



**AGENDA - SRA 17G**  
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY  
Sunday, September 24, 2017 at 5:00pm  
**Council Chambers, GH111**

**PROCEDURE**

Call of the Roll, Playing of National Anthem, Territory Recognition, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of SRA Minutes 17F, Announcements from the Chair, Special Orders of the Day, Delegation from the Floor, Report Period, Information Period, Question Period, Business Arising from the Minutes, Business, Committee Business, Unfinished Business, New Business, Time of Next Meeting, Call of the Roll, Adjournment

*The SRA would like to recognize today that we are situated on traditional Haudenosaunee and Anishnaabe territories through the 'Dish with One Spoon Wampum Treaty'.*

**DELEGATION FROM THE FLOOR**

1. University Brand Development Committee Presentation Andrea Farquhar

**REPORTS**

1. Health Sciences Caucus Lee
2. Humanities Caucus Fama
3. Kinesiology Caucus Mustafa
4. Provincial & Federal Affairs Committee Urzula Sitarz
5. Finance Committee Scott Robinson
6. Vice-President (Administration) Anbalagan
7. CASA Deshpande
8. Elections Schedule Chloe Deraiche
9. Clubs Voting Findings Jenna Courage

**BUSINESS**

1. Recess for meeting of MSU and CFMU Incorporated Ibe
2. Open MSU seat on Standing Committee Anbalagan
3. Close MSU seat on Standing Committee Anbalagan
4. Close MSU Seat on Other Committee Anbalagan
5. Approval of Associate Vice-President Yearplans Anbalagan
6. Adoption of Statement Wilson
7. Clubs Ratification Anbalagan

## MOTIONS

1. **Moved** by Ibe, **seconded** by \_\_\_\_ that the Assembly recess for a meeting of MSU and CFMU Incorporated.
2. **Moved** by \_\_\_\_, **seconded** by \_\_\_\_ that the Assembly open one (1) MSU Seat on the SRA Standing Committee of Internal Governance.
3. **Moved** by \_\_\_\_, **seconded** by \_\_\_\_ that the Assembly close one (1) MSU Seat on the SRA Standing Committee of Internal Governance.
4. **Moved** by \_\_\_\_, **seconded** by \_\_\_\_ that the Assembly close one (1) MSU Seat on the Elections Committee.
5. **Moved** by Anbalagan, **seconded** by \_\_\_\_ that the Assembly approve the following yearplans:
  - AVP Internal Governance
  - AVP Service
6. **Moved** by Wilson, **seconded** by \_\_\_\_\_ that the MSU adopt the following statement:  
Whereas: McMaster University has committed to implementing a smoke free campus January 1st, 2018;  
Whereas: Marginalized groups are disproportionately affected by addiction and substance use due to social factors;  
Be it Resolved That: McMaster Students Union cautions against the move towards a smoke free campus and prioritizes considerations of student safety, accessibility, and comprehensive access to McMaster University when considering implementation.
7. **Moved** by \_\_\_\_, **seconded** by \_\_\_\_\_ that the Assembly ratify the new and returning clubs as circulated and recommended by the Clubs Administrator for the 2017-2018 academic year.



**Student Representative Assembly Meeting 17G**  
**Sunday, September 24, 2017 at 5:00pm**  
**Council Chambers, GH111**

**Called to Order at 5:03pm**

**CALL OF THE ROLL**

**Present:** Anas, Anbalagan, Aoki, Arnold, Chestney, Deshpande, D'Souza, Fama, Florean, Lao, Lee, Lightstone, McGill, McNally, Nwamadi, Ochocinski, Patel, Risi, Sabra Salim, Sabrin Salim, Senthillmohan, Sooriyakumaran, Stott, Szeliga, Vlatkovic, Webb, Wilson, Yun, Zhang, Zheng

**Absent Excused:**

**Absent** Ibe, Obaidullah

**Late**

**Others Present:** Shaarujaa Nadarajah (MSU member), Maggie Gallagher (MSU Comptroller), Scott Robinson (AVP: Finance), Ikram Farah (MSU member), Sakib Khan (MSU Member), V. Scott (Recording Secretary)

**Chair** Helen Zeng

**TERRITORY RECOGNITION**

- The SRA would like to recognize today that we are situated on traditional Haudenosaunee and Anishnaabe territories through the 'Dish with One Spoon Wampum Treaty'.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Moved** by Lee, **seconded** by Anas that the Assembly adopt the agenda, as presented.

**Amendment**

**Moved** by Lightstone, **seconded** by Wilson to amend the agenda to add "OPIRG Opt-Out Promo" to Business.

- Lightstone stated that he would like to add this to the agenda, as it related to the current opt-out that most students don't know about.
- Wilson spoke against the amendment by stating that the meeting was already busy, and that they didn't believe that the MSU should be dedicating student money to advertise a non-MSU fee.
- D'Souza stated that everyone brought up great points.
- Deshpande felt that this wasn't an effective use of their time or relationship with OPIRG and that a simple message asking them to advertise the opt-out would be sufficient.

**Moved** by Wilson, **seconded** by Anas to Call to Question

**Passes Unanimously**

**Vote on Amendment**

**In Favour: 14 Opposed: 13 Abstentions: 2**  
**Opposed: Anbalagan, Deshpande, Senthillmohan, Sabrin Salim, Anas, Wilson, Sabra Salim, Chestney, Nwamadi, Lao, Risi, Patel, Webb**  
**Abstained: Lee, Arnold**  
**Motion Passes**

### **Amendment**

**Moved** by Sabra Salim, **seconded** by Wilson to amend the Agenda to add the following motion to Business:

**“Moved** by Sabra Salim, **seconded** by Uwais Patel that the entirety of the Board of Directors release a public statement within 48 hours of the end of SRA meeting 17G that includes the following;

i. An explanation as to why a formal apology **in regards to the conditions that student leaders/staff** (sexual assault response, proper security, lack of organization, lack of communication from the BoD and WW representatives and the trickling down of information, and inadequate training) and **students** (inadequate safety measures, lack of supportive services, and unpreparedness of campus event staff and lack of efficient and effective crowd handling) endured before, during and directly after the Post Malone concert **were not released earlier mentioning the lack of transparency** (i.e. after the release of [the Silhouette article](#) or after the agreement made in 17F).

ii. A **formal apology** in regards to the **conditions** that student leaders (sexual assault response, proper security, lack of organization, lack of communication from the BoD and WW representatives and the trickling down of information, and inadequate training) and **students** (inadequate safety measures, lack of supportive services, and unpreparedness of campus event staff and lack of efficient and effective crowd handling) endured before, during and directly after the Post Malone concert including a statement of appreciation that does not minimize the conditions endured the night of the concert.

iii. **A clear and descriptive outline** of what **changes** are to be made for both **Homecoming and future events** that includes security numbers, a map of the eliminated problem areas, the number of on-site EMS that will be present, and what changes Campus Events redesigned to ensure the efficiencies of bag checking. More so, this should also include the amount of Police Officers that will be present and what times the doors will open to accommodate for individuals lining up early. It should also be noted in this point to mention the addition of the WGEN tent for sexual violence and how police and security will be trained to handle disclosures and causes of assault. In addition, logistics to ensure Sexual Violence and Alcohol Abuse response protocols and procedures are addressed earlier including all relevant stakeholders must be outlined.”

- Sabra Salim stated that she would like to discuss this in an open forum.
- Anbalagan encouraged the Assembly, as the Board of Directors’ direct supervisors, to vote this motion down as it was disappointing and hurtful. She felt that there were other ways to hold the Board of Directors accountable.
- D’Souza asked for the Assembly to vote this down, as they were already working on addressing the issues that were brought up at SRA 17F.
- Sabra Salim asked for the Assembly to vote the amendment up, as this was something that needs to be done. She explained that the only point of doing this was to make the statement binding.
- Deshpande stated that he would like to discuss this with the Communications Department, and would like to amend the amendment to the agenda.

### **Amendment to the Amendment**

**Moved** by Deshpande, **seconded** by D’Souza to amend the amendment to the Agenda to read **“Moved** by Deshpande, **seconded** by D’Souza that the Board of Directors provide a verbal update of the safety precautions that Campus Events and the MSU, as whole, is taking for homecoming and future large-scale events in JHE field, resulting from feedback taken since the Post Malone Concert and afterwards.”

- Deshpande stated that this would help resolve everything by reaching out. He felt that this was more fair and appropriate for the supervisors of the Board of Directors to do. He asked the Assembly to vote the amendment up and then add it to the agenda.
- D’Souza stated that he spoke to a lot of people about plans for homecoming, and would love to talk to everyone about the resolution and recommendations.

### **Vote on Amendment to the Amendment**

**In Favour: 3 Opposed: 3 Abstentions: 22**  
**Opposed: Florean, Patel, Sabrin Salim**

**Abstained: Aoki, Stott, Sooriyakumaran, Szeliga, Vlatkovic, Lightstone, Zhang, Senthillmohan, Anas, Wilson, Yun, McGill, Chestney, Fama, Nwamadi, Lao, Lee, McNally, Risi, Ochocinski, Webb, Arnold**  
**Motion Fails**

**Back to Original Amendment**

**Moved** by Sabra Salim, **seconded** by Wilson to amend the Agenda to add the following motion to Business:

**“Moved** by Sabra Salim, **seconded** by Uwais Patel that the entirety of the Board of Directors release a public statement within 48 hours of the end of SRA meeting 17G that includes the following;

i. An explanation as to why a formal apology **in regards to the conditions that student leaders/staff** (sexual assault response, proper security, lack of organization, lack of communication from the BoD and WW representatives and the trickling down of information, and inadequate training) and **students** (inadequate safety measures, lack of supportive services, and unpreparedness of campus event staff and lack of efficient and effective crowd handling) endured before, during and directly after the Post Malone concert **were not released earlier mentioning the lack of transparency** (i.e. after the release of [the Silhouette article](#) or after the agreement made in 17F).

ii. A **formal apology** in regards to the **conditions** that student leaders (sexual assault response, proper security, lack of organization, lack of communication from the BoD and WW representatives and the trickling down of information, and inadequate training) and **students** (inadequate safety measures, lack of supportive services, and unpreparedness of campus event staff and lack of efficient and effective crowd handling) endured before, during and directly after the Post Malone concert including a statement of appreciation that does not minimize the conditions endured the night of the concert.

iii. **A clear and descriptive outline** of what **changes** are to be made for both **Homecoming and future events** that includes security numbers, a map of the eliminated problem areas, the number of on-site EMS that will be present, and what changes Campus Events redesigned to ensure the efficiencies of bag checking. More so, this should also include the amount of Police Officers that will be present and what times the doors will open to accommodate for individuals lining up early. It should also be noted in this point to mention the addition of the WGEN tent for sexual violence and how police and security will be trained to handle disclosures and causes of assault. In addition, logistics to ensure Sexual Violence and Alcohol Abuse response protocols and procedures are addressed earlier including all relevant stakeholders must be outlined.”

- Zheng stated that he would be voting this up, and that it has been a concern for a few and for a while. He stated that they should do their due diligence in having a discussion and that he didn’t see the harm of adding this to the agenda.
- Deshpande stated that regardless of the vote he would be happy to create a discussion.
- Sabrin Salim stated that it was important to discuss this, and that it was their job as SRA members to critique the Board of Directors in their roles.
- D’Souza stated that he was more than happy to discuss the issues but he didn’t agree with releasing a public statement, and that he didn’t want this added to the agenda.
- Sabra Salim felt that this needs to be a discussion instead of brushing it under the rug.
- Anbalagan stated that she would be voting this down, as this wasn’t a discussion, and that they were asks for a detailed report.
- Sabra Salim responded that the motion was an ask but the discussion comes to deciding whether it should happen or not.
- Lightstone stated that their time was theirs, and he didn’t see the harm in adding something to the agenda. He added that he could see how the Board would see this as an attack, but there are discussions about everything. He stated that he would be voting in favour of amending the agenda.

**Moved** by Zheng, **seconded** by Stott to Call to Question

**Vote on Call to Question**

**In Favour: 26 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 3**  
**Abstained: Anbalagan, Deshpande, D’Souza**

**Motion Passes**

**Vote on Amendment**

**In Favour: 14 Opposed: 5 Abstentions: 10**  
**Opposed: Anbalagan, Deshpande, D'Souza, Szeliga, Arnold**  
**Abstained: Zhang, Vlatkovic, Aoki, Wilson, Yun, Chestney, Lao, Ochocinski, Webb, Nwamadi**  
**Motion Passes**

**Amendment**

**Moved** by Patel, **seconded** by Stott to amend the Agenda to add "Open one (1) SRA Seat on Elections Committee" to Business.

- Patel stated that due to other commitments he has had to drop his seat.

**Vote on Amendment**

**Passes Unanimously**

**Amendment**

**Moved** by Lightstone, **seconded** by D'Souza to amend the Agenda to add "Open one (1) SRA Seat on Internal Governance Committee" to Business

**Vote on Amendment**

**Passes Unanimously**

**Amendment**

**Moved** by Vlatkovic, **seconded** by Aoki to amend the Agenda to add the following motion to Business:  
"Moved by Vlatkovic, **seconded** by \_\_\_\_ that the meetings of the Assembly be held at 3:00pm on Sundays as per the existing schedule, until the end of term."

- Vlatkovic stated that after running a poll on the SRA group chat, he felt that he had enough numbers to move the meeting to be at an earlier time.
- Aoki stated that some members on the SRA have commitments later on, on Sundays.

**Vote on Amendment**

**In Favour: 23 Opposed: 4 Abstentions: 1**  
**Opposed: Deshpande, Wilson, Chestney, Webb**  
**Abstained: Stott**  
**Motion Passes**

**Amendment**

**Moved** by Lee, **seconded** by Zheng to amend the Agenda to move Business Items #2,3, and 4 right after Delegation from the Floor.

- Lee stated that there were some MSU members who were here for an election.

**Vote on Amendment**

**Passes Unanimously**

**Amendment**

**Moved** by Wilson, **seconded** by Anas to amend the Agenda to move Report #4 to the end of Report Period.

**Vote on Amendment**

**Passes Unanimously**

**Vote to Adopt Agenda**

**Moved** by Lee, **seconded** by Anas that the Assembly adopt the agenda, as amended.

**Passes Unanimously**

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**Moved** by Lee, **seconded** by Lao that the Assembly adopt the minutes from SRA meetings 17E – July 16, 2017, and 17F – September 10, 2017, as circulated.

**Passes Unanimously**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR**

- The Chair stated that she has been seeing a lot of documentation being circulated late, and reminded the Assembly that the purpose of the deadline was so that everyone would have a chance to see it. The Chair asked the Assembly to think of the greater impact as MSU members should be able to view the documents as well. The Chair asked for Observers in the back to sign the Observer's List for the minutes.

**DELEGATION FROM THE FLOOR**

**Set Parameters**

**Moved** by Lightstone, **seconded** by Stott to set parameters for the Delegation to be 15 minutes for presentation, and 10 minutes for questions.

**Vote on Parameters**

**Passes Unanimously**

**1. University Brand Development – Andrea Farquhar presented (attached)**

- Farquhar went over the presentation with the Assembly.

**Questions**

- Lightstone thanked Farquhar for coming in to speak to them. He asked about Mental Health and Well-Being and which one of the three presented would be the main vision moving forward. Farquhar responded that this was a public tagline, and that it would help them to hear about stories that should be told under the umbrella. She explained that they wouldn't be seeing that on a poster because it was too big and vague but they will be hearing about those who be talking about wellbeing. She explained that they needed consistency to build a brand, and that Bright World was the tagline would be the most seen.
- Wilson asked how they would market this to international students. Farquhar responded that the University was now looking to attract more international students, and they are currently looking at the statistics of why grad students pick the schools that they do. They are also looking into strategies for undergraduate students.
- Webb asked how they will highlight the undergraduate experience. Farquhar responded that they are looking at research and stories on how undergrads fit into this. She added that they are looking at having

a perspective student website and having Student Affairs to help. She explained that there will be using stories of students to help with this.

- Zheng asked what forms do they have to highlight success at McMaster apart from Daily News. Farquhar responded that they were creating a hub.
- Deshpande asked what the impact has been with government partners, specifically provincial. Farquhar responded that they were in the early stages of rolling this out.

**Moved** by Lightstone, **seconded** by Vlatkovic to exhaust the Speaker's List.

- Lightstone stated that if more people have questions then they should be able to ask them.

**Vote to Exhaust the Speaker's List**

**Passes Unanimously**

- Lightstone asked how the MSU could help with this initiative. Farquhar responded that they have been meeting with people in the MSU to get input on this, and that this discussion was telling her that students have a clear mechanism to get information to them.

## **BUSINESS**

### **1. Open MSU seat on Standing Committee**

**Moved** by Anas, **seconded** by Sabrin Salim that the Assembly open one (1) MSU Seat on the SRA Standing Committee of Internal Governance.

