

**SSMU Council Meeting
Thursday, February 18, 2010**

Attendance: Alexandra Brown, Jose Diaz, Rebecca Dooley, Ivan Neilson, Sarah Olle, Pauline Gervais, Janina Grabs, Lauren Hudak, Zach Newburgh, Joshua Abaki, Tim Abdulla, Mark Bay, Myriam Desrosiers, Barbara Dourley, Nicholas Drew, Tom Fabian, Connie Gagliardi, Marco Garofalo, Daniel Keresteci, Annie Ma, David Marshall, Mitran Mehta, Joel Pedneault, Taunai Rifai Archer, Cathal Rooney Cespedas, Gloria To, Sarah Woolf, Xiao Yu, Miriam Zaidi.

1. Call to Order.....6:17

Hudak: As a member of the audience, you can ask questions pertaining to the contents of committee reports, and as well participate in the debate. You are also allowed to ask questions during question period.

2. Approval of the Minutes
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President Neilson: Motion to approve the minutes.

Minutes approved.

3. Adoption of the Agenda.....

VP Dooley: Motion to adopt the agenda.

Agenda adopted.

4. Announcements
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Marshall: We are not closing Gerts, we are closing Haven. My apologies for the report.

5. Guest Speakers.....

A. Daniel Simeone, President of PGSS.....

Simeone: I'm the president of the PGSS, the Postgraduate Students' Society. We represent graduate students. Our paths cross over joint policy issues. I would like to talk about the PGSS's new policy system, I heard that you are interested in it. The basic principle is that we have a policy manual. These policies have to be forward-looking, broad, and not about a specific incident. We don't have a policy about the 2007-2012 tuition increases, for example. We have a policy that is more general on tuition, and one general policy on graduate students as Teaching Assistants, for example. Motions of council look at specific issues of the day. As to the creation of policies: The first reading of the policy will take place at council, then

it will be referred to a committee that will look at the policy and see if it fits with the other policies. Informally, we have a better process how policies get made. An ad-hoc committee gets created from diverse faculties, and they suggest a policy which then comes to council for discussion. These discussions are always very contentious, there are especially large debates between different faculties. Then, the policy goes back to a review committee, etc. It is a long process, but it's a good process in which you learn much how different people see the world. The policies have to be reviewed after 5 years. It's a thought-out system. And the policies are also very useful in practice. If something happens very quickly, I am supposed to represent the views of the society. I could just make stuff up, but that would not be appropriate. Now, I have no concerns with stating what the society wants, because I have the policy that backs my statements up. It shows that the executive acts with the will of society behind them. Also, the policies have an impact on our representation on the committee level. When an issue comes up that ties particularly to an issue, our representatives on the committees will take their view, nuanced by their own understanding, out of the policy manual. This is key – we use the policies as a tool to see how the PGSS interacts with the university on a consistent level. It is very useful. The policies have been thought out through careful procedure, and we can thus have a common position and a useful framework to understand how we should interact, and it's also very useful when I can show Deputy Provost Mendelson where my opinions are based on.

VP Olle: Can you tell us - if the PGSS wants to take a particular stance on an issue, how would that happen?

Simeone: That would be a motion before council for a specific instance, as opposed to our broader policies.

VP Olle: It seems that motions take less procedure beforehand and only last one year?

Simeone: Yes. Our motions expire on June 31st every year. If something should be a longer lasting issue, it should be brought forward as a policy.

VP Dooley: can you elaborate on how, in practice, you distinguish between issue policies or operation policies?

Simeone: That's not really an issue. They don't have any difference in meaning. They can sometimes even be both.

Woolf: In terms of the 5 year policies, do you find that it inhibits the ability to deal with things as they come up?

Simeone: They are very broad, but you can also amend it in the middle of the 5 year policy.

President Neilson: Could you comment on how well received certain council resolutions might be versus policies?

Simeone: Bringing policies forward can be divisive. Our policies can be very heated, maybe even more than your motions. That is good because it does represent the view of the society in the end.

Marshall: Do you have groups that work towards integration and cooperation with SSMU?

Simeone: Talking to Rebecca Dooley would probably be the best thing, or participating in student councils.

Woolf: Do you find that this procedure enhances accessibility for students?

Simeone: It probably increases accessibility, since councillors can bring the policy back to their faculty and show them. The longer period in which the policy is considered really reflects on better consultation with students. Thanks for having me.

