



Office of President

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REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT TO COUNCIL

OCTOBER 20TH 2016

INTERNAL GOVERNANCE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA)

Academic Amnesty

Unfortunately the Dean of Students was not able to bring this up to the SLL on the timeline we were expecting so this was pushed back to their November 3rd meeting.

General

SSPN, the VP Internal and I are in the process of planning the GA. The building layout has been completed and interest groups have been contacted so we're off to a good start!

Security and Efficiency Improvements

SQ - Wallace (Security Manager) and I have been working with McGill and some external companies to add in some improvements to help streamline the GA. The goal is to add scanners to all doors in the building so staff don't have to check individual ID's as people come in and we can eliminate some of the administrative overhead (finding more volunteers, wasting time doing that, etc.). This would also help facilitate room booking (on weekends and during the week) by giving us the ability to grant people temporary scanner access during their allotted booking time.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD)

Application Process

Applications are still public ([here](#)) and continue to be till the end of the Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Rotating Council



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SQ - All is good for Rotating Council, I'm just waiting to confirm a few more spaces!

Committees

Ad-Hoc Equitable Governance Reform Committee: The first meeting of the Committee will be taking place tomorrow from 11:00am – 12:00pm.

PRESIDENTS' ROUNDTABLE

Presidents' Round Table met this past week! We talk about a bunch of topics ranging from joint Advocacy initiatives (e.g. Mental Health 101), First Year Council, Free Menstrual Hygiene Product distribution and faculty association support during campaigning, fundraising for Centraide, and more. I'm dispersing a lot of materials to them in regards to the GA, Referenda, and Mental Health 101 asap.

POLICY PROJECTS

Ethical Expenditures Policy

Delayed due to workload currently on the Office of the Vice-President (Finance) and President. A new meeting has been set up for this weekend for Niall and I to work on advancing the Policy to a draft for consultation.

Menstrual Hygiene Products Policy

SQ – Done, pending approval by Council.

Conflict of Interest Policy

Legal gave us feedback on the Policy and we are currently in the process of finishing it. Erin and I have a meeting to solidify the Policy for a second round of Legal feedback by mid next week.

Equitable Hiring Practices Policy/Amendments to the HR Policy

Erin, Niall, our HR Advisor and I drafted a skeleton for the Policy to be sent out for consultation. We're each taking time to make a bunch of comments on the skeleton for context and to highlight areas that need particular attention from those reviewing it to give comments & concerns.

Amendments to the Accessibility Policy

SQ - See below for updates on the progress of the Accessibility Checklist being developed by the Joint Board-Senate Committee on Equity, Subcommittee on Persons with Disabilities. Once this is done a more in depth conversation can start as to how this Checklist can becoming more SSMU applicable.



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REPRESENTATION & ADVOCACY

SENATE

Joint Board-Senate Committee on Equity Subcommittee on Persons with Disabilities

The JBSCE Subcommittee on Persons with Disabilities met last week. The Working Group developing the Accessibility Checklist that would be used to tag onto the Accessibility Policy has sent out the produced list for consultation. There is no meeting current scheduled to follow up on this and none will be until more feedback is received.

Senate Committee on Physical Development (CPD)

SQ – The Committee hasn’t yet met for the year, though it did meet a few times over the summer to wrap up some unfinished business and do some brief introduction to some of the new members of the Committee.

Enrollment and Student Affairs Advisory Committee (ESAAC), Subcommittee on Student Affairs Policy (SSAP)

A meeting time has been sent out to Committee members for next week. Included on the agenda will be a discussion on linking Mental Health Trainings to McGill’s requirements for tenure.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS (BOG)

Board Reform

A Motion was written and sent to the Board of Governors outlining some specific things that we would like to see out of their independent report being compiled by the Nominating Governance and Ethics Committee. As soon as our report by Leslie Anne is finished that will be sent in as well for consultation in their report.

SQ - I’ve also been in communications with McGill’s new Secretariat (Edyta), discussion smaller changes that could happen in the short-run in order to ensure more consultation in the recruitment and appointment processes for Members at Large (on BoG and it’s Committee’s).

Pre-Board of Governors Meetings (‘BoG Caucus’)

BoG Caucused met last week and a new meeting is scheduled for November’s BoG. In attendance at the first meeting were 5 Members and that will be going up to at 10-12 for the second.



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CAMPUS RELATIONS

Deputy Provost, Student Life & Learning

The Centraide campaign is something the President of SSMU usually has some involvement in, and this year Ollivier (the DPSLL) will be one of the Co-Chairs of the Committee that will be helping coordinate the campus wide-initiatives related to it. We had a meeting this week to go over some of the things we could do (raffles, competitions, etc.), and I brought it up at PRT to see if faculties would be interested in getting involved again. Niall, Dan and I met to begin planning an event at Gerts to raise funds for and spread knowledge about the organization.

SQ - Ongoing negotiations over our Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

McGill Alumni Association (MAA)

SQ

McGill Association for Continuing Education Students (MACES)

SQ

Macdonald Campus Students' Society (MCSS)

SQ

McGill Office of Sustainability (MOOS)

SQ

Post-Graduate Students' Society (PGSS)

SQ

Student Housing & Hospitality Services (SHHS)

SQ

Social Equity & Diversity Education Office (SEDE)

SQ

Campus Life & Engagement (CL&E)

SEAMLESS is scheduled and Aleks and I are just working on getting as many people signed up for the Summit as possible! If you haven't seen it or signed up yet, I encourage you to!

MEDIA

National Media Advocacy



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The Secretary General put together a list of contacts for a number of Media outlets across Canada (newspaper, TV, and audio) to help with any large scale advocacy work we may be interested in doing.

Campus Paper

SQ

Communications (SSMU Video, Organigrams, and Monthly Calendars)

SQ - If anyone wants to see the video that was developed for frosh and general knowledge on how SSMU works / how to get involved, feel free to check it out [here!](#) Also if you want to see the organigrams on how SSMU's Government works and what Executives do feel free to check out [here](#) and [here!](#) Finally, if you want to see the events and governance calendar for September you can click [here!](#)

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Advisory Council on Sustainability

SQ - This is a new Council that will be housed under the portfolio of McGill's Vice-Principle (Admin & Finance). I'll be sitting on it this year but no information on the agenda, Committee Terms of Reference, or meeting times have been released yet.

LEADERSHIP & SUPPORT

PERMANENT & STUDENT STAFF

SQ

EXECUTIVES

SQ

GENERAL PROJECTS

MENTAL HEALTH

~~Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP)~~

SQ - WRAP Spaces in SSMU have been booked and will be happening throughout the year now! If you want more detail on when these will be taking place feel free to contact myself, the VP Student Life, or the clinic themselves.

Mental Health 101 for Faculty



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As mentioned, Mental Health 101 training was brought up at Presidents Round Table and each member of that Round Table will be bringing the idea back to their respective Faculty Council's for feedback. I'll be sending out a follow up email to them soon and am looking forward to hearing what comes out of those discussions.

Joyfully Submitted,

Ben Ger
President