



**Report of the Vice President (University Affairs) to
the Legislative Council of the Students' Society of McGill University
Meeting of November 12th, 2009**

For Information/Discussion:

Research

- A. RAUA: Very busy right now.
- The funding of Student Services in other Universities in Canada
 - The Equity practices at other Student Unions in Canada and the U.S. (U of T has a VP Equity!)

SSMU Affairs

- B. Undergraduate Student Taskforce to the SSMU: "The McGill We Want".
HAPPENING! Taking up much of my time.
- www.ssmu.mcgill.ca/mcgillwewant : The blog will be an important tool in the Taskforce, it will also be a great opportunity to open up debate on relevant issues.
 - Council Rep: Xiao Yu
 - As of Tuesday, still waiting on several of the Faculties, Engineering on board. Arts on board.
 - Waiting on applicants for at large members and faculty members. This is later than expected, however I am not concerned.
 - Twitter... 33 Followers! Need more!
- C. Library Improvement Fund Committee: Meeting. We have scheduled Library tours for this semester and will be accepting proposals next semester.
- D. University Affairs Committee: Has had trouble meeting, will meet this week.
- E. Student Equity Committee: Membership is as follows. We are waiting on finding two more members, however we have quorum to meet and make decisions. I am relatively unhappy with the way that the committee requires us to tokenize individuals. This will be one of many things that the committee will be investigating this year.
- VP UA: Myself
 - Equity Commissioner: Jonathan Hann
 - Council Rep: Sarah Woolf
 - Representative on Women: Lynsey Grosfield
 - Representative on Queer People: Hannah Augustin
 - Representative on Race and Ethnic Relations: Harleen Toor
 - Representative on Peoples with Disabilities: Pending...
 - Representative on First People: Pending...
 - Representative at Large: Paula Carson
 - Representative at Large: Pending...

University Governance and Administration

- F. Senate: next Senate December 4th

- a. I am currently actively lobbying the University to better their new Research Policy. This involves working with students as well as Professors, and William Foster (Policies and Procedures). Despite what the papers have been saying, I would like to clear up that Professor Foster has not failed. We have reason to believe that he is constrained by higher-ups, not a result of his own doing. Proposed edits would be as follows:
 - i. Including clauses on “Harmful Research”, in keeping with our
 - b. Concerns about attitudes towards students: I am concerned about the approach taken by the University towards the prospect of students disagreeing with the new policy being brought before Senate. A communiqué was sent to all Senators warning them of protesters and there were no less than 10 McGill Security guards at the Senate. I am of the mindset that, when people feel that they are being represented, you don’t run into problems. This was the case at Senate. I will be communicating these concerns.
- G. The Controversial Events debate is not over: I have located McGill’s current policy on Occasional Events and it is absolutely contradictory. It is not in the best interest of students or the University to not have a clear policy on Occasional Events. Even if this policy says “anything goes”, it will be something to point to instead of the situation of uncertainty and limbo dependent on the judgement calls of individual Administrators we find ourselves in right now. I am working on a “post mortem” of the Choose Life event with regards to the University-SSMU relationship.
- H. Course Evaluations Focus Group: Thank you to Councillors Yu and Desrosiers for attending the Course Evaluations Focus Group. We had some valuable discussions and will be making recommendations to the Course Evaluation Advisory.
- I. PATFDEU: Final proposals in.
- J. Current investigations/actions underway: Controversial Events Policy, Inflationary Increases, Student Services, Respect of Students, Emergency Reporting, Principal’s Task Force submission (through SEC)

H1N1: It is here.

- K. Self-reporting!!!! Please do not abuse this. It is stupid. What if you get the flu (you probably will)? Then you won’t be able to self report again and McGill will know that you lied the first time. And if you did it to get out of an exam... that is totally cheating. Only report if you are sure of your symptoms. If you have ambiguous symptoms, go to Health Services.
- L. Vaccinations: Will report on progress, if any, on vaccinations.
- M. Approximately 30 to 50 new cases a week in Residences, food delivery program in effect soon.
- N. Montreal is seeing a spike in cases, 2500 over the past 2 weeks. IT IS HERE.

For Approval: none

Please do not hesitate to contact me about any topics discussed in this report or relating to my portfolio

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Dooley
VP University Affairs 09-10