



Office of the President

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REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT TO COUNCIL

DECEMBER 1ST 2016

INTERNAL GOVERNANCE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD)

General

The Board of Directors met last Thursday night to discuss some urgent business. We did Committee allocations as well and are now hoping to have a new Elections CEO Nominated any day now.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Rotating Council

SQ

Committees

Ad-Hoc Equitable Governance Reform Committee: The Committee is meeting on a fairly regular basis every Friday from 11:30-12:30. We recently did another governance training for those who couldn't make it to the last one. The Committee has decided to break up its tasks into the following topics:

- ~~—Equity Training;~~
- Council Composition;
- Board Composition;
- Accessibility of Council Positions;
- Non-Academic Discipline; and
- Clubs and Services.



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GA

Academic Amnesty

SQ

Security and Efficiency Improvements

SQ

PRESIDENTS' ROUNDTABLE

With exams on the horizon peoples schedules seem to be filling up so PRT didn't really last too long or have that much to discuss. Some faculties, like Education and Engineering, did bring up Mental Health related advancements at their own faculties and that some faculty and staff showed support for the idea of mental health trainings becoming a mandatory part of the requirements for Tenure.

POLICY PROJECTS

Ethical Expenditures Policy

We have a rough draft of the Policy done and I'll be bringing it as a Notice from the floor on to this Council since people will have the entire break to review it.

Menstrual Hygiene Products Policy

~~SQ — Done, pending approval by Council.~~

Conflict of Interest Policy

We've decided this would be better as a procedural practice & has sparked a larger conversation as to how our Policy and Plan book currently works. We're potentially looking at remodeling that book to look more like a *Policies, Plans and Procedures* book to better emphasis the need for more pragmatic internal procedures *in addition to* a lot of our conceptual and ideological mandates. This will hopefully better outline how we function to those working with us internally & to the Membership.

Equitable Hiring Practices Policy/Amendments to the HR Policy

SQ - Out for internal consultation (predominantly with Equity Commissioners). Once we're passed that stage we'll build it up more and send out for external consultation.

Amendments to the Accessibility Policy



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SQ - See below for updates on the progress of the Accessibility Checklist being developed by the Joint Board-Senate Committee on Equity, Subcommittee on Persons with Disabilities. Once this is done a more in depth conversation can start as to how this Checklist can becoming more SSMU applicable. The Committee seems to be on a timeline for early next semester.

REPRESENTATION & ADVOCACY

SENATE

Joint Board-Senate Committee on Equity Subcommittee on Persons with Disabilities

The next meeting of the Working Group for the Accessible Events Checklist is happening next Tuesday. The agenda for the meeting has not been sent out yet.

Senate Committee on Physical Development (CPD)

CPD met last Thursday and was somewhat uneventful. Questions were asked about new construction project priorities and a lot of emphasis was put on the Powell site. It currently doesn't seem like we'll be able to get a spot in the building. We also reviewed some of the RVH plans and conceptual models.

Enrollment and Student Affairs Advisory Committee (ESAAC), Subcommittee on Student Affairs Policy (SSAP)

SSAP met a few weeks ago and we talked about Mental Health 101 mandatory additions to the requirements for the Tenure process and there was support for the idea. It's now being kicked up to ESAAC. ESAAC will be meeting next Tuesday and I'll be following up to make sure this will be on the agenda.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS (BOG)

Board Reform

[The report was released](#) the other day with an accompanying [press release](#). The Nominating, Governance and Ethics Committee (NGE) of the Board also met yesterday to discuss topics related to the report and how the BoG can further engage the community. I am not a voting member of the Committee but was invited to be there. As well, I've been in contact with Edyta about developing a Motion to mandate the BoG to do a more in depth analysis of systemic issues.

The report and press release were circulated to (those already emailed have their names crossed out):



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IAC, FPH, ~~The Provosts Taskforce on Indigenous Education and Academics, BoG Caucus, Senate Caucus, SSMU Council, MCC, MACES President (Sean), PGSS Sec Gen (Victor), Faculty Presidents, Canadian News Outlets, and Canadian Students' Association Presidents.~~

Feel free to add some if you have some ideas!!!

Pre-Board Meetings ('BoG Caucus')

BoG Caucus met yesterday at lunch to talk about the Report of the BoG Investment Committee and NGE.

Presentations and Executive Shadowing

SQ – Executive shadowing for students has been pushed back to second semester sadly due to some of the unexpected events of first semester but Etienne and I have made a form and are ready to go with the program whenever.

