



# REPORT

*From the office of the...*

## First Year Council

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TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly  
FROM: Aiman Dhiloon, First Year Council Chair  
SUBJECT: SRA 20F Report  
DATE: Sunday November 1, 2020

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### **PROGRESS ON YEAR PLAN**

Council members have been elected and are starting to organize events to connect with and gather the concerns of first years.

### **PAST EVENTS**

Our council has only had 2 meetings at this point, during which we have worked to brainstorm creative ideas for virtual events and initiatives as well as develop our budget for the year. We have also discussed how we can use our social media platforms to connect with fellow first-year students, and reviewed transition reports from the previous council members.

Additionally, the council participated in a training session with the First Year Council Coordinator and various representatives from MSU services. From this training, we were able to better understand our individual and collective roles, elect chairs of the three consultation committees, and brainstorm how to adapt the role of the council to function in a virtual environment.

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

In the upcoming weeks, we will be posting member introductions and photos on our Instagram and the MSU Website, in an effort to present ourselves to our fellow students. We are exploring the idea of recruiting a designated social media coordinator in response to the large role of online platforms this year.

Our three consultation committees are in the process of arranging their first meetings with the campus partners, which will take place on November 9. We are also planning on hosting our first event, a Zoom scavenger hunt, towards the end of November. A potential barrier to this event is turnout, especially with the lack of in-person promotion. To combat this, we will be focusing heavily on promotion via our online platforms, as well as giving away gift cards to randomly selected attendees. Finally, we plan on hosting monthly prize-pack giveaways on our Instagram page, starting in November. This will allow us to increase our follower count, which ensures that we are connected with students throughout the year.

### **CHALLENGES**

There are certain challenges we are facing as a result of the year being online, which is generally unprecedented. One such challenge is the smaller size of the council this year

as compared to last year (due to the reduction of residence chairs). As a result of the smaller group, members will have to take on more responsibilities as compared to previous councils. We may experience a decreased outreach due to having less members to promote events. Furthermore, all events and initiatives will be running in an online environment, which limits the type of events we are able to plan.

### **SUCCESSSES**

Successes of the council thus far are that all members have been elected to their positions, are functioning cooperatively, and have participated in the First Year Council/MSU Volunteer training(s). We have agreed on meeting times that work for all of our members and campus partners. We have also successfully developed a budget for the year, allowing us to effectively allocate resources for various events/initiatives.

Best,

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