



**SSMU recommendations to the Principal's Task Force on  
Diversity, Excellence, and Community Engagement  
FOR DISCUSSION**

**Diversity**

**An accessible University contributes to a diverse student profile.**

- Let it be recommended that action be taken to raise awareness and create partnerships on the Provincial, National, and International levels about the many barriers to post-secondary education for socially marginalized groups.
- Let it be further recommended that McGill investigate its admissions practices to ensure that standards are in place to aid marginalized and underrepresented applicants in circumventing these barriers.
  - Diversifying Admission's methods of evaluating applicants.

**A diverse student population requires an accommodating and equitable environment.**

- Let it be recommended that McGill take action in the areas of Teaching and Learning, Intake and Orientation, and Student Rights Awareness to foster an equitable and accommodating environment for our students.
  - Expand collaboration between Teaching and Learning Services and the Social Equity and Diversity Education Office to provide workshops on teaching in a diverse student population for Professors and instructors.
  - Expand activities to raise student awareness of their outlets for recourse when discriminated or harassed because of their personal characteristics.
  - Foster the development of in-course, informal, anonymous outlets for students to submit comments and suggestions on professor performance with relation to creating accommodating classroom environments.
  - Expand first year programming and orientation activities to better reflect.

**Excellence**

**Undergraduate level excellence is achieved through a strong support system with a focus on necessary skill and knowledge building and access to unique opportunities.**

- Let it be recommended that areas in undergraduate education requiring improvement in support of excellence are advising, access to research and internship opportunities, and interaction with professors.
  - Accessible Co-op/Internship programming
  - The creation of further opportunities for undergraduate student research

- Accessible and specialized advising
- Early Career and Graduate School Planning
- Providing more opportunities for mentoring and professor interaction
- Meaningful grading, evaluation, and feedback

**Excellence should be measured through internal and external comparisons.**

- Let it be recommended that steps be taken to put systems in place to regularly measure excellence along locally initiated indicators, through inner-departmental, inter-departmental and inter-faculty comparisons.

**Community Engagement**

**Integrating the Montreal community into our learning community would create valuable links for McGill and for our students.**

- Let it be recommended that McGill increase its use of community partnerships as a tool for learning.
  - Expanding Local Internship/Co-op Offerings for credit
  - More French out of Classroom Programming accessible to Students and Community members (i.e. McGill-organized Faculty lectures, Conferences, and Events)

**McGill's foremost community link is through our local and commuter student population.**

- Let it be recommended that McGill take steps to support bilingual resources and expand orientation activities for local and commuter students.
  - Encouraging Beginners French language classes for Anglophone and Allophone students
  - Specialized Orientation Focus on local and commuter First Year Students
  - Foster networking between local students.
  - Taking steps to prioritize the hiring of bilingual service representatives in Student Accounts, Student Aide, and the Health Services.