

**Executive Board Meeting 19-29
Thursday, March 26, 2020 @ 9:30am
MSU Boardroom, MUSC 201**

This meeting was done remotely through Microsoft Teams, due to unusual circumstance laid out by the response to COVID19

Called to Order 9:38am

Present Belliveau, Figueiredo, Hackett, Homs, Johnston, Marando, Mesic, Singh, Sinnige

Late

Absent

Others Present J. McGowan (General Manager), V. Scott (Recording Secretary), M. Wooder (MCD), Martino Salciccioli (AVP (Services)), Graeme Noble (AVP (Internal Governance))

1. Adopt Agenda

Moved by Belliveau, **seconded** by Sinnige to adopt the agenda, as presented.

Amendment

- Figueiredo – move Closed Session to be first.

Moved by Belliveau, **seconded** by Sinnige to adopt the agenda, as amended.

Motion Passes by General Consent

2. Closed Session

Moved by Figueiredo, **seconded** by Mesic that Executive Board move into Closed Session.

Motion Passes by General Consent

Return to Open Session

Rise and Report

- Figueiredo stated that given the special circumstances and financial implications of making the call to cancel the conference later in the summer Executive Board has decided to suspend operations effective immediately and that the PTM will have a comfortable transition.

Moved by Figueiredo, **seconded** by Belliveau that Executive Board suspend all Horizons operations effective immediately.

Motion Passes by General Consent

Moved by Figueiredo, **seconded** by Johnston that the Executive Board approve the recommendations from the Services Committee for the Maroons Service Review.

**In Favour: 7 Opposed: 1 Abstentions: 1
Motion Passes**

Moved by Marando, **seconded** by Johnston to move agenda items 28-33 to be next.

Motion Passes by General Consent

Noble was invited to join the meeting**3. Rescind Operating Policy – Clubs**

- Marando went over the initial memo with the Board. This explained all the proposed changes for all proposed operating policies relating to clubs.
- Figueiredo went over the new structure of how clubs would operate by doing a presented.

Moved by Marando, **seconded** by Figueiredo that Executive Board rescind Operating Policy – Clubs, on behalf of the SRA.

Vote on Motion

In Favour: 8 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 1
Motion Passes

4. Rescind Operating Policy – Clubs Executive Council

Moved by Marando, **seconded** by Figueiredo that Executive Board rescind Operating Policy – Clubs Executive Council, on behalf of the SRA.

- Marando stated that this will be replaced with the proposed operating policy of Clubs Advisory Council.

In Favour: 8 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 1
Motion Passes

5. Proposed Operating Policy – Clubs Operations

Moved by Marando, **seconded** by Figueiredo that Executive Board approve the proposed Operating Policy - Clubs Operations as circulated and attached, on behalf of the SRA.

- Marando explained that this policy goes over the basics of clubs, goes into explanations of duties and personnel. They stated that they have one amendment for the hiring structure of the Clubs Administrator.

Amendment

Moved by Marando, **seconded** by Figueiredo to amend section 6.2.4 to read as the following:

6.2.4 Be hired by a hiring committee struck by the Board of Directors that shall consist of:

6.2.4.1 The outgoing Clubs Administrator;

6.2.4.2 The Human Resources Generalist and Clubs Support;

6.2.4.3 Two (2) members of the Board of Directors or General Manager.

- Marando explained that they weren't sure where the position would be reporting to when it was first passed, but this is how it will be.

Vote on Amendment

Motion Passes by General Consent

Vote on Main Motion

Motion Passes by General Consent

6. Proposed Operating Policy – Clubs Status

- Marando went over the operating policy with the Board. They stated that the stipulations won't be effect for this year's clubs, but those that are ratified for 2021/2022.
- Belliveau asked if a club fundraised for a charity but only wanted to sell cupcakes in MUSC, would that count as serving the student body.
- Marando responded that it wouldn't.
- Belliveau asked who would ensure that the clubs were following these rules. They asked if they would have to submit a schedule.
- Marando responded that the club would submit their three proposed events of the year and then if the club qualifies as on-going then the club would submit the yearplan and budget to the Clubs Administrator. Marando added that the new accounting intern would be doing the approvals.
- Homsy asked if a club could hold a bake sale and call that their event. They asked what if a club's sole purpose was to have a table and hand out brochures.
- Marando responded that at that point the CAC would look at and determine the nature of the event proposal. They explained that if the club wasn't fundamentally benefitting students then it would fall under the judicial policy.
- Belliveau asked if the MSU was expecting a significant reduction of clubs on campus and would these changes effect booking rooms and tables in musc.
- Marando responded that a large majority of clubs don't book tables or space in musc. They stated that they were targeting more dormant clubs and hoping for more consistency in leadership. Marando added that they might see more collaborations between clubs, but from speaking with full-time staff they don't expect a large drop next year.

Moved by Marando, **seconded** by Figueiredo that Executive Board approve the proposed Operating Policy - Clubs Status as circulated and attached, on behalf of the SRA, effective September 1, 2020

Motion Passes by General Consent**7. Proposed Operating Policy – Clubs Advisory Council**

Moved by Marando, **seconded** by Figueiredo that Executive Board approve the proposed Operating Policy - Clubs Advisory Council as circulated and attached, on behalf of the SRA

- Marando went over the changes to the council and proposed operating policy.

