



# SENATE CAUCUS REPORT

## JANUARY 30- FEBRUARY 12, 2018

### ISABELLA ANDERSON (ARTS SENATOR)

[artssenator1@ssmu.ca](mailto:artssenator1@ssmu.ca)

- Portion of the Letter to Send to Faculties

“ Dear [x],

We hope your semester is going well. We, the SSMU VP University Affairs and the Faculty Senators, are reaching out to you because we understand that not all faculties are currently represented at Senate Caucus, and we would like to change this by inviting you to send a representative to engage in discussion and skill-sharing at Senate Caucus on behalf of your faculty organization.”

- Senate Committees:

- CSS → SQ

- Met Wednesday, January 31st

- Discussed potential changes to the Terms of Reference, that would better communicate the role of the committee and what it can/cannot do
- Received a presentation on survey/benchmarking data related to student mental health at McGill and how we compare to similar schools
- Summer 2018 Rossi Student Wellness Hub will begin renovations; renovations will likely go into Fall 2018, with a hard opening in Winter 2019 and a soft opening if/when things are completed beforehand

- Will be discussing how upcoming changes to the Student Life and Learning Portfolio may affect the distribution of units currently under the Student Services portfolio in coming meetings

- Next meeting is Wednesday, February 28th

- ESAAC → met on Tuesday, February 6th

- Unable to attend due to a previously scheduled conference and class that overlapped (one day I will make it)

- AUS Committees:

- Accountability Committee → Next meeting is Wednesday, February 14th

- SQ

- Faculty of Arts Committee → Last meeting was cancelled, unsure of the next meeting



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- SSMU Committees:

- *Steering Committee* → started meeting via Google Hangouts; SQ
- Notable Legislative Council happenings:
  - Last meeting's agenda is online! If you have any questions let me know :)
  - Hyperlinked Motions:
    - **Motion on Consultation on Systemic Racism in Montreal APPROVED 2018-02-08**
    - **Motion Regarding the ECOLE Project Fee Levy Renewal APPROVED 2018-02-08**
    - **Motion to De-gender the Language of the SSMU APPROVED 2018-02-08**
  - Next meeting is Thursday, February 22nd (agenda will be available soon online; Steering is meeting this weekend)

- Discussions had with Faculty

- Updates from AUS Council:
  - Met February 7, 2018 (motions linked here)
    - **Motion to Approve Social Work Indigenous Field Course Fee Increase**
    - **Motion to Amend Electoral By-Laws**
    - **Motion to Amend All AUS By-Laws**
    - **Motion to Amend Financial By-Laws**
    - **Motion to Approve Revisions to the Political Science Students' Association (PSSA) Constitution**
    - **Motion Regarding the Reappointment of the Auditor for the Year Ending April 30, 2019**
    - **Motion to Formalize the VP Finance Screening Committee**
    - **Motion to Ratify Membership of the VP Finance Screening Committee**
  - Will update on these orally if anyone has questions
    - Agenda with Appendices is available [here](#)

- Projects worked on/meetings had with administrators

- Emailing back and forth with Martine Gauthier to follow up on a question form Athletics Rep to SSMU about the knowledge of nutritionists in CSS regarding sports nutrition due to lack of nutrition lab currently in Athletics



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## **MICHAEL NWABUFO (ARTS SENATOR)**

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### **Discussions with Faculty:**

- AUS Council last Wednesday
  - Approved the budget for the current year
  - Created an Ad-Hoc People of Colour Committee
  - Approved motion to call election periods !!

### **Projects worked on/meetings had with administrators**

- I've been contacting a few business about OneCard: Basha and Freshii have gotten back to me. Freshii looking to set up a meeting date but Director of Finance at SHHS hasn't answered me yet.
  - UPDATE: Director Finance SHHS just responded to me
- Going to talk to VP Finance SSMU about contracts with businesses in SSMU building
- Met with TVN about senator vlogs and they are IN. We'll discuss at caucus.

### **Committees:**

- CESA
  - Convinced that we're never going to meet again

## **JED LETENSKY (ARTS & SCIENCE SENATOR)**

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### **Senate/McGill Admin Work:**

- Met with BoG chair and Sec. Gen. on Thursday to go over improving communication between stakeholders and BoG committees and to debrief about the early adjournment of the Board of Governors meeting in December.

