



DAWSON STUDENT UNION SC202202-7S
DSU STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING NO. 7
MEETING TYPE: SPECIAL
WEDNESDAY, FEB 16 @7:00pm
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

VOTING MEMBERS

	ACADEMIC SECTOR	NAME	
1	Creative & Applied Arts	Marisa Mitchell	Present
2	Creative & Applied Arts	Amélie Druker	Present
3	Continuing Education	Madison O'Connell	Apologies
4	Continuing Education	vacant	
5	Science, Medical Studies & Engineering	Adelka Felcarek-Hope	Present
6	Science, Medical Studies & Engineering	Inès Lamothe-Katrapani	Present
7	Science, Medical Studies & Engineering	Tristan Boisvert-Larouche	Apologies
8	Science, Medical Studies & Engineering	Allen La	Apologies
9	Social Science & Business Technologies	Daniela Diaz	Present
10	Social Science & Business Technologies	Richard Raphael	Present
11	Social Science & Business Technologies	Charlotte Pelletier-Burke	Present
12	Social Science & Business Technologies	Marischka Joseph	Apologies
13	DSU President	Alexandrah Cardona	Present
14	DSU VP of Finance	Yves-Jusslin Maniratanga	Present

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

	ROLE	NAME	
1	VP of Internal Affairs and Operations	Abril Meza Naranjo	Present
2	VP of Academics and Advocacy	Mia Hadley	Apologies
3	VP of External Affairs	Arwen Low	Present
4	VP of Student Life	Yimaj Baharun	Present
5	VP of Services and Sustainability	Shirin Hinojosa Violante	Apologies

6	Chair ¹	vacant	
7	Administrative Director ¹ (Corporate Secretary)	Rina Alma Arlegui	Present

In the absence of a DSU Chair, the President presided as Acting Chair. She confirmed a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. She then reminded the Student Council of the following: land acknowledgement, rules for speaking, and the voting members.

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda Action Required

The agenda as distributed was approved unanimously without question or comment.

The Acting Chair explained that since this was a special meeting, the regular standing agenda items (e.g. minutes, reports) would not be included.

2. Approval of DSU Chair Action Required

The Acting Chair informed the Student Council that the former Chair, Samantha Morel, resigned from the DSU at the end of January to pursue a position in her field of study.

The Acting Chair referred the Student Council to Kessy Simbi's letter of intent for the role of DSU Chair, as well as cv, which were included in the documentation. She highlighted Kessy's experience with DSU governance and chairing experience:

- 2021 DSU Chief Electoral Officer
- First-Year Liaison Representative, Dawson College Model UN
- Chair, Concordia Model United Nations
- Assistant Chair, Montreal United Nations Conference
- Current Law student at Carleton University

Both the Past Chair and President recommended that Kessy Simbi fill the vacancy of the DSU Chair effective February 16, 2022.

MOTION moved by Alexandrah Cardona for *the Student Council to appoint Kessy Simbi to fill the vacant DSU Chair role as of February 16, 2022.*

SECONDED by Inès Lamothe-Katrapani

In favour 8; Against 0; Abstentions 0

N.B. Daniela Diaz (SSBT Councillor) joined the meeting after the voting tally took place.

3. Adoption of the revised DSU Annual Budget

Action Required

The VP of Finance referred the Student Council to the revised budget in the documentation. He explained that the revised budget showed the comparison between the previously approved budget (Nov 28, 2021), the forecast for the first 8 months, the actuals as well as the difference between the last two.

The VP of Finance highlighted the following:

