



VP UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS REPORT

SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

Report covering the period from September 28 to October 11.

Quick note: Obviously, as many of you may imagine this has been a stressful period. I encourage you to read our [statement](#). I'm not going to repeat lines here, and so I will just say that I am sorry that I will not be here tonight to discuss this and the many other items on the agenda. Please do reach out so that we can find a time to talk about any of this.

UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS, ADVOCACY & RESEARCH

Increasing effectiveness and adding capacity at Senate and on Committees

(1) Senator Check-ins and projects

- Check-in (both in person and electronically) with Madeline (art senator) and Monique (science senator) on Open Educational Resources. They have a meeting scheduled with Library staff for next week.
- Submitted a question on deregulation that was approved by Senate Steering with Bryan (arts+sci senator/senate caucus rep to LC)

(2) Senate Caucus

- I missed the last senate caucus due to a Jewish holiday, and the one after was canceled due to a statutory holiday; however, this week we have big plans for Senate caucus with Tomas, the Affairs Commissioner presenting (checked in with him already to discuss and plan this), Axel the President of MAUT in attendance, and Associate Senators in the mix
- Sustainability commissioners (check-in where we discussed possible collab with senators) and mental health commissioners to present at future caucuses, as well

(3) Expanding Senate Caucus

- Reached out to Social Work, Dent, PT/OT about a regular seat at SSMU Senate caucus -- will follow up
- Met w. McGill Secretary-General to discuss the possibility of a SSMU delegate pool
 - we agreed to explore increasing participation at committee level first
 - however, once Senate undertakes to reexamine its composition -- we will put this item on the agenda there, as well

(4) Associate Senator Position



- We have already received just under 20 expressions of interest, with 12 completed applications. I have conducted 3 interviews so far, and we have our first associate senator on board! Likely more to come!

(5) Relationship Building

- attended lovely SEDE Community-Engaged Learning event where I learned about projects happening across the University
- McGill Committees Council: discussed possible topics for meeting with someone in the Finance and Administration office, and also discussed committee response to McGill SV revisions. MAUT is sending out a survey to its members, and they share it with us in case we want to do something similar.

Senate Subcommittees and meetings with administration

- Student Life and Learning Review-- discussed next steps and need to continue student consultations
- Senate steering committee
- Subcommittee on scholarship review committee
- Meeting with the Dean of Students: discussed possible joint SSMU- DoS event on University issues (TBD) to help broaden engagement
- Attended BoG as an observer -- Divestment was referred to Committee to Advise on Matters of Social Responsibility
- attended a meeting of the ad-hoc panel, releasing a climate study on sexual violence

Intergenerational Living work

- Intergenerational Wine and Cheese at B21 drew good attendance and interest
- Hosting info session on Home Share at McGill Community for Life Long learning on October 24. We have begun advertising and gave 13 signups in less than 3 days so far!
- Impact Dialogue Series organized by YES! and hosted at McGill Community for Life Long Learning; all panelists were fascinating and plan on reaching out to them for possible collaboration
- exploring the possibility of a mini-pilot project for students in rez of the Christmas Holidays

EQUITY

- Reviewed and working on equity complaints with Equity Commissioners
- equity committee is now finalized

Equity-Related Research Positions

- Checked in with Equity Researcher. The goal will be to have a presentation on this work at Council in late November.



- Checked in with Gender Neutral Language Researcher, who is presenting a report today
- Checked in with Employment Equity researcher. Originally Employment Equity report was to be submitted by today, but we will need a bit more time. It is almost there.
- Reached out to research competitions winners. Was supposed to check-in with one, but we needed to reschedule
- Checked in with Students from Care Project Assistant. We will be presenting at Council soon, after an update to the original SSMU report

LIBRARIES

- Selected LIF committee along with Marie
- First meeting occurred

Governance Reform

This is not under my portfolio, but, in light of the motion passed at last council, I feel it important to include. We have not started meeting. This should be expected because we need to reach out to a lot of different stakeholders to get this off the ground. While we are not on a rushed timeline and recognize that for this to be done properly it requires more than a year, we do need to begin this work swiftly. Hopefully, by next council, I will be able to provide an update on where we are at in getting committee membership.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jacob Daniel Shapiro