



REPORT

From the office of

MSU MACycle Coordinator

TO: Members of the Executive Board
FROM: Andy Tran
SUBJECT: MACycle Report 3
DATE: 6 Sept 2016

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UPDATE

We're transitioning over to Fall hours now, and it's nice to see a lot of volunteers coming back for the year to help with the shop.

SERVICE USAGE

Although August was quieter, we still gained about twenty new members, including several women who are interested in participating in the Women and Trans workshop nights. I don't have data on memberships by date from previous years. However, I have started to collect names and data for this year, so we have accurate records moving forward.

PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

We successfully ran a women's workshop. This first one was just to train three new volunteers, but it allowed for the volunteers in charge of the workshop to get more comfortable with the space and with leading the events. We're also going to be doing some renovations to the space.

I also got a new supplier, so we're selling higher end cycling backpacks and accessories. I'm taking a (small) cut on these, and since they're expensive bags, this is a significant income maker.

UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

I need to train my newest volunteers, but after this week, the shop will be running on Fall hours, with some time slots entirely volunteer run. I set up a schedule and made sure that people whose expertise I trust can open the shop even without my presence, and they are always paired with a newer volunteer who can learn on the job.

I have a bike co-op conference in Detroit coming up that I'm planning on attending. Lots of talks about how to make shops like ours a more accessible, useful, and worthwhile space.

I'm also considering putting time into making bike polo (like horse polo, but on bikes) a thing at Mac. I am still working on the initial plans and I plan to reach out to relevant stakeholders if there is student interest.

BUDGET

As of the end of July (since I don't have my August accounting statement in yet): Last year at this time, \$2k more had been made in parts sales and \$1k less spent on parts. The first comes from the fact that Justin worked twice as many hours as I did during the summer, so he served more people. The second mostly comes from the fact that we were missing some fairly vital tools; also, previous director placed orders few and far between. So I've been buying less, but more frequently, which is undoubtedly the proper way to make these orders.

Recap: last year, \$2k more was made and \$1k less was spent. But at the same time, \$3k more was spent on wages. My current YTD is almost exactly the same as last year's. Also, I think the numbers look really different for August, because I made a big deposit halfway through August and made some big sales as well.

VOLUNTEERS

Good news: I have a solid schedule of volunteers, including time slots where I'm not in the shop and I don't have to be (dependable, experienced volunteers). We're open for more hours per week than last year. Another good thing about this setup is that newer volunteers are paired up with veterans who can train them.

More good news: I have *eight* women who want to volunteer this year. That's eight more than in previous years, and that brings us to nearly 50:50, which is actually unheard of for a bike shop, in my experience.

I am really excited to be enacting a change in the types of individuals that volunteer for a bike shop.

CURRENT CHALLENGES

The bike auction is coming up, and I have to deal with the head of security over some strange policies they have where we're not supposed to do any work on the bikes, and the bikes *must* be auctioned off, rather than built up and sold from our shop. This means that we're forced to sell unsafe bikes far too cheap to companies that come to us to buy bikes in bulk, rather than actually serving our students by building them up safely and affordably and selling them from our shop. Building them up before selling so would also be more profitable for us.

SUCCESES

- **We cleared out a ton of bikes that were junk.** We set aside ones that will be reasonable to finish up, and we'll start building them soon.