

BOARD OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Monday, February 26, 2024 – 11:30 am
McGreer 100, Bishop's University, Sherbrooke, Quebec

ATTENDANCE:

Name	Position	P/R/A*	Attendance P/R/A
Sophia Stacey	President	P	12-0-0
Christine Lépine	VP, Academic Affairs	P	12-0-0
Olivia Woods	VP, Student Life	P	12-0-0
Brandon Leblanc	Director of Finance	Regrets	8-4-0
Bryn Empey	Director of Events	P	12-0-0
Taylor Morgan	General Councilor	P	11-0-0
Sasha Kardos-Machado	General Councilor	P	11-0-0
Roser Rise	First Year Rep	P	9-2-0
Sarah Jewett	On-Campus Rep	P	10-1-0
Charles Beaudet	Environmental Sustainability Rep	P	4-0-0
Irma Susset	Equity Rep	P	12-0-0
Irmah Alao	Ethnic Diversity Rep	P	11-0-0
Marie Constance Hountondji	Health & Wellness Rep	P	10-1-1
Drew Henkel	Indigenous Student Rep	P	11-1-0
Fiona Gaombalet	International Student Rep	P	11-0-0
Cleo Wulder	Business Senator	P	12-0-0
Martina Berkers	Education Senator	Regrets	10-2-0
Élodie Lescuré	Graduate Student Senator	Regrets	9-3-0
Sonoma Brawley	Humanities Senator	P	10-2-0
Sienna Longo	Natural Sciences Senator	P	11-1-0
Chelsea Sheridan	Social Sciences Senator	P	12-0-0
Jordan Messier	Chair	P	10-1-0
Erin Mallory	General Manager	P	12-0-0
Karen Dymond	Secretary General	P	12-0-0

*P=Present, Regrets=sent their regrets 24+ hours in advance, A=Absent

*As per Specific Bylaw 13.10.ii, electronic participation is noted in the minutes.

Guests / Observers: Virginia Rufina Marquez-Pacheco, Loic A Mercier, Nicolas Evans, Stella Ruddy, Jenna Lemay, Shannon Gaskarth, Lara Fernandez, Emmett Tinning, Etienne Paré

1.0 Opening

1.1 Welcome & Confirmation of Quorum

Jordan called the meeting to order at 11:32 am. Quorum was confirmed with 16 voting members present at the start of the meeting.

1.2 Land Acknowledgement

Chris offered a Land Acknowledgement and a reflection on TRC Call to Action 62.2, calling on the federal, provincial, and territorial governments, in consultation and collaboration of survivors, Indigenous peoples, and educators, to provide the necessary funding to post-secondary institutions to educate teachers on how to integrate Indigenous knowledge and teaching methods into classrooms.

1.3 Approval of the agenda

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Sarah, to move item 4.1 and 4.2 to immediately before 3.0. Departmental Updates. CARRIED (16-0-0).

MOTION: Moved by Sophia, seconded by Christina, to move Item 8.2 Resolution to Nominate QSU President, to immediately after 4.2. CARRIED (16-0-0).

MOTION: Moved by Oliva, seconded by Christina, to approve the agenda as amended. CARRIED (16-0-0).

1.4 Approval of previous minutes – February 12, 2024

MOTION: Moved by Irmah, seconded by Chelsea, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held February 12, 2024, as presented. CARRIED (15-0-1).

1.5 For the Good of the Board

Karen reviewed how the BSR provide governance over the Bylaws and Policies of the SRC and the 2-meeting process to enact or amend governing documents. She encouraged items related to policies or bylaws from committees or representatives to be brought forward at the next meeting, as there are only 3 meetings left for their term.

2.0 Filling vacancies on BSR

None.

3.0 Departmental Updates

3.1 President (Sophia) – Sophia directed everyone to her written report and invited questions.

3.2 Vice-President of Academic Affairs (Christina) – Christina congratulated the incoming Executive Team

3.3 Vice-President of Student Life (Olivia) – Olivia thanked everyone who assisted with the Student Safety Fee and congratulated the incoming Executive team.

