

Executive Board Meeting 22-09
Friday, September 16, 2022 @ 10:30am
MSU Main Boardroom, MUSC 201

This meeting was done hybrid in-person and through Microsoft Teams, due to unusual circumstance laid out by the response to COVID19

Called to Order 10:36am

Present Arora, Chui, Dawdy, German, Hassan, Larrazabal Zea, Singh, Wang, Wong

Late

Absent

Others Present J. McGowan (GM), V. Scott (Recording Secretary), M. Wooder (MCD), Justin Phung (AVP (Services)), Jacob Howran (EFRT Director)

1. Adopt Agenda

Moved by German, **seconded** by Singh to adopt the agenda, as presented.

Motion Passes

2. Adopt Minutes

Moved by Singh, **seconded** by Arora to adopt the minutes of Executive Board meetings 22-06 – August 3, 2022, 22-07 – August 17, 2022, and 22-08 – August 31, 2022, as circulated.

Passes Unanimously

3. EFRT Report – Jacob Howran presented

- Howran summarized the report.

****TW** mentions of suicide**

Questions

- Wooder stated that the content was looking great and gave a shoutout to the EFRT team. He asked about if the self-promotions were the reason for the number of calls so far this year. Howran responded that they have been closely monitoring the types of calls. They explained that last year EFRT didn't accept "walk-on" patients as no one was able to come into the office. Howran stated that students have been coming asking for assistance in person as they may not be feeling comfortable bringing attention to other spaces. Howran stated that they've had attempted suicides and those with anaphylaxis coming in. They added that it's the time of year where a lot of first-year students are experimenting with drugs and alcohol, and there has been a surge in mental health

crises on campus. Howran added that there has also been a number of bees on campus which have resulted in 12 calls for stings. They explained that they're almost a victim of their own success as they have seen a major increase in recognition on campus.

- German asked what the general scope of issues seen for the "walk-on" patients. They added that it was a bit concerning seeing a surge in mental health crises and asked if it was worse pre-covid or during covid. Howran responded that the "walk-ons" vary in scope. They explained that when the team has been dispatched to a call there is time to prepare for the situation, but if someone comes to the office in the middle of having an allergy attack there is more of a rapid turnaround. Howran explained that there is a protocol that any responders in the space not on-call would have to clear the room once a patient comes. Howran added that with the mental health aspect, the level of severity was diverse and that it could be anything ranging from a panic attack to completed parts of a suicide plan. They stated that these patients need resources and help in an acute setting.
- Scott explained that the SAP was not a crisis line, but they can call and if they're in crisis the appropriate people would be reached out to. She added that this is also why the MSU is still promoting Good2Talk. Howran stated that this would be great to provide to students as the first-years haven't necessarily made friends.
- Chui asked how EFRT was dealing with acute mental health situations. Howran explained that it depended on the context and the person they were dealing with. They stated that EFRT was there for physical safety but are also trained in suicide prevention. Howran explained that during those calls responders would clear all life threats first and then help the patient. They went over the techniques used in situations like these.
- Larrazabal Zea asked if Howran was sure that the number of candidates being hired would be enough this year. Howran responded that this has been an ongoing conversation through the year. They stated that it was a matter of budget and time. Howran explained that they're trying to increase the team by two people, right now there are 27 returning and after hiring 14 more there will be a total of 41 responders. They stated that they're hoping for a substantial team that will hopefully not get burned out. Howran explained how training works and how much it costs per responder.
- Wooder felt that this was a superb presentation of information and stated that he was happy to help EFRT to promote the SAP and service operations.

4. FCC Report – report circulated

- German presented the report.

5. Diversity Report – report circulated

- German presented the report.

Questions

- Chui stated that Truth and Reconciliation Day will be in two weeks, could German please remind the Diversity Director to get their financials in.

