



REPORT

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

TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly
FROM: Maya Hobbs, Vice-President (Education)
SUBJECT: Vice-President (Education) 24E Report
DATE: July 21st, 2024

Dear Members of the Assembly,

I am thrilled to bring forth another report outlining the progress I have made thus far on my year plan as well as a few other initiatives I have been working on.

OER Grant Review

As part of the OER Committee, I participated in the OER Grant application review process. In this application cycle, 11 projects were selected to receive a grant. More details on the projects selected are available [here](#).

OER Initiatives

As outlined in "OER Memo 07-21-24", the VP Finance and I have been working with the MacPherson Institute and McMaster University Library to determine how to utilize the \$55,000 contribution from the MSU for OER initiatives. We will continue to work towards implementing these initiatives and creating a MSU OER campaign for September.

Education Team Hiring

We have hired the Advocacy Outreach & Logistics Coordinator. Please welcome to the team Sambiro Kitawi! We have also begun the hiring process for the Advocacy & Policy Research Assistants. The Research Assistants will start at the beginning of August and begin working on the MSU policy papers.

OUSA Updates

As a part of my role as VP Administration/HR, I have been working on a few projects. Recently, we held the first EDIA Committee meeting of the year to establish priorities for the working group. I have also been organizing a performance appraisal for the Executive Director and exploring professional development opportunities for SC. Lastly, I sat on the hiring committee for OUSA's Indigenization Strategy Intern.

In terms of the OUSA policy paper progress, I attended policy writing training hosted by OUSA's Research & Policy Managers. I also attended the think tank for the Environmental Sustainability paper to kick-start the policy writing process. In terms of advocacy updates, the Steering Committee has determined the advocacy recommendations that correspond to our priorities for the year.

CASA Updates

This month I will be attending CASA's Policy & Strategy Conference where the organizational and federal advocacy priorities for the year will be determined.

UCRU Updates

I met with the UCRU Chair one on one to discuss expectations for the year and to get an update on progress. The next UCRU board meeting should occur this month.

Explore Hamilton Guide

The AVP Municipal Affairs & Municipal Affairs Committee have begun regular meetings and decided to pursue a summer campaign centered around an Explore Hamilton Guide. I have met with Andrew Mrozowski, Executive Editor of the *Silhouette* to discuss collaboration opportunities for the Explore Hamilton Campaign.

Our Future Hamilton Summit Meeting

The AVP Municipal Affairs and I attended a meeting for the Our Future Hamilton Summit. The theme of the Summit this year is *Engage Hamilton: Cultivating Connections and Advancing Civic Engagement During Polarized Times*. This meeting served as an introductory meeting for the Summit and provided a chance to meet other Hamilton partners. More details on MSU participation will be available as we continue to participate in the planning process for this event.

AI Advisory Committee

The AI Expert Panel on Teaching and Learning continued its progress on reviewing and updating the Provisional Guidelines on the Use of Generative AI in Teaching and Learning. The recent meeting served as another opportunity to give feedback on the draft guidelines. A few notable topics of discussion included:

- Clarifying guidelines on AI use within the classroom – mandate professors clarify the AI use within their courses (even if prohibited)
- Educational campaign to educate students on the use of AI – to understand the syllabus guidelines, how to use AI properly to benefit their learning/cite properly, etc.

- Avenue module

Government Relations Analyst

As mentioned in my year plan, I am working towards creating a Government Relations Analyst position. I have begun putting together a proposal for this role by reaching out to other student unions that have a similar role, working with the Vice-President (Finance) to assess cost, and evaluating a potential structure for the role.

Town & Gown Assessment

In an effort to strengthen our municipal advocacy, the AVP Municipal Affairs and I have been working on assessing if the MSU should re-join the Town & Gown Association of Ontario (TGAO). The MSU was previously a member of the organization but left for various reasons. We have decided not to pursue re-joining TGAO at this time. We will instead be focusing our efforts on establishing a Municipal Advocacy group within Hamilton.

MSU Policy Planning

Please see the SRA 24E – July 21st, 2024 - MSU Policy Papers (Fall Term) report for more details.

OUSA StratCon

Please see the OUSA StratCon report for more details.

Best,

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