



# SENATE CAUCUS WEEKLY REPORT

## WEEK OF FEBRUARY 1-7, 2016

**Alex Kpeglo-Hennessy**

**Arts Senator**

[artssenator1@ssmu.mcgill.ca](mailto:artssenator1@ssmu.mcgill.ca)

### Senate

#### **Committee on Student Grievances**

- SQ

#### **JBSCE Subcommittee on Queer Equity**

- The committee is interested in gathering feedback on courses that could potentially fulfill a program requirement in diversity & equity.
- If you want to help please fill out the form: <http://goo.gl/forms/r6ogpo35tu>.
- Next meeting is February 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Advisory Committee on the Charter for Student Rights**

- SQ

#### **Subcommittee of the APC on Teaching and Learning**

- No longer sitting on this committee due to a class conflict with every other meeting this year

#### **Ad-Hoc Committee to Review the Charter on Student Rights**

- SQ

#### **Advisory Committee on the Possible Reappointment of the Dean of Students**

- Next meeting is February 16<sup>th</sup>

#### **Committee on Student Services**

- Next meeting is February 16th

#### **Know Your Rights Working Group**

- Unable to make the next meeting

#### **Employment Equity**





# Students' Society of McGill University

3600 McTavish Street, Suite 1200, Montreal, Quebec H3A 0G3

- Met with the Associate Provost (Policies, Procedures, and Equity), Secretary-General, and several Professors to discuss the design of the Open Discussion on Employment Equity in February.
- We completed the outline for the open discussion and reviewed more data.
- Lots of media coverage of this topic in the Daily and the Tribune.
- Organizing a CKUT interview on the topic.
- The Panel on Diversity in Academia was very successful! Had a great roundtable discussion with professors and students.
- Recorded a radio interview with Kai O'Doherty from CKUT. Check out the All Things McGill show airing this Monday to hear!

Full report can be found here: <http://ausmcgill.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Arts-Senator-Report-February-10th.pdf>

**Erin Sobat**

**Arts Senator**

[artssenator2@ssmu.mcgill.ca](mailto:artssenator2@ssmu.mcgill.ca)

## SSMU Internal Regulations Review Committee (IRRC)

- Met on Monday, February 1st to review constitutional amendments for Winter referendum period
- Meeting week of February 21st to review University Affairs Internal Regulations

## Office of the Deputy Provost of Student Life & Learning (DPSLL) Unit Review

- Collected research & drafted key concerns to raise during review process
- Participated in group interview on Monday, February 1st to provide feedback on office's structure, operations & relationship with students

## Enrolment & Student Affairs Advisory Committee (ESAAC)

- Met on Tuesday, February 2nd to discuss proposed revisions to McGill Policy on Supporting Documentation
- Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 1st (Reading Week)

## Arts Undergraduate Improvement Fund Committee (AUIFC)

- Met on Tuesday, February 2nd to review applications for \$200 000+ capital projects fund (proposals from Faculty of Arts, McLennan/Redpath Library, AUS & department associations)
- Allocated \$75 000 towards a total redesign of the McLennan floor landing spaces!

## SSMU Special Referendum

- Promoted polling & the "Yes" vote until 3pm on Wednesday



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- Executive restructuring question passed, base fee increase question failed; this will have significant repercussions for the SSMU budget & our ability to effectively serve students

## Smoking Policy Working Group

- Held focus group consultations for smokers on Thursday, February 4th & Friday, February 5th
- Town Hall on a Smoke-Free Campus: Tuesday, February 9th at 5:30pm in the SSMU Madeleine Parent Room: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1243690152314538/>
- Tabling on Monday & Tuesday 12:30-2:30pm for more face-to-face interaction with students
- May conduct additional focus groups and/or presentation at Winter GA (February 22nd)

## University Affairs Committee (UAC)

- Met on Wednesday, February 3rd to discuss research competition updates & review negotiables for SSMU's Memorandum of Agreement with McGill

## Know Your Rights Working Group (KYRWG)

- Met on Thursday, February 4th to get new member up to speed & discuss projects for rest of term
- Will be finalizing website content for exams/accommodations & auditing Faculty-level procedures to identify gaps or discrepancies

## Academic Policy Committee (APC)

- Met on Thursday, February 4th to discuss the creation of the School of Public Policy
- There is lots of interest from various units at the university however it will be up to the new program Director to establish links & develop partnerships

## "McGill 101" Info Session

- Held workshop for interested students on Thursday, February 4th
- Discussed McGill governance structures, past projects, senator role & prospects for change
- Continuing to promote the senator role & nomination period! Signature package here:

## Arts & Science Advocacy

- Met with Deans of Arts & of Science on Friday, February 5th to discuss issues with program
- They were very open to our concerns and want to address the points raised around advising, teaching resources, scholarships & lounge space; change can happen!