- Anas stated that an MSU member had dropped their seat, so they need to open it.

**Vote on Motion**

**Passes Unanimously**

### **2. Close MSU Seat on Standing Committee**

**Moved** by Sabrin Salim, **seconded** by Zheng that the Assembly close one (1) MSU Seat on the SRA Standing Committee of Internal Governance.

#### **Nominations**

- No nominations at this time

Moved by Lightstone, seconded by Webb that the Assembly postpone the closing of the MSU Seat to SRA 17H.

**Vote to Postpone**

**Passes Unanimously**

### **3. Close MSU Seat on Other Committee**

**Moved** by Lee, **seconded** by Fama that the Assembly close one (1) MSU Seat on the Elections Committee.

#### **Nominations**

- Adrienne Ralfe
- Sammy Dhillon

- Sara Rajiwate
- Lee nominated Shaarujaa Nadarajah – accepted

#### Vote on Motion

**Passes Unanimously**

#### Set Parameters

**Moved** by Lee, **seconded** by Sabrin Salim to set parameters for the election to be one minute for opening statements and one minute for questions per candidate, pooled.

**Passes Unanimously**

- Candidates spoke within allotted time.
- Assembly voted by secret ballot.

Candidate	Vote
Dhillon	4
<b>Nadarajah</b>	<b>23</b>
Rajiwate	1
Ralfe	0
Spoiled	0
Abstained	0

- Shaarujaa Nadarajah won the MSU seat on the Elections Committee.

#### REPORT PERIOD

##### 1. **Health Sciences Caucus – Lee presented**

- Lee summarized the report.

##### 2. **Humanities Caucus – Fama presented**

- Fama summarized the report.

##### 3. **Kinesiology Caucus – Zheng presented**

- Zheng summarized the report.

##### 4. **Finance Committee – Scott Robinson presented**

- Robinson summarized the report.

#### Questions

- Lee commended Robinson for all of the work he has done. He asked about the SRA special projects funding. Robinson responded that they need three business days notice in advance to an event.
- Sabra Salim asked if there was a certain amount for the project funding that would be considered to be too much. Robinson responded that the budget was \$4,000 and that anything outside of the fund could find a larger scale idea.

**5. Vice-President (Administration) – Anbalagan presented**

- Anbalagan summarized the report.

**Questions**

- Lightstone asked what were the issues faced by the Awards Committee this year. Anbalagan responded that the VP Admin's role shifted gears this year with planning the strategic priorities, which meant that she had to go to every event that they ran. She stated with all of that in the schedule it didn't leave enough time to coordinate the SRA and MSU members, so she left it so that it would be one SRA and one MSU member for both committees.
- Webb asked why the Shine Cup wasn't announced during Welcome Week closing ceremonies. Anbalagan responded that Social Sciences raised \$30,000 which was a huge number coming from any faculty. She explained that while it was an awesome achievement, Shine Cup wasn't a real award which is why it wasn't announced.
- Patel asked when the VP Admin page will be updated to show the standings from this year's cups. Anbalagan responded that they discussed at the committee level about concerns from reps stating how WW was centered around the awards. She explained that they lose the value and scope of the week, and the rankings were announced during Air Bands.
- Fama asked if they could change the criteria for the award. Anbalagan stated that she could take that to the Committee and gain their input. She added that it can be put through Internal Governance and perhaps change the bylaw.

**6. CASA – Deshpande presented**

- Deshpande summarized the report.

**Questions**

- Lightstone asked if OUSA would be a part of CASA. Deshpande stated that that was highlighted in the report.
- Webb asked what was the best proposed alternative for CASA not addressing the capped fees. Deshpande responded that it would be a complete overview of CASA so that they pay the same as other schools if they only receive one vote. He explained that there are options to allow for it but there isn't an interest to address those issues.
- Wilson asked if there was any difference with the MSU's current relationship with CASA. Deshpande responded that they had a couple of talks to share best practises, and while he didn't know the relationship last year it was amicable this year.
- Sabra Salim asked if OUSA did federal advocacy. Deshpande responded that OUSA and CASA did a joint publication on Mental Health, which can be found on OUSA's website. He explained that the student organization collaborations should continue, but that was the extent of OUSA's federal advocacy.

**7. Election Schedule – report attached**

- Anbalagan summarized the report.

**Moved** by Lee, **seconded** by Anas that the Assembly recess for 25 minutes.

**In Favour: 28 Opposed: 1 Abstentions: 1**  
**Opposed: Szeliga**  
**Abstained: Vlatkovic**  
**Motion Passes**

**Recessed at 7:15pm**  
**Called to Order at 7:41pm**

### **CALL OF THE ROLL**

<b>Present:</b>	Anas, Aoki, Arnold, Chestney, Fama, Lao, Lee, Lightstone, McGill, McNally, Nwamadi, Ochocinski, Patel, Risi, Sabra Salim, Sabrin Salim, Senthillmohan, Sooriyakumaran, Stott, Szeliga, Vlatkovic, Webb, Wilson, Yun, Zhang, Zheng
<b>Absent Excused:</b>	
<b>Absent</b>	Ibe, Obaidullah
<b>Late</b>	Anbalagan, Deshpande, D'Souza, Florean
<b>Others Present:</b>	Shaarujaa Nadarajah (MSU member), Maggie Gallagher (MSU Comptroller), Scott Robinson (AVP: Finance), Ikram Farah (MSU member), Sakib Khan (MSU Member), V. Scott (Recording Secretary)
<b>Chair</b>	Helen Zeng

### **8. Clubs Voting Findings – report attached**

### **9. Provincial and Federal Affairs Committee – Ursula Sitarz presented**

- Sitarz summarized the report.

### **Questions**

- Deshpande praised Sitarz and stated that she has been doing an excellent job.

### **INFORMATION PERIOD**

- Lee announced that Thode hours have been extended. He thanked all of the faculty societies who helped make this happen.
- Sabrin Salim reported that the Science caucus office hours went well. She explained that they situated themselves in MUSC Atrium and provided coffee from Union Market. She encouraged caucuses to place themselves in public environments and have incentives to have constituents to come out.
- Wilson announced that if someone wasn't registered to vote in the provincial election, that they can now do so.
- Lightstone reported that the SAB survey was still open.
- Anbalagan stated that she circulated two memos in an earlier email that referred to project groups. She explained that this was something that was discussed with the president and AVP: Internal Governance, as they usually see people running on the same platform. She explained that they have clustered some of the projects and platforms together, which was constituent outreach and member relations. Anbalagan stated that if anyone had questions they could ask the AVP: Internal Governance, and to please involve themselves in the projects.
- Lightstone stated that it was nice to speak with the Architects for the SAB project, as they took their needs seriously.
- Yun reported that Arts and Science will be electing a new SRA Observer position.
- Sabrin Salim reported that she will be working with the president to work on the MSU Governance & You committee, as they would like to re-brand the committee.

### **QUESTION PERIOD**

- Florean asked Sabrin Salim if all of the science caucus were holding their office hours at once. Sabrin Salim responded that the entire caucus was there as they felt it was more productive. Sabrin Salim ceded to Sabra Salim. Sabra Salim stated that they did that with the first one to make sure everyone to get familiar with their faces. She explained that for future office hours they will be doing two hours bi-weekly, and they will be divided into two different groups.

- Arnold asked the Vice-President (Administration) if she would be re-scheduling the group meeting schedule for October 8 as that was Thanksgiving weekend. Anbalagan responded that if that information is relayed to the AVP then she will accommodate.
- Patel asked the Vice-President (Administration) if they closed session minutes from last meeting would be circulated as it was stated that they would be circulated that evening. Anbalagan responded that she sent it to D'Souza who used the information for the meeting, and the information was taken into consideration.
- Lightstone asked the Vice-President (Finance) if he had seen any issues with the PRESTO integration. D'Souza responded that it has been going smoothly, and has had great feedback from students who have used it. He stated that there have been some problems arising when students lose their card.
- Wilson asked the Vice-President (Administration) why they were clustering the projects. They stated that it seemed as though there was more administrative internal items being focused on and no advocacy projects. Anbalagan responded that it wasn't meant to silence the other platforms that caucuses were working on, but these were items that could be worked on the whole year.

## **BUSINESS**

### **4. Recess for meeting of MSU and CFMU Incorporated**

**Moved** by Lightstone, **seconded** by Sooriyakumaran that the Assembly recess for a meeting of MSU and CFMU Incorporated.

**Passes Unanimously**

**Recessed at 8:04pm**

**Called to Order at 8:26pm**

## **CALL OF THE ROLL**

**Present:** Anas, Aoki, Anbalagan, Arnold, Chestney, Deshpande, D'Souza, Fama, Florean, Lao, Lee, Lightstone, McGill, McNally, Nwamadi, Ochocinski, Patel, Risi, Sabra Salim, Sabrin Salim, Senthillmohan, Sooriyakumaran, Stott, Szeliga, Vlatkovic, Webb, Wilson, Yun, Zhang, Zheng

**Absent Excused:**

**Absent** Ibe, Obaidullah

**Late**

**Others Present:** Shaarujaa Nadarajah (MSU member), Scott Robinson (AVP: Finance), Ikram Farah (MSU member), Sakib Khan (MSU Member), V. Scott (Recording Secretary)

**Chair** Helen Zeng

### **5. Approval of Associate Vice-President Yearplans**

**Moved** by Anbalagan, **seconded** by Patel that the Assembly approve the following yearplans:

- AVP Internal Governance
- AVP Service
  
- Anbalagan stated that the bylaws say that they need to get the yearplans approved by the SRA.

**Vote on Motion**

**Passes Unanimously**

## 6. Adoption of Statement

**Moved** by Wilson, **seconded** by Anas that the MSU adopt the following statement:

Whereas: McMaster University has committed to implementing a smoke free campus January 1st, 2018;

Whereas: Marginalized groups are disproportionately affected by addiction and substance use due to social factors;

Be it Resolved That: McMaster Students Union cautions against the move towards a smoke free campus and prioritizes considerations of student safety, accessibility, and comprehensive access to McMaster University when considering implementation.

- Wilson stated that this stance was valuable as the University was still finalizing their decision, and it would be nice if the MSU stated that they would like student safety to be included.

### Amendment

Moved by Wilson, seconded by Deshpande to amend the motion to read: “**Moved** by Wilson, **seconded** by Anas that the MSU adopt the following statement:

Whereas: McMaster University has committed to implementing a smoke free campus January 1st, 2018;

Whereas: The MSU recognizes there are negative health effects associated with smoking;

Whereas: Marginalized groups are disproportionately affected by addiction and substance use due to social factors;

Be it Resolved That: McMaster Students Union cautions against the move towards a smoke free campus and prioritizes considerations of student safety, accessibility, and comprehensive access to McMaster University when considering implementation.”

- Wilson stated that he spoke to Deshpande about making this change earlier.
- Deshpande stated that this statement makes more sense, and that it was a previously unspoken piece for endorsing this.

### Vote on Amendment

**In Favour: 26 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 2**  
**Abstained: Lee, Florean**  
**Motion Passes**

### Back to Main Motion

**Moved** by Wilson, **seconded** by Anas that the MSU adopt the following statement:

Whereas: McMaster University has committed to implementing a smoke free campus January 1st, 2018;

Whereas: The MSU recognizes there are negative health effects associated with smoking;

Whereas: Marginalized groups are disproportionately affected by addiction and substance use due to social factors;

Be it Resolved That: McMaster Students Union cautions against the move towards a smoke free campus and prioritizes considerations of student safety, accessibility, and comprehensive access to McMaster University when considering implementation.

- Yun stated that this needed to be brought up as it talks to student safety.
- Deshpande stated that he would like to discourage motions like this coming up frequently where they take stances on items outside of their policies. He stated that given the circumstances of this, and the response to the public release it would be relevant.
- Sabrin Salim stated that she would be voting this up as she felt the policy was punitive. She explained that it would be a huge jump as the University hadn't been enforcing the smoking areas, and now they jump to completely banning smoking. She felt that this targeted marginalized populations.

- Wilson stated that it was their personal belief that this targets people on campus, as there was no research to back it up and the University was just being proactive for the marijuana legalization. They felt that it was sad that this was all that they were doing.

**Moved** by Sabra Salim, **seconded** by Anas to Call to Question.

**Vote on Call to Question**

**Passes Unanimously**

**Vote on Main Motion**

**In Favour: 26 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 4**  
**Abstained: Stott, Lee, Fama, Florean**  
**Motion Passes**

**7. Clubs Ratification**

**Moved** by Sooriyakumaran, **seconded** by Lightstone that the Assembly ratify the new and returning clubs as circulated and recommended by the Clubs Administrator for the 2017-2018 academic year.

**Passes Unanimously**

**8. OPIRG**

**Moved** by Lightstone, **seconded** by Vlatkovic that the MSU promote the dates of the OPIRG opt-out.

- Lightstone stated that OPIRG gets funding through a mechanism of the MSU, through a General Assembly motion. He stated that this fee was increased by CPI each year. He explained that part of the GA motion was a promise of a well advertised opt-out. He explained that this happens after add/drop and wasn't well advertised at all. Lightstone stated that the only information publicly put out was two days ago stating that it was a possibility. There weren't any posters or anything else. He explained that the SRA was here to work on behalf of the best interest of students. He stated that it wasn't too much to ask for the MSU to advertise the dates that they promised to do. He explained that there are only two opt-outs and it's a simple design time and posters.
- Sabrin Salim stated that she would be voting this down. She explained that in the grand scheme of things seven dollars wasn't much. She added that the MSU already doesn't have a great relationship with OPIRG and while it's a great initiative by advertising they are perpetuating it.
- Patel stated that during 16L Lightstone moved a motion that the fee be sent to referendum, and is now bringing forward the opt-out to be promoted. He asked why not other fees as well. Patel ceded to Lightstone. Lightstone responded that there are only two fees that students can opt-out of. Lightstone explained that engineering students can opt-out of a \$50 donation, and that he had advertised that along with the MSU Health and Dental opt-out, as well as OPIRG. Lightstone stated that he didn't have anything against OPIRG, but he didn't think that it was run well as two-thirds of the student money goes to pay the staff salary. He added that meant less than \$20,000 went towards student programming. Lightstone just wanted to know why they didn't advertise.
- D'Souza stated that he saw Lightstone's concern as students are in a financially tight spot, and if this was something the Assembly wanted to do then he encouraged them to advertise all opt-outs related to students.
- Wilson stated that OPIRG was creative with their funding and none of their events have costs attributed to them.
- Sabra Salim stated that if they were encouraging opt-outs as a whole, it would appear that the MSU wasn't being punitive to OPIRG.

- Wilson stated that this would harm the relationship with OPIRG and that they shouldn't be using MSU fees to advertise.
- Webb stated that they could do most of the promotion through facebook pages and their own avenues. She stated that she will be voting this down.
- D'Souza stated that OPIRG will be coming to present due to BYLAW 5 – FINANCIAL AFFAIRS, and they could mandate this.
- Lightstone told the Assembly to vote however they want, but that they weren't there to cozy up to OPIRG. He stated that they're supposed to represent students, and keep their best interests. He explained that what the SRA does matters, and that students should have a choice if they want to continue paying for this fee. He added that this shouldn't be a set fee forever just because it was voted on in a previous year.

**Moved** by Lee, **seconded** by Sabra Salim to Call to Question

**Vote on Call to Question**

**Passes Unanimously**

**Vote on Main Motion**

**Moved** by Lightstone, **seconded** by Vlatkovic that the MSU promote the dates of the OPIRG opt-out.

**In Favour: 2 Opposed: 13 Abstentions: 14**

**Opposed: Deshpande, D'Souza, Sabrin Salim, Anas, Wilson, Sabra Salim, Fama, Nwamadi, Lee, Florean, Patell, Webb, Arnold**

**Abstained: Sooriyakumaran, Stott, Zhang, Szeliga, Aoki, Zheng, Senthillmohan, Yun, McGill, Chestney, Lao, McNally, Risi, Ochocinski**

**Motion Fails**

## 9. Public Statement

**Moved** by Sabra Salim, **seconded** by Uwais Patel that the entirety of the Board of Directors release a public statement within 48 hours of the end of SRA meeting 17G that includes the following;

i. An explanation as to why a formal apology **in regards to the conditions that student leaders/staff** (sexual assault response, proper security, lack of organization, lack of communication from the BoD and WW representatives and the trickling down of information, and inadequate training) and **students** (inadequate safety measures, lack of supportive services, and unpreparedness of campus event staff and lack of efficient and effective crowd handling) endured before, during and directly after the Post Malone concert **were not released earlier mentioning the lack of transparency** (i.e. after the release of [the Silhouette article](#) or after the agreement made in 17F).

ii. A **formal apology** in regards to the **conditions** that student leaders (sexual assault response, proper security, lack of organization, lack of communication from the BoD and WW representatives and the trickling down of information, and inadequate training) and **students** (inadequate safety measures, lack of supportive services, and unpreparedness of campus event staff and lack of efficient and effective crowd handling) endured before, during and directly after the Post Malone concert including a statement of appreciation that does not minimize the conditions endured the night of the concert.

iii. A **clear and descriptive outline** of what **changes** are to be made for both **Homecoming and future events** that includes security numbers, a map of the eliminated problem areas, the number of on-site EMS that will be present, and what changes Campus Events redesigned to ensure the efficiencies of bag checking. More so, this should also include the amount of Police Officers that will be present and what times the doors will open to accommodate for individuals lining up early. It should also be noted in this point to mention the addition of the WGEN tent for sexual violence and how police and security will be trained to handle disclosures and causes of assault. In addition, logistics to ensure Sexual Violence and Alcohol Abuse response protocols and procedures are addressed earlier including all relevant stakeholders must be outlined.

