# 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!! Imao

## **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

#### Office of the VP (University Affairs) | Bureau du VP (Affaires universitaires)



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Located on Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe, traditional territories

- 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
- <u>Calling out Hub</u> 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 reformatting 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

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- 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)

- <u>Fully designed report</u> 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 (<a href="mailto:srrac@ssmu.ca">srrac@ssmu.ca</a>)

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 <u>studentrights.ssmu.ca</u> - holding focus groups

## **Sexual Violence History and Advocacy**

Sexual Violence Mobilization and Advocacy Commissioner - Maeve Botham (<u>asvma@ssmu.ca</u>) 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 <u>SSMU Equity Facebook Page!</u>

Running educational campaign about Equity on campus (see first post on Facebook page) Holding <u>Social Justice Coffee House</u> 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

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- Indigenous Affairs Equity Researcher
- Indigenous Affairs Events Coordinator

# 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