

BOARD OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Monday, March 25, 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	14-0-0
Christine Lépine	VP, Academic Affairs	P	14-0-0
Olivia Woods	VP, Student Life	P	14-0-0
Brandon Leblanc	Director of Finance	P	10-4-0
Bryn Empey	Director of Events	P	14-0-0
Taylor Morgan	General Councilor	P	13-0-0
Sasha Kardos-Machado	General Councilor	Regrets	12-1-0
Roser Rise	First Year Rep	P	11-2-0
Sarah Jewett	On-Campus Rep	P-Electronic*	12-1-0
Charles Beaudet	Environmental Sustainability Rep	P	6-0-0
Irma Susset	Equity Rep	Regrets	13-1-0
Irmah Alao	Ethnic Diversity Rep	Regrets	12-1-0
Marie Constance Hountondji	Health & Wellness Rep	P	12-1-1
Drew Henkel	Indigenous Student Rep	P	13-1-0
Fiona Gaombalet	International Student Rep	P	13-0-0
Cleo Wulder	Business Senator	P	14-0-0
Martina Berkers	Education Senator	P-Electronic*	12-2-0
Élodie Lescure	Graduate Student Senator	P-Electronic*	11-3-0
Sonoma Brawley	Humanities Senator	P	12-2-0
Sienna Longo	Natural Sciences Senator	P	13-1-0
Chelsea Sheridan	Social Sciences Senator	P	14-0-0
Jordan Messier	Chair	P	12-1-0
Erin Mallory	General Manager	P	14-0-0
Karen Dymond	Secretary General	P	14-0-0

*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: Leana Ceresoli, Sociology Club; Samuel Howarth, Sociology Club; Sophia Driscoll, incoming Education Senator; Reagan Russell, incoming Director of Events; Jenna Lemay, SRC Extra Manager; Virginia Marquez-Pacheco, SCC, CRABS, BURJ; Anne-Marie Laroche, CRABS; Andrée Laroche, CRABS; Reza Ghasemi, Persian New Year Event

1.0 Opening

1.1 Welcome & Confirmation of Quorum

Jordan called the meeting to order at 11:36 am. Quorum was confirmed with 15 voting members present.

1.2 Land Acknowledgement

Cleo offered a Land Acknowledgement and a reflection on the TRC Call to Action 86.

1.3 Approval of the agenda

MOTION: Moved by Sienna, seconded by Fiona, to address the six items with guests immediately after item 2.0, in the order listed on the agenda. CARRIED (15-0-0).

MOTION: Moved by Chelsea, seconded by Cleo, to approve the agenda as amended. CARRIED (15-0-0).

1.4 Approval of previous minutes – March 11, 2024

MOTION: Moved by Sienna, seconded by Taylor, to approve the minutes of the meeting held March 11, 2024, as presented. CARRIED (15-0-0).

1.5 For the Good of the Board

Christina spoke to adjournment - if there are only ten minutes left of a BSR meeting and we are not close to a decision or there are still items on the agenda, we should adjourn the meeting at that point.

2.0 Filling vacancies on BSR

None.

3.0 Departmental Updates

Written reports were circulated in advance. Time sensitive highlights were shared as listed below.

3.1 President (Sophia) – Held a productive retreat with Outgoing and Incoming Execs and expressed her confidence in the new team.

3.2 Vice-President of Academic Affairs (Christina) – Study Hall Volunteer Shift sign up was distributed.

3.3 Vice-President of Student Life (Olivia) – Purple Shirt Epilepsy Awareness Day on March 28.

3.4 Director of Finance (Brandon) – Nothing highlighted, written report only.

3.5 Director of Events (Bryn) – Tomorrow is last day to buy tickets for Grad Formal.

3.6 Election Report (Karen) – Nothing highlighted, written report only.

4.0 Reports from Standing Committees / Recurring Items

4.1 Club Motions (Olivia)

4.1.1 New Club Ratification – The Sociology Society

This item was addressed immediately after item 2.0.

Leana and Sam explained the Society's purpose, and the fact that there was formerly a society but it has been dissolved. Students appreciate the opportunity to discuss issues outside of the classroom and 25 people attended their first speaker event.

