

**Students' Association of Mount Royal College  
Students' Council Meeting  
January 25, 2010  
Students' Council Chambers**

**Present:**

Eily Sweeney (chair)	Erin Delamont	Tommy Lieu
Troy McLeod	Holly Mazur	Fadwa Hourieh
Meghan Melynk	Tegan Smyth	Sadiq Valliani
Jennifer Langille	Keeli Elaschuk	Anna Piltingsrud
Michael Decker	Rance Williams	
Kay Asiedu-Nketiah (part)		
Marcy Fogal (ex-officio)	Megan Borg (scribe)	

**Regrets:**

Travis McIntosh	Robert Jones	Jermyn Voon
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**Guests:**

Josh Boser (SAMRU)

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**1.0 Approval of Agenda**

**Motion: To approve the January 25, 2010 Students' Council meeting agenda with the following addition:**

- **7.2 ECPPPC Elections**

Anastasia Piltingsrud/Sadiq Valliani

Carried

**2.0 Approval of Consent Agenda**

**Motion: To approve the consent agenda.**

Meghan Melynk/Holly Mazur

Carried

Eily thanked Councilors for submitting their written reports and noted that they were a pleasure to read. She reminded Councilors who have not submitted their reports yet to do so and noted that the goal is for Council to submit a smaller monthly report.

**3.0 Items Removed From Consent Agenda**

**4.0 Presentation – SAMRU Programming**

Students' Council welcomed Josh Boser, the SAMRU programming and venues manager.

Josh gave a brief background of his experience at the SA, noting that he has been an employee since about 1994 and has been in his current role since 2005.

Josh explained that programming includes events that are in-house, events with clubs and centers and any events on campus with SA collaboration. He stated that programming does the development, production and supervision of all SA on-campus and off-campus events.

Josh noted that the purpose of programming is to create a rich and diverse social life on campus. He stated that programming focuses on social, health and wellness and

responsible alcohol consumption promotion. He noted that programming also likes to focus on current event issues by bringing in key-note speakers.

Michael Decker asked what kind of advertising avenues programming uses. Josh replied that they advertise events through web avenues, the message of the day, specific targets to faculties, posters, The Reflector, TV screens and through the service centers.

Josh noted that the role of the programming department is to organize bands, speakers and events. He noted that live music and events are a large part of programming and in the past 5 years they strive to strike a balance between this and all other programming.

Josh explained that smaller venues, such as the Liberty Lounge are excellent because they give an opportunity for artist development and expose students to new music and art forms. Josh noted that the SA holds about 40-50 shows per year.

Josh stated that programming also focuses on participatory programming, which is done by students for students. He stated that this is encouraged because it opens up the programming process to students. He noted that In Focus Committee is also in place to involve student stakeholder groups that discuss and evaluate activities. He noted that IFC consists of programming staff, the VPSL, the communications staff and the student center volunteer coordinators. He noted that this committee gives an opportunity for these areas to bring forward student feedback and ideas.

Josh explained that student clubs support is also a part of programming. He noted that clubs often want to hold activities and events and programming is there to support these clubs to make their events successful.

Josh noted that programming also handles table vendor bookings in Wyckham House. He stated that it is programming's duty to ensure that the vendors brought into Wyckham House have products that are relevant to students. He noted that table vendors are rental by both small businesses and corporate businesses.

Meghan Melnyk asked what kind of prices we offer to students who want table bookings for fundraisers, etc. Josh replied that they may look at offering price points for students with small businesses, but since Wyckham House is a non-academic space, they cannot use the building for class project work.

*(Kay Asiedu-Nketiah joined the meeting)*

Erin Delamont asked if we offer a separate price to non-profit organizations. Josh replied that the only price points are for small businesses and corporate.

Josh explained that another area that programming looks after is venue bookings. He stated that with the expansion, there was an opportunity to utilize our spaces and rent them out to campus and corporate clients. He noted that Council Chambers is a high demand space, as well as the art gallery. He noted that the entire Wyckham House centre can be rented out as well for large events. Josh noted that the SA has lots of beautiful and usable spaces in the building.

