



Vice-présidence (affaires internes) de l'AÉUM

Située sur les territoires traditionnels des collectivités Haudenosaunee et Anishinaabe.

SSMU Vice-President (Internal)

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Summer Report 2023-2024

For the period of 2023-06-01 to 2023-09-22



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President's Report

Governance

- Weekly check-ins with governance team
- Set the dates with governance team for Legislative Council meetings, Board of Directors meetings, and General Assembly
 - On-going discussions about in-person logistics for LC and GAs
- Policy and Advocacy Coordinator meetings to discuss governance policy improvements
 - IR & Constitution revisions and simplifications
 - Accountability committee reform
- Reviewed member at large applications the President sits on

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Chaired weekly meetings of the SSMU Executive Committee
- Ensure the daily running of the society
- Weekly meetings with execs

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD)

- Had several meetings throughout the summer

Nominating Committee

- Met over the weekend but unable to attend

Governance Reform Committee

- Organized and prepared for this committee with co-chair
- Currently in the recruitment process of all members

Health and Dental Review Committee

- Preparation and organization of this committee was done but due to VP Finance resignation, taking a bit more time than expected

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

- Woohoo first one
- So happy not to be the chair
- Set up dates for Leg Council in collaboration with the Governance Manager
- Discussions on in-person vs online meetings



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EDI Working Group

- Prepared throughout the summer along with co-chair contents of committee work
- Recruitment of members of the committee

Steering Committee

- Met to prepare for today's meeting: agenda prep, motion review

Advocacy & Representation

- Advisory committee for the possible reappointment of the Vice-Principal (university advancement)
- Meetings with other student unions
 - Tournoi Petanque in Quebec City with Liam 😊
- Senate & Board of Governors introductory meetings
- Meeting with Student Support, Student Care, and other businesses
- McGill Parent Tent - New Student and Parent Reception with Nadia, Jon and Lalia
- New Vic and SSMU meeting
- Rôles des universités et des villes pour la valorisation, l'apprentissage et l'usage des langues en contexte minoritaire.

SENATE

- Attended first meeting on September 20th
 - Shoutout to Lalia

BOARD OF GOVERNORS ([BoG](#))

- Meetings, both formal and informal, throughout the summer
- Orientation

Executive Committee ([EC](#))

- None yet, was just nominated to sit on it

CAMPUS RELATIONS

Deputy Provost, Student Life and Learning

- Discussions on a variety of issues concerning students with the involvement of many other execs and their portfolios
 - Notable exchanges about food insecurity on campus



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- Upcoming discussions on the Royal Vic situation

Dean of Student

- Met during the summer, discussed important issues such as easier time deferring, food insecurity

Leadership & Support

- Grad photo contract
- Organized meeting between executive team and campus media to improve relations between each other
- Annual CAD Orientation 2023
- Biweekly management meetings with all managers from different departments
- SSMU finance discussion with execs
- SSMUnion discussion with execs
- SSMU and Student Support discussion with execs
 - Meeting with alternative companies
- Masterplan for Addressing Racist Surveillance and Doxing
 - meeting with VP External and VP Operations
- GSVP policy consultation
- Trans 101 training
- Revision of Finance Portfolio
- Consultation Policy Training
- Alcohol permit filings process
- Media procedure meeting with comms team
- Fee Levy Campaign Discussion
- Upcoming election meeting
- Social Committee meetings during the summer
- Council training
- General Manager introduction and training
- International Student Welcome Reception didn't have enough space for us lol

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Weekly check-ins with HR team
- Hiring of new GM
- Hiring new speaker + training
- Hiring services coordinator
- Staff performance reviews
- GM training



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LEGAL

- Legal essential fees meeting
- Management agreement
- Other confidential matters

SSMU LONG TERM VISION

- Accessibility of student help programs/services offered to students
- Long term plan for interfaculty relations
- Work on plan for smoother transition period for next year's executives
- Management agreement
- SSMUnion Negotiations
- Transparency with student body
- Improve departmental association relations
- Easy equity standards and guidelines for all student initiatives
- Classroom accessibility and advocacy
- Contacting alumni for bursaries
- How and Why to participate in debates guidelines

PRESIDENT'S ROUNDTABLE

- Reviewed interfaculty plan from last semester with aim to continue work with faculty presidents and finish it. Review President roundtable terms of reference
- Planned social for presidents aimed for end of September

Projects

Interfaculty Relations

Interfaculty Relations Policy

- Pending consultation with faculty presidents

President Roundtable terms of reference

- Pending consultation with faculty presidents



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Governance Documents Reform

Accountability Committee restructure

- Research stage

Irregularities of Internal regulations

- Research stage

Irregularities of Constitution

- Research stage

Clear instructions in Internal Regulations

- Research stage

Regulations for Legislative Council

- Research stage

Regulations for Board of Directors

- Research stage

Respectfully Submitted,

Alexandre Ashkir

SSMU President



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VP Internal Affairs' Report

Communications

- SSMU Handbook published (6000!) and were all out by the second week of school
- Weekly listservs plus special listservs sent/being sent
- Instead of information flyers being printed, we went completely online this year and have added qr codes to our ssmu stickers we print that redirects students to the online flyers with all the information
- Instagram Reels content, pushing for collaboration with student-run businesses (i.e. Frostbite), faculties, clubs etc.; street interview type content and more

