



REPORT

From the office of the...

SRA Kinesiology Caucus

TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly
FROM: Natacha Ngo, Kinesiology Caucus Leader
SUBJECT: SRA 15Q Report
DATE: March 20, 2016

Dear Assembly,

It has been a pleasure to work with everyone on the assembly this year! In this year's SRA elections we had an increase in voter turnout in Kinesiology. Last year, we had a 37% voter turnout, whereas this year we had a 46% voter turnout! This shows how we have been successful in engaging with students over the last year and during the elections.

Congratulations to Justis Beley who will be working with me on the SRA Kinesiology 2016-2017. I have been re-elected to the SRA and will be continuing the work I have done this year. Since I am a returning SRA Member, the transition for the Kinesiology Caucus should be smooth. This has been an incredible experience, and I'm thrilled for the opportunity to continue to do great work on the assembly.

Since I reported last meeting, there has not been much to report this meeting. The results from the first ever Kinesiology survey that I created showed student concerns about the Department of Kinesiology. I have already met and will continue to meet over the next few weeks with key individuals within both the McMaster University and McMaster Students Union administration to discuss these concerns. These discussions have been about a culture shift within Kinesiology that has been long overdue. It's time that this department becomes more inclusive and that diversity is celebrated. I look forward to building a more inclusive and thoughtful community that is more aware of discriminating behaviours.

The results of the Kinesiology Society election has been released. I look forward to working with the executives to develop a society that is more transparent and accountable to its students. I have already touched based with the incoming Kinesiology Society President.

Changes that I look forward to advocate for include using the MSU Voting System for all elections rather than paper ballots or Google Surveys for elections. This week, I advocated for the results to be published online, and they have done so for the first time. In addition to setting up positions similar to a CRO or an Elections Committee so the individuals on the society do not have the advantage of having insider information (knowing which society positions have

nominations or not). The promotion of Kinesiology Society elections needs to be improved. Posters and class talks should be used, rather than just a few posts on social media. Additionally, I will be advocating for the finances of Kinesiology Society to be published online. In the past it has not been done so, and students should be able to know where their student fees are used towards.

Over the course of the next year, I look forward to advocating on students' behalf for better quality education within Kinesiology. Many upper year Kinesiology courses are listed on the Undergraduate Calendar, yet only a handful are offered. Additionally, we are losing teaching staff and we are being taught by PhD Candidates. Moreover, students have expressed their desire for co-op offering and a thesis course that is worth more than 6 units. The response from the department for why the thesis course is only 6 units has been abysmal. It's time that the department takes in student opinions or the quality of our education will continue to degrade.

Overall, I look forward to advocating on students' behalf when it comes to the Kinesiology Society, culture, academics, and department. It's time for change. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at ngon@mcmaster.ca.

All the best,

Natacha Ngo
Kinesiology Caucus Leader
McMaster Students Union