

YEAR PLAN

MSU SRA Science
Leader's Name
2022-2023
June 23rd, 2022



OFFICE OF THE SCIENCE
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GOALS

Objective 1	Increase Student Engagement with the Science Caucus
Description	Increasing student engagement with the MSU and the Science caucus has been an objective for a number of years, in which we aim to continuously improve on. Engagement with the student population is important as it allows for growth within our communities and creates transparency within the student union. Students are poorly informed on the goals and projects of the Science caucus and are therefore unable to voice their opinions/needs.
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allows the student body to be more informed of what the SRA is doing - Enables opportunities for the student body to give feedback and ask questions - Better represent student voices - Helps the student body feel more engaged and contributes to the McMaster community - Improve interest and engagement with the MSU
Difficulties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General lack of incentive or motivation for participation - Not all individuals have social media, which is the main form of communication within the MSU
Long-term implications	Having a larger social media presence will allow for a stronger connection with the governing body of the MSU and students at McMaster. This allows for better communication and can encourage future individuals to apply for SRA positions. An outreach strategy can be developed and passed down to future Science caucuses.
How?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create/take over social media accounts for SRA Science - Posting regularly about what happens at each meeting and the implications - Engage with MSU Comms team to try to maximize outreach - Create an SRA Science Reddit and/or Discord - Provide a feedback form on socials that will be regularly checked - Conduct giveaways for engagement

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaborate with McMaster Science Society to increase interactions - Create introduction videos for all members to create a more personal connection
Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - VP Administration - MSU Underground - Other SRA caucuses - MSU Comms team - McMaster Science Society

Objective 2	Housing Education Initiative
Description	When looking for off-campus housing, a surprisingly large number of students do not understand their rights as tenants. A campaign or workshop would be beneficial to hold, educating individuals about their rights under the Ontario Standard Lease and the Residential Tenancies Act (RTA). This workshop/campaign can also provide insight as to where individuals can look for housing. It would also be beneficial to inform those facing temporary housing crisis, due to circumstances such as domestic abuse/violence, eviction or other serious situations of the resources available to them.
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increases accessible information available regarding housing - Provides resources for those experiencing housing crises - Allows individuals to properly resolve conflicts with their landlords who are infringing on their rights - Creates a safe space where students can ask questions
Difficulties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workshop difficulties can include speakers and promotion - May be limited interaction due to lack of engagement on socials
Long-term implications	Create a community where students are more educated on the resources provided to them. Potentially could be integrated into a yearly event to educate incoming students.
How?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reach out to other clubs and organizations that have extensive knowledge of housing rights - Reach out to Hamilton Community Legal Clinic - Run an online campaign or workshop with experienced speakers - Provide Linktree with all the necessary resources

Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SWHAT - Ontario Human Rights Commission - Equity and Inclusion Office - VP Education - Mac Off-Campus Housing Society
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Objective 3	Increase Mask Disposal Sites on Campus
Description	The production and usage of disposable PPE has drastically increased since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. This increased usage of PPE has in turn increased global plastic consumption and pollution substantially; specifically, the pollution of microplastics in our environment and non-compostable materials in our landfills. McMaster has implemented Vitacore and Terracycle mask collection bins around campus, however it is inconvenient for individuals to dispose of masks in a public place where they must also be wearing a mask. These bins could be filled much faster if they were placed in areas of greater convenience, such as residence buildings.
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prevents improper recycling of masks in highly populated areas (such as residence buildings) - Eliminates substantial amounts of microplastics from the environment
Difficulties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collecting masks could pose a health hazard/ need to find safe collection methods - Will students be participating as mask mandates loosen
Long-term implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduced environmental contamination of masks and microplastics
How?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement mask recycling bins in campus residences - Use our social media platforms to educate those on why wearing masks is 1) important to continue doing and 2) are items that need careful recycling (from a scientific standpoint)
Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - VP Education - Other SRA caucuses - McMaster Okanagan Grant Committee (for funds?)

Objective 4	Housing Certification
Description	Many students are having difficulties in understanding their rights as tenants. They are unsure as to where they can look

	for accurate sources and what they should be aware of as first-time renters.
Benefits	Helps students better understand their tenancy rights, and provides them with proper resources to use when confused.
Difficulties	Highlighting all the important legal terms and facts to first-time renters and providing students with a platform that is the most convenient and comfortable for them to learn on.
Long-term implications	Hopefully partnering with other housing organizations to provide students with helpful information to find a safe rental place.
How?	Partner with community housing organizations and promote content on their websites with housing updates for students. Promote the organizations on campus and through McMasters' social media and possibly even have Q&A sessions, workshops that students can attend to get their questions answered.
Partners	Mac Off-Campus Housing Society, Hamilton ACORN, Hamilton Housing Help Centre

Long-term planning

Overarching Vision 1	<i>Improve overall engagement with our social medias</i>
Description	Our social media pages are severely lacking in engagement
Benefits	Helps promotes our works, science faculty events, student resources, etc.
Year 1	Hold giveaways to increase followers
Year 2	Keep followers engaged with interesting and fun posts
Year 3	Analyze what works and what can be reevaluated.
Partners	Other caucus members

Overarching Vision 2	<i>Improve Educational Opportunities for Students at McMaster</i>
Description	The general goal of this vision is to improve the quality of education at McMaster in order to best support student academic needs and expectations and create a more accessible and sustainability-oriented curriculum with plentiful experiential opportunities. It may be noted that this objective has been carried through from last year's science caucus year plan.

Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changes in these academic policies can be long-term and permanent, benefiting many generations of students to come - Improvement in student mental health and wellness
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reaching out to community partners/professors/researchers - Planning phase for modification of current courses - Consultations for creation of new courses with educational opportunities - Planning phase for the new courses
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - First year in which modified current courses are held - Finalizing plans for newly created courses and modifications to existing programs.
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Modified courses would be held - Feedback regarding success and drawbacks collected from all students
Partners	Office of associate dean (academic) of science, department-specific coordinators, course coordinators, professors, VP education, MSU president, other caucuses.

GOALS to strive for

List 5 things that you would like to have prepared for the beginning of September

- Increase follower count on Instagram and Facebook page by 50 on each account
- Develop a preplanned and strictly followed posting schedule for the fall term
- Do Instagram takeovers by every caucus member starting at the beginning of September
- Continue to update the MSS page

List 5 things you would like to have completed during the fall term (1st)

- Instagram takeovers by all caucus members
- Hold a giveaway to gain followers
- Create an SRA Science Reddit and/or Discord
- Collaborate with McMaster Science Society to increase interactions

List 5 things you would like to have completed during the winter term (2nd)

- Make a website/ Instagram series that increases accessible information available regarding housing
- Have modified our yearly goals as needed in response to the evolving McMaster student life
- Reach 1000 followers on Instagram
- Have posted at least 15 times on the main Instagram feed

Master Summary

May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Get acquainted with MSU Bylaws
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complete year plan
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Clean up Instagram page and Facebook
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Take headshots of caucus members for socials and prewrite welcome/ introductory posts that we can post throughout September
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be active on socials ● Be active in completing and modifying our goals
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be active on socials ● Be active in completing and modifying our goals
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be active on socials ● Be active in completing and modifying our goals
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be active on socials ● Be active in completing and modifying our goals
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Start to provide information on housing
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hold a housing event ● Be active on socials ● Be active in completing and modifying our goals
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hold a last-minute housing event for those last-minute students
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be active on socials ● Be active in completing and modifying our goals