### Amendment

**Moved** by Sabra Salim, **seconded** by Sabrin Salim to amend the motion to replace Board of Directors with MSU.

- Sabra stated that for students she didn't think there was a solid differentiation from Board of Directors as MSU as a whole. She stated that it was their responsibility to take a stance, and that was why she was changing this motion. She didn't want this to feel like a personal attack, but it's part of the Union's responsibility to ensure the safety of students.

### Vote on Amendment

**In Favour: 23 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 6**  
**Abstained: Anbalagan, Deshpande, D'Souza, McGill, Fama, Arnold**  
**Motion Passes**

### Back to Main Motion

**Moved** by Sabra Salim, **seconded** by Uwais Patel that the MSU release a public statement within 48 hours of the end of SRA meeting 17G that includes the following;

i. An explanation as to why a formal apology **in regards to the conditions that student leaders/staff** (sexual assault response, proper security, lack of organization, lack of communication from the MSU and WW representatives and the trickling down of information, and inadequate training) and **students** (inadequate safety measures, lack of supportive services, and unpreparedness of campus event staff and lack of efficient and effective crowd handling) endured before, during and directly after the Post Malone concert **were not released earlier mentioning the lack of transparency** (i.e. after the release of [the Silhouette article](#) or after the agreement made in 17F).

ii. A **formal apology** in regards to the **conditions** that student leaders (sexual assault response, proper security, lack of organization, lack of communication from the MSU and WW representatives and the trickling down of information, and inadequate training) and **students** (inadequate safety measures, lack of supportive services, and unpreparedness of campus event staff and lack of efficient and effective crowd handling) endured before, during and directly after the Post Malone concert including a statement of appreciation that does not minimize the conditions endured the night of the concert.

iii. A **clear and descriptive outline** of what **changes** are to be made for both **Homecoming and future events** that includes security numbers, a map of the eliminated problem areas, the number of on-site EMS that will be present, and what changes Campus Events redesigned to ensure the efficiencies of bag checking. More so, this should also include the amount of Police Officers that will be present and what times the doors will open to accommodate for individuals lining up early. It should also be noted in this point to mention the addition of the WGEN tent for sexual violence and how police and security will be trained to handle disclosures and causes of assault. In addition, logistics to ensure Sexual Violence and Alcohol Abuse response protocols and procedures are addressed earlier including all relevant stakeholders must be outlined.

- Patel stated that he seconded the motion because he felt that communication with students was important. He stated that this needs to be put on a public platform and they had three weeks to do something about it. He felt that it had gotten to a point where the Assembly should have the information to know what's happening and see what has changed.
- Sabra Salim went over the motion with the Assembly. She explained that this was broken down into three parts: the first to acknowledge why the MSU hadn't made a statement, the second to acknowledge what happened that night, and the third was to outline what changes will be made. She stated that those hurt by this should be let known, and they are just perpetuating the stigma that the MSU doesn't care. Sabra Salim knew that nothing was intentional but they need to acknowledge what happened.
- D'Souza stated that he spoke on behalf of the Board of Directors, and that their priority for the concerts was student safety. He thanked Sabra Salim for making sure that student safety was at the forefront. D'Souza went over the email that was circulated earlier to the SRA (attached). He explained that anyone who was a stakeholder for these events were consulted about everything. He stated that he was more than happy to go over everything with each item but he couldn't release anything to do with Security

Services to the public. He apologized that the Assembly felt that they couldn't come to the Board to talk about this.

- Deshpande stated that he was disappointed in the avenue and the specific requests of the motion. He felt that a public statement wasn't effective, and that as supervisors the Assembly was expected to work constructively with the Board. He didn't believe the motion or request was productive in holding the Board of the MSU accountable. Deshpande stated that they are holding on to the feedback, but that asking for a public apology wouldn't help.
- Sabra Salim stated that she felt uncomfortable bringing this up due to their unapproachability, and it took a lot out of her to do so. She stated that students have shared the fact that they were uncomfortable after the Post Malone concert. She did state that in the document circulated that this was her own opinion. She explained that in the meeting minutes from the previous meeting, D'Souza and Ibe stated that they would provide feedback, and that this needed to be documented publicly. Sabra Salim felt that this was constructive, and failing to acknowledge the events even though making changes won't change the feelings of those who were affected.
- Anbalagan stated that over the past week there was a HoCo Sexual Violence and Alcohol Abuse Protocol meeting. She explained that the working group wasn't expected to be brought back this year, as it was only in place to discuss logistical items that were changed this year. She stated that hearing concerns from the last meeting, and valuing their concerns they are going towards zero tolerance. She explained that for Homecoming they will be re-introducing the chill tent from WGEN, which wasn't possible for the concert because volunteers weren't trained. She added that they would be bringing back alcohol awareness and zero tolerance messaging across the board. Anbalagan stated that this wasn't a last-minute decision just because they saw a last-minute meeting.
- Sabrin Salim thanked the Board for listening. She encouraged everyone on the Assembly to vote this up. She explained that the concert was the worst night of her life, and that many reps felt invalidated and not supported. She explained that the email that was circulated was passive aggressive and targeted, and it was concerning. Sabrin Salim stated that she was the one who wrote the anonymous article in *The Silhouette* and the reason behind it was that those students didn't feel heard, and she wants the MSU to formally acknowledge what happened that night. She stated that students felt that the silence told them that whatever happened that night was okay.
- Fama acknowledged that the Board did a good job in gathering feedback, and as someone on the ground coordinating RORs, what was being asked of the MSU was reasonable and well-informed. He stated that the motion was not asking for a change of leadership or implying a lack of trust in the Board, and that the Assembly would continue to stand beside them. Fama stated that they would just like to be updated on an evolving strategy, and this motion ensures that. He explained that he had to stand up in front of his team to say sorry to them and it was only fair for the Board to say the same thing.
- Florean felt that releasing a statement of apology was crucial for the event. She explained that a number of students were affected and that students don't believe the MSU did enough. She added that they have to validate the reps. She explained that it was important to tell students that this won't happen again and that it was important to be transparent. She added that they weren't putting the blame on a specific group, and that they need to move forward together.
- Wilson stated that if the exact wording of the motion needs to be changed, then change it. Wilson stated that they noticed through a lot of people coming forward and that they were feeling alone, scared, and that their feelings weren't validated. Wilson explained that when someone experiences sexual assault they usually feel as though it was their fault and that they shouldn't have been drinking or talking to that person. Wilson stated that this wasn't an apology that this happened, but more of an apology saying that this shouldn't have happened to them.
- Zheng stated that the Board brought up a lot of points of what they were doing, and he believed that they were taking action. He stated that he would like to hear more about the communications.
- Lightstone asked if there was a record or report of that night. He stated that he wasn't at Welcome Week and heard from some people that the concert went well, but heard from others that it was horrible. He asked if they could go over everything for those would like to know the information.
- Anbalagan went over the events with the Assembly.

- Anas reminded everyone that first year students had these experiences, and that multiple students had extremely negative experiences and because of that they weren't going to Homecoming. Anas thanked the Board for their efforts but if the goal was to ensure that this wouldn't happen again then it was more than fair to ask for a statement.
- Sooriyakumaran stated that no one planned for this, and that the Board has done a great job of making sure Homecoming won't become a repeat. She stated that she would like a declaration that this won't happen again, an acknowledgement.

#### **Amendment**

**Moved** by Deshpande, **seconded** by Sabra Salim to amend the motion to read: "**Moved** by Sabra Salim, **seconded** by Patel that the MSU release a publication this week in advance of homecoming in conjunction with the Communications Department that specifically highlights appropriate safety measures for homecoming, and apologizes for negative experiences in the past event of Post Malone."

- Deshpande stated that the feedback was valid and experiences of students need to be validated. He felt that the motion on the floor prior to this amendment was restrictive and not something that was appropriate to release publicly. He explained that this amendment allows for flexibility and give trust in the MSU.
- Sabra Salim stated that she would be voting this down. She explained that if it was one simple statement then she would amend her motion, but she was more concerned about the MSU image than the feelings of the students.
- D'Souza stated that the Communications department can work together and put something out there to address the issues. He explained that there were a number of items that couldn't be released to the public, but the sentiment here was to take the principles and work to make sure everyone was heard and put forward a statement.
- Anbalagan stated that they aren't trying to make their image look better, but that this was a more appropriate response. She explained that forcing the Board of Directors to write an apology was distasteful and hurtful. She stated that they are trying to find a compromise.
- Wilson asked what Deshpande meant by appropriate safety measures. Wilson ceded to Deshpande. Deshpande responded that he didn't know, and he would need to look at the contracts at what they can release. He explained that they will highlight the WGEN tent and increase of security. Deshpande stated that this would be put out to the Assembly for feedback prior to the release, but obviously they would need to do research but they would need more than 48 hours to do it. He added that he didn't want to give false promises but asked the Assembly to trust that they have the best interest of students in mind.
- Sabra Salim stated that they are the supervisors of the Board of Directors, but when bringing forward a concern or criticism they get told it was distasteful and wrong. She explained that this wasn't personal, it was politics. Sabra Salim stated that students brought these issues to light so she was bringing this forward to make sure what was stated at meeting 17F was binding. She added that she wasn't forcing the Board to make a statement, but students should be able to hear this from their student union, and that it was discouraging that this was the response she received.
- Sabrin Salim stated that from her understanding the amendment allows the Board of Directors the autonomy to write the statement. She asked if it would be possible to change this so that the Assembly could review it to make sure that they were comfortable with it. Ceded to Deshpande. Deshpande responded that he was sorry that he didn't make this clear but he definitely wanted the Assembly's help to review the document.
- Lee stated that they all have an onus as student leaders to take account for their actions. He explained that the publication makes sense, and commended Sabra Salim for putting this forward.

**Moved** by Vlatkovic, **seconded** by Sabrin Salim to Call to Question

#### **Vote on Call to Question**

**In Favour: 23 Opposed: 4 Abstentions: 3**

**Opposed: Wilson, Sabra Salim, Florean, Arnold**  
**Abstained: Anas, Ibe, Yun**  
**Motion Passes**

**Vote on Amendment**

**Moved** by Deshpande, **seconded** by Sabra Salim to amend the motion to read: “**Moved** by Sabra Salim, **seconded** by Patel that the MSU release a publication this week in advance of homecoming in conjunction with the Communications department that specifically highlights appropriate safety measures for homecoming, and apologizes for negative experiences in the past event of Post Malone.”

**In Favour: 21 Opposed: 7 Abstentions: 3**  
**Opposed: Anas, Sabrin Salim, Sabra Salim, McGill, Fama, Florean, Patel**  
**Abstained: Stott, Wilson, Chestney**  
**Motion Passes**

**Discussion on Main Motion**

- Webb stated that as someone involved as a campus partner, she wanted to say that they were aware of the implementations and was thankful for them. She explained that she supported the amendment because she does believe that with the Assembly acknowledgement of an appropriate response they should be making sure it's coming from the face of the MSU.
- Sabra Salim stated that her goal wasn't to perpetuate SRA versus BoD, and that wasn't the intention of this motion.
- Wilson corrected something that was said earlier saying that it was important that no one deserves the negative events that happened to them. They explained that the only people at fault were the perpetrators, but that they were aware of long-standing issues of sexual violence on campus. Wilson stated that there have been higher incidences at large events like Light up the Night, Homecoming and Welcome Week. Wilson stated that something he didn't see in the stance was taking ownership that the MSU could have planned and done better. Wilson asked Deshpande what apologizing for the experiences would look like. Ceded to Deshpande. Deshpande responded that he couldn't give an answer right now and that he would like to take to think of it as there are concerns that should be brought up when reviewing it.
- Sabra Salim reminded the Assembly that when they were electing the Vice-Presidents they asked those who were running that when the time came to make a statement would they. She stated that they all agreed to this. Sabra Salim stated that the fact that it took this long to make a comment was unacceptable, and that it took almost an hour to get to this point. She felt that this should have been easier and not met with disregard.
- Florean stated that she would like to make sure that this statement was reviewed before it was sent out. Ceded to Deshpande. Deshpande stated that he was sure all of them wouldn't agree on one statement. He stated that he was prepared to run that hurdle but would trust the expertise of the Communications Department as they have paid staff to do this.
- Anbalagan stated that sexual assault prevention doesn't stop with this vote. She stated that there are conversations that they can continue having for future events. She stated that she wanted to make sure that student safety was their upmost priority.

**Moved** by Sooriyakumaran, **seconded** by Stott to Call to Question

**Vote on Call to Question**

**In Favour: 11 Opposed: 11 Abstentions: 1**  
**Opposed: Aoki, Sabrin Salim, Wilson, Sabra Salim, McGill, Chestney, Fama, Lee, Patel, Webb, Arnold**  
**Abstained: Anas**  
**Motion Fails**

### **Back to Main Motion**

- Sabrin Salim stated that a summary will make sure people are well informed. She asked if they could give a clear step by step process on what would happen after this meeting. She asked what input they could provide and where could they contribute. Sabrin Salim ceded to Deshpande. Deshpande responded that on Mondays they have PR meetings, and there they will draft the initial statement and then hopefully have a few focus groups for this. He added that after that they would have it released on Thursday.
- Sabra Salim asked if taking ownership will be included in the general statement that the MSU didn't take the precautions and that considerations have been made for future events. Sabra Salim ceded to Deshpande. Deshpande responded that he thought it was false to say that they didn't take the necessary precautions, but they will be addressing those items in particular.
- Sabra Salim stated that Homecoming is on Friday, and they have to organize focus groups to release the statement. She felt that it wasn't enough time to amalgamate info.
- Anbalagan stated that the focus groups will not shape or form the feedback, but it could alter it to see what best fits. She explained that they will make sure there will be a timely response prior to homecoming and that these conversations can be had with the Communications Department.

**Moved** by Vlatkovic, **seconded** by Lightstone to exhaust the Speaker's List.

### **Vote to Exhaust**

**In Favour: 24 Opposed: 5 Abstentions: 0**  
**Opposed: Anbalagan, Ibe, Deshpande, Wilson, Florean**  
**Motion Passes**

- D'Souza stated that all of them will be working late this week due to homecoming, and in term of logistics of sending information, any sent out would be official.
- Wilson stated when they talk about training and who was there, and how many people were available it was important that now they could look back and see what could have been done differently. Wilson stated that they live in a society and culture where they don't think about it as much as they should. Wilson added that to full combat sexual assault involves innovation.
- Sabra Salim stated that she had concerns with this as there was too much ambiguity with the motion. She asked that if they vote this up that it would include a very clear outline of what they did that wasn't enough during Post Malone.

### **Vote on Motion**

**Moved** by Sabra Salim, **seconded** by Patel that the MSU release a publication this week in advance of homecoming in conjunction with the Communications department that specifically highlights appropriate safety measures for homecoming, and apologizes for negative experiences in the past event of Post Malone.

**Passes Unanimously**

**Moved** by Lightstone, **seconded** by Anbalagan that the Assembly recess for 15 minutes.

**Motion Passes by General Consent**

**Recessed at 10:46pm**

**Called to Order at 11:02pm**

### **CALL OF THE ROLL**

**Present:** Aoki, Anbalagan, Arnold, Chestney, Deshpande, D'Souza, Fama, Florean, Lao, Lee, McGill, McNally, Nwamadi, Ochocinski, Patel, Risi, Senthillmohan, Sooriyakumaran, Szeliga, Vlatkovic, Webb, Wilson, Yun, Zhang, Zheng

**Absent Excused:**

<b>Absent</b>	Ibe, Obaidullah
<b>Late</b>	Anas, Lightstone, Sabra Salim, Sabrin Salim, Stott
<b>Others Present</b>	Shaarujaa Nadarajah (MSU member), Scott Robinson (AVP: Finance), Ikram Farah (MSU member), Sakib Khan (MSU Member), V. Scott (Recording Secretary)
<b>Chair</b>	Helen Zeng

**10. Open one SRA seat on Elections Committee**

**Moved** by Patel, **seconded** by Senthillmohan that the Assembly open one (1) SRA seat on the Elections Committee.

**Passes Unanimously**

**11. Open one SRA seat on SRA Standing Committee of Internal Governance**

**Moved** by Lightstone, **seconded** by Lao that the Assembly open one (1) SRA seat on the SRA Standing Committee of Internal Governance

**Passes Unanimously**

**12. Time of Meeting**

**Moved** by Vlatkovic, **seconded** by Szeliga that the meetings of the Assembly be held at 3:00pm on Sundays, as per the existing schedule, until the end of term.

