

VP external report

Simon Rousseau

FQPPU

Meetings:

- May 29, extraordinary meeting with M. Roberge, Minister of Education
- June 25, extraordinary meeting with the chief scientific officers of Canada (Monar Nemer) and Québec (Rémi Quirion)
- September 14, extraordinary meeting to discuss Fall 2020 term.
- October 29-30, «conseil fédéral»
- February 11-12, «conseil fédéral»
- April 15-16, «conseil fédéral»

FQPPU- COVID-19 pandemic

- Lobbying made to the provincial government in support of emergency funding during the pandemic ([document #1](#)). The government announced support of \$29.4M (2019-2020) and \$72.4M (2020-2021), to help Universities face the pandemic. Documents [#2](#) & [#10](#) prepared by FQPPU details information obtained from the different Universities in the province in regards to the disbursement of these emergency funds.
- A document was prepared highlighting issues with online teaching during pandemic such as copyrights (documents [#3](#) and [#8](#)).
- Representation was made to the chief scientific officers regarding support for research funding and EDI considerations (outside and during the pandemic) ([document #4](#)).
- The different associations shared their challenges and potential solutions regarding the pandemic ([document # 5](#)).
- Lobbying was made to ensure safe teaching conditions during the pandemic favouring online teaching, whenever possible ([document #11](#)). Moreover, MAUT reminded the importance of professors' well being in particular during the pandemic at meetings with the minister and chief scientific officers.
- Advice was sought by FQPPU on eligible expenses for the T220 form ([document #14](#)). CAUT also prepared support information ([document #23](#)).

FQPPU- other businesses

- eCampus: analysis of the project proposed on May 30, 2020 by the provincial government: http://www.education.gouv.qc.ca/fileadmin/site_web/documents/ministere/PAN-eCampus.pdf
- Statement in favour of actions in the fight against systemic racisms (June 2020)
- The FRQ was mandated by the Quebec government to look into the future of Quebec Universities, which was produced in September 2020 ([document #6](#)), the FQPPU response was published in October 2020 ([document #7](#)).
- Proposal of an alternate funding scheme for Quebec Universities ([document #9](#)).
- The FQPPU announced a new and comprehensive database containing university information such as funding, salaries, expenditures, etc. Access would be made to association key people as e-users who can delve and obtain different types of information.

CAUT

Meetings:

- June 26, special council meeting
- November 27,
- April 22-23.

CAUT

- CAUT organized a national survey on the impact of COVID-19 on members and associations (May 2020, follow-up in December 2020).
- Key points on how associations can address claims of financial distress by universities during the pandemic ([document #15](#))
- Ten actions to address inequities on campus exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic ([document #16](#)).
- Federal advocacy-MP outreach and parliamentary days.
- There was circulation of a petition letter on climate change. This was shared with membership, but some members expressed concerns.
- We did not replace MAUT representation at the CAUT clinical committee.
- We wrote to CAUT about fees during the pandemic in view of the reduction in costs as meetings were held virtually ([document #17](#)). CAUT replied can be found in [document #18](#), stating that 85% of the expenditures were not affected by the pandemic. Advocated for a greater presence of virtual meetings in the future, in view of the impact of travel on EDI and climate change.
- CAUT provided data on the impact of the pandemic on Canadian Universities coming from Statistic Canada ([document #20](#)).
- MAUT should ensure that membership to CAUT defense funds is not mandatory as it would increase our contributions with no benefits.
- New CAUT Benefit and Pension Consulting Services ([document #22](#))
- Work permit to keep international students during the pandemic ([document #24](#)).
- MAUT submitted a letter in support of the insolvency situation at Laurentian University.

CAUT- Federal lobbying activities

Louise Chabot and Simon-Pierre Savard-Tremblay (Bloc); Sameer Zuberi (Liberal); Rhéal Fortin (Bloc) and Fayçal El-Khoury (Libéral).

Key messages ([document #21](#)):

1. Increase core operating funding for PSE
2. Accelerate research and science
3. Increase affordability for low and middle-income Canadians.

Academic freedom at the provincial and national level

- FQPPU and CAUT joint statements on «Nous sommes tous profs». October 2020.
- CAUT highlighted potential issues in using private tech companies for teaching and academic freedom ([document # 19](#)).
- Following a statement made by the FQPPU in February on Academic freedom that referred to McGill, MAUT members expressed concerns that were relayed by MAUT president, J. Mauzeroll to the FQPPU, leading to a retraction and an apology in the original statement.
- FQPPU is in favour of a law protecting academic freedom. They have provided translations in English of two key documents for MAUT members to read (documents [#12](#) & [#13](#)). MAUT members have expressed both concerns and support regarding this idea. Moreover, following the March council meeting, MAUT will not support the FQPPU proposal to invest into an academic freedom permanent committee at the provincial level.
- An expert committee on Academic freedom as been created by the government of Québec (March 2021), an initiative supported by FQPPU.
- MAUT stresses the importance of principles of academic freedom and EDI, seeing them as complementary.