



REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT (UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS)

FEBRUARY 9, 2017

UNIVERSITY & ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

SENATE & UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Senate

- Next Senate meeting on Wednesday, February 15th:
 - Planning for open discussion on the Provost's Strategic Plan
 - Agenda includes revisions to *Regulation on the Conduct of Research*, revisions to the *Policy on Intellectual Property*, and annual report on Student Life and Learning (SLL)
 - Submitted motions regarding formal recognition of Black History Month and review of Board of Governors practice
- Hosted Senate Caucus guests including Dean of Students, Director of Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD), and Director of Teaching & Learning Services (TLS)

University Committees

- Enrolment & Student Affairs Advisory Committee (ESAAC) cancelled this Tuesday, February 7th
- Next Academic Policy Committee (APC) meeting on Thursday, February 23rd

Student Life & Learning

- Experiential Learning Network (ELN) met on February 2nd to discuss enhanced educational opportunities definitions, reflection app & SEDE ExCELR program
- Meeting with SLL partners on Wednesday, February 8th to discuss communication of mental health literacy opportunities for instructors
- Meeting with Deputy Provost (Student Life & Learning) on Thursday, February 9th to discuss Student Services, academic accommodations, ancillary fees & other issues
- Awaiting revised draft of new Memorandum of Agreement from McGill

Student Services

- Met with Senior Director of Student Services on January 30th to discuss communications & issues with stepped care implementation; currently determining best means to address ongoing concerns
- Hope to meet with Senior Director to discuss targeted support resources for different populations

Libraries

- Met with Library administration on January 31st regarding budget data & accessibility projects
- Library Improvement Fund Committee met on February 2nd to discuss consultation efforts
- Open Access Education Researcher presenting at Legislative Council meeting this week!

ASSOCIATION RELATIONS

Faculty & Department Associations

- SQ – Currently scheduling next McGill Academic Roundtable (MART) meeting for later this month



Unions & Professional Associations

- Finalized & distributed letter from McGill Communities Council (MCC) to the Board of Governors regarding shared concerns; meeting this Tuesday, February 7th to discuss next steps

Provincial Representation

- Organizing panel about AVEQ research on international student health insurance (early March)

University & Academic Affairs Goals – Winter 2017

- ~~Host student senator information session~~
- Pass policy on academic amnesty for General Assemblies
- Pass policy against ancillary & overhead fee increases
- Memorandum of Agreement signed
- Strike Board of Governors reform committee
- Make final Library Improvement Fund allocations
- Submit question or motion at every Senate meeting

ADVOCACY & RESEARCH

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

McGill Policy against Sexual Violence

- SQ – Awaiting update on membership of new policy advisory committee (implementation plan) & campus study panel (review of existing policies e.g. Code of Conduct)
- Presentation from Dean of Students at Legislative Council meeting this week regarding Memorandum of Understanding with MUS Carnival & major upcoming events

McGill Ad-Hoc Committee to Review the Charter of Student Rights

- SQ – Next meeting on Thursday, February 16th; hope to circulate for community consultation by end of month & bring to Senate for Spring approval

Unpaid Internships Policy

- Introducing Notice of Motion regarding SSMU *Policy against Unpaid Internships* this week!

Intellectual Property Policy

- Currently following up with Office of Innovation & Partnerships regarding incorporation of humanitarian licensing principles (as per SSMU *Global Access to Medicines Policy*)

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Alternative Campus Histories

- Academic Research Commissioner & University Affairs Committee are working to integrate content into UA website

First Generation Students

- Released report on [Striving to Place: The First Generation Student Experience at McGill University](#)
- Discussing potential new initiatives with Campus Life & Engagement, Enrolment Services & Scholarships & Student Aid offices



Students from Care

- Circulated draft report to key administrators; final version should be released by next week
- Researcher is following up with Student Life & Learning administrators regarding targeted programming & potential “policy hack-a-thon” on topic of access initiatives

Harmful Military Technology

- SQ – Researcher is progressing well on documents with limited supervision

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Charter of Student Rights Submission

- Finalizing document with Academic Research Commissioner for delayed submission
- Also working with Dean of Students directly on improvements to accommodation policies

Know Your Rights

- SQ – University Affairs Committee making further web edits & improvements throughout term

<p>Advocacy & Research Goals – Winter 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host Add-Drop “Know Your Rights” campaign • Submit charter case on academic accommodations • Release first generation students research report • Release foster care students research report • Release alternative histories timeline on UA website • Launch sexual violence policy committee & campus study • Unpaid Internships Policy approved at Legislative Council • Fall Reading Break approved at Senate (for 2018-2019) • Charter of Student Rights revisions approved at Senate • Launch online advocacy resources on UA website

EQUITY

SSMU EQUITY

Equity Policy

- Notice of Motion Regarding Revisions to Equity Policy coming to Legislative Council this week!

Equity Committee

- Upcoming events on [Mixed-Race Identities](#) (February 8th) & Racialized Dating (February 15th)
- Currently finalizing annual speaker event for mid-March; more details coming soon!

Accessibility & Universal Design (UD) Advocacy

- SQ: Will be distributing resources on universal access to students on capital funding committees; also collecting accessibility resources for UA website (related groups, funding sources, etc)
- Director of OSD attending Senate Caucus on February 6th to discuss Universal Design for Learning

Racialized Student Support Resources

- SQ: Awaiting update on hiring of dedicated POC Community Projects Manager (will be fleshing out SSMU collaborations, e.g. student mentorship network)



INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS

Indigenous Solidarity Policy

- Notice of Motion Regarding Revisions to Indigenous Solidarity Policy coming to Legislative Council this week; Indigenous Affairs Committee is meeting this Monday to review changes
- Developed spreadsheet to collect information on Indigenous course content advocacy
- Met with art project advisory group on January 30th; currently drafting call for proposals

<p>Equity Goals – Winter 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equity Policy revisions approved at Legislative Council • Implement UD standards in capital funding committees • Launch Accessibility webpage on UA website • Indigenous Solidarity Policy revisions approved • Launch University Centre Indigenous art project • Initiate Indigenous course content advocacy • Develop framework for McGill diversity enrolment plan

SSMU-WIDE

GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Board of Directors

- Meeting this Monday, February 6th to discuss proposed revisions to Internal Regulations

Governance Documents

- Democratic Governance Review Committee met on January 27th & February 3rd to review proposed amendments to Internal Regulations of Governance & Constitution

Executive Transition

- SQ – Developed outlines for University Affairs exit report, mandate letter & transition schedule

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

University Affairs Communications

- Released University Affairs listserv on February 2nd; averaging 50% open rate
- Continuing to participate in [A Day in the Life](#) shadowing program this week

<p>SSMU-Wide Goals – Winter 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formalize SSMU <i>Equitable Hiring Policy</i> • Launch University Affairs staff hiring • Send monthly University Affairs listservs • Prepare transition documents & training schedule • Develop long-term student staffing plan
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Cheers,

Erin Sobat

Vice-President (University Affairs)