- Vlatkovic stated that he ran a poll on the SRA Facebook page, minus the Board of Directors. He stated that 14 people voted for 5pm, and it was tied for 3pm. He explained that there was four people who voted for 5pm and 3pm, so those would be flexible, which made the vote 14-11 for 3pm which was why he brought forward this motion. He stated that changing the time will not shorten their time but started earlier there will be time for people to go home and have dinner, and that if they can't get things done within four hours then they're not doing a good job. Vlatkovic stated that he also offered 12pm or one, but it wasn't popular.
- Lao stated that they should keep in mind that the Board of Directors are also attending these meetings.
- Wilson stated that it wasn't just SRA members that they need to worry about, there are also full-time staff members who come to these meetings who have families that they probably would like to see. Wilson explained that they ran for this knowing that the meeting times would be 5pm.
- Senthillmohan pointed out that if they took out those who voted for both times, it would still be an equal vote. She explained that they are students before everything else and most of them go home on weekends. She stated that she went home this weekend and if the meeting time was earlier that would mean less time spent at home. Senthillmohan added that if the meeting was at 3pm they could still possibly leave at 10pm and there isn't much to do after that time.
- Vlatkovic stated that the Board wasn't added to the poll because he wanted to see what the majority of the students wanted, and based on the results he brought this forward.
- Fama stated that schedules have been set for the year, and that if meetings changed to 3pm then he would have to drop his seat due to work commitments.
- Yun appreciated the thought, and stated that she was someone who went home infrequently and wasn't able to go home this weekend because of the meeting.
- Lightstone stated that he would be perfectly fine with having the meeting at 10am, as it wasn't ideal to have the meeting in the middle of the day.
- Arnold stated that she planned for her year for these meetings to be at 5pm. Arnold asked Anbalagan if they would be able to book the room at this time. Ceded to Anbalagan. Anbalagan responded that she wasn't sure if they would be able to book the room at that time. This was something they would have to discuss further.

**Moved** by Lee, **seconded** by Sooriyakumaran to exhaust the Speaker's List.

**Vote to Exhaust**

**In Favour: 18 Opposed: 10 Abstentions: 1**  
**Opposed: Anbalagan, Deshpande, D'Souza, Zhang, Vlatkovic, Szeliga, Aoki, McNally, Risi, Florean**  
**Abstained: Ibe**  
**Motion Fails**

- Sabrin Salim stated that she could understand why 3pm would sound better, but she would prefer to spend another two hours with her family when going home. She felt that 5pm was the lesser of two evils.
- Senthilmohan stated that it would be much more likely that this will conflict with other schedules and commitments.
- Sabra Salim stated that she would be voting this down as she didn't think it was fair to re-schedule and possibly force someone to drop their seat.
- Wilson explained that if they wanted to make a change, now was not the time to do it. They explained that they should be planning for next year, and term. Wilson added that Victoria Scott and Anbalagan would have to be a part of this conversation, and they would also have to talk to AVtek and the Silhouette.
- Deshpande stated that the issue is more so of meetings going later than meeting starting earlier. He stated that the onus fell on them to speak less and make sure motions were coming forward effectively instead of changing this to allow for more speaking time.
- McNally stated that Deshpande nailed it with the statement of meetings going late. He stated as the night goes long they keep trying to end the Speaker's List, and through they could do better by going earlier.
- Vlatkovic stated that it wasn't his intention to force anyone off of the SRA, and he only brought it forward as a potential change. He added that it was mentioned that the Board of Directors and the Speaker should have been asked but he wanted to see with the students first if change could happen.

**Moved** by Sabrin Salim, **seconded** by Anas to Call to Question

**Vote to Call to Question**

**In Favour: 28 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 2**  
**Abstained: Lightstone, Ibe**  
**Motion Passes**

**Vote on Motion**

**Moved** by Vlatkovic, **seconded** by Szeliga that the meetings of the Assembly be held at 3:00pm on on Sundays, as per the existing schedule, until the end of term.

**In Favour: 7 Opposed: 17 Abstentions: 7**  
**Opposed: Deshpande, Senthilmohan, Sabrin Salim, Anas, Wilson, Sabra Salim, Yun, McGill, Chestney, Fama, Lao, Ochocinski, Florean, Patel, Webb, Arnold, Ibe**  
**Abstained: D'Souza, Anbalagan, Lightstone, Sooriyakumaran, Stott, Nwamadi, Lee**  
**Motion Fails**

**TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**Sunday, October 15, 2017**  
**5:00pm**  
**Council Chambers, GH 111**

**CALL OF THE ROLL**

**Present:** Anas, Aoki, Anbalagan, Arnold, Chestney, Deshpande, D'Souza, Fama, Florean, Lao, Lee, Lightstone, McGill, McNally, Nwamadi, Ochocinski, Patel, Risi, Sabra Salim, Sabrin Salim, Senthillmohan, Sooriyakumaran, Stott, Szeliga, Vlatkovic, Webb, Wilson, Yun, Zhang, Zheng

**Absent Excused:**

**Absent** Ibe, Obaidullah

**Late**

**Others Present** Shaarujaa Nadarajah (MSU member), Scott Robinson (AVP: Finance), Ikram Farah (MSU member), Sakib Khan (MSU Member), V. Scott (Recording Secretary)

**Chair** Helen Zeng

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved** by Lao, **seconded** by Lee that the meeting be adjourned.

**Motion Passes by General Consent**

**Adjourned at 11:30 pm**

/vs



# Reputation & Brand Marketing Update

Enhancing McMaster's Visibility  
& Reputation

MSU Student  
Representatives  
Council Chambers GH111  
*September 2017*



# At McMaster

we recognize that the strength of our brand is integral to the achievement of our institutional objectives on a national and international scale.

# Framework for Managing McMaster's Reputation

## Prepare & Inform

- Regular development of "what if" scenarios.
- Strong relationship development and equity.
- Developed PR, digital, social media and crisis communications plans.

## Listen & Monitor

- Ongoing environmental scans including government, current events, sector developments and social media.
- Utilize variety of digital tools to ensure early identification of issues and opportunities.

## Strong Internal Coordination

- Established escalation process internally.
- Engagement of key constituents as issues require.
- All decisions based on values and principles of the organization.
- Dissemination of information when issues are identified.

## Reputation Development

- Proactive strategies to support University goals and objectives.
- Strong media relations, social content development and digital engagement.
- Institutional commitment to building a strong university brand.
- Implementation of strategic marketing plan

Governance & Internal Commitment of Stakeholders

Strong and sustainable reputation

# Building reputation – Key success factor #1

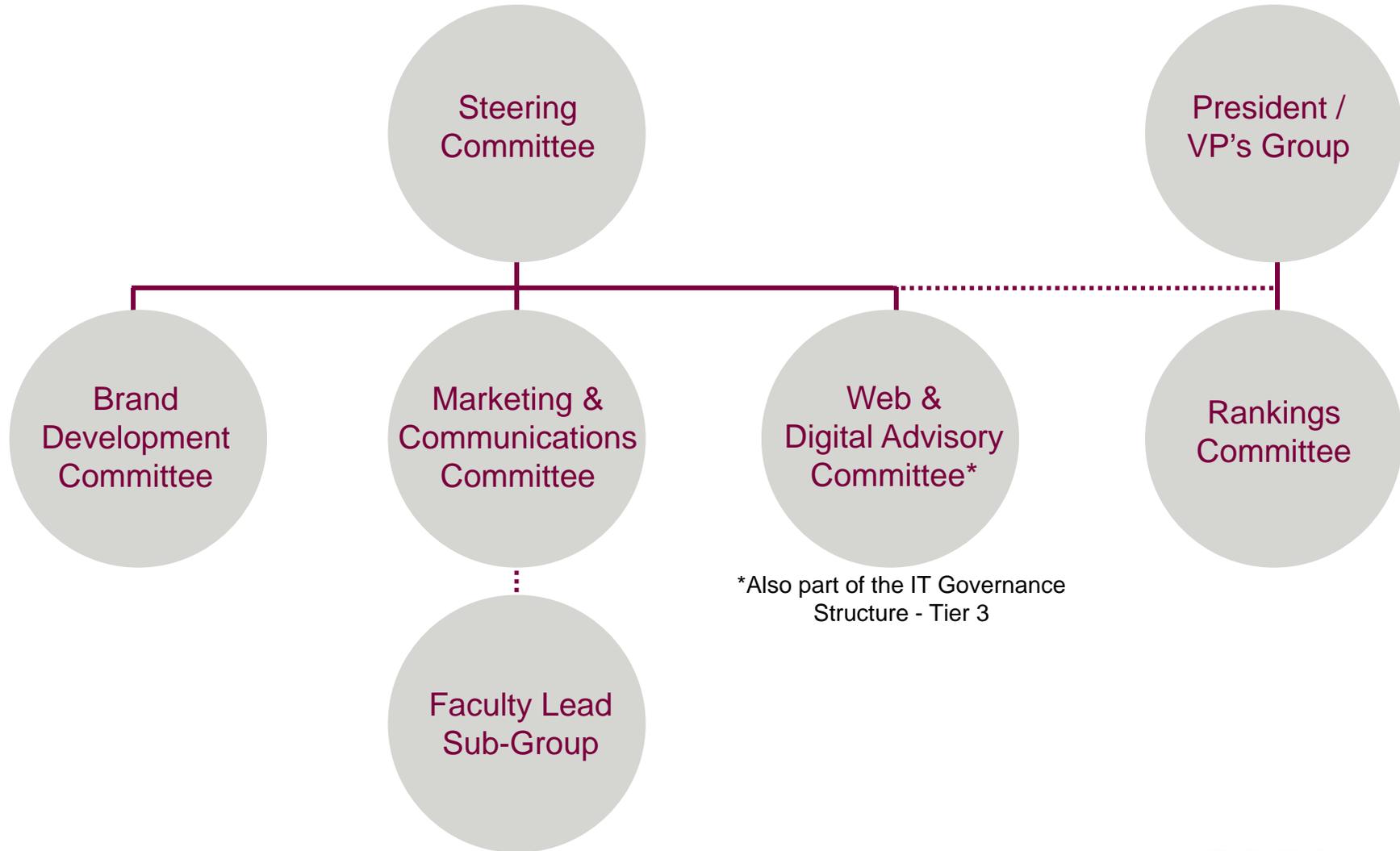
Enhancing McMaster's reputation for excellence – through outstanding media and alumni relations, communications, marketing, government relations and stewardship.

## Key strategic priorities (2017-2018)

1. Refresh Brand Platform:  
Guidelines & Advisory Services
2. Enhance Reputation:  
Global Rankings
3. Revitalize Digital Ecosystem:  
Website & Digital Fundamentals
4. Promote Impact:  
Research Excellence
5. Amplify Media Coverage:  
Reputational Reach & Frequency
6. Enrich On-Campus Branding:  
Community Engagement



# Governance & Leadership Structure



1

## Refresh Brand Platform: Our Brand Promise



Advancing  
human and  
societal health  
and well-being.



1

# Refresh Brand Platform: Our Brand Story



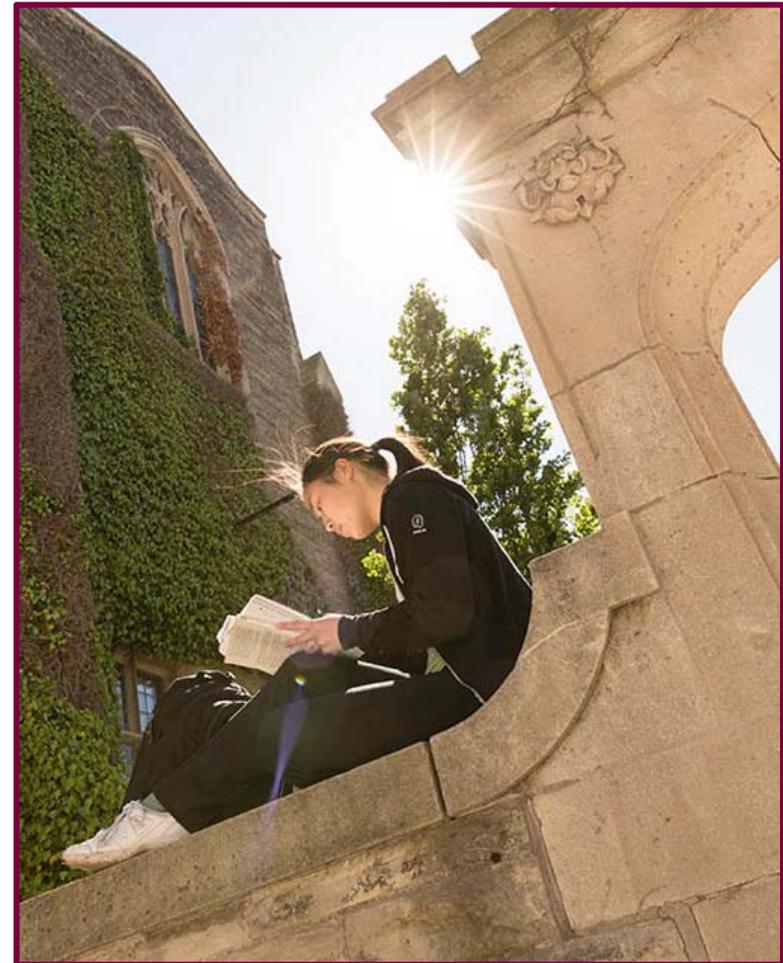
## Brighter World

The Brighter World brand story is fueled by McMaster's unique approach to collaboration.

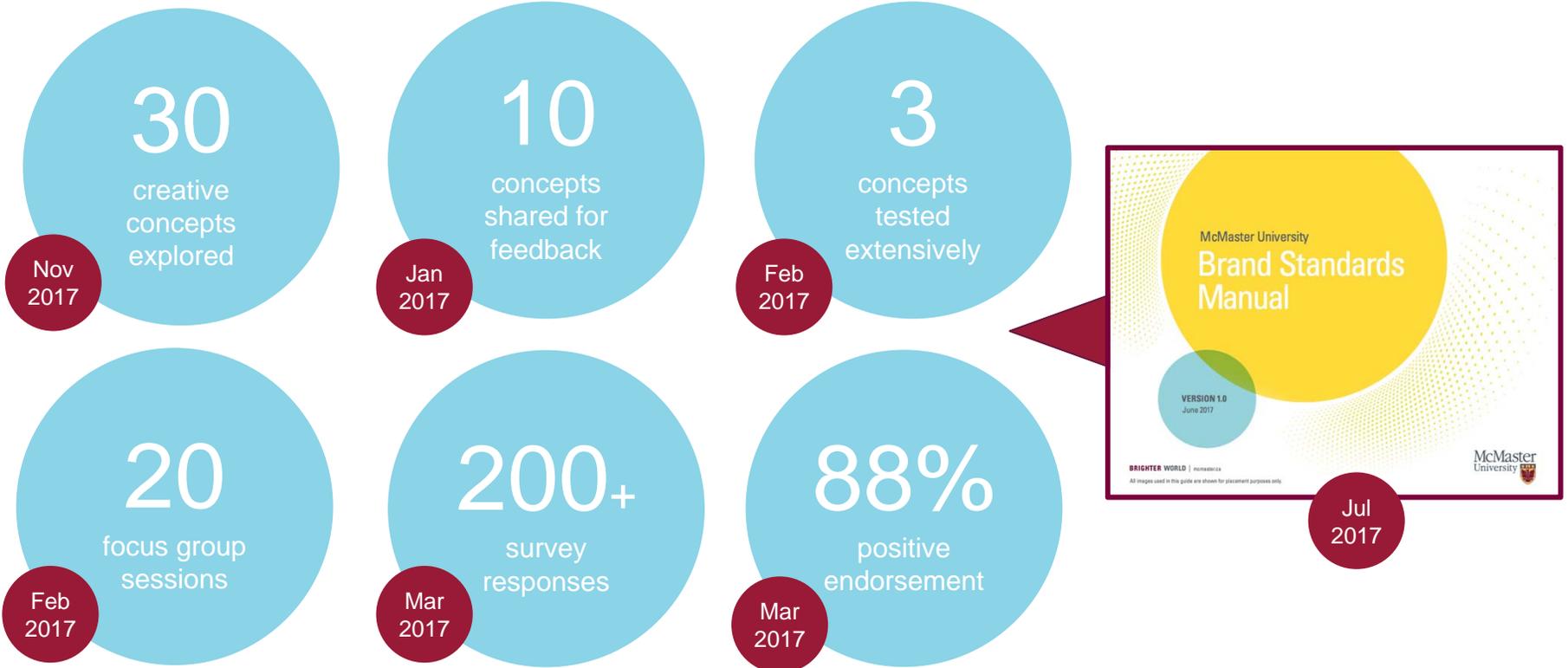
It also reflects the positive impact our research and students continue to have on the world.

