



Report of the AUS President – February 12, 2014



*It's "**Funding February!**" This means we will finally be able to put the new by-laws (ASEF & ARCL) approved last November to practice. It is a long time coming – but one that was necessary, so we can ensure that the fees levied on our students are put to their appropriate uses.*

***Nomination period** opens this Friday, so I encourage you, even if you are just vaguely thinking about running for a position, to speak to one of the Executives about what the positions entail. AUS is really an amazing way to get involved, and it has been a major part of my life for the past four years. I know that many students would benefit from the skills you gain and the lessons you learn from serving as an AUS Executive. Now, onward to graduation!*

AUS Inc.

- Audit – status quo since draft statements received.
- We were fire extinguisher trained, and 2 fire extinguishers have been installed in Leacock B-12.

Arts Academic Orientation & Transition to University “Focus Groups” & Engagement Month

- **Engagement Month:** The University is hosting a conference on Strategic Enrolment Management (SEM) on Thursday, March 13, which will be part of a larger month on the theme of “Engagement.” The Deputy Provost’s office would like faculties and student associations to plan collaborative events during this month.
- Thus, the AUS will be planning focus groups to discuss the “**transition to University,**” including U0, U1, transfer, international students, etc. Date: March 25, Thomson House. This is similar to the advising feedback focus groups last year, but we will be using the information from this event to inform our preparations for **Arts Academic Orientation Day!!**
- The Associate Dean, Jacob, Nellie, and I continue to meet to plan ideas for Orientation. Our goal is to better prepare students for what an Arts education will be like. As I am graduating, we are trying to figure out a succession plan for the project – which in turn has sparked an exciting conversation on continued collaboration between the AUS & ASAP Peer Advisers.
- The feedback we received from Campus Life & Engagement on this initiative is positive – but in addition to the Orientation Day, we need to think about the lifecycle of incoming students, and when and how we should be providing support. So, the focus groups event will be useful in developing this timeline. If anyone is interested in getting involved in either the **Focus Groups event** or with **Arts Academic Orientation**, please do get in touch!

Computer Labs & Laptop Lending

- We have decided on a web-based software to manage laptop and other equipment rentals.
- We are meeting Wednesday to discuss the laptop lending budget. **FYI: If approved, I will bring it tonight’s Council.** Anticipate approx. 95k for laptop lending. In addition, there is a request of approx. 15k to transfer from a previously-approved AUIF payment to the ARCL.



FIOs (*Frais institutionnels obligatoires*)

- Some courses have additional fees as part of their registration. The Quebec government has made a new law that limits how much these fees can increase year-to-year. Above this amount, specific permission must be given from an accredited student association (like AUS, SUS, and SSMU). SSMU believes that the faculties are in a better position to discuss these.
- As a Council we will need to discuss how to proceed with this (i.e., by which manner we vote on whether to grant approvals). I have some ideas, which I will explain tonight. It mostly just gets confusing for interfaculty departments (AUS & SUS). Example: most FIOs are in geography.

Library Partnership Committee

- Meeting tomorrow to finalize the proposal. As a reminder, the proposal is: (1) 68 seats with lamps on 2nd floor, (2) presentation technology in two 3rd floor study rooms; (3) additional seating along stairwells on 5th and 6th floors.
- Institutionalization of the LPC: will occur with Sam's overhaul of the AUIF Committee post-AUIF

Faculty Affairs

- **People, Processes, & Partnerships (PPP):** Status quo.
- Committee on Student Affairs meeting Wednesday – will report orally. I have to leave early.
- Course cuts: Jacob is working diligently to get more info, so check his report!

Elections AUS

- Special referendum results available Tuesday, February 11. Will report orally.
- Election info session held Monday, February 10. Nomination period begins Friday!
- Sophie (CRO), Star (DRO), and I will begin preparing for departmental elections.
- Succession planning: "Intro to AUS" guide is in progress; encouraging early exit report writing.

Miscellaneous

- Post-"Work Your B.A.": The Committee will be meeting this Thursday to debrief, and I am working on a post-event report to the Dean of Arts Development Fund.
- "EmbrACE": looking into dates and venues for keynote speaker & alumni mixer.
- 20 Years Research has begun! We have found exciting stuff already 😊. In '91-'92, a referendum was held to split up the Arts and Science Undergraduate Society (ASUS) into the AUS and SUS.
- I will be meeting with AUS groups involved with our Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).
- CBRC: reviewing Francophone Commission by-laws and some departmental constitutions.
- I need to figure out who will manage the ping-pong table during the summer.
- Forum on Consent: February 26, 4-7 PM, SSMU Ballroom
- I've been invited to this weird Facebook-style thing for McGill admin, and I kind of love it.
- Presidents' Roundtable meetings are upcoming. Can you give me feedback on grad photos?

Respectfully Submitted,

Justin Fletcher
AUS President