



REPORT

From the First Year Council

TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly
FROM: Halle Lawson, First Year Council Chair
SUBJECT: SRA Report
DATE: Tuesday November 23, 2021

Progress on Year Plan

Due to by-election etiquette, the First Year Council still has residence chair positions which remain vacant. Though social media posts and peer effort has been made, the search for PGCLL and Wallingford residence chair nominees still remains. Otherwise, however, much progress is being made in terms of planning, events, and consultation committees.

Past Events, Projects, & Activities

Since the last SRA report a series of council meetings have taken place. Primarily, these meetings have focused upon identifying and planning action towards the long-term goals of the council; likewise, the execution of upcoming events.

In recent meetings we have discussed topics of budget, merchandise and promotional materials, an introductory 73 Questions social media campaign, a hot chocolate event in MUSC, and a series of holiday theme events. Most of these discussions have placed an emphasis on feasibility. Fortunately we have encountered little challenge so far. Additionally, the council has discussed the creation of a new consultation committee with a centric focus on the holistic wellbeing of first year students.

Upcoming Events, Projects, & Activities

There are several First Year Council events to look forward to throughout this upcoming month. Some notable mentions include the 73 Questions video which has been planned. This project just awaits filming and publication for completion -- it will likely be released in the upcoming weeks. Alongside the video a hot-chocolate event has been arranged to take place in MUSC near the Starbucks entrance. For this event, "Hot Cocoa Hot Spot", we plan to provide free hot chocolate and perhaps coffee for first year students. Although the council originally planned to collaborate with SPARK to create exam care packages, it appears the project is already being pursued by the Maroons. Instead of duplicating the project we plan to discuss in our next meeting a different direction in which we can guide the project.

Current Challenges

Similar to the last report, the council's primary challenge has been the vacancy of residence chair placements. These positions continue to be advertised through word of mouth and social media engagement; however, since the majority of our current social media audience consists of those who are no longer in first year, these efforts only go so far. Likewise, many of those who have expressed interest in the positions made remarks about confusion surrounding the application process, lack of clarity on what the role entailed, and discouragement after emailing MSU elections without reply.

Successes

Current council successes include the formation of a solid event year plan, the organization of first events underway, and enhanced comradery amidst team members. Additionally, some minimal Instagram takeovers by council members have demonstrated increased social media engagement.

Best,

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