

# GA Report President

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### **Overview**

- What is the President's Role?
  - Governance
  - Leadership and Support
  - Advocacy and Representation
- Progress on Platform
- Additional Work
- Questions

# What is the President's Role?

# Governance

### **Role -- Governance**

- Enforce the Constitution and Internal Regulations of the Society
- Governance document support
- Council orientation
- Policy Development
- Chair SSMU Board of Directors, Executive Committee

# Legislative Council + Governance Document Updates

- Had a very fun (and engaging) SSMU retreat in September
- Legislative Council has become more efficient
  - Active role of steering committee
  - Council documents released days prior to meetings
- Council livestreams with TVM's assistance

### **Committee Involvement**

- Health and Dental Review -- Chair
- Building and Operations Committee -- Chair
- Governance Reform -- Chair
- Fall Reading Week (Member)
- Indigenous Affairs (Member)
- Steering (Member)

### **Governance Document Updates**

- SSMU committees has seen massive overhaul
  - Restructure of entire terms of reference
  - Addition of Fall Reading Week and Governance Reform committee
  - Revitalization of Accountability, Health and Dental, Finance, Building Operations Management committees
- Internal Regulation revisions
  - Basic revisions for IRs to have them up to date
  - Revisions for Elections to come in near future
- Policy book, book of resolutions updates

## **Board of Directors, Executive Committee**

- Board Decisions to date
  - Lowering Dental plan from \$750 to \$500 due to financial limitations
  - 680 Sherbrooke Lease
  - SSMU MOA with McGill
- Executive Committee
  - Has met consistently, reports are given at Legislative Council on all motions passed

# Leadership and Support

### **Role - Leadership and Support**

- Chief Officer and Spokesperson
- Institutional knowledge
- Faculty relations
- Maintain relations between Society and McGill administration

### **Institutional Knowledge**

- Read through past 10 years of exit reports
  - Phone conversations with most SSMU presidents from 2008 to present
- Phone calls with over 70 student body presidents across North America
  - Greater understanding of initiatives at other schools, projects that are applicable for SSMU

### **Faculty Relations**

- In person meetings with the majority of Faculty Presidents
- Presentations at Faculty councils on what SSMU can offer, where collaboration could exist
- Working on involvement restriction policy with other faculties
- Accessible for any inquiries from faculty leadership

# Advocacy and Representation

## **Role - Advocacy and Representation**

- McGill Senate representation
- McGill Board of Governors representation
- Work with various McGill departments on student interests

## Senate/Admin Representation

- Senate
  - Sexual Violence Policy working group
  - Fee Advisory Committee
- Admin
  - Committee on Cannabis Policy
  - Construction and Safety Working Group
  - Centraide
  - Fiat Lux project
- Board of Governors
  - Building and Properties Committee
  - IT Committee

### McGill Department Work

- Food and Dining
  - Food insecurity project
- Athletics
  - Athletics facility improvement renewals
- Teaching and Learning Services
  - Additional course material on course outline
- Dean of Students
  - Fee waiver for students who need new student IDs who are gender transitioning
- Security
  - Having service numbers on the back of student IDs

# Progress on Platform

# 1) Rebuilding Faculty Relationships

Ideas in platform include:

- Having a monthly meeting between SSMU execs, faculty counterparts
- Increasing representation at Senate caucus
- Establishing relationships with faculty counterparts

### **What Has Been Done**

- Better relationship with Faculty presidents/leadership
- Being present at other faculty councils
- Encouraging collaboration between portfolios from other executives, not necessarily in a formal meeting setting

# 2) Engaging Current Student Concerns

Ideas in platform include:

- Communicating the building closure timeline directly, prioritizing finding space for student groups
- General assembly accessibility, increasing voter turnout through online participation
- Board of Directors transparency -- reexamine the structure

### **What Has Been Done**

- Building Closure: Had meetings immediately over the summer on this topic with McGill officials. Booking rooms in New Residence ballroom, Athletics, McGill classrooms. MOAs with Faculty associations. Signing of lease on 680 Sherbrooke for additional student space. Major credit to Sophia with her work on this.
- General Assembly: Will try to roll this out next semester, time did not permit for this semester.
- Board of Directors: Nominating committee decisions are in public session for summer session, minutes are posted faster (not perfect) from previous years

# 3) Focused Advocacy on Student Needs

Ideas in platform include:

- Ad-hoc task forces for Fall Reading Week, Mental Health, Sexual Violence Policy
- Greater engagement with Student body through mass surveying, evaluate student needs

### **What Has Been Done**

- Creation of Fall Reading Week subcommittee at SSMU (with leadership from Bryan Buraga), committee at McGill admin level
- Sexual Violence policy meetings prior to policy revision, forums for these topics. Committee to be created under Sexual Violence Mobilization coordinator
- Mental health improvements to be discussed later, under Building Operations Management Committee
- Mass surveying to roll out for Building Operations
   Management Committee, Health and Dental, Athletics, etc

# **Additional Work**

### **Additional Personal Projects**

#### Mentioned:

- 1) Food Insecurity Program
- 2) Student ID updates
- 3) Athletics project
- 4) Additional course material costs on outline

#### Not Mentioned:

- 1) SSMU Tutoring Service
- 2) Looking at short-term loans through SSMU

Greater engagement with Student body through
 mass surviving avaluate student poods

### **BOMCOM + Health and Dental**

#### 3501 Peel:

- 1) Surveying for what students may want in the space
- 2) If students want private psychologists, psychiatrists, chiropractors, etc
- 3) Study space, lounge space, bookable space, etc.

#### Health and Dental

- 1) Matching what students want based off of surveying in Health+Dental plan
- 2) Mass engagement on what ideal plan is for students



# Questions? <a href="mailto:president@ssmu.ca">president@ssmu.ca</a>