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November 3, 2017

Executive Update Regarding College Strike

With the strike in its third week, we know that students are frustrated and anxious. Over the past few weeks your Student Association (SA) has been receiving feedback from students and has been working hard to advocate for you.

Recently, your SA Executives had a meeting with George Brown College President Anne Sado and Interim Executive Dean Dr. Cory Ross along with other members of the college. At this meeting, we presented them with questions sourced directly from students with the help of our academic advocacy staff. Your SA Executives were able to secure the following important updates from the college:

- The November 3rd deadline to withdraw from the courses without academic penalty has been extended to November 24th.
- 24-hour library access will be available to the students starting one week after classes resume.
- The college has confirmed that OSAP won't be affected as of right now, including the payments in January 2018. However the impact on OSAP loans will depend on the length of strike and instructions from the Ministry that are not yet available. Once the strike is over, the college will send out any updates to OSAP.
- Students are encouraged to work on their assignments, however they will not be penalized for missing any original deadlines that fell within the strike period.
- For international students, as of right now the college has confirmed that their study permits will not be affected because of the strike.
- The Deans of George Brown have confirmed that details of semester completion will vary by program, but will be guided by the following principles:
 - Courses will pick up where they left off.
 - Plans will recognize that students need notice before writing tests and completing assignments.
 - Students will receive the support they require to complete their academic year. Individual needs and circumstances will be taken into consideration for students who require additional support or accommodation.

We are still awaiting further clarifications on a number of other questions that we have asked the college. We continue to have ongoing communication with the college and will provide updates to our students as we receive them. We will continue to fight to ensure that the impacts on our students from this strike are as limited as possible.

Sincerely,

Riddhi Modi
Director of Communications and Internal

Mercedes Burrowes
Director of Campus Life

Tiffany White
Director of Education

Alex Stewart
Director of Equity