



## **President's Report to Council**

*For March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012.*

By the time I get to present this at Council, we'll know who next year's Executive will be. Congratulations to all the candidates for surviving campaign period, and welcome to the incoming team!

### **Student Democracy and Constituencies**

*Bylaw Review Committee* – As you can see on today's agenda, we have a lot of bylaw changes coming forward. There should be another batch next Council meeting. Please take the time to read through them carefully! Progress on Bylaw Books I and III has been substantial. With any luck we will have more progress to report on Book II by the next Council meeting. Thanks to committee members and executives (particularly VPs Clare and Fraser) for their many long hours on this!

*Conflict of Interest Policy* – Max Zidel (former SSMU Councillor and Bylaw Review Committee member-at-large) further developed the policy drafted at the end of last year. This policy has subsequently been reviewed and edited by the General Manager, Councillors Bi and Clarke, and our legal counsel (with whom I spent over an hour discussing it). The result is presented as a notice of motion on tonight's agenda.

*Elections* – I have been providing administrative assistance to Elections SSMU as well as helping to promote voter turnout.

*Judicial Board* – The justices are working on more thorough internal procedures which, if the relevant referendum question passes, can be brought to Council for ratification before the end of the semester.

*Athletics Roundtable* – Terms of reference to formalize this as a Committee of Council are on the agenda tonight. Several McGill teams have done well in this year's playoffs/championships, so congrats to all our student athletes.

*First Year Council, Inter-Residences Council, & Off-Campus Fellows Program* – I met again with representatives from each of these groups to discuss how their activities can best interact. We determined that it would be beneficial to ensure the continuity of this informal collaboration, and have thus proposed the creation of the First-year Undergraduate Network as a Committee of Council.

*Undergraduate Education Forum* – Thanks to everyone who put work into organizing this and to everyone who came out (not just SSMUshies! Huzzah!). The conversations at my table (on undergraduate research at McGill) were productive, and I have been corresponding subsequently with one of the members of McGill staff who attended.

*Strategic Summits* – VPs Clare and Pedneault worked with MISN to present a Strategic Summit on the Needs of International Students last week (I was able to attend much but not all of the event, so any detailed questions can be addressed to one of them!). The last



Strategic Summit of the year will be regarding the Student-Run Café and will be held on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. I hope to have a summary document of all the strategic summit discussions and action items ready by the end of the semester.

*Queer McGill* – I attended a meeting between QM, the Deputy Provost, and Robyn Wiltshire along with VP Fraser regarding their live fisting workshop in LEA 232.

*Passing the Torch Workshop* – I prepared and presented a workshop on student leadership transition for the Leadership Office. Great to see some SWSA coordinators in attendance!

*AIESEC Leadership Training Session* – I presented at this event on Monday night, along with other student leaders.

### **McGill Governance & Relations**

*Presidents' Retreat with the Provost regarding the Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning)* – I attended along with the Presidents or representatives of MUSA, EUS, MUS, EdUS, MCSS, PGSS, and MACES. We spent 6 hours discussing how to improve the Deputy Provost's portfolio. Some of the main discussion points raised by the students included: 1) there needs to be much better provision of the student advocate role (recognizing that the current dual role of the Deputy Provost as student advocate and policy enforcer doesn't work very well); 2) the Dean of Students should have more influence/authority and an expanded role; 3) the Deputy Provost needs to successfully relate to students, be enthusiastic about student life, etc.; 4) the Administration should proactively explain issues which affect students/student life, being honest about what is controversial and providing links to divergent viewpoints/opinions; 5) that the Deputy Provost should report back what s/he is doing to the student body; 6) that students should be formally involved in the annual performance evaluation of the Deputy Provost; and 7) that there should be greater clarity regarding which members of Senior Admin students should approach about which issues.

*Senate* – Status quo.

*Lease* – The Lease Committee met again this weekend and this will come for discussion on tonight's agenda.

*Student Life Associate* – Status quo.

### **Sustainability**

*Strategic Plan for Sustainability* – Progress continues. The Sustainability Coordinator and student staff have contributed greatly to this, but there is still substantial work which needs to be completed.

*Class Action Project* – Development and Alumni Relations gave away cupcakes earlier this week to raise awareness about the greenhouse project, which was selected as the Class Action Project for the Class of 2012. If you want more info, let me know!



*Open Forum on Free Expression and Peaceful Assembly* – I attended the first forum. Unfortunately I was not able to catch much of the second due to previously scheduled meetings.

