

YEAR PLAN

MSU Bylaws and Procedures

Commissioner

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2016-2017

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OFFICE OF THE BYLAWS AND PROCEDURES
COMMISSIONER
INTRODUCTION

Dear Members of the Assembly,

I am excited to be elected as your Bylaws and Procedures Commissioner. Thank you for taking the time to review my package. I am thrilled to share some of my experiences, ideas and projects which I have in mind for this role.

Bylaws are the foundation of our organization as they outline the structural and procedural practices. They capture the standards and practices that the MSU upholds. The Bylaws and Procedure Committee this year has undertaken the task of reviewing bylaws in order to ensure that they better represent the MSU. Furthermore, we hope to consult with various stakeholders and partners in order to investigate the feasibility of refining certain bylaws particularly those referring to MSU Membership, Academic Division recognition, and General Assembly.

I am extremely excited to have the chance to improve foundation on which the MSU operates. It is within these bylaws which the committee hopes to collaborate with other members of the assembly and our organization in shaping the structure, governance and future directions of the MSU. The committee will focus on further participating non-SRA MSU Members in the decision process of our organisation. The projects and ideas that are presented in this package have been developed and will likely be changed through additional research. Nevertheless, I look forward to the committee's ability to dedicate our efforts in these changes as we further develop my passion for our organization.

Sincerely,

David Lee

Bylaws and Procedure Commissioner

GOALS

Objective 1	<i>General Assembly</i>
Description	<p>The General Assembly (GA) is the highest governing body of the MSU. The previous Bylaws and Procedure Committee and the GA Planning Committee have updated the current structure and procedures of the GA. Nevertheless, improvements to the current structure are still possible.</p> <p>Currently there is lack of updates on the motions which are addressed in GA. In consultation with our current Speaker, Genya, and a member of the previous GA Planning Committee, Meg, I would like to propose the implementation of more accountability measures on the motions passed in GA. This would possibly be through publishing reports and updates or even striking specific working groups to ensure that student concerns are properly addressed. In order for this to effectively be addressed the procedures and goals of GA should be reviewed. This will ensure an effective advertisement and assignation of responsibilities regarding the motion.</p>
Benefits	General Assembly has generally struggled in the past few years and its effectiveness is often questioned. The criticism of the GA procedures would be addressed. Moreover this would ensure that the motions are held more accountable and that we are adequately addressing student's issues. Updates would also serve to further promote transparency within our organization.
Difficulties	Ensuring that all members and SRA are aware of the bylaw changes and the necessary procedures and uphold the motions that are passed in GA.
Long-term implications	Introducing the accountability procedures to GA will ensure an effective and efficient procedure for students to have their concerns addressed. In doing so, we allow the MSU to be proactively transparent in its operations and decision making.
How?	Consult with GA Planning Committee, VP Admin and Speaker to plan next steps for the logistics of addressing motions. Bylaw revisions and discussions will occur within the committee to outline our goals and the most effective means of tackling this initiative.
Partners	GA Planning Committee Vice-President Administration (Shaarujaa) MSU Speaker (Genya) Administrative Assistants (Jess and Victoria)

Objective 2	<i>Bylaw 9- First Year Council</i>
Description	With the dissolution of IRC, First Year Council has gone through considerable restructuring. Through working with the VP-Admin and

	<p>First Year Council Coordinator, I would like to ensure that the current structure is an effective and efficient one. I would like to make sure that the bylaw is appropriately reviewed through consultation with the current FYC and past FYC members. In addition, the Maroons are implementing new first year representative positions this year. I am interested in working with the Maroons team to explore the possibility of incorporating these first year reps with the First Year Council to provide the best representation for first year students. First Year Council has great potential to effectively address and also represent first years but in the past has struggled as a governing body. This will ensure that the current structure is updated for the success of the next FYC.</p>
Benefits	<p>Updating the structure of FYC and having that reflected in our bylaws will ensure a solid foundation for first year governance. FYC specifically has a unique position in governance and ensuring its success can be especially beneficial for first years.</p>
Difficulties	<p>Consulting in order to make sure that the structure of FYC is an efficient one will take in a lot of considerations. Feedback has to be taken from various partners.</p>
Long-term implications	<p>FYC's reputation in the past has been mixed and it is hard as a first year to effectively integrate within the structure of the MSU, transition to university and also advocate on behalf of first years.</p>
How?	<p>Consult with the FYC Coordinator and FYC in order to receive feedback on their year. Participate in FYC discussions throughout the year and attend some meetings in order to understand the structure of this governing body.</p>
Partners	<p>FYC FYC Coordinator VP Admin Maroons First Year Rep Maroons Coordinator</p>

Objective 3	<i>Bylaw 15/A and 15/B - Faculty and Residence Cup</i>
Description	<p>The Faculty Cup and Residence Cup are a great way to establish healthy competition during Welcome Week, however, there are some concerns about the purpose of this award and also the fairness of the allocation of points. As part of both the Faculty and Residence Cup selection committee this Welcome Week, I have noticed several areas for improvement in the judging system. I would like to further work with our current VP-Admin, Faculty Coordinator, Residence Coordinator and other students in ensuring that Faculty and Residence Cup upholds the values of Welcome Week</p>
Benefits	<p>The Faculty Cup promotes healthy competition but at times, reps might be too involved in actually winning the cup that they forget the purpose of Welcome Week in the process. The Faculty and Residence Cup ceremony can be used to recognize all of the reps</p>

	hard work instead of just a few faculties and residences.
Difficulties	Both awards are subjective in nature so it will be difficult establish a consistent and objective framework. Consultation from Faculty Planners and ROA in order to gain feedback on these awards would be beneficial.
Long-term implications	The Faculty Cup and Residence Cup has lots of potential. These awards are sought out for by many reps and updating the criteria and purpose of these awards to appropriately reflect the current values would be beneficial.
How?	Restructuring the current point system and even adding other awards such as First Year Engagement etc... will ensure that reps receive recognition for their hard work. Updating the current committee to include the new roles of the Faculty Coordinator and Residence Coordinator would also be beneficial.
Partners	VP Admin Faculty Coordinator Residence Coordinator Faculty Planners Residence Orientation Advisors

