



**Student Representative Assembly Meeting 241
Sunday, October 20, 2024 at 5:00pm (EDT)
Council Room, Gilmour Hall 111**

Called to Order at 5:12pm

Call of the Roll

Present: Batusic, Begun, Black, Bolca, Hobbs, Jeyakumar, Long, McKay, McLean, Olejarz, Pickering, Qannam, Sweeney, Wang
Absent Excused: Arora, Newman, Popovic, Schaub
Absent: Abbott, Dodd, El-Kadi, Hu, Khan, Mahmoud, Rahman
Late: Modi
Others Present: Maheera Choudhury (AVP (Finance)), Owen Quann (DRO), Sinead Gono (CRO), Olivia Rowan (OPIRG Community Garden), Aliyah Sumar (Incite Magazine), Peyton Whitehouse (Incite Magazine), Misaal Mehboob (Incite Magazine), Vereena Andrawes (Incite Magazine), Kaleigh McGregor-Bales (OPIRG), Diya Rangrej (OPIRG), Fatma Jamatar (OPIRG), Evan Ubene (OPIRG), Priya John (AVP (Services)), V. Scott (Recording Secretary)
Chair: Abigail Samuels (MSU Speaker)

Territory Recognition

- The SRA would like to recognize today that we are situated on traditional Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe territories through the 'Dish with One Spoon Wampum Treaty'.

Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Olejarz, **seconded** by Hobbs that the Assembly adopt the agenda, as presented.

Amendment

Moved by Pickering, **seconded** by Begun to add 'Business Caucus Year plan' to Business.

- Pickering stated that they had updated the year plan that was circulated earlier this year.

Vote on Amendment

Passes Unanimously

Amendment

Moved by Sweeney, **seconded** by Hobb to move Business Items #1 and 2 to be directly after Delegation from the Floor.

- Sweeney stated that members from OPIRG and Incite were at the meeting, and that this will allow them to leave earlier.

Vote on Amendment

Passes Unanimously

Vote to Adopt

Moved by Olejarz, **seconded** by Hobbs that the Assembly adopt the agenda, as amended.

Passes Unanimously

Adoption of the Minutes

Moved by Black, **seconded** by Long that the Assembly adopt the minutes from SRA meetings 24G – September 22, 2024, and 24H – October 6, 2024, as circulated.

Passes Unanimously

Announcements from the Chair

- The Chair announced that nominations were extended for one SRA Engineering seat.

Delegations from the Floor

Set Parameters

Moved by Sweeney, **seconded** by Jeyakumar to set parameters for all Delegations from the Floor to be five minutes for presentations, and 20 minutes for questions.

- Sweeney stated that the presentations were circulated ahead of time. They wanted to be cognizant of time, but also wanted to set a standard of time given to ask questions to ensure there was accountability and that the group had been meeting their mandates.

Vote on Motion

Passes Unanimously

1. OPIRG Presentation – Alisha Haseeb, Kaleigh McGregor-Bales, and Fatma Jamatar presented

- OPIRG went over their presentation with the Assembly.

Questions

- Sweeney thanked OPIRG for coming to present. They explained that they know that the relationship between OPIRG and the MSU oftentimes had been confrontational in the past, but that they felt that the two have now entered into a more collaborative partnership. Sweeney asked if OPIRG saw an increase in the number of students who opted out based on the recommendations from last year, and if OPIRG saw a difference in the acknowledgement of students who would have liked to opt-out. McGregor-Bales responded that OPIRG had seen an increase of 80 students from last year, as 180 opted out. They explained that the opt-out form was available on the website, and that it took 30 seconds to fill out.
- McKay stated that they saw money allocated for the Board Advisory and asked OPIRG to share more details on what the past OPIRG Board members helped with. Haseeb responded that OPIRG was currently in the process of detailing out the responsibilities. They explained that past Board members were sources of information and institutional knowledge. Haseeb added that OPIRG had a lot of history in terms of unions and staff relationships, as well as being accountable to other groups. They explained that OPIRG were envisioning advisory meetings with the committees to touch base and help with transition.
- Batusic stated that this was a great presentation. They asked how students got involved in the new

projects and if there were applications. Jamatar responded that OPIRG outlined the action groups that they were incubating this year in slide 8 of the presentation. They added that they had to hold on to a few of the applications submitted, as there wasn't enough room for other projects.