# 1 Refresh Brand Platform: How is McMaster creating a Brighter World?

- By encouraging **experts** to **collaborate** on work that shines new light on challenges to health and well-being
- By facilitating astute, **cross-faculty** dialogue that helps us build a healthier future for all
- By creating an **inclusive community** where a diverse group of thinkers can experience “**light bulb**” moments of inspiration that can change the world



# 1 Refresh Brand Platform: The Journey



# Logos and Marks

Reference: Pg. 10– Brand Guidelines



## NEW

In order to increase the legibility of McMaster brand elements and optimize for digital media, a darker grey **PMS 431** has been chosen to replace the previously used lighter grey (PMS 430).

The McMaster brandmark on this page and throughout this manual is now compliant with AODA—Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 Level AAA. Note that the previous lighter grey (PMS430) is acceptable for materials created prior to April 2017.

Visit [accessibility.mcmaster.ca](https://accessibility.mcmaster.ca) for more details.

Please refer to page 32 for more information about McMaster colour palette.

# Logos and Marks

Reference: Pg. 12– Brand Guidelines

*Primary, horizontal  
2-colour version*

# BRIGHTER WORLD

*Primary, vertical  
2-colour version*

# BRIGHTER WORLD

**DO NOT:**

- Manually type the tagline
- Centre or right align
- Replace the colour

# Logos and Marks

Reference: Pg. 18– Brand Guidelines

**DO NOT:**

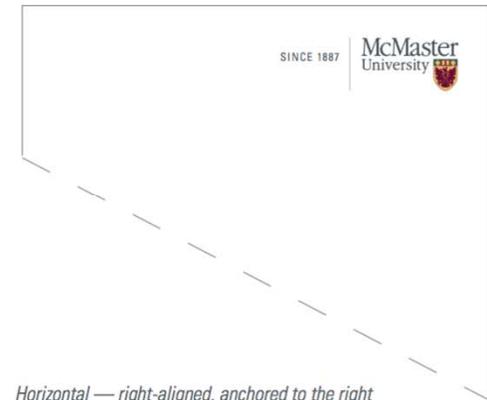
- Manually type: "SINCE 1887"
- Rearrange the elements
- Replace the colour



Lockup of the primary McMaster logo with "SINCE 1887"

*This is an actual size of the arrangement, based on the 1.75" width of the McMaster logo, larger than in other applications of the same size, as it appears on the Viewbook cover.*

Lockup position in the application



*Horizontal — right-aligned, anchored to the right upper corner of the application, maintaining at least the minimum amount of the protected space around the McMaster logo and the "SINCE 1887" arrangement.*

# Brand Structure

Reference: Pg. 19 - 24– Brand Guidelines



**DeGroot**  
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS  
EDUCATION WITH PURPOSE

First Line Here  
Second Line Here



**DeGroot**  
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS  
EDUCATION WITH PURPOSE



**ENGINEERING**  
School of Biomedical  
Engineering



**ENGINEERING**



**HEALTH SCIENCES**  
Health Research Methods,  
Evidence & Impact



**HEALTH SCIENCES**



**HUMANITIES**  
Gender Studies &  
Feminist Research



**HUMANITIES**



**SCIENCE**  
School of Interdisciplinary  
Science



**SCIENCE**



**SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
Geography & Environmental  
Science



**SOCIAL SCIENCES**

# Brand Structure – Department only lockups

Reference: Pg. 25– Brand Guidelines



# Brand Structure – approved school logos, lockups

Reference: Pg. 26– Brand Guidelines

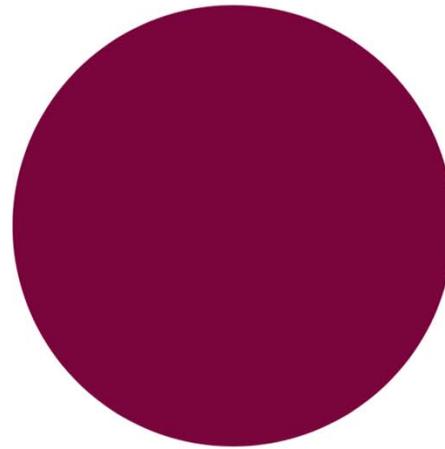


## NEW

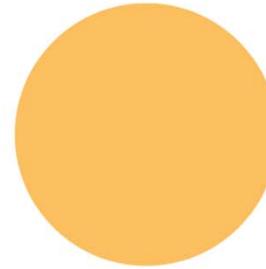
In order to increase the legibility of Michael DeGroot School of Medicine logo and optimize for digital media, a darker grey PMS 431 has been chosen to replace the previously used lighter grey (PMS 430).

# Colour Palette

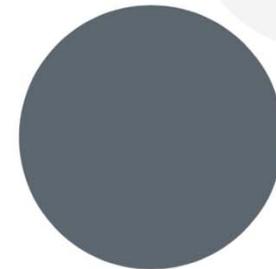
Reference: Pg. 39-40— Brand Guidelines



McMASTER HERITAGE MAROON



McMASTER HERITAGE GOLD

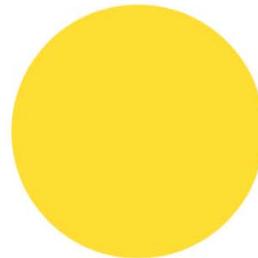


McMASTER HERITAGE GREY

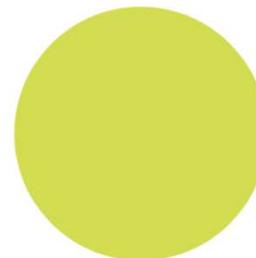
**NEW**  
New grey — PMS 431 has been chosen to replace the previously used lighter grey (PMS 430).

## HIGHLIGHTS

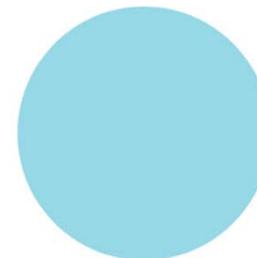
Used for highlights and backgrounds in the duotone images.



BRIGHTER WORLD YELLOW

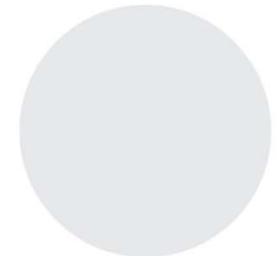


BRIGHTER WORLD LIME



BRIGHTER WORLD SKY BLUE

## NEUTRAL SUPPORT

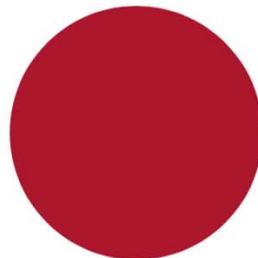


COOL GREY

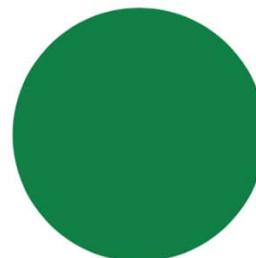
## DARKER TONES

Used only to contrast the highlights in the duotone images.

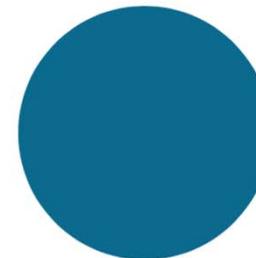
The Darker Tones palette is intended to add contrast where a darker colour is necessary to retain clarity of detail in a photograph. Because of its strong impact, use the darker red judiciously.



BRIGHTER WORLD RED



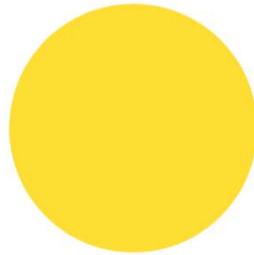
BRIGHTER WORLD GREEN



BRIGHTER WORLD BLUE

# Colour Palette

Reference: Pg. 41– Brand Guidelines



## **CIRCLE OF LIGHT**

*The Circles of Light highlight the people, places, actions and impact of McMaster University. Each circle is a window into a distinct element of a McMaster story. And when they overlap, these different people, places and things work together to produce new knowledge, optimism and impact.*

*It represents:*

*world  
people  
environment  
unification  
entity  
community  
idea*

## **RADIANCE**

*The Radiance, the glowing field of dots, represents the expanding positive impact of the work done at McMaster. When the Circles of Light come together they produce a radiating impact that makes for a Brighter World.*

*It represents:*

*brightness  
light  
spread  
expansion  
potential  
movement  
perspective*

## **BRIGHTER WORLD**

*It represents:*

*creation  
innovation  
growth  
collaboration  
inclusiveness  
connectivity  
discovery  
integration*

# Big Picture Composition



**STARS**  
RATED FOR EXCELLENCE  
2017  
PLUS

**Focused on the world's well-being.**

Health, technology, the environment, the economy — they're all interconnected. Just as our shared challenges intermingle, so too must our solutions. At McMaster University, we take a collaborative approach to improve people's lives, contribute to global knowledge and advance the health and well-being of the world around us. It's how we research and how we teach. It's our commitment to creating a brighter world.

**BRIGHTER WORLD** | [mcmaster.ca](http://mcmaster.ca)

McMaster  
University 

# Story Based Composition

Environmental scientists

Automotive designers

Business analysts

**To build a safer, greener car, start with the right team.**

The most important part of tomorrow's cars is the collaborative thinking that's happening today. McMaster researchers are combining new ideas about steel production and automotive design to create car bodies that are tough and resilient for passenger safety, yet lightweight for reduced fuel consumption. At McMaster, our optimism comes from the challenges we share.

**BRIGHTER WORLD | mcmaster.ca**

McMaster University

Musicians to inspire emotion.

Psychologists to focus listening.

Engineers to enhance audio.

**How music and psychology are shining new light on hearing.**

Driven by the falling hearing of her musician father, McMaster psychologist Sus Becker assembled a diverse team of experts to design a better hearing aid based on the psychology of listening. Working together, we see a world of possibility.

**BRIGHTER WORLD | mcmaster.ca**

McMaster University

# Voice and Tone

Reference: Pg. 65– Brand Guidelines

## Voice elements

Smart and purposeful, but never condescending: Speak from a place of knowledge and authority, yet remain open to new ideas and new ways of thinking or approaching a situation. Inform rather than dictate.

### Optimistic

Focus on solutions more than problems. Frame subjects from a positive perspective rather than a negative one.

### Direct

Get to the point. Avoid unnecessary wordiness or hyperbole.

### Team-focused

Where possible, put individual accomplishments in the context of a team effort. Avoid a “hero worship” approach and, instead, acknowledge the efforts of the group, community or faculty that helped make the accomplishment possible.

### Clear and straightforward

Avoid jargon or wordiness. The most concise wording is often the most powerful.

### Warm and student-focused

Use first- and second-person language (“we,” “you,” “us”) and contractions when appropriate.

### Impact-focused

When sharing specific McMaster research stories, where applicable, make reference to the impact, or potential impact, of the work in contributing to a better world.

# Key Words and Phrases

Reference: Pg. 66– Brand Guidelines

- PHRASES
- Benefit the human condition
  - Clever cooperation
  - Commitment to discovery
  - Commitment to the public good
  - Community engagement
  - Exchange of ideas
  - Foster connectivity
  - Fuel research
  - Ignite inspiration
  - Illuminate solutions
  - Inclusive outlook
  - Intelligent dialogue
  - International reach

## BRIGHTER WORLD

- PHRASES
- Kindle optimism
  - Original thought and innovation
  - Perspective across disciplines
  - Pool ideas
  - Reach worldwide
  - Reflect insights
  - Serve the greater good
  - Shared purpose
  - Shine light
  - Smart collaboration
  - Strength in diversity
  - Spark ideas
  - Make a global impact



## 2 Enhance Reputation: Global Rankings – Background

- The *Ranking's Analysis & Advisory Committee* was created in 2016 and is tasked with examining the University's performance in international rankings
- The three rankings identified as priorities given their influence, scope, and international credibility include:
  1. Times Higher Education (THE) – World University Rankings.
  2. QS – World University Rankings
  3. Shanghai Jiao Tong – Academic Ranking of World Universities
- Competition is growing fiercer as institutions are intent on increasing their prestige through these rankings



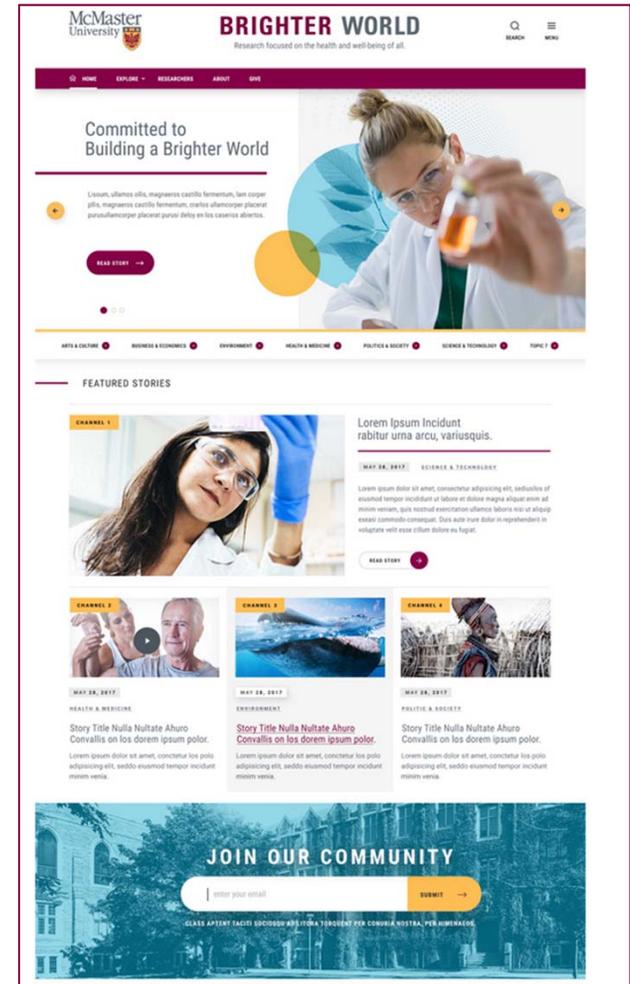
## 2 Enhance Reputation: Global Rankings – Results



	2017/18	+/-	2017/18	+/-	2017/18	+/-
<b>McMaster</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>+17</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>+9</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>+35</b>
U of T	23	+4	31	-1	22	--
UBC	31	+3	51	-6	34	+2
McGill	67	-4	32	-2	42	--
Alberta	101-150	--	90	+4	119	-12
Calgary	151-200	--	217	-21	201-250	-6 or more
Montreal	151-200	--	130	-4	108	-5
Ottawa	151-200	+	289	+2	201-250	+1 or more
Queen's	201-300	--	224	-1	251-300	-1 or more
Waterloo	201-300	--	152	--	201-250	-28 or more
Western	201-300	--	210	-12	201-250	--

### 3 Revitalize Digital Ecosystem: Website & Digital Fundamentals

- Phase 1 priority website projects (approved):
  - McMaster.ca homepage (Nov 2017)
  - Daily News (Oct 2017)
  - Brighter World Research Content Hub (Oct 2017)
  - Future Students Recruitment Website (Fall 2017)
  - Campus Tour / 3D Interactive Map (Fall 2017)
  - Brand Guidelines Website / AssetBank (Fall 2017)
  - McMaster Experts – Academic Profiles (Oct 2017)
  - Research & Innovation Website (Winter 2018)
  - A-Z Directory / Social Media Directory (Fall 2018)
- Phase 2 priority website are currently being scoped in consultation with Faculties and Research



4

## Promote Impact: Research Excellence

- Brand journalism with feature research stories will help promote McMaster's research priorities via our new **Brighter World Research Hub**
  - Note: this work draws on the strengths of McMaster's media relations program
- Founding university member of **The Conversation Canada** – a project developed to improve the visibility of higher education and researchers in Canada, locally, nationally, and globally (June 2017)



## 5 Amplify Media Coverage: Reputational Reach & Frequency

- Advertising campaign to target audiences across traditional and digital media channels to begin in October 2017 and will ramp up in Winter 2018
- Selection of media planner complete (August 2017)

**touché!**

- Currently meeting with media outlets and putting together McMaster's integrated media plan for the year

Working together  
towards a  
**BRIGHTER  
WORLD**

Our goal at McMaster University is to create a brighter world — to improve the health and well-being of all people while contributing to our global knowledge base and advancing the societies and the world in which we live.

