



## **BOD Meeting**

Thursday, February 15, 2024

B-annex meeting, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada

### **1. ATTENDANCE**

### **2. SUMMARY OF MOTIONS**

### **3. PROCEDURES**

- 3.1 Opening of the meeting
- 3.2 Approval of the Chair
- 3.3 Approval of the Secretary
- 3.4 Approval of the Agenda
- 3.5 Approval of Previous BOD's Minutes

### **4. External Presentations**

- 4.1 Interview 1
- 4.2 Interview 2
- 4.3 Interview 3

### **5. RETURNING BUSINESS**

### **6. NEW BUSINESS**

- 6.1 Exec Item
- 6.2 Advisory Council Point - ECA Involvement in future strikes
- 6.3 Appointment of CEO
- 6.4 Approval of Design Team Fund policy changes
- 6.5 Approval of Competition Fund policy changes

### **7. ANNOUNCEMENTS & VERBAL REPORTS**

### **8. ADJOURNMENT**



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# 1. ATTENDANCE

Name	Role	Present
Saaim Intikhab	Chairperson of the Board	x
Rohit Sengupta	Secretary of the Board	x
Elsa Younes	President	x
Tharushi Rathnayaka	Vice-President of Academic Affairs	x
Aditya Shah	Vice-President of Sports and Competitions	x
Marissa Profetto	Vice-President of External Affairs	x
Mohamed Bedair	Vice-President of Financial Affairs	x
Seif Bedair	Vice-President of Internal Affairs	x
Chloe Law	Vice-President of Marketing & Communications	
Shannon King-Richards	Vice-President of Social Affairs	x
Cyrian Kedowade	Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering (BCEE) Representative	x
Jainam Shah	Computer Science & Software Engineering (CSSE) Representative	
Ahmad Obeid	Electrical & Computer Engineering (ECE) Representative	x
Mohamed Saad	Mechanical & Industrial Engineering Aerospace (MIAE) Representative	
Maria Fernanda	Independent Representative	x
Sierra Campbell	Sage	x



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## 2. SUMMARY OF MOTIONS

Motion	Motion	Result
20240215-1	Seif seconded by Ahmad motions to approve Saaim as Chair for this meeting of the Board of Directors.	Passed in unanimity
20240215-2	Seif seconded by Ahmad motions to approve Rohit as the secretary for this meeting of the Board of Directors.	Passed in unanimity
20240215-3	Elsa seconded by Seif motion to amend the Agenda	Passed in unanimity
20240215-4	Mohamed Saad seconded by Ahmad motions to approve the agenda	Passed in unanimity
20240215-5	Elsa seconded by Seif motions to table approval of previous BOD minutes	Passed in unanimity
20240215-6	Elsa seconded by Seif motion to hold a SGM on march 6th	Passed in unanimity
20240215-7	Elsa seconded by Aziza motions to appoint Elsa, Tharushi, Maria, Aziza, Sierra, Seif, Adam, Mohamed Saad, Ahmad to the preliminary ECA mob	Passed in unanimity
20240215-8	Elsa seconded by Seif motion to amend the motion to "Motion to call for a special general meeting to take place on March 6th to discuss the ECA's involvement in the strike against tuition hikes and the appointment of a committee"	Passed in unanimity
20240215-9	Elsa motion to amend the amendment for the ""Motion to call for a special general meeting to take place on March 4th of	Passed in unanimity



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	march to discuss the ECA's involvement in the strike against tuition hikes and the appointment of a committee"	
20240215-10	Seif seconded Mohamed motions to appoint Christian as the CEO	Passed in unanimity
20240215-11	Seif seconded by Elsa motions to table DTF policy change	Passed in unanimity
20240215-12	Seif seconded by Ahmad motions to table the CFC policy change	Passed in unanimity



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# 3. PROCEDURES

## 3.1. Opening of the meeting

Meeting opened at 5:00 PM

## 3.2. Approval of the Chair

Seif seconded by Ahmad motions to approve Saaim as Chair for this meeting of the Board of Directors.

20240215-1 Passed in unanimity

## 3.3. Approval of the Secretary

Seif seconded by Ahmad motions to approve Rohit as the secretary for this meeting of the Board of Directors.

20240215-2 Passed in unanimity

## 3.4. Approval of the Agenda

Elsa: I would like to amend the agenda and add exec item

Elsa seconded by Seif motion to amend the Agenda

20240215-3 Passed in unanimity

Mohamed Saad seconded by Ahmad motions to approve the agenda

20240215-4 Passed in unanimity



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### 3.6 Approval of Previous BOD's Minutes

Elsa seconded by Seif motions to table approval of previous BOD minutes
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20240215-5 Passed in unanimity

## 4. External Presentation

### 4.1 Interview 1

Christian: Hi everyone, my name is Christian. I am a political science student, so obviously one of my passions revolve around politics and elections. The reason I think I'm a good fit for the position I did I was the elections officer for us last year and that was success. It was a bit larger than the ECA solely because there's multiple. I was also the CEO for the last year where I oversaw most of the most of the stuff, alongside my assistant, AEO had a great experience facilitating the ECA. I think you ran pretty smoothly. I also have knowledge of bylaws and policy work, which is what I do on the daily. Yeah, overall.

