

**Students' Association of Mount Royal College
Students' Council Meeting
January 11, 2010
Students' Council Chambers**

Present:

Travis McIntosh (chair)
Eily Sweeney
Jermyn Voon
Meghan Melynk
Jennifer Langille
Michael Decker

Robert Jones
Tommy Lieu
Holly Mazur
Kay Asiedu-Nketiah
Keeli Elaschuk
Marcy Fogal (ex-officio)

Erin Delamont
Troy McLeod
Fadwa Khourieh
Sadiq Valliani
Anna Piltingsrud
Megan Borg (scribe)

Regrets:

Tegan Smyth

Rance Williams

Guests:

Collin Semenoff

1.0 Approval of Agenda

Motion: To approve the January 11, 2010 Students' Council meeting agenda with the following amendments:

- **Add 6.3 "Elections"**
- **Add 6.4 "Committees"**
- **Add 6.5 "SC Reports"**

Jennifer Langille/Holly Mazur

Carried

2.0 Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion: To approve the consent agenda with the removal of 2.2 "Students' Council Meeting Minutes – November 30, 2009"

Sadiq Valliani/Keeli Elaschuk

Carried

3.0 Items Removed From Consent Agenda

Meghan Melynk noted that the motion made regarding CASA moving to associate status was actually moved by her and second by Michael Decker and asked for the names to be switched.

Motion: To approve the November 30, 2009 Students' Council meeting minutes with the noted amendment.

Holly Mazur/Fadwa Khourieh

Carried

4.0 Generative Governance Topic Discussion & Presentations

Erin Delamont explained that the Executive Committee was not able to come up with a topic that would be meaningful to discuss at Council. She stated that they are open to any suggestions from council for future discussions.

5.0 Dinner

6.0 New Business

6.1 October 2009 Operating Reports

Jermyn Voon asked if there are any areas of concern in these operating reports. Marcy replied that there was one concern. She explained that there was a problem with the Liberty Lounge reports with overages and spillages and it appeared that they had reached the maximum amount of roughly \$6,300 within the first few months. Marcy explained that upon further investigation they discovered that there was a glitch in how this amount was handled with the new POS and the actual amount was re-calculated and was determined to be more accurate.

Marcy Fogal explained that the SA is tracking well for fees due to the increased enrollment. She noted that as of these reports they were slightly better than 50% of budget and were able to entertain more spending possibilities.

Motion: To approve the October 2009 operating reports.

Meghan Melnyk/Jermyn Voon

Carried

6.2 Segregated Funds Policy

Marcy Fogal explained that normally policy changes are brought to the Executive Committee for approval and most policies stop there because they are operational. She stated that the segregated funds policy needs to go through a variety of streams before its final approval, which includes going through management (Brian Walters and Marcy Fogal), then the Executive Committee, the Advisory Committee and finally to Students' Council. She stated that the policy has already gone through management, EC and AC. She explained that the segregated funds was the area of most concern when the SA was near bankruptcy 9 years ago and the rules followed within the policy are given a high level of scrutiny.

Marcy explained that the changes that have been made to the policy are nothing substantial. She noted that the addition of intent was incorporated, along with the changing of wording to be accounting specific, the name change from SAMRC to SAMRU and the repetition to residuals has been removed from each area and taken to a general category. Marcy noted that nothing has been changed that affects the original spirit of the policy, just the description of things.

Motion: To approve the segregated funds policy.

Sadiq Valliani/Fadwa Khourieh

Carried

Amended Motion: To change the last revised date to January, 2010.

Robert Jones/Fadwa Khourieh

Carried

6.3 Elections

Travis McIntosh reminded Council that if anyone is intending to run in the upcoming election, there are nomination forms available to them. He also stated that if any Councilors are curious as to what an Executive position entails, they are welcome to ask any of the current Executives questions. Travis noted that all Council positions are elected with the exception of the commissioner positions, which are appointed in the Fall

semester. He encouraged any Councilors that wish to sit another term in their positions to fill out a nomination form and run in the election.

Travis reminded Council that according to the election policies, they are not allowed to tell people that they are running until it has been officially announced by the CRO. He noted that people are allowed to state their intent to run though. Travis noted that nominations close on January 20th.

Travis stated that it is important for all Councilors to engage the membership and encourage them to nominate themselves, as well as compel students to vote in the election.

Eily noted that the CEC is discussing ideas to engage students and will be putting a lot of energy towards promoting nominations and elections.

Eily asked Councilors to fill in the Council calendar with times that they have classes so that they can ask their professors if they can do a quick classroom presentation about elections. She also stated that if Councilors would like to help at other times, they can specify their availability on the calendar as well. Eily explained that the presentations will be approximately 5 minutes long and she will be sending an outline on the presentation that can be forwarded to professors to review. Eily stated that there will also be a booth set up on Main Street for election awareness and Councilors are encouraged to volunteer there anytime that they are available.

Michael Decker asked if doing classroom visits gives an unfair advantage to candidates who don't have access to doing as many classroom visits. Travis replied that when Councilors do the classroom visits, they are representing the Students' Association and not their personal platform. He stated that it is in the best interest of Councilors to speak from an organizational stand point during these visits.

Erin Delamont noted that the more people to nominate themselves, the better and explained that the further that we reach there is the higher potential for voter turnouts as well. She stated that it is the duty of Council to build up future boards and inspire students to run in the election.