Frosh

- Frosh Crash Pads (24-25-26-27 August, 10PM-9AM in SSMU building)
- Helped with Gerts U18 events (24-25 August, throughout the day/night)
- IFC Chill Zone (26 August, all day)

SSPN

- Back to School Event held on September 19th
- Next SSPN event on October 13th (Friday the 13th Movie Screening!)
- Hiring underway
- No ILC this year
- Other Fall Semester events planned
- Fac-O preliminary work has started

First Year Affairs

- First Year Council elections underway
- First Year Affairs Coordinator hired and starting soon
- Planning to collaborate with other First Year oriented organizations on campus, like JC.

Alumni Affairs

- Met with MAA people
- MASEC



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Other Projects

- SSMU Executive Roadmap 2023/2024
- Office Hours: 2:30-4PM everyday
- Increased collaboration between faculties and SSMU
 - How can SSMU bridge the gap? Work on fixing ties between faculties and SSMU

Committees

- Executive Committee
- SSMU Board of Directors
- CKUT Board of Directors
- Senate Committee on Physical Development (SCPD)
- SSPN



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External Affairs' Report

External affairs

Federal, Provincial and Municipal political affairs

- Attended bi-weekly UCRU board meetings
 - Advocacy priorities this year: housing, mental health, & student financial aid
- Discussed/explored CRUES affiliation with CSU
- Informed externals from faculties & PGSS on UCRU
- Met with CADEUL to discuss priorities for this year
- Met with associations from across so-called QC at CADEUL event

Union affairs

- Attended MCC in July (absent for Sept meeting)
- Looking forward: initiatives for solidarity with AGSEM campaign?

General External Affairs

- Hired EA commissioner + coordinator - committee to convene soon
- Looking to create pop ed project on syndicalism, solidarity, & building collective power
- Organizing advocacy priorities, creating legacy documents to build stronger knowledge base

Community affairs

Affordable student housing

- Hired Community Affairs Commissioner
- ASHC to convene soon -> PL-31
- Méridien project received \$6M from City of Montreal
 - Expected delivery: Sept 2026

Milton-Parc and Peter-McGill

- Organized Frosh Street Teams
- Looking to: revise C.A.R.E Agreement w/ CAC
 - Milton Parc Relations Working Group to come

Community Engagement

- Planning Community Engagement Day with Community Engagement Comm. & CLE
- Looking to host panel on community involvement soon after



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Political campaigns

- Divest presented to BoG on the topic of divestment; vote has been moved up to later this semester (December)
- Let's Eat McGill supported by EA for tabling this fall.
 - Summer was spent researching leverage points and models applicable to McGill context.
- Lost contact with some campaigns due to membership graduating.
- Visioning projects to revitalize & foster activist community at McGill

Solidarity

Indigenous Affairs

- Met with Kahnistensera (Mohawk Mothers) to discuss possible avenues for solidarity moving forward
- Letter released to SSMU membership in August re: Provost's updates
 - Met with admin bigwigs to further discuss their concerns with our work
- 'Critical campus tours' project underway

Black Affairs

- BAC created a flyer to improve access to Black student resources
- BA committee to convene soon
- Critical Campus tours w/ IAC

Francophone Affairs

- Recruiting still underway for Commissaire aux affaires francophones

2SLGBTQIA+ Action

- Assisted TPU External and GSC in meetings with McGill Wellness Hub
- Supported Montreal-based queer activist groups
- Released letter of support to membership for counter-protest
- Supported QM banner-making at counter-protest

Office & Governance

- Revising amendments to Food Security Policy left by 22-23 EA team
- Revising UCRU mandate + motion
- Working on Community Solidarity Fund project



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VP Student Life's Report

Student Groups

Clubs

- Review of audit results from Winter 2023
- Creation of a Clubs Guidebook
- Monthly listservs
- Student group bookings
 - Worked with SL Operations Director to put together guidelines document
 - Worked with McGill Athletics to clarify booking process for athletics facility
- Review of clubs applications
 - Clarification of criteria and description of sections
 - Streamlining internal record keeping system
- Club funding
 - Reviewing internal regulations and requirements for funding
- Club portal
 - Implementation with external company
 - Training sessions for backend

Services

- Creation of Services Guidebook
- Monthly check-ins implemented
- Processing of credit cards for financial officers
- Supporting services with new executive transitions

Activities Night

- September 13 and 14
- 350+ tablers, lots of attendees (no official count)
- Mix-up by McGill Athletics on September 14, caused some confusion with entrance and clean-up

