



Report of the VP External to Council

“Qui s'instruit s'enrichit”

-Education reformers of the quiet revolution

Government

1. TaCEQ

a) Accounting:

Since the beginning of 2010, SSMU has been working with TaCEQ and the other associations to develop an accounting system for the TaCEQ. As per the latter's bylaws, our membership in TaCEQ engages us to provide in-kind contributions to the organization, based on our institutional capacities. To this end, and because SSMU has a very strong accounting department, SSMU will manage the accounting of the TaCEQ for the foreseeable future. This will include:

- i. Open a TaCEQ bank account at SSMU's bank: Scotia Bank
- ii. appointing SSMU comptroller Steven Tamas as TaCEQ comptroller and signing officer
- iii. naming the TaCEQ executive secondary signing officers
- iv. have bank issued credit cards for the TaCEQ executive for the many petty expenses (travel, food etc.) that they incur while conducting their duties
- v. draft and approve an expense approval process including and binding all TaCEQ members

2. Tuition increases

- a) February 22nd a press release was issued with 16 signatories, including Lucien Bouchard, Monique Jerome-Forget and two former FEUQ presidents, calling on the Quebec government to dramatically increase tuition fees in 2012. Purpose is to address underfunding of the university system. They call for differential tuition based on presumed income after graduation and that the minimum would be brought to the Canadian average.
- b) SSMU will continue to fight the logic that rendering university education less and less accessible is the only way to solve the funding crisis. This is shortsighted and, frankly lacks vision. Did any of you catch the Quebec medical specialist's ads on TV during the Olympics? There are plenty of plausible solutions available!!
- c) In response, I have printed posters to be distributed around campus and have created ssmu.mcgill.ca/tuition for more information.
- c) ASSE organizing demonstration against fee increases for April 1st. More information to come...

3. Stage 4 remuneree/Paid Practicum

- a) Demonstration on February 18th in Quebec City, organized by the FEUQ, garnered a 200 person turnout in front of the National Assembly at 10am
- b) Currently, there is no news on a planned demonstration in Montreal, which SSMU had committed to participate in...



Community

5. CARE – IRC

- a) After a tour of 12 consultation meetings, Helene Brisson (from the MPCC) and I have accumulated a huge stack of notes that we are reviewing in order to improve the CARE document
- b) We have organized a Milton-Parc public consultation to take place on March 16th at the Church on Parc. All community members will be welcome to participate in the discussion on the CARE-IRC
- c) An updated draft will be sent to Morton Mendelson on March 9th to be presented to the administration for approval.

6. Burst Your Bubble

- a) Tour to the Yellow Door this Wednesday, March 3rd
- b) Tour to the Alfie Roberts Centre next Tuesday March 9th

7. Café Conversations

- a) Second Café Conversations evening coming up on Tuesday, March 9th 2010 from 7pm to 9pm at Presse Café. We will be having Prof. Darin Barney as guest speaker and there will be door prizes. Come on out!!

Other

8. Homefest meeting

- a) Attended a meeting on Monday with high-ups in the residence administration and student services about creating a rez-fest of sorts for First-years who don't live in residence. As a member of that demographic I think that this initiative is very important for those that don't have an easy route into a social network.

9. External Affairs Committee

- a) We met on Monday and developed a plan for drafting an External Affairs Policy book over the next month.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sebastian Ronderos-Morgan, VP (External) SSMU