



Students' Society of McGill University

Office of the President

3600 McTavish Street, Suite 1200, Montreal, Quebec H3A 0G3

Report of the President to Legislative Council (Sept 17) Summer 2015

Overview: Most of my time has been taken up by HR-related matters, given the upcoming vacancy of the General Manager position and the instability that the office has been experiencing.

Constituencies

- **Board of Directors**
 - Pending decisions made at the Board of Directors meeting directly following Council
 - Met twice over the summer
- **Judicial Board**
 - We currently *just* have quorum but are going to do further outreach for more Justices.
 - Anyone in 3rd or 4th year Law is eligible, please ask around!
- **Elections SSMU**
 - Pending decisions made earlier this evening
 - *Please note the electoral timeline dates in your calendars*
 - All is ready for FYC Elections to begin
- **Council**
 - Councillor & Senator Retreat
 - Went well (Sept. 11-13), hope you folks left content and well-equipped!
 - A make-up orientation for Councillors who missed out will be happening early to mid October
 - Interim/Unfilled Councillor Seats
 - Interim Arts Rep is Kat Svikhnushin, replacement to be elected soon
 - Interim Athletics Rep is Eric Wiebe, replacement to be elected soon
 - Nursing Rep, First-Year Council Rep & Residences Rep will be elected by early October
 - *Councillor Bios: please submit them to Kevin, Secretary General of the Office of the President, ASAP (secgen@ssmu.mcgill.ca)*
 - Photos took place today at 5:00PM-6:00PM – if you didn't make it, please ensure to attend the 2nd and last session on Sept. 24th from 1:30PM-2:30PM
 - Got clickers for the first time! Hoping it worked today.
 - Hoping to help coordinate the creation of a Council Goals for the Year document – stay tuned!
 - Council dates - <http://ssmu.mcgill.ca/representation/ssmu-legislative-council/>
 - Mandatory Equity training is Wednesday, Oct. 21st (10AM-12PM), location TBD
 - Please let me know if you can't make it – I'll be sending out more info.



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- **Faculty Associations**
 - Presidents' Roundtable
 - Met twice, discussed ongoing initiatives and potential collaborations
 - Photography Contract
 - Signed for 2015-2018
 - Working on the related MoA with the faculty associations, as it has expired
 - Providing faculty associations with the necessary resources to run their by-elections and general assemblies, if necessary
- **PGSS** (Post-Graduate Students' Society)
 - Collaborating on Family Care initiatives
 - Doing an event with their executives next week to get to know one another
- **MCSS** (Macdonald Campus Students' Society)
 - Going to Mac campus next week to meet their executives
- **MACES** (McGill Association for Continuing Education Students)
 - SQ
- **CSU** (Concordia Student Union)
 - Have been chatting with their President extensively about their housing co-op initiative
- **AVEQ** (Association for the Voice of Education in Quebec)
 - Went to 2 of the conferences this summer to write some legislation, contribute to policy writing and hash out plans for the year in terms of forming this association
- **Media**
 - Still in the process of formalizing our communications this year (Kimber is bottomlining)

McGill Governance & Relations

- **Board of Governors**
 - Had Board orientation in late August – next meeting is Oct. 8th
 - CAMSR (Committee to Advise on Matters of Social Responsibility)
 - Met once over the summer to discuss fossil fuel divestment
- **Senate**
 - Next meeting is September 24th
 - Subcommittee on Aboriginal Peoples
 - Had an amazing meeting a week ago with SEDE, First Peoples' House & Chloe last week – great project brainstorm, but may have to take a backseat due to recent events
- **Alumni Association**
 - SQ
- **MOOS** (McGill Office of Sustainability)



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- Environment Commissioners are liaising with them this year; the SPF is coming to Council to present their 2015 report soon
- **McGill Community Council (MCC)** [Composed of the many teaching unions on campus]
 - Hoping to solicit student input on last year's governance decisions to better inform our activities
- **Office of the DP SLL** (Deputy Provost of Student Life and Learning)
 - **Ad Hoc Committee on the Gym**
 - SQ
 - **MoA** (Memorandum of Agreement)
 - Have been preparing for the upcoming MoA negotiations with the rest of the Executive; we must submit our demands by the end of September and are hoping to receive similar information from the DP SLL
- **Student Services**
 - Collaborating with a few different units on various projects
- **SHHS**
 - Will be sitting on the Food and Dining Advisory Committee (FADAC)
- **Unique Engagements**
 - Met with the student unions from UdeLaval, UdeM, graduates at UdeSherbrooke
 - Frosh & Activities Night went well, props to Kimber & Lola for that!

