

**Music Graduate Students' Society (MGSS)
Winter 2015 General Assembly (GA)
April 13, 2015, 5:30 p.m., A-832/833**

Agenda:

- 1). Welcome (President)
- 2). Approval of agenda
- 3). Approval of minutes from second Fall 2014 GA
- 4). Reports from MGSS Executive Council officers
 - a) President
 - b) Secretary
 - c) Treasurer
 - d) Symposium Chair
 - e) Performance Representative
 - f) Research Representative
 - g) PGSS Councilors
- 5). Announce and welcome MGSS Executive Council officers for 2015-2016
- 6). Nominations for vacant Executive Council positions
- 7). Reports from committee members
 - a) Concert Committee
- 8). Reports from non-committee members
 - a) Leah Batstone, GPS Funding Meeting
- 9). Announcements & other business

Music Graduate Students Society (MGSS) of McGill University

General Assembly

December 3rd, 2014

A-832/833

Minutes (unapproved)

1. Call to Order

President Farley Miller (FM) calls the GA to order at 5:30.

2. Welcome

FM welcomes everyone to the GA.

(See p. 9 for list of those present).

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion: to approve the agenda for 3 December 2014 by Kerrie Lawson (KL)

Suzu Enns (SE) seconds.

Resolved: agenda approved.

4. Approval of Minutes from Fall General Assembly

Motion: to approve the minutes from the 22 September GA by John Resney (JR)

Adam Salmond (AS) offers two amendments.

KL seconds.

Resolved: approved, with AS' amendments.

5. Presentation on Redpath Hall (Mark MacDonald)

- MM: Issue came up with Redpath caught us by surprise – want to bring clarity from student perspective as to how this has gone
- It came to the music school's attention less than a month ago that the library had proposed almost a year ago to repatriate Redpath hall to turn it into a reading room
- I decided to voice my opposition and posted it to MGSS Facebook, and other organist social media
- Huge response – over 350 shares in 24 hours
- On November 11th there was a townhall meeting on the library, at which the library backed down from the initial wording of the year-old document
- There's still much to do: we have spearheaded a group called Friends of Redpath Hall that exists to promote the current mandate as concert hall and research venue and to keep it separate from the library
- So far the Dean of libraries has issued a new statement denying the reading room thing is on the table
- But there is still a wording that they would like to see Redpath Hall as part of the library complex as part of the future
- Jacob Sagrans (JS): it's an issue because of space?
- MM: My impression is that it was wanting to make the library more multidimensional, and having this hall as a centre piece for exhibition space and to hold events
- They say it will still be used for concerts, but the hall is also used for sound recording, research, practicing, etc. almost 24 hours per day it's used by the music school
- JS: does the library have any other proposals for alternative spaces?
- MM: They seem to be in initial planning stages, and this initial wording seems to have been an oversight on the part of the little committee meeting
- But they seem to want the space
- There was no plan to deal with the organ
- Wording was quite aggressive to say hall should be repatriated
- AS: What can you do as a member of Friends of Redpath Hall?
- MM: The initial mandate serves as a meeting place to post events, but also in the future if we do need to mobilize (in the next years) we have a more efficient way of getting information out to the public
- The group is now about 1100 people – from all walks of life
- But we will also post things from time to time to prove the hall is active
- FM: We need to communicate as a group about issues such as this
- Social media is a powerful outlet for us to do this

- MM: We almost have as many likes as the library
- FM: I would encourage you to use MGSS outlets for expressing support for things
- MM: Introduces co-administrator of page

6. Executive Reports

President's Report (Farley Miller)

- FM: One of my projects is to bring more people from more parts of Schulich together to do things that are fun
- 1) We've done Library After Hours this year which has been a success
- Last one is this Friday, December 5th, until next semester
- 2) We had our first MGSS Trivia Night which was also a success
- We will be doing that again – if anyone is interested in hosting a trivia night please approach me – it would be great to have people from more areas
- It would also be fun to get the faculty members out to one of these to see if we know more than they about trivia
- 3) MGSS Website has some updates
- Andrew Horwitz and I have been developing a way to submit member profiles
- Enter the information on the profile page
- All of these will then be uploaded to MGSS by FM or Andrew Horwitz
- I encourage all of you to give profiles and feedback about it
- Have to supply your name and email address
- SE: How long will the profiles be up?
- FM: They will be up as long as you're a current student
- I plan to create a wordpress program to allow students to update the information on your own
- JS: Can people create their own categories?
- FM: I do hope for uniformity, which was my rationale
- KL: If people have ideas to add categories we can do that
- FM: I know that researchers play in ensembles and performers might want to talk about research interests or lecture recitals
- So I felt that there was more crossover in these categories
- Alex Morgan (AM): For the photos, do you have to have a URL for the image?
- FM: We don't currently have an efficient way to upload the photos
- There are many options for uploading, but they do have to remain in the other place as well
- But we may find a better way to work this in the future (provide feedback!)
- This should be live by the end of the week