- The actuals for several budget lines were below what was originally forecasted
- New revenue item – sale of water bottles which is forecasted at \$7500 CAD (aware that will be selling at a loss – goal is to provide affordable water bottles to students); cost of 2500 water bottles was approx. \$17,000 CAD
- F2021 membership fees - \$3000 CAD above the forecast; W2022 membership fees not yet received (forecasted at \$220,000 CAD)
- Increase in DSU Hive Services budget from \$18,000 CAD to \$20,000 CAD so that budget is not affected during the transition of Executive teams/mandates
- Increase in Dawson Dinin budget of \$500 CAD
- The Swap budget decreased since College will be paying to furnish The Swap
- Budget for workshops decreased by \$800 CAD
- Advocacy services budget decreased by \$5000 CAD since this is already included in DSU Hive's mandate and budget
- Student Representative Caucus' budget transferred to meetings budget
- Decrease in legal fees by \$8000 CAD; realized that most expensive legal fees were from previous mandate with the injunction
- Accounting and bookkeeping services to remain at \$30,000 CAD since it is DSU's priority to ensure the finances are well-kept/managed; \$18,000 CAD of the budget already used
- Decrease in banking fees
- Decrease in Student Councillor budget – which was mainly for food for in-person meetings
- General Administration/Wages and Payroll Levies – increased because combined payroll of staff and DSU Executives as well as included contingency amount in case new employee needs to be hired
- Webmaster budget decreased by \$4500 CAD because final invoices already paid
- Removed money allocated for Student Groups spaces since College offered to pay for DSU furnishings
- Retreat budget transferred to External Affairs budget (travel costs) – this is to cover planned UN trip; VP of Finance informed the Student Council that in the past, DSU held retreats for the outgoing and incoming Executive teams; however, this has/will be replaced by other events
- CASAQ General Assembly was under budget by \$2000 CAD

- Office Improvement Fund removed since College offered to pay for furnishings in DSU spaces, resulting in a savings of approx. \$15,000 CAD
- Forecasted total expenses for the 2021-2022 mandate is \$484,000 CAD
- Forecasted surplus for 2021-2022 mandate is \$36,000 CAD

MOTION moved by Yves-Jusslin Maniratanga for the Student Council to approve the revised DSU annual budget.

SECONDED by Inès Lamothe-Katrapani

In favour 9; Against 0; Abstentions 0

The motion was adopted unanimously.

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| <p>4. Special Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cancelled Dawson College Expansion Project b. AMF Coordination Committee | <p>No Action Required</p> |
|--|---------------------------|

The President informed the Student Council that the College's Board of Governors (BoG) called a special meeting to discuss the cancelled expansion project which Dawson Administration had been working on since 2014. However, at the end of January, the CAQ government cancelled Dawson's expansion project valued between 100M-200M dollars. The CAQ government and the Ministry of Higher Education were the ones that leaked the story to Le Devoir.

The DSU was aware/had general knowledge of the new project that was to be constructed. The College was developing a plan for an SMSE building (and potentially for Engineering and Social Work) which was to be located across from the Pepsi Forum (Ste-Catherine x Atwater) and would change the landscape of Montreal, affecting both municipal (Montreal and Westmount) and provincial politics.

The expansion project was projected to open in approximately 7 years; meanwhile, Dawson College has had a recognized space deficit for approximately 25 years - nearly half of the College's existence. Currently, the College's space deficit is over 10,000m² which represents approximately 30% of current student body. There have been accusations in the press that Dawson College does not respect its "devis" (allotted number of students). However, Dawson College does respect its devis. The only exception to this was when the Liberal government made a request across the CEGEP network for colleges to surpass their devis by a small percentage due to lack of space.

It is important to note that lack of student space is not exclusive to Dawson College. Infrastructure projects for Francophone and Anglophone students are greatly needed across Montreal. There are talks at the National Assembly of other infrastructure projects being cut. The final decision is expected in April.

This affects the DSU directly since the DSU space is directly proportionate to the College's space. Throughout the years, the College has only cut down on DSU spaces because of the space deficit. The space deficit is the most contentious issue in the Protocol Agreement. The Protocol Agreement is the contract between Dawson College and the DSU on common rights and responsibilities. This agreement has not been signed in 5 years primarily due to lack of guarantee of DSU spaces. This was the main reason to create the mandate for the Office of Operations – to champion students' rights to spaces.

The VP of Internal Affairs and Operations confirmed to the Student Council that DSU spaces are tight. The DSU has had to make communal club spaces in order to make spaces work, especially during pandemic times.

One SSME Councillor said the science pavilion would have been beneficial for hands-on experiments/labs. Another SSME Councillor wanted to bring up the point that the space deficit does not only affect Science students but possibly more so students in other programs (ex. E-wing classrooms with 50 students in one class).

