



Report of the Ad-Hoc University Affairs Committee to Legislative Council

December 3rd, 2015

Membership of the Committee: Cecilia MacArthur (chair), Valerie Olivier, Erin Sobat, Rebecca Summers, William Cleveland, Danyang Guo, Chloe Rourke

The University Affairs Committee has met twice so far this semester to discuss improving communication and student engagement with the University Affairs portfolio and increasing the visibility of Society research projects. The Committee is involved in research projects supervised by the VP University Affairs, but also more largely within SSMU, and aims to further develop the link between student research and advocacy within the University context.

Goals for this year:

- Hosting a **Student Research Competition** in which students will be encouraged to develop original research proposals that further SSMU's advocacy goals. For example More information can be found here: <http://ssmu.mcgill.ca/blog/2015/11/student-research-competition/>. We are encouraging students from all disciplines to apply, not solely humanities students.
- Creating an **online hub of student research** to serve as a resource for students wishing to advocate for change at McGill or other Universities. For example Student Senators often commission small research projects to compare McGill to peer institutions. Sharing this research could benefit other student groups on campus as well as student unions across the country.
- Discussing the possibility of compiling student research projects into a **research journal**. The theme of the journal would be papers or research projects that are applicable to the University context. We are reaching out to QPIRG, McGill Office of Sustainability and other groups on campus to discuss this idea.

In the next semester the Committee will also serve as an advisory group for SSMU's Memorandum of Agreement negotiations with McGill as well as look at ways to increase communication and engagement of the University Affairs portfolio with the student body.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chloe Rourke, Vice-President (University Affairs) on behalf of Cecilia MacArthur