6. Question Period.....

Yu: Did the Equity committee meet?

VP Dooley: Yes, the Equity Committee met last Friday. I will report on that in my report since there was no Committee report sent in. Choose Life is aware of that.

7. Reports of Officers.....

A. VP Internal, Alexandra Brown

VP Brown: Firstly, for the Girl Talk concert – with not much effort, we got a really good response. Our Facebook group has about 1,800 people attending. Tickets will be available with McGill ID because the funding comes from there. We are selling one ticket per person. While I understand that this might lead to longer lines, I’d rather have that than have less people attending because some people showed up and bought 10 tickets which they then sell for a higher price. Ticket sales start March 1st at 11.00am. If anybody has any further questions about tickets, please. For the Campus Press Group – if you are interested in press opportunities with Girl Talk, I can contact them. I love campus media. Then, the Green Events 101 workshop didn’t have a great turnout, but we got great feedback. I would love to do this again. Please let me know if you are interested in green events, and tell me why you couldn’t come the first time. Then, we will have an Iron Chef competition soon – you get a mystery ingredient, and will have to cook a 3 course meal. The mystery ingredient is vegetarian and vegan friendly. It’s really exciting. You can sign up with your friends. SSPN is going to put together an ice-skating trip to the Old Port. You will be able to skate and rent skates for free. I just created a Facebook group. Tell your friends, it’s really exciting. I encourage you to dress up. That will be from 7 to 10 on March 5th. Then, I have been having quite a few orientation meetings for next year. Not all faculties have shown up, so you should really talk to your faculty executive and tell them to go, it will affect the future of Frosh and Orientation events. FrancoFete happened, and it went really well. I had a couple of thoughts and recommendations. Please let me know your feedback. Lastly, as to the GA -we had a lot of discussions about it, so please come and see me.

Gallery: With regards to the Green workshop, will the Powerpoint presentation be sent out through McGill?

VP Brown: Yes. The Green events coordinator should do that.

Rooney: For the concert, can people come on subsequent days and buy tickets?

VP Brown: I am not trying to create a fort of silence, it’s not a super security prison. I won’t take down names. It’s trying to create respect for other students. I would hope that people

take into consideration that the more tickets they buy, the less fellow students can attend. I just don't want people to buy 10 tickets on the first day and then sell them for more.

Garofalo: What do you see as the one main problem of the GA? Where do you see it going?

VP Brown: We just had a workshop and discussion talking about this. I think that it will stay what people make of it, it will stay a battleground if people want to have that. As long as people want to fight over external issues, they will keep on doing that. If the next executive or student think that the GA should be abolished, that will be done, but until that happens, infighting might continue.

Mehta: What is the date for Iron Chef?

VP Brown: Registration ends on the 5th, you can e-mail me. You will pick up your mystery ingredient on the 10th, and we will have the closing ceremony on the 11th.

B. VP External, Sebastian Ronderos-Morgan

C. VP Finance & Operations, Jose Diaz

VP Diaz: FERC is meeting sometimes soon, Gerts is doing extremely well, and for Haven Books – we are in the process of finding the exit strategy, and I stand for questions.

VP Olle: When is the budget revision coming?

VP Diaz: It will be presented to council on March 4th.

D. VP Clubs & Services, Sarah Olle

VP Olle: Just a reminder: We only have three meetings left in the year. You had many grand ideas about transforming SSMU. Now would be the time and the final push for this. The execs are here to help you form a motion. Then, for the Student Life Survey – the responses I got are depressing, the suggestions that students make are often already happening. We only got 50 responses, of which many don't make sense. The energy audit is really helpful and awesome. There are some suggestions that I will present soon, but we are waiting for the final report, this is just the rough draft. We will receive that soon, and will then discuss the funding for retrofitting and making these adjustments.

Keresteci: Who approves what we will spend the money on?

VP Olle: Council. Hopefully, we will get most of the money from the Sustainable Projects Fund.