Michael Decker asked what the venue rental prices are. Josh replied that they have a package that gets sent to potential clients that outlines price points. Josh stated that he can forward it onto Council if they want.

Keeli Elaschuk noted that there are many great local Calgary bands and asked if the SA would be willing to reach out to those bands. Josh replied that programming is definitely willing to do this and they are constantly looking to foster local talent. He noted that up

until about last year, Thursday nights were set aside for local bands. He noted that some of the problems that the SA has with shows is that Wyckham House is not on a C-train line and lots similar sized venues have opened up downtown in the past few years, which makes them more desirable.

Meghan Melnyk asked if the SA does specific events, such as battle of the bands or festivals. Josh replied that last year the SA did Battle Royale, which was a battle of the bands, but one member of the band was required to be a student. He stated that they may do the same type of event this year. He also noted that programming has discussed festivals and will keep this idea ongoing.

Keeli asked if they are planning on holding something like the U of C did with the CJSW event this past weekend. Josh replied that they are constantly looking at these types of events and are focusing right now on building up the campus community.

Jennifer Langille asked how it is decided on which shows will be all-ages. Josh replied that this is circumstantial on what the event is and what its needs are. He noted that most events held in Wyckham House are catered to the members.

Eily noted that Council is able to attend events for free and if they are interested in attending anything, they should let her know. Eily noted that she will email a copy of the event listings for this semester to Council.

Council thanked Josh for the programming presentation.

*(Josh Boser left the meeting)*

## **5.0 Generative Governance Topic Discussion & Presentations**

Eily noted that the discussion will be on budget brainstorming.

Marcy explained that the budgeting process occurs annually and is done from bottom up, meaning that staff give input to their supervisors and then to management and then the budget draft is fed back down. She explained that the purpose of the process is to create a realistic budget that contains new goals and that is articulated based on actual numbers. She noted that ongoing things are budgeted based on 3-5 year trends and anomalies. She noted that because the budget is created part-way through the fiscal year, they pro-rate actuals and look at historical data.

Marcy noted that Council will approve the final budget in March. She noted that in previous years the budget had been approved by the new Council in the Fall and explained that it is now done by the outgoing Council because March is the time where Council is at the peak of knowledge and experience. She noted that some problems with the new Council approving in the Fall semester is that they have no budget for the beginning of the fiscal year and the budget is being approved by Council at their weakest point. Marcy noted that one issue that has been identified with the outgoing Council approving the budget is that funds are reserved for the use and discretion of the subsequent Council. She noted that because of this, various funds have been created to support initiative for the incoming Council, such as EC special projects, SC special projects and the contingency fund.

Marcy noted that according to policy, they need to come up with conservative projections, cannot publish a deficit budget and are also limited due to the LOA with the size, number and scope of business services.

Marcy noted that Council should keep in mind that they have approved for no fee increase next year, which may have an affect on the budget, as well as approximately \$350,000 to go towards depreciation costs.

Meghan Melnyk asked if Council will have further consultation into the process. Marcy replied that the budget goes to EC for several weeks leading up to the actual budget drafting. She recommended that Councilors approach EC if they have anything to bring forward to the budget. Marcy noted that Council will be given a briefing document that outlines the budget draft. She noted that Council is given one meeting where they get the briefing and the draft budget and are given an opportunity to ask questions and make recommendations to the budget with the final approval being done at the next meeting once any changes are incorporated. Marcy noted that sometimes Council asks her to include specific areas, such as last year when Council asked for the free breakfast program budget to be increased.

Council met into two groups and brainstormed ideas to include in the upcoming budget.