### **Human Resources**

*Student Staff for 2012-2013* – We have extended the deadline for some student positions to March 19<sup>th</sup> in order to broaden the applicant pool.

*HR Policy and Bylaws* – I have been discussing changes to our employee bylaws as well as the creation of an HR policy with the HR Advisor (who has put in some great work on the bylaws already) and the General Manager. I'm not sure we'll be able to complete this work before the end of the semester, but I hope to leave at least a strong draft for my successor.

*Executive Contracts Review* – As promised, I coordinated the further review of the executive job descriptions by execs and the exec contract by the HR Advisor and General Manager. These are being presented as a policy so that they do not automatically expire after a year. Here's hoping they will help execs structure their work and help Council hold us accountable!

*Cake & Staff Meeting* – I attended our most recent monthly staff & cake meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Knight  
*President*

### **Reports from Student Staff within the President Portfolio**

*Jessica Wang, Secretary General (February 6<sup>th</sup>)*

Since the last report, I have been working on a variety of tasks. Before the New Year, I transcribed principal Heather Monroe Blum's webcast. Furthermore, I have prepared a survey regarding GA reform and prepared the data in the survey. I have also done research regarding bylaws at other universities in Canada. The bylaw research was used as a means of helping the Ad-Hoc Bylaw Review Committee reform the current bylaws. I've also created a bylaw comparison chart illustrating the similar and different features of the bylaws across universities in Canada.

Other surveys that I have prepared include the SSMU Mid-year survey, where I have created a PowerPoint of the results and forwarded any questions to the relevant exec. I have also prepared a document of the councilor evaluations at the end of the Fall 2011 semester.

Recently I have spent some time putting up posters such as GA Motion Submission posters, Consultation fair posters as well as Winter GA Posters. I also printed GA Handbills to be handed around to students around campus and during council. Furthermore, I assisted the Communications and Publications Manager in printing councilor headshots for the front foyer of the Shatner Building.



My other administration tasks include compiling a spreadsheet of councilors who have submitted their Councilor reports, obtaining office hours of councilors for the Winter 2012 semester, and typing up notes from the Strategic Summits. I've also scanned several binders in the President's office and archived them.

*Cameron Butler, Environment Commissioner*

*February 6<sup>th</sup>*

Over the course of this semester, I have been working on an energy use awareness campaign, which will be done primarily through signage in the Shatner building. At this point designs for some of the signs have been created and I, along with our Science Advisor Mary, will soon be meeting with VP Clubs & Services to finalize the designs and start getting the signs made.

I have also been putting together a spreadsheet for information of all green clubs and services and I will be sending that out to them this week to get it filled in and shared; this will help with promoting collaboration and awareness of each other's work/activities.

Beyond these projects I have been doing a lot of administrative work like putting together the listserv, running the environment committee meetings, etc.

*March 11<sup>th</sup>*

I have been working primarily on the sustainability policy and energy signage campaign. For the sustainability policy, I spent a lot of time writing different sections for it and then piecing them together and editing them with Aryeh. In the course of writing the policy, we have also begun putting together our exit report and preparing for next year, especially assessing how the official volunteer positions should be modified. For the energy signage campaign, I held a small event for students to come help design different signs for within the Shatner building. We are also expanding the campaign to put together signs and stickers that students will be able to put up in their homes as reminders of energy-efficient practices. I have also been attending the funding committee meetings, as well as the usual listserv and email account managing.

*Aryeh Canter, Environment Commissioner*

*February 6<sup>th</sup>*

This has been a good month for the Environment Committee. During meetings I feel we have started to build really good group dynamics and the group is working hard to get things done.

### Bottle Water Campaign

-First event (Flash Fill) planned for February 8

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president@ssmu.mcgill.ca



- Awesome flyer, sticker and posters have been made
- Mary has been researching how to implement ban in building
- Supposed to have meeting with Kathleen and Redpath Museum, awaiting times from her

#### Managing the Greenhouse

- Spent a lot of time coming up to speed with what is going on
- Started to coordinate with Mira (architect) and stake holders to begin design
- In conversation with Mellissa (from class action) about getting things moving
- Still looking for Sun Study done from Matthew Perk (isn't responding to emails)

#### Green Corner

- Empowered Organic Campus to take ownership of space
- Ideas about how to better utilize countertop with murals
- Other ideas for post wall were also dreamt up