6.4 Committees

Travis stated that the CEC will continue to meet and do work throughout the Winter semester. He noted that the Bylaw Review Committee will no longer be sitting throughout the Winter semester, but the Elections Policy Review Committee will continue to meet and make recommendations for next year. Marcy Fogal noted that the Elections Committee is able to bring forward any recommended changes anytime throughout the year for approval at Council.

Travis explained that the Executive Committee would like to see the ECPPPC start this semester and review the Executive Committee Personnel Policies and Procedures. He noted that no members of the Executive Committee are to be on this committee and he hopes for there to be between 3-6 Councilors on this committee. He stated that the 2008-09 Executive Committee had drafted their recommended changes to the document when they were in office which he will submit to the committee, as well as any changes that the current Executive Committee will recommend for review. Travis noted that the Executive Committee will be available to guide and help the committee if needed, but will not be sitting on the committee. He stated that the committee will be expected to report their discussions and recommended changes to Council in April and then Students' Council will approve the final document.

Travis stated that nominations for this committee will be held at the January 25, 2010 SC meeting.

6.5 SC Reports

Eily explained that last year's Council had given verbal reports during each Council meeting, but it was decided that this year they would prepare a written report to submit with the meeting agenda. Eily noted that this is a more efficient way of reporting, but it does require a lot of preparation to write a report.

Eily stated that the deadline for last semester's report will be the end of the day on Monday, January 18th. She noted that she will send an outline to Council of what to include and the report will be a maximum of one page per Councilor.

Eily stated that this report will be good preparation for the end of year report that Councilors are expected to submit.

7.0 Unfinished Business

7.1 CASA Motion from November 30, 2009 SC Meeting

Motion: For the Students' Association of Mount Royal University to go down to associate status in CASA and to outline a criteria for evaluation in one year which includes the indicators of structure, leadership and communication.

Meghan Melnyk/Michael Decker

Carried

Erin Delamont explained that this motion was made at last Council meeting and was tabled until this meeting.

Meghan Melnyk stated that CASA is our federal lobbying group and explained that it was determined that the SA is not getting the maximum benefits from their money out of CASA and it was noted that CASA appears to be an inefficient group. She stated that it was suggested that SAMRU moves down to observer status with CASA for one year in order to evaluate the value of our membership, as well as save some money and send a message to CASA.

Robert Jones explained that since the last Council meeting, a motion was passed regarding membership voting. He stated that it used to be one school one vote, but now every school has a different level of voting rights, which leads to SAMRU's votes being decreased. He stated that this is a sunset clause for one year that will come into effect this March.

Call to question.

Robert noted that although they have moved to observer status, it does not mean that they have left CASA. He explained that SAMRU will be in associate status for one year so that they can evaluate their membership.

8.0 Announcements

Robert noted that the SAMRU AGM will be held on January 26, 2010 from 11:30-1:00 in the Liberty Lounge. He encouraged Councilors to bring as many students as possible in order to reach quorum. He explained that the AGM is the SA's major accountability to members and all EC and SC members are expected to be in attendance. Eily noted that there are some major incentives for students to come to the AGM this year, including

prizes of money and free rental for clubs who bring the most people into the meeting, as well as swag and pizza for students. Eily stated that she will email the clubs contest information to Council to pass onto their friends in clubs.

Jennifer Langille asked if Councilors are expected to attend the entire duration of the AGM. Robert replied that if Councilors have a class, they are excused, but they would like to see all the Councilors there for the entire meeting if they are able to. He stated that the AGM should be high on the priorities list of Councilors.

Jennifer asked if clubs have been informed of the contest. Marcy replied that they have been.

Keeli Elaschuk asked what the criteria are for AGM attendants. Robert replied that eligible voting members are part-time and full-time credit students. Marcy noted that the AGM attendants are cross-referenced with the voter's list for verification of membership.

Meghan Melnyk stated that she hasn't seen any advertising of the AGM. Erin Delamont replied that it is up and around.

Motion: To go into executive session.

Eily Sweeney/Meghan Melnyk

Carried

Motion: To exit executive session.

Travis McIntosh/Robert Jones

Carried

Keeli Elaschuk stated that Council did a great job last semester and she hopes to see at least 2 candidates running per position in the upcoming election.

Sadiq Valliani noted that exam relief last semester went well and he thanked Council and Eily for all of their work to make it successful. Eily noted that she is open to any feedback from Council and the same goes for any other events or initiatives. She explained that there will always be room for improvement and feedback helps with this.

Erin Delamont encouraged Council to apply for scholarships and noted that she has sent an email to Council about what they can apply for through MRU, SAMRU and the Calgary Foundation. Eily noted that the deadline for a lot of the scholarships is March 1st, but the Laurence Decore scholarship deadline is around February 24th. Eily stated that Council is a great thing to put on applications and if any Councilors need help with that description, they should feel free to ask EC. Marcy stated that scholarships are an easy and quick way to get money for school.

9.0 Action Items

Action: Each Councilor will spend a minimum of 3 hours with election promotion.

10.0 Board Meeting Feedback

Erin asked Council to give feedback on the forms regarding what Council needs or requires specifically of the Executive Committee.

Motion: To go into executive session.

Travis McIntosh/Keeli Elaschuk

Carried

Motion: To exit executive session.

Travis McIntosh/Holly Mazur

Carried

Motion: To remove the Executive Committee reports from the Executive Committee meeting minutes and place them as a separate item on the agenda.

Eily Sweeney/Travis McIntosh

Carried

11.0 Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Michael Decker/Keeli Elaschuk

Carried