

MINUTES – TRAC FALL 2018 GENERAL ASSEMBLY – SEPTEMBER 18, 2018 – HALL BUILDING 7TH FLOOR (TO BE RATIFIED AT THE NEXT GA)

1. Opening of the GA

The GA begins at 5:31 p.m.

1.1 Jeremy Tessier explains how the GA will proceed and follow a timed agenda. Any extended timeframes will have to be voted on.

2. Appointment of the chair and minute-taker

2.1 Clayton motions to approve the chair: Yanis Taleb
Todd seconds the motion.

No vote requested

Yanis Taleb is appointed chair

2.2 Mike motions to approves the minute taker Cameron McIntyre
Noel seconds

No vote requested

Cameron McIntyre is appointed minute taker

3. Adoption of the agenda

3.1 Yanis Taleb presents the agenda and asks if there are any amendment.

Todd Schneider motions that we should move the Equity Committee report to the fourth item on the agenda to respect Yom Kippur.

Clayton seconds.

Alex asks if the election results will be presented after the invigilator delegates are elected
Jeremy Tessier confirms that it will occur after the election.

Time for section expires.

Vote held for the motion to move the Equity Committee report to the fifth item on the agenda to respect Yom Kippur.

29 for
1 against

Motion passes.

4. Adoption of the July 11 Special General Assembly minutes

4.1 Mike motions to adopt the minutes from the July 11th General Assembly with the correction of a typo that reads 112th of April.

Gonzalo seconds.

No request for vote.

Motion passes unanimously.

5. Equity Committee report

4.1 Todd Schneider presents a report to the assembly.

He mentions the vote compass produced by the CBC and tells members that it is a helpful tool to figure out who to vote for or as a resource for informing yourself.

4.2 Jaqueline presents the equity committee report to the assembly.

The committee has investigated problems facing TRAC members. Accessibility of classrooms presents an issue for TAs with physical disabilities. Concordia used to only present male/female options to new TAs but this practice has changed.

4.3 Todd follows up on the report made earlier.

He mentions bill 52 and the discrimination carried out under this law.

Time for section expires.

6. Executive report

6.1 Jeremy Tessier begins the executive report.

JT present a timeline of what the unions activities have been over the summer. The timeline includes updates on the progress in the new collective agreement for TAs, RA, and markers and the Invigilator collective agreement. JT also touches on interaction between TRAC and CQSU, and TRAC and PSAC as well as the July 11th GA where the union approved the orientation budget. JT mentions that for ratification on the 26th the union had no decenters and passed the new collective agreement unanimously. Timeline concludes with a brief discussion of orientation activities.

JT moves on to presenting changes in wage rates under the new collective agreement. JT says that the board of governors is meeting today and the union membership will be notified when we hear the admins decision on the new collective agreement. JT highlights the big change in marking pay and the fact that undergrads will now make a living wage. JT presents new clauses in the new collective agreement. There is now a clause that aims to promote civility, a clause that allows for a longer window to file a grievance, a clause that ensures payment in the event of contract cancellation.

JT says that in the meantime the union has been working an orientation campaigns and breaks down the 'On TRAC together' campaign. The campaign will emphasize workload forms in September, payment in October, fighting harassment in November, and unpaid overtime in December.

Time expires for the section.

6.2 Donald motions to add seven minutes to the section of the agenda.
Alex seconds.

No request to vote. Seven minutes added unanimously.

6.3 Hossein takes the floor to present cyber-infrastructure changes at the union.

The campaign is to do data analysis on workload for TAs or RAs in the union. This analysis has revealed that hours have been significantly cut in faculties like JMSB. On the website, you will be able to upload your workload forms on the website to track whether or not the hours you are getting are in line with previous years of the course you are TAing. Hossein transitions to talking about the volunteer program being launch at the union. H says that volunteering will allow you to receive training. It is to help the union further develop the website. Hossein presents some of the changes on the website and mentions the fact that the changes are present on the website.

Time expires for section.

