



President's Report to Council

For March 29th, 2012.

The weeks just keep flying by. This is our second to last Council meeting—how did that happen?

Student Democracy and Constituencies

Bylaw Review Committee – The Bylaw Extravaganza continues. Revisions submitted to Council cover nearly every article in Book One and much of Book Three. Book Two requires a complete overhaul, which VP Patel has committed to drafting before he leaves office.

Conflict of Interest Policy – I received confirmation from our legal counsel that he has no further edits to propose to the final draft presented for adoption on tonight's agenda.

Elections – I have been providing administrative assistance to Elections SSMU in regards to the exceptional referendum period. Additionally, I conducted interviews for the new Chief Electoral Officer, who will run the exceptional referendum period due to current CEO Rebecca Tacoma's resignation (which stemmed from her academic commitments).

Judicial Board – Status quo. I have received confirmation from the Chief Justice that they will be proposing internal procedures for ratification at our final Council meeting.

Strategic Summits – VP Patel and Intern Flint Deita hosted our final Strategic Summit of the year regarding the Student-Run Café this past Friday. The summary document of all the strategic summit discussions and action items is in the works (thanks to the Secretary General).

Presidents' Roundtable – I met with the Large Association Caucus and the full Presidents' Roundtable on March 14th.

Relationship with AUS – Following the concerns about the AUS General Assembly and the SSMU Executive's subsequent letter, I participated in the meeting between the SSMU and AUS Executives. Subsequently, AUS President Jade Calver and I met to draft the joint statement which was distributed to the media last week. VP Clare and I also met separately with Councillor Bi.

March 22nd – In the lead up to last week's huge demonstration, I participated in a meeting with various McGill staff members in order to discuss safety and security precautions; liaised with various McGill staff in the days leading up to the March; along with VP Clare, edited the SSMU tips on things to prepare for if protesting and sections of the SSMU strike FAQs; and contributed to SSMU's contingency planning. I participated in the march, and was extremely happy about the turnout and the lack of physical violence.

Student Leader Orientation – I met with folks from the Offices of the Dean of Students, the Deputy Provost, and Student Services to discuss the agenda for the annual orientation



workshop for student association executives (to be held the second week of May). I'm excited by the prospect of a lot more co-presentation by staff and student leaders.

Handbook – I met with VP Fraser and the Communications and Publications Manager to discuss plans for next year's handbook, which is being transferred from the VP C&S portfolio to the President. The bulk of the work will begin once we have hired a content editor.

Long-Term Financial Plan – I participated in a review session to assist VP Patel in moving forward with this document.

Room Booking System – I participated in a training hosted by VP Fraser concerning the new room booking system.

Assorted Events – I attended St Patty's at Gerts, TVM's Fokus Film Festival, and the Haiti Benefit Gala.

McGill Governance & Relations

Board of Governors – I attended the most recent Nominating, Governance, & Ethics Committee and the Board of Governors full meeting. Items in open session include the DPSLL's annual report, remarks by the Chair and the Principal, approval of the new Dentistry institute in Qatar, and further remarks by the Dean of Medicine re the asbestos story.

Senate – I attended Senate, wrote a blog post for Senator's Corner, and participated in the recent Senate Committee on Physical Development meeting.

Lease – VP Clare and I met separately with the Provost, Deputy Provost, and Ms. Campbell regarding this issue. The Lease Committee met again this weekend. We are finally seeing some movement to start to address some of our key concerns.

Deputy Provost – VP Clare and I met with the Deputy Provost concerning various issues, including the Lease, student strikes, March 22nd, and the exceptional referendum period.

Student Life Associate – Status quo. Ian Simmie returns to work this week.

McGill Alumni Association – I attended the MAA's Board Meeting last week. They are doing bylaw revisions too.

Food and Dining Advisory Committee – I attended on last week. Omer and David from the Sustainability Case Competition were guests and discussed the outcomes of the case competition expo.

Sustainability



Sustainability Policy – After several rounds of edits (thanks to the Environment Commissioners, Sustainability Coordinator, and VP Clare), the Sustainability Policy is presented as a notice of motion.

McGill Strategic Planning – Vision 2020 continues. Emily and I attended their event on March 16th. This process seems to be quite successful so far and is creating a lot of important conversations.

Class Action Project – I attended a meeting of the Class Action Project for the Class of 2012. If you don't have posters for this in your building(s), please let me know!

Human Resources

Student Staff for 2012-2013 – Hiring is under way. I've reviewed and, in consultation with the enviro staff, President-elect Josh Redel, outgoing Chief Electoral Officer, and VP Fraser, have selected candidates to interview for Environment Commissioner, Green Events Coordinator, Secretary General, Recording Secretary, and Handbook Content Editor.

Student Staff Transition – Marie-Elaine, Pauline, and I discussed improving transition between student staff members. We've developed an exit report template that we will be asking student staff to use to help with consistency year to year. I need to contribute a couple of edits and then it will be distributed.

Executive Transition – I had a preliminary meeting with Josh to start planning our individual transition. I have also started discussions with the HR Advisor about transition as a whole.

HR Policy and Bylaws – Work continues but this is not a current priority due to all the hiring going on!

Communications & Publications Manager – I participated in the CPM's performance evaluation along with the General Manager and HR Advisor.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Knight
President