



Report of the AUS VP Academic – March 11, 2015



The university continues to restrict AUS SNAX from selling sandwiches. Come out to the sit-in this Wednesday at 11:00am to show your support for student-run food initiatives! BYO Sandwiches, coffee and snacks will be provided.

Memorandum of Agreement Negotiations:

We met with Vilma Campbell regarding the negotiations on Thursday, February 26th. At this point, we have determined that **the university's stance against SNAX sandwiches is not primarily due to concerns over liability or competition**. Instead, McGill has outlined a **hard-line policy** against the "expansion" of student-run food services on-campus. Read more in our public statement [here](#).

Arts Student Employment Fund:

The ASEF Committee met on Friday, February 27th to make its **allocation decisions for Summer 2015**. There is a motion to approve these allocations for this Council. Following ratification, I will be working with the applicants to **promote these opportunities** among AUS members. Stay tuned!

AUS Teaching Awards:

Invitations have been sent out to all nominees for the **Awards Reception** on Thursday, April 2nd. The Selection Committee is meeting this week to choose the **three award-winners**. I am in the process of finalizing the budget, volunteer needs and other details for the event.

Arts Valedictorian Selection:

Valedictorian applications were due on Monday, March 9th. The Selection Committee will be meeting next week to **shortlist candidates** for interviews. We have some tough decisions ahead!

Proposed MA Program in the Public Life of Arts & Ideas:

This Council, I am bringing forward a motion to endorse a **new MA program** being developed by the Institute for the Public Life of Arts and Ideas (IPLAI). We will have a **presentation** from the Director, Dr. Paul Yachnin, who will be available to answer any questions you may have.



Field Study Courses:

After some deliberation, Jacob and I agreed that this issue is best addressed at the **university-wide level**. SSMU and PGSS recently adopted a joint motion to uphold experiential learning opportunities, so we will work with them and the other student Senators to see what can be accomplished in terms of **increasing financial accessibility**.

AUS–Library Partnership Committee:

Met for our **final debrief** on Thursday, February 19th, with some recommendations for next year. Thank you to the committee members for your contributions!

Academic Affairs Committee:

Met on Friday, February 27th for likely our last in-person meeting. We developed some **recommendations to better-integrate the committee into the VP Academic portfolio** next year. Communications throughout March will need to be via email due to time constraints.

Arts Undergraduate Research:

Met with CaPS and Jesse from the Student Research Initiative on Thursday, February 26th to touch base. CaPS is working on the technical/IT side while we are updating a survey for Professors.

First-Year Registration Advising:

Working with Ila, the FEARC VP Academic, to host **registration info sessions** in McConnell residence on March 24th and the Arts Lounge on March 26th (along with Arts Health & Wellness).

AUS History Project:

I still need to meet with our researcher as I have been swamped. I am hoping we can get all of the scanned articles and yearly summaries into our **digital archive** before the end of March.

Curriculum Committee:

Met on Monday, February 23rd. Discussed the **proposed new MA PLAI program** (see above), for which there were questions about resource commitments and enrolment projections (more info in Dr. Yachnin's presentation and the endorsement motion). Next meeting Monday, March 23rd.

Faculty of Arts Committee:

Meeting this Tuesday, March 10th, including a **budget presentation** from Provost Anthony Masi. We are still waiting on the announcement of an **Interim Dean of Arts**. Will report orally.

Committee on Student Affairs:

Meeting next Tuesday, March 17th to discuss **mental health accommodation**. Alex and I are meeting with Prof Daniel Heller from Jewish Studies in advance about his thoughts on the issue.

Committee on Student Services:

Met on Friday, February 20th. Jana Luker, the Executive Director of Student Services, will be leaving McGill, and we are advocating for a **selection committee with at-par student representation**. Next meeting Friday, March 20th.



AUS Executive, Representative & Departmental Elections

Nominations are now open! Get in touch with me if you have any questions about my position.

Respectfully Submitted,

Erin Sobat
AUS VP Academic

Executive Schedule February 15–28:

February 2015

< Today >

	Sun 15	Mon 16	Tue 17	Wed 18	Thu 19	Fri 20	Sat 21
all-day	SSMU Exec Nomination Period			Extended SSMU Exec Nomination Period			
9 AM						8:30 AM Pre-CSS Breakfast Meeting	
10 AM	9:30 AM LIFC Meeting SSMU B...		10 AM Class	9:30 AM Meet w/Evan SSMU Bo...		9:30 AM Committee on Student Services	
11 AM				10:30 AM SSMU Office	10:30 AM Class		
Noon	11:30 AM Premiere Moisson Meeting	11:30 AM Office Hours Leacock B-12		11:30 AM Meeting re: Liberal Arts program launch	11:30 AM Office Hours Leaco...	11:30 AM LPC Deabri...	
1 PM	12:30 PM AUS Office			12:30 PM SSMU Office			
2 PM				1:30 PM Conference call w/Diane	1 PM Meeting w/SHHS re: SNAX		
3 PM	2:30 PM Class	2:30 PM Class		2:30 PM Class	2:30 PM Class		
4 PM	ASEF app deadline	4 PM Class		4 PM Class	4 PM Class	4 PM Midterm	
5 PM	5 PM Principal Fortier Discussion Thomson House						
6 PM	6:30 PM Senate Caucus Meeting	6 PM DART Meeting Arts 160		6 PM AUS Council Arts 160		5:30 PM Meet w/Jacob	
7 PM							
8 PM							

February 2015

< Today >

	Sun 22	Mon 23	Tue 24	Wed 25	Thu 26	Fri 27	Sat 28
all-day							
10 AM					10 AM Midterm		
11 AM						10:30 AM ASEFC Meeting Dawso...	
Noon	11:30 AM Class	11:30 AM Office Hours Leacock B-12			11:30 AM Office Hours	11:30 AM Schulich Walkthr...	11:30 AM Academic Affairs Committee
1 PM					12:30 PM MoA meeting w/Vilma		
2 PM					Research Database M...	1:30 PM Humanities and Social Sciences Library Advisory Committee...	
3 PM	2:30 PM Curriculum Committee	2:30 PM Class		2:30 PM Class	2:30 PM Class	3 PM LIF Weekly Check-in S...	
4 PM	3:15 PM Class						
5 PM	4:30 PM (4:30 PM EST) Executive Committee Champagne Room	4 PM Class		4 PM Class - paper due	4 PM Class	4 PM Class	
6 PM	6 PM Joint SSMU-PGSS Summit				5 PM SSMU Candidates Info...		
7 PM				7 PM Food Coalition Meeting			
8 PM							
9 PM							