7. Election of invigilator delegates

7.1 Jeremy Tessier presents the ballot, describes the way that the election will proceed.

7.2 Mario introduces the candidates for the invigilator delegate council each of who will give speeches for their candidacy. He explains that each candidate will have 2 minutes for their speech. Neil Pisterman will not give a speech because he is running unopposed for the position of

7.2.1 Abeer Amayri gives a speech for positon of the position of ACSD delegate.

7.2.2 Reza Khoee gives a speech on behalf of Mohammad Beikzadeh for the position of ACSD delegate.

7.3 Mario tells the membership how to vote on the position of ACSD delegate. Speeches for the position of final exams office delegate begin.

7.3.1 Pia Colatriano gives a speech for the position of final exams office delegate.

7.3.2 Kathy Fugere gives a speech for the position of final exams office delegate.

7.3.3 Kalpana Prasad did not attend the GA and does not give a speech.

7.4 Mario describes how to vote and points voters to ballot box. Ballot box is under the supervision of Jeremy Tessier while voting occurs.

7.5 Results of the elections

7.5.1 For the position of ACSD delegate, Abeer Amayri gets 21 votes and Mohammad Beikzadeh gets 4 votes.

Abeer Amayri is elected to the position of ACSD delegate.

7.5.2 For the position of final exams office delegate, Pia Colatriano gets 22 votes, Kathy Fugere gets 13 votes, and Kalpana Prasad gets 1 vote.

Pia Colatriano and Kathy Fugere are elected to the position of final exams office delegate.

7.5.3 Neil Pisterman acclaimed to the position of midterms office delegate.

8. Auditor's Report

8.1 Donald Chambers and Rouzbeh Ghouehani present the auditor's report.

They thank the executive committee. They report that from their investigation that there is no evidence of fraud in the union's financial activities. They recommend that in the future the union make monthly comparison of union expenses. They recommend a change of bank due to credit card fees that the union is being charge. Union has just recently changed banks. They recommend a separate excel spread sheet to track payments to the exec and employees.

8.2 The chair opens the floor to questions.

8.2.1 Alex asks two questions 1) what kind of investments does the union have 2) who is responsible to the fees on credit cards.

JT says that the questions will be answered in the financial report.

9. Financial report

9.1 Sahar presents the budget for the previous mandate.

The last budget left the union with a surplus and came in under its budget line. Budget for the next year will run a deficit to spend some of this surplus.

9.1.1 Gary asks a question about significant changes in specific budget lines.

Sahar says that expenditures for orientation went up because of an increased focus on orientation. More employees were also hired this year like a summer intern, office admin assistant, orientation officers.

9.2 Alex motions that we should strike from the budget the increase in executive pay, social delegates, fine arts projects.

Kadarius seconds.

Time expires for section.

9.3 Neil Pisterman motions to extend the time by 10 minutes.

Gary seconds.

No vote requested.

10 minutes added to allotted time for section.

9.4 Gary motions to break up Alex's motion to three separate motions, one for each of the lines that would be cut from the budget.

Noel seconds.

No vote requested.

Original motion is now broken up into three separate motions. The first is to strike from the budget the increase in executive pay. The second is to strike from the budget the finances for the social delegate program. The third is to strike from the budget the finances for fine arts projects.

9.5 The chair opens the floor for discussion on the motion to strike the increase in executive pay from the budget.

9.5.1 JT explains that the increase in executive pay will allow Mario to be paid and allow that the union to not go over budget like it did in the last fiscal year.

9.5.2 Jaqueline says that they made more as an executive at another and comparatively the executives are overpaid.

9.5.3 Gonzalo says that the executives deserve this money because of the hard work that they put in to the union.

9.5.4 Marie-Helene moves to vote on first motion.

- 35 for
- 9 against

Majority moves to vote on the motion.

9.5.5 Vote on the motion to strike the increase in executive pay from the budget.

- 2 for.
- 41 against.
- 1 abstention.

The motion fails.

9.6 The chair opens the floor for discussion on the motion to strike from the budget the finances for the social delegate program.