Club Workshops

- Review of club workshops slides
- Planning of Clubs Workshops on Sept 23-24, plus make-up sessions and quizzes



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Family Care

SSMU Daycare

- Consistent enrolment - at maximum capacity
- Working on volunteer program

Other Initiatives

- PGSS collaboration on Family Evenings - to be finalized

Mental Health

Mental Health Committee

- Mental Health Committee is meeting every week
- Advocacy Coordinator hiring and establishment of Advocacy and Outreach Committees
- Planning of Mental Illness Awareness Week (Oct)
- Integration of Talking Groups
- Check-ins with Dean of Students
- Check-in with Keepme.safe
 - Contract renewal in Winter 2024
- Organization of Mental Health Roundtable

Other Initiatives and Events

Get Involved Workshop

- Collaboration with CL&E to host a workshop for incoming students
- Meet and greet after presentation with other faculty associations and McGill services

Discover McGill

- SSMU tabled for Discover McGill



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VP University Affairs' Report

University Affairs and Representation

University Senate and its Committees

- Student Senators from most faculties were elected and now represent SSMU at the University Senate
- Positions on University Senate Committees were filled for about 20 committees, 10 advisory boards or award selection committees
- VP UA currently sits on : CESA, Steering Committee, Committee for the Selection of Vice-Principal Research and Innovation, Morty Yalovsky award selection committee, MAUT, others upcoming

McGill Admin Meetings

- Meetings (+ President) held with Deputy Provost Student Life and Learning, Dean of Students, upcoming meeting with Principal
- Points of discussion : food insecurity on campus, building a sense of community, New Vic Project

SSMU Representation and Governance

SSMU-MCSS Senate Caucus

- Meetings started for the SSMU Senate Caucus, currently planning/brainstorming for changes or policies to work on this year

SSMU Committees

- VP UA currently sits on : QUIPS, Indigenous Affairs Committee, Executive Committee and Board of Directors,
- upcoming are : Finance committee (interim), Black Affairs Committee, Equity Committee, Francophone Affairs committee.

Extra SSMU Duties

- Overseeing Human Resources + ensuring efficient processes with President
- Help assure interim of VP Finance by overseeing Finance Commissioner and other duties



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Research and Advocacy

Indigenous Affairs

- Closely following developments on the New Vic situation and working in collaboration with VP External on advocating for Mohawk Mothers to McGill Admin
- Research project related to an eventual critical campus tour in the burgeoning phase, project led by SSMU Indigenous Affairs Commissioner

Know Your Rights Campaign

- Working on a revamp of the pamphlet and web resources in collaboration with the McGill Legal information clinic

Equity and Educational Resources

Open Education Resources

- Two science courses are currently being completed by the Open Education Resource Commissioner and coordinators

Library Improvement Fund

- Overseen by Library Improvement Fund Commissioner, more meetings to come
- Last year's investment by the fund in the libraries now available for students to use (furniture in the Schulich Library)

Mental Wellness Course

- Currently working on the implementation of a mental wellness course that would be available to students next Fall

Menstrual Health Project

- Revamp of Menstrual Health Promo Material
- Market research of alternatives to current suppliers
- Yearly planning of the menstrual health team
- Budget Revision

OSVRSE-SSMU Collab

- In talks



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VP Sustainability and Operations' Report

Building and Operations

- Building and Operations Committee (internal)
- Accessibility Audit
- New cleaning company
- Space agreement revamp
- Student Group Space Management
- Les Fermes du Marché
 - First pop-up, figuring out its impact
- Student group event contract reviews
- Room booking and rental cost revision
- Looking into implementation of gender neutral bathrooms in UC
- Management Agreement
- Minicourses
 - 11 courses for fall, still accepting registration

Gerts

- Reestablished branding guidelines for cafe and bar
- Security protocols changed
- POS system changes
- Fall Plan proposal
- Internal Auditing procedure management
- Sponsorships
 - Looking at digital media on Gerts channels
- Gerts' Ambassadors Program
- Staff benefit at Gerts
- Brand new look with signage
- Pricing reviews and marketing strategies

Sustainability

- Campus Crops
 - Coordinator hired
 - Rebranding
- Newly hired sustainability commissioner
 - Budgeting for the year



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- Action plan for the year
- Meeting with McGill Office of Sustainability
- Sponsoring SPF application for review and renewal of Sustainability plan

Finance

- External audit ongoing
- SSMU wide budget revision
- Credit card evaluations and approval
- Insurance for SSMU property and SSMU activities
- Consultations on Budget initiatives

Miscellaneous

- Trans 101 trainings
- Supporting IT needs of SSMU
 - Departmental trainings
- Legal
- Student Support
- McGill Committees:
 - Principal's Prize Selection Committee
 - Senate Committee for Physical Development
 - University Health and Safety Committee