

YEAR PLAN
MSU NURSING CAUCUS
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2016-2017
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OFFICE OF THE *NURSING CAUCUS* INTRODUCTION

We are excited to represent nursing students and help improve the student experience. Within the last year or so, the idea of the “MSU bubble” has emerged. This led us to think about our own faculty and what opportunities are present for nursing students to get involved in. This year we hope to break out of the “nursing bubble” and help students do more with their time here at McMaster.

Opportunity is the overarching theme of our Year Plan. While we recognize that there are many academic opportunities being in a nursing program we believe that getting involved adds many more benefits - whether it be making new friends, learning how to network, or discovering a new hobby. There are numerous ways for students to do these things, but unfortunately we believe that not many nursing students are informed or involved. As student leaders we hope to see more students involved within the MSU and other aspects of the McMaster community. We hope to change that by accomplishing the following goals:

1. Improve collaboration with McMaster University Nursing Students' Society (MUNSS)
2. Improve nursing student engagement
3. Collaborate with Student Success Centre (SSC) to develop nursing specific career services and opportunities
4. Expand student access to the Faculty of Health Science Lounge in the Health Sciences Centre (HSC)
5. Hold a joint MSU Presidential Elections Forum with the Health Sciences Caucus
6. Improve awareness about mental health through a joint campaign with the Health Sciences Caucus
7. Create a “Nurses of McMaster” initiative

We're looking forward to a great year! Through improved student outreach and regular reports to the SRA we hope to encourage our constituents and the assembly to voice their questions, ideas and concerns to us in terms of our Year Plan.

GOALS

Objective 1	Improve collaboration with McMaster University Nursing Students' Society (MUNSS)
Description	Improving the relationship between the Student Representative Assembly (SRA) and MUNSS lets students know that both parties are working together to improve the student experience for their constituents
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work together to achieve goals; different avenues and more resources to reach their goals • Have better outreach to nursing students • Further unite undergraduate nursing students across the three stream sites (McMaster, Mohawk, Conestoga)
Difficulties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MUNSS meeting locations rotates between the three sites (McMaster, Mohawk, Conestoga) every meeting • Timing conflicts with classes and clinical, MUNSS voting members get time/day preference • Not all nursing students are members of the MSU (e.g., Mohawk site students are members of Mohawk Student Association or MSA and Conestoga site students are members of Conestoga Students Inc. or CSI)
Long-term implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better communication between the SRA and MUNSS • Improved collaboration between nursing student leaders • More undergraduate nursing students informed and involved in student issues
How?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have at least one SRA member present at one MUNSS meeting a month • Send SRA Meeting Minutes to the MUNSS Executive • Act as a liaison between the SRA and MUNSS • Inform MUNSS of important updates about the McMaster Student Union (MSU) during Information Period at MUNSS meeting
Partners	Anmol Kaur (2016-17 MUNSS President) and the rest of the MUNSS Executive
Objective 2	Improve nursing student engagement
Description	Having a greater outreach ensures that students are informed and encourages interest in student issues, as there is currently a lack of knowledge about the MSU and SRA among majority of nursing

	students
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are better informed about the MSU and SRA; helps them put a face to a name and be aware of more MSU run events • Empowers students to become involved in the MSU's volunteer and employment opportunities • Enables students to develop transferable skills to support personal and career growth
Difficulties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student apathy • Students aren't aware of the different SRA Nursing social media accounts • Nursing students are not all on campus at the same time due to changing schedules
Long-term implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased nursing student participation in the MSU • SRA elections with more than two candidates • Nursing students sharing their opinions and concerns about motions and student issues (e.g., increased respondents in Google forms)
How?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with the Nursing Welcome Week Planners and MUNSS to be apart of Faculty Fest during Welcome Week • Allisa and Kelly will do "Class Talks" during the first week of lectures to introduce themselves • Allisa and Kelly will run the SRA Nursing Facebook and Twitter accounts (e.g., live updates on social media accounts, posting opportunities to get involved) • Upload Maroon Minutes to Avenue under the BScN Communication Hub • Allisa and Kelly will develop Google forms to gather opinions and concerns from nursing students as needed • Weekly in-person outreach hours in centralized locations (e.g., "Hole in the Wall" or MUSC) or virtual outreach hours via. SRA Nursing Facebook page (e.g., "Ask Me Anything") • Instead of just posting Google forms and updates to SRA Nursing social media accounts, the post will also be shared to individual level nursing Facebook groups where students are more active (e.g., "McMaster Nursing 2018 - Official" Facebook group)
Partners	Sarah Mae Conrad (Communications Officer), Michael Wooder (Student Life Development Coordinator), Anmol Kaur (2016-17