Elsa: How many hours per week Do you think you're able to dedicate this position?

Christian: Given my previous experience with this position dedicated about 15 hours during the nomination weeks, that was the most intense one where there was a creation of all the documents and everything and the preemptive work was about 15 to 20 hours for all the documents they have to reach out to everyone, so and as well as making sure that the marketing is on point. So obviously I want to better what I did last year because I think there was room for improvement on my end as well.

Elsa: And how do you plan on engaging the student body for a higher voter turnout?

Christian: Yeah so that was the thing that I realized last year the voter turnout, well, it wasn't that bad it wasn't like the ideal number that I would have liked. So my personal goal is not to hit a larger number than I hit last year. There's a drive and passion because it is a very personal thing. But yeah, I would love to table on the mezzanine, you know, EV as well, because that's where a lot of engineers go there so there's a lot of timing opportunities there. I know the ECA also prepares a lot of events and in the upcoming weeks will be easy and there is tabling involved in those scenarios to get students involved in getting the idea of elections.



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Elsa: And the election officers need to handle Gray areas with candidates. Can you describe the situation where you would need to put your opinion aside?

Christian: Right but when you follow policy, it's all kind of black and white. Like there's no room for error, however, when it comes to like making sure that that's your body is engaged, you want to make sure that all students are represented. I think a situation that arose. Was where there was no candidate for a certain position and we extended the position for like a few more days to allow more students to get involved, and I think that was a great opportunity to give just a bit of more time for a whole department to get represented because at the end of the day, it is the students voice that you guys are representing and it's important that at least someone from there learns the position throughout the time instead of waiting until the next by-election. To get in the role and it's only going to take more time to forget to ease into it.

Elsa: Any questions from the board?

Sierra: Yes so if there is a position that has several candidates running for it, would you host a debate?

Christian: I think if I'm not mistaken, last year there was it was a bit of a time crunch, so we weren't able to do it, but obviously this year I would put it on top of the list to have a debate, even if it is online, because it aids people, make a decision and definitely be on top of it.

## **4.2 Interview 2**

Namia: So hi, my name is Namia I am in my first year in JMSB studying finance and I honestly don't have much experience, I moved 5 years ago, I have basic knowledge of accounting and finance, I am just here because I am a part of a community and I want to belong, so I thought the best way to do so would be to join something and dedicate my time to something

Elsa: How many hours do you think you can dedicate for this position?

Namia: I would say 20 to 25 hours a week, I would obviously prioritize my studies but I am going to try to dedicate some time to the position every week

Elsa: You would need to deal with grey areas with candidates so could you think of some situations where you had to deal with grey areas and what you would do in that situation?



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Namia: I am not a part of the engineering department so I would have no conflict of interest so I would just follow the rules as they are and go by them

Elsa: How do you plan on engaging the student body for a higher voter turnout?

Namia: I think the best way would be to have the candidates reach out to students in person in classes instead of just using social media since that would make the student body actually remember the candidates instead of just online

Elsa: Okay I think that's it for me, does anyone have any questions? Guess not okay then thank you so much for calling, I'll let you know via email.

4.3

## **Interview**

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Elsa: Hi, so tell us a little bit about yourself and why you think you are a good fit for this position

Rim: Hi my name is Rim, I am a software engineering students and I have experience that I think would be relevant to the role is I am a civil officer in the air cadets. So, I tend to organize everything so I'm an organized person. I tend to resolve conflicts in which you have to be impartial even if you're biased. Even if you have strong opinions about the matter, you can't do that.

Elsa: And how many hours a week do you think you can give to the position?

Rim: Realistically speaking with the number of courses I am taking I could do 10 hours or so

Elsa: And how would you engage the student body to have a higher voter turnout

Rim: I honestly feel that things like conferences and meetings are really going to increase voter turnout since the only people who attend those are going to be the ones who already know about the elections, and instead we should reach out in social media to clearly and concisely explain what the election is and why they should vote





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Elsa: And how would you deal with grey areas since Election officers need to deal with that

Rim: So nothing is black or white so it's really taking into consideration the situation they are in and how I can help them while following the rules

Elsa: So how familiar are you with the bylaws of the ECA?

Rim: I know there are different types of Bylaws for different aspects of the association for example the fee levy



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### 5. RETURNING BUSINESS

### 6. NEW BUSINESS

#### 6.1 Exec Item

Mohamed: So, as everyone knows, exactly, I think all execs and the ECA team was supposed to get a Hawaiian T-shirt to wear to Frosh. As you are aware, we did not do that. So I was proposing that instead of having that T-shirt, we can have a proper keepsake for the year because I don't feel like the hoodie, you know, like it's great, but it's not like a proper keepsake we can have to remember our year in the ECA. So I was proposing that instead of the Hawaiian shirt, we make a tie and a scarf like two options. You know you can order like the VP marketing can take orders and then make ties and scarves for everyone to wear at the banquet and think Sharon referred to it as a Harvard tie, like a more formal. So let me know your thoughts.