Motion Passes by General Consent**8. Proposed Operating Policy – Clubs Financial Procedures**

- Johnston went over the proposed operating policy with the Board.
- Sinnige asked about the membership fee, and why it was mandatory. They felt that this would put a financial barrier on a lot of students. They asked if they could have the overall clubs fee collected by the MSU.
- Johnston responded that they do understand the financial barrier but if it was an issue there are ways to mitigate that. Johnston added that in terms of increasing funding to clubs, that's not how MSU funding works. They explained that the MSU works off of a single operating fee and if the MSU wanted to increase that then they would have to ask students. Johnston added that they already provide clubs with a lot of funding. Johnston explained that they have modelled this system with best practices from other schools, and if a student can't contribute the membership fee then that student can work with the Clubs Accounting Clerk. Johnston added that most clubs already charge memberships fees, but it was being written into policy to allow tracking.

- Marando stated that if someone wanted to join five clubs and couldn't afford the \$20 they could talk to a clubs exec or the clubs accounting clerk.
- Johnston stated that this wasn't a big change to the clubs system, but would prefer if students went to accounting to keep it separated as it adds someone neutral.
- Homsy asked if the amount of money received from membership count towards what they receive from the MSU.
- Johnston responded that they didn't want to consider those factors in as some clubs are larger or smaller. They explained that they set out a maximum total amount of funding given regardless.
- Homsy asked what happens if a club doesn't meet the membership fee requirement, and if they lost their club status.
- Marando responded that if the club doesn't have 25 people as part of their club this would be factored into the approval of ratification. They explained that the policy is stating that the club needs 25 members and at least a \$125 budget.
- Johnston stated that putting the membership fee in the policy was a big change but it's a line in the club budget submissions, so it was done in practice before. They explained that they put it in the policy for continuity and was sure that the CAC would take the membership fee into consideration with ratifications.

Moved by Johnston, **seconded** by Marando that Executive Board approve the proposed Operating Policy - Clubs Financial Procedures as circulated and attached, on behalf of the SRA

Vote on Motion

In Favour: 8 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 1
Motion Passes

Moved by Hackett, **seconded** by Mesic to postpone all reports to EB 19-30

Motion Passes by General Consent

9. Adopt Minutes

Moved by Singh, **seconded** by Hackett to adopt Executive Board minutes from meetings 19-26 – March 5, 2020, 19-27 - March 12, 2020, and 19-28 - March 19, 2020, as circulated.

In Favour: 8 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 1
Motion Passes

10. Operating Policy – OUSA

Moved by Figueiredo, **seconded** by Hackett that Executive Board approve the changes to Operating Policy – OUSA, as circulated and attached, on behalf of the SRA

- Noble went over the changes to the operating policy.
- Hackett stated that they have two amendments that they would like to make

Amendment

Moved by Hackett, **seconded** by Marando to strike section 3.2

- Hackett explained that when the MSU pays the OUSA fees the dates aren't actually followed. They added that OUSA changed the process on how fees are paid as some students are staying under the SCI model

while others aren't. Hackett stated that they haven't been following this section of the membership as they're paying 50% so it doesn't make sense to keep this in the policy.

Vote on Amendment

**In Favour: 7 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 2
Motion Passes**

Amendment

Moved by Hackett, **seconded** by Figueiredo to replace all mentions of AVP UA with AVP PFA

- Hackett stated that he believed that there may have been an error in their meeting with Noble and that all instances should be changed to AVP PFA.

Vote on Amendment

Motion Passes by General Consent

Vote on Main Motion

Moved by Figueiredo, **seconded** by Hackett that Executive Board approve the changes to Operating Policy – OUSA, as circulated and attached, on behalf of the SRA, as amended.

Motion Passes by General Consent

11. Operating Policy – Delegate Selection

- Noble went over the changes to the operating policy.

Moved by Figueiredo, **seconded** by Johnston that Executive Board approve the changes to Operating Policy – Delegate Selection, as circulated and attached, on behalf of the SRA.

Amendment

Moved by Hackett, **seconded** by Marando to switch 2.2.1.2 with 2.2.1.3

- Hackett stated that it made more sense that the AVP PFA is the second choice to go after the president as this position attends all the meetings with the VP Education anyway, so they would have more context on any situations.

Vote on Amendment

Motion Passes by General Consent

Vote on Main Motion

Moved by Figueiredo, **seconded** by Johnston that Executive Board approve the changes to Operating Policy – Delegate Selection, as circulated and attached, on behalf of the SRA, as amended.

Motion Passes by General Consent

12. Operating Policy – Role of MSU in Federal, Provincial, and Municipal Elections

- Noble went over the changes to the operating policy.

Moved by Figueiredo, **seconded** by Singh that Executive Board approve the changes to Operating Policy – Role of MSU in Federal, Provincial, and Municipal Elections, as circulated and attached, on behalf of the SRA

Motion Passes by General Consent**13. Operating Policy – *The Silhouette***

- Johnston went over the changes to the operating policy.

Moved by Johnston, **seconded** by Figueiredo that Executive Board approve the changes to Operating Policy – The Silhouette, as circulated and attached.

Motion Passes by General Consent**14. *The Silhouette* Job Descriptions**

Moved by Johnston, **seconded** by Belliveau that Executive Board approve the changes to the following *The Silhouette* job descriptions, as circulated and attached:

- Production Editor
- Production Coordinator

- Sinnige asked if the changes were done in consultation with the PTM.
- Johnston stated that the paper was run by full-time staff, and that the Editor in Chief and the rest of *The Silhouette* Board of Publications were in favour of the changes.

Vote on Motion**Motion Passes by General Consent****15. Divestment Statement**

- Marando explained that Liam McDermott tried to bring this forward to an SRA meeting and then General Assembly. They stated that McDermott would like to see it passed this year and go into effect before they graduated. Marando added that they and Wooder made some edits.

Moved by Marando, **seconded** by Sinnige that Executive Board adopt the following statement on behalf of the SRA:

Whereas students have committed to investing in McMaster's future through tuition & fee payments and contributions that help the McMaster community.

Whereas McMaster's investments should not harm its students' futures.

Whereas the fossil fuel industry's contributions to climate change hurt the Earth's viability to support life.

Whereas as of April 2018, 4.49% of McMaster's investment pool contains investments in companies that are a part of the 2017 Carbon Underground 200 list.

Whereas the Silhouette Reported that \$35.96 million of McMaster's endowment fund was invested in fossil fuel companies. **Whereas** McMaster is the second highest university for global impact and is therefore a role model for universities around the world.

Whereas Concordia University, Université Laval, University of British Columbia (Ranked 3rd for Global Impact) have all committed to divesting from fossil fuels.

Whereas the Government of Canada declared a climate emergency.

Whereas Sweden's central bank's divestment from Alberta's oilsands and companies with high carbon dioxide emissions.

Whereas The European Investment Bank (the largest public lender in the world) has committed to stop lending to fossil fuel projects.

Whereas investments in fossil fuels are not fiducially responsible, due to their decline as an investment tool, as seen by actions taken by investment institutions.

Whereas hundreds of people attended Hamilton's climate strike to demand immediate climate action from our institutions.

Whereas the Queen's Journal reported that a study from the University of Sussex argued that although the direct financial impact of divestment may be minimal, the movement will start an asset movement of \$2.6 trillion.

Whereas it is documented that McMaster University has invested in Teck Resources - a company that intended to develop a mine that would "result in significant adverse cumulative effects to wetlands in the region", according to a report established in-part by the former Minister of the Environment and Climate Change.

Whereas according to Cabin Radio, "The Dene National Chief believes a forthcoming decision on Teck Resources' Frontier mine could trigger the NWT's equivalent of recent protests seen on Wet'suwet'en land and around the country." The SRA as an institution is committed to reconciliation with Indigenous people and ought to support them in defending not only their rights, but the health of water and the Earth.

Whereas an open letter to Prime Minister Trudeau, written by dozens of Nobel Prize winners, specifically said: "There is enough carbon embedded in already operating oil, gas and coalfields and mines to take us beyond 2C, let alone 1.5C. The implications of this are clear: there is no room for expansion of the fossil-fuel sector. There is no room for the Teck Frontier tar sands mine."

Whereas the mining project has been suspended, yet the underlying issue with this type of investment remains into the future, lest McMaster's environmental, social and governance (ESG) screening, as outlined in the President's Advisory Committee on Fossil Fuels Divestment Report to the President, improves by moving away from companies such as Teck Resources.

Be it resolved that: The Student Representative Assembly officially calls on McMaster University to fully divest from all its fossil fuel investments that include, but are not limited to, its endowment and pension portfolios. We also call for these funds to be reinvested exclusively into green-energy companies within one year. Additionally, the SRA encourage students to sign their name to MacGreenInvest's petition, which shares this vision.

- Hackett stated that they MSU already has an environmental sustainability policy and it outlines the stance. They explained that this could have been a quick amendment to the paper since they did email the SRA multiple times about writing this policy.
- The Board discussed the possibility of postponing this vote until the environmental policy paper was presented. Hackett stated that they could look into incorporating this statement into the policy. Marando and Sinnige stated that they would speak with McDermott about what outcome they would like to see come from this.

Moved by Sinnige, **seconded** by Singh to postpone the motion until EB 19-30.

Motion Passes by General Consent

16. Open Seats on Committees

Moved by Johnston, **seconded** by Figueiredo that the Executive Board open nominations for Executive Board, MSU & SRA seats on Standing Committees, and MSU & SRA seats on Other Committees, on behalf of the SRA.

Motion Passes by General Consent

17. Adjournment and Time of Next Meeting

Time of Next Meeting:

**Thursday, April 2, 2020
9:30am
MSU Boardroom, MUSC 201**

Moved by Hackett, **seconded** by Mesic that the Executive Board meeting be adjourned.

Passes Unanimously

Adjourned at 1:16pm

/vs