- Wooder stated that the banner is currently in development with Underground. He stated that the proposed event with giving away merch with the old logo may not be a good idea, and wouldn't mind having the conversation with the PTM. He stated that he understood the logic but when logos are switched out the organization expires the old ones. German stated that this was briefly touched upon, the justification was the conversation about the changes and why. They stated that they don't want confusion about using old names but it's 15-25 old shirts and the plan was to give them away with the other 'vintage' merch at the bike auction.
- McGowan stated that they should talk about the months to come about Diversity and in the Bridges Café in the basement of the Refectory. McGowan explained the background and purpose of Bridges. He felt that campus life has evolved away from that and hoping to reignite.
- German stated that was helpful. They added that to jump on that theme, with the transition into peer support Diversity doesn't have the space to support that function. The hope was that the organization could look for something with confidentiality.

6. Proposed Job Description – Diversity + Equity Network Peer Support Coordinator

Moved by German, **seconded** by Wong that the Executive Board approve the creation of the Diversity + Equity Network Peer Support Coordinator job description, as circulated.

- German went over the memo with the Board.
- Wong asked if the Peer Support Coordinator would be hiring the volunteers.
- German stated that the Director and AD would be overseeing the volunteers. They explained that the Coordinator wouldn't be directly overseeing the volunteers, but would be providing training to ensure everything has been provided to those hired.
- Wong asked how many would be hired.
- German responded that there wasn't a guideline on how many would be hired.
- Chui asked who would provide training to the Coordinator.
- German responded that they would be trained. They explained that the Admin Team Research Coordinator. This position would be looking at all peer support practices and revamping training. German added that training materials would need to be put together for this position as it's brand new, which could be taken from the other peer support services but with a BIPOC lens.
- Arora asked if anything was formed to facilitate the training without a new position being made.
- German stated that this role was being created now to help with training. The hope is to make it active learning instead of passing, and ensuring people are present. German stated that they thoroughly believe this position is needed.

Vote on Motion

Passes Unanimously

7. Information and Questions

- Wong announced that OUSA delegate hiring is now open. They stated that if anyone was interested in debating policy papers with others this would be a great opportunity. Wong added that the conference was happening in Sudbury at the end of October. Applications will close on the 25th.
- Chui announced that they will be doing an Instagram takeover of the MSU account today and if anyone had any questions about finances to drop it in the chat there.
- German announced that there are quite a few MSU services hiring if anyone was interested.
- Scott announced that the Health and Dental optout deadline (September 30) was approaching fast. She stated that FYC nominations closed, and polling will happen on September 29. Scott added that some residence chair positions were still open, and nominations would close on the 26th, with polling being done on October 6. She explained that if anyone from the SRA wanted to go to OUSA they will get an absence for missing the SRA meeting on October 30, but it won't count towards their total absence count.
- Wooder stated that Chui did three videos and held an in-person event on Wednesday about Financial transparency. He reported that Underground was back open for self-printing. Wooder added that there has been a lot of communication from the University and there will continue to be about Hamilton's new nuisance bylaw. He explained that the City will be taking an aggressive approach through the FOCO timelines.
- German thanked Arora for reporting at the last SRA meeting, on behalf of EB. They stated that it may be helpful to reference the website for information, and that it may help develop the report.
- McGowan shouted out German and the rest of the BoD, along with FT and PT Staff for Welcome Week. He stated that it's been over two years since this has been done fully in person, and it was executed in a manner to attract students, but the organizational risk was also managed. He stated that nobody is perfect so it would be important to get feedback from students and staff to see how everyone could do better next year. McGowan reported that the MSU began negotiating with the HSR, so they're getting something together for a referendum and hopefully it will be brought forward to the SRA soon. He announced that the Hub will be open in March, with Ath and Rec opening their section after Fall Reading Week.

8. Adjournment and Time of Next Meeting

Time of Next Meeting:

Friday, September 23, 2022
10:30am
MSU Boardroom, MUSC 201

Moved by Wong, **seconded** by Chui that the Executive Board meeting be adjourned.

Passed by General Consent

Adjourned at 11:42am

/vs

DRAFT