



Motion to Amend the Fine Arts Council (FAC) By-Laws

Whereas, the deadline for FAC to submit their budget to AUS Council for the Fall and Winter semesters is currently unclear;

Whereas, it would be beneficial for both parties (FAC and AUS Council) to approve FAC's budget for the Fall and Winter semesters earlier in the semester;

Whereas, a percentage of FAC's budget is "reserved for funding new or one-time Fine Arts Projects," but this percentage of funds lacks a specific title;

Whereas, this percentage of funds remains unused by FAC should there be no applications from new or one-time Fine Arts Projects over the course of the academic year.

Whereas, it is not feasible and unnecessary for all decisions of the FAC to be ratified by AUS Council given that FAC meets weekly and that FAC decisions are often more time-sensitive than AUS Council approval would allow;

Whereas, councilors on Fine Arts Council are expected to participate in event planning, to promote FAC events, and to contribute to the Fine Arts Community;

Whereas, five councilors known as "Fine Arts Representatives" would better meet these expectations outlined above than representative from each of the FAC affiliates ;

Whereas, the Fine Arts Commissioners may work better as a team and only divide tasks at their discretion;

Whereas, one criterion for funding applicants to Fine Arts Council includes contributing to McGill's fine arts community; and showcasing a funding applicant's work at AUS's annual Nuit Blanche event qualifies as said applicant contributing to McGill's fine arts community.

Whereas, affiliates of FAC are allotted funds as outlined in Article 7 of the current by-laws.

Whereas, granting further funding to FAC affiliates would best be left to the discretion of the FAC.

Be it resolved, that the AUS adopt the amendments to the Fine Arts Council (FAC) By-Laws found below.

Moved by:

Elaine Patterson, AUS VP Communications
Jacob Greenspon, AUS President

Fine Arts Council By-Laws

Revision History:

April 1, 2009

Fall 2012

Winter 2013

October 16, 2013

March 26, 2014

October 15, 2014

December 2, 2015

BACKGROUND

These bylaws serve as the terms of reference for the Fine Arts Council and govern the distribution of the Fine Arts fund.

- 1.1 The Fine Arts Council, hereinafter the FAC, is an internal entity of the AUS and shall be governed by these bylaws.

Article 2 – Mission

- 2.1 The mission of the FAC is to create a community of fine arts at McGill where none existed before.
- 2.2 It shall work to harness the collective energies of Fine Arts programs at McGill to share resources and support.
- 2.3 It shall work to create more opportunities for McGill students to express themselves through the Fine Arts.
- 2.4 It shall support new endeavours and help to expand existing ones.

Article 3 – Finances

- 3.1 The annual funding allocated to the FAC is determined in the AUIF bylaws as a percentage of the AUIF.
- 3.2 Additional funding can be sought out from external sources or from the AUS.
- 3.3 Affiliates must submit their budgets to the FAC once per semester for approval, no later than November 10 for the Fall Semester and no later than February 15 for the Winter Semester.
- 3.4 The FAC will submit their total projected budget to the AUS by October 15th (for the fall semester) and by February 15th (for the Winter semester). ~~by the end of first semester~~
- 3.5 The finances shall be maintained as consistent with other internal entities of the AUS.
- 3.6 At least 10% of the FAC's budget shall be reserved for funding new or one-time Fine Arts projects. ~~This amount shall be labelled the New Projects Fund.~~

~~3.6.1 After December 1st the FAC may decide to allocate any undesignated funds from the New Projects Fund towards Fine Arts projects that do not qualify under article 3.6~~

Article 4 – Powers and Duties of the FAC

- 4.1 The FAC shall recognize the supremacy of the AUS Constitution and be bound by it.
- 4.2 The FAC shall work to realize their mission as stated in these bylaws
- 4.3 The FAC may review applications for funding projects that are aligned with the

FAC's mission.

4.4 The FAC may direct their own events or projects to fulfill their mission if it deems necessary either by itself or by striking ad hoc committee.

4.5 The FAC shall promote its Fine Arts funding opportunities.

4.6 The FAC shall work to support its affiliate(s) as defined in Article 9 and project(s) that it funds.

~~4.7 All decisions of the FAC must be ratified by AUS Council.~~

Article 5 – Membership

5.1 The Committee shall consist of ten (10) members:

5.1.1 The two (2) Fine Arts commissioners

5.1.2 The Vice-President Finance of the AUS;

5.1.3 The Vice-President Communications of the AUS;

5.1.4 A representative of each of the following fine arts disciplines FAC affiliates:

5.1.4.1 Dance FAC Representative ~~Steps Magazine~~

5.1.4.2 Literary FAC Representative ~~Arts Undergraduate Theatre Society (AUTS)~~

5.1.4.3 Music FAC Representative ~~Fridge Door Gallery~~

5.1.4.4 Theatre FAC Representative ~~The VEG~~

5.1.4.5 Visual Arts FAC Representative ~~Leacock's~~

5.1.5 The FAC Representatives outlined in Article 5.1.4 will be selected by the Fine Arts Commissioners, on the advice of the AUS VP Communications

5.1.6 The remaining members, referred to as Independent Members, shall be from the McGill Fine Arts community.

5.1.6.1 These members will be by application and approved by the other members of the Committee

5.1.6.2 These members will undertake the responsibilities of sponsorship, advertising, organizing any FAC events and acting as an informational resource.

