nazar (Vice-President External), Robert Sonin (President)

Observers: Andy Yuen (Finance Manager), Roddy Doucet (Advocacy Manager), Golam M Aurup (Secretary)

Regrets: Phalpinder Singh Gill (Vice-President Internal), Mark Schilling (Services Manager),

Absent: Fred Giard (JMSB), Vinith Anand (ENCS), Mohammad Nurujjaman Beajon (ENCS), Zouhair Briqech (ENCS), Hossain Maleki (JMSB), Emily Paige (Fine Arts),

Documents

CD-120118-01 Notice of Meeting

CD-120118-02 Agenda

CD-120118-03 Motion by Erik Chevrier

CD-120118-04 Advocacy Manager Report

CD-120118-05 Finance Manager Report

CD-120118-06 Motion by Nadia Hausfather

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:15 pm. Robert Sonin chaired the meeting, as Nico Contreras was unavailable to chair.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Nathan, Erik), it was unanimously resolved:

CDR-120118-01 The Agenda (CD-120118-02) be adopted.

3. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

Tabled.

4. Executive Reports

4.1 President



The President reported verbally, and indicated that a written report would follow.

4.2 VP External

The President reported verbally, and indicated that a written report would follow.

4.3 Advocacy Manager

See document CD-120118-04 for report.

4.4 Finance Manager

See document CD-120118-05 for report.

5. Committee Reports

There were no Committee Reports.

6. Appointments

6.1 University Senate

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Chevrier, Anand), it was unanimously resolved:

CDR-120118-02 Eric Martineau is nominated as a Graduate student representative to Concordia Senate. He would replace Phalpinder Singh.

6.2 Concordia Council on Student Life

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (MacDonald, Saryan), it was unanimously resolved:

CDR-120118-03 Reza Hadisi is nominated as a graduate student representative to Concordia Council of Student life (CCSL).

7. Other Business

7.1 Motions Regarding Tuition Increases

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Hausfather, Chevrier), it was unanimously resolved with Alatawneh abstaining:

CDR-120118-04 WHEREAS the Quebec government announced that university tuition fees will increase by \$325 per year over the next five years, which amounts to a total of \$1625 increase;

WHEREAS this increase is in addition to the tuition hike of \$100 per year in place since 2007, which amounted to a total of \$500 dollars increase over the past five years;

WHEREAS the Quebec government has set policies in recent years pointing to the continual increase and deregulation of tuition, forfaitaires, and other fees, and has still not announced by how much international and out-of-province university tuition fees will increase in the future;

WHEREAS increases in tuition have been shown by government and other research to decrease access to post-secondary education, exacerbate inequalities of condition within academia, and undermine academic integrity;

WHEREAS one of the objectives of the Graduate Students' Association of Concordia University is to "Work to improve the quality and accessibility of graduate education at Concordia;"

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Graduate Students' Association of Concordia University oppose all tuition increases and specifically oppose the most recently announced tuition increase of \$1625 planned by the Government of Quebec;



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Graduate Students' Association of Concordia University calls on the Government of Quebec to limit tuition fees and basic forfaitaires to current levels;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Graduate Students' Association of Concordia University calls on the Government of Quebec to rescind the policy allowing universities to increase all international fees by 10%, and to rescind the policy allowing universities to increase international fees in six specific programs by any amount.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Graduate Students' Association of Concordia University calls for a public re-investment in post-secondary education from all levels of government, through progressive taxation, and for the gradual diminution of tuition and other fees until their eventual elimination for all students regardless of their background;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Graduate Students' Association of Concordia University sponsor resolutions at the University Senate and the Board of Governors to enact as university policy to demand of the Government of Quebec that increases to tuition and other fees be strictly avoided as a means of increasing funding to the post secondary education system, and to direct the President of the University and all Vice Presidents to represent, advocate, and defend that policy before the Government of Quebec and before bodies of which the University or its officers are members, such as CREPUQ.

7.2 Motion to Fund the Alternative University Project

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Nathan, Erik), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

CDR-120118-06 GSA Council approves of an allocation of \$1000 for the Alternative University Project.

8. Next Meeting

The time and place of the next meeting will be announced in due course.

9. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm

Golam M. Aurup

Secretary