Human Resources & Executive

- **Social Committee**
 - Organized two Staff Socials this summer and will be working with our Events Manager and our Communications & Publications Manager to facilitate more social events to bring our staff together
- **Student Staff**
 - Jointly conducted the hiring for the following staff with the HR department:
 - HR Coordinators (2)
 - Environment Commissioner
 - Speaker of Council
 - Sustainable Building Coordinator (migrated to the C&S portfolio)
 - All of my student staff have begun work, and I have begun meeting with them regularly. The only missing staff member is the Ethics Commissioner
 - Hoping to plan Student Staff Socials
- **Permanent Staff**
 - As you may know, our General Manager is leaving (Sept. 29th)
 - Contacted various recruitment firms for their quotes on partial assignments – we have yet to decide on one, but we have confirmed that we *will* be seeking the expertise of an external group
 - Hoping to hire an Interim General Manager to take care of many of the



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- administrative tasks, per the counsel of Lev Bukhman
- The staff that work the most with the General Manager will take on a lot of the tasks traditionally done by the General Manager, both before we find an Interim GM and once we do
 - Namely: [President, HR Advisor], [VP Finance & Operations, Comptroller], [VP Clubs & Services, Building Director]
- Hiring a new Daycare Director, the search has been happening for about 3 months now
- Revised the job description of the General Manager, slightly, with the rest of the Executive
- Workplan/check-in meetings with the General Manager have been ongoing; we are preparing for the transition.
- Worked with the HR Advisor, Communications & Publications Manager and Executives to create a “SSMU Values” document for staff; we will be replicating this for the Society and passing it through Council
- **Executives**
 - Conducting Workplan meetings with all of the Executives & continuing to ensure that all are well-supported in their roles. Check-ins are ongoing.
 - Fall office hours have been implemented
 - Mine are WED 11AM-12PM & FRI 3PM-4PM

Sustainability

- **Sustainability Assessment**
 - Kristen, one of our Environment Commissioners, conducted interviews with each of the Executives over the summer and will be compiling this assessment
- **Environment Committee**
 - First meeting was today - mostly to orient interested students.

Projects, Outreach & Collaborations

- **General Assembly**
 - Booked the SSMU Building for the following dates:
 - **Monday Nov 9th * and Monday Feb. 22nd** - details coming soon. 3PM start time is planned, to ensure that we don't run through the night. Planning for a high attendance rate.
 - Met with Tania, Wallace, Ryan & Lola to chat about logistics; exploring clicker rental for the event itself
- **Governance Document Review**
 - Review of the Presidential Internal Regulations is ongoing, as many inconsistencies remain. Stephanie, our Internal Regulation Review Commissioner, is spearheading this work – much work remains in other portfolios as well.
- **SEAMLESS** – Student Executives At McGill Learning, Engaging, Sharing & Strategizing



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- Met multiple times over the summer to begin plans; hoping to expand a lot this year and invite club and service executives.
 - Sunday, October 18th from 9:30AM-4:30PM is what we are planning
- **Centraide Campaign 2015-2016** (Sept. 29th to Dec. 4th)
 - Brainstorming fundraising effort ideas, found 2 interested students.
 - Engage McGill table went swimmingly, thanks Emily for your help! We ran an activity to raise awareness about the campaign for incoming students
 - La Marche des Parapluies (March of the Umbrellas), the Centraide Kickoff Event, is taking place on September 29th at 10:30AM
- **Indigenous Solidarity Initiatives**
 - McGill Territorial Acknowledgement is on hold
 - Hoping to help Chloe and the Ad Hoc Indigenous Affairs Committee see the SSMU Indigenous Solidarity Policy through
 - **Indigenous Awareness Week (September 28th, 2015 until October 3rd, 2015)**
 - We'll be hanging a dreamcatcher in the lobby during this time
 - Hoping to get more Indigenous art in the building – will discuss with Kimber
- **SSMU Employment Equity Policy**
 - Need to research what other institutions have; hoping to implement this soon.
- **Fair Trade in SSMU**
 - Need to look at our Sustainability Policy and consult with our food & beverage operations.
- **Universal Design @ SSMU**
 - Looking into the Rez Audit (for Universal Design) and how we can replicate those goals in our building
 - Collaborating with Chloe and Kimber
- **Opt-In Consultation Listserv**
 - Created a MailChimp account and am going to run this idea by Council before moving forward – am preparing the set-up in the interim
- **Family Care**
 - Working with SEDE's newly-hired Family Resource Coordinator, Tanya Lalonde, to organize the first-ever Student Parent Orientation – it happened this morning!
 - Working on revising the Family Care Policy for SSMU w/ Chloe
 - Collaborating with PGSS on Study Sundays
 - Recruiting SSMU Reps for the Daycare Board
 - Lease negotiations with McGill for the SSMU Daycare Centre are beginning soon, as the lease expires the same time as our MoA with McGill does – May 2016
- **Bikes on Campus**
 - Chatted with Doug Sweet from Office of the VP External (of McGill) and there are conversations happening; I am being kept in the loop.
- **Know Your SSMU Campaign**



