



**STUDENT SERVICES**

Concordia Council on Student Life

**Minutes of the Concordia Council on Student Life  
Held on November 24, 2023 10:00am  
Hybrid Meeting at SGW H-655 & on Zoom**

**PRESENT:** Andrew Woodall (Chair), Lauren Broad (Secretary), Ashley Allen, Tanou Bah, Elana Bloom, Melanie Burnett, Dianne Cmor, Christian Favreau (replacing Cassandra Lamontagne), Matthew Fishman, Julie Foisy, Sumaiya Gangat, Victoria Gorman, Kiara Madison Nunes-Mancini, Irene Petsopoulos, D'Arcy Ryan, Maria Safos, Antoinette Scaringi, Christian Taboada, Masoumeh Zaare.

**ABSENT WITH REGRETS:** Charbel Hachem, Nadia Hardy, Sarah Rahimi.

**ABSENT:** Paul Blouin, Annette Bowen, Sarah Caille, Melissa Calderisi, Alexandrah Cardona, Darren Dumoulin, Hua Ge, Emma Girgis, Coco Mariano, Maya Youngs-Zaleski.

**GUESTS:** Daniel Amico (minutes), Genevieve Alloi (Birks Student Service Centre), Alex Oster (Dean of Students Office), Mohsen Rasoulivalajoozi (special project "From Palette to Plate"), Ciaran Ryan (JMUCC), Adey Singer (FASA).

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

Irene Petsopoulos moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Antoinette Scaringi.

The motion was put to a vote:

In favour: 11

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

***The motion passed.***

**2. Remarks from the Chair**

The Chair started the meeting with a Territorial Acknowledgement. He encouraged members to visit the Indigenous Holiday Market on the Hall Mezzanine on November 30<sup>th</sup>, organized by the Otsenhákta Student Centre. The Chair also listed off other Indigenous community organizations to which people can donate money and/or time, such as *Native Montreal*, *Native Friendship Center of Montreal*, *Montreal Indigenous Community Network*, *First Peoples Justice Centre of Montreal*, *Native Women's Shelter of Montreal*, and *Wapikoni*.

The Chair reminded the Council that it was the final meeting of the calendar year. He acknowledged the uncertainty that many at Concordia have felt and encouraged students to focus on examinations and final assignments, before enjoying the Winter break. The Chair recognized that many in the Concordia community are experiencing various levels of stress



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and pain, and that to get through this period we should continue to be kind, helpful and understanding of each other.

The Chair shared that Concordia Global Affairs Association was recognized as Canada's top ranking Model UN Delegation for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year, propelling them into the global top ten. Caroline Ouellette, Associate Head Coach of the Concordia Stingers women's hockey team, was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame. The Chair also pointed out that the women's hockey team was 10-0 for wins, and the men's hockey team was 8-3 for wins.

### **3. Approval of the Minutes from the Meeting of October 27, 2023**

Maria Safos moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on October 27, 2023, seconded by Sumaiya Gangat.

The motion was put to a vote:

In favour: 10

Against: 0

Abstentions: 3

*The motion passed.*

### **4. Business Arising from the Minutes of October 27, 2023**

There was no business arising from the minutes of October 27, 2023.

### **5. Reports and Items of Information**

#### **5.1 CCSL Sub-Committees:**

##### **5.1.1 CCSL Special Projects: update on Fall 2023 projects**

The Chair reminded the council that there was \$165,000 available in the Special Projects Fund each fiscal year. \$20,000 was earmarked annually for HOJO, and \$20,000 was earmarked for the Committee Participation Recognition Program (CPRP). The remaining \$125,000 was for the CCSL Special Projects Fund, with two application deadlines per year. The committee, consisting of Andrew Woodall (Chair), Lauren Broad (voting secretary), Irene Petsopoulos, Emma Girgis, Victoria Gorman, Gurpreet Kaur and Bhavana Raghu, met on November 1<sup>st</sup> and reviewed 59 eligible applications. Six projects were deemed ineligible, some of which will be encouraged to reapply in the winter semester. The Chair shared that the total amount requested for the 59 projects to be reviewed was \$284,412.81: 44 applications were for projects requesting \$5,000 or less (for a total of \$112,389.58) and 15 applications were for projects requesting over \$5,000 (for a total of \$172,023.23).

51 projects were approved, with a total amount allocated of \$67,643.00: 40 projects requesting \$5,000 or less were approved, of which \$43,143 was allocated; 11 projects requesting over



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\$5,000 were approved, of which \$24,500 was allocated. Eight projects were declined, some of which will be encouraged to reapply in the Winter semester. \$57,357 remains in the Special Projects Fund for the Winter semester.

The Chair noted that the trend in project applications where an increased number of applicants have requested the maximum amount that the fund can cover (\$20,000). He shared that due to the disconnect between what applicants are requesting and what the fund has available each year, the subcommittee will meet in the winter semester to discuss changing the limit that each application can ask for, potentially from \$20,000 to \$5,000.

### **5.1.2 Presentations by Applicants of Selected Approved Projects**

The Chair explained that the Council would hear presentations from a few of the applicants that have received funding for their projects. Presentations were made by Adey Singer (FASA Black History Semester), Mohsen Rasoulivalajoozi (From Palette to Plate: Art Hive and Cooking Workshop for Enhancing Student Connections and Food Quality), and Ciaran Ryan (John Molson Undergraduate Case Competition). After each presentation, the Council was invited to ask questions and share comments. The Chair thanked them for their time.

## **6. New Business**

### **6.1 Presentation from Department Serving Students: Birks Student Service Centre**

The Chair invited Matthew Fishman and Genevieve Alloï from the Birks Student Service Centre to give a presentation to the Council about their department and the services they provide. The Council was invited to ask questions and share comments. The Chair thanked them for their time.

### **6.2 Presentation on the CCSL Equity Research Project**

The Chair invited Student Engagement Coordinator Alex Oster to give a presentation and update to the Council about the CCSL Equity Research Project. There was no time left for questions or comments, however supporting documents were to be shared with the Council after the meeting. The Chair thanked him for his time.

## **7. Points of Interest**

The Chair shared some reminders and upcoming events:

- Members of the Council were asked to RSVP to the CCSL meetings with the link that is provided in the emails so that the Dean of Students Office can plan accordingly for each meeting.
- Fall 2023 Convocation was to be held on November 28<sup>th</sup>. Julie Foisy added that it was not too late to RSVP to the platform party.
- Hanukkah's first night will be December 7<sup>th</sup>, with Christmas and Kwanzaa on their usual 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, respectively. The Chair encouraged everyone to enjoy the winter break and wished the students luck on their finals and examinations.



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- D'Arcy Ryan shared that the women's hockey team was scheduled that Saturday to continue their unbeaten streak and to retain their number one ranking in Canada against McGill. He also shared that Giving Tuesday was on November 28th, an effort to raise funds for the Concordia Stingers.
- Career and Planning Services will hold their holiday market on November 30<sup>th</sup> in the LB Atrium. The Indigenous Holiday Market will be on the Hall Mezzanine also on November 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **8. Next Meeting**

The next meeting was scheduled for January 19, 2024 at 10:00am in-person at LOY-AD-311 or virtually on Zoom.

### **9. Termination of Meeting**

Irene Petsopoulos motioned to terminate the meeting, seconded by Antoinette Scaringi.

The motion was put to a vote:

In favour: 12

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

***The motion passed.***