### **Committees:**

SCTP

- Canceled last week's meeting due to lack of new business

SUSA

- No new updates



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**BASIC:**

- Got two interdisciplinary research conferences coming up! Reaching out to provost and principal for additional funding.

**QI YUE HE (PT/OT SENATOR)**

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- **Committees have you met with**

- Health Advisory Board

- Meeting on February 5th

- New wellness centre

- Natural set up
- Charging station
- Colour

- Green

- Shag shop

- Online to physical shop

- Somewhere in the brown building

- Wellness center is in operation

- All the receptionist will be in one area

- More clarity, easier access

- Central access point

- 900 000 dollars by Rossi Foundation

- Fourth floor still be used for Physician, everyone access from the 3rd floor

- Partnership

- Accommodate students in evening

- Not much success with other clinics

- Macdonald campus

- Physician will be there 1 time a week

- Nurse practitioner

- Function like physician

- Eating disorder program

- Not equipped to have this service

- Not having plans for restoring the program

- Physicians not comfortable to do it

- All cases treated here are all mild

- The moderate to severe cases are all refereed out



- Flu shots
    - Past: we have bought vaccines and sold them
    - Now with the accessible fee regulations, not able to give vaccines with a fee.
    - 200\$ to buy in pharmacy and 160\$ when doing in McGill clinic
  - 20 physicians working there, 3.8 full time equivalence
    - A little low
    - Would want to increase
  - Psychiatry: 7 full -time equivalence
- Student wellness action plans (SWAP)
  - Health and wellness strategy
  - Change the current the wellness in student life
  - Example : sleep hygiene, effective contraception
  - Encourage previous services as well as trying to have new services
  - Front line services
    - Think about that
    - Before only the receptionists
    - Now having two dedicated individuals to answer phone
    - Will increase front line staffs in the future
- **Discussions had with Faculty**
  - Frosh director for 2018 elected
  - Student Balance Month
    - It was called occupational balance month before, 3 weeks with small activities to de-stress a few activities include therapy dogs, zumba class, arts class, yoga
    - Thinking of doing it the week before march break and two weeks after. The week before march break would be mainly for the undergraduates and the two weeks after more for the master students
    - 2-3 days/week in hosmer or davis house
    - Would be interesting to have someone give a talk on mental health for example, like someone from the well office.
  - QY liaison meeting
    - QY still feel a little separated from the U3 cohort.
    - Maybe having a QY liaison meeting, so a questionnaire to fill out by the QY and an open/informal meeting between U3 and QY cohort
    - Maybe having an orientation/frosh for the QY, SPOTGSA could be in charge as they do not fall in POTUS.



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- There was a picnic but was not very successful, a lot of the U3 reps came and SPOTGSA as well but not great, might be better to have some kind of like Montreal orientation
- Anatomy workshop -->Could be open to U3 as well
- Talent show recap
  - Made 1107\$ for the foundation.
  - We sold about 70 tickets, made a lot of money from raffles.

## TRE MANSDOERFER (ENGINEERING SENATOR)

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### Senate/McGill Admin Work:

- Chris reached out to me the other day about talking about Greek life in greater depth, will pursue later this week

### Committees:

#### TLSWG

- SQ

#### CSS

- SQ

#### SSAP

- Canceled upcoming meeting this Friday, will have final meeting in April

#### Library Improvement Fund Committee

- SQ

### EUS:

- Board of Governors is going to go through its own review after its first year in operation
  - Purpose and powers of the board will be looked at, thoughts on expanding scope
- SSMU rep hierarchy in EUS structure is being reconsidered, will potentially have a more exec-like status
- Winter budget review meeting went through, significantly easier than the first
  - Cuts weren't as aggressive, due to increased design team fee
  - Looked at discretionary funding and its place in the EUS
- Winter GA is coming up, will be the second GA in the last 15-20ish years for EUS (we just had one in the fall)
  - Going to hit quorum with the free pizza we give out hopefully
- Elections are starting up for execs, will be selected by the end of February
- McGill Engineers Rule the World (MERTWINTER) coordination is currently going underway, I tried renting the Montreal Planetarium to no avail



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**SSMU Legislative Council:**

- Motion on using Gender neutral language has been adopted for all SSMU documents!
- Interesting first 2 hours of council, if Isabelle wants to talk about it herself
- AVEQ+UEQ are stopping by later tonight to present

**FATIMA ANJUM (LAW SENATOR)**

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**Committees:**

- The Committee will be meeting shortly to decide on next steps after receiving the University's response.

