



Getting ahead in a difficult profession requires avid faith in yourself. That is why some people with mediocre talent, but with great inner drive, go much further than people with vastly superior talent.

Sophia Loren (1934 -)

Report of the President to Council **February 18th, 2010**

Redmen Basketball: They are now 8-6, their best record since 2001. Matt Thornhill was the start again, playing all 40 minutes, and scoring 25 points. He added five rebounds, three steals and one assist. The all-Canadian candidate has an 80-point lead in the league scoring race with 276 points in 14 games for an average of 19.7 points per game

Daycare: The agreement was approved by the Board of SSMU Daycare Inc. and signed. This has been accepted by PGSS and will be signed once the proper approval comes through their governance structure. It's done!

Presidential Affairs Committee: A draft for information and discussion will come later in the Agenda. So far, we are on track for approval and implementation by the end of the year. This is very encouraging!

University Centre (aka Shatner) Lease: I had a meeting with Professor Mendelson on Wednesday, I will report in person on the progress.

Deputy Provost: Continuing on that theme, I also discussed the following topics. I will report on the results:

- 1.0 Use of the McGill name
- 2.0 Sustainable Projects Fund entente
- 3.0 MFAS Proposal
- 4.0 Tribune Update
- 5.0 General Assembly Results (+mandates)
- 6.0 Current status of Opt-Outable fees

Referendum Questions: These were due last Friday. The full list will be included in your documents for information. Apart from the Council-initiated questions, there were several student initiated, and one DPS Board initiated.

Elections: Promotion has been going very well so far. Unlike last year, it appears that there are several candidates interested in both Senate and Executive positions. I have also had several people contact me concerning Faculty positions on SSMU Council. If you read the AUS listserv, they are not experiencing the same success.

General Assembly: All things considered, I am happy with the SSMU organization of the event. While some may say that all of the promotion was due to a few controversial motions, I think SSMU deserves some credit. Despite having the resolution most gallery members



were interested in moved to the top of the Agenda, we were able to sustain quorum throughout. I can't remember the last time that SSMU ran through an entire General Assembly.

While there were many positive elements to the GA, I can say that I was thoroughly disappointed in the conduct of some SSMU members. Despite my plea for constructive conversation, the debate quickly degenerated. It is clear that there is work to be done, and the Referendum question I brought will address some of the issues, but it is hardly a long term solution. It will be up to the next Executive (whoever they may be) to institute more permanent reforms.

Students' Society of McGill University				
General Assembly				
Cafeteria of Shatner				
February 10th, 2010				

	IN	OUT	Total (a)	Total (b)	
Architecture	0	0	0	0	0
Arts	604	498	106	50	0.367647
Arts and Sciences	81	53	28	28	0.205882
Dentistry	2	2	0	0	0
Education	35	33	2	2	0.014706
Engineering	150	143	7	7	0.051471
Law	25	24	1	1	0.007353
Management	125	109	16	16	0.117647
Medicine	7	6	1	1	0.007353
Music	16	10	6	6	0.044118
Nursing	5	2	3	3	0.022059
P & OT (POTUS)	3	3	0	0	0
Religion	6	3	3	3	0.022059
Science	124	105	19	19	0.139706
Social Work	0	0	0	0	0

Athletics Board: I have received no updates on the Athletics front. We will better be able to assess the damage once all teams have concluded their seasons.

Generations Pact Projects: MFSP already has one staff member, this work will accelerate once classes end and they go back to 5 people for 20-30 hours per week. I am awaiting a final proposal from Organic Campus to present to the Deputy Provost.

Law Students' Association (LSA): You may have seen the story in the Tribune! This may have gotten more attention in the public eye, but nothing has changed fundamentally since I last reported on it.

Food and Dining Advisory Committee (FADAC): This was a very interesting meeting, and I was very encouraged by the director's (M. Mathieu Laperle) attitude. He has a tremendous amount of experience, and he is trying to give food services at McGill a new identity. Overall, their web presence is a lot better; there is a significant amount of information online.



The RVC Cafeteria has an expected opening date of February 22nd, which I'm sure will be very well received by the residents there. Additionally, they are looking at revising the residence meal plans so they better meet student needs.

Board of Governors: There was absolutely nothing in Open Session to report on. The discussion topics included the recommendations for the appointment of a Provost, and Deans of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Engineering, Law, Management, and Science. Most committees of the Board submitted reported: HR, Finance, Investments.

Green Fee Renewal: I have been working with the Environment Commissioners to develop our strategy. Motion for a 'YES' Committee coming later.

Nominating Committee: As per the request of VP Diaz, I convened the Nominating Committee. It met with four (4) Executive members, and (1) Council members (ex-Senator, current Councillor/President Barbara Dourley). We selected four (4) FERC commissioners to help that committee complete the tasks that have been charged to it this year.

Presidential Roundtable: I have scheduled one final meeting to discuss best practices for the year, and to collect important themes to pass on to next year's group of student leaders!

Past Meetings

8th Food and Dining Advisory Committee
10th MAUT Pre-Senate Meeting
10th Senate
10th General Assembly
12th Due date for Student Initiated Referendum Questions
15th Campus Community Committee
15th Nominating Committee
15th Pre-Board of Governors meeting
15th Board of Governors (Full Meeting)
17th SSMU Executive Meeting with the Principal

Upcoming Meetings

20th – 27th Reading Week (AWWW YEAH)
2nd (March) Provost Meeting

Respectfully Submitted,

Ivan Neilson, President