Objective 4	<i>Accountability Policy</i>
Description	Accountability of SRA Members has been through several discussions in the past years. The past bylaws and procedures and operations commissioner have looked into establishing one and look further into the feasibility and effectiveness of having this type of policy in place. The policy would allow to submit claims for mediation and conversation to ensure that members are fulfilling job descriptions and also support them in doing so
Benefits	Ensuring that SRA Members have been fulfilling job descriptions and engaging in committees will ensure a more productive governing body. Moreover, the policy will allow for a mediation of conversation and conflicts in the SRA should one feel uncomfortable holding another member accountable.
Difficulties	In practice, an accountability policy will be difficult to implement. Continued SRA consultation will be required in implementing this policy. Reaching a consensus would be a difficult process for establishing a metric to monitor SRA involvement.
Long-term implications	A general mechanism for accountability would be mandating that we all complete our year plans to the best of our abilities. This will ensure that student representatives are accountable and transparent in their processes.
How?	Consultation to assess the effectiveness and need for a policy would be required. Potentially, in collaboration with the Operations Commissioner, Preethi, the policy would ensure that members are fulfilling job descriptions and also support them in doing so

Partners	VP Admin Operations Commissioner Speaker
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Objective 5	<i>Bylaw 2- MSU Membership</i>
Description	Full and honorary membership of the MSU is defined in Bylaw 2. In the current structure, full MSU membership is given to full-time students (in 18 units or more during an academic session), part time students who qualify through the MAPS-MSU Transferability Agreement, and to select MSU staff. Furthermore, students supported by the Student Accessibility Services (SAS) can opt-in to an MSU membership. The committee would pursue outlining the circumstances in which eligible students can become a full time member to be reflected within our bylaws.
Benefits	Revising and consulting about the structure of Bylaw 2 will ensure that as a student union, we have explored all avenues of becoming more inclusive. This will ensure that certain cases where students have sought out MSU membership will be adequately addressed.
Difficulties	The change to this bylaw, if any, will have several implications on the structure of the MSU. Redefining MSU membership may present logistical concerns
Long-term implications	These implications, if changed, will be both positive and negative in the long run. Nevertheless, reviewing this bylaw will address concerns that are
How?	Speaking to Administrative Assistants, Jess Bauman and Victoria Scott, about the feasibility of this platform point would be the initial step. The committee would also like to speak to the MAPS administration about the current policy in order to reflect the current practices within our bylaws.
Partners	VP Admin Administrative Assistants (Jess Bauman and Victoria Scott) MAPS

Long-term planning

Overarching Vision (<i>what is the ultimate goal?</i>)	<i>Restructuring of SRA Academic Divisions</i> Through research and consultation, the Bylaws and Procedure committee will further look into the feasibility of expanding the SRA from its 31 members and also assessing the long-term implications.
Description	Currently Bylaw 3 allows for 31 maximum assembly members from academic divisions after amendments were made to the constitution through research and consultation. I would like the current committee to continue pursuing to update this amendment following the work of last year's committee. The restructuring of the

	<p>SRA can perhaps be done by having a temporary caucus which will eventually transition into being established within the SRA.</p> <p>The current definition of academic divisions is not specifically detailed under section 9 of Bylaw 3. This is problematic for certain students on campus that feel that they are not appropriately represented by their current academic division. I would like to further look into establishing a clear definition of an academic division</p>
Benefits	Through research and consultation, addressing these barriers will ensure that there are less barriers for student groups seeking academic division recognition.
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consult with student groups on campus and receive feedback - Consult with Administrative Assistants, Jess Bauman and Victoria Scott, about the feasibility of these initiatives
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pilot the feedback we received in a revised bylaw that will eventually be applied to SRA 2017-2018
Partners	<p>VP Admin Administrative Assistants (Jess Bauman and Victoria Scott) Faculty Society Presidents</p>

GOALS to strive for

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

- Be elected 😊

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

- SRA Academic Divisions
- MSU Membership
- General Assembly
- Have committee divided for Bylaw Reviews
- Have more non-voting members in the committee

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

- Faculty Cup and Residence Cup Revision
- First Year Council Bylaw Review
- Accountability Policy
- Implement feedback received from Bylaw reviews
- General Assembly Accountability Reports

Master Summary
(calendar and checklist)

May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • . •
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • . •
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • . •
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • . •
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition • Year Plain Review • Promotion
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SRA Academic Division - Consultation • MSU Membership • Accountability Policy • General Bylaw Reviews
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SRA Academic Division • MSU Membership • General Assembly • Accountability Policy • General Bylaw Reviews
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SRA Academic Division • MSU Membership

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Assembly • Accountability Policy • General Bylaw Reviews
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty Cup and Residence Cup • First Year Council • General Bylaw Reviews
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty Cup and Residence Cup • First Year Council • General Bylaw Reviews
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty Cup and Residence Cup • First Year Council • General Bylaw Reviews
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty Cup and Residence Cup • First Year Council • General Bylaw Reviews • Transition