



REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT (EXTERNAL)

13-01-2020

Platform

Provincial Affiliation

- AFESPED, ADEESE, AFEA, AFESH (UQAM), AECSL, AESSUM, AELIES, FEUS, CSU, SOGEECOM exec coalescing around resistance to anti-migrant issues.
- Various “Mob Camps” being organised for February/March

Institutional Memory and Support for Campaigns

- Hiring rounds begun for a researcher into the history of political organising at McGill
- Exploring the role of the VP External in financial coordination of campaigns

Governance Reform

- Bolstering of Board of Directors’ responsibilities viz a viz Human Resources, giving a larger place to the HR Committee
- AHDFC exploring bolstering of Board of Directors’ responsibilities viz a viz financial oversight, streamlining funding processes
- Working on implementing training guides to strengthen the powers and capacity of commissioners
 - Complementary internal regulations revisions forthcoming

Engagement with Montreal

- Submitting findings of focus groups into community-engaged learning to a Provost working group (Lifelong Learning Working Group), which you are encouraged to submit to!
- Working with CIRM/CRIEM on a convergence of University actors who handle community outreach programs (e.g., Science Outreach)
- Hiring rounds begun for a Community Engagement Project Coordinator, a position which will in future be permanently divorced from the Community Affairs Coordinator



Portfolio

Political Campaigns

- LPSU/C-JAM & Divest: Good cross-pollination carrying over from last semester, weekly meetings begun to discuss positions and action plans
- Students for Peace & Disarmament: Explorations begun into military research at McGill (there's still a lot of it going on! What's up with that??). Mostly restoring institutional memory.
- McGill Food Coalition: Aiming at a central forum for cooperation between groups looking to address food insecurity (Midnight Kitchen, Farmer's Market, Environment Committee). Looking to introduce SSMU positions on food security and why food security is political.
- Mental Health: AGSEM's Working Group is currently meeting with an aim of building toward a clear Mental Health Policy at the University. SSMU is financing a research position to examine the state of affairs at McGill and other Quebec institutions, and subsequently make recommendations to the Quebec government.
- Anti-racism: PEQ, Bills 9 & 21, Test des Valeurs all seeing advocacy convergence. Inter-university public forum Saturday at 1p.m. in Leacock 232.

Community Affairs

- C.A.R.E. community public assemblies/potluck meet-and-greets beginning in 2 weeks with a talk on housing. Final revisions to be approved at the first council 2020-2021
 - 27 Jan: Housing (UTILE, HOJO, Milton-Parc Citizens' Committee)
 - 24 Feb: Frosh & the Community (SPVM, SSMU, McGill)
 - 23 March: Homelessness in the Community (Solidarite Milton-Parc, CHASM Incubator)
 - 20 April: Moving In/Out (SSMU Community Affairs)
- "Celebrating Community" event held the weekend of Valentine's Day (date TBC). Space for community organisations at McGill and in Milton-Parc to cross-pollinate and meet with first-year students who are looking to get involved
 - Working with CL&E on the first-year outreach

Community Engagement

- Job description created
 - Community Engagement Commissioner will have access to the Charity Fund, while the Community Affairs Coordinator will serve as the SSMU representative to Milton-Parc.



Francophone Affairs

- Planning an event on the use of inclusive language, hosted by Michael David Miller.
- Budget revisions to secure funding for this committee's initiatives

Union Relations

- McGill is a bad employer and drags out negotiations to tire out the parties involved!
 - MUNACA, AGSEM (TA), MCLIU, are all in bargaining and have cited bad faith on the part of the employer
- Invitation extended to unions to participate in: Bill 21 manifestation, Celebrating Community event
- Working group struck at McGill Communities Council to examine budgetary discretion at the University

Government Affairs

- UEQ's lobbying work is largely centering around Aide Financiere aux Etudiantes and Mental Health recommendations. Information packages regarding the AFE are forthcoming this calendar year
- UCRU will be going to Parliament Hill to make budget recommendations

Interfaculty Relations

- IRP completed and signed onto by large faculties
 - Our Turn Task Force assembled as a more sustainable extension of GSVP recommendations to support these sorts of projects in future
- Engaging with CL&E in early February to discuss divisions of responsibility during Frosh
- Assisting department associations in the Faculty of Arts mobilize on Bill 21.

Projects

Affordable Student Housing

- Significant efforts put in by a committee that is dedicated to bettering the situation of housing in Montreal
- Survey sent out via faculty listservs
- UTILE to present in Milton-Parc (3590 Jeanne-Mance) on January 27th.



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Intergenerational McGill

- Recommendations related to the status of Intergenerationality at McGill to be a central focus of the Lifelong Learning Working Group's recommendations
- Building 21 is exploring the possibility of sponsoring a researcher to compliment the work of the Lifelong Learning researcher.