

# REPORT OF THE VICE—PRESIDENT (OPERATIONS)

## September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016

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#### **BUILDING AFFAIRS**

- We saved two EUS design teams: Rocket & Aerospace Teams
  - o Previously, they were removed from space in Engineering buildings with no alternative provided and with the limitation that they could not seek space off-campus.
  - o They will be taking space in the basement and paying us \$2000/yr for their 4<sup>th</sup> floor office (lease pending)
  - This arrangement is after lengthy negotiations between Brian Karasic (Campus Space Planning) and Engineering Faculty
- Discovered an old building space analysis report; this will be useful in learning why space is allocated the way it is and helping us to avoid similar mistakes in the future
- PSC: Peer Support Centre is now operational, and looks great!
- Building & Operations Management Committee was held on Tuesday, Sept 27<sup>th</sup>
  - o Discussion of various long-term room allocations
  - Approval of allocation of room 409 to Engineering Design teams



#### **FOOD & BEVERAGE**

#### **Gerts**

- Events this week:
  - o Elections Night → Monday
  - o OctoberhAUS → Friday
- Goal for this week = work out a scheme for open-mic nights & trivia
- As of this week there will be a suggestion box at the bar for Wednesday night themes
- Proposal for Carnival & Science-Games x Gerts to be finalized & confirmed next week

#### Student-Run Café

- Re-branding continues:
  - o Researched which domain names are the most effective at attracting search-engine attention & would be most useful for marketing. We've made a number of decisions at the recommendation of Wendy, our Communications & Publications Manager (CPM) as well as Alessandro, our Food & Beverage Manager
  - o Working with TVM to create a brand movie, filming to begin next week
- Sales are down but catering is up
  - o We're averaging sales in the range of 150-200, which is lower than the 300 seen in week 1
  - o Catering requests have skyrocketed → averaging 3-4 requests a week of over \$500 each
  - o Likely the additional catering requests will cancel the drop in sales, however we'll have to wait and see before we can be certian

#### MINI-COURSES

- Although registration numbers were initially good, we didn't receive the final spike in registration that was expected. We did our best to promote courses that were underperforming as well as combine similar courses to avoid cutting two similar courses
- Where do we go from here?
  - o More workshops (in the works  $\rightarrow$  cooking, bartending, smart studying, etc.)
  - o Re-evaluate the marketing strategy, to be done with the recommendation of the CPM
  - o Increase the number of skills courses (i.e. Photoshop, Illustrator, C++, etc) which were the more popular style of course → call-outs to students with professional skills will be done in October / November
- Result = Mini-courses are now my #1 priority moving forward



#### **SUSTAINABILITY**

- Did an SPF training discussing how SPF works and how to promote/explain SPF to students
- Nearly finalized the SPF for the garden project (regarding the "minor revision" review of our SPF), finalized report to be submitted Friday (tomorrow) the 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Participated in the Vision 2020 Operations Action Team Meeting
  - o I thoroughly enjoyed this event. Many interesting ideas were put forward, and it was exciting to talk about all the ambitious ways of making McGill Operations more sustainable alongside the people who can make these ideas happen
  - One interesting idea (of many) that was suggested: creating of a committee of "Sustainability Auditors" with a background in Food, Building, Energy, and Waste Management (as well as other McGill Operation areas) to monitor and assist the implementation and progress of sustainability goals, to be reported to the superior Sustainability Committee composed of senior McGill admin and SSMU/PGSS representatives. This would serve to ensure that we're hitting our targets, holding each department accountable, and making sure there's no repetition of labor.
  - Even the act of bringing all these community figures together was beneficial; there was a large degree of networking that was accomplished which will help the advancement of Sustainability on Campus
    - Ex: I'll be reaching out to Caroline Bregg to get Mac Campus produce for the Student-Run Café

#### **SACHA'S CORNER**

Respectfully submitted,

Sacha Lefebvre Magder

2016-17 SSMU Vice-President (Operations)