We believe that bringing together the best and brightest minds is the spark that makes a brighter world possible. As individual researchers and academics, we can best realize our full potential when we work together, building on our diverse histories, drawing knowledge from the society that surrounds us and remaining firmly grounded in the physical world that sustains us.

In a spirit of openness, inclusiveness and collaboration, our researchers, staff and students unite across disciplines to produce smarter thinking and more effective solutions. This collegial approach has helped us earn an international reputation as one of Canada's leading universities.

As our world continues to transform, we remain committed to empowering innovative thinkers who are eager to share their ideas and collaborate to advance the well-being of us all.

We're proud of the milestones we've achieved over the past 130 years and excited by the progress we continue to make. We invite you to join our diverse, dedicated and innovative community as we work together to create a brighter world.

*Dr. Patrick Deane*  
Dr. Patrick Deane,  
President and Vice-Chancellor, McMaster University

Featured researchers include: Mike Reschovsky, Professor, Chemical and Computer Engineering Co-Program, McMaster School of Biomedical Engineering; Dr. Shalee Singh, Associate Professor, Surgery, Canada Research Chair in Human Cancer Stem Cell Biology

BRIGHTER WORLD | mcmaster.ca

McMaster University

Double Page Ad in Times Higher Education Rankings Issue

## 6 Enrich On-Campus Branding: Community Engagement

- Phase 1 of the on-campus branding complete (Aug 2017)
- Telling our story on-campus will promote our researchers, students, alumni and the history of the institution – creating greater pride and awareness



**Kathryn Grandfield** @ProfGrandfield · Aug 25

Just in time for the new semester @McMasterU ! Excited our lab is doing its part toward building a #BrighterWorld



6

# Enrich On-Campus Branding: Community Engagement

**Exploring the future of human-computer interaction**



**Milena Head**  
Wayne C. Fox Chair in Business Innovation

**BRIGHTER WORLD** | McMaster University

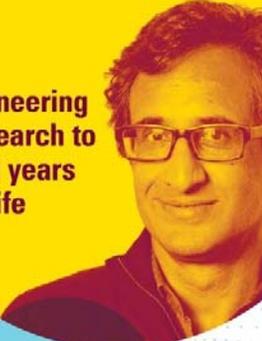
**Improving cardiovascular disease prevention**



**Sonia Anand**  
Professor of Medicine

**BRIGHTER WORLD** | McMaster University

**Pioneering research to add years to life**



**Parminder Raina**  
Canada Research Chair in Geroscience

**BRIGHTER WORLD** | McMaster University

**Expanding the frontiers of brain cancer research**



**Sheila Singh**  
Canada Research Chair in Human Cancer Stem Cell Biology

**BRIGHTER WORLD** | McMaster University

**Discovering antibiotics to control infectious disease**



**Gerry Wright**  
Director, Michael G. DeGroote Institute for Infectious Disease Research

**BRIGHTER WORLD** | McMaster University



# 6 Enrich On-Campus Branding: Community Engagement



Exploring cultures to build bridges



**Chandrima Chakraborty**  
University Scholar and Associate Professor, English and Cultural Studies

**BRIGHTER WORLD** | McMaster University

Leader in global health



**Salim Yusuf**  
Executive Director, Population Health Research Institute

**BRIGHTER WORLD** | McMaster University

Advancing the ethics of global health



**Claudia Emerson**  
Director, Institute on Ethics and Policy for Innovation

**BRIGHTER WORLD** | McMaster University

Award-winning research in human rights



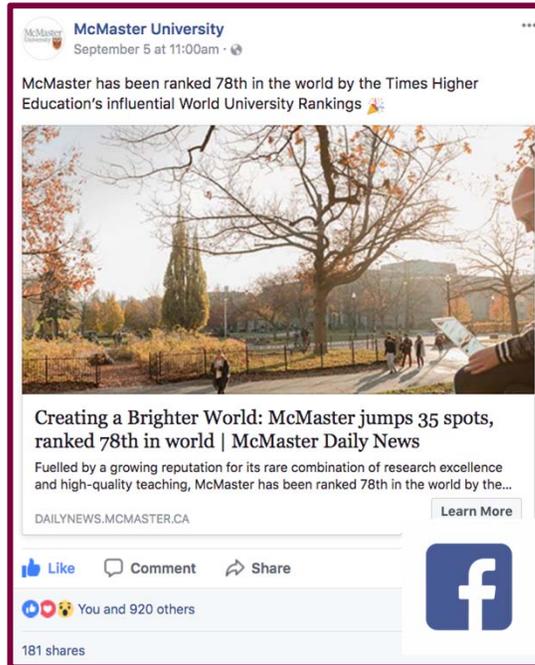
**Bonny Ibhawoh**  
Professor, Department of History and Peace Studies

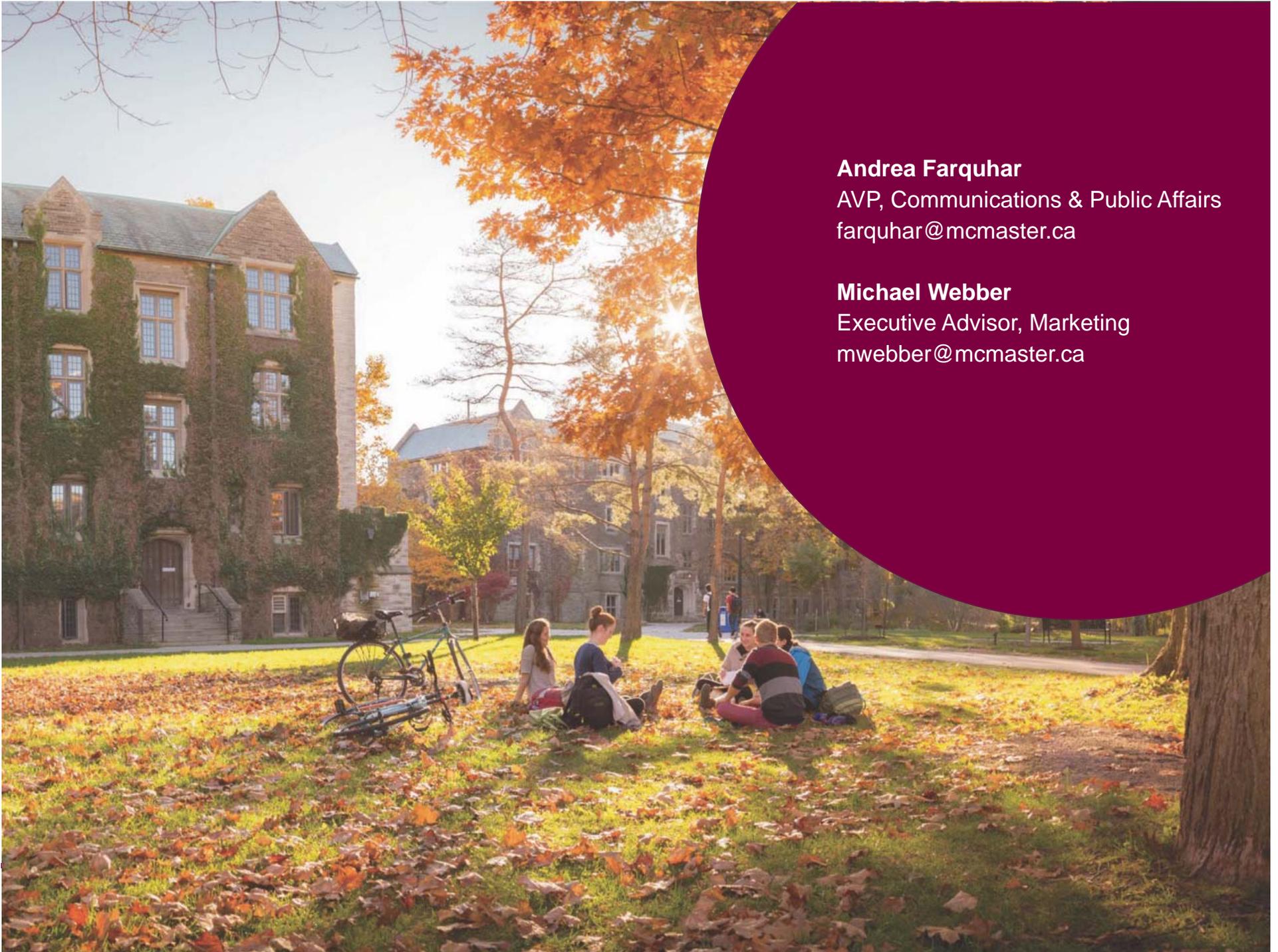
**BRIGHTER WORLD** | McMaster University

**BRIGHTER WORLD**



# 6 Enrich On-Campus Branding: Social Engagement #BrighterWorld





**Andrea Farquhar**

AVP, Communications & Public Affairs  
farquhar@mcmaster.ca

**Michael Webber**

Executive Advisor, Marketing  
mwebber@mcmaster.ca



# REPORT

*From the office of the...*

## Health Sciences Caucus

---

TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly  
FROM: David Lee, Health Sciences Caucus Leader  
SUBJECT: SRA 17H Report  
DATE: September 19 2017

---

### **PROGRESS ON YEAR PLAN**

The Health Sciences caucus is excited to announce a great start to the year and share some updates since we last met. We are pleased with our progress in continuing our communications strategy with BHSc students. We have been actively promoting to First Years especially about Spark registration and also FYC Nominations. We have also continued our SRA Meeting Minutes updates to BHSc students on Learnlink and also update our SRA Twitter and Facebook pages with on a regular basis.

We hope to further work with the Nursing Caucus and SHEC Mental Health Executive in establishing a Mental Health event specific for students under the Faculty of Health Sciences. We would like to have a clearer idea about this in the future in hopes of having other stakeholders involved.

### **PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

Francis and I have been present in BHSS meetings the past few weeks and have been regularly giving our input to faculty specific discussions. We are happy to establish a great connection with our faculty society.

I have also spoken the VP Admin of the BDC Faculty Society and the BHSc Office in hopes of giving access to Learnlink Students. I wanted to iron out the details of specifically which folders we would be providing access to. I am happy to say this project is currently in progress to completion as I have scheduled a meeting with the Learnlink staff. In the future, we hope to maintain this great connection with the BDC program.

I had my meeting with Director of HSL along with Chukky and the BHSS President who informed me about the progress on extending HSL hours. She has indicated a few areas such as maintenance, security, HVAC system programming, and entrance as potential problems for extending library hours to a 24-hour system. The meeting was productive and we strongly stressed how Health Sciences students have advocated for this initiative, indicating that it is a safety concern that Health Science students are roaming campus late at night looking for study rooms.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

Francis and I are currently planning on launching a welcome event in the lounge to let students know about our roles. We are working with AVP Finance to launch this “Pizza, Politics, and Pleasantries welcome event” and are looking to connecting with the BDC Society as well.

Regards,

David Lee  
SRA Health Sciences Caucus Leader  
McMaster Students Union  
[srahealth@msu.mcmaster.ca](mailto:srahealth@msu.mcmaster.ca)



# REPORT

*From the office of the...*

## SRA Humanities Caucus Leader

---

TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly  
FROM: Landon Fama, SRA Humanities Caucus Leader  
SUBJECT: SRA 17G Report  
DATE: Sept. 18th, 2017

---

Dear Members of the Assembly,

The SRA Humanities Caucus is off to a roaring start to the fall semester, and feel great about the Caucus' position to tackle our year plan. Much of our work is in the early phases, however we do have successes in regards to campus visibility and MHS communication.

### **PROGRESS ON YEAR PLAN**

We are currently part of a group of Caucus' collaborating to create a standardized SRA video-update series. After strong discussions with the Arts & Science Leader we believe this is a project which should be coming together in the coming weeks. We would encourage any other members of the assembly which would be interested in creating a uniform video series to be shared with all MSU members to please reach out.

We have scheduled a meeting with the McMaster Humanities Society (MHS) to improve communication and discuss mutual interests for this coming year.

We have begun our Transition Report for the SRA Humanities Caucus of 2018/19 in order to best prepare them for their respective term. This is a massive win for the Caucus as we did not receive any supporting information when coming into the role.

### **PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

No past events yet.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

Our meeting with the MHS is scheduled for later this week, and will be the foundation for a strong relationship with our faculty society moving forward.

We are looking to finalize our proposal for the integration of more visual art installations into the MSU's Light Up The Night event, as per our year plan.

### **CURRENT CHALLENGES**

The SRA Finance Committee is yet to meet and as such we have been unable to begin serious work on the MSU Discount Card.



# REPORT

*From the offices of the...*  
**Kinesiology Caucus**

---

TO: SRA Members  
FROM: Brian Zheng, Caucus Member  
SUBJECT: SRA 17H Report  
DATE: August 26, 2019

---

## **PROGRESS ON YEAR PLAN**

Over the past few months we've been able to jumpstart the progress on our year plan. We are progressing on our way to find a way to establish a dedicated space for our faculty members to meet and reside. We're observing several options, such as looking at space allocations within IWC and potentially within the newly proposed SAB building. We have since met with a few stakeholders, such as Daniel, VP Finance, to help establish various options for potential space allocations. However, as a result of the all west building plan to be approved, Daniel states it is likely not possible to allocate space in the SAB. From this, I will be reaching out with the Martin Gibala (Kinesiology Dean) and Sean VK (AVP Students) to see if we can work out something else on campus.

Observing our newly developed communications plan, we've been actively keeping students updated by sharing our social media page and posting updates such as hiring, events and various MSU opportunities to keep our constituents informed. We're more actively posting on our respective faculty Facebook group to more directly engage our audience. In addition, in an effort to create more relevant and engaging content for our faculty, I've meet with Chukky & Wooder to begin establishing a framework for SRA members to not only create exciting content, but content that is representative of the student union. Hence, establishing a Member Relations group.

Observing the platform point about effective feedback, I've been looking into a few in-class survey system. Unfortunately, many of them cost money, so I will be reaching out to Scott to try and acquire some funding for the project.

## **PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

I have been trying to create a stronger relationship with the MSU and the kinesiology society given the treatment in the past few years. As a result, we've been attending a number KS meetings to keep updated with our faculty's events and offer any support they need regarding the MSU or how we as the MSU can help with their concerns.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

Unfortunately, our caucus leader, Sara, will be renouncing her seat on the SRA to pursue other opportunities. I just wanted to take the time to thank her for all her hard work since the beginning of the year. As a result, I will be hosting a few class talks and events to speak about the SRA to try and inspire some individuals who might be interested in position before the next by-election. The new caucus will be renegotiating its year plan to fit the new member.

Chukky and a few interested members of the SRA will hopefully have another Members Relations meeting soon to discuss how we can better develop content for our constituents.

I will be likely hosting a livestream via the SRA Kinesiology page to try and drive traffic and answer any questions first year students might have.

## **CHALLENGES**

I would love to hear some recommendations especially from SRA science about space allocations and how they went about it in previous years. In addition, after my meeting with the Members Relation group, I'm worried there are some restrictions in terms of content creation and would like Chukky to reiterate those.

Regards,

Brian Zheng  
SRA Kinesiology Caucus Member  
McMaster Student Union  
[Zhengyx4@mcmaster.ca](mailto:Zhengyx4@mcmaster.ca)

## SUCCESSSES

We are extremely happy with the outcome of Welcome Week this year, as the SRA Humanities visibility far surpassed years prior. We were able to have an SRA presence at the majority of MHS' Welcome Week programming, thanks largely to Fiona.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Landon Fama', written in a cursive style.

Landon Fama  
SRA Humanities 17/18, Caucus Leader  
McMaster Students Union  
[srahuman@msu.mcmaster.ca](mailto:srahuman@msu.mcmaster.ca)



# REPORT

*From the office of the...*

## Associate Vice-President Finance

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TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly  
FROM: Scott Robinson, Associate Vice-President Finance  
SUBJECT: SRA 17G Report  
DATE: September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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Dear Student Representative Assembly Members,

### **PROGRESS ON YEAR PLAN**

I was able to get a strong footing throughout the summer, and make good headway on a lot of my year plan projects. I split my year plan into 3 sections: Summer, Fall and Winter. Many of these projects are now completed, with the rest very close to completion.

