

Emergency motion to start a campaign against the potential closure of the Education Library

(Fernanda Soler Urzúa, EGSS President)

WHEREAS the EGSS Council has unanimously approved a motion on April 5th, 2013, to request that:

- students have access to the Education Library and library staff until 11pm,
- the Education Library and library staff be available on the weekends and in the summer,
- EGSS be consulted regarding any future changes to the Education Library hours;

WHEREAS in a report dated April 13th, 2013, CBC reported that the library in the Faculty of Education is at risk of being closed in the face of a \$1.8 million budget cut to the university libraries^[1];

WHEREAS on May 23rd, 2012, the PGSS Council passed a motion to donate approximately half a million dollars from the Library Improvement Fund (paid for by graduate students) to the university libraries^[2];

WHEREAS the Education library received \$100 000 from the PGSS Library Improvement Fund in the Summer 2012 to be used in an Improvement Project ^[2];

WHEREAS the Education Library received an additional sum of approximately \$77 000 from the SSMU Library Improvement Fund in the Summer 2012^[3] also to be used in the Improvement Project;

WHEREAS libraries are essential in educational institutions both to provide materials and resources to foster learning and the advancement of knowledge, and to provide a physical study space for students;

WHEREAS the elimination of library services in the Faculty of Education would negatively impact the ease of access to materials and resources by both undergraduate and graduate students;

WHEREAS the University should consult the student body in decisions that affect students directly;

WHEREAS it is within EGSS' mandate to provide a vehicle for the collective voice of the graduate student body to be recognized and respected throughout the Faculty of Education^[4];

RESOLVED THAT the EGSS Council initiate and coordinate a campaign immediately to prevent the closure of the Education Library;

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the EGSS Council uses up to \$200 from the Solidarity Fund to finance this campaign if need be ^[5].

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the EGSS representatives in the Faculty Council put forward this concern in the next Faculty Council meeting.

NOTES

[1] [Link to the report by CBC](#)

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/story/2013/04/12/quebec-montreal-mcgill-library-budget-cuts.html>

[2] [Link to the PGSS Council meeting minutes from May 23rd, 2012](#) <https://pgss.mcgill.ca/document/?mode=view&id=27>

[3] [Link to the Education Library Improvement Project](#)

<http://www.mcgill.ca/library/library-about/renovations/education-improvement>

[4] [EGSS mission:](#)

<http://egss.mcgill.ca/about.html>

[5] EGSS has an extra of \$200 from the Solidarity fund, because no allocation was made in the past Fall term.