



Arts Undergraduate Society of McGill University
855 Sherbrooke Street West
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Council Report of the AUS Equity Committee April 8th, 2015



Equity Committee

To end the year, the Equity Committee will be going to dinner together this Thursday. Additionally, we are working on getting Equity shirts and hoodies for our members. Entries so far on our Equity Wordpress will be published next year, as the new Equity Commissioners plan on expanding the educational aspect of the mandate on social media.

Arts Attack

Vareesha attended Arts Attack on March 27th, 2015. The event was at an apartment in the Lower Plateau. The venue was spacious for the large number of attendees with a second quieter floor where the coat check was located. Arts Attack was a social event with music, murals to paint, food, and drinks in an unfurnished, industrial space.

Concerns:

- People using the mural paint to paint each other, which led to several people being visibly upset or uncomfortable after being painted without their consent.
- Staff was overwhelmed and clearly stressed out.



- Crowd became rowdy and impatient for their coats at the end of the event, pushing against the entrance to the coat room and refusing to wait in an orderly line.

Enacted Safety Measures:

- Food was included, which helped slow down the drinking at the unlimited alcohol event.
- Caution tape sectioned off the DJ and the alcohol from the participants.
- Inclusion of non-alcoholic beverages.
- Presence of M-SERT and DriveSafe.

Recommendations:

- The event should have designated times or locations for different activities. Staff should lead the activities in order to provide more control and keep participants from being overly rowdy.
- Do not allow participants to remove art supplies from the mural area, and discourage people from painting each other without consent.
- Have more garbage bins near the murals to decrease litter.
- Ensure that there is sufficient staff present before the event begins.

Equity Commissioner Training

Out of many great applicants, we have chosen Kelsa Ferguson and Nicole Kim to be our new Equity Commissioners! We held a 4-hour training session over two days and we're very excited to see them continue our mandate and expand upon this position. We are currently working on our exit reports and have been discussing some improvements the new Equity Commissioners could make for next year.

Frosh By-Laws

The Ad-Hoc Frosh By-Law Committee has been meeting every week to work on a comprehensive set of Frosh By-Laws to ensure the continuity, transparency, and accountability of Frosh.

New mechanisms working towards the inclusivity of Frosh:

1. Equity Training for the Frosh Committee
 - a. The Frosh Committee will receive Equity Training from Campus, Life, and Engagement or the AUS Equity Committee if CLE is not able to do so
2. New Position: Director of Inclusivity
 - a. Point person between the Frosh Committee and Equity Commissioners
 - b. Ensures that the VP Social is adhering to the Equity Policy
 - c. Will update the Equity Commissioners on a regular basis of all major organizational decisions and updates with written reports
3. Consistent liaison between the Frosh Committee, AUS Equity Commissioners, and the AUS Executive Committee



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- a. VP Social will be sending out a monthly report on the on-goings of Frosh to the AUS Executive Committee
4. Role of AUS Equity Commissioners
 - a. Will be wearing “AUS Staff” t-shirts with AUS Executives during Frosh, instead of O-Staff t-shirts
 - b. Visual distinction from Frosh staff will allow the Equity Commissioners to have an observing role that will be helpful in writing a comprehensive Frosh Report

Frosh Coordinator Interviews

We are currently conducting Frosh Coordinators interviews with the incoming VP Social and some outgoing Frosh Coordinators. Out of the 47 candidates who have applied, we have seen some great potentials for the Director of Inclusivity position. All Frosh Coordinators will be hired by this Wednesday and we are planning on having a social between the incoming Frosh Committee and Equity Commissioners to foster good communication for the future!

Sexual Assault Policy

QPIRG has brought forth concerns regarding a lack of intersectionality within the Policy and the tokenization of racialized perspectives. The Working Group will be meeting on Friday, April 10th to discuss the possible postponement of the passing of this Policy until September. We will also be meeting to determine how future consultation with other groups on campus will be conducted and the revised timeline of the Policy.

Respectfully submitted,

Vareesha Khan and Isabel Lee
AUS Equity Commissioners