As the chair of the SAB Space Allocation Ad-Hoc Committee, we have been working to collect student input and feedback as to what they need inside the new SAB. We brainstormed effective ways to collect this data, and how best to reach out to students and promote the opportunity to have their voice heard. Our final report will be submitted to the SRA at the first October meeting, and subsequently to the architect firm, MJMA as a reference for what students want to see. It has also been a great experience to sit on some of the upper level committees regarding the SAB project. In every meeting that I attend, I work to make sure that voices of students are being heard in the planning process of this project, and my work as part of the SAB ad hoc committee has greatly helped my understanding of what exactly students are looking for.

Another goal of mine was to formalize the steps to receiving SRA special projects funding, which has been an ambiguous and unclear process in the past. To do this, I created a proposal form, and have sent that form to any assembly members who have inquired about funding. This allows the process to not only be transparent, if an MSU member should inquire about the fund, but also it allows us to be collecting historical data which future assemblies and AVP Finance's can use as a basepoint for the fund in the future. This past week, I formalized standing orders at both Union Market and the Underground Media + Design, which will help to speed up the process for access to this fund. Thus far, I've been happy to help the Engineering, Health Sci, Soc Sci, Commerce, Art Sci & Science caucuses make use of the fund, and I look forward to helping you in the success of your term on the SRA.

My final summer year plan point was to begin the process of collecting student input for the Programming Advisory Committee. Unfortunately, due to scheduling conflicts between myself and my co-chair, we were unable to host a summer term meeting. However, we are planning for one soon, and have met to discuss our goals and tentative projects for the committee. I expect this will be a main focus of my next report.

### **PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

The majority of my past events and activities have been involved with the Student Activity Building project. As chair of the Space Allocation Ad-Hoc Committee, we have seen some major successes.

Our largest avenue for receiving student feedback has been through our online survey, which was posted in early August. The survey asks for general idea submissions about what facilities and design features students wish to see within the new SAB. As of September 17<sup>th</sup>, the survey

has received over 400 submissions.

To promote this survey we released an online video, which starred the members of the Board of Directors, and this video has been viewed over 5,000 times! This video was also paired with a series of digital graphics and printed posters, which have been promoted on various social media channels as well as across the school on MacTV and on many walls. Additionally we had a table at the ClubsFest on September 6<sup>th</sup>, at which, our committee handed out over 1,000 rave cards promoting the survey. At this event we also invited students to write their ideas on a large format poster board, the results of which will be added into the survey. Finally to promote the survey, we have printed another 1,000 rave cards and these cards have been submitted at various customer service desks across campus including libraries, business units & academic advising offices.

To collect information and recommendations pertaining to the multi-faith prayer spaces which were promised in the referenda, a new interfaith council has met twice to discuss the internal design of this space. This initiative has been led by Max Lightstone, and the findings from each meeting will greatly aid us in our final SAB report.

Just yesterday, I met with the Underground Media + Design manager to discuss our promotions at the Homecoming expo, which I will expand on in the Upcoming Events, Projects & Activities section.

To aid in my understanding of the scope of the SAB project, myself as well as the MSU President, VP Finance, General Manager, and representatives from the university and Athletics + Recreation travelled to University of Waterloo on July 20<sup>th</sup>. Here, we met with individuals who have been involved in their Fitness expansion and student centre project. They are about a year ahead of us for their project, so it was a great opportunity to learn about the steps they took to consult with students, and the trials and tribulations that they have faced along the way. The knowledge gained during this field trip has directly influenced the SAB committee in a positive way.

On another note, the Sponsorship and Donations committee met for the first time on September 6<sup>th</sup>. At this meeting, we approved 2 recommendations to the Executive board which totaled \$750. This is a great step forward and I am looking forward to working with this committee to help fund amazing student initiatives or community events.

This past week, I finalized 2 standing orders with the Underground Media + Design as well as Union Market, which will be linked to the SRA Special Projects Fund. These standing orders will greatly reduce the time it will take to effective access this fund. Through research into past years of the fund, as well as the request I have received so far, these two business units seems as if they will be the subject of many requests, so this is a positive move.

Regarding the Finance Committee, over the summer I reached out to all of the voting members on the committee, as well as anyone else who expressed interest. I asked them each to fill out a form outlining expectations and goals they had for the year, which will help us finalize our year plan and get off to a great start next week!

### **UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

The Finance Committee has scheduled our first meeting tentatively for September 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. At this meeting, we will be discussing our plans for the year, as well as going over expectations of commitments, both from the voting members and myself as chair. The committee's first order of business will be to look over the non-MSU fee groups financials, as these groups will be coming in to present to the SRA soon. Additionally, we will be discussing our involvement in the MSU Organization Transparency Fair, which will feature information on the MSU's finances and where students money really goes.

The Sponsorship and Donations Committee has begun to meet bi-weekly, to make educated recommendations to the executive board regarding any proposals that are submitted. Also as a part of our policy, we will be doing a promotional push to advertise the opportunities for students to apply for these donations or sponsorships.

Throughout the next week, the SAB Ad-Hoc committee will host a series of pop up booths across campus, asking for students votes on specific design options. The architect firm MJMA has provided us with 3 design options for unprogrammed lounge/study space, the multifaith rooms, and the multi-purpose event space. Students will have the opportunity to vote on these different examples at booths across campus next week. Additionally, we will be hosting a tent at the Homecoming Expo, which will feature this opportunity for students to have their voice heard. We are excited for this opportunity, as thousands of students will be visiting BSB field on this day, and we hope to have many of them interact with our committee.

Finally, the Programming Advisory Committee will have a meeting within the next 2 weeks to begin the process of collecting student input and making recommendations for programming to the campus events department.

### **CURRENT CHALLENGES**

The largest current challenge has been getting the ball rolling on the Programming Advisory Committee. This has come from scheduling conflicts between myself and my co-chair, when we began the process in July. Now that we are both on campus full time, I expect this challenge to be significantly alleviated.

### **VOLUNTEERS (Commissioners only)**

So far so good with the finance committee volunteers, Sponsorship and Donations Committee and the SAB ad-hoc committee volunteers! Communication from them has for the most part been clear and successful. I'm looking forward to beginning a great year with the finance committee, continuing the success of the SponDon committee, and finishing up a great project with the SAB Committee.

### **OTHER**

After sitting on the assembly last year, witnessing the commissioner structure, I am overjoyed with the assembly's decision to change to this new format of AVPs. I think it is working well, and I'm excited to continue my work in the year ahead. If you ever need anything, just shout!

Best,

Scott Robinson  
Associate Vice-President Finance  
McMaster Students Union  
[avpfinance@msu.mcmaster.ca](mailto:avpfinance@msu.mcmaster.ca)



# REPORT

*From the office of the...*

## Vice-President (Administration) & CAO

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TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly  
FROM: Preethi Anbalagan, Vice-President (Administration)  
SUBJECT: SRA 17G Report  
DATE: September 18, 2017

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Hi Assembly,

Thank you for taking the time to read my report. Since July, I've had a busy summer and even busier start to the school year. Transitioning from the preparation and transition months to the gong show that is the "School Year," it's been challenging on a number of fronts but there have been efforts and results to show in each of the platforms that I ran on. I've tried to address major projects that I'm currently working on and will be working on, albeit not everything is covered. So, if you have any questions regarding this report, don't hesitate to ask.

Cheers,

Preethi Anbalagan  
Vice President Administration  
McMaster Students Union

## PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

### Welcome Week

In the latter half of summer, a large aspect of my role has been Welcome Week and coordinating events. The second part in that sentence is a new addition to the role itself and quite an underestimated endeavor to have placed on the Vice President Administration. However, I couldn't be more thankful and appreciative of those who helped in the planning and execution of our strategic themes programming for Welcome Week 2018. We've had 20+ committee meetings, 30+ student leaders involved in the planning and consultation process and 6 large MSU-organized strategic themes events. I am beyond excited to share with you an overview.

Before that, I do want to address a comment that was shared in our recent meeting. "*The MSU did not prioritize sexual violence prevention and response this year;*" is a statement that I promise is factually incorrect and quite egregious. I believe it's important for me to highlight the concerted efforts and dedication of our campus partners, off-campus partners and guest speakers invited to ensure that student safety and campus safety were of utmost priority and importance. Without the collective approach, our marketed messaging and several events that we planned would not have been as successful. The MSU does and will always prioritize preventing sexual violence on campus and supporting survivors and this is substantiated throughout Welcome Week and school year.

### Strategic Themes Overview:

I re-wrote the strategic priority blurbs on the website to read and appropriately reflect the changes we've made. You can find them here on this link: <https://studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca/welcome-week/strategic-priorities/>. With regards to event planning, the MSU had planned six events related to our themes:

1. One Love: This event was extremely successful with over 50+ first year students and reps that attended. The event was comprised of both Hamilton Youth Poets and Kim Katrin Milan who spoke on campus consent and mental health/illness.
2. Wellness Fair: We had four of our peer support services table outside of Mills Marketplace with SWELL. The event was largely successful as we had a large Ways to Wellness banner engagement piece that now is hung inside of the SWELL lounge if any of you would like to see.
3. What's Love Got To Do With It: A successful coffeehouse of a variety of guest speakers and panelists that spoke about positive and healthy relationships.
4. Pleasure Principles: A night of trivia and games with Farrah Khan and Lorraine who co-facilitated. This event was related to campus consent and healthy & positive relationships as well.
5. Sound & Color: Parallel programming that followed Pleasure Principles for students who were opting out of Faculty Night.
6. Sexual Assault (The Roadshow): A pop-up art gallery with facilitators and curators present to initiate conversations surrounding sexual violence prevention and consent. There was a large canvas that was designed and signed by visitors. Nora Currie, the primary curator, had said over 1,000 students came by and over 100 of them contributed to the canvas.

In addition to events, we also ran a lot of marketing initiatives for the alcohol awareness and substance abuse priority of Welcome Week. There were an upwards of 130 lawn signs placed involving the messaging of “Space & Pace,” and steps to take when one sees a friend that requires assistance. At both the paint night and concert night, there was a video of EFRT taking you through the steps of putting someone in recovery position that was on loop to ensure students knew how to help each other out. In addition, we had Snapchat filters that both endorsed EFRT’s number to call and our alcohol awareness messaging.

Ways To Wellness is a campaign that was completely new this year to the theme of mental health and illness. In previous campaigns, a prominent criticism has been the absence of addressing mental illnesses. This year, the campaign made a concerted effort to address what was previously lacked and explored the distinct difference between what mental health and illness were. We had reps and first year students sign the 150 lawn signs we placed around campus sharing their own ways to wellness.

### **Faculty Cup & Residence Cup**

While my role is predominantly in the planning, implementation and overseeing the overarching values and principles of Welcome Week (both WWPIC and WWAC), the role of the board during Welcome Week is interesting. In addition to assisting with the roll out the events that I planned, a component of welcome week that I also oversee is the judging and selection of which faculty and residence receives the welcome week cups. It involved being present at various events for judging and scoring at the end of every night. For those who weren’t at Welcome Week, *Science had won the faculty cup and Whidden had won the residence cup*. In addition, thank you to Uwais Patel, Landon Fama and Sami Kurani for assisting as both SRA and MSU representatives, respectively. These three were amazingly flexible with attending events and I could not be more appreciative of their time, effort and companionship throughout the week.

### **SVET**

The Sexual Violence Education Team is chaired by Meaghan Ross from EIO and we’ve met once in the summer to discuss informally the purpose of the group, the objectives and targets, as well as receiving advisement on welcome week strategic themes. I also intend to use this as a channel to have further conversations regarding knowledge translation infographics and training development that Merima will be assisting me with.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

### **SRA**

Myself and Kamini have met to discuss how to strategically cluster your platforms and have you all work with one another in meeting your goals. Kamini has written a memo to describe the Project Groups that we’re introducing and I will be going over this memo in further detail during our meeting. These project groups are created for you all to accomplish the platforms that you’ve promised to your constituents, I hope the level of accountability you hold us to is what you hold yourselves to and hope to see everyone attend these meetings schedule set out by myself and Kamini.

### **Environmental Sustainability**

Myself, Carlos Figueira (Director of Facility Services) and Elamir Chehab (Manager, Energy & Sustainability) have had preliminary conversations regarding recycling education. To continue the efforts of last year's campaign, I've begun connecting with them to increase messaging and banner imagery around our waste bins that encourage students to think about what goes in each bin. This has now been brought to the Sustainability Education Committee for further discussions and input.

### **Part-time Staff**

At OUSA Best Practice Sharing Day (August 17), I was able to meet my counterparts at other universities. I'll be connecting with them soon to discuss a time in term two where we can bridge connections between our service managers and their counterparts across universities for yet another best practice sharing day. Additionally, I've had one full Part-time Manager staff meeting this month and Kristina has taken on the responsibility of hosting the smaller break-out cluster meetings with PTMs. I've also begun hosting one-on-one's with part-time managers as an effort to get to know them on a personal level and strengthen relations. If any of you see Nicole Yan or Marina Bredin, give them a huge high-five as their terms are coming to an end and without their leadership, Welcome Week would not have been as seamless as it was.

### **OTHER**

Receiving some of the feedback from you all regarding Welcome Week training and programming, I've been able to communicate to WWPIC at our first meeting of the school year. The SSC will be pushing Welcome Week and Rep Feedback forms to gather more input so that we can take a more holistic approach in response.

**A note.** Although I may seem busy, I'm never too busy for you all; whether it's helping you navigate relations amongst your caucus, challenges you may be having with your platforms, or difficulties in your position, I am here as a resource to access. While on paper you are seen as our supervisors, I am first and foremost here to support you and your endeavors. Seeing the students back reminds me of why I ran for this position and hope it incites the same level of passion and motivation in you all as you begin working on your projects through the channels myself and Kamini have set up. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask us.

Best,



Preethi Anbalagan  
Vice President Administration  
McMaster Students Union  
vpadmin@msu.mcmaster.ca

## PROGRESS ON YEAR PLAN

In the forthcoming reports, I will be structuring my updates in table format for the following components: training, supporting the SRA, supporting PTMs, supporting AVPs, hiring practices, human resources, welcome week.

- SRA Onboarding Package *completed*
- Summer MSU Orientation *completed*
- Summer Specialized Training *completed*
- Clustering Platforms *completed*

Training	
Safe(r) Campus Training <i>On-going</i>	Post-Homecoming and Take Back the Night, myself Crickett and Meaghan will have a follow-up meeting from the summer to discuss the 3-week program that we can present to SVET.
Training & Resources Research Assistant <i>On-going</i>	Merima has finished the first draft of our Sexual Violence knowledge translation and is collecting further feedback from EIO before submitting to Sarah for design work.
SRA In-Transition Training <i>Not in progress</i>	Waiting on by-elections.

Supporting SRA	
Resource Library <i>On-going</i>	I currently have a binder for SRA Training and PTM Training available for review in the resource library; other binders in-progress are old SRA platforms and organizational structure.
Opportunities to Lead <i>On-going</i>	Both Sunny and Rabeena will be sitting on the SSAC committee for SWC advisement,
Caucus Leader Support <i>On-going</i>	Caucus leader training is developed and will be delivered by myself and Kamini. We are currently finding a time that accommodates everyone.
Skill-building Workshops <i>In Progress</i>	Have reached out to Improv Team to set up a session in October.
Work-life Balance <i>In Progress</i>	Pauline has created tips and tricks documents that I've shared with the part-time managers and she will be creating more that are specific to the functionalities of office 365.

Supporting PTMs	
One-on-ones <i>On-going</i>	I've had one-on-ones with half my staff already and intend to have these completed by the end of September before I check-in again.
Collab-space <i>On-going</i>	There has been delay in renovations as we are waiting for quotes from different companies and discussing where the budget will be coming from.
Staff Meetings <i>Not in progress</i>	1. <i>Roundtable Staff Meetings</i> : The schedule has been set for 2 meetings per term. We've had one already and the next will be in November. 2. <i>Debrief Meetings</i> : The first has already occurred, and there will be another this term with Merima and Kristina leading it.
Professional Development <i>On-going</i>	Myself, John and Chukky have been in conversations regarding this and have found DSS to be quite involved with successfully planning professional development opportunities and are looking towards partnering with them on upcoming events.
Work-life Balance <i>Not in progress</i>	Myself and Pauline will likely have a meeting to develop a strategy of utilizing office 365 or other communication applications that we could pilot to lessen the overlapping of social life and work life.



# REPORT

*From the office of the...*

## Vice President (Education)

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TO: Student Representative Assembly  
FROM: Ryan Deshpande, Vice-President (Education)  
SUBJECT: Canadian Alliance of Student Associations Review  
DATE: September 20, 2017

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Dear Members of the Student Representative Assembly,

Federal advocacy has always held a uncertain position within the MSU. We have joined and left organizations, and advocated on our own as well. This is partially because the value of federal advocacy has also been uncertain. Public universities are administered by the provinces. However, while there is no federal equivalent of the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development, the federal government impacts our lives as McMaster students in many ways including, but not limited to the following:

- Canada Student Loans, which integrates into OSAP
- Indigenous student support
- International and exchange student regulations
- Research funding through the tri-council agencies
- Copyright and Intellectual property, as it relates to research
- Data collection
- Election engagement

This is why, I am keeping our options open this year and making sure I figure out what avenue for federal advocacy is best for the MSU.