E. VP University Affairs, Rebecca Dooley

VP Dooley: Anthony Masi will be Provost for another 2 years. Nobody came for the McGill We Want-workshop. That was depressing. We have received a 'submission' from the Faculty of Arts, but your faculty did not make a submission to the Taskforce. You still have the possibility to do so, but it was interesting to me that Arts students should have no interest whatsoever to improve McGill. Then, for Equity Committee – this is actually going well. We had a meeting last Friday, where we put forward our preliminary recommendations. The exact words of their response: Choose Life is happy with the rate this is progressing. Thank

you Equity Committee, you have obviously put much thought into it. It seems like we will adopt this. Choose life representatives went back to Choose Life, and we will meet again after reading week to include their amendments. Then, there are 2 info sessions to be a McGill Senator. As for the Awards of Distinction – please approve them. The Research Policy did not come forward for approval, only for discussion. There is a meeting of Academic Policy Commission over Reading Week, and I will not be there. I have the feeling that they might bring it up then. I might request that they push it back. Morton Mendelson will be responding to question by professors about the reliability of the opt-out system. Then, I had a meeting with Professor Mendelson last Wednesday. McGill wants to have renewable terms for clubs with McGill names. The opt-outs were brought forward, and GA motions have been sent via formal memorandum. The university will be submitting a formal response except for the 'ATM on campus' motion. Then, I sit on the Exam Commission – it's kind of boring, but so are exams. We will have a really cool event on March 15th with PGSS and SSMU, and talk about problems that undergraduates have with their learning and how TAs can help further discussion about that. They are very passionate to get feedback from students. And as for the Student Life and Learning Report Card – there might be a town hall on that. That's all. I stand for questions.

F. President, Ivan Neilson

President Neilson: Basketball is doing well for once. Daniel was here from PGSS, the Daycare agreement is in his hands, so once he signs it, we will be getting \$10,000 a year. For the Deputy Provost, just to remind you, we were talking about many opt-outs, and we also discussed the lease. It was a good, long discussion. Most of the updates were to say that we are on the same page. Much of our rent is used to contribute to the costs of utilities, so we had a discussion of when we were responsible for utilities, would we still pay rent? He meant yes, I said no, and he said that this were entering in discussions. We are both definitely in favour of a longer term. Then, we have GA Statistics that were compiled by general manager and comptroller. Clearly, students were well represented from Arts and Engineering, Management did well as well. Then, I sit on the Food and Dining Advisory Committee – they are doing a lot. They are trying to give McGill's food a trademark and trying to make the service better and more accountable. They are also open to feedback, they have a "talk2us" link. There are also workshops where you can cook with the executive chef. Then, for the Board meeting – everybody has been reappointed as Deans. We had a meeting of the Nominating Committee, where we selected the FERC members. It was a joke, 4 executives and one councillor attended. This shows that the Nominating Committee is clearly not needed.

Woolf: Do you know any details what they are changing about the RVC cafeterias?

President Neilson: They are trying to make different levels of meal plans, so that people don't have money left over.

Yu: What was the process to choose the FERC members?

President Neilson: VP VP Diaz made a call-out, people submitted CVs, and we chose from these.

Keresteci: Can we also have a smaller meal plan for people who don't spend all the money?

President Neilson: The main issue wasn't that people did run out, but they wanted to make both a smaller and a larger plan. They are trying to have more diversity.

Bay: Are they also talking about reducing waste?

President Neilson: On this committee, there was the Director of the Office of Sustainability. That is true, there is also an issue on bottled water, etc. They don't want to take all bottled water out of machines, because then you would only have sugary drinks.

Bay: How many FERC applications did you get?

VP Diaz: About 20 people contacted me, but only 12 were complete applications.

VP Dooley: Social Works students are counted as Arts students in the GA plan. That should just be noted.

Ma: Compared to last winter, how was the turnout this year at the GA?

President Neilson: Last year, we hit capacity, and we also hit capacity this year. So it was very similar.

VP Diaz: I was just curious – how was the executive meeting with the Principal?

President Neilson: That meeting has been moved to March 4th.

Gallery: What is your position on selling bottled water in bio-degradable bottles?

President Neilson: As I understand it, it's also the problem that you are bottling water in general.

VP Brown: The group who brought forward the motion is also against having to buy water, they think that it should be available for everybody.

President Neilson: I am certainly upholding SSMU's policies, and I don't drink bottled water.

Gallery: Why couldn't SSMU get Leacock for the GA?

President Neilson: We certainly could, but it's better to have it in our building. As soon as we start booking on McGill's premises, we need to pay for it and for security there.

Gallery: Would you be in favour of electronic voting?

President Neilson: I would be in favour of reviewing the system. Before, the concept of ballots hadn't come up yet. It could certainly be improved.

Woolf: How goes the signature collecting?

President Neilson: Excellent. Fully completed.

8. Reports of Committees.....
A. Executive Committee.....

President Neilson: Here is the executive committee report. We hired 4 FERC commissioners. We spent \$20,000 to upgrade clubs' computers. We also slightly increased our room booking rates for external groups. Those were McGill groups generally. We wanted to bring it a little more in line with what else exists. Then, we signed a contract for the EZLabor payroll system. This would be a lot more efficient.

Abaki: How many computers have we been buying?

VP Olle: I confused which cheque reqs were which last time. We paid \$27,000 for 25 computers for clubs and 7 or 8 for the office.

Executive Committee report approved.

B. Clubs and Services Committee.....

Drew: The first club was rejected, le Theatre d’Alice. The Enfants du Mekong got full club status after being tabled, they brought up more what they had done before it. The Tamil Students Association were accepted. The Muggle Quidditch Team got accepted, and so did the Get Fit Club.

Clubs and Services Committee Report approved.

C. Operations Committee.....

Marshall: Apologies for the typo, Gerts is doing extremely well. The Haven information has been sent out. For Gerts, the Operations Committee met several times with the judging panel. We decided that there was a winning design. We received a whole bunch of fantastic ideas, even 3 D models. We have one winning team, but we will sit down with the winning team to integrate ideas of the runners-up. The report is fairly distinct, but please ask us if you have questions. Generally, we are looking just for an approval of council. Then we need your approval to take these ideas to Pauline and McGill and get approval for a renovation. Then we can start consulting with our architects. Before we break down, we will again request approval of council. The earlier the better, McGill often moves as fast as a turtle at best. We want to begin the process on the McGill side as soon as possible.

VP Brown: Is the diagram available?

Marshall: Yes, on our website. The floor plan is the link on the top left.

Rooney: Were there any general comments about Haven?

VP Diaz: I got 7 e-mails from students, and only 1 student was concerned. Many students said that it was a good idea and wished us luck.

VP Olle: Where are the pool tables going to be moved?

Marshall: The consensus was that the pool tables should be left where they are. We want that there is enough space, and we don’t want to segregate any point of the bar, we want it to be flexible to have different options.

VP Olle: I don’t understand the proposal.

Marshall: That is true, it’s difficult to picture it. It was the decision of the judging panel that it was the best set, but we will talk about it further. We will also be asking for your input.

VP Olle: Are you going to plan with the architect?

Marshall: We like about 90% of these ideas. First we want to sit down with the winning team and understand their vision. Then we will all work together with the architects so that they

can draw up the plan. Should Operations Committee see that there are issues with the traffic flow, we would graphically resolve those issues. It is a multi-step process.

Operations Committee report approved.

D. Finance
Committee.....

Abdulla: I would like to stand for questions on the topic of the hard copy report.

Finance Committee report approved.

9. Old
Business.....

10. New
Business.....

A. SSMU Committee Review (Information & Discussion)

President Neilson: This was in development with the committee until yesterday. This is a sneak peak of what the committee review would look like. This report outlines all the functions of the committees, the frequency of meetings, the membership, etc. A big change is the creation of a Steering Committee. This committee helps to govern council. This is right now exclusively the responsibility of the President and the speakers. If I were more corrupt, I could do more undoing, but you don't know if I am not doing that right now. This will be give more responsibility to exec members, the speakers, and councillors. We would look at motions that come to council, whether they are appropriate, etc. Its secondary functions is nominating Chairs where none exist, and to keep other committees to their function. The Funding committee is the Finance committee. The big change is that it would give the committee the authority to give funding without having to go to council first. We have played with the membership, largely it's the same, but with only 2 members at large. It will require 2 members from Clubs and Services because of their experience, and 1 representative from the Athletics Board. The new Finance Committee would be more in line with the true Finance Committee - it would monitor the finances, monitor the numbers throughout the year. Right now, this is reviewed exclusively by the exec committee. Now we want to be more accountable and transparent, and those councillors would be more informed and then could create next year's budget. The next one would be the Committee on Student Life and Services. I would recommend a name change. This would look at everything on student life that we want to have control over. They would, in consultation with council, look at creative ways to spend the Space Fee. In the past, we have managed to find some uses, but we would also like to find out what students would like to see. There are many communication strategies to find out how we could improve what we are offering to students. I have always set a minimum of meetings, not a maximum. For the Committee on Student Equity - these