Shannon: Why a tie? Like it would work for guys but for girls it doesn't make sense

Mohamed: Well that's why I proposed a tie and a scarf so you can choose whichever you want, the items are gender fluid, I mean I am open to suggestions I just wanted to bring this discussion to the table, also keep in mind we can't do an expensive item

Seif: What about the robe?

Elsa: We could have a slack poll for all the items and figure it out

#### 6.2 Advisory Council Point - ECA Involvement in future strikes

Elsa: So at the Advisory Council, we had the SCS bring up the point and discuss that it's something that's important to talk about and at least give the chance to our membership to give their opinion about it and vote on if they think we should go on strike or not. So this is not exactly about deciding if, like what, what are the implications of this strike. If we go with it, it's more to call a special general meeting which would allow all of our membership to vote and give their opinion. So. I'm not going to bring my opinion on the strike if, like, we should or shouldn't do it. It's just the motion is basically to call for a special general meeting to allow our membership to voice their opinion anyone opposed to give the chance to our membership to give their opinions?



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Tharushi: Honestly, I talked to a lot of people, students and I told them, you know, this might be happening. You might be going on strike and everyone was mad like they were like, we don't want this to happen. We don't want to strike like we believe nothing's going to happen if we strike, they don't want their classes to be disrupted. Especially during midterm season so every student I talked to said I wouldn't want to go on strike.

Elsa: So I would like to remind everyone that this is to allow the membership to decide on whether we strike or not, if the membership doesn't want us to go on strike then they will vote no and what we do will be based on that

Seif: So what is the timeline we are looking at? Like say we want to pass this what is the timeline

Elsa: So the reason why this was called as a emergency BOD as well as a 14 day notice for special general meeting which brings us to March 8th approximately max so if we call it tomorrow it gives us 14 business days total.

Elsa seconded by Seif motion to hold a SGM on march 6th
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20240215-6 Passed in unanimity

Elsa: Bylaws say the request must contain the items concerned in the SGM and only that must be discussed in the SGM, but we know it's about the strike so I can amend my motion to add that it is about discussing the strike

Sierra: I think we should have two points because we also needs to make a committee if the membership chooses to strike

Elsa: We could have a few ECA people on the committee and then post on socials for the rest of the committee

Seif: I think we should motion the number of members in a committee and a chair for the committee who adds and chooses the members

Sierra: I don't think we should give someone that much power in the committee

Seif: Maybe we can have a few members instead so we can appoint the start of the committee and they would be unofficial until the SGM is over.

Elsa: So we have Tharushi, Independent representatives and we could have Adam on it for social media



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Tharushi: So if we are going to do the SGM then do I inform the faculty about the fact that the strike might happen?

Seif: Does the faculty need to be informed?

Elsa: No they don't but it's good to give them a heads-up

Elsa seconded by Aziza motions to appoint Elsa, Tharushi, Maria, Aziza, Sierra, Seif, Adam, Mohamed Saad, Ahmad to the preliminary ECA mob

20240215-7 Passed in unanimity

Elsa seconded by Seif motion to amend the motion to "Motion to call for a special general meeting to take place on March 6th to discuss the ECA's involvement in the strike against tuition hikes and the appointment of a committee"

20240215-8 Passed in unanimity

Elsa: But I feel like the time is too little to let people know, and it's unfair if we can't let as many people as possible know, since the board supersedes the bylaws?

Sierra: The board in extenuating circumstances can make decisions that contradict the bylaws but are ultimately need to be put in place for whatever the situation is

Elsa: There is H.14 that says motions must be made in conformity with the bylaws

Seif: But 14 business days isn't a great idea

Elsa motion to amend the amendment for the ""Motion to call for a special general meeting to take place on March 4th of march to discuss the ECA's involvement in the strike against tuition hikes and the appointment of a committee"

20240215-9 Passed in unanimity



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### 6.3 Appointment of CEO

Elsa seconded by Seif motion to close the session

Seif seconded Mohamed motions to appoint Christian as the CEO

20240215-10 Passed in unanimity

Elsa seconded by Seif to reopen the session

### 6.4 Approval of Design Team Fund policy changes

Elsa seconded by Seif motions to close the session

Elsa seconded by Shannon motions to open the session

Seif seconded by Elsa motions to table DTF policy change

20240215-11 Passed in unanimity

### 6.5 Approval of Competition Fund policy changes

Seif seconded by Ahmad motions to table the CFC policy change

20240215-12 Passed in unanimity

## 7. ANNOUNCEMENTS & VERBAL REPORTS



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Rohit Kinkor Sengupta: No announcements

Elsa Younes: Open house on Saturday please come and help out

Tharushi Rathnayaka: No announcements

Marissa Profetto: No announcements

Mohamed Bedair: No announcements

Seif Bedair: No announcements

Chloe Hei Yu Law: No announcements

Shannon King-Richards: No announcements

Ahmad Obeid: No announcements

Mohamed Saad: No announcements

Maria Fernanda Amezquita Moreno: No announcements

## 8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Sierra, seconded by Seif, motions to adjourn the meeting.
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*Meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm*