



**Office of Vice-President (University Affairs)**

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*Located on unceded, Kanien'kehá:ka traditional territory*

# SENATE CAUCUS REPORT

## FEBRUARY 5 - FEBRUARY 18, 2019

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## **MADLINE WILSON (ARTS SENATOR)**

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### **Committee Work:**

ESAAC met on Feb 5

- Potential for running [student-led seminars](#)
  - Only some faculties interested, stressed importance of making sure student leading seminar receives some compensation for their labor
- Dean of Students (DoS) Office circulated initial draft of Involuntary Leave Policy
  - Students raised concerns about a number of points
  - As per feedback, DoS will be revising to specify “student in crisis”, refocus goal on the student re-entry into university, ensure support network in place for student put on involuntary leave, ensure that it is explicitly clear and guaranteed that this is the very last resort - only to be used in extreme circumstances
  - Will be returning to ESAAC with new draft at next meeting, feedback incorporated
- Reported IT feasibility of S/U grade uncovering project

### **Faculty Updates :**

AUS Council met on 2/14 (postponed one day because of snow day)

- Question/statement/resolution for POLI 339 took up most of meeting (3+hours)
  - AUS Secretary General(s) have temporarily suspended AUS Executive Committee’s decision to overturn Council vote against POLI 339 course fee - currently sorting this suspension out with the DPSLL office, which was already informed of the fee’s new approval
  - Conducting investigation, results will be released on 2/28
  - Referendum Period extended to propose additional Constitutional amendments to ensure this cannot happen again
- Passed many questions to now be sent to Referendum (fee renewals and creation of VP Services position)
- More of a gesture but support for affordable dining in McLennan-Redpath Complex
- Banned recording/taping of AUS Council meetings with requested exemptions for members of press - to promote safe spaces and condemn malicious, manipulative taping
- Voted to send adapted EUS letter to DPSLL Advisory Committee - [AUS LETTER](#)

Resignation of AUS VP Internal Billy Kawasaki (due to events of POLI 339) - unsure how replacement will proceed

AUS Elections Polling Period opens today, results on Feb 21 @ BdA



<b>Personal Project Updates :</b>
<p>OERs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Have hired student assistants for MATH 140/1, ECON 208, HIST 213, and CHEM 110/120</li> </ul> <p>Food Insecurity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Setting up large meeting</li> </ul>
<b>Miscellaneous Updates:</b>
<p>Attended SACOMSS consultation on 2/12</p> <p>Attended SSMU Legislative Council on 2/7 as proxy for Bryan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Passed amendments to Family Care Policy</li> <li>- Passed amendments to Internal Regulations of Elections and Referenda (abstained)</li> <li>- Passed councilor proxies from SUS and BASiC (exemption from standing rules) and reinstatement for Music</li> <li>- Will not be running VP Operations and Sustainability position for election this year, but will encourage incoming SSMU Executives to consider for the following year</li> </ul>

**OMMU-KULSOOM ABDUL-RAHAMAN (ARTS SENATOR)**

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<b>Committee Work:</b>
Nothing to report because none of my committees have met yet.
<b>Faculty Updates :</b>
AUS candidates debate happening this Tuesday and the voting period opens on February 18th
<b>Personal Project Updates :</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have met with Prof Medani and we have discussed the steps that have to be followed in preparing a proposal for the creation of an institute.</li> </ul>



- At the APC committee meeting last term a proposal for the creation of an institute in the Faculty of Medicine (Institute of Health Sciences Education) was presented and passed so I have been reviewing that as a model to follow in researching and preparing the proposal
- I am reaching out to the dean of arts as well as the chairs of relevant departments that currently house African Studies courses such Poli Sci, Anthro to see if this is a project that they would support it this year cause the previous proposal was not something McGill wanted

