



REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT (UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS)

Submitted for: November 19, 2020

For the period of 2020/11/04, to 2020/11/17

Note: The University Affairs portfolio has been visually restructured.

University Affairs & Research

Research

- Special Researcher (Preferred Names Use & Advocacy)
 - Preparing for imminent report release
- Special Researcher (Student Health & Wellness)
 - Predicted report release late Winter 2021
 - Student survey to be released January 2021
- Students' Rights Researcher and Advocacy Commissioner
 - COVID-19 impact survey to be released in the coming weeks

Senate Activity

- Joint Senate-Board of Governors meeting on November 12, 2020
 - Discussed the University's response to COVID-19
- Senate met on November 18, 2020
 - Three questions, submitted by students were answered:
 - Question Regarding the Withdrawal of an Emeritus Designation
 - Question Regarding the Principal's Message on Academic Freedom and Inclusiveness
 - Question Regarding the Naming of the Men's Team
 - Other notable agenda items included:
 - Approval of the academic calendar from 2021 to 2024
 - Annual report on the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures
- A "Motion to Extend the 2020-2021 Winter Holiday Break" was submitted as an emergency motion to be considered by Senate Steering for the November 18, 2020, Senate meeting



Office of the Vice-President (University Affairs)

Tel: (514) 398-6797 | Fax: (514) 398-7490 | ua.ssmu.ca

3600 McTavish St., Suite 1200, Montréal, QC, H3A 0G3

Located on Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe, traditional territories

Senate Caucus

- Drafted two motions submitted to Senate:
 - Motion to Extend the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) Option in Fall 2020
 - Motion to Extend the 2020-2021 Winter Holiday Break
- Working with the Governing Document Researcher to formalize and empower the Senate Caucus within SSMU's Governing Documents

Equity & Advocacy

Board Ad-hoc Committee on Naming (BACoN)

- [Submission form](#) is still open!
- Consultations will continue until the Winter 2021 Referendum period
- New two-tiered naming system has been established
 - Tentatively, building names will be reserved for alternative naming options (ex. ideas, values, words in local Indigenous dialects)
 - Names of individuals will be given to rooms within buildings (ex. ballrooms, conference rooms, meeting spaces)
- Hoping to finalize naming proposals by November 27 with consultations ongoing over the Winter semester
 - Tentatively, proposals will be brought to Legislative Council for generative discussion and informal approval
 - Referendum question will be student-initiated

Employment Equity

- Wages for Senators & Councillors - *ongoing*
 - Action plan for the project has been drafted
 - Currently in consultation and logistical planning stage

Equity Infrastructure

- Equity Triage Amendment was ratified by the Board of Directors
- Black Affairs Commissioner - *hiring ongoing*
 - Final interviews have been conducted, final candidate to be selected by SSMU and BSN by November 20, 2020
 - Black Affairs Committee is meeting regularly with BSN VP Advocacy as Interim Chair
 - Currently discussing actionable goals to improve solidarity within SSMU
- Equity Committee has been assembled - first report presented to Council



Office of the Vice-President (University Affairs)

Tel: (514) 398-6797 | Fax: (514) 398-7490 | ua.ssmu.ca

3600 McTavish St., Suite 1200, Montréal, QC, H3A 0G3

Located on Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe, traditional territories

University Advocacy

- University Student Assessment Policy Work Group met again on November 12, 2020
 - Currently discussing the issue of reporting mechanisms and predetermined grade distributions
- Ongoing talks with AMUSE regarding student involvement in the Codes of Community Living
 - Considering the establishment of an advisory body for Student Housing and Hospitality Services

Academic Resources

Library Improvement

- Biweekly meetings with McGill Library Team on November 5 and 19, 2020
- Library Improvement Fund Committee (LIFC) funding applications have closed
- Undergraduate representative to the Fiat Lux Functional Planning Group has been nominated

Open Educational Resources

- Reminder: Beginning Winter 2021 all course-packs will be offered digitally, free of charge, by the McGill Library
 - Physical course-packs will no longer be offered by Le James

Submitted in solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brooklyn Frizzle', is positioned above the typed name.

Brooklyn Frizzle,
Vice-President (University Affairs)