3.4 Director of Finance (Brandon) – Refer to his written report.

3.5 Director of Events (Bryn) – Bryn welcomed the incoming Executive Team and congratulated Olivia on the Student Safety Fee. She announced that an invite to join the Grad Formal Committee is being circulated this week.

3.6 Election Report (Karen) – Karen congratulated the incoming Exec Team, thanked BSR members who recorded a promotional video, and announced that nominations open today for the General Election.

4.0 Reports from Standing Committees / Recurring Items

4.1 Club Motions (Olivia)

4.1.1 Club Status Reviews – Two of the SRC Extra groups on the agenda were in attendance.

4.1.1.1 Pre-Law Society – No one in attendance, no report received.

4.1.1.2 Chinese Student Association – No one in attendance, no report received.

4.1.1.3 Modern Languages Club – Olivia reported that the Modern Languages Club sent an email today that they have disbanded.

4.1.1.4 Mindfulness, Yoga and Meditation Club – Loick provided a report on the club, which has 7 members at every meeting and 5-6 occasional members. Several members are leading their activities and they have had very little cost. He highlighted collaboration with Art Lab and future plans with BUUPS and SAFS.

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Sienna, to ratify the Mindfulness, Yoga with Active Group Status. CARRIED (16-0-0).

4.1.1.5 Bishop's Improv Troupe – Laura, Emmett, Shannon, reported on the Troupe's activities. They meet 1x week on Friday nights. They have had a show, will have another this semester.

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Taylor, to ratify the Bishop's Improv Troupe with Active Group Status. (16-0-0).

4.2 Gaiter Grants Committee – Olivia reported that they met on Friday. 4 applications were received – one group didn't attend, one had an incomplete application, and two are being presented today.

Fiona entered the meeting.

Olivia reported that Big Buddies is requesting \$1050 for field trip. The grant will cover bus transportation and fees for a trip to a sugar shack for 100 people. Stella, a representative from Big Buddies, explained that they have 8 meetings per year and one field trip per semester. Olivia noted that last year, the GGC recommended that they increase the fee for big buddies to participate, and they implemented that recommendation, which has aided their budget.

Nico, a representative from the Bishop's University Undergraduate Psychology Society – BUUPS presented their request to attend a conference run by all Quebec universities, which is the only networking event for psychology students. The request is for transportation and hotels. This is the 3rd year attending – this year 14 students will participate. Olivia explained that the requested amount was \$2200. After working through process with GGC, the GGC recommends a grant of \$3750 to provide funding for safer transportation (LimoCar instead of carpooling) and to reduce the amount that students would pay to attend - \$120/person. BUUPS has been very active with Gait Nights and fundraising. GGC recommended increase in request to allow members to attend for \$120/person.

MOTION: Moved by Christina, seconded by Sarah, to move into closed session. CARRIED (17-0-0).

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Taylor, to grant the full request of \$1450 to Big Buddies. CARRIED (16-0-1).

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Sarah, to grant BUUPS \$3750. CARRIED 17-0-0).

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Sophia, go back into open session. CARRIED (17-0-0).

Jordan announced the results and congratulated Big Buddies and BUUPS and the guests exited the meeting.

- 4.3 Appointments Committee (Sophia) – Nothing to report.
- 4.4 Green Levy Committee (Charles) – Reaching out to schedule a meeting after reading week.
- 4.5 Residence Student Life Committee (Olivia) – Nothing to report.
- 4.6 Mental Health Committee (Marie Constance) – Pet Support Day is this Wednesday Feb 28, and she invited anyone who wishes to volunteer.
- 4.7 EDI Committee (Irma/Irmah) – The committee is meeting every two weeks and has connected with every cultural and religious group on campus. The co-chairs are developing a transition document for the next reps.