	MUNSS President) and the rest of the MUNSS Executive, Katie Labron & Lois Chui (Nursing Welcome Week Planners)
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Objective 3	Collaborate with Student Success Centre to develop nursing specific career services and opportunities
Description	To improve career support for nursing students we will work on: 1) a career panel with a healthcare HR manager, 2) collaborate with Level IV MUNSS Representatives to plan their Career Fair, 3) job shadow experiences, and 4) "Ask me Anything" online seminar with someone in the nursing field
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased use of the SSC by nursing students since the School of Nursing does not have its own career development office Motivate and inform students about employment and volunteer opportunities
Difficulties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student apathy Having enough students attend events or apply to opportunities Funding to run the event
Long-term implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduces the perception that there are no opportunities for nursing students Improves collaboration with MUNSS and SSC
How?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold a career panel in January Advocate for a nursing themed AMA online and job shadow opportunities Collaborate with SSC and MUNSS
Partners	Emily Taylor (Employer Relationship & Engagement Coordinator, Student Success Centre), Ryan MacDonald (VP-Finance), Anmol Kaur (2016-17 MUNSS President) and the rest of the MUNSS Executive

Objective 4	Expand student access to the Faculty of Health Science Lounge in the Health Sciences Centre (HSC)
Description	Currently, there is a MUNSS space in the Health Science Lounge as the School of Nursing is a part of the Faculty of Health Science, but nursing students do not have access to the space with their swipe cards and are not aware the space exists. The nursing lounge, "Hole in the Wall" isn't large enough or accessible to all nursing students.
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows <i>all</i> nursing students to have space available to them Enables SRA Nursing members to hold outreach hours in more centralized locations - better outreach to students Provides a space where Nursing students and other Faculty of

	Health Science students can come together to promote community at McMaster
Difficulties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtaining permission for every nursing student's swipe card to be activated; unclear about who to contact to start process • Lack of clarity about the use of "Hole in the Wall" (current nursing lounge) and Health Science Lounge • Not all nursing students are on campus at the same time due to changing schedules
Long-term implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotes interprofessional collaboration and appreciation between students from healthcare disciplines (e.g., nursing, health sciences, midwifery, medical students) • Helps assist the demand for space on campus • SRA outreach hours can be held here • Nursing students will have a centralized space on campus - creates a sense of community
How?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activate all nursing students' swipe card for the Health Sciences Lounge • Collaborate with MUNSS and Nursing Representative/Yellow Suits to advertise the space • Reach out to media/promotions experts to advertise
Partners	Dr. Carolyn Byrne (Associate Dean and Director of the School of Nursing), Vicki Benedetti (Admissions Coordinator), School of Nursing Program Assistants, Anmol Kaur (2016-17 MUNSS President) and the rest of the MUNSS Executive

Objective 5	MSU Presidential Elections Forum
Description	There is a lack of knowledge among majority of nursing students about MSU Presidential Candidates, how to vote, how the MSU enhances the student experience, etc. In collaboration with the SRA Health Sciences Caucus we hope this forum will engage students.
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased participation and votes from nursing students • Helps students put a face to the candidates' names • Shows nursing students that the MSU cares about their opinions and concerns - better outreach to nursing students • Since it's a smaller target audience students will feel more comfortable asking questions • Promotes community at McMaster by engaging Nursing and other Faculty of Health Science students in this forum
Difficulties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinating schedules; need candidates to attend

