Office of the Vice-President (University Affairs) Bureau du Vice-président (affaires universitaires)

# Summer Report to Council September 10, 2012 Haley Dinel – VP University Affairs

"Mama always said life was like a box of chocolates – you never know what you're gonna get" ~ Forest Gump.

## Hi everyone!

I hope you all had some amazing summers and had a good time at retreat!

The summer was an incredible learning experience and a good time to get acquainted with the office.

I'm very excited to work with the Execs, Senators and Councilors this year! Please feel free to contact me any time with whatever questions or concerns you have.

## **Transition**

Emily and I had a very good transition. We worked collaboratively throughout the month of May. Additionally, the Execs as a whole learned EVERYTHING you need to know about SSMU. Overall I think we had a very successful transition. That June 1<sup>st</sup> moment is always a little scary, but I think we all felt extremely prepared ©

### **Research Projects**

Emily and I commissioned 8 research projects for this summer and they're all very exciting! Some will be videos and websites while others will simply be reports and recommendations. You will see them as soon as they're all ready!

## Meetings

This summer I met with a lot of different people from the McGill community. I met with Profs, Alumni, Students, Deans etc. Essentially I my aim was to reconnect with people I'd met at McGill previously as well as creating new relationships.

An important part for me this year is sitting on the Advisory Committee for the new Principal. This process began in April and will go until it finishes. If you have any questions about it, let me know.

Josh and I especially, met with the Deputy Provost and Principal on a few occasions to talk about the year. All of those conversations went quite well and were productive.

#### **Senate and Committees**

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There are so many University Committees! I spent a lot of my time funding people and placing people on committees. This, of course, has to be put through the Nominating committee and process. But I feel very confident that the students we have serving are excellent

This year there is a big push at Senate to be much more academically focused than last year. The Senators and I will be working very hard to bring any and all issues and questions students have to the table. We all spent lots of time this summer reading ALL the required Senate docs.

## **Equity**

We've hired 2 Equity Commissioners – Justin Koh and Shaina Agbayani who are excellent! They worked over the summer on a bit of policy review and forming the Equity committee for the year.

#### LIF

JP and I met with the Dean of Libraries and her associates to discuss this fund. We've asked for, and will be receiving on Monday, a financial breakdown of, specifically, where the student money has gone from the LIF. We are also looking into ensuring that that money is no longer administered by McGill but is returned back to SSMU accounts.

## AoD

3 awards were given out at the end of the year last year to very deserving students. If you know of anyone who would like to apply or is qualified – please let them know about the award!

#### Daycare

I worked a lot on the daycare this summer because of our audit and the fact that the SSMU Daycare is now its own corporation. We are essentially still in transition from being under SSMU to being basically independent. I will keep everyone updated throughout the year.

Please know that I will be bringing quite a number of university issues to Council for discussion and guidance. If you have anything you'd like me to look into – do not hesitate to talk to me about it.

If you'd like to visit the daycare please make an appointment with Amy Vincent (daycare@ssmu.mcgill.ca)

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