- Sweeney thanked OPIRG again. They explained that the recommendations put forward were already being worked on, that OPIRG did so much for the community, and the MSU wanted to continue building that relationship.

2. **Incite Magazine – Vereena Andrawes, Misaal Mehboob, Aliyah Sumar, and Peyton Whitehouse presented**

- Incite Magazine went over their presentation with the Assembly.

Questions

- Sweeney asked Incite to speak about the recommendations. Incite member #1 responded that they'd been working on ideas for revenues as they didn't want advertisements in the magazine, so they will be looking into having sponsored events with local businesses. Incite member #2 added that they wanted to ensure there was a clear breakdown of the revenue, which came from students. They added that they were going to create a comprehensive transition report, as well as keep track of roles, to be passed on to the next editorial board. Incite member #2 mentioned that the plan was to get rid of the surplus by hosting launch parties, and having more content and workshops to get students more involved.
- Sweeney thanked Incite for speaking to the recommendations given. They suggested reaching out to the VP (Finance) in June or July to start working on the budget process.
- Choudhury asked how many magazine stands Incite had on campus. Incite member #1 responded that they had five, but some had gone missing. They added that they hoped to supplement these stands with the surplus.
- McKay stated that Incite did a great presentation and loved the ideas of how to decrease the surplus. They asked how Incite would ensure that they were using money efficiently. Incite member #1 responded that last year, they printed less copies due to timelines being backed up. They stated that they used funding by mailing out copies of the magazine over the summer, but printed less due to knowing that there wouldn't be many students on campus in the summer. Incite member #1 stated that the hope was to redirect scheduling this year and have the magazines out on time.
- Pickering asked if Incite distributed their magazines elsewhere other than just the stands on campus. Incite member #4 explained that they hoped to distribute to local Hamilton businesses.
- Batusic asked if the copies printed exceeded supply or if there were not enough. Incite member #2 responded that the magazines on the stands went quickly and felt that they were definitely meeting demand, and could possibly print more.

Business

1. **Committee of the Whole – OPIRG**

Moved by Sweeney, **seconded** by Black that the Assembly move into Committee of the Whole to discuss the OPIRG presentation.

Passes Unanimously

Moved by Sweeney, **seconded** by Long that the Assembly move out of Committee of the Whole and into Rise and Report.

Passes Unanimously

Rise and Report

- Sweeney reported that currently, there were no any recommendations on the plate for OPIRG. They stated that the current group had been working with the MSU on previous recommendations given, and that OPIRG was operationally functional and had been meeting their mandates.

2. Committee of the Whole – Incite Magazine

Moved by Sweeney, **seconded** by Jeyakumar that the Assembly move into Committee of the Whole to discuss the Incite Magazine presentation.

Passes Unanimously

Moved by Sweeney, **seconded** by McLean that the Assembly move out of Committee of the Whole and into Rise and Report.

Passes Unanimously

Rise and Report

- Sweeney reported that Incite had already been responding to recommendations provided by the Finance Committee and felt comfortable moving forward with this group.

Report Period

1. Arts & Science Caucus – report circulated

- Jeyakumar summarized the report.

2. Business Caucus – report circulated

- Pickering summarized the report.

Questions

- Sweeney asked what the Caucus’s plan was to reach out to DSC and others.
- Pickering responded that they had sent out an email asking to meet, and the hope was to have a conversation, and ideally set up an event at TwelvEighty using the SRA Special Projects funding.

3. Engineering Caucus – report circulated

- McKay summarized the report.

Questions

- Batusic asked what activities and events were planned.
- McKay responded that they will be booking out different spaces to promote the SRA and MES. They added that the hope was to post more in-person events on their social media channels, and that engagement would continue to increase. McKay stated that if anyone had a question about a specific event to reach out to Hu.
- McLean asked if they knew about the MES townhall. They added that there was supposed to be an admissions process policy change and asked if Engineering had any concerns.
- McKay responded stated that there were different application processes for different engineering

streams. They added that from personal experiences, there weren't any concerns on SRA Engineering's behalf. McKay stated that they would be promoting the information for better understanding and felt that the process change looked better for McMaster as a whole.

4. Internal Governance Committee – report attached

- Begun summarized the report.

