

LSA Council Agenda & Minutes – January 17, 2024

NCDH 102 & [Zoom](#)

4:30pm - 5:30pm

Present: Justine Blanchette-Siroirs, Xin Hao Yang, Emily Payne, Pénélope Labbé, Jessica Li, Jean-Sébastien Léger, Sajneet Mangat, Shania Dalila, Matthew Boulden, Lucia Quintero, Stephanie Kay

Zoom: Jessica Khoury, David Brady, Jacob Shannon, Weeam Ben Rejeb, Khaled Hassoun

Permanent regrets: Alexia Armstrong, Julius Grippio, Emma Bussièrès, Yasmine Liani, Stefan Davies

Regrets: Ian Anderson

Absent: Liam Dodge, Sara Sanabria, Chris (GLSA), Leanna Katz, Nada Farag

Required attendees:

Call to Order / Appel à l'ordre 4:38pm

- 1. Land acknowledgement / Reconnaissance territoriale**
- 2. Adoption of the agenda**
 - a. Proposed by Pénélope
 - b. Seconded by Sajneet
 - c. Adopted unanimously
- 3. Adoption of last meeting's minutes**
 - a. Proposed by Sajneet
 - b. Seconded by Pénélope
 - c. Adopted unanimously
- 4. GLSA Members / Membres du GLSA**
 - a. Absent
- 5. Executive Reports / Rapports de l'exécutif**
 - a. Justine - President**
 - i. Library - recap of last semester
 1. Can't change library exam law only hours
 2. Student fees go towards all McGill libraries (law students can go to other libraries, non-law students can come to Nahum Gelber)
 3. Classrooms will be used as study spaces

4. With Redpath's closure for renovations, we will need to make sacrifices
- ii. Tuition hikes
 1. Drafting a declaration with GLSA
- iii. Meeting with other LSA's presidents on January 27th
 1. Will ask for their support re tuition hikes
 2. Access to legal education
- iv. Barreau du Quebec reforms
 1. McGill Law students choose Cheminement D the most (more onerous than other cheminements)
- v. Will speak to each LSA exec 1-on-1 to plan new semester
- vi. Question from Emily: how much would it cost for McGill Law students to fully cover Nahum Gelber for our exclusive use?
 1. Not how it works, unfortunately, we call it the "Law Library" just colloquially, it's still a McGill library.
 2. "Name" of the library not related to it being attached to the Law buildings, but because it has the law books
- vii. Question from Emily: how to address the issue of students speaking in the library
 1. Go see librarians at the front desk or the security personnel

b. Ian - VP Finance

c. Jacob - VP External

- i. Discussion on whether the LSA would like to have a General Assembly to consider participating in the SSMU-Concordia organized strike on out-of-province tuition fee increases
 1. Soft picket (be at the door)
 2. Hard picket (cancel classes)
- ii. Question from Lucia: if hard picket line how do we catch up on classes
 1. No, if strike students will have to figure it out lol
- iii. Weeam: strike with other faculties?
 1. Motion: do you authorize faculty to strike with a soft picket. Can add a "condition" that we will only strike if 10 other McGill faculties and one Concordia faculty strikes
- iv. Note from Speaker: constitution s62: strike requires that it passes by referendum. S64 requires an AGM too
- v. Weeam
 1. Some students reached out wanting to be more involved re tuition hikes
 2. Good to let the students vote
 3. Would be good to show solidarity

4. Missing class is the cost of solidarity
 5. Soft picket maybe. Hard picket not it
- vi. Sajneet
1. Supports striking
 2. But logistically. SGA would need to happen to next week/next next week. Which would give like 2 days to campaign
 3. If it doesn't happen, should be another way of showing support (eg. joint declaration, etc.)
- vii. Speaker clarifying steps
1. Today: decide the question to be sent to the CRO
 2. (s25) 10 days before an SGA need to announce it (so Jan 29 is the earliest)
 3. (s60) Maximum 5 academic days between SGA and referendum (so Jan 30)
 4. See 58, 59, 60 of the Constitution for referendum procedure
 - a. A referendum can be called by the LSA Council or by 10% of our students)
- viii. Jacob: quorum will be very difficult to achieve. A statement (per Weeam's suggestion in the Zoom chat & Sajneet) would, in practice, allow students to strike
- d. Jacob moves to add a point to the agenda
- i. Steph seconds
- e. Jacob's motion
- i. LSA Council is to authorize the LSA executive to write and release a statement stating that the LSA is in support of a strike, While we can't formally participate due to the rules in our Constitution, we encourage students to strike if they wish to do so. The statement will be put out before January 31st.
 - ii. Seconded by Jessica Khoury
 - iii. Adopted unanimously
- f. Lucia question for Jacob
- i. Can we promote Journée Passe-Droit – FEDQ event
- g. **Khaled - VP Academic**
- i. Associate Dean Academic Piper is asking whether we should consider handing out the Durnford award (best prof) each semester and not yearly. Here reasoning is that the award is heavy oriented to profs who teach during the winter semester.
 1. We have no initial thoughts.
 2. Emily: 1Ls have the same prof all year round

3. Jessica Li: what would be the concrete effect of this? Idk
 4. Matthew: what if we sent a survey in December and then again in April?
 - ii. Associate Dean Academic Piper was wondering whether not offering Business Associations this summer would be ok as the summer offering seems to draw down enrollment in the sections they offer during the year. They would likely keep JICP in the summer term. Their summer enrollments have been steadily declining each year since the end of the pandemic.
 1. Class presidents of cohorts who would be most affected by this change bring this matter to their constituents by the next council meeting
 2. Emily: if the summer course offering is published sooner, students would make a better-informed decision
 3. Weeam: to make this change, SAO probably should have published this before add/drop.
 4. Steph: perhaps make summer classes more accessible to encourage registration (hybrid, recorded, etc.)
 5. Jessica Li: completely cancelling the class seems like a drastic measure
 - iii. Jessica Khoury: 1Ls have made appointments with the SAO that were cancelled
 - iv. Emily: during last semester's exams, some students have not gotten their accommodations
 - v. Justine: please report all issues to Khaled!!
- 6. Motion to adjourn the meeting/ Ajournement - 5:35**
- a. Liam - VP Partnerships
 - b. Matthew - VP Ongoing Events
 - c. Penelope - VP Special Events
 - d. Julius - VP Clubs
 - e. Stephanie - VP Communications
 - f. Xin - VP Internal
- 7. Other reports / Autres rapports**
- a. Law Senator
 - b. Faculty Council Representatives
 - c. 1L Presidents
 - d. 2L Presidents
 - e. 3L Presidents
 - f. 4L Presidents

Next meeting: January 31, 2024, at 4:30 PM