

Education Undergraduate Society of McGill University

Education Building, Room B-179, 3700 rue McTavish, Montreal, QC H3A 1Y2

Report of the Education Representative to SSMU Isabella Bulhoes SSMU Legislative Council: October 8th 2020

General:

- EdUS was active over the summer: we held several town halls, planned online frosh, and started the work to change our Constitution
- Meetings are every other Monday at 6 via Zoom. Anyone interested in joining is welcome to come
- I am currently on stage (student teaching) for this semester. Not only do I have a full workload at a school every day from 7:30 to 3:30, but I am also involved in student associations and have classes. Please if you need anything from me and I take a little while to respond, try to be patient. I'm stretched a little thin right now and trying my best!

Governance:

- As previously mentioned, we are in the process of changing our constitution. We are lucky enough to have an equity commissioner this year! Her name is Sam and she is awesome. We are adding amendments to our constitution to award her an official seat on council (make her a voting member). This will be decided on during our fall elections
- Fall elections! They're happening right now! Unfortunately, we had to go into an extended period (people are having trouble getting nominations at the moment), but voting is currently going on. We are looking forward to finally filling our VP finance spot :)
- Our IRP amendments are in the process of being finalized, our equity commissioner is working her hardest!

Events/Workshops:

- Virtual back to school event went well, we had several students come and ask questions and our council was there to help
- Our Externals have created a year plan to help plan events (going to have to be adapted now that we are online for next semester)
- PedTalks:
 - Sept. 22nd with Dr Aziz Choudry "Looking back, moving forward: Challenges for anti-racism and anti-colonialism teaching in education today", very successful.
 We had a great turn out and the talk was very informative. Recorded on EdUS website if anyone is interested in watching.
 - October, with Terry Price "Motivation"
 - November, with Wahéhshon Shiann Whitebean on Indigenous education

Anti-Racism Committee:

- Formed this year, in response to events over the summer, but also centuries of academic racism and discrimination
- Sent out a letter to the Dean addressing systemic racism at McGill and in Education
 - Can provide link if people wish to read, send me a message

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- Next steps: more PedTalks addressing systemic racism and prejudice in our teacher's training
- Looking to establish a "book club"/"reading circle" of sorts, not only for education students (but literature will be heavily focused around education issues)
 - Not limited to "books", will look to include PedTalks and podcasts for discussion as well
- Open call for BIPOC students to share their stories of discrimination at McGill. Moderately successful, gave us a lot of information for the open letter.

MEdUSA:

- You might not know, but EdUS also has two sister associations: MEdUSA and SAPEK.
- New Position VP External (responsible for liaising with EdUS)
- Contacted about Music Ed Alumni
 - Hosted round table to talk about equity in teaching music
- Workshops:
 - Academic Advising Seminar with Lara Franko (ECA)
 - CV writing workshop for teaching jobs
 - Summer jobs for future educators

SAPEK:

- Very active in planning frosh over the summer (3 of our Coords were SAPEK members)
- Currently in the process of editing their constitution to make them a more professional student association (adding a VP Academic, VP external/internal etc.)

That's all for now! Our next meeting will be in 2 weeks on Monday October 19th. Please, if anyone has any questions, let me know. If you would like to be involved in any of our events or workshops (either planning or an attendee), we would be happy to have you!