This past weekend, students from McMaster travelled to Windsor for the Ontario Undergraduate Student Union (OUSA) General Assembly (GA). GA is held twice annually at OUSA member schools through a rotation consisting of Queen’s, Brock, Waterloo, McMaster, Trent, Western, Windsor and York colleges.

OUSA is our provincial lobbying partner and represents the interests of over 145,000 professional and undergraduate, full- and part-time university students at 13 student associations across Ontario. Our vision is for a vibrant, accessible, accountable and high quality post-secondary education. In order to achieve this vision, we come together to develop solutions to challenges facing higher education, build broad consensus for our policy options and lobby government to implement progressive change.

From November 4th – 6th

President’s Page

Across Ontario... our vision is for an accessible, accountable and high quality post-secondary education.

Matthew Dillon-Leitch
President
president@msu.mcmaster.ca

Matthew Dillon-Leitch is the President of the McMaster Students Union. The MSU is the independent student government at McMaster University. We are a student-led and student-focused organization that provides programs and services to all McMaster students. If you have a comment or idea you wish to share with us, please contact us via email at president@msu.mcmaster.ca. You can also visit our website at www.msu.mcmaster.ca.

MAC’S STUDENT LEADERS SHOULD BE WORKING TOGETHER

Matthew Dillon-Leitch
President
president@msu.mcmaster.ca

One element of life at Mac that I have always found interesting has been our sense of community. In my time at McMaster I have noticed that there are many different ways for students to get involved within many different communities. There are over 280 MSU clubs, in which thousands of students participate. Moreover, the Inter Residence Council (IRC), the Society of Off-Campus Students (SOSC), the Maroons, and Faculty Societies are just some of the numerous examples of student involvement and leadership opportunities.

This fall, I have found hard at work attempting to bridge the gaps between these different groups, in an effort to establish a better connected McMaster community of which we as students, regardless of our specific involvement, can all feel a part. I believe it is the role of the MSU to act in this capacity. We must bring these different student groups together, not only to help build our shared community but also to solidify a student voice into a cohesive entity.

There are a few things that I intend on addressing this issue; a better support system for our Faculty Societies during Welcome Week, extend the collaborative event planning process through to the Department of Education. The MSU is the second tier of the University’s post-secondary system going forward. We should address all of the above and make the most of this level of student involvement. OUSA’s policy on System Growth is a broad band focused on the structure and function of Ontario’s post-secondary system going forward. We must address all aspects of this issue and make our voices heard.

The MSU believes that McMaster University is a great example of teaching and research functioning well in combination, and we do not believe that differentiation is appropriate for Mac.

All these papers were passed with unanimous consent at General Assembly. There were four papers on funding, cost-inflation, differentiation, and future policy for the organization. In the spring, four more papers will be coming forward, but this time at McMaster. The McMaster Students Union and the McMaster Association of Part-Time Students (MAPS) will co-host the Spring General Assembly where four papers will come forward on Northern & Rural Students, Students with Dependents, Student Health and Credit Transfer.

The MSU, in partnership with OUSA, is the running the undergraduate survey in order to measure opinions in terms of quality and accountability of education. This data will then be used to measure quality across the province, with particular emphasis on comparisons between institutions. Also, the closing survey enters you to win one of five $200 Amazon gift certificates. For more information about the Quality of Education Assessment, please contact MSU President Matthew Dillon-Leitch at president@msu.mcmaster.ca or visit Matthew’s website at president.mcmaster.ca.

Queer Students Community Centre Presents

MAC RIDE WEEK
Nov. 14th to 18th

Queer Students Community Centre

The President’s Page is sponsored by the McMaster Students Union. It is a space used to communicate with the student body about the projects, goals and agenda of the MSU Board of Directors.

www.msu.mcmaster.ca