



# Report

*From the office of the...*

## Vice-President Education & Finance

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TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly  
FROM: Maya Hobbs (VP Education) & Declan Sweeney (VP Finance)  
SUBJECT: OER Initiatives  
DATE: July 21<sup>th</sup> 2024

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### **Dear Members of the Assembly,**

This communication is about the Open Educational Resources (OER) agreement, included in our reports to SRA 24D. We have since had meetings with the MacPherson Institute and McMaster University Library which provided value in terms of implementation & planning for this program. They have requested \$55,000 from the MSU, while providing \$180,000. These funds will be dedicated towards the development and promotion of OERs. We are dedicated to ensuring the student perspective is present within the OER initiatives, particularly within the MSU's contribution.

The money for the first year of this campaign will have been re-allocated from the budget line 6601-0302-0400 (Club Grants) with the consent of the Clubs Administrator to the 6604-0305-0100 (Educational Initiatives). This decision was made as with the reduction in the number of Clubs that the MSU are supporting this reduction in budget will allow for \$122,000 for the 255 clubs.

Below is a breakdown of how the MSU's contribution of \$55,000 will be utilized.

### **Student OER Advocates (\$20,000)**

This initiative will centre student voices in OER promotion. OER Advocates is a two-part program. The first part would involve an OER training program that students would be required to participate in. Following the training program, the students would create and carry out a project focused on promoting OER to the McMaster community.

### **OER Project Stream in Student Partners Program (\$20,000)**

The MacPherson Institute's Student Partners Program will be expanded to include a OER Project Stream. This stream will provide \$2,000 grants for students to complete an OER project. The MSU will be involved in reviewing applications and selecting projects that will receive a grant.

**Student-facing events (\$4,000)**

Student-facing events will be hosted in the HUB to promote OERs and associated projects to students. There will be a total of four events (one each semester).

**MSU OER Campaign (\$6,000)**

We secured a portion of the fund for the MSU to run our own OER campaign. The VP Education and VP Finance along with the AVP University Affairs and AVP Finance will be responsible for organizing and implementing an MSU OER campaign.

**Miscellaneous (\$5,000)**

This category is intended to cover expenses for any initiatives that go over budget. The remainder of funds in this category can be re-evaluated near the end of the agreement.

Kind regards,

**Maya Hobbs (VP Education) & Declan Sweeney (VP Finance)**

McMaster Students Union

[vped@msu.mcmaster.ca](mailto:vped@msu.mcmaster.ca)

[vpfinance@msu.mcmaster.ca](mailto:vpfinance@msu.mcmaster.ca)