



REPORT

From the office of the...
PFA Committee

TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly
FROM: Jazzlyn Abbott, Associate Vice President Provincial & Federal Affairs
SUBJECT: SRA 23G Report
DATE: September 24, 2023

Dearest SRA,

I hope everyone has been enjoying their return to school & the grueling homework that is probably taking up most of your time. I am just providing a brief update on what myself & my committee have been up to.

The start of school has been very productive for the education team, and the PFA committee is starting to get rolling. Most of our work so far has been writing and reviewing policy, so I'd like to excuse this report for those not interested in that.

OUSA

One of the main partners in the PFA department is the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance. Part of our responsibility at McMaster is to author policy papers that will be used to lobby the provincial government. This year the education team is working on two papers, one surrounding student wellness, and one regarding racial & religious discrimination. We had a thinktank/planning session with a group from OUSA where we discussed our feedback & edits for the race & religious discrimination paper. This was a long meeting, but also very productive. Since then, we have made further edits and updates to reflect current students' needs. On that note, we have also been doing edits on the student wellness paper.

We have also been working to begin the hiring process for our OUSA delegates. This year's fall GA will be held at Laurier. The MSU consistently runs a hiring process for delegates, that way we can have new faces and ensure the best delegates attend these conferences. We will be promoting this role by advertising this in big lecture halls to every year & diverse programs. If you happen to see us, please don't laugh too hard.

Year Plan

As we come into the new year, we are working to establish our priorities as AVPs, as well as within our committee. We held a thinktank session within the education team to see where our goals overlap, and how we can utilize that to advocate on behalf of students. From there, we will develop our year plans as AVP which will guide the work we've already started on.

Hiring

Another priority for our team right now is completing the hiring processes for AVP UA, research assistants, and advocacy coordinator. Each of these positions is well underway and should be hired shortly.

PFA Committee

The PFA had an introductory meeting towards the end of the summer and are planning to meet this week to discuss our priorities. Additionally, in this meeting we will have an educational session on what stakeholders we work with. I'm excited to work with such a great team this year!

I think we have a great year up ahead besides my enrolment in organic chemistry, especially with working with the best VP and AVP MA. I hope the next update I have for all of you will show great progress for our team.

Best,

Jazzlyn Abbott
AVP PFA
McMaster Students Union