5.0 Reports from Ad-Hoc Committees

- 5.1 Finance Committee (Brandon) – Nothing to report.
- 5.2 Gait Renovation Consultation Committee (Brandon) – Nothing to report.
- 5.3 Menstrual Equity Committee (Olivia) – All sustainable products have been ordered, 985 items. The project is moving into the education phase and will host a Town Hall at the end of March.
- 5.4 SafeDrive Committee (Sophia) – Due to the issue of obtaining insurance, options that would not involve external insurance is being explored. She is meeting with various university departments who have a vehicle to explore the possibility of a partnership. Once she has a firm proposal, she will reconvene a meeting of the committee. With the passing of the Student Safety Fee, students have indicated that this is important to them.
- 5.5 Sexual Culture Committee (Olivia) – Virginia, one of the Co-Leads, provided the report. The SCC has created a speaker series for 1x month as part of their education portfolio. The first speaker is Kendra Brock, nurse at Health Clinic, on STIs. Projects include updating the Sexual Violence Resource Pamphlet, and a review of the Safer Spaces policy.
- 5.6 Environmental Policy Committee (Charles) – Trying to arrange a meeting next, but due to changes with the sustainable development office, it hasn't happened yet. The committee expects that they will be able to bring the updated policy forward for voting before the end of the semester.
- 5.7 Tuition Increase Response Task Force – Sophia reported that the committee has not met this semester, and that she touched base with the 6 members of the committee last week, and all felt it was appropriate to dissolve the committee. The University Senate has struck a Senate committee called the Committee on French Language and Culture in Quebec, which will have student representation.

MOTION: Moved by Sophia, seconded by Sonoma, to dissolve the Ad-Hoc Tuition Increase Response Task Force Committee. CARRIED (17-0-0).

6.0 Question Period

None asked.

7.0 Unfinished Business

None.

Marie Constance left the meeting.

8.0 New Business

8.1 BSR Feedback on University Policy on the Prevention of Harassment (Virginia Rufina Marquez-Pacheco) Virginia explained the background and process for the update of this university policy, which includes student representation. She highlighted the changes for the policy and pointed out that sexual harassment is no longer included in this policy and is now included in the policy on sexual violence, which is being reviewed as well. A robust discussion was held and Virginia will bring forward the feedback from the BSR.

8.2 Resolution to Nominate QSU President (Sophia) – This item was addressed immediately following item 4.2. Sophia explained that the Quebec Student Union (QSU) has an elected executive team, with the election happening in March. As a member association, we get to vote in the election. Each candidate needs an endorsement from one member association to support their nomination. Sophia presented a candidate running for president, Etienne Paré, who joined the meeting via TEAMS.

MOTION: Moved by Sophia, seconded by Christina, that the BSR adopts a resolution to support the candidacy of Etienne Paré for President of the QSU for the 2024-25 academic year. CARRIED (17-0-0).

8.3 Notice of Motion – To create a Sexual Culture Representative position on the BSR (Olivia) Olivia explained that this idea has come up in both the SCC meetings and in the VPSL meetings with the representatives. As work on sexual culture, safety, health and wellbeing has become a pillar of the SRC, having a permanent position on the BSR would ensure that our work is being examined through the lens of sexual culture and sexual violence prevention. This would also address ensuring the longevity of the SCC. A discussion which showed consensus for the position. It was identified that there will need to be a bylaw change for item 11.7 EDI Committee to include the SC Representative. There was feedback provided that, while the position should be filled annually during the General Election, as with other Representatives, that due to the fact that nominations are already open, that this position should be filled on the Fall Ballot for the 2024-25 term only.

This item will return at the next meeting for the vote.

MOTION: Moved by Sophia, seconded by Christina, to postpone Items 8.4 and 8.5 to the next meeting. CARRIED (16-0-0).

8.4 Notice of Motion – Proposal to make SCC a Standing Committee (Virginia)
Due to lack of time, this item was postponed to the next meeting.

8.5 Notice of Motion - Proposal to Change Specific Bylaw 15.3.v.e Procedure For Impeachment (Karen)
Due to lack of time, this item was postponed to the next meeting.

9.0 Toot Your Own Horn

In the interest of time, no announcements were made.

10.0 **Date of Next Meeting** – Monday, March 11, 2024 – 11:30 am – 1:00 pm, McGreer 100

11.0 **Adjournment**

MOTION: Moved by Sophia, seconded by Charles, to adjourn the meeting. CARRIED (16-0-0).

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 pm.