



Midterm Report of the Vice-President (University Affairs) to Legislative Council January 15th, 2015

Please note that the achievements in all of these categories have been made possible by my excellent student staff and dedicated Senate Caucus team. It's been a privilege working with you!

► Mental Health

Mental Health Portfolio Achievements in Fall 2014:

- oversaw the hiring and successful launch of the **Mental Health Coordinator position** (Mental Health Five-Year Plan goal met)
- organized and executed successful first ever **Mental Health Awareness Week** in collaboration with Residence Life, Student Services, Healthy McGill, and many student groups (Mental Health Five-Year Plan goal met)
- launched **Mental Health & Wellness Special Edition listserv**
- launched **Mental Health & Wellness Committee listserv** (200 signed up thus far; Mental Health Five-Year Plan goal met)
- launched **Mental Health Committee Facebook Page** (177 likes so far)
- circulated **Student Experiences with Academic Accommodation for Mental Health Reasons survey** (in collaboration with Senate Caucus)
- continued negotiations with McGill Mental Health on **Wellness Portal**; demanded higher standards for student collaboration

Mental Health Projects to Complete in Winter 2015:

- develop **'how to' guides** for accessing support and accommodation for mental health challenges at McGill
- **revise the Mental Health Five-Year Plan** to better fit current scenario and formally integrate a more intersectional approach to Mental Health
- complete report on **Student Experiences survey** from Fall 2014
- build up readership and maintain Mental Health Facebook page & listservs
- decide path for and launch **Mental Health & Wellness website** (collaborative vs. independent; Mental Health Five-Year Plan goal)
- build and circulate **survey on Mental Health campus culture**

► Equity

Equity Portfolio Achievements in Fall 2014:

- began revision of **Equity Policy**
- integration of Equity and anti-cultural appropriation into the **4Floors** planning process
 - held open forum on cultural appropriation
 - SSPN trained by Equity Committee members on anti-oppression and cultural appropriation



- anti-cultural appropriation poster campaign executed by SSPN in consultation with Equity
- worked with VP Internal to ensure Frosh Coordinators received Equity training
- increased Equity-faculty relationships; Equity commissioners have begun meeting with faculty-level Equity commissioners to begin planning **Equity strategy for Frosh 2015**
- began work on building new **SSMU Equity website**

Equity Projects to Complete in Winter 2015:

- oversee increase in student submissions to **SSMU Equity Conference**
- complete **Equitable Hiring** research project
 - make recommendation to SSMU for revising hiring procedures
 - make recommendation to McGill for revising hiring processes
- complete revision of **Equity Policy**, including critical examination of remedies procedures
- launch **Equity website** with simplified guide to the Policy

► Libraries

Libraries Portfolio Achievements in Fall 2014:

- held **student consultation campaign** to gather student priorities re: Libraries to promote fund, tailor committee selection of applications, and bring to McGill Library Master Plan committees
- engaged in consultative and negotiation process challenging the status quo of SSMU funding of **24-hour library access**
- brought student concerns to Libraries re: doors and circulated info to student body

Library Projects to Complete in Winter 2015:

- increase faculty association and **student applications** to Library Improvement Fund
- promote **student attendance** at McGill focus groups for Library Master Plan via faculty associations

► Senate

Senate Portfolio Achievements in Fall 2014:

- developed and carried out first-ever **training for non-Senator University-level committee student representatives**
- marked increase in student Senator **question submission** and **strategic coordination and participation** in Senate
- Caucus Mental Health Working Group held **Student Experiences with Mental Health Accommodation Forum**
- released Caucus **Statement Regarding the 2014-15 Joint Board-Senate Meeting** regarding limitation on student participation, unethical participants, and misleading themes



Senate Projects to Complete in Winter 2015:

- launch comprehensive **academic rights website** via Academic Assessment Right Caucus Working Group
- clarify McGill's stance on the **deregulation of International Student Tuition Fees** & seek student input accordingly
- increase the publicity and public consultation of the **Working Group to Review the Regulation on the Conduct of Research**

▶ **Academic Research & Policy Projects**

Academic Research & Policy Portfolio Achievements in Fall 2014:

- collaboratively advanced and revised the **McGill Traditional Territory Acknowledgement**
- passed **SSMU Traditional Territory Acknowledgement** motion and assisted with AUS motion
- collaboratively completed full draft of the **McGill Sexual Assault Policy** and presented Policy to McGill community at open forum
- worked with Office of the Dean of Students and began meeting with campus stakeholders, such as unions, to gather input and support for the SAP

Academic Research & Policy Portfolio Projects to Complete in Winter 2015:

- oversee successful operation of student **Sexual Assault Policy** working groups and bring Sexual Assault Policy to Senate
- hire student to research **Academic Experience Surveys** at peer institutions and design SSMU Student Survey
- complete **SSMU weapons technology policy**
- bring **McGill Traditional Territory Acknowledgement Policy** to Senate

▶ **Faculty Academic Relations**

Academic Research & Policy Portfolio Achievements in Fall 2014:

- restarted **McGill Academic Roundtable**
- used MART to gather student faculty-specific input to McGill **budget development** process

Academic Research & Policy Portfolio Projects to Complete in Winter 2015:

- schedule more regular MART meetings
- gather faculty-specific input to build **SSMU Student Survey**

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Stewart-Kanigan, Vice-President (University Affairs)