Questions

- Sweeney asked what happened with the Clubs Operating Policy.
- Begun responded that the Committee went over the proposed changes that were then brought to the SRA.

5. Services Committee – report circulated

- Priya John summarized the report.

Questions

- Batusic asked which service stood out to the AVP so far.
- John responded that EFRT stood out. They stated that all the services were great, but EFRT has had a lot of stressful situations.
- Sweeney added that one of EFRT's earlier recommendations was about increasing First Aid courses on campus. They stated that EFRT had already increased revenue by \$1,000 from this time last year. Sweeney added that the team had been very good this year and they were excited to see what else would come out from the service.

6. Executive Board – report not circulated

- Sweeney reported that Executive Board heard reports from PCC, SWHAT, SHEC, WGEN, and re-allocated a few spaces within the MSU realm. They stated that more items would be coming forward in the future.

7. Vice-President (Education) – report circulated

- Hobbs summarized the report.

Questions

- Batusic asked if the policy conference was an SRA responsibility.
- Hobbs responded that SRA members would receive an absence on the attendance if they didn't attend.

8. Elections – First Year Council - Sinead Gono and Owen Quann presented

- Gono summarized the report.

Information Period

- Sweeney informed the Assembly that the MSU was currently six months into the pre-budget period. They let the Assembly know that the past few months did not have a fantastic budget in terms of discretionary spending, and that they found some areas in the budget that were not updated appropriately. Sweeney stated that these items would impact the operating fund this year, and the

next couple years, but has been pushing to mitigate this in a couple of months.

Question Period

- No questions were asked.

Business Arising from the Minutes

1. Close nominations for one (1) MSU member seat on the Clubs Advisory Council

Moved by Hobbs, **seconded** by Black that the Assembly close nominations for one (1) MSU member seat on the Clubs Advisory Council.

Nominations

- Manrattan Kaur

Vote on Motion

Passes Unanimously

- Manrattan Kaur won the MSU on the Clubs Advisory Council by acclamation.

Business

3. OUSA Fall General Assembly Delegate Ratification

Moved by Hobbs, **seconded** by Begun that the Assembly ratify Laurie Acheson as a delegate for the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance Fall 2024 General Assembly.

- Hobbs stated that one of the delegates could no longer attend, and that this delegate was replacing them.

Vote on Motion

Passes Unanimously

4. Open nominations for one (1) SRA seat on the Services Committee

Moved by Hobbs, **seconded** by Bolca that the Assembly open nominations for one (1) SRA seat on the Services Committee.

Passes Unanimously

5. Close nominations for one (1) SRA seat on the Services Committee

Moved by Long, **seconded** by Black that the Assembly close nominations for one (1) SRA seat on the Services Committee.

Nominations

- Jaykumar nominated themselves.

Vote on Motion

Passes Unanimously

- Jeyakumar won the SRA on the Services Committee by acclamation.

6. Business Caucus Year plan

Moved by Pickering, **seconded** by Sweeney that the Assembly approve the revised Business Caucus Year plan, as circulated.

- Pickering went over the year plan with the Assembly.
- Sweeney stated that Pickering and Mahmoud did a good job on the year plan. They added that they've been seeing the work being put on behind the scenes and that the caucus was doing a great job.
- Hobbs stated that Popovic was not at the meeting but wanted to pass on the fact that they were proud of the work put into the plan.

Vote on Motion

Passes Unanimously

Time of Next Meeting

**Sunday, November 3, 2024
5:00pm EDT
Council Room, Gilmour Hall 111**

Call of the Roll

Present: Batusic, Begun, Black, Bolca, Hobbs, Jeyakumar, Long, McKay, McLean, Modi, Olejarz, Pickering, Qannam, Sweeney, Wang
Absence Excused: Arora, Newman, Popovic, Schaub
Absent: Abbott, Dodd, El-Kadi, Hu, Khan, Mahmoud, Rahman
Late:
Others Present: Owen Quann (DRO), Sinead Gono (CRO), V. Scott (Recording Secretary)
Chair: Abigail Samuels (MSU Speaker)

Adjournment

Moved by Sweeney, **seconded** by Hobbs that the meeting be adjourned.

Passes Unanimously

Adjourned at 6:44pm

/vs