



Report of the President to Council for December 1st, 2011

It's amazing to think that we're already at the last Council meeting of the semester. Thank you to everyone who has contributed so much to SSMU's various committees and endeavours this semester, especially considering the number of extraordinary circumstances this year.

Student Constituencies & Democratic Processes

SSMU Committees – Steering Committee met.

Council – I prepared the self-evaluation and peer evaluation process to help us acknowledge our strengths and challenges moving forward into the next semester.

General Assembly Reform – I hosted two more Town Halls, hosted three sets of office hours, and discussed proposed changes with some of the faculty association presidents. Based on this feedback, I have provided as much context to inform the debate as is feasible. As you can see, there is a variety of proposed amendments to last Council's notice of motion.

Judicial Board – I met with the JBoard justices to answer their questions, make sure they met each other, and talk through the plans for reviewing and updating the JBoard structure.

Strategic Summits – In December I will be following up on the remaining action items from this semester's Strategic Summits and starting to coordinate next semester's events.

Athletics – The Athletics Roundtable will have its last meeting of the semester this week.

Presidents Roundtable – I will be meeting with the Presidents' Roundtable again tomorrow. This will probably be our last meeting of the semester.

(Inter)Faculty Associations – I visited the Bachelor of Arts & Science Integrative Council and the Management Undergraduate Society Board of Directors meetings to answer questions about SSMU and campus issues in general. I also attended, along with Speaker Tong, the BASiC semi-formal.

Arts & Science Town Hall – At the invitation of BASiC, I attended and sat on a panel answering ArtSci students' questions, along with the Deputy Provost, BASiC President, members of the staff supporting ArtSci students in both Arts & Science.

First Year Council – I've been continuing to help as needed, most notably in helping them access the email list of all first year students.

Inter-Residence Council – I attended the IRC meeting on Sunday. I can report orally.



Leadership for Life – I presented on a panel about student government with Rae Dooley, Josh Redel, and Speaker Nizam. It was wonderful to meet a bunch of first years who are keen to get involved! Thanks to VP Clare for tabling.

Hillel – At the request of Hillel McGill, I met with Hillel International, who are conducting an accreditation process at Hillel Montreal.

Mid-Year Report – I am starting to work with the rest of the Executive on producing a mid-year report which summarizes our major projects and goals for the next semester.

Human Resources

Comptroller Interviews – It wasn't feasible for me to participate in every hour-long interview of the first round of interviews, so the General Manager and HR Advisor continued this process without me. I participated in the second round of interviews and I hope we will have a decision before Council meets!

Executive Job Descriptions – The executive committee has been working on the job descriptions since the summer (building on the idea which was initiated under last year's executive). In the past two weeks I worked with the General Manager, HR Advisor, and the rest of the Executive to finalize and standardize these job descriptions in order to present them to Council for approval tonight. Assuming they are adopted, they will be made publicly available to better enable the student body to understand what exactly SSMU Executives do, hold us accountable, and make informed decisions as to whether or not they would like to run for our positions next year!

General – We are preparing to complete the evaluations of all permanent staff members in the next two weeks before the holidays. We will also be having a staff holiday party which, since it is off-campus, will include our striking porters!

Staff Bylaws – Status quo.

Sustainability

Sustainability Coordinator & Environment Student Staff – Good work keeps moving forward, as you can see in their report. Many thanks for all their hard work this semester!

Interfaculty Case Competition in Sustainability – They received well over 100 applications, assembled teams, and held their orientation event. Unfortunately I was unable to attend due to GA reform commitments, but I hear from VP Patel that it was a great success.

McGill Administration & University Governance

Riot Police on Campus – We continue to try to support students in coming to terms with the events of November 10th. Along with VP Fraser and VP Clare, I attended an event for student association executives with the Principal (also attended by the Provost, Deputy Provost, and some other members of the senior administration); the Principal listened and



overall it was a beneficial experience. I also attended a short part of the Town Hall hosted by the Dean of Arts regarding November 10th, which was hosted in the Shatner Building. I have been contacted by several members of the McGill community who are upset by how students' experiences.

MOA/Lease – As reported at the last Council meeting, the Memorandum of Agreement has been signed. The Lease remains a topic of discussion with the Administration.

MUNACA strike – I attended the Coffee for MUNACA event last Thursday and gave a short speech on behalf of the SSMU.

Board of Governors – The last BoG meeting of the semester is November 29th. I can report orally.

Senate – Status quo. I provided some assistance in drafting a question for Senate next week.

Student Life Coordinator – I met with the Interim Student Life Coordinator and the Director of Services for Students to discuss the next steps for moving forward with hiring a person in this position.

Principal's Speech to the Trade Board of Metropolitan Montreal – I attended at the invitation of the PGSS Executive, along with VP Clare and VP Pedneault. The tone of her address was quite different from that she usually uses within the campus community.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Knight
President