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Cleo, to ratify the Sociology Society as a group with New Group Status. CARRIED (15-0-0).

- 4.1.2 Club Status Reviews: CRABS – Classics & Religions at Bishop's Society
Virginia, Anne-Marie, and Andrée spoke to the Society's activities, including weekly Greek and Latin sessions, movie night, trivia night, and a Gait event that also served as a fundraiser. They are doing study sessions and are collaborating with other academic and social groups on campus.

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Taylor, to ratify the Classics and Religions Society (CRABS) as an SRC Extra Group with Active Status. CARRIED (15-0-0).

4.2 Gaiter Grants Committee (Brandon)

4.2.1 Bishop's University Research Journal (BURJ)

The GGC recommends a grant of \$590 for the cost of printing the Journals. Last year, the BSR approved the same cost for printing and funded software for the editing and formatting. This year's request is for printing only. Virginia reported that a total of six admissions have been approved by Faculty, which is double from last year. The journal will be printed over the summer and distributed in the fall semester.

MOTION: Moved by Sienna seconded by Roser, to approve full request of \$590 to BURJ. CARRIED (15-0-0).

- 4.3 Appointments Committee (Sophia) – Sophia reported that there are two university committees who student input is sought. Sophia presented the candidates for ratification.

MOTION: Moved by Sophia, seconded by Cleo, to appoint Sonoma Brawley, Humanities Senator (unilingual) and Elsie Courant, Student-at-Large (bilingual), be named to the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on French Language and Quebec Culture, and that the Vice-President of Academic Affairs and Cleo Wulder, Business Senator and incoming President of Bishop's University Commerce Society (BUCS) be named to the Board Ad Hoc Search Committee for the Dean of the Williams School of Business. CARRIED (13-0-2).

- 4.4 Green Levy Committee (Charles) – Nothing to report, no applications have been received.
4.5 Residence Student Life Committee (Olivia) – Nothing to report.
4.6 Mental Health Committee (Marie Constance) – Nothing to report.
4.7 EDI Committee (Irma/Irmah) – Nothing to report.

5.0 Reports from Ad-Hoc Committees

- 5.1 Finance Committee (Brandon) – Brandon explained that this committee has been struck for 3 years and has had an unclear mandate. The new policies Financial policies presented at this meeting for voting upon at the next will provide purpose and direction for this committee, and will alleviate some of the funding decisions from the BSR.
5.2 Gait Renovation Consultation Committee (Brandon) - A meeting is scheduled for next week and there will be an update at next meeting.
5.3 Menstrual Equity Committee (Olivia) – Wed March 27 is the Menstrual Equity Town Hall. Distribution of free sustainable products will be held the same day.
5.4 SafeDrive Committee (Sophia) – SafeDrive launched on St. Patrick's Day weekend, running for 14 hours over Thursday, Friday and Saturday night, providing 36 rides to 72 students. The project is still

in the pilot phase and did not run last weekend or this weekend. For the last weekend of classes, Grad Formal, and Study Hall, the program will run.

- 5.5 Sexual Culture Committee (Olivia) – There is a meeting at 7 pm tonight. Applications for Sr/Jr cochairs are current open for applications.
- 5.6 Environmental Policy Committee (Charles) – Nothing to report.

6.0 Question Period

None.

7.0 Unfinished Business

- 7.1 Student Fee Increase (Brandon) – Brandon provided a presentation covering the rationale for the increase and proposed to increase fees by 7%. Fees were not increased from 2019 to 2022, while cost of living has risen. Increasing for the cost of living is part of the strategic plan. The SRC has some of the lowest student fees across the country and the lowest student fees of the Maple League universities.

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Taylor, increase student fees by 7%. CARRIED (15-0-0).

7.2 Bylaw Change - Procedure for Impeachment (Élodie, Drew, Roser)

MOTION: Moved by Drew, seconded by Roser, to amend the following Specific Bylaws with the bolded wording added and strikethrough words removed:

15.3.v.d. - A vote to remove shall require a 2/3 vote, and a majority of all members of the BSR, **as outlined in General Bylaw Article 5.2**, in favour of removal.