## Royal Victoria Hospital Site

- Met with student submitting proposal for incubator & innovation space at the Royal Vic site



- Meeting with Institute for the Public Life of Arts & Ideas (IPLAI) next week about their proposal
- Next Task Force meeting on Friday, February 26th

Full report can be found here: <http://ausmcgill.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Arts-Senator-Report-February-10th.pdf>

## Allen Chen

### Dentistry Senator

[dentistrysenator@ssmu.mcgill.ca](mailto:dentistrysenator@ssmu.mcgill.ca)

Nothing to report.

## Parvesh Chainani

### Education Senator

[educationsenator@ssmu.mcgill.ca](mailto:educationsenator@ssmu.mcgill.ca)

#### SSAP Meeting:

Following were the discussion questions that framed the premise of our conversation:

**Discussed the GPA system at McGill:** Is the “A” grade range (85%- 100%) too high at McGill? Should we have an “A+” grade that will acknowledge students who get above 90% or 95%? What about the corresponding GPA to the letter grades- any problems?

**Policy on supporting documents:** should we standardize notes? Should students or staff pay an additional fee to external doctors to make them fill out the McGill “standardized note” for supporting documents? etc.

No concrete solutions to any of these problems were made. If anyone has any suggestions or comments to any of the aforementioned issues, please feel free to e-mail me.

## Joshua Thon

### Engineering Senator

[engineeringsenator@ssmu.mcgill.ca](mailto:engineeringsenator@ssmu.mcgill.ca)

No report submitted.



## Benjamin Brunot

### Law Senator

[lawsenator@ssmu.mcgill.ca](mailto:lawsenator@ssmu.mcgill.ca)

- Received a complaint from a student with suicidal thoughts who was pushed away by Mental Health Services on the ground her thoughts were not an immediate threat
- Organized an info session on Senator and other student rep roles at the Faculty of Law and it worked very well to raise interest in the Law Faculty for those roles. Three students decided to run.

## Deven Sanon

### Management Senator

[managementsenator@ssmu.mcgill.ca](mailto:managementsenator@ssmu.mcgill.ca)

Nothing to report.

## David Benrimoh

### Medicine Senator

[medicinesenator@ssmu.mcgill.ca](mailto:medicinesenator@ssmu.mcgill.ca)

Was away at interviews for residency. Nothing to report that is not covered by Senator Sobat's report on smoking working group.

## Julie Choi

### Music Senator

[musicsenator@ssmu.mcgill.ca](mailto:musicsenator@ssmu.mcgill.ca)

Attended the Dean Selection Committee for the new Music Dean.

- Narrowed down to a shortlist of 4 potential candidates.
- Set possible interview dates.

## Kathleen Chu

### Nursing Senator

[nursingsenator@ssmu.mcgill.ca](mailto:nursingsenator@ssmu.mcgill.ca)

Clinical support groups (with McKenzie NUS VP External)



## Students' Society of McGill University

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- Starting peer support groups next Thursday 4pm
- Meeting with Faculty sometimes in the next week or two
- For more information email me!

NUS General Council meeting

CNSA/ Grad Fundraiser dinner

Hemoglobin Trotters (Nursing Co-ed intramural basketball team) game Friday @19h30!

### Marina Smailes

#### Science Senator

[sciencesenator1@ssmu.mcgill.ca](mailto:sciencesenator1@ssmu.mcgill.ca)

No report submitted.

### Josefina Zalba

#### MacDonald Campus Students' Society (MCSS) Senator

[university-affairs.mcass@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:university-affairs.mcass@mail.mcgill.ca)

MoA with McGill is signed. New shuttle bus (7am). Kitchen Renovations Committee being created.

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Senators Kareem Ibrahim (SSMU President, [president@ssmu.mcgill.ca](mailto:president@ssmu.mcgill.ca)) and Chloe Rourke (SSMU VP University Affairs, [ua@ssmu.mcgill.ca](mailto:ua@ssmu.mcgill.ca)) reports biweekly to the SSMU Council. Their reports can be found at this link: <http://ssmu.mcgill.ca/representation/ssmu-legislative-council/council-documents-2015-2016/>.