



REPORT

From the office of the...

SRA Operations Commissioner

TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly
FROM: Preethi Anbalagan, Operations Commissioner
SUBJECT: SRA 16F Report
DATE: November 8, 2016

Hello folks,

It's good to be reporting again.

Note: OP and Operating Policy are used interchangeably.

PROGRESS ON YEAR PLAN

1. *Strengthening areas of our operating procedures to foster and support a safe(r) campus:* Kathleen Quinn and myself had meetings with the current WGEN Coordinator and Meaghan Ross to discuss how the organization can adopt a codified complaints procedure or a response procedure for disclosures. As well, potentially mandating prevention and response training for MSU employees (i.e. campus events) and other relevant student groups.
2. *Integrating the practise of impact evaluations:* I've come to realize that writing documents is already a tedious practise and whether this particular document will be beneficial to the organization, I'm unsure. Myself and David Lee are looking into other mechanisms for accountability and transparency.
3. *Broaden the water bottle free policy to business units and all MSU spaces:* Done, in terms of broadening the water bottle free policy to business units. Come January, Union Market will discontinue the sale of their single-use water bottles thanks to Justin, Blake and those involved. Expanding the policy to all MSU spaces is something Alicia Arnds is working towards with Justin.
4. *Update and improve the MSU Wants You OP:* Done.
5. *Review, update and improve the Environmental Sustainability policy:* This has been completed for the most part, thanks to Katie Pita. A streamlined version will be submitted for the next meeting, with no foreseeable additions to the policy.

PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

Last meeting, my committee and I brought forward some changes to the MSU Wants You and Sustainability Education working group OPs and they successfully passed.

Why did we do this? Historically, stand-alone working groups don't have the best

track record for producing impactful/tangible results and perhaps this was a by-product of missing elements within their OP. *What did we change?* Notably, these two working groups now have an assigned chair opposed to one being elected in the first meeting. Hopefully, this will ensure proper transition of documents and projects between outgoing and incoming chairs. As well, the personnel composition for both working groups have altered. The edited OPs mandate representatives from services to be present opposed to PTMs. Furthermore, we've transferred significant objectives from OP 1.6 into the Sustainability Education OP to provide a bit of direction.

UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

There are exactly three meetings before my committee and I disband for exam month/winter break. Prior to this, we hope to submit an edited and up-to-date OP 1.6 and plastic bottle-free general policy.

CURRENT CHALLENGES

A minor challenge that I'm facing is the four-step process in distributing an edited OP to my committee. It requires a bit of back and forth that seems a bit tedious to me; however, I do understand why there's a safeguard in place that prevents an Operations Commissioner access to editable OPs (or a Bylaws & Procedures Commissioner access to editable bylaws). In the future, I do recommend a memorandum of agreement/understanding as an official safeguard. Unsure what this would look like and what the terms would be but I think it merits a consideration.

VOLUNTEERS (Commissioners only)

I have a running tally of two (2) incredible observers who respond to my e-mails, which is nice. There are quite a few individuals who are interested in our work but there's a bit of reluctance to make a physical commitment (i.e. show up to meetings) because of school and other priorities, which is understandable.

SUCCESSSES

Two claps for my committee because they've been amazingly punctual with zero recorded absences.

OTHER

Welcome Hannah, Jackie, and Eklayva! October Referenda and SRA By-elections were wild.

Stay cool,

Preethi Anbalagan
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