**Miscellaneous Updates:**

Nothing to report

**BRYAN BURAGA (ARTS & SCIENCE SENATOR)**

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**Committee Work:**

- Attended Building Operations and Management Committee (BOMCOM) meeting on January 23rd
- Attended SSMU Legislative Council meeting on January 24th
- Attended SSMU Steering Committee on February 2nd
- Attended SSMU Board of Directors meeting on February 3rd

**Faculty Updates:**

- Attended BASiC meeting on January 29th

**Personal Project Updates:**

- Ad-Hoc Fall Reading Break Committee:
  - Chaired committee meeting on January 26th
    - Reaching out to Associate Senators to help with focus groups
    - JED Consulting currently working on reaching out with other university and analyzing the survey
  - Attended ESAAC subcommittee meeting on January 29th



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- Currently focused on a week-long reading break
- Analyzing effects of starting one week early and extending class times

**Miscellaneous Updates:**

- Changed Office Hours for this semester!
  - Only by appointment
- Met with Science student
- Met with SSMU President

**COLIN DONAHOE (MANAGEMENT SENATOR)**

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

**Committee Work:**

- Committee on Enrolment and Student Affairs (CESA) to meet February 19
- Subcommittee on Student Affairs Policy (SSAP) has not met

**Faculty Updates :**

- MUS Election cycle has concluded
- MUS Executive appointments is underway

**Personal Project Updates :**

- Nothing to report

**Miscellaneous Updates:**

- Nothing to report



## ZI HUANG (EDUCATION SENATOR)

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

<b>Committee Work:</b>
<p>Subcommittee on Teaching and Learning (STL): Office of Science Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- New initiative; specialist in science faculty</li><li>- Want to engage students with meaningful questions about teaching and learning</li><li>- Encouraging teachers to try innovative teaching strategies</li><li>- Students work in the office but not many student consultations happening at the moment</li></ul> <p>Academic Quality Standards and Procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Not a lot of formal information on academic quality</li><li>- Our professors are knowledgeable but have no training in teaching</li><li>- Proposed solution: rewards/merit for profs who engage in peer-observations</li></ul> <p>Update on Student Assessment Policy (Buddle)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Timeline is two years</li><li>- Wants to use STL as a foundational advisory group and wants additional student representation</li><li>- Wants to change it from rule-based to principle-based document</li></ul>
<b>Faculty Updates:</b>
<p>Election period extended. Mu Rong (education rep this year) is the only one running for the position.</p>
<b>Personal Project Updates:</b>
<p>Nothing to report.</p>
<b>Miscellaneous Updates:</b>
<p>Nothing to report.</p>



## **SARIM MALIK (ENGINEERING SENATOR)**

[engineering senator@ssmu.ca](mailto:engineering senator@ssmu.ca)

### **Committee Work:**

- **Scholarship & Student Aid Office (SSAO) Advisory Board** meeting happened on 11th Feb
  - SSAO office will receive an extra \$500,000 in their budget due to tuition fee deregulation
  - Discussed scholarship renewal criteria briefly
  - Requested the office to make scholarship statistics accessible to students on their website given the data is public anyways in the Senate report
  - SSAO will be presenting their report to Senate on 20th Feb
- **Committee on Enrolment & Student Affairs (CESA)** meeting coming up on 19th Feb
  - Scholarship Renewal data has been added to the agenda
  - The registrar is compiling faculty specific grade distribution which will be distributed at the meeting in addition to the data compiled by SSAO

### **Faculty Updates:**

- Engineering Undergraduate Society (EUS) Council meeting got cancelled due to snow day
- Engineering Board of Governors (BoG) meeting happened on 17th February

### **Personal Project Updates:**

- Scholarship Renewal Policy
  - I received the data from the office regarding faculty-specific renewals
  - Will be discussing the data in detail at CESA on the 19th Feb
- Awards for Engineering Students in Leadership
  - Meeting with the Dean, Jim Nicell, on the 25th Feb and the Associate Dean, Prof. Frost, to discuss feasibility of the awards



