VP UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS REPORT

SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

Report covering the period of September 4 to September 13.

Quick Introductory note:
Hi Councillors and SSMU members! This report is designed to give you a sense of what I have been up to in the past two weeks. I will try my best, when possible, to use concrete numbers and facts, but this is not always possible. Additionally, those who are interested should come find me and we can talk about any point in full detail. This month because of the many Jewish holidays, I will not be holding office hours. I will, however, happily make myself available for anyone who does reach out. Please do not hesitate to ask me your questions on any of these points. Also, I would be happy to change the structure of this report should people have suggestions on how to make this clearer and more digestible. In the meantime, it will be divided into three sections: (1) University Affairs, Advocacy & Research, (2) Equity, (3) Libraries. I will try--as much as possible--to keep the sub-headings the same from report to report, but there will inevitably some changes to account for and reflect shifting emphases.

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UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS, ADVOCACY & RESEARCH

Senate
- September 12 → Divest motion passed!
  - reading and preparing with student senators

Senator Check-ins (internal) and Relationship building (external)
- Check-ins with: Education Senator, Arts and Sci Senator, Eng Senator, Arts Senator, Mgmt Senator
  - discussions included: Fall Reading Week; Anti-Sexual Violence work; Divest; Scholarships; Assessment policy
- Met with VP Academic at MACES
  - Family Care, Anti-Sexual Violence, Divest,
- PGSS Senator
- Informally invited two MAUT senators to SSMU caucus
Senate Subcommittees

- Enrollment and Student Affairs Advisory Committee
  - Involuntary leave policy; Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory option; Cannabis guidelines
- Senate Steering
  - Divest; Deregulation; Consultation
- Code of Student Conduct Revisions (was unable to attend-- Madeline went instead)
- Principal's Prize for Excellence in Teaching

Meetings with McGill administrators

- Martine Gautier, Executive Director of Services for Students
  - students from care; increased communication and collaboration; intergenerational work
- Fabrice Labeau, Interim Deputy Provost Student Life and Learning
  - Fall reading week; Open educational resources; students from care; MOA, feminine hygiene products rollout; first time deferral policy
- Student Housing and Hospitality Services meet and greet

Other University level Advocacy level priorities or items to track

- Working Group on Principles of Commemoration and Renaming
  - attended a portion of its town hall (conflict with activities night)
- Review of the Office of Student Life and Learning
- Anti Sexual violence
  - reading and some communication
- Student Wellness Plan (and Rossy Wellness Hub)
  - assigned students to advisory board

Intergenerational Living work

- Set up first Intergenerational McGill meeting attended by 12 members including undergrads, McGill Community for Lifelong Learning MCLL, MURA, and Dean of Students
- attended follow up meeting
- Will be organizing Home-Share presentation for early October with MURA and possibly MCLL

Know Your Rights

- Set up class list for announcements instead of tabling, so far reached just under 2,500 students
- Will be set up to monitor how much activity is on website for the future

Associate Senator position

- Posting went out today in English
● French was completed earlier, but will be slightly revised over the weekend before going out

Committee Trainings
● Info went out; will be smaller sessions than previous year (max 5)

Governance Review Committee (SSMU)
● Draft ToR completed
● Motion to be ready for next Leg Council

EQUITY

● Equity Committee application has gone out
● Reviewed and working on equity complaints with Equity Commissioners
● Equity Commissioners will be making a bigger emphasis to engage Services
● Equity Commissioners will be attending Senate Caucus periodically in order to work with Senators on specific projects as they arise
● Equity related positions: (1) into the portfolio; (2) employment equity; (3) low income students; (4) first generation students; (5) gender neutral language research; (6) students from care project assistant (advocacy position)

LIBRARIES

● Library Improvement Fund (LIF) Committee open
● Discussed motion on fiat lux with LIF Commissioner

Respectfully Submitted,
Jacob Daniel Shapiro