



## Report of the AUS VP Academic – September 17, 2014

We had a great time at Exec Retreat this weekend! From creepy forest roads, to workshops on McGill governance, to team bonding, I'd like to think that we're now prepared to take on the year.

### Office Hours:

- Monday 12:30-1:30pm
- Tuesday 11am-1pm
- Thursday 11am-1pm

### Contact Info:

- Email: [academic.aus@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:academic.aus@mail.mcgill.ca)
- Office Phone: 514-398-1993
- Facebook, BdA, or wherever else you see me!

### Departmental Orientation:

I had an ASAP Advisor present with me. Will report orally.

### Essay Centre:

"The AUS Essay Centre is currently recruiting essay tutors for the fall semester. Tutors meet with students a few times per week to provide writing advice and essay proofreading. Applicants must meet a 3.3 cumulative GPA and must be willing to meet with students during the Centre's drop-in hours (2:30-3:30 weekdays) or by appointment. Interested students should fill out the [brief application](#) and send a writing sample to [aus.essay.centre@gmail.com](mailto:aus.essay.centre@gmail.com) by September 18th."

The Centre will be open for drop-in starting September 29<sup>th</sup>. We are offering small stipends for tutors this year, which will require an AUS contract and should make the positions more "formal".

### Peer Tutoring:

As explained at Departmental Orientation, there is a portion of my portfolio budget dedicated towards funding departmental peer tutoring programs. This includes any kind of peer-to-peer undergraduate course, language or academic support program. If course-based tutoring doesn't work for your department, feel free to think of something else (e.g. research-based). Departments should get me their applications (cover sheet + preliminary budget) by **Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup>**.

### Libraries:

- LPC project updates: McLennan 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, stairwell seating, group study rooms
- Schulich emergency work
- Feasibility Study/Master Plan
- Premiere Moisson

### Faculty Committees:

I still need students for the following program committees, which meet as-needed:



- African Studies
- Quebec Studies
- History & Philosophy of Science
- Women's Studies

**Portfolio Committees:**

I'm now taking applications from Councillors to sit on the following:

- AUS–Library–Partnership Committee (*2 department spots*)
- Arts Student Employment Fund Committee (*1 Councillor spot*)
- Academic Affairs Committee (*up to 2 Councillor spots*)

Please send me a short blurb (150-200 words max) about why you're interested in and/or qualified for a committee. No experience necessary.

**"20 Years of AUS" Research Project:**

Our researcher, Sean, started going through The Daily's archives last week. He will continue on a weekly basis for the next month or so, and I'll try to provide more updates & "fun facts" as we go.

**Community Engagement Day:**

REMINDER: The AUS is sponsoring projects with the Afghan Women's Center and the Yellow Door, and I will be facilitating a project with a community organization called Stella. Lola is also facilitating a project and SEDE is still looking for a handful of facilitators. Sign up now!

- Register for a project: <http://ced-mcgill.format.com/all-projects>
- Sign-up to facilitate: email Adam Finley at [ced.sede@mcgill.ca](mailto:ced.sede@mcgill.ca)

**Institute for the Public Life of Arts & Ideas (IPLAI):**

Ava and I had an excellent meeting with the IPLAI Directors. Their focus is on "re-orienting" the Humanities towards the public sphere and trying to connect a critical, research-based course of study to a life of public service. They have reading groups, PLAI courses, talks, and are developing a new Masters program. We're looking to partner with them for a "Work Your B.A." event or speaker. <http://www.mcgill.ca/iplai/>

**Advising:**

I met with Nellie (head of Arts Student Advising Program). We debriefed summer and discussed collaboration over the coming year, including the idea of ASAP training for the VP Academic position.

**Arts Internship Office (AIO)**

Meeting on Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. Will report orally.

Respectfully Submitted,

Erin Sobat  
AUS VP Academic