5.1.6.3 These seats may be forfeited if new affiliates are granted seats.

5.1.6.4 The Independent Member(s) may be chosen during the application and interview process for the two (2) Fine Arts Commissioners.

5.2 The Fine Arts Commissioners shall ~~together chair the meetings of the FAC and their share the following responsibilities will be divided into Internal and External Commissioners.:~~

~~5.3 The Internal Fine Arts Commissioner shall:~~

- 5.3.1 Organize, facilitate ~~and chair~~ meetings;
- 5.3.2 Be responsible for the agenda before each meeting;
- 5.3.3 Liaise with applicants for funding.

~~5.4 The External Fine Arts Commissioner shall:~~

- 5.3.4 Liaise with McGill and other AUS entities;
- 5.3.5 Prepare regular reports for ratification for AUS Council;
- 5.3.6 Liaise with Fine Arts Groups;
- 5.3.7 Update FAC every week on general progress;
- 5.3.8 Be responsible for the public image of the FAC.

Article 6 – Meetings of FAC

- 6.1 Quorum shall be six of ten members of the FAC.
- 6.2 Meetings shall be chaired by the ~~Fine Arts Commissioners FAC.~~
- 6.3 Meetings shall be held at the discretion of the ~~Fine Arts Commissioners FAC.~~
- 6.4 The FAC may invite ~~funding~~ applicants to prepare a presentation for the FAC.

Article 7 – Applicants for Funding and affiliate budgets

- 7.1 Applications for funding and affiliate budgets must be passed by a majority vote of ~~FAC.~~
 - 7.1.1 Members who are involved in the project or budget must declare conflict of interest and refrain from voting.
- 7.2 To be considered, an applicant must fill out the application for funding in full.
- 7.3 The FAC may award funding in full, in part or deny funding entirely.
- 7.4 The FAC is encouraged to give feedback and support on applications.

- 7.5 The FAC shall allocate funding to the projects it deems worthy in considering the reach of project, qualification of applicant, viability of project, contribution to the annual Nuit Blanche event, and any other criteria the FAC deems relevant.
- 7.6 The affiliates' allocations shall be as follows:
- 7.6.1 STEPS will be funded \$550 per issue for 2 magazines of the FAC's budget each year.
 - 7.6.2 AUTS will receive \$500 of the FAC's budget each year.
 - 7.6.3 The Fridge Door Gallery will receive \$750 of the FAC's budget each year.
 - 7.6.4. The VEG will receive \$550 per issue for 2 magazines of the FAC's budget each year.
 - 7.6.5 Leacock's will receive \$750 of the FAC's budget each year.
- 7.7 This funding will be guaranteed provided that it does not create a surplus in the Affiliate Member's budget.

Article 8 – Selection of Commissioners

8.1 The Fine Arts Commissioners for the following year shall be selected by the incoming and outgoing VP Communications and any current Fine Arts Commissioners who are not applying for the position.

8.2 Any member of the AUS is eligible to apply.

8.3 The appointments shall be ratified by AUS Council.

Article 9 – Affiliates of the FAC

9.1 The FAC shall officially recognize and finance these Fine Arts endeavours as official FAC affiliates:

9.1.1 Steps Magazine

9.1.2 Arts Undergraduate Theatre Society (AUTS)

9.1.3 Fridge Door Gallery

9.1.4 The VEG

9.1.5 Leacock's

9.2 The FAC shall adopt the budgets of the affiliates on a per-semester basis and amend them if they deem necessary.

9.3 Any affiliate will receive additional funding at the discretion of the FAC. Affiliates are required to send (1) consistent representative to each meeting. Should the affiliate send a different member, they must notify the commissioners at least 24 hours in advance and prepare their surrogate member accordingly for the meeting. Should an affiliate fail to send a consistent representative to more than (1) meeting per semester without a valid reason, to be determined by the committee at large, they forfeit their affiliate status pending readmission at the discretion of the FAC.

9.4 Groups will be invited to become affiliate members of the Committee based on, but not limited to, the following criteria:

Involvement in the arts community outside of the group's interests

Acting as an informational resource for others

Distinct contribution to the Fine Arts Council

Cooperation and involvement with FAC

Demonstration of fiscal responsibility

Beneficial to AUS Members, McGill Students at large

Showing interest in maintaining long-term viability