

MINUTES
MCGSS council meeting
Time: February 24th, 2015 @ 4:30pm
Location: Faculty Lounge

Attendance: Exec: Peter (President), Hector (Treasurer), Melissa (Environment Commissioner), Andrew (Secretary), Reshmi (MCSS Rep), Jacob (Faculty Rep)

Council: Andrew & Hector (Plant Science), Maeghan & Georgia (Parasitology), Amanda & Darek (Food Science), Divya (Bioresource), Ivy & Yin (Nutrition)

Absent: Regrets: Lisa (Bioresource), Yasmin (Animal Science)
No regrets: Devon (NRS), Nic (VP)

Pizza!

Approval of Agenda: Peter asked that we discuss Downtown Services at MAC:
Motion to approve, Derek, seconded by Divya

Approval of Minutes from Jan. 13th, 2015:
Motion to approve, Reshmi, seconded by Hector

Special Guest Presentation: Dr. Ian Strachan, Dean MAC-OGS
-unable to attend, but will re-schedule for March

Reports

Reshmi; 14 people attended the I-Week Potluck
-Faculty Meeting discussed adding courses for undergraduates
-MCSS is tonight, and she'll report back about their response to our lawyer's letter

Jacob: A previous Faculty Meeting started discussing why there is an increase in exam deferrals
-Faculty is going to look into it

Maeghan: PGSS, a speaker came to advocate for McGill to use the Royal Vic for student space
-discussed tuition policy for students that take more than their allotted seven years
-the letter to MCSS, was sent Jan 22nd, 2015, and was received, but no contact has been made as of yet: they're continuing to ignore us

Ivy; have had three respondents for the Newsletter survey concerning funding difficulties
-all had trouble, all from Bioresource, but were all resolved via supervisors

Melissa: noted that people are complaining we're running out of cream cheese at Bagel Breakfasts

Andrew: report on PGSS-SSMU Summit concerning McGill's austerity measures
-a joint statement and list of action items were ratified

Hector: now officially our treasurer
-concerning MCGSS monies, departments have until June 30th, 2015, to spend their money, everything afterward will be debited from their Fall 2015 installment
-on track for budget, will prepare a line item breakdown of our budget for the next council meeting
-reminder for council, we have monies for conferences (especially national)
-updating website, so send details as you want things changed

Peter: -the bunker will get its phone today, or very soon
-we need someone to arrange space in R3-014
-NRS has some extra desks and chairs we could use
-French course is going well, we're not paying for rooms

Old Business:

1. Events: **Peter**

-please consult the googledoc for the current list of upcoming activities

<https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B306ZxUI-PMwTUIHTGROelNMSDQ&usp=sharing&tid=0B306ZxUI-PMwWm1Qb3dhQjE5MGc>

Past events: Movie Night, Jan. 14th, 2015, Happy, Peter, 2 people!
Bagel Breakfast, Jan. 14th, 2015
PGSS AGM, Jan. 15th, 2015, Maeghan, Georgia, Andrew
CFS Referendum, Jan. 15th-16th, 2015, 8am-6pm
New Year' Lunch, Jan. 19th, 2015, Budget of 800\$,
I-Week, Jan. 26th-31st, 2015, Reshmi & the Cultural Potluck? 3-7pm
PGSS, Feb. 4th, 2015, Maeghan, Georgia, Melissa
Founders Day, Feb. 10th, 2015, Hector went
Movie Night, Feb. 11th, 2015, Peter, 8 people!
Bagel Breakfast, Feb. 17th, 2015

-upcoming events: Student Engagement, Feb. 26th, 2015, Lisa +1 more?
-council voted to provide 150\$ to the organisers
-passed, 1 against, 2 abstain

Wine & Cheese, Feb. 26th, 2015, at 4:30pm
Movie Night, March 11th, 2015 at 5:30pm

Bagel Breakfast, March 16th, 2015; should this be the 17th?
PGSS, March 11th, 2015, Lisa, Andrew, Hector

-as always, we need volunteers to sign-up to help with these, and other, activities!!

-have gotten no feedback from volunteers that signed up from Bagel Breakfast

2. Available Committee's: did we get a list of our appointments?
-**Reshmi** will provide the link and details
3. MCSS: **Maeghan** discussed this in her report (see above)

New Business:

1. Update on PGSLF Accounts: **Andrew**
 - how should we manage un-used funds?
 - June 30th to be spent, anything after that will be a debit for incoming Fall 2015 monies
 - un-used funds are moot given our June 30th deadline
2. Downtown Services at MAC: a student proposal has asked MCGSS to endorse applying to the Sustainability Fund to provide many of the student services offered downtown at MAC
 - doesn't pass, 2 against, 11 abstained; good in theory, not clear on execution, no endorsement from MCGSS will be given

Miscellaneous Announcements and Discussions

Council Agenda Items: please have items submitted one week prior to our meeting, so March 17th, 2015 is the deadline for our next meeting.
(andrew.blakney2@mail.mcgill.ca)

Next Exec Meeting, March 10th, 2015, at noon in the Conference Room

Next PGSS Council Meeting, March 11th, 2015, at 6pm, Thompson House Ballroom

Next MCGSS Council Meeting, March 24th, 2015, at 4:30pm in the Faculty Lounge

Motion to Adjourn by Derek, seconded by Hector