



REPORT

From the office of the...
Vice-President (Education)

TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly
FROM: Maya Hobbs, Vice-President (Education)
SUBJECT: OUSA Strategic Planning Conference
DATE: July 21st, 2024

Dear Members of the Assembly,

During June 4th-6th I attended the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance's (OUSA) Strategic Planning Conference in Toronto. The purpose of this conference is to discuss and determine OUSA's overall goals for the year. The report below outlines the highlights of the conference.

Advocacy & Organizational Priorities

During the conference we discussed advocacy topics that are current priorities for Ontario undergraduate students. After a lengthy discussion we determined four main advocacy priorities for this year. The four advocacy priorities are: Investing in Post-Secondary Education, Food Insecurity, Responses to Hate-Motivated Attacks, & Housing. These priorities will inform the nature of OUSA's advocacy throughout the year. During the next Steering Committee meeting, we will decide on recommendations from OUSA's policy bank regarding these advocacy priorities. Another topic of discussion included determining OUSA's organizational priorities which are: Improving Policy & Advocacy Process, Steering Committee Outreach, and Long-Term Planning.

OUSA Policy Papers

The policy papers that OUSA has prioritized this year are Student Financial Aid, Environmental Sustainability, Blue Ribbon Panel Report, Tech-Enabled Learning, and A Comprehensive Access Strategy. The AVP Provincial & Federal Affairs and I will be authors on the Environmental Sustainability paper, and we will also be editing the Tech-Enabled Learning paper.

2024-2025 Conference Dates

During the conference, the Steering Committee outlined important dates for 2024-2025:

OUSA Fall General Assembly: October 24th-27th, 2024

OUSA Student Advocacy Conference: November 17th-21st, 2024

OUSA Spring General Assembly: March 6th-9th, 2025

* Fall GA will be hosted at Brock University. Spring GA will be hosted at the University of Waterloo.

Other OUSA Updates

During the Steering Committee meeting at StratCon, OUSA's budget for 2024-2025 and the Educated Solutions theme were passed. The theme for Educated Solutions this year will be *Internationalization of Ontario Post-Secondary Education*. Lastly, the Steering Committee also determined OUSA's campaign for this year.

OUSA Intern Projects

OUSA Open House

Led by OUSA Communications & Advocacy Intern and McMaster alumni Bianca Giacoboni, the goal of the OUSA Open House will be for students to learn more about OUSA and have a discussion about Student Financial Aid. This virtual event will take place on August 14th, 2024.

OUSA Focus Group Study Launch

Led by OUSA Research Intern Khoi Luu, this Focus Group Study centers around International Student Employment Experience. This study will examine the lived experiences of international students pertaining to employment and suggest recommendations thereafter.

Best,

Maya Hobbs

Vice-President (Education)

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