**MISSA Council Meeting- March 20, 2015.**

**Thomson House 403, 4:00.**

**Present:**

Nina Manness(VP Internal)

Christina De Longhi (President)

Sean Astle (ICO)

Taline Ekmekjian (Treasurer)

Laura Cohen (VP External)

Sarah Bonish (PGSS Rep)

Alison Moore (Social Affairs)

Alyssa Routtenberg (Curriculum Committee Representative for Allison Gregory)

Thi Bao Tran Phan (Incoming Professional Association Liaison)

Grace Zell (Incoming VP External)

**Reports:**

VP External

* New interrim Sectretary general at PGSS
* Major fee increases coming up for next PGSS general meeting- about 14$ per year (legal fees for CFS, thomson house rent and utilities). They were voted down at last meeting because late addition but will become an issue next year.
* A new secretary general to be elected.

Internal

* Communications meeting with SIS was successful
* Important question about empty positions- what do we do?
* Want MISSA to take more of a role in helping other associations
* Brainstorm about the possibility of merging positions.

Treasurer

* CIBC account closed and the funds are now in petty cash.
* BMO doesn’t require succession files. Will look into acquiring a BMO account
* No treasurer elected for next year.

Communications

* Attended Communications meeting
* President of school associations should deal with contact info before a communications representative is voted in.
* A report developed by each association to be sent to admin at end of year as a recap
* Major issues discussed at meeting include:
  + People don’t know who to contact
  + Not sure how to get information out. There is the possibility of posters.
  + Are there too many positions? Is there something in constitution about dealing with this?
  + Forming a communications sub-committee from all groups
  + Knowledge Continuity-
  + Looking into making shared calendars more visible.
* MISSA’s social media accounts- contacted last year’s ICO, waiting for reply.

PGSS Representative

* Joint meeting with SSMU about austerity measures
* Possible protests coming up/ strikes.
* FEUQ (main group of which PGSS is a part) is starting to have groups leave so they are re-examining the system.

Social Affairs

* Attendance poll for AGM/End of Year Party- 55 generally positive responses- 10 people above quorum.
* Concerns about Concordia Colloquium being a time conflict.
* Make voting no earlier than 5:30
* Catering order in next 10 days (meeting for those interested).
* Theme: Rising from the Ashes
* Drink tickets→ too much for catering budget. Decided not to include them at the event.

Curriculum Committee

* No departmental approval for electives for next year, just log on to Minerva and sign up.
* SIS trying to introduce BA Minor in Info Studies
* New courses being added such as Cognition and Information, Professional Skills.
* Questions about these changes to be directed to faculty.

**Old Business**

* No submissions for Logo design contest, retry contest next year.

**New Business**

Constitution:

Various amendments to MISSA’s old constitution proposed to be voted on by membership at the Annual General Meeting:

**Article III- Membership**

The phrase “Annual membership fees, as set by a motion of Council, shall be collected by PGSS at the beginning of each semester as part of McGill’s student fee collection” is to be removed from the constitution.

* Vote: Christina motions to remove the aforementioned phrase from the constitution, Nina seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

**Article VIII-Executive**

Section “f," the position “A Faculty Representative”, is to be removed from the constitution

* Vote: Christina motions to remove the aforementioned phrase from the constitution, Taline seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

**Article IX- Roles and Responsibilities of Student Council Members**

Section 5

The fourth sentence of section 5 will now read: “The Council will vote to approve the budget and the Treasurer must present the operating budget at the first General Meeting following Fall elections and the finalized financial statement for the previous fiscal year.”

Vote: Christina motions to approve the aforementioned changes to Article IX- Section 5, Nina seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Section 6

This section is to be removed from the constitution.

* Vote: Christina motions to approve removing section 6 of Article IX from the constitution, Nina seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

**Article XII-Elections**

Under the section Winter Elections and Fall elections, every instance of the term “spring election” will be changed to “winter election” for consistency.

* Vote: Christina motions to approve removing the term “spring election” and replacing it with “winter election”, Nina seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Under Fall elections section 3 “Faculty Representative” is to be removed from the constitution.

* Vote: Christina motions to approve removing section 3 of Fall elections under Article XII from the constitution, Alison seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Under the section Fall elections, edits will be made to the section that previously stated:

“Notice of elections shall be posted by the Chief Returning Officer - Parliamentarian at least 7 days in advance of voting. Nominations of candidates for the elected office(s) may be accepted by the Chief Returning Officer – Parliamentarian immediately upon posting of the notice. The full slate of candidates for election shall be posted publicly no later than 3 days before voting. The voting period shall be 5 days.”

