



REPORT

From the office of the...

Diversity + Equity Network Director

TO: Members of the Executive Board
FROM: Arash Aria
SUBJECT: Diversity + Equity Network Report #4
DATE: November 11th, 2022

Year plan Update

MSU DEN has been proceeding through the year plan with momentum. We have compiled all the specific year plans that the executives have submitted and created a master year plan. This allows us to promote collaborations. According to this year plan, we have accomplished all the events and campaigns up until this point. According to specific executive's passions and global events, we introduce or shift our year plan. This allows us to attend to BIPOC student needs.

Events, Projects, & Activities

General Service Usage

The general service usage has increased exponentially over the last 2 months. We have had direct student interactions at events, as well as on campus. This has allowed us to develop a community among the McMaster community with students who are regular users. We are finalizing our Peer Support coordinator hiring, which will allow us to develop a bigger community and have consistent events in the form of peer support.

Projects & Events: Halloween Night (Complete)

The CEP team arranged an event for Halloween in order to bring the BIPOC community together and develop a safe(r) space. Festive activities were planned and there was a great turn out. Additionally, we released an Instagram post that was outlining cultural appropriation along with disability awareness. This was the first in-person event that CEP planned and executed which was a great learning opportunity.

Projects & Events: Diversity on the Streets (On-going)

The SPA team has creatively developed an Instagram reels series that highlights the voices of McMaster University students. This series has an executive go around the university and ask questions to students pertaining EDI. There have been 2 episodes released that have increased our engagement and allowed for

students to understand what the service does. This is set to continue for the entirety of the school year, and will operate with themes.

Projects & Events: MSU Clubs Fair (Completed)

We participated in the MSU Clubs fair which increased our following count, and allowed us to interact with first years at McMaster. We are looking to continue campus presence through doing other booths throughout the year during the lead up to events.

Projects & Events: Open Mic Event (Upcoming)

Stay woke, McMaster Unspoken and MSU DEN will be hosting an event on November 18th, where McMaster students are able to come and share any poetry, music, art with an audience. This is a great opportunity for providing a creative outlet in a safer space. The event has been finalized, we are working through the budget systems.

Outreach & Promotions

Summary

The MSU Services have developed a supportive community where we share events and posts on one another's social media accounts. Additionally, we are working to collaborate with SHEC and PCC on two separate events. This is in the preliminary stages, and we are looking forward to further discussions. There are collaborations also in the works with McMaster Iranian Student Association to support Iranian students through a very tough time.

Promotional Materials

There have been numerous posts released on DEN's social media and we have also utilized campus screens. Promotions team training that is taking place this week will be really helpful for the committee to understand some better methods of designing and navigating the system.





Social Media Engagement since the Previous Report

The social media engagement has increased, as hiring did occur as well as numerous events and campaigns. We are looking to expand our following even more through DOTS.

Finances

Budget Summary

The budget summary is still the same, however there are numerous costs that are currently being tracked and processed to ensure the future events run smoothly with monetary funds.

Executives & Volunteers

Overall, our team is slowly expanding which has introduced some challenges pertaining communication, however the morale and the motivation is still very prevalent. We are very collaborative and supportive. It is important for us to find methods to integrate the new volunteer team with the executive team.

Additionally, in the next 2 weeks Peer Support coordinators will be finalized and start their onboarding process to set up peer support services in our operations.

Successes

The events that have been executed, the direct interactions we have been having with the McMaster community has been great. We have received a lot of positive feedback, and the executives are learning a lot.

Current Challenges

As mentioned, streamlining communication is something we are working on. We are looking to find an innovative approach and to open weekly executive meetings once a month to volunteers to join as well.