



## Report of the Political Science Students Association

### GENERAL:

- Since late November 2018, the PSSA has been collecting data and feedback from students on how to make conferences better. We've collected it all and presented it to the Department Chair Professor Johnson and we hope that positive changes can be implemented
- The data and feedback will not be published as we would like to respect the confidentiality of those who filled out the survey however our main recommendations from information collected was:
  - that TA's should have mandatory training on topics such as facilitating discussion, equity, and anti-oppression through the Office for Students with Disabilities, and the Social Equity and Diversity Education Office
  - for a creation of a conference rubric in order to standardize the way conferences are graded
  - the need to accommodate different learning styles as political science conferences emphasize and depend on speaking as a form of participation which neglects the comfort levels of students and excludes forms passive participation which are just as valuable
- Thank you to those who filled out the survey! We appreciate it and hope we can implement some of these things
- MEGA CONGRATULATIONS to the McGill Jeux de la Science Politique Delegation for winning the 9th edition of the Political Science Games! They have made history this weekend and have brought the cup to McGill for the first time! Félicitations!

### FACULTY OF ARTS COMMITTEE:

- I attended the faculty of arts meeting on January 22nd here are some of the things I noted
- FAC is looking for an increase in TA budget
  - recruitment for academic staff
- new masters program in sept: public policy in school of public policy
- currently 50 contract staff members and 50 part time and 17 new hires basically overall 452 offices currently occupied by the faculty of arts and we need 446 offices needed for next semester
  - thus we are in a space shortage and no longer have swing spaces for incoming new hires
- workshop between fac and tIs coming out this year -> building connections in the classroom
  - toolkit for arts instructors

- this is basically 4 yrs in the making
- focus on instructor wellness and fostering better relationships between instructors and students
- strategy for new tenure track hires
- pilot project at oasis for U0 students in arts -> more funding
  - if you register with tutorial services you get a free hour
- waitlist policy
  - starting in 2019, all classes must use a waitlist by default and chose to opt out through their relevant local administrators
  - courses not compatible with this policy are the D1/D2 courses
  - shout out to senator madeline wilson who has been working on this since the last academic year, your efforts are appreciated!

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Chan  
PSSA VP External