REPORT: VICE-PRESIDENT (UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS) 2019-11-28

Submitted for: November 28, 2019

For the period of November 14, 2019 to November 28, 2019

*= scheduled, but had not occurred by time of report submission

UNIVERSITY ADVOCACY & ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

General University Updates
If you don’t complete It Takes All of Us by November 29 a (reversible) hold will be put on your Winter 2020 registration
In Senate remarks, Principal Fortier indicated that McGill is in contact with institutions in Hong Kong where students are studying on exchange, some have decided to return to McGill to continue their studies remotely
Spring 2020 Convocation dates posted l8r losers
Did you know that the Made by McGill campaign is projected to cost over $1 million?? Cool!! lmao

University Committees
Committee on Student Services
- November 18, was absent
- Discussed unsolicited phone call to student from Wellness Hub, budget, demonstration demands
University Student Assessment Policy Workgroup
- Email correspondence, researcher hired to analyze Method of Evaluation data, consulting with schools/faculties to begin shortly
Senate Steering Committee
- November 26, 1 question approved (out-of-province enrolment targets), 1 question postponed until January Steering meeting

Senate Caucus + McGill Senate
Joint Board-Senate meeting
- November 14
- Topic: Open, connected, and purposeful university
McGill Senate met on November 20
- Open discussion on Internationalization of the University
Principal told me to be respectful when I called the administration tone deaf for talking only about the money McGill makes from international tuition deregulation and not the financial burden it imposes on students

- Arts Senator Henrique Mecabo straight up interrupted during a point about enrolment
- We love it!!

Senate Question accepted on Use of University Facilities (eg. would McGill ban a controversial speaker or individual whose views threaten the safety and well-being of members of the community from using their spaces?) - Written by Law Senator Adrienne Tessier
- Answer from Provost Manfredi: there is no policy and there won’t be one something something academic freedom
  - something something difference between free speech and academic freedom

Presentation of proposed amendments to the Policy Related to the Naming of University Assets
- For speedy naming in light of Made by McGill
- Coming to a vote at December Senate

McGill Senate meets next on December 4*

Senator Projects
- Black Students Bill of Rights making incredible progress! - Arts Senator Chloe Kemeni

SSMU Sustainability Commissioners presented to Senate Caucus
Second Associate Senator Orientation November 26
Making a list of all the things wrong with McGill

Projects/Advocacy Items

Wellness Hub
- Demonstration for Accessible Healthcare with AGSEM on November 12
- To coincide with the formal launch of the Wellness Hub, which was cancelled, then turned into a private reception
- Coordinating speakers, demands, hot chocolate, poster-making etc
- Calling out Hub for cold-calling student who complained about the hub by getting their phone number “from their record”

Divestment/Climate Justice
- CAMSR report coming to McGill Board of Governors on December 5

Open Educational Resources
- New webpage up on the SSMU site!
- PHYS 102 instructor on board with the project!
- Finished reformattting CHEM 110/120 OER and distributed to instructors
- Jeremy is reaching out to the library to figure out how many students they can supervise this year

Menstrual Hygiene Products
- Coordinating with the 4 Menstrual Hygiene Product Coordinators and the Building Director (Wallace Sealy), who will be creating an exhaustive and updated inventory of current locations to
- 1. update the website
- 2. replace all baskets with in-wall dispensers
  - Met with Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning) about McGill taking their own initiative to fund free menstrual hygiene products on campus

**RESEARCH**

**Tenure**
Special Researcher (University Tenure Process) - Kat O’Donnell (uaresearch@ssmu.ca)
- [Fully designed report](#) uploaded on SSMU UA website, small edit still to be made
- Thinking about advocacy moving forward

**Student Rights**
Student Rights Researcher and Advocacy Commissioner - Adrienne Tessier (srrac@ssmu.ca)
Arts Senator Henrique Mecabo and Arts & Science Senator Julia Kafato working on assessment survey Research component to begin shortly
Planning for Winter 2020 Know Your Rights Campaign
  - Pamphlets: Language rights, Add/drop rights, non-exam assessment rights
Updating [studentrights.ssmu.ca](#) - holding focus groups

**Sexual Violence History and Advocacy**
Sexual Violence Mobilization and Advocacy Commissioner - Maeve Botham (asvma@ssmu.ca)
Biweekly check-ins
Information collection ongoing, research compilation to begin shortly

**Preferred Name Usage and Advocacy (w/QPIRG-McGill and Queer McGill)**
Candidate selected: Sarah Hollyer-Carney
Intro meeting November 11, bi-weekly check-ins

**EQUITY**
Equity Fee increase passed and non-optoutable change failed
Introducing committee members on the Facebook page
  - P.S like the [SSMU Equity Facebook Page](#)
Running educational campaign about Equity on campus (see first post on Facebook page)
Holding [Social Justice Coffee House](#) November 29!

**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS**
Indigenous Equity Fee passed!
Creation and advertisement of two new positions, to begin Winter 2020 and be hired under the Indigenous Equity Fund
LIBRARIES
Fall proposal period just finished
Ongoing biweekly check-in meeting for communication transparency

MISCELLANEOUS
Approved to be the SSMU Rep to the CKUT Board of Directors! good stuff!
Met with SSMU Clubs and Services Coordinator Mia Trana and Building Director Wallace Sealy about McGill travel insurance
Interviews for Tribune, Le Delit, CBC about University mental health services and the Wellness Hub

Respectfully Submitted,
Madeline Wilson (she/her)
SSMU VP University Affairs 2019-2020