Group one presented their ideas:

- Day-use lockers
- Awareness lunches for faculty specific students
- Meet and greet events
- Lower student fees
- Re-negotiate tenancy agreements and lower food court prices
- Increase scholarships at E-awards
- Give out gift cards to students for books, Copywrite and tuition
- Increase swag budget
- Increase service centers budget

Group two presented their ideas:

- Have more DFS/interns
- Text book loan program
- Get corporate sponsors for exam relief and free breakfast program
- Hold workshops on public speaking and professional development for students
- Have bike rentals
- Introduce a 5<sup>th</sup> member of the Executive Committee
- Offer more bursaries instead of scholarships
- Introduce a parking pass sharing program
- Cut SC budget

Eily thanked everyone for their ideas.

## 6.0 Dinner

## 7.0 New Business

### 7.1 Amendment to Elections Policy

Erin Delamont explained that there was an oversight and error in policy 4.1.2 with sections (e) and (f), which should state (f) and (g) instead.

**Motion: To amend section 4.1.2 of the elections policies to state “Any person whom subsection 4.1.1 (f) or (g) applies to will not be eligible for nomination in any Students’ Association Election for a period of 5 years from when such disciplinary action was ratified”.**

Erin Delamont/Michael Decker

Carried

## 7.2 ECPPPC Elections

Eily Sweeney explained that this committee will look at the policies that govern the work of the Executive Committee. She noted that many changes around clarification will need to be made to the policies. She noted that the Executive Committee will be giving their recommendations to the committee.

Marcy Fogal noted that John Hadley has compiled the information from the previous Executive Committee and has also indicated that he is willing and able to act as a resource for the committee if they request.

**Motion: To vote Jennifer Langille, Fadwa Khourieh, Sadiq Valliani, Keeli Elaschuk, Tommy Lieu and Holly Mazur into the committee.**

Troy McLeod/Tegan Smyth

Carried

**Motion: To accept Jennifer Langille, Fadwa Khourieh, Sadiq Valliani, Keeli Elaschuk, Tommy Lieu and Holly Mazur into the ECPPP Committee.**

Troy McLeod/Michael Decker

Carried

## 8.0 Announcements

The AGM will be held January 26<sup>th</sup> at 11:00.

The strategic planning second session will be held Friday morning from 9:00-1:00 with following sessions February 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

Erin Delamont reminded all Councilors to promote the elections and encouraged them to hand out the elections supplement. Erin noted that election T-shirts are available to Councilors who are not running for positions in the elections.

## 9.0 Executive Session 1

**Motion: To go into executive session.**

Keeli Elaschuk/Meghan Melnyk

Carried

**Motion: To rescind all 2009-10 SAMRU CASA motions to avoid any potential liabilities.**

Troy McLeod/Tegan Smyth

Carried

## 10.0 Executive Session 2

**Motion: To exit executive session.**

Fadwa Khourieh/Holly Mazur

Carried

## 11.0 Action Items

Eily Sweeney followed-up with the election promotion action item noting that it was successful. She stated that it will be important to know who did classroom visits for data purposes.

Holly Mazur noted that she did 4 classroom visits and didn't find that they were as well received as she wanted.

Keeli Elaschuk noted that she did one classroom visits and it was interesting to see how little students knew about the SA.

Tommy Lieu noted that he believes the main street awareness was very effective.

Meghan Melnyk noted that she did 5 classroom visits and found that it was good to talk about what the SA does with what is in the media that relates to students. She noted that it was good to tie the positions with the specific faculties and not the general elections and stated that this seemed to get more interest. Meghan noted that it was good to have the mugs to give away in the hall. Anastasia Piltingsrud agreed that the give-away was a good way to entice students. Erin noted that it will be good to keep in mind for next year that it is easier to talk to students in the halls during this time of year. She noted that one disadvantage is that since it is so early in the new semester, she didn't personally know too many people in class and it was hard to engage conversation.

Eily noted that it was useful to have the elections brochures.

Fadwa suggested that next year classroom visits are done in the first semester before exams so that students can start thinking about nominations early.

Jennifer Langille noted that she is involved in E-awards this year and encouraged interested Councilors to let her know if they are interested in joining a focus group.

## **12.0 Board Meeting Feedback**

## **13.0 Adjournment**

### **Motion: To adjourn the meeting.**

Fadwa Khourieh/Keeli Elaschuk

Carried