CAMPUS RELATIONS

Deputy Provost, Student Life & Learning

Centraide

SQ - The Centraide campaign is something the President of SSMU usually has some involvement in, and this year Ollivier (the DPSLL) will be one of the Co-Chairs of the Committee that will be helping coordinate the campus wide-initiatives related to it. We had a meeting this week to go over some of the things we could do (raffles, competitions, etc.), and I brought it up at PRT to see if faculties would be interested in getting involved again.

MOA

Jonathan is taking a while to get back to us on this but we've had conversation in both MOA meetings and others that have suggested we'll be removing the McGill name regulations, removing some of the restrictions on advertising on campus, and adding in some info that the Office of the DPSLL will be providing us on future years to make our lives easier (e.g. global class lists). There was a meeting that happened this morning that was mainly talking about catering and advertising, but Sacha can talk more to that in his report.

I've been working a bit with Kahli since one of the Services keeps being denied space on campus "due to the MOA" but the MOA says they just need approval from the DPSLL, not that they can't hold space external to the SSMU building. The extend of my involvement has really just been setting up meetings and communicating info – will soon be passing off to Elaine & Kahli when it comes time to actually meet.



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McGill Alumni Association (MAA)

A meeting happened last night to start planning this year's McGill 24.

McGill Association for Continuing Education Students (MACES)

SQ

Macdonald Campus Students' Society (MCSS)

SQ

McGill Office of Sustainability (MOOS)

SQ - MOOS has been hosting a number of Vision 2020 Action Team meeting (McGill's sustainability commitment) and I'm sitting on the Governance & Administration Action Team. Things that my Action Team have been talking about include: the addition of a McGill Positions Book to building accountability, usability and transparency in relation to any actions taken by McGill's Vice-Principal (Communications & External), the creation of a Taskforce of Climate Change Prevention/Carbon Neutral Campus action, Divestment from Fossil Fuels, and Equitable Governance Reform.

Post-Graduate Students' Society (PGSS)

SQ

Student Housing & Hospitality Services (SHHS)

SQ

Social Equity & Diversity Education Office (SEDE)

SQ - I sit on a SEDE Fundraising working group that has met once and is looking at strategies to assure that all their programs are well funded. There have been early conversations about ancillary fees, which I personally am on the fence about considering how many administrative services students already subsidies but if there was a commitment by the office of the Provost to dollar match a fee there might be room for a larger conversation. This however has not yet (and may never) been brought to him or his Office.

Campus Life & Engagement (CL&E)

SQ

Residences / Inter-Residence Council (IRC)

SQ

MEDIA

Campus & City Papers



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Exec Reviews came out this week, feel free to check them out [here!](#)

Communications (SSMU Video, Organigrams, and Monthly Calendars)

SQ – If anyone wants to see the video that was developed for frosh and general knowledge on how SSMU works / how to get involved, feel free to check it out [here!](#) Also if you want to see the organigrams on how SSMU’s Government works and what Executives do feel free to check out [here](#) and [here!](#) Finally, if you want to see the events and governance calendar for September you can click [here!](#)

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Advisory Council on Sustainability

SQ - The Advisory Council on Sustainability met a few weeks ago. It is still unclear as to how this body is intended to function under the Vice-Principal (Administration & Finance), Morty Yalovsky, and considering it is purely advisory (aka it has no decision making power), but it certainly has a wealth of very cool perspectives around the table. The Council however is predominantly made up of external experts on Environmental Sustainability and definitely lack some important internal perspectives (the McGill School of the Environment, Divest McGill, Macdonald Campus Students’ Society & Macdonald Campus Graduate Students’ Society all do not have seats on the Committee).

COLLABORATION

PERMANENT & STUDENT STAFF

We are currently doing probation evaluations of all of our student staff.

Ryan and I have been meeting to talk about more internal restructuring that we can do in both the short and long terms to build a more effective Society on an administrative level.

Elaine and I are planning the Potluck and Dinner together, which will be happening this Friday.

EXECUTIVES

SQ

Indigenous Affairs:

The Open Forum on the Provosts’ Taskforce on Indigenous Education (<https://www.facebook.com/events/617963325073667/>) happened last week and a large number of people showed up. Some cool ideas were bounced around and a report is being written up for distribution by the Taskforce.



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Referenda:

Angela Campbell and I are working together on finding a way to get dispenseries off the ground and into washrooms asap. She's reaching out to a few people to see who would be best to help us with the project, and I've been in contact with the students at Brown University, who recently passed a referenda to run a similar project, about what dispensary system they are using.

Joyfully Submitted,

Ben Ger
President