



REPORT

From the office of the...
First Year Council Coordinator

TO: Members of the Executive Board
FROM: Julian Vincent Dychiao
SUBJECT: First Year Council Report 2
DATE: November 12th, 2021

Yearplan Update

First Year Council is on track to meet goals for November and early December. There are 2 social events and activities in the planning process: the First Year Council Hot chocolate event (see details below) and exam care packages. FYC is planning on having a holiday-themed event for December just before the exam period the exam period begins. Additionally, consultation committees have started making progress wherein members have started brainstorming which advocacy projects they want to accomplish for next semester. On an administrative level, I've reached out to respective campus partners regarding a November by-election for missing first year council seats.

Events, Projects, & Activities

General Service Usage

Most of First Year Council this year has been elected. I have been having difficulties trying to get 5 other seats elected. Despite this setback, the current members are extremely excited and looking forward to this year and have started to plan our first events. Additionally, we have begun to meet with our consultation committees for the year. I have scheduled meetings for campus partners Chris Eley, Michelle Treleaven, and Cathy Tatsis to introduce themselves to First Year Council. There have been many interesting advocacy initiatives that council are extremely passionate about this year.

Projects & Events: Consultation Committees (Ongoing)

Elected members have been assigned to their consultation committees for the year. There are 3 consultation committees including Residence and Student Life, Hospitality, and Student Code of Rights and Responsibilities. We have begun our brainstorming sessions and will shortly meet with campus representatives to being our advocacy initiatives.

After reading through council members' year plans, I noticed that there is a common theme of health and wellness. Noting this, we started a new consultation committee revolving around First year student mental health and

well-being and developing advocacy projects around that area. Further discussions with FYC, campus partners, and MSU representatives are needed to determine logistics and possibility of idea. I have reached out to SRA members, the Okanagan Mental Health team on campus, and the Hargun Kaur, who is the AVP University Affairs

Projects & Events: Vogue style 73 Questions (Upcoming)*

One of the things that I admire in this year's council is their creativity in thinking outside the box for our events. We wanted to introduce first year council to the MSU community through a Vogue 73 Questions Style interview featuring all council members. Due to the restrictions of entering some residences, we decided it would be a nice idea to film in different places around campus. The script for our video is nearly complete- we are waiting to get feedback from the MSU communications department and will likely be filming next week

Projects & Events: Meet your FYC and Hot Chocolate (Upcoming)

Tentative name: FYC Hot Coco Hot Spot

The purpose of the first event is to gather feedback from first-years, present an opportunity for first-years to meet FYC in person, and give hot chocolate. Due to the restrictions imposed by the university regarding capacity and the consumption of food and beverages in indoor spaces, it has been challenging finding locations to have our event. I reached out to MUSC administration and unfortunately, student clubs and services are not permitted to book tables in MUSC like what was done before the pandemic. I reached out to housing and conference services to book the Mary Keyes lobby as it is a high traffic location for first-years but that also cannot be booked. I have reached out to Ms. Shelby Paquette who manages events in MUSC and there is an opening for Mills Plaza. I am also looking into booking outdoor spaces such as the tents outside BSB and JHE. Ideally, Mills plaza is the best location given its proximity to Union Market (where we'll get the hot chocolate and coffee), its high traffic potential, and its convenient location. Underground intake forms will be submitted once I get a location confirmed.

Projects & Events: Social Media Takeovers (Ongoing)

In the past week, our VC Events, Mary Keyes Chair, and Whidden Chair hosted instagram takeovers, taking first-years on a day-in-a-life with our FYC representatives. This gave members the opportunity to start introducing themselves to their cohort, gain some feedback and suggestions from first-years, and boost social media engagement and presence. There has been a strong positive response so far. We will likely continue this until we can release our 73 questions.

Projects & Events: Exam care packages (Upcoming- End of November)

FYC have started planning an Exam Care Package project for the end of November which will be distributed to residence and off-campus first-year students. We are hoping to collaborate with Spark with this event.

Projects & Events: Residence Holiday Decoration Contest (Upcoming- December)

FYC started planning a Inter-residence Holiday decoration contest. This will likely take place in the first-week of December. The contest will be in a Residence cup style where this event will be the first activity and feed into the second semester. The winning residence of the decoration contest will choose a local charity of their choosing and FYC will provide a donation to the respective organization. Discussions have started regarding how supplies and decors will be distributed and purchased.

Outreach & Promotions

Summary

First Year Council started doing instagram takeovers where each member introduces themselves and takes viewers on a day-in-a-life. We have done 3 members this week and more will follow in the ensuing weeks. There has been a strong response from the first-year cohort as demonstrated by 75 new followers over the past week.

Finances

Budget Summary

Nothing spent to date. We will have our planning for our first event completed by this week's meeting. I've updated my budget plan to reflect FYC's visions and goals. I will most likely be spending some money in the next week for promotions for our hot chocolate event, volunteer appreciation, and booking spaces for event.

Executives & Volunteers

I am very content that elected members are getting along. I have been meaning to hold meetings on campus however, with the restrictions imposed by the university, it's challenging to find a space that can accommodate more than 12 people. I have been looking into BSB and PGCLL tutorial rooms to hold in-person meetings as many council members have expressed interest in doing so.

Additionally, FYC was asking if there is a possibility of receiving some swag and FYC merchandise so that first-years can distinguish them in our events. FYC is very interested in bucket hats and/or T-shirts. I am finding quotes for these items right now and am planning to make orders next week, in time for the first event.

Successes

Council is extremely excited to start in their new roles. They have a slew of amazing and unique ideas that they want to achieve throughout the year. Social Media takeovers have been very strong. FYC has thoroughly planned out our

events, campaigns, and advocacy projects from now until the end of the first semester.

Current Challenges

The biggest challenge now is getting the last remaining seats filled in. I've spoken to Elections regarding when the By-election will occur and that will be around mid November.