This section will be changed to:

“Notice of elections shall be announced to the entire MISSA membership by the Chief Returning Officer - Parliamentarian at least 7 days in advance of voting. Nominations of candidates for the elected office(s) may be accepted by the Chief Returning Officer – Parliamentarian immediately upon posting of the notice. The full slate of candidates for election shall be announced publicly no later than 3 days before voting. The voting period shall be 5 days.”

* Vote: Christina motions to approve the aforementioned changes to the fall election section of Article XII, Nina seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Under the section Fall elections, the following sentence “All voting shall be done by secret ballot, in accordance with PGSS policy” will be changed to “All voting shall be done anonymously through PGSS’ online voting system, in accordance with PGSS policy.”

* Vote: Christina motions to approve the aforementioned changes to the fall election section of Article XII, Nina seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Under the section Fall elections, the following paragraph is proposed to be added:

“For unfilled positions from either the Fall or Winter elections, any individual from the membership, excluding the Chief Returning Officer-Parliamentarian, can be appointed in the interim until the next election by a vote of the Council, following the voting process outlined in Article VII.”

* Vote: Christina motions to approve the aforementioned changes to the fall election section of Artcile XII, Nina seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

**Article XIV- Constitutional Amendments**

This section currently states, “This Constitution may be amended by the members of the Association at any time. An amendment may be passed either through a referendum, the wording of which has been posted one week in advance of voting, or by a vote at a General Meeting of the Association. In both cases, resolutions require more than ⅔ of votes cast for passage.”

It is proposed this section be changed to: “This Constitution may be amended by the members of the Association at any time. A proposed amendment must be brought to the MISSA Council at least 4 weeks before the voting period. At this meeting, the Executive will vote to bring the referendum question to the membership. More than 50 % of Executives must be present for quorum and more than 50% of present Executives must approve of posing the referendum question. An amendment may be passed either through a referendum, the wording of which has been announced one week in advance of voting, or by a vote at a General Meeting of the Association. In both cases, resolutions require more than ⅔ of votes cast for passage.”

* Vote: Christina motions to approve the aforementioned changes to Article XIV, Alison seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

**Article XV- Financial Regulations**

Under the Budget section, it is proposed to change section “a” to state “The Council will approve the budget and the Treasurer shall present the annual budget for the current fiscal year and the finalized financial statement for the previous fiscal year at the first meeting following the Fall elections.”

* Vote: Christina motions to approve the aforementioned changes to section “a” of the Budget section of article XV, Sarah seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Under the budget section, it is proposed to change section “d” to state “The treasurer must send the final financial statement to PGSS at the end of the fiscal year.”

* Vote: Christina motions to approve the aforementioned changes to section “d” of the budget section of article XV, Nina seconds. Motion passes unanimously .

**Amendments**

The section previously titled “Amendments” is proposed to be changed to “Previous Amendments.”

* Vote: Christina motions to approve the changing the “Amendments” section to “Previous Amendments”, Nina seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Donation Requests:

* Vote by Council to approve Donation request for ABQLA in amount of $93.39
  + Taline moves to pass, seconded by Laura
  + Motion passes unanimously
* Council Vote on donation request by AMIA in amount of $205.43 with follow-up by Taline regarding request for further donation.
  + Taline moves to pass, Nina seconds.
  + 1 abstention by Alison
  + Motion passes unanimously
* Council vote on donation requests by ASSIST in amount of $150.
  + Taline moves to pass, Laura seconds.
  + Motion passes unanimously.
* Council vote on donation request by CAPAL in amount of up to $138.61
  + Taline moves to pass, Nina seconds.
  + 1 abstention by Christina
  + Motion passes unanimously.
* Council vote on CBPQ donation request in amount of $140
  + Taline moves to pass, Nina seconds.
  + Motion passes unanimously
* Council vote on additional donation request by ASIST in amount of $170.
  + Taline moves to pass, Alison seconds
  + Motion passes unanimously
* Empty Treasurer Position
  + Try to find someone to appoint, if not president will take on that role.
  + Contact Nina if you have someone who is interested in treasurer position.
* Procedural Suggestions for Next Year
  + Agenda 24 hours in advance
  + Approve minutes at beginning of meetings
  + Council vs Executive meetings (we are having council meetings but they have been called Executive)
  + Bring in Jacinthe to talk about Roberts Rules.
  + Set a regular time for meetings
* Change in minutes- remove Sean’s quote from November 17th minutes.
  + Laura motions to strike the Sean’s quote from November 17th Minutes, Nina seconds
  + Motion passes unanimously
* Bank Account
  + Taline will investigate BMO student group account.

**Move to Adjourn**

* Nina motions to adjourn the meeting, Christina seconds
* Motion passes unanimously.