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student apathy • Having enough students attend to make it an engaging and successful event
Long-term implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creates an atmosphere of informed voting and student engagement in the MSU Presidential Elections • More than 2 nursing students running in the SRA elections
How?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite Candidates to the event • Advertise the event to students through social media and class talks • Collaborate with Health Sciences Caucus to plan the rest of the event details
Partners	MSU Presidential Candidates, MSU Elections Department and Committee, Ashley Eom and David Lee (SRA Health Science Caucus), MSU Board of Directors

Objective 6	Mental Health Campaign
Description	The SRA Nursing and Health Sciences Caucus want to launch a campaign to promote self-care. This campaign will also coincide with National Nursing Students' Week where there is emphasis on the mental health of nursing students and healthcare providers.
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unities nursing students across all levels and streams • Possible collaboration with MUNSS • Mental health awareness and self care
Difficulties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Nursing Students' Week happens very early in the school year • Ensuring the campaign meets the needs of both nursing and health sciences students • Advertising and outreach
Long-term implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved mental health awareness - more conversations about mental health
How?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details to be decided in collaboration with the Health Science Caucus after contacting MUNSS, Mac Talks Coordinator and the Canadian Nursing Students Association
Partners	Ashley Eom and David Lee (SRA Health Science Caucus), Blake Oliver (VP Education), Anmol Kaur (2016-17 MUNSS President) and the rest of the MUNSS Executive

Objective 7	Create a “Nurses of McMaster” initiative
Description	“Nurses of McMaster” will be an initiative aimed at sharing the experiences and thoughts of McMaster nursing students to the rest of the McMaster community
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unities nursing students across all levels and streams • Educates students about the SRA an MSU in an informal manner • Involves nursing constituents and allows them to have a voice
Difficulties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting enough posts to make this a regular (e.g., bimonthly or weekly) series • Advertising and outreach; starting a brand new initiative
Long-term implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved outreach and promotion • Better outreach to constituents via social media platforms
How?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post in Nursing Facebook groups asking for volunteers • Reaching out to constituents during outreach hours • Promote it through Nursing Welcome Week Representatives (“Yellow Suits”) and MUNSS Executive • Take pictures, post the response/comment from constituents to SRA Nursing Facebook page
Partners	Nursing Welcome Week Representatives, Anmol Kaur (2016-17 MUNSS President) and the rest of the MUNSS Executive

Long-term planning

Overarching Vision (<i>what is the ultimate goal?</i>)	<i>Promote SRA Awareness by increasing the Nursing Facebook page likes to 500.</i>
Description	There are approximately 500 nursing students who are MSU members. Nursing students aren’t aware of the different SRA Nursing social media platforms, which create challenges in reaching out to them. However once nursing students are on these social media platforms, social media has proven to be an effective way of reaching nursing students.
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are better informed and engaged. • Social media allows us to be creative in reaching out to our constituents. • A larger social media presence helps better advertise events

	and collect student opinions.
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reach out to previous SRA Caucus to find out their challenges in delivering information to students • Consult with social media experts to identify how we can better use these platforms • Create a cover photo of the SRA Nursing Caucus with social media platforms that can be posted and shared • Create a “Nurses of McMaster” initiative to share the thoughts of nursing students - help to burst the “nursing bubble” and create a more unified McMaster community
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate SRA Nursing contact information and social media platforms into “First Year Guide” nursing students receive • After developing a working relationship with MUNSS collaborate to advertise both parties’ updates and events • Create a cover photo of the SRA Nursing Caucus with social media platforms that can be posted and shared - make it a yearly tradition • Continue “Nurses of McMaster” - make it a regular post on the SRA Nursing Facebook page
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue “Nurses of McMaster” - make it a regular post on the SRA Nursing Facebook page • Create a cover photo of the SRA Nursing Caucus with social media platforms that can be posted and shared - make it a yearly tradition
Partners	Anmol Kaur (2016-17 MUNSS President) and the rest of the MUNSS Executive, Nursing Welcome Week Planners, Sarah Mae Conrad (Communications Officer), Michael Wooder (Student Life Development Coordinator)