#### Working relationships

- Have been utilizing Dave as a resource and assistant for brainstorming and trouble shooting
- Cameron and I have been operating relatively independently. Not bad, nor is it particularly good, mostly neutral
- Been using the official volunteers much more this semester, a bit worried I might be giving too many things, but will proceed with caution

#### Miscellaneous

- Cameron and I have been each going to a Funding Committee (it is hard because Shyam can not find a good time)
- Spent a lot of time assisting Dave with Strategic Summit
- Five Year Plan has not met

#### *March 7<sup>th</sup>*

#### Biggest projects from past month

- Flash Fill
- Sustainability Plan

#### How things went?

- Flash Fill: had poor attendance because most potential attendees were having a party on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of James Admin building (rude! I know). Was able to make a movie through Class Action so that was a positive.

- The Sustainably plan looks really good. Wrote a good section with Cameron that will make the final cut!

#### Smaller projects

- Greenhouse

#### How things went?



-Greenhouse: Moving slowly, but that's ok because we have time until the windows get taken out (late april/early may). Class Action loves to push for more information but things are going well.

*Rodrigo Jimenez, Green Building Coordinator*

*February 6<sup>th</sup>*

- Worked on Shatner Building Lighting Audit. This includes:
  - Identify and count light bulbs in the building
  - Gather light bulb type specifications (wattage, light intensity, voltage, etc.)
  - All information collected is being recorded in a comprehensive spreadsheet showing light bulb count, type, wattage, and total power consumed by area, floor and total.

About 75% of the audit has been completed, and should be completed within the next week.

- Different options are being evaluated to reduce the energy consumption through lighting based on the data collected so far. These include changes in use, lighting types, and automation.
- The lighting audit will give us a good idea of the power (energy/time) consumption of the lighting system in the building. However, a study of the lighting use (how long are they on) must be performed for a full understanding of the total energy consumption through lighting. This will be done after the Lighting Audit is completed.
- Some work has been done in reading the ISO 50001 document to set up a standardized plan of action, however, finishing the lighting audit is now a priority to be able to submit project proposals as soon as possible. The plan of action will be finalized before the end of the academic year.

*March 8<sup>th</sup>*

- Most of the relevant data needed for the lighting audit has been gathered and recorded. The spreadsheet shows the total power consumed by each space in the building, by each type of bulb, and the total power consumed by the whole lighting system in the Shatner building (in Watts). Further information will be gathered about fluorescent ballasts in the building, and the types of lights being used by food vendors.
- The data collected has been used to identify opportunities to reduce both energy consumption and peak power. Three main measures have been identified and discussed with the building managers:
  - Shutting down aesthetic fluorescent tubes behind boxes (~8.3KW)



- Replacing energy intensive incandescent light bulbs in Gerts (~7.6KW), La Prep (~5.0KW), and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor vendors (~7.3KW)
- Installing automatic lighting controls in sub-basement storage room sb17e (2.4KW)

Other measures being evaluated are to replace magnetic ballasts by electronic ballasts, facing out less efficient fluorescent tubes (F34T12), and adding automatic dimming systems to certain lights in the building. However, these measures have a smaller impact on energy reduction and will have a longer payback period.

- A document with guidelines on how to approach the GBC position has been started, as well as a structured folder for proper documentation of reports and gathered information. This work is being done following the guidelines proposed in the ISO 50001 Energy Management document. This work will be continually developed and improved throughout the rest of the term.

*Marie-Line Sarrazin, Green Events Coordinator*

*February 6<sup>th</sup>*

- Improving SSMU capacity to host eco-friendly events
  - Got the authorization to add recycling bins to the Ballroom and I am currently looking for the best option.
- Working with Wallace to include a sustainability section to the room booking process/contract for events
- Done all the steps to get new t-shirts for the Green Event Team (waiting for EnviroComm budget to be accepted),
- The updated Green Event Guide is still in process!

*March 9<sup>th</sup>*

- I met with Wallace in order to institutionalized sustainability in events management. I told him about having recycling bins in the Ballroom, and he found a company that could potentially provide bins for the entire building. I also discuss with him ways of proposing sustainable services during event booking; the event webpage will be rebuilt, and I made sections to advertise the Green events team, the green events guide and the Green events checklist. I also have facilitate a dialogue between Wallace and the Plate club; a new collaboration for events seems to appear!

- I have ordered t-shirts for the Green events team through Me to We

- I have finished to update the Green Events Guide. I have given the modified version to Dave for review and comments.

- I coordinated the renting and cleaning of reusable cups during Faculty Olympics.