



*"It's simple really, very clear,
Like music drifting in the air,
Invisible, but everywhere.
Just because I cannot see it,
Doesn't mean I can't believe it."
– J. Skellington*

REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT (INTERNAL) TO COUNCIL

13 October 2011

Events

4Floors. The theme that SSPN has selected for 4Floors this year is "The Silence of the Martlets." I really want student groups to be involved in 4Floors this year. Councilors, take note! I am looking for people to work coatcheck, sell food, perhaps run a game or two, or even just submit to me a proposal about how they would like to get involved!

Barn Party. The posters. Due to the last-minute nature of how the posters were made, and a string of poor communication, the posters for the event were slightly more risqué than I had intended, but there was no time to re-do them. A few people were concerned about the sexual nature of the posters from an Equity standpoint, but they met with the VP UA and the Equity Commissioners. Although no equity complaint was filed, the Executive Committee is working out a process so that this doesn't happen again. Sincerest apologies and we have heard your concerns and will be careful that this doesn't happen again!

The event. All of the preparations for the party went well and were, in most cases, under budget. Unfortunately, after having booked buses and confirming, the bus company was a no show. All of the participants were given refunds. MCSS decided to still have their students show up to the party, however. I drove out with the VP University Affairs, Senator Diné, and the SSMU Photographer in order to retrieve our assets. To our surprise, about 20 students from Downtown campus got to the Barn on their own and were ready to party! I was able to retrieve most of the beer and some of the food so we can reuse in the future. There was also no security hired for the evening so our loss will be minimal, and the group of students from Downtown had a wonderful time.

I would like to reschedule this party for May. It will be a good event to have during the month of May because SSMU doesn't usually plan anything, and it will be a good way to train my successor.

Bad news: We lost a little bit of money. (~Less than 500\$)



Good news: All of the students that showed up for the event left in good spirits and were eager to reschedule. Losses will be minimal as the largest expenses for the night (buses and security) were not incurred. MCSS was still happy and wants to work with SSMU. The 20 or so students that showed up had a wonderful time. I now know how to clean out a barn and throw a good hoedown!

Homecoming. This Saturday I will be hosting a Homecoming breakfast in Gert's! The event will run 10AM-1PM and the football game begins at 1. There will be Eggo's and homefries!

Campus Community Campaign. The free cupcake event was on Tuesday 11 October. Will report orally.

Exam-time Puppies. Setting up meetings with the companies for this week or next. Will report orally.

Rock the Vote Party. Gert's is already booked out for the night that I wanted. Contacting the group and asking if we can switch!

Open House. My pumpkin carving contest is still on for October 23, and there are a few spots left! Councillors, please suggest to me some groups that might be interested.

Even after I said I would personally open the building myself for the whole weekend, the Executive Committee decided to cancel all of McGill's room bookings for the weekend, but will be opening the building for several other groups.

I am curating an exhibit of Old McGill yearbooks to be on display in Redpath during Open House. Do any councillors want to help me with this project? Will involve maybe 2 hours of work next week.

Communications

Social Media. Facebook Profile: 1874 (7%). Facebook Page: 509 (3%). Twitter: 437 (11%).

Listserv. Working out the new format with the CPM. There has been a lot of positive response and also some negative response. What do councillors think?

Website. There has been a lot of positive feedback for the SSMU website and the translator has made her way through about half of the copy. French version coming probably in the next month.



Other

Gert's. I have been filling in empty shifts at Gert's. I am not given any wages for my work, and I declare my tips in accordance with Quebec law. Don't worry, I haven't been taking away work from the normal Gert's bartenders. I think this is an excellent way to meet students, talk directly to them about what matters to them, and generally get an understanding about how much work it takes to run the bar. Ask me when I'm working!

Commission des Affaires Francophones. Had a good second meeting. Met with Marie-Lise to discuss budgets for the CAF. No dates picked yet for Francofete.

Old McGill. I have pushed to get an April 2 deadline with our ad agency and with the editorial team and our publisher. It appears feasible and I think this will greatly help sales of Old McGill. I have solicited the intro letters from the Principal and the Chancellor.

SSPN. Going strong! Meeting with Alex Eperjesey this week to discuss sound and lighting rigs for 4Floors.

Integrated Orientation Debrief. Ian Simmie has been slow to get back to me and I am getting really frustrated because Student Services doesn't want me to start until they are ready. But a lot of time has passed and nothing has happened, so if I don't hear something by the end of the week I will move forward with the debriefing project on my own.

Student Staff Updates

Creative Marketing Manager. James is doing a big push for 4Floors sponsorship, and has a few exciting offers on the table. Trying to bring in as much as possible without corporatizing this wonderful event. If some of the bigger deals come through, 4Floors will probably turn a surplus this year.



Translators. Status quo.

Old McGill Staff. No Section Editors have been hired at the time that I am writing this report; interviews are scheduled for this week. The Editor-in-Chief is doing a fantastic job getting everything organized so we stay on schedule.

Graphic Designers. One of the SSMU Graphic Designers unfortunately resigned last week because he wanted to pursue some of his other commitments. He will be missed! We are in the process of looking for a new Graphic Designer.

Meetings

Athletics Advisory Board. Attended the Athletics Board meeting with Senator Dinel, the Deputy Provost (SL&L) and the Provost. This is a very friendly committee, where administrators are always very careful to keep students involved and have good standards of student consultation. Students were offered spots on several of the planning committees which are carrying out big projects to the Gym over the coming year. Fun fact: almost 3,000 *per day* scan in to use the gym facilities!

Communications and Publications Manager Evaluation. I completed the CPM 3-month evaluation with the General Manager, VP Clubs and Services, and HR Advisor.

Movember. I met with John Daly, the Movember coordinator at McGill, and helped him brainstorm some ways to reach out to new demographics of students and make Movember even more successful this year! Any councillors interested in starting a SSMU Movember team with me?

McGill Food Systems Project. Consulted with Sophie from MFSP to talk about their upcoming Food Week.