9.6.1 Marie Helene speaks in defense of social delegates.

9.6.2 Eunbyul speaks in defense of social delegates.

9.6.3 Kadruis asks whether or not members have access to psychological services.

9.6.4 Marie Helene says yes but that they can often be inadequate.

Time expires for the section.

9.7 Chair proposes that we move on to the next point of the agenda as it these motions are still relevant there.

10. Approval of TRAC budget for 2018-2019

10.1 Chair reopens the floor for discussion on the motion to strike from the budget the finances for the social delegate program.

10.1.1 Matthew says that the union has the duty to support its members regardless of whether or not they have access to other services.

10.1.2 Rebecca says that students are currently limited to 10 sessions a year and that those should not have to be spent on work related

10.1.3 With no further discussion being requested, the chair begins the vote on the motion to strike from the budget the finances for the social delegate program.

- 4 for
- 47 against
- 2 abstentions

The motion fails.

10.2 The chair opens the floor for discussion of the motion to strike from the budget the finances for fine arts projects.

10.2.1 Marie-Helene provides the rationale for the fine arts project. It is outreach for the fine arts department.

10.2.2 Alex says that it should be communication portion of the budget.

10.2.3 Kadarius asks what the selection criteria for the project will be.

10.2.4 Marie-Helene says that people will participate if the opportunity is there and that all members of the union that are also members of the faculty of Fine Arts will be welcome.

10.2.5 Gonzalo says that the surplus gives the union the means to do this kind of outreach.

10.2.6 Noel moves to vote on the question.

- 50 for
- 1 against.

Majority moves to vote of the motion.

10.2.7 Vote on the motion to strike fine arts projects from the budget.

- 5 for
- 39 against
- 4 abstain

The motion fails.

10.3 The chair opens the floor to the assembly to make further changes to the budget.

10.4 Jeremy motions to change the budget line of CQSU for a budget line for FTQ.

Jacqueline seconds.

10.5 The chair opens the floor for discussion on the motion to change the budget line of CQSU for a budget line for FTQ.

10.5.1 Fugere says that we should know the difference between the two organizations.

10.5.2 Gary asks if the dues mention in the report are accurate.

10.5.3 Sahar says that it is correct.

10.5.4 Gary asks if changing affiliations will decrease our bottom line.

10.5.5 JT says that we will not be changing unions but rather affiliating with different orgs while remaining a part of PSAC.

10.5.6 Alex says that the membership only received this last night and that the union might want to consider postponing the vote on this change. He says that the FTQ's affiliation with Quebec sovereignty conflict with his own beliefs.

10.5.7 Gonzalo says that this was presented at the old general assembly.

10.5.8 With no further discussion being requested, the chair begins the vote on the motion to replace the CQSU membership with FTQ membership.

- 35 for
- 6 against
- 9 abstentions

The motion passes.

10.6 Jacqueline motions to vote on the budget with its approved amendment.
Noel seconds.

10.6.1 Alex asks to see the new budget line with the amendment in place.

10.6.2 JT presents the budget with its new bottom line.

10.6.3 With no further discussion being requested, the chair begins the vote on the budget.

- 53 for
- 3 against
- 2 abstentions.

The budget is approved.

11. Invigilators report

11.1 Mario begins the invigilators report.

The invigilators are currently working on a collective agreement with the administration of Concordia. Arbitration is upcoming from December through February. Mario says university is still hiring invigilators and invites people to apply. Mario says that there have been changes on both sides of the negotiating tables. Mario says that Concordia wants any concession to come through arbitration.

11.2 The chair opens the floor for questions.

11.2.1 Kathy praises Mario's work.

12. Varia

12.1 Jeremy mentions the afterparty at McKibbon's. There will be raffle at the bar. Jeremy thanks the membership for their participation and apologizes for delays in getting food.

12.2 Hossein talks about the new website in further detail. He invites the assembly to volunteer with the union to help with ongoing projects.

12.3 Todd talks about his report from the Equity Committee in more detail.

13. Closing of the GA

The GA ends at 7:30 p.m.