



# REPORT

From the office of the...

## Engineering Caucus

---

TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly  
FROM: Fraser McCauley, Engineering Caucus Co-Leader  
SUBJECT: SRA 21G Report  
DATE: September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021

---

### **Progress on Yearplan**

The first point to touch on is advocacy for Open Education Resources, or OER. In the summer, I drafted a pair of surveys to distribute to McMaster students and instructors, to better understand the current role of OER in our community. I've engaged with several stakeholders (the MacPherson Institute, McMaster's libraries and MSU comms) to refine these surveys and make them as useful as possible. I am currently seeking funding to get graphics made, at which point the surveys will start circulating.

I also helped to facilitate a collaboration with the Hamilton Community Legal Clinic, to provide public legal education workshops related to housing law to the McMaster community. One of these events has already run, and I am hoping to run similar events going forward touching on other aspects of the law that impact students.

### **Past Events, Projects, & Activities**

The Housing Rights workshop was a success, though turnout was somewhat lower than hoped. Still, it has opened the door to further collaboration with the HCLC, a fantastic organization that provides services McMaster students should be aware of.

### **Upcoming Events, Projects, & Activities**

Hopefully within the next month, the OER surveys will be rolled out. These should be live for the entire fall semester, and I would appreciate all of your help with circulation (particularly to instructors, many of whom can be difficult to reach for voluntary surveys).

### **Outreach & Promotions**

Unfortunately this is something I have not made headway on. In the fall, I hope to find time to set up a caucus Instagram, and start running occasional 'Town Halls'.

### **Successes**

- *Ran a Housing Rights workshop in collaboration with HCLC. Several students attended this, learned about the Residential Tenancy Act and the Standard Lease, and were also introduced to some MSU services that are useful to those living off-campus (EFRT, FCC, etc.)*
- *Strengthened connections between MSU and McMaster's OER committee, Libraries and the MacPherson Institute.*

### **Current Challenges**

Seeking funding to help promote the OER surveys has been delayed, hopefully will work out soon. Also struggling to find time to organize social media and outreach.

Best,

Fraser McCauley  
SRA Engineering Caucus Co-Leader  
McMaster Students Union  
[sraeng@msu.mcmaster.ca](mailto:sraeng@msu.mcmaster.ca)