



**Report of the Vice President (University Affairs) to
the Legislative Council of the Students' Society of McGill University
Meeting of February 18th, 2010**

5 things of import...

1. Anthony Masi got his term renewed as Provost.
2. Know anyone who wants to run for my position? Send them my way.
3. Follow me on Twitter. <http://twitter.com/ssmuvpua>
4. Will is back from Iqaluit! Which is apparently a place in Canada... American fail.
5. Have a good Reading Week (don't forget to thank Student Senators of yore for fighting for it)!!!

For Information/Discussion:

SSMU Affairs

- A. "The McGill We Want": www.ssmu.mcgill.ca/mcgillwewant
 - a. "Taking Over the Classroom": February 9th, 6pm. Leacock 219. This event was unsuccessful, currently planning whether or not to continue with events. Open to feedback. Positive outcome: interesting brainstorming session with TLS Re: Safe classroom spaces!
 - b. Submission received from Arts, not a full submission.
- B. Student Equity Committee: Going well. We have put forward our initial recommendations and everything is moving at a good pace. Equity Committee and Choose Life are both happy with our progress. See report.
- C. Social Justice Days: February 8th-17th: Get excited about our awesome events!
 - a. <http://ssmu.mcgill.ca/socialjusticedays>
- D. How to be a SSMU Senator: I accidentally held 2 info sessions. Fun! Informative! Senatorial! If you know anyone who is thinking about running for a Senator position who has not spoken to me or one of the current Senators please tell them to do so. We don't bite! And it will only help us all in the long run!
- E. Awards of Distinction: We wanted to give out awards but the by-laws were messed up. Please approve my proposed revisions.
- F. Sebastian and I are going to make a video about how funding works. I am working on the script. It's going to be really informative and really low budget (to reflect the reality of our student debt).

University Affairs

- G. Senate: February 10th meeting. Next meeting, March 24th.
 - a. Question: Public Affairs reporting to Senate.
 - b. Research Policy: Came for discussion on a technicality. Will be going to Academic Policy Committee before going to Senate in March for approval. We made our final interventions... the response from the Administration was unsurprisingly and unimpressively dismissive. Our main concerns now focus on the lack of the mention of ethics and the lack of recourse built into the



- policy for a violation of their new mention of social responsibility. Props to Senator Woolf.
- c. Student Life and Learning Report Card: Focus on advising. Unfortunately moving at a glacial pace.
 - d. Opt-outs: The issue of opt-outs was brought to Senate... by Professor Darin Barney! Mendelson said he would bring a report forward to Senate on opt-outs effect on student groups... it is unclear as to whether or not he realized what he was agreeing to. Surprises surprises.
 - e. Live Reporting During Senate: The Daily request is in, it will be addressed at March Senate. Yay!
- H. Security: I am generally concerned with the high level of security at last Senate and the two Senate's before. The events issue from last week with room bookings was sort of the last straw as it is clear that this is not an issue that is going away. This is a university bias that I want to begin creatively dismantling. Step 1: memo. Step 2: Extraordinarily disruptive demonstration (just kidding). Formal apology from Debbie Yacoulis/room bookings... pending...
- I. University Committees: My shout out at the GA resulted in quite a few interested students contacting me. At this point I may only give up a few small committees that I sit on as this will most likely be better than putting an inexperienced student in my place with 3 months left.
- J. Meeting with Professor Mendelson this Wednesday: Will report orally.
- K. Committee on Student Services: A very uneventful meeting. Discussion on Ancillary fees and a presentation from the Office for Students with Disabilities. Student Services could be doing a lot more to achieve our priority on Health Services, we will have to wait until after break to take see this initiative through.
- L. Workgroup on Exam Regulations: Meeting Thursday. Will report orally.
- M. Learning Center: A brief meeting was held with individuals from Student Services to discuss plans for improving learning at McGill through the creation of an easy to navigate network of learning support resources or the centralization of learning resources at McGill. I will keep you updated on the progress of this, although it will most likely not be something that comes to completion during my mandate.
- N. Meeting with PGSS VP Academic: Wednesday, to discuss the possibility of collaboration between undergrads and grad student TAs on improving learning. Will report orally.
- O. Student Life and Learning Report Card: www.mcgill.ca/studentlife/
- P. Advisory Committee: I will be continuing my work on the Advisory Committees for the Selection of the VP RIR and the Director of Libraries.

Please do not hesitate to contact me about any topics discussed in this report or relating to my portfolio

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Dooley
VP University Affairs 09-10