GOALS to strive for

List 5 things that you would like to have prepared for the beginning of September

1. Establish learning gaps in terms of how to best use social media platforms and reach our constituents
2. Establish a relationship with caucus members and the MUNSS Executive 2016/17
3. Brainstorm ideas with SRA Health Sciences Caucus about the Mental Health Campaign.
4. Hold meetings with those with partners: Anmol Kaur & MUNSS Executive, Emily Taylor, Dr. Carolyn Byrne, Welcome Week Planners

List 5 things you would like to have completed during the fall term (1st)

1. Continue to reach out to nursing students via social media pages and outreach hours; begin “Nurses of McMaster” series.
2. Brainstorm ideas with SRA Health Sciences Caucus about the MSU Presidential Forum.
3. Carry out the Mental Health Campaign.
4. Gain access to the Health Sciences Lounge for all nursing students.
5. Finish up planning for Career Panel.

List 5 things you would like to have completed during the winter term (2nd)

1. Hold Career Panel in collaboration with SSC, and MSU Presidential Elections Forum in collaboration with Health Sciences Caucus.
2. Notice an increase in student engagement of the SRA and MSU.
 - This means nursing students will be more excited about getting involved and voicing their concerns. Indicators of this include more competitive SRA elections, increased respondents on Google forms, higher voter turnovers and increased involvement in the McMaster community.
3. Establish a collaborative working relationship between the SRA and MUNSS Executive. This relationship will strengthen student engagement and help better meet the needs of our constituents. This will further help nursing students become more aware of the SRA and MSU.
4. Collect feedback from constituents, partners, and attendees about initiatives held throughout the year.
5. Create a transition package for next year’s SRA Nursing Caucus.

Master Summary

(calendar and checklist)

May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend MUNSS meeting
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with Emily Taylor (Employer Relationship & Engagement Coordinator, Student Success Centre) • Draft Year Plan • Maintain contact with MUNSS Executive
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop specific strategies to reach the objectives outlined in this Year Plan • Maintain contact with MUNSS Executive • Hold a meeting with Katie Labron & Lois Chui (Nursing Welcome Week Planners) to discuss being a part of Faculty Fest
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold meetings with Anmol Kaur (MUNSS President) and Dr. Carolyn Byrne (Associate Dean and Director of the School of Nursing) to discuss Year Plan Goals • Continue to develop specific strategies to reach the objectives outlined in this Year Plan • Maintain contact with MUNSS Executive
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend MUNSS meeting. • Introduce ourselves in lectures through “class talks”. • Start gathering posts for “Nurses of McMaster”
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend MUNSS meeting. • Have all nursing students have access to the Health Sciences Lounge. • Share a post for “Nurses of McMaster” initiative
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend MUNSS meeting. • Hold Mental Health Campaign with SRA Health Sciences Caucus. • Share a post for “Nurses of McMaster” initiative
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend MUNSS meeting. • Share a post for “Nurses of McMaster” initiative
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend MUNSS meeting. • Hold Career Panel in collaboration with SSC.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold MSU Presidential Elections Forum in collaboration with Health Sciences Caucus. • Share a post for “Nurses of McMaster” initiative
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend MUNSS meeting. • Have “class talks” to promote awareness about upcoming SRA elections. • Share a post for “Nurses of McMaster” initiative
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend MUNSS meeting. • Share a post for “Nurses of McMaster” initiative
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend MUNSS meeting. • Share a post for “Nurses of McMaster” initiative • Transition incoming SRA Nursing Caucus members.