are rewrites that we have done with Equity Committee's consultation. We have tried to improve the way we select members at large, and did not change much else. FERC also stays nearly the same, but they are also responsible for research on McGill's transactions. The GA motion wanted it to be an advisory board to McGill. I went to the meeting and got laughed at. There is a board committee though that can be called by any student, so I would refer that mandate to FERC to call the board committee. They should be meeting at least once per year, and otherwise they would exist ad hoc. For the External Affairs Committee, I tried to keep it very open-ended. The current VP External wanted it to be a stage for many students who want to get involved. It would be meeting at least 3 times per semester, and reporting at least once per semester. The Operations and Building Management Committee would now take on more responsibility for the building and retain the responsibility on the operations. The Interest Group Committee is the same as the Clubs and Services Committee, but they can approve club status right away which will be subject to ratification of council. Then, there are important working groups or advisory committees: the CAF – I described the resources allotted to them, and they can spend it as they want. The Environment Committee has a bit of funding for promotional materials to get campaigns off the ground. The Students' Society Programming Network will be the principle advisory committee for all events and will be able to spend the SSPN budget.

VP Brown: Motion to move into the committee of the whole.

VP Brown: there are lots of really good things. I disagree with removing the last three committees from SSMU committees though, that would limit their effectiveness. All those committees don't have council representation on them anymore, and I would disagree with that too. I think it is important that this business is something council is aware of. I would also like that these working groups should report to council, those groups do a lot and represent the student population, so I would request that these become normal committees. President Neilson: These are committees that do not report to council, and have not done so in the past. The other committees make recommendations for council, but these groups are given the budget to work autonomously. When we put councillors on those seats, they usually don't attend. I would like to make it a requirement that councillors attend the important committees.

VP Brown: I wish you would have talked to me about this before, but I do think that CAF and the Environment committee could bring reports to council. Separating the working groups from SSMU's functioning would hurt their importance. I don't think that the recommendations of these groups are less important just because of an arbitrary decision that was made.

Marshall: Would Steering committee be accountable for making sure that people will be attending committees?

President Neilson: Yes, Steering committee would appoint the councillors, but the oversight for members at large would be left to the committee. If they want to bring it back to Steering committee, they could.

President Neilson: Right now, I would propose that the Funding Committee and the Interest group committee would be able to make binding decisions.

VP Olle: The Committee on Student Life and Services is the hardest committee for me to grasp what they would do normally. What would they actually talk about? Would this rather be me and the VP Internal? And VP VP Diaz and I were talking about the melding of the Operations Committee and the Building Committee. If I was a less amazing VP Clubs and Services, I should maybe not be commenting on operations. And likewise, if the VP Operations had a crazy idea of the building, that should not be his responsibility. Building Committee usually hasn't met. We should talk about whether that should happen at the executive level.

VP Dooley: Maybe some concerns might be addressed through having SSPN and CAF be subcommittees of Student Life and Learning Committee. The fact that we are getting rid of nominating committee and the constitutional review committee is strange to me. Without the UA committee, there would be no committee reviewing student involvement in university committees. My position is not represented except for the Equity Committee.

Abaki: The VP UA will also be sitting on the Steering Committee, the Library Improvement Fund committee and the Awards committee. In the case of committees that don't meet as often, I think, the fewer committees we have, the more effective they are and the more responsible the councillors are.

VP Dooley: I think that there are some duties of committees that are being overlooked. I would like to make sure that all duties are covered.

Rooney: Would you be willing to make it that the working groups, even though there is no councillor representation required, would count towards the necessarily committee representation for students?

GM Gervais: I would like to ask whether it would be able to add the General Manager to the Committee on Student Life and Services? As well as to the FERC because of the acquisition of stocks, bonds, or financial assets – it would be important to have that opinion present.

President Neilson: Yes, we could certainly talk about that.

VP Diaz: I would like to say that my personal view is that having less committees would be not necessarily better. In Operations Committee, we have a heavy burden right now. Steering Committee is a good idea, although I hate that it sounds like McGill Senate. Also, I'd like to see that this does not make setting the agenda more bureaucratic. For Funding Committee, I would like to change the phrasing – the club fund is allocated in 2 parts, one in October and one in January. Finance Committee is the best idea ever. As to the Committee on Students Life and Services – I would put the Space fee either under the Executive Committee or Funding Committee. The internal portion should be dealt with by the VP C&S, VP FOPS and General Manager. We have SSPN existing – VP Olle brought up how that might be the end of the VP Internal. I don't know what the committee would do. There are many people on council that are doing events, so don't know what use the Students Life and Services committee. I would add that FERC should not be an ad-hoc committee. They could find things to investigate on their own. As for Operations Committee – I would suggest getting rid of the Shatner building part, VP Olle already spoke about the issues of different VPs having different responsibilities. Operations Committee works well as it is.

VP Olle: I agree that FERC shouldn't be ad-hoc if it had more of an advisory role, it could look at ethical purchasing policies, and could really setting a vision for us. They could seek out things to do or to report on. I think that they could be a more influential committee if they weren't ad hoc.

VP Brown: Motion to move out of the committee of the whole.

Motion to move out of the committee of the whole approved.

B. Policy Formulation Review (Information & Discussion)

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VP Olle: Motion to move back into the committee of the whole.

Motion to move back into the committee of the whole approved.

VP Olle: I figured we should talk about our policy formulation. I think PGSS's is super. I do not think that we should get rid of the GA. They don't have a GA, the only way that policies come to them is through their council. But the question is: How could we take strengths from PGSS's policy formulation? Maybe we should only take stances at GA. Maybe we could have better descriptions what policies are. Maybe steering committee should look at policies. This would be a longer process, but that ensures that policies would be good.

VP Diaz: I like a lot of things on the model. There are some things that we should work hard to integrate in our system. There are some things at the GA that are set up for long terms, especially in terms of sustainability. Maybe SSMU would be a shitshow if they want a 5\$ ATM for one year and the next year that would expire. I like the idea of a committee to define policies better. I agree to limit GA's to have a stance on particular political issues. But for more pragmatic issues like styrofoam, redlisted fish, etc, it would be awkward for SSMU if that weren't for a long-term. And students can also talk to other students and share their vision without having to go through council.

VP Olle: I asked Daniel about renewable motions- at the beginning of the year, they would approve them all for the next year if that is obviously necessary.

President Neilson: Once we get in the realm of standing policies that SSMU is generally against, not just making a stance, we should make a difference there. For GAs - those are different in that they are action items, they are not ideological. However we decide to do it, I think that they should be treated differently.

VP Diaz: I see that maybe we should have SSMU define these terms. Maybe we could refer it to Constitutional Review committee while it still exists. Then we could have policies, motions, and stances treated differently.

VP Olle: What if you could make a motion to have a policy drafted by council at a GA?

VP Diaz: I would be curious how that would work in terms of disagreement on having just stances or policies.

Woolf: I think this is really cool. Would the committee reports be in a different realm? Should there be a third realm for that? I do like the idea of the GA being stance-specific.

VP Dooley: After the GA where people talked about the Equity policy, I would agree that that shouldn't be decided at the GA.

VP Olle: How about I bring a motion next time defining motions vs policies and bring recommendations on what are policies and what are stances?

Yu: Would expiring mean that we should renew it?

VP Olle: It would expire unless councillors want to reapprove it the next year. Policies would last for 5 years.

VP Diaz: It might be better if we could go over the stances and maybe decide together whether it would be valuable to translate it to the policy.

VP Olle: Since the majority of people don't seem to care, I will send out a notice by e-mail, and all those who are interested can meet after reading week and we will bring forward a recommendation.

Motion to move out of committee of the whole passed.

C. Project List A (Information & Discussion).....

VP Olle: Last time, I brought the Vision for the University Center. That was a policy. This is a specific list of ideas that implement the vision. I've outlined an approval rubric to show how to go through with building improvements. There are some suggestions for design improvements – the signage, the banners, new furniture, creating new policies on advertisement. Then, there are improvement renovations – these are ways to improve the space that we already have, e.g. improve cafeteria lighting, improve the entrance, there would be a larger space in front of the Shatner center according to the McTavish street plan. The banister should also be replaced. Then, for the third floor washrooms – this is the only one that wasn't renovated, and it should be improved. For new or modified spaces: we are either making new spaces or changing the function of a new room. For the breakout room: this is the fourth floor meeting room. I would like to build a meeting room in the Clubs Lounge, it would be very cool. The SSMU information kiosk doesn't function as a kiosk right now. There would be a lot more brochures, we could sell tickets there, it's the central focus point of the center. And the Organic Campus storefront – we are working on making them an actual store in which is now Saidi's Corner. As you see, at the beginning, it says that this document should be expanded and never stagnate. I hope that new projects will always come up with.