- 4) Mid-term election went well – high voter turnout, four new area representatives, but still no vice president
- We will likely have another election in the winter to fill more positions – the more the better
- 5) CFS referendum will be taking place in January
- went to a meeting with PGSS last night
- PGSS has been in legal battle with Canadian Federations of Students about whether or not PGSS is a member of the institution
- This has been going on since 2008
- There will be a referendum in January to decide once and for all if it is or not
- At present we are not supposed to express an opinion one way or another, but a campaign period will start January 5th where we can express opinions
- We will think about this
- January 15th and 16th will be when voting is open – we need to exceed quorum so that the student
- It will be a paper ballot with voting
- Working with Dr. Stublely and a PGSS liaison to get polling station in the music building to get a higher vote-out because we have a huge student body for a PGSA body
- We can't guarantee that will happen
- But it's very important to vote and express our opinion
- We will have more information about next semester
- The PGSS website has information about the history of the debate
- [Ed: <https://pgss.mcgill.ca/en/canadian-federation-of-students-court-case>]
- SE: If our money is going to PGSS in this legal battle, why can't we discuss it?
- FM: The referendum is still being organized – there's still difficulty about who has the authority to hold the referendum
- PGSS does not have permission to campaign about the issue until 10 days beforehand
- JS: The McGill Daily and McGill Tribune have also been reporting about it
- SE: Are we currently part of CFS?
- FM: We currently are: the question will be whether to remain
- 6) I've been meeting with Dr. Stublely to communicate
- For the new website, there's a huge need for photos – there may be photo contests taking place
- If you go to an interesting event, document it in some pictorial way
- We want to show off more of what we're involved with
- The second thing is Graduate Student Teaching Awards
- There's one for music courses, and also for non-music courses (MUAR)
- The one for graduate student instructors teaching music courses was instituted by MUSA which was why it was oriented towards music classes

- But we know that many graduate students here teach classes outside of the department
- There need to be nominations of people so awards will be given
- I will give a presentation in classes in January about these nominations so students can know about the process
- So let me know if you're teaching a class next semester

PGSS Report (Farley Miller)

- FM: The PGSS executives attend events
- They want to mention they have ongoing collaboration with students at Laval University on charter protecting by rights of graduate researchers in Quebec
- Passed legislation clarifying the PGSS grant application policies, election procedures and appeals processes
- Available on PGSS website
- Also supported AGSEM in a union drive to support the teaching assistants
- Tonight they're voting on clarification of one of the documents regarding funding of PGSS
- There's a section of the PGSS charter talking about grant programs
- Academic projects include symposia, conferences, lectures, workshops, excursions, and competitions
- But another section says academic conference participation is ineligible
- They are voting to remove this second section to confirm that they can support conference participation

Treasurer's Report (Toru Momii)

- Budget is \$6000 income which comes from PGSS fees
- I want to point out the Special Projects Fund – we've allotted 1400 for the entire year, and we have only received one application so far
- So we have a lot of money left over
- We can supply up to \$250 if your project is confirmed
- AM: Is there a deadline?
- FM: There just has to be an MGSS executive committee meeting before we approve it, and we tend to meet the first two weeks of each month
- We won't be meeting until January because of the winter break, but if you want to do something for next semester, and we can review it pretty quickly at the beginning of the semester
- Also, if you're an area representative let students in your area know that this funding is available

- The further we can distribute knowledge that this is a source of funding for students to pull off cool ideas, the more happen

Symposium Committee's Report (Sean Lorre and Laura Risk)

- SL: We have scheduled the symposium for March 13th-15th 2015
- Our keynote Ellie Hisama is confirmed
- We have received funding from PGSS and MAA
- We would like to encourage people to apply – send in an abstract for a lecture recital, a paper, a poster, etc.
- The deadline is the 19th of December
- LR: Hubert made a preliminary flyer which was distributed at AMS and SEM
- Please save the date and spread information
- We are in the process of contacting the performance keynote, but that hasn't happened yet
- SE: Is there a title to the conference?
- SL: It's open, with no particular theme
- LR: We welcome lecture recital proposals: it doesn't have to be just an academic presentation
- JR: How long would each presentation be?
- SL: For papers it's 20 minutes
- LR: The lecture recitals have been longer – if you'd like to propose something else, propose it, and give us a sense of how long you would want
- But typically they've been 45 minutes to an hour
- SL: You can also email us or Symposium
- SE: Can it just be a performance, or does it have to be a lecture recital
- LR: In the past it has been people performing several pieces and contextualizing them
- That is more appropriate than a pure performance, but if there's a theme the performer wants to highlight, or a particular approach, or a historical thread, all of that works

Performance Area's Report (Carolyn Barr and Suzu Enns)

- CB: We've had more representatives than ever before
- Leslie Perrin: first year master's on Tuba, brass area representative
- JR, first year Master's, in Jazz
- Nathan Murphy, first year voice, that's all
- And there are three others: Amy Hillis (strings), Kyle Andrews (Percussion), Tracy Smith-Bessette (early music)
- CB: We will be talking about getting in touch with the area chair