Concerns raised as to where the new building location would be and the homeless community that could possibly be affected by it.

The President said that it has been confirmed that the Social Service Program will be transferred to the SSME Academic Sector in the coming years. The DSU should keep this in mind in the future when developing its strategic plan.

The President asked about mobilization options. The VP of External Affairs said there was supposed to be a protest on April 20; however, it has been cancelled. She plans on meeting with CASAQ to mobilize with other English CEGEPS. In the meantime, the DSU is planning to post on social media and possibly have tabling events; open to suggestions for the most effective strategy.

The President recommended, at minimum, that the Student Council approve the DSU's collaboration with Dawson College with regards to distributing the petition to the DSU membership and that the DSU continues working with other community groups on this matter. No objections to this were raised.

b. AMF Coordination Committee

The President referred the Student Council to the AMF letter dated 7 February 2022.

The AMF Coordination Committee organized a last-minute press conference in Quebec City in response to media news. This allowed student unions to represent students' perspectives. There was also some backlash - one person on the committee who was nominated to be a spokesperson (VP for the University of Sherbrooke) harshly criticized the committee to the press. The committee has restructured, taking into account the criticisms (ex. Insurance providers are observers without voting rights).

The President brought up the question as to whether the Student Council thinks the DSU should help in requesting access to information from the Quebec government (ex. asking for data pertaining to student insurance) – which was supported by an SSME Councillor, and not opposed by any other members.

5. DSU Task Force Composition

Action Required

The proposed composition for a DSU Task Force is below:

Each DSU task force shall have a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 11 members, unless otherwise approved by the Executive Officers. The membership shall be determined by the Executive Officers and shall consist of:

Task Force Facilitator: appointed by the Executive Officers and shall facilitate the meetings, manage the members and documentation of the task force, and regularly update the Executive Officers and Student Council of the task force's work.

Recording Secretary: appointed by the Executive Officers and shall assist with the documentation of the work completed by the task force.

Academic Sector Representatives: Two (2) representative from each of the four (4) Academic Sectors. The Academic Sector Representatives shall be recommended by the Student Councillors and appointed by the Executive Officers. A Student Councillor appointed as an Academic Sector Representative shall not be a member of more than two task forces at a given time.

External Member/Advisor - The Executive Officers or Task Force Facilitator may appoint an External Member/Advisor who is not a Dawson College student. The role, as a subject matter expert, would be to act as an advisor for the task force.

MOTION moved by Alexandrah Cardona for the Student Council to approve the DSU Task Force composition as outlined in the meeting documentation.

SECONDED by Daniela Diaz.

The DSU Task Force composition was approved unanimously without question or comment.

The President informed the Student Council that Allan La nominated himself for the DSU COVID-19 Task Force as an Academic Representative.

6. Student Councillor Representation on DSU Committees

No Action Required

At the Student Council meeting held on September 13, 2021 (SC202109-2), the Student Council passed Resolution No. 1-SC202109 to establish DSU Standing Committees and/or Subcommittees.

The Policy & Regulations Committee as well as the Sustainability, Ethics & Climate Action Committee are seeking Student Councillor representatives who are interested and are able to commit to the time required to be a member of the committee(s). The *Equity Committee and *BIPOC & Racialized Students Committee will also be recruiting.

N.B. These committees have updated their names to be more representative of their membership.

Any Student Councillor interested in becoming the Student Councillor Representative should send an email to the committee Chair (with the President in copy).

Adelka Felcarek-Hope expressed interest in being on the Sustainability, Ethics & Climate Action Committee and Policy & Regulations Committee.

Inès Lamothe-Katrapani expressed interest in the Sustainability, Ethics & Climate Action Committee and Policy & Regulations Committee.

Charlotte Pelletier-Burke agreed to assist with the Policy & Regulations Committee.

7. Adjournment

There was no agreement on when to set the next Student Council meeting (the proposed dates were February 28 or March 7). It was agreed that a Doodle poll would be sent by the Administrative Director in order to set the next meeting.

The Acting-Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:09pm.



Kessy Simbi
Chair



Rina Alma Arlegui
Administrative Director (Corporate Secretary)