



## **Report of the President to Council** for February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012.

### ***Student Constituencies & Democratic Processes***

*General Assembly* – Thanks to everyone who promoted and participated in the General Assembly, with special thanks to the Speakers. We sustained quorum for a while but continue to attract mainly Arts students. On several issues I thought the purpose of the GA in bringing together students to debate and discuss was successfully achieved (even if we couldn't make binding decisions).

*Judicial Board* – I met with Bylaw Review Committee to consider what to recommend to the Board of Directors and called the meeting of the Board of Directors. I will leave reporting on other aspects to VP Clare.

*Mid-Year Report & Survey* – I have been working on a document to clarify some of the main areas of concern and confusion expressed in the mid-year report and survey.

*Bylaw Review Committee* – Last week, Bylaw Review Committee had to divert its attention to the Judicial Board issue, but met again this week to continue the preparation of bylaw changes. We also worked on referendum questions, including the one concerning the composition of Council. Please expect lots of bylaw changes after Reading Week!

*Strategic Summit on Student Space* – Thanks to VP Fraser and SSMU intern Flint Deita for putting this together. I co-facilitated and was pleased by the number of constructive conversations and ideas. Gazebo on downtown campus to provide covered but open space for outdoor events and general gathering when it's rainier/colder, anyone? I need to revamp the Strategic Summit page of the SSMU website, to make all the various notes and action items available. The next Strategic Summit will be on March 9<sup>th</sup> and will focus on international students.

*Inter-Residence Council* – I attended an IRC meeting to discuss the Frosh Reform General Assembly motion and generally explain the General Assembly.

### ***Human Resources***

*Staff Evaluations* – With the General Manager, I performed the evaluation meetings for the Communications and Publications Manager and the Human Resources Advisor.

*Archivist* – Interviews have started and we hope to have a candidate selected by next week.

### ***Sustainability***

*McGill Sustainability Planning* – I met with McGill's consultant, Rebecca Foon, to provide her with some input on where McGill is at in terms of sustainability, where I would like to see it get to, and what SSMU's role can be. SSMU's Sustainability Coordinator will be the main point person on our end for this project, but I am excited to see it move forward.



*Class Action Project* – Environment Commissioner Aryeh Canter and I met with Development and Alumni Relations to talk about next steps for the Seeds of Change Class Action Project. Their committee selected our greenhouse proposal, so gifts by the Class of 2012 will support the creation of a greenhouse behind the James Administration Building. Campus Crops will use the greenhouse, with institutional support from SSMU.

### ***McGill Administration & University Governance***

*Jutras Report* – Along with other members of the Executive, I attended a student association executive meeting with the Principal (and other top administrators) to discuss the Jutras report.

*Board of Governors* – The latest Board of Governors meeting was scheduled to include a discussion of the Jutras report in open session. Student protestors dressed as pirates sang “Barrett’s Privateers” and the meeting was adjourned without any discussion being achieved. I have written to the Daily with my thoughts on the issue. The discussion was rescheduled and held in closed session; the Secretariat has said they will make a recording of the discussion available. I also attended the most recent Nominating, Governance and Ethics Committee meeting.

*Senate* – I attended the Senate Committee on Physical Development last week. It sounds as though the initiative to move the Hochelaga Rock to a more prominent place will be successful.

*Teaching and Learning Services* – Along with other members of Senate Caucus, I met with TLS to discuss the status of undergraduate research, technology in the classroom, student involvement in an upcoming teaching and learning conference, and other academic issues.

*Lease* – VP Clare and I met with McGill again last Friday and they presented us with a new offer, which we subsequently discussed with the Lease Committee, the Comptroller, and our General Manager. At the time of writing we do not have a recommendation to present to Council, but this may change by Thursday’s Council meeting.

*Student Life Associate* – After several months of work, we are finally at the hiring stage for this position, led by Student Services. The job is designed to help facilitate student life and to help student groups and associations navigate McGill’s red tape. The job posting is here: <http://www.mcgill.ca/hr/posting/4/student-life-associate> (please share with anyone you think would be qualified!).

*Multistakeholder Dialogue on Community Outreach and Engagement at McGill* – I attended part of this session (hosted by SEDE), along with VP Clare, which discussed how McGill can be more extensively engaged with the community. We’re hoping to follow up to create more resources to help SSMU groups to foster relationships with organizations in the Montreal community.



*Food and Dining Advisory Committee* – I attended again. Over the past two weeks, McGill Food and Dining Services has hosted a Food Awareness Fortnight, addressing various social and environmental aspects of food systems.

*Campus Community Campaign* – I attended the first meeting of 2012 (back after the strike). We're discussing asking Deans to host social events so that they interact with students more (somewhere near the end of the year).

*McGill Alumni Association* – I attended the MAA Board retreat last Monday evening. We had some productive conversations, including the idea that alumni should be able both to speak fondly and positively of McGill and to critique what McGill should improve on.

***Other***

*Exit Report* – Status quo.

*Perspectives on Leadership project* – I've agreed to participate in Ryan MacDowell's project, which is connected to Student Services.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Knight  
*President*