- Want to create a bridge between them and the students in their department
- The three of us will meet and maintain a correspondence
- SE: We've also both been attending ad hoc meetings with Dr Jacquelin Leclair and Stefan Lemelin the performance chair
- The final outcome will come out next term, but we've been talking about implementing things for undergraduate and graduate students at McGill, including wellness
- Mostly for performance
- CB: We want to get feedback from students about how they think the school's being run, etc.
- SE: We will let you know the results of this
- We have a final meeting on Sunday, so if you have any ideas you'd like us to pass on about curriculums, other initiatives at the school etc., we can pass it on
- Email either of us

Concert Committee's Report (Kit Soden)

- There are online tickets now, but they're not yet free student tickets
- That will be coming soon
- Talk of developing a morning concert series next year and continuing the rush hour series
- One of the top things will be the Ten Years of the Naming of the Schulich School
- *Rayonnement* is the theme
- Hubert Léveillé (HL): How the school has affected other spheres
- KS: They're inviting alumni to return for the celebrations
- There are plans for the alumni being soloists for the wind symphony or the MGSO
- The MGSO going on tour next year is another idea
- Potentially alumni concerts in other cities
- Professor Stephen McAdams wants to have Research Alive to allow researchers to present
- There's a conflict with MiniMusic to allow researchers to present
- He wants something more regularly occurring
- Next year also coincides with 50th anniversary of the electronic music studio
- The idea is to celebrate the digital composition studio but also revitalize some of the equipment
- Some donors are lined up to replace some things
- Philip Laroux and I have been talking about a two-day event for people to try out the Moog and I will have a call for students to apply
- I will have more information next time about what events will happen
- I want to know how much student involvement they want – it seems like they want to show off the alumni and faculty but I would like the students to be more involved

ACTP's Report (Erin Sheedy)

- ES: This committee is represented at ACTP Academic Committee on Teaching and Programs
- Want to make recommendations to faculty council regarding existing programs, new courses, etc
- We meet four times a month
- Largely the agenda has been tiny changes to course descriptions
- A lot of it has been related to undergraduate courses
- This past meeting they talked about a new improvisation course that grad students could take
- They also discuss things like course and teacher evaluations, which are low although more for the undergraduate students
- Related to ad hoc meetings with Dr Leclair there are some preliminary discussions about wellness, etc.
- We will meet up again in January

7. Motion to modify article 5c of the MGSS constitution

- FM: I sent out a motion to amend the constitution
- Article 5c describes what the area representatives do
- We don't want to modify the language, but just to clarify who should be getting in touch with whom about the fact that the representative has this role
- In the case of committees, because they tend to be overseen by the same people year to year, it makes more sense for MGSS to contact the committee to let them know who the student representative is
- In the case of area representatives, they have a more intimate relationship with the people overseeing the area
- We haven't changed text but added new passages: we are clarifying that if you're elected as an area representative, it's your responsibility to let your area know that you're serving in this function
- The President of MGSS is responsible for letting the organizers of the committees to let them know when a student is elected.

Motion to adopt FM's amendment by CB

LP seconds.

Unanimous consent.

Resolved: motion adopted

8. Additional Business/Question Period

- Kelvin Chan (KC): I am the music area rep
- I have worked closely with Lisa Lorenzini to bring professors from local universities in to give guest lectures
- Last year we invited Christine Beckett from BRAHMS to give talk on Musical dyslexia and it was well-received: the entire faculty showed up
- This year it will be Isabel Peretz from U de M to talk on psycho-acoustics and how we perceive sound
- As soon as I know more I will send out an update
- We are planning on having an event in January and it's open to everybody
- It also fulfills the doctoral colloquium requirement
- HL: With CIRMMT we've tried to start Lightning Talk
- Will start after Christmas break
- Any ongoing work you're doing, it's a short presentation 5-7 minutes
- At a lunch or *cinq-à-sept* and interdisciplinary
- Very informal – we will give out a call for papers shortly

9. Adjourning of Meeting

Motion: to adjourn the meeting, by HL

TM seconds.

Resolved: meeting adjourned at 6:38 pm.

Present at the General Assembly

Name	Area	Program
Adam Salmond	Musicology	MA
Alexander Morgan	Music Theory	PhD
Ben Duinker	Music Theory	PhD
Carolyn Barr	Performance	MMus
Erin Sheedy	Musicology	PhD
Farley Miller	Musicology	PhD
Hubert Léveillé	Music Theory	MA
Jacob Sagrans	Musicology	PhD
Jon Resney	Jazz	MMus
Kery Lawson	Musicology	PhD
Kit Soden	Composition	MMus
Kristin Franseen	Musicology	PhD
Laura Risk	Musicology	PhD
Leslie Perrin	Performance	MMus
Lydia Huang	Music Theory	MA
Mark MacDonald	Performance	DMus
Michèle Duguay	Music Theory	MA
Mimi Haddon	Musicology	PhD
Nathan Murphy	Voice	MMus
Nina Penner	Musicology	PhD
Rachel Avery	Musicology	PhD
Rebecca Flore	Music Theory	MA
Sean Lorre	Musicology	PhD
Suzu Enns	Performance	DMus
Toru Momii	Music Theory	MA
Tracy Smith-Bessette	Performance -Early Music	DMus

26 members present.