|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| . | Executive BoardREPORT |
| TO: | Members of the Student Representative Assembly |
| FROM: | Simranjeet Singh, SRA Science Caucus Leader |
| SUBJECT: | SRA 20F Report |
| DATE: | 08/11/2020 |

**Past Events, Projects, & Activities**

Executive Board has been functioning quite well and was able to successfully complete its goal of managing the MSU over the summer. All meetings were held over online platforms as a result of COVID-19 restrictions, however as a result of a positive environment, and previously formed relationships, all meetings were generally very positive and had professional environments. Executive Board members generally appeared to be very comfortable and were able to ask questions of each other as well as guests who came to speak to Service reports.

PTMs and Service Coordinators regularly came to both discuss their year plan progress, as well as inform Executive Board of changing plans and goals as a result of COVID-19 restrictions continuing to cause uncertainty. The Executive Board began its term by completing some remaining minutes and service reports from the outgoing Executive Board, followed by approvals of the Year Plans of multiple services.

After the first few meetings, most meetings have consisted of discussions regarding service reports, approval of meeting minutes, as well as conversations regarding newly created job descriptions. These conversations have generally been very productive as individuals were easily able to ask questions and better understand what steps were being taken for what reasons.

Multiple closed-session meetings were also held to discuss topics which require privacy for the parties involved. These resulted in fruitful discussions that helped alleviate problems. Overall, the summer period was quite successful for executive board and it is my hope that this continues in the future.

**Current Challenges**

The only main challenge I am aware of currently centers around meeting scheduling. Administrative Services Coordinator, Victoria Scott has been trying to schedule meeting times for the Fall 2020 semester, but has been unable to as there have been some SRA members of Executive Board who have not as of yet submitted their schedules (please do so now if you haven’t and are reading this!!!). This problem will likely be resolved as soon as she has all of our schedules. There was a minor issue in the beginning of the year in relation to SRA retention, as some members missed multiple meetings. However, these members dropped their seats and this problem has since been resolved. Finally, there are some technical difficulties regarding Microsoft Teams, including an early part of the year when SRA members did not have access to documents, but these have mostly been resolved.

**Successes**

Executive board has consistently had a positive, productive environment that has allowed most members to continually feel comfortable, able to speak freely, and learn equitably from their fellow members. This group dynamic is what has allowed frank and open conversations to be had, has allowed SRA members feel comfortable to ask questions, and has helped prevent awkwardness. The online framework, while it has had some problems, has overall still been quite successful after initial problems were ironed out, and has allowed for productive meetings. A benefit of the online framework has been reduced paper use as there is no longer a set of pre-printed copies of the documents as everything can be accessed through Microsoft Teams. I hope that in the future, the positive Executive Board environment will remain and will continue to support all members to be fully engaged.

Best,

Simranjeet Singh

SRA Science Caucus Leader

McMaster Students Union

[sings42@mcmaster.ca](mailto:sings42@mcmaster.ca)

[srascience@msu.mcmaster.ca](mailto:srascience@msu.mcmaster.ca)