



Report to Council
January 24, 2013

Haley Dinel – VP University Affairs

'If you had been a public figure from the time you were a toddler, and you had to fight for a life that felt real and honest and normal against all odds, then maybe then you might value privacy about all else. Privacy. Someday in the future people will look back and remember how beautiful it was.' ~ Jodie Foster

It's been a busy couple of weeks! First of all, mad props to President Redel and Mitch Miller for coordinating the SEAMLESS conference this weekend – it was excellent. I'm also looking forward to Intro to Quebec and Activities night, and the GA and oh wow everything is happening so fast ☺

I realized lately that my Council reports are often lacking detail (this has been my problem in writing since I can remember). My sincerest apologies for being rather unclear at times. I hope you find this report more thorough – I hope you don't get bored :P

Research

Research Projects

- Indigenous Studies Researcher → Allan is currently away but we will be meeting up when he's back to discuss moving forward. .
- U1 Research → Going to push this a lot more and get it out for more students to see because many people at SEAMLESS agreed that first year U1s have lots of issues.
- Internal Protocol → SQ
- Mapping McGill/ Corporate Campus → Might be working with different sectors at McGill to create something together. Also discussed at SEAMLESS
- Sustainability and Equity Researcher → SQ
- McGill 101 → To be discussed with Mitch Miller, Student Life Coordinator

Senate

- **Reminder:** Senate Jan 23 2:30 Lea 232, it's also being live streamed!
- McGill Equity Statement – a goal that the Equity commissioners and I came up with over the summer and really pushed was some form of McGill Statement of belief/affirmation/ support of Equity into the mission statement. There is now a subcommittee of the JSBCE working out those main principles. Timeline is unclear, but it will hopefully come to Senate this semester, if not early next year.
- Given some of the mandates I received from Council I will be meeting with various University admin – namely RIR folks to discuss research ethics. See “Research Integrity”



Senators

- Excellent Caucus meeting last week. We brainstormed major themes/ issues that we want to deal with this semester. UA Sec Gen Sam will putting together a cross list of people's projects to enable Senators to be more integrated in their work.
- Tuesday's Caucus will be good because we'll be discussing the Protocol and upcoming Senate documents.

Committees

- APC – very interesting discussions last week regarding new program approvals among other things. A lot of this business is confidential but will all come for approval at Senate.
- CESA – cancelled due to lack of business

Greenbook Review

- Steering is meeting Feb 6. After that we will discuss the changes that we proposed as well as the Work group. Then it will go out for consultation to committees and student associations (that means you SSMU councillors) before going to senate!

Libraries

LIF

- Awaiting LIFC meeting for 2013.

Friends of the Library

- SQ

Equity

Equity Committee

- Doing so much this semester!
- Workshops that are discussion-oriented on equity-related issues as they impact students on campus and folks in the broader community throughout the semester
- New Equity posters will be going up in all clubs offices and in strategic places throughout the building.
- Race and Religion workshop upcoming by Shaina
- Committee and Commissioners came up with a great motion of support for SEDE at the GA
- SJD & BSN collaboration workshop on censorship, & freedom of expressions vs. cultural insensitivity.

SSMU

Lease

- Verbal update in confidential session.



Consultation Fair

- I can't stress enough that each of the faculties should have their own consultation fairs this semester. It's the best way for y'all to get real feedback that is relevant to you. Councillors, please encourage your faculty execs to do this ☺

Awards of Distinction

- All of last year's recipient cheques have been issued.
- Will be meeting with AoD committee after the GA

MART (McGill Academic Round Table)

- Met last Friday for the first time! We discussed course evaluations, faculty-student association relationships, Faculty Consultation fairs. We will be meeting monthly, and then any other times if needed.

SARC

- Met with a representative from Student Advocacy who is concerned about the use of "Advocacy" in the name.
- Had a SARC meeting Monday – we welcomed our new council rep Ben to the group. Also, in response to student advocacy, will be changing the name. Motion forthcoming.

Policy Committee

- SQ

Council

- Met with Chris Bangs, Political Campaigns Coordinator to discuss various Mandates re: Military Research and Tar Sand divestment at McGill. We will be approaching the former more at a Senate and admin level discussions. The latter I will update soon.
- You have notice for by-law changes regarding Senators.

General Assembly

- Motions coming forward regarding SSMU's support of SEDE and to change Senator by-laws which would allow smaller programs to have greater access to Senate seats.

Bursaries

- SQ

Healthy Living Campaign

- Super exciting initiative involving many different units from around the university with the hope of encouraging McGill students to make healthy choices. I will be meeting with people from MFDS, Student Services, Student Reps.



Academic Rights

- It's become clear that so many students don't know their main rights and responsibilities when it comes to Academics. So a new project for this semester, that will hopefully carry throughout the years, is all about knowing your Academic Rights. Whether it's how much finals are allowed to be worth, or when Add/Drop is, students should have easy and understandable information available to them.
- First steps: I've created an interactive document that summarizes the McGill University Assessment of Students Policy which will hopefully allow people to be more interested and find information pertinent to them. You can see it here: <http://prezi.com/cs7giapnl2nc/academic-rights/> If you have any feedback or suggestions PLEASE tell me. I want it to be perfect.
- SARC and Policy Committee will be working on this as well!

SEAMLESS

- So great to talk with execs from across the campus. We had such interesting and in-depth discussions. The conference was great in that it really facilitated cross faculty collaboration and made us realize what ways we can work together. Project plans forthcoming!

Daycare

Updates

- Going well!

HR

- Looking for a new Academic Research Commissioner! If you know anyone who might be interested please direct them this way: <http://ssmu.mcgill.ca/job-postings/>

McGill

Principal's Advisory Committee

- Likely final meeting Thursday.

Deputy Provost

- Met with Deputy Provost last Monday. We discussed a range of topics.

Asbestos Planning Committee

- Good meeting with various students, profs, etc from around campus (mainly medically based).
- The way the conference will (**tentatively**) work is Asbestos explanation/discussion in the morning: what is it, what are the effects, who does it affect most etc.; and then the afternoon is the McGill question: how do we have an ethical relationship with industry, what kind of partnerships should we be making, where is the line between Academic Freedom and Research that potentially hurts people?



Protocol

- Senators in will be drafting a more formal response to Protocol and also recommendations for the now named “*Statement of Values and Principles Concerning Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Peaceful Assembly*” as per the statement given last Wednesday.
- It’s very important that everyone who wants to contribute does so! I highly encourage all students to do so.

McGill Athletics and Recreation Board – Budget

- Went to the Athletics Board meeting that looked over the athletics budget for VP Szpejda because he was on vacation. I sat on MARAB last year so the numbers weren’t foreign to me.
- They’re asking for a fee increase to undergrads by 7.25\$

Research Integrity

- Tied to mandates from last semester and asbestos conference one of my Senate / Uni Affairs foci is dealing with the kinds of relationships. I’ve been in touch with the VP RIR Office and am currently waiting to hear back from them to set up some meetings.

Undergraduate Outcomes

- Shannon Rea and Finola Hackett and I are the students on this committee. We have so much work to do! All throughout this semester we will be consulting with students at the council, club, department etc. levels. We will be enlisting SSMU Councillors help – so look forward to more emails from us.

If you’d like to make an appointment and/or are interested to see what I get up to, you can see my calendar here: <http://bit.ly/ssmuua> Also since elections are coming up, if anyone would like to talk about being rules and responsibilities of Senators or UA let me know!

Respectfully submitted,

Haley Dinell
VP University Affairs