15.3.v.e. Quorum of a meeting at which impeachment is considered is a Full Quorum”, **as outlined in General Bylaw Article 5.2 and in Specific Bylaw 13.iii**, notwithstanding when a meeting is taking place.

15.4.i Hired Directors, a General Manager or the Secretary-General may be removed following a review conducted by **and a recommendation from the Executive Council to the BSR, and a 2/3 vote of the BSR where “Full Quorum” is considered.**

15.4.ii. Any hired member of the Executive Council, General Manager, or the Secretary- General may be considered for a removal from their position for dereliction of duty, upon receipt by the EC of a formal request by at least ten per cent of the Students Association stating the Reason(s) for the requested removal. In such a case, a majority vote of the ~~EC~~ **BSR** is required to effect the removal.

CARRIED (15-0-0).

7.3 Amendment to Operating Policy Section 1: Elections 6.1 (Karen)

MOTION: Moved by Sophia, seconded by Sienna, to amend the SRC Operating Policy Section 1: Elections 6.1 as follows:

All candidates running for positions on the BSR must provide a waiver to the CRO, which allows them to determine whether they are in good academic overall standing at the University. Upon submission of the form, the CRO will confirm that the student is in good academic standing **and in good standing with the Office of the Vice-Principal of Student Affairs.**

CARRIED (15-0-0).

8.0 New Business

8.1 Ratification of Director of Events 2024-25

This item was addressed immediately after item 4.2.1.

Sophia introduced the candidate for Director of Events, Reagan Russell. Reagan took the floor for a few minutes to introduce herself.

MOTION: Moved by Drew, seconded by Roser, to ratify Reagan Russell as the Director of Events for 2024-25. CARRIED (15-0-0).

8.2 University Application Fee Increase (Doug McCooye, Andrea Roberts)

Doug McCooye provided the information regarding the background and rationale for an increase in the University application fee, which has not increased in many years. Doug and Andrea answered questions. Bishop's does not have a difference in application fees for domestic students and international students.

Sarah Jewett entered the meeting and attended online.
Marie Constance left the meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Olivia, seconded by Taylor, to approve an increase the University Application Fee from \$65 to \$75 as of Winter/Fall 2025. CARRIED (15-0-0).

8.3 Selection of Awards:

MOTION: Moved by Sienna, seconded by Cleo, to move into closed session and vote by secret ballot for the selection of awards. CARRIED (15-0-0).

The board voted on winners for the Joseph E Cassar Award, the Ray Lawson Award, the Joy Chandler Community Involvement Award, and the Enzo Evangelisti Outstanding Leadership Award. Winners will be announced at the SRC Awards Night on Friday April 12.

8.4 NOTICE OF MOTION – Operating Reserve Sustaining Policy – Brandon introduced the notice of motion and requested that anyone with feedback or questions visit him during his office hours this week.

8.5 NOTICE OF MOTION – Investment Policy - Brandon introduced the notice of motion and requested that anyone with feedback or questions visit him during his office hours this week.

8.6 NOTICE OF MOTION – Financial Policy - Brandon introduced the notice of motion and requested that anyone with feedback or questions visit him during his office hours this week.

8.7 Funding Request – Persian New Year Event

This item was addressed immediately after Item 8.2.

Reza presented information about a Celebration of the Persian New Year. They are hosting an event offering cultural exchange and the religious celebration of the arrival of spring, celebrated by Iranians for more than 3,000 years. He invited everyone to attend the event on the afternoon of March 30 in the Cinema Room. The group is requesting \$150 for this event.

MOTION: Moved by Roser, seconded by Charles, to approve the requested amount of \$150.00 for the Persian New Year Celebration. CARRIED (15-0-0).

9.0 Toot Your Own Horn

None.

10.0 Date of Next Meeting – Thursday April 11, 2024 – 11:30 am – 1:00 pm, McGreer 100 – Final Meeting

11.0 Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Drew, seconded by Charles, to adjourn the meeting. CARRIED (15-0-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 1:06 pm.