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- Met a few times over the summer with the Executives to coordinate this campaign
 - Will likely involve the creation of a website
 - SSMU Organigram – Completed this with the help of our Graphic Designer, Zachary Kay – we will be distributing it soon.
- **General Outreach**
 - SSMU Instagram is bumpin'! Check us out @ssmuaeum
 - For the moment, *please send me pics from meetings and events that could help inform students of what we do* and I will post it!
 - Created an info brochure for new students titled 'What is SSMU?' with the Executives; distributed it at Discover McGill and Target McGill
 - Oversaw the creation and distribution of the SSMU Handbook
- **Misc.**
 - Facebook: Please refrain from contacting me over Facebook for SSMU-related things, as my response will not only be incredibly slower, but there will also be no record of these many important conversations in our archives – this is for institutional memory and data management.

The Past 2 Weeks

	Monday Sep 7, 2015	Tuesday Sep 8, 2015	Wed Sep 9, 2015	Thu Sep 10, 2015	Friday Sep 11, 2015
6:00 AM					
7:00 AM	Tidy		Jennifer Absent		
8:00 AM		FREN239 (Sherbrooke 688 Rm1265)	quick	FREN239 (Sherbrooke 688 Rm1265)	
9:00 AM		Meeting with Internal	Check-In	Check-In	Pick Up
10:00 AM	Meetin	Meeting with	Meeting with Recording	ECOLE Board Meeting	SEDE Meeting (Small)
11:00 AM	Meetin	McGill Community Council (Rotating)	Fall Office Hours		
12:00 PM		Meeting with	Lunch		Lunch
1:00 PM		Meeting with	Council Discussion -	Executive Committee	Events & Operations
2:00 PM		Activities Night	Check-In & Goal-Setting		SSMU/Prof. Dvsn. Mtg.
3:00 PM			Activities Night Day 2		Fall Office Hours
4:00 PM	Emerg			International	Food Purchase for
5:00 PM				CSA Basket	
6:00 PM				Interview with MoA Research Task	Council Retreat (Gault Nature Reserve)
7:00 PM					
8:00 PM					
9:00 PM					
10:00 PM					
11:00 PM					



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	Monday Sep 14, 2015	Tue Sep 15, 2015	Wed Sep 16, 2015	Thu Sep 17, 2015	Friday Sep 18, 2015	Sat Sep 19, 2015	Sunday Sep 20, 2015
6:00 AM							
6:30 AM							
7:00 AM							
7:30 AM	Tidy Office						
8:00 AM	Payroll Approval	FREN239 (Sherbrooke 688 Rm1265)	Meeting with Ashley re: First	FREN239	Student Parent Orientation (Lev Bukhman and Madalena)		
8:30 AM	Call Ilias						
9:00 AM		FD Interview with [redacted]	Call Council		MoA Strategy Meeting #4		Student Academic Summit (SSMU Ballroom)
9:30 AM		Office training prep	Fall Office Hours		POW WOW (Lower Field)		
10:00 AM			Lunch		Annual		
10:30 AM	Standing Rules of Council		Goal-Setting Meeting				
11:00 AM	Executive Committee [Tentative] (Small Boardroom)	Office Training	Sustainability Staff Meeting	chat re: GM			
11:30 AM		Know Your SSMU Campaign	Office Training	Re: SSMU Buy Receiver	Office Training		
12:00 PM			Meeting with Geoffrey	Recurring HR Meeting	Fall Office		
12:30 PM		Centraide & Sherry	Meeting with Brighita re:	Council	Mental		
1:00 PM	chat re hiring	Meeting re: Position	EnviroComm Volunteer	Legislative Council (Lev Bukhman Room)	CSA Basket Pick-Up		
1:30 PM	Senate Caucus (Boardroom)	FREN ft. Sierra	Presidents' Roundtable (Boardroom)				
2:00 PM							
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Personal

Went straight from the trauma of last semester straight into full-time (and a half) SSMU work, so I'm feeling pretty colourless. Sincerely glad to be doing this work nonetheless! Most projects have been derailed due to the situation with the General Manager, but I haven't lost hope! *knocks on wood*