## **REGINAL LABONTE (LAW SENATOR)**

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<b>Committee Work:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● University Teaching Labs Working Group on Feb. 11th 2:00 - 3:30pm (Monique's proxy)</li><li>● Comité pour la promotion du Français à McGill on Feb. 14th 10:00 - 11:30pm</li></ul>
<b>Faculty Updates :</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● LSA Council on February 1st</li><li>● Faculty Council on February 6th<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Motion to rename the B.C.L./LL.B. degree to B.C.L./J.D. went back to the Curriculum Committee for further discussions.</li></ul></li><li>● Proposed Curricular Reform in Response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action no. 28</li></ul>
<b>Personal Project Updates :</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Governance Committee met on Jan. 29th and Feb. 7th<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Discussions on the Board and Legislative Council (issues and solutions moving forward)</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Miscellaneous Updates:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Attended the Sexual Violence Policy Consultation (for 30 mins due to my UTLWG meeting at 2:00).</li></ul>





**ANDRE LAMETTI (MEDICINE SENATOR)**

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<b>Committee Work:</b>
No meetings to report during the reporting period. Absent at CSS due to clinical duties.
<b>Faculty Updates :</b>
MSS: we are imminently entering into negotiations for the renewal of the MSS-McGill MOA. I do not anticipate any significant changes, however financial regulation and oversight could become a hot topic due to late audits and student fee holds at the MSS.
<b>Personal Project Updates :</b>
N/a
<b>Miscellaneous Updates:</b>
I was absent at LC this past Thursday due to unforeseen extension of clinical duties. My colleague was also absent but had arranged for one of the arts senators to be present as a proxy. My absence request for the two upcoming Senate meetings have been approved. I met with the SSMU President to discuss the direction of the Society for the remainder of his term.



## MONIQUE MORIN (SCIENCE SENATOR)

[sciencesenator1@ssmu.ca](mailto:sciencesenator1@ssmu.ca)

<b>Committee Work:</b>
Reggie attended UTWLG for me a couple weeks ago and reported on that in his biweekly :)
<b>Faculty Updates :</b>
Nomination period for SUS is happening rn -- currently 4 people running for Senator!!
<b>Personal Project Updates :</b>
OERs <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Scheduling meeting w Fabrice re what McGill's OER initiative is (Manfredi briefly touched on this)</li><li>- Funding applications and finding courses for students to do over the summer</li></ul>
<b>Miscellaneous Updates:</b>
My laptop broke the night before back to back midterms - lost all my notes wooo



## **ANNALISE PATZER (NURSING SENATOR)**

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<b>Committee Work:</b>
<p>UHSC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nothing to report, no meetings</li></ul> <p>CSAB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nothing to report, no meetings</li></ul>
<b>Faculty Updates :</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None to report, NUS' Wellness Week began last week and went very well, with lots of mindfulness workshops!</li></ul>
<b>Personal Project Updates :</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Success with trainee program - somewhat<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Lunch and learn mainly McGill students came, a few CEGEP students as well</li><li>○ Hiring manager will understand McGill student nurses' priority need to work in hospitals to gain more valuable experience</li></ul></li><li>• Saw these posts on Facebook, definitely worth looking into</li></ul>
<b>Miscellaneous Updates:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None to report, but sorry I cannot be there, urgent family issue came up and I wasn't in Montreal this weekend to deal with it</li><li>• As for DPSLL hiring process, I believe writing letters like council would be best. Although I would like to say a student letter writing guide could really get people activate in joining together their voices and thoughts about what exactly we need from this process, I don't expect to gain much acknowledgement of letter writing. I believe council letters would be more effective<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Op-Eds are also really valuable and Madeline I read your satire/comedy (?) piece and I think you would be really great - you have a good knowledge of the framework and you are definitely qualified</li></ul></li><li>• Also ): on lease renewal for PM (not sure if I read that in the minutes right), it is very overpriced and McGill could really do with a Tim's (more affordable) or a student-run coop to give students positions and ensure more sustainability</li></ul>



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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/>