Office of the Vice-President (University Affairs) Bureau du Vice-président (affaires universitaires)

Report to Council November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Joey Shea - VP University Affairs

# **SSMU**

### Research

## Equity Research

- Equity Complaints Process
- Equity Structure
- Equity Funding
- The research is coming along well. The deadline is coming up so I will be letting y'all know the results hopefully before Christmas break,

### McGill's Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Policy

• Meagan (one of the Equity researchers) has taken over this project. It is going well.

#### Social Justice Days Coordinator

• I have been meeting with QPIRG to discuss this position and we have been holding interviews over the past two weeks. A decision will be made soon so that planning can begin for the event, which is tentatively scheduled for the end of February/beginning of March

#### Review of the Composition of Senate

SQ

#### *IDEAS*

• SQ

## Corporate Campus

• SQ

## Equity

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- Harassment, Sexual Harassment, Discrimination Policy Project/Website
  - O The job description and hours have been approved by the Exec. I will now begin the hiring process for this position. I have also been in contact with the website developer for the clubs, he will be creating the portion of the SSMU website once the content has been developed.

## • Equity Committee

- o Members have started to submit project proposals to the Equity Fund
- o We had a really productive conversation about Costume Checking at 4Floors; we came up with a list of "red light" costumes before the even

## • Appropriate Costumes Campaign:

- o Brian, Wallace, Shaina, Justin and myself met before the event to discuss logistics.
- o There were teams of three at each entrance, and then a group of four in room 108. When an inappropriate costume was identified, the individual was taken to 108 and educated as to why their costume is questionable.
- Overall, I think that this new project worked well. Most of the costumes we flagged were in the gray area; there was (thank fully) no black-face, although there were a few people dressed as Mexicans and a few Jasmines. It brought up some interested questions and interesting discussions. Shaina and Justin have done a great job with collecting data from the event and reflecting to see how we can improve in the future. Any suggestions are welcome! AND A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS WHO CAME OUT! THIS COULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED WITHOUT YOU!

#### SSMU Committees

#### Ad-Hoc Mental Health

• Second meeting a few Friday's. It was really productive. We have started to discuss the specifics of the policy, focusing on



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overarching goals, background, definitions, etc. I had to cancel last week. Our next meeting is tomorrow.

#### Awards of Distinction

SQ

#### Equity Committee

See above

## Library Improvement Fund

• Kira (the Library Improvement Fund Coordinator) and I met with Diane Koen and Colleen Cook (the Executive Director and the Dean of Libraries). We looked over potential projects for the funds. There is \$124 000 left over from last year so we have quite a large sum to distribute. Also, the timeline for project submissions will be moved up as we they would like decisions to be made before December. So if any of y'all have ideas for how to improve the libraries, please send them to the Library Improvement Fund Committee ASAP! (lifc@ssmu.mcgill.ca)

### University Affairs Committee

• This will be starting soon now that Chelsea has begun as ARC.

#### HR

• Chelsea has been officially hired as the Academic Research Commissioner! I am very excited about this, I think she will do an excellent job. She knows McGill and SSMU very well and is very motivated for the position.

## McGill.

#### Senate

#### Senators

- Caucus:
  - o We discussed "what is student engagement?" and "how can we motivate students to take the NSSE?"
  - o Also, it was decided that two questions be drafted for the November Senate. One regarding employment equity and the



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other about lecture recordings. These questions are being submitted today.

#### Senators Corner

• YAY! I am very happy about this site! All of the photos and bios are updated! I will be getting the Senators to submit blog posts!

#### Committees

- o Senate Steering
  - This upcoming Tuesday.
- o Senate Nominating
  - This past Monday; all student spots on committees have been filled. Terms of reference for a committee to review the Charter of Student Rights were brought forth.
- o Academic Policy Committee (APC)
  - Last week: There was a long discussion about the results of the Working-Group on Nomenclature. It was decided to convene another working-group about nomenclature. (lol)
- o Joint Board-Senate Planning Committee
  - The last two meetings were this week and last. The actual Joint Board-Senate meeting is this upcoming Tuesday and the topic is Mental Health in the McGill Community. I am excited to see how this meeting will go.
- o Workgroup on Mental Health
  - There have been two meetings so far;. Mainly just intros and discussion on our approach; and the discussion about the Mental Health situation at McGill
- o Vision 2020 Steering Committee
  - This was last Thursday. Since the last Steering meeting in the summer, the Vision 2020 has been lobbying their stakeholders to make project commitments. They have also held a series of hubs with all relevant actors on the



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five pillars of sustainability. Vision 2020 is supposed to come to Senate in a few weeks. I think this project is awesome, but it has moved away from students. Students are not really involved with the project; it would be good to see some student ownership over the University wide Sustainability Policy.

- o Friends of the Library
  - SQ
- o QPIRG Board
  - Last night; some cool presentations by ECOLE and Emily about Anti-O Training in Rez.
- o QI Workgroup
  - There was a webcast I attended on innovation with Principal Fortier, VP Research and International Relations Rose Goldstein and the President of ETS.
  - This week is innovation week; there is an innovation lunch tomorrow in the SSMU Ballroom.

## Admin Meetings

• Dean of Students: I met with Dean Costopolous this week to talk about the McGill football issue. It was an interesting conversation about differing views as to the definition of the McGill community, its legal and moral implications and the jurisdiction of the Student Code of Conduct

#### **Events**

• The Principal's Installation was this Monday and Tuesday. Sophia did an absolutely spectacular job with her speech. I was also pleased that McGill decided to have the reception in our building, although not many students were invited to the proceedings

Respectfully submitted,

Joey Shea