



Report of the President to Legislative Council

November 15, 2012

Student Democracy and Constituencies

Judicial Board – Status quo.

Council – Only one person showed up to the motion writing session... very sad and rather unfortunate.

Presidents' Roundtable – I am moving forward with planning a day-long Student Association Summit hosted by SSMU. I'm really excited for us to get to meet and talk about finances, managing departments, incorporation, taxes, faculty relations, and much more. It should be taking place at the start of December or mid-January, depending on availabilities. The day will be geared towards portfolio-specific sessions. I am very excited, as I think this will serve as a great place for student societies at McGill to share best practices, successes and failures, and align collaboration on many projects.

Elections SSMU – Status quo. Many thanks to the Elections SSMU team for their effort during the referendum period!

General Assembly – Status quo.

Governance Document Review Process – We presented our changes to the lawyers last week with some push back, but they will be compiling a third version for three weeks from now. We will then send this to committees to work on! This will involve quite a bit of work, but the result will be a stronger constitution and a more comprehensive set of governance books.

LunchBeat – Mike and I are putting this together for the end of November. Will be on a Wednesday, food and great music provided! It is essentially meant to be a sober mid-day dance party for good mental health. Get excited!

Orientation Week/Frosh – I had a really great feedback session with the University Residence Council Sub-Committee on Rez Life. I heard a lot of feedback that corroborated what we perceived to be issues, which is good and bad depending on how you look at it. There was also a few interesting issues that I had not heard highlighted before, and there were also some really great new ideas. Overall an extremely informative meeting, and we will be putting four floor fellows and four hall council first years on the Orientation Planning Group committees. The Communications Working Group met for the first time last week, and we did an in-depth SWOT analysis of the website for this past year. This group will have a great deal of work to do over the next few months, as internal communications will be a huge focus for the coming O-Week. We will be hiring a website designer for the start of January, and there will be a 3-4 person dedicated communications team for the summer to help bolster our internal and external communication efforts surrounding O-Week. For those who doubt how early planning and organizing starts, think again!



McGill Governance & Relations

Lease – Moving forward! For discussion during close session.

Board of Governors – The supper is a go! It will be the second week of February. We are still discussing format, and I am really pushing for the student fair idea. Apparently this has happened at the joint Senate-Board meetings in the past, and it was well received. Really excited for this...

Senate – Launched a really cool new study on lecture recording. Also launched a pilot project to improve professors' ability to use technology in the classroom. Lots of work ahead for these, but I'm excited nonetheless.

Alumni Association/Campus Community Committee – The retreat is the same day as the next GA... not sure how to handle this, so I'll get back on that. We discussed some good exam-time health events and our final events for next semester to close up the campaign. There will be a parents day next semester and an event targeted specifically at retirees, as mentioned in one of my earlier reports.

Sustainability

Environment Committee – EnviroComm is working on a sustainability feedback project and a bit of action towards keeping the Biosphere alive. They had their first Green GA last week, and it was a great success with well over 50 people in attendance. There was also a Burritoville Social this past Friday as a collaboration place for different groups to come and talk about their projects and brainstorm new ones in an informal setting.

ECOLE – We are moving forward with changing the team around and continuing research. It looks like Allison and Aaron will stay on the project! They had a brainstorming session this past weekend to talk about the direction of the project going forward. It sounds like a decent amount of the research is complete, and they are now ready to do research on potential implementation at McGill.

E-Waste Bin – We are moving forward with this project, and it will likely be placed in the foyer of the SSMU office.

Vision 2020 – Status quo from my end.

Sustainability Caucus – We had our first caucus meeting yesterday, and we were able to better align our projects. Some of the team will be working on sustainability requirements for MFDS if we decide to go that route.

Human Resources

December Feedback and Evaluations – The HR team had a great meeting last week to finalize the feedback and evaluation format. We have a really great, new process that we will use to gather quite a bit of feedback. The exec will all be scheduled to provide feedback on some



of the permanent staff. Conversely, the exec will also be evaluated by the permanent (and some student) staff that you work with on a regular basis. Each exec will also provide feedback on the other execs. Get ready!

HR Policy and Bylaws – We have made some really great progress on the employee manual this week. We are taking a closer look at how benefits work, and we a lot of the additions are just making SSMU a better place to work.

Peace, love, and happiness,

Josh Redel
President