The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) is a federal advocacy organization for students association of post-secondary institutions - undergraduate, graduate, and polytechnic associations. Their mission, as per their website, is "Through its member-driven structure and grassroots approach, CASA's mission is to advocate for students using policy development and research, awareness campaigns, government relations, and partnerships with other stakeholders." CASA has an established presence in Ottawa, and the federal government maintains positive relationships with CASA.

In March 2015, the MSU voted to completely leave the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations after retaining associate membership status for the previous year. This was due to several issues at the time, which include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Membership coordination - geographic distance made it difficult for members to interact

- Voting structure – there was no proportional representation, nor any consideration given to the differing fees paid by different institutions
- Fee structure – there is a fee cap which limits proportional representation, yet still provides for a differing amount paid by each member school, with larger schools paying on the high end
- Policy process – poorly structured policies and a lack of member engagement in identifying policy directions

There was a mandate given, at the time we left CASA, for the MSU to continue observing CASA and evaluate the organization as an option for federal advocacy. Thus, on July 25-28 I, along with Chukky (President) and Urszula (AVP Provincial & Federal Affairs) observed CASA’s Strategy & Policy Conference.

The point of this conference was for the CASA membership to determine its advocacy priorities, foster relationships amongst the student associations, provide lobby training, and have working time amongst its committees. As an observer, this conference was incredibly helpful in understanding how CASA operates and how the MSU could fit in, should we decide to join. Also observing was FAÉCUM (University of Montreal’s student association).

This year, CASA’s priorities are as follows:

- Health & Wellness
- Indigenous Students
- International Students
- Financial Barriers
- Educational Materials
- Copyright Act

There is no doubt that these priorities align with the MSU’s. It is heartening to see that CASA’s advocacy has some overlap with the MSU’s advocacy, both provincially and federally. In addition, the Quebec Student Union has joined CASA as a member in a unique partnership, providing a Quebecois voice in CASA that hasn’t been heard before.

### **Review of Past Concerns and Considerations**

Since 2014, CASA has had the chance to address many of the concerns brought forward by not just the MSU board of Directors, but also our counterparts in Western, Laurier, and other Ontario schools.

#### **1. Member Coordination**

An issue that was addressed in 2014, CASA has put an increased focus on member relations, through the Member Relations committee, which works to engage existing members. The plan for active recruitment, however, is limited to hoping “CASA’s membership will grow organically, attracting new member associations through organizational excellence...”

#### **2. Voting Structure**

This issue has not been addressed, where members are still paying differing

fees, but still having equal say in the policy directions of CASA. This is an issue in that larger schools, such as the MSU, are not able to use the fact that they are paying additional fees (although capped) to any particular advantage.

### 3. Fee Structure

Closely tied to the issue above, CASA's fee structure facilitates an awkward balance of member schools paying different amounts of money to CASA, but still receiving no differing benefit to the organization. While this is great for the small institutions who are part of CASA (who pay little into the organization, but get an equal amount of say in its direction), it is a disadvantage to larger schools.

### 4. Policy Process

There have been clear improvements to this in recent years, with an informal commitment to continuing along this trajectory. CASA has recently released a few full policy papers, but continues to develop "policies" of a collection of principles and recommendations on a highly specific issue – similar to a single page of an MSU policy. In addition, the approval process for these policies is not clear, and the power of CASA's large membership is not being effectively used to develop large, robust policy papers which can have large-scale influence on the federal government.

### 5. Structural Issues

CASA represents undergraduate students, graduate students, college students, and trade/technical school students. With the MSU only representing undergraduates, this leads to a diversion of priorities for CASA, and a sacrifice of undergraduate-specific asks for other types of students. For example, research asks are often very general, even though undergraduate research is not prioritized by the federal government. This tends to benefit graduate students only. In addition, CASA's committee structure puts emphasis on its graduate and college student members, having a Graduate Policy Committee and Tech & Trades Committee.

## **New Concerns**

### 1. Lack of Ontario & Saskatchewan Engagement

Stemming from an Ontario exodus in 2014-2015, the only Ontario schools in CASA are the Brock University Students Union, and the Graduate Student Association, University of Waterloo. With Ontario's institutions making up a large majority of Canada's post-secondary landscape, this is very worrisome. From my discussions and the written year plan, there has been no active plan outlined by the CASA Board to recruit and change its fees or voting process to address Ontario schools' concerns. In addition, there are currently *no* schools from Saskatchewan represented in CASA.

### 2. Quebec Student Union Partnership

While I did highlight this as a positive, there are also implications of this partnership that are concerning. The ability of a provincial organization to join CASA as a member with a smaller fee than the MSU would be paying,

and the requirement to bring forward one priority every year indicates an incredibly fluid structure within CASA. If this is the route CASA would like to go, it would be in the MSU's benefit for OUSA, as an organization, to join CASA along with Canada's other provincial student organizations.

Through informal discussions with CASA's national director, chair, and various board members, it is clear that these issues are not being explicitly addressed. It is thus my recommendation, along with Chukky and Urszula, that the MSU *does not join* the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations. I will not be putting a motion forward for consideration.

Thank you for entrusting the Education Department to evaluate this incredibly important avenue for advocacy. In the coming meetings, I will be bringing forward an update report on the other federal advocacy initiative we are engaging in.

You know where and how to direct your questions!

Best,

Ryan Deshpande  
Vice President (Education)  
[vped@msu.mcmaster.ca](mailto:vped@msu.mcmaster.ca)



# REPORT

*From the office of the...*  
**Elections Department**

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TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly  
FROM: Chloe Deraiche, CRO and Sarah Figueiredo, DRO  
SUBJECT: Reporting of Tentative Elections Schedule  
DATE: September 11, 2017

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Dear Assembly,

As per our bylaws, we are presenting our tentative timetable (proclamations, nomination periods, campaigning periods and polling dates) for First Year Council Elections (in progress), MSU Presidential Elections, SRA General Elections and all scheduled by-elections. If there are any changes to the timelines we will provide an update.

#### **First Year Council Elections**

Proclamation	September 6 <sup>th</sup> 2017
Nomination Period	September 6 <sup>th</sup> 2017-September 19 <sup>th</sup> 2017
Campaigning Period	September 20 <sup>th</sup> 2017-September 28 <sup>th</sup> 2017
Polling Date(s)	September 27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> 2017

#### **October By-Election**

Proclamation	October 16 <sup>th</sup> 2017
Nomination Period	October 16 <sup>th</sup> 2017-October 20 <sup>th</sup> 2017
Campaigning Period	October 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2017-October 26 <sup>th</sup> 2017
Polling Date(s)	October 25 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup> 2017

#### **November By-Election**

Proclamation	November 6 <sup>th</sup> 2017
Nomination Period	November 6 <sup>th</sup> 2017-November 10 <sup>th</sup> 2017
Campaigning Period	November 13 <sup>th</sup> 2017-November 16 <sup>th</sup> 2017
Polling Date(s)	November 15 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> 2017

#### **MSU Presidential Election**

Proclamation	December 4 <sup>th</sup> 2017
Nomination Period	December 4 <sup>th</sup> 2017-January 11 <sup>th</sup> 2018
Campaigning Period	January 14 <sup>th</sup> 2018-January 25 <sup>th</sup> 2017
Polling Date(s)	January 23 <sup>rd</sup> 2018-January 25 <sup>th</sup> 2018

#### **January By-Election**

Proclamation	January 8 <sup>th</sup> 2018
Nomination Period	January 8 <sup>th</sup> 2018-January 12 <sup>th</sup> 2018
Campaigning Period	January 15 <sup>th</sup> 2018-January 18 <sup>th</sup> 2018
Polling Date(s)	January 17 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup> 2018

#### **SRA General Election**

Proclamation	February 5 <sup>th</sup> 2018
Nomination Period	February 5 <sup>th</sup> 2018-February 27 <sup>th</sup> 2018

Campaigning Period    March 1<sup>st</sup> 2018-March 8<sup>th</sup> 2018  
Polling Date(s)        March 6<sup>th</sup> 2018-March 8<sup>th</sup> 2018

Best,  
Chloe Deraiche (CRO) & Sarah Figueiredo (DRO)



# REPORT

*From the office of the...*

## Clubs Administrator

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TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly  
FROM: Jenna Courage, Clubs Administrator  
SUBJECT: Clubs Simply Voting Investigation  
DATE: September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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### Context

At the SRA meeting on July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 it was brought to the attention of the clubs department that there were a number of clubs on the Simply Voting platform used for presidential elections that had fewer than 5 votes from club members for their president. These clubs, listed below, were contacted after the SRA meeting and informed that they are under investigation by the clubs department. They were asked to come in for a meeting to discuss the voter turnout, and informed that they will be withheld funding from the MSU until the completion of this investigation.

Throughout the course of the summer I met with and or/ spoke on the phone with almost all of the clubs to discuss this matter. Below you will find an outline of each specific club and the reasoning for their low voter turnout, as well as the **Clubs Administrator's recommendation based off these conversations.**

To keep in mind, when originally approached with the list of clubs, after looking through each election, it was agreed in conjunction with an SRA member that for any election with one candidate for one position, a low voter turnout was not a huge concern as that member would have been acclaimed regardless of whether or not votes took place online. You will see below that many of the clubs I spoke with had two candidates running for two positions, which resulted in low voter turnout as they too were acclaimed.

## Individual Cases

Club name: Bloggers @ Mac

Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: Two candidates running for two positions, they were acclaimed.

Clubs Admin Recommendation: Receive funding

Club name: Building Our Safe Schools

Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: One candidate dropped out of the race and therefore two candidates were running for two positions (acclaimed)- they notified the previous clubs administrator of this change

Clubs Admin Recommendation: Receive funding

Club name: Circle K McMaster

Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: Two candidates running for two positions, they were acclaimed.

Clubs Admin Recommendation: Receive funding

Club name: Heart and Stroke Foundation McMaster Chapter

Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: Only had one candidate for one position- missed them when originally going through the list of elections on Simply Voting

Clubs Admin Recommendation: Receive funding

Club name: Mac Veggie Club

Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: Two candidates running for two positions, they were acclaimed.

Clubs Admin Recommendation: Receive funding

Club name: McMaster International and Exchange Club

Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: Unorganized/ leadership issues in the **previous years, were on probation, list of members submitted wasn't reflective of** actual membership, have been made aware of the importance of organization and proper election for the next year.

Clubs Admin Recommendation: Receive funding

Club name: McMaster MCAT Prep Club

Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: Problem with ballots- execs did not receive ballots even though they were registered to vote. Emailed previous clubs administrator- no response. Visited him in person and he indicated it was fine as long as some members could vote.

Proof: I was able to look up and locate 2 emails sent to the Clubs Admin email last year in which there was no response

Clubs Admin Recommendation: Receive funding

Club name: McMaster MEDLife

Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: Two candidates running for two positions, they were acclaimed.

Clubs Admin Recommendation: Receive funding

Club name: McMaster Undergraduate Society for the Chemical Sciences

Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: Two candidates running for two positions, they were acclaimed.

Clubs Admin Recommendation: Receive Funding

Club Name: **McMaster's Autism Assistance Program (MAAP)**

Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: One candidate dropped out of the race and therefore two candidates were running for two positions (acclaimed).

Clubs Admin Recommendation: Receive Funding

Club Name: **McMaster's Dental Health Club**

Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: Two candidates running for two positions, they were acclaimed.

Clubs Admin Recommendation: Receive Funding

Club Name: Mental Health Society

Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: Two candidates running for two positions, they were acclaimed.

Clubs Admin Recommendation: Receive funding

Club Name: Scinapse at McMaster

Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: Past president had communicated with members **Two candidates running for two positions, they were acclaimed. "past president communicated with members about voting, but no one voted"**

Clubs Admin Recommendation: Receive Funding

Club Name: Student Medical Association and Research Team (SMART)

Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: Two candidates running for two positions, they were acclaimed.

Clubs Admin Recommendation: Receive Funding

Club Name: Students Exploring Diversity Through Art (SEDA)

Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: Two candidates running for two positions, they were acclaimed.

Clubs Admin Recommendation: Receive Funding

Club Name: UNICEF McMaster

Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: Two candidates running for two positions, they were acclaimed.

Clubs Admin Recommendation: Receive Funding

Club Name: McMaster Muslims for Peace and Justice  
Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: Two candidates running for two positions, they were acclaimed.  
Clubs Admin Recommendation: Receive Funding

Club Name: Leaders in Global Health Transformation (Light McMaster)  
Reasoning for Low Voter Turnout: Did not reply to my emails sent June 21<sup>st</sup> and August 8<sup>th</sup>  
Clubs Admin Recommendation: Do not receive funding

### Conclusion

Moving forward, the Clubs Administrator will be working alongside the Operations Coordinator to work towards the most effective way of ensuring all clubs are following policy by electing their president, and doing so in a fair and transparent process.

Should you have any questions, comments or concerns do not hesitate to contact me.

Best,

Jenna Courage

Clubs Administrator  
905.525.9140 ext. 24113  
clubs@msu.mcmaster.ca



# REPORT

*From the office of the...*

## AVP Provincial & Federal Affairs

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TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly  
FROM: Urszula Sitarz, AVP Provincial & Federal Affairs  
SUBJECT: SRA 17G Report  
DATE: Submitted September 19, 2017

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### **PROGRESS ON YEAR PLAN**

I am in the process of writing my official year plan which will be submitted and reported to the SRA in October. I made a platform in the summer but the year plan is greatly dependent on my committee and what projects they are interested in. My first committee meeting is Wednesday Sept 20 at 6:30pm so I will update verbally at the SRA meeting.

### **PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

I am working on OUSA Indigenous Students Policy and it is going well. In the process of finalizing PCRs and working on the body text. It is going well so far but there have been some challenges due to author changes; however, those have been resolved and things are going smoothly. I went to the OSAP Roundtable discussion and gave a lot of critical feedback to Minister Deb Matthews, who was generally quite receptive to the feedback. Some things I noted were the marketing campaigns and general information-spreading and the disparity between engineering/business students and other students. We have OUSA interviews this week and we got a large number of applicants, more than for last year's Fall GA.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

OUSA Training Day on September 26 at Trent-Durham in Oshawa, learning about Outreach and Advocacy. Also, OUSA Fall General Assembly is coming up at the end of October which is very exciting as the Indigenous Students policy will be debated and passed. I am also an author on the MSU Academic Success policy which will be exciting. My committee meets on Wednesday so I can verbally update at meeting, the plan so far is to do a project on Work-Integrated Learning to aid the policy.

### **CURRENT CHALLENGES**

There are no challenges that I can present at this time.

### **VOLUNTEERS (Commissioners only)**

Volunteer communication has been a challenge but I am excited to begin to work with them.

### **SUCSESSES**

Deb Matthews was receptive to our feedback at the OSAP event, I met PC leader Patrick Brown and I'm trying to set up a meeting with him, and my committee has started

at a time that a strong majority of them can attend. More OUSA Fall GA applications than last year!

**OTHER**

Thank you to everyone for being active in promotions for OUSA GA! We could not have done it without you. I realize that there were some issues in communication from my end and I apologize and will work with you all in the future to ensure that these issues are eliminated next time.

Best,

Urszula Sitarz  
AVP Provincial & Federal Affairs  
McMaster Students Union  
[avpproved@msu.mcmaster.ca](mailto:avpproved@msu.mcmaster.ca)



# MEMO

*From the office of the...*  
**Clubs Administrator**

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TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly  
FROM: Jenna Courage, Clubs Administrator  
SUBJECT: 2017/18 Clubs Final Ratification  
DATE: September 19, 2017

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Dear Assembly,

Please review the attached list of club names for ratification at your second September meeting. Due to errors with our system and last years administration, these clubs were not made aware of the original ratification deadline . Upon meeting with each individual club I have ensured they are now aware of the ratification process, and I have made note to ensure such errors will not take place again.

In reviewing this list, please note:

- (1) official recognition of all clubs is conditional, pending satisfactory completion of clubs training;
- (2) the ratification of clubs marked with two asterisks (\*\*) is contingent upon compliance with terms as agreed upon between each individual club and the Clubs Administrator.

Should you have any questions, concerns, or require any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best,

Jenna Courage

Clubs Administrator  
905.525.9140 ext. 24113  
clubs@msu.mcmaster.ca

## McMaster Students Union 2017-2018 Late Clubs

	Club Name
<b>M</b>	Mathematical Investment Research Council**
	McMasr
	McMaster Anthropology Society
<b>P</b>	McMaster Croatian Club
<b>P</b>	Pakistani Students' Association