Motion to move into committee of the whole passed.

Rooney: I'm surprised that you decided to omit room 302 on the third floor. It's very aesthetically displeasing. Maybe you could make it a happier room to be in.

VP Olle: Yes. It is usually not used as its own room, it must be used with the ballroom, and there is also a bar there. But we can look at improving the aesthetics there.

Yu: Can we approve this individually?

VP Olle: These are only projects that I have come up with. It can always be added to.

Ma: Are we going to do something with the basement?

VP Olle: There are 2 meeting rooms, B28/29/30, Bike Collective, Daily Office, TV McGill, SACOMSS, MSA are there.

VP Diaz: Is there a study on the impact of replacing dark banisters with light banisters?

VP Olle: No.

Yu: Access to outlets in the Lev Bukhman room or the cafeteria would be good.

Motion to move out of committee of the whole passed.

D. Resolution Regarding Environment Fund Yes Committee

President Neilson: [reads be it resolved clauses]

VP Diaz: Motion to previous question.

Motion to previous question passed.

Resolution Regarding Environment Fund Yes Committee passed.

E. *Resolution Regarding Award of Distinction Bylaw Amendment

Motion to take resolution out of leave passed.

VP Dooley: [reads be it resolved clauses]

VP Diaz: Why are you doing this?

VP Dooley: The Awards of Distinction are currently reflected in two different by-law books, they also weren't consistent with each other. What's before you is that we took the by-laws from book 3 and made a few additions from by-law book 2 and put it all where it belongs, in by-law book 2. We made some other changes – the application period clause has been reworded, and practice has been that it is completely under the VP UA, so we cleared that up as well. It's pretty straight-forward.

Pedneault: Are there new additions?

VP Dooley: There aren't too many substantive changes. We said that we would advertize in the Daily as well. We gave the selection committee the option of adding on more essay questions. We chose the set of by-laws that allowed for part-time students to apply. I think a big part of that fund is that students who made contributions to student life are applying, and that includes part-time funds. We also changed that the application period should begin March 1st. Council can always be lenient with that. I think it's good to have that in place.

Motion to previous question passed.

Resolution Regarding Award of Distinction Bylaw Amendment passed.

F. Resolution Regarding By-law Changes

Abaki: [reads be it resolved clauses]

VP Diaz: What would that change?

Abaki: By-law changes would be tabled for the next session and councillors would have more time to look at them.

VP Olle: Considering the content of this resolution, wouldn't it need to be given out last council too?

Abaki: I told the speaker to do so.

VP Dooley: Why did you focus on days and not council meetings?

Abaki: I have yet to see council by-law changes that are urgent.

VP Dooley: Is there the intention to have it 14 days before debate or 14 days before approval?

Abaki: When it is debated, it will be approved. It makes sense, three days is not enough time to look at by-law changes. By-laws are the rules by which SSMU abides. If councillors have a reasonable idea of what we are talking about, they can form a better consensus. Tabling this makes a lot of sense, and everybody would have the possibility to participate. Our by-laws are really important, we should consider keeping the Constitutional Review Committee. The 14 days can be amended to 1 meeting before if councillors feel so strongly about it.

VP Brown: Would you accept an amendment from debate to approval?

Abaki: I feel that people should have a look at the motion first and then talk to people about contentious issues before coming to council.

VP Diaz: 10.2 By-law – where is the by-law that should be amended?

Abaki: The speaker is showing it right now.

VP Diaz: Would 10.2.1 still exist?

Abaki: Yes.

VP Brown: I would like to introduce a friendly amendment: "No amendment to the bylaws may be placed before Council, which has not been distributed to the Councillors ten (10) days in advance of the meeting at which it is to be approved."

Motion to previous question passed.

Resolution Regarding By-law Changes passed.

11. Session.....

Confidential

12. Adjournment.....9.26pm

* Requires leave of the SSMU Legislative Council by a simple majority of votes.