**Discussions with Faculty:**

- LSA Council meeting:
  - Updated the Council on the new smoking policy from last Senate meeting

**Projects worked on/meetings had with administrators**

- Working with the Task force - please get the word out on group submissions to the Task Force and individual submissions as well! We would like more student responses!
- Received preliminary research from Aishwarya and looking forward to combining that work with the new program

**AHMER WALI (MEDICINE SENATOR)**

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**NO REPORT WAS SUBMITTED**

**SALMA YOUSSEF (SCIENCE SENATOR)**

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**Senate/McGill Admin Work:**

OERs:

- Had our presentation last week



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- The event was poorly attended but I blame my lack of marketing experience and I need to learn to better advertise my events (maybe put up posters next time)
- It was a good experience presenting and a trial run for next time
- We're going to start working on finding profs to help with our pilot program

**Committees:**

**ESAAC:**

- Creation of a new minor for International Experiential Learning
  - Students will receive credits for studying abroad
  - This won't apply for students who've already gone abroad unfortunately but once it's been implemented it will count thereon
- Embedded Wellness Access
  - They're renovating the clinic to try a new model for accessibility for mental health resources
  - A "triage system" where the patient comes in and speaks first to a triage *social worker* (it was made VERY clear that they will not be councillors) who will be trained appropriately to determine the urgency and what support the student needs
  - Was made clear that the social worker would assist directly the patient in getting to the proper resource (I was worried they'd just give them a number to call, that's a whole other issue to worry about when someone's in need of help and would just defeat the purpose completely so I was glad to hear it)
- Proposal to Change Academic Dates for Fall 2018
  - This part took no discussion at all because there was a scheduling mistake when they first passed the dates at Senate years ago
  - They just wanted to change the first day of classes to a Monday schedule to make sure the Monday classes don't lose hours
- Proposal to address registration issue for returning students
  - This was an interesting one
  - Rather than have students register on days according to their faculty and year it will be assigned by year and credit number remaining in a degree
  - The purpose of this is so that students who are closest to graduating will be able to choose the courses they absolutely need to graduate and there will be no issue regarding whether they can get into the course and no question of whether or not they'll graduate
  - This seemed like a better alternative to random assigning/lottery (no one wants to have their academic future depend on chance so this gave it some structure)
  - This will be implemented for this upcoming school year so each student will receive a date and time they will be permitted to register during
  - Side-note: it hit me during this discussion that I won't be registering for courses anymore and it got me really sad :(





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**Senate:**

- Will be presenting on behalf of the open discussion so if there's anything you would like me to present because you had a good experience in a class with a prof trying new and unconventional methods of teaching, please let me know (Fatima and Isabella are helping out too)
- Write me a paragraph (~ a minute long to read on your behalf) /please/

**SUS:**

Academia Week:

- Went really well!
- ASAP Science (YouTube) came!!!!!!

SUS Gala:

- So much fun!
- 

**NAHAL FANSIA (NURSING SENATOR)**

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**Committees**

- ❖ Student Health Advisory Board meeting was today at 9 30am.
  - Was not able to attend because of mandatory lab
  - Had asked Qi Yue to keep me updated since she is also on this committee -> she should fill us all in ☺

**Discussions had with Faculty**

- ❖ NUS Constitution and by-laws were discussed and changed at the last General Council meeting.
- ❖ General Assembly coming up.

**Projects worked on/meetings had with administrators**

- ❖ Contact Concordia student services to get more information on their STI pop in testing.

**ISABELLE OKE (SSMU VP UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS)**

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**MUNA TOJIBOEVA (SSMU PRESIDENT)**

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As SSMU Executives, Isabelle Oke and Muna Tojiboeva reports to the SSMU Legislative Council every two weeks. Their reports can be found among the other Council Meeting documents at this link

<https://ssmu.ca/governance/ssmu-legislative-council/>