



REPORT

From the office of the...

Executive Board

TO: The Student Representative Assembly
FROM: Justin Monaco-Barnes
SUBJECT: Executive Board Report
DATE: January 4, 2017

Dear Members of the Assembly,

This report will highlight what Executive Board has been up to during the weeks of November 29, and December 6, 2016. This report consists of updates from CLAY, Mac Bread Bin, Mac Famstand, Macademics, MACycle, Maccess, Maroons, Peer Support Line, QSCC, SCSN, Spark, SWHAT, and WGEN.

CLAY

Taylor Bridgens expressed her excitement due to the fact that the entire planning team had been hired. She noted that they are also in the process of transitioning and creating their year plans. Another highlight from this report was the fact that they were able to receive 95 applications in total.

Mac Bread Bin

Veronica van der Vliet outlined in her report that their team had implemented a promotions schedule to ensure that promotional material is improved and more consistent. She then explained that the Lockers of Love program is currently flourishing, and will have increased promotion in order to have an ever better response going forward. She noted that the food collective centre is still closed with no foreseeable visible space in the near future. The

Community Kitchen project is also evolving to have more of a focus on health, nutrition, and sustainability. One of the major concerns this service has is just finding permanent space for their various programs.

Mac Farmstand

Since Mac Farmstand has been closed for four weeks as of this point, Kaitlyn Zarcone-Beam explained that she had been using her final month as director to clean up their storage unit, and pay remaining invoices. She wanted to highlight that all of the remaining produce was donated to the Ronald MacDonald house, and their popcorn was sold to Union Market. Though the service has been closed, there has still be a push to distribute the local food discount card to as many students as possible so they can they can take advantage of the mind-numbing, knee buckling, spine-tingling deals. Kaitlyn reiterated the two main challenges that this service faces are the student card meal card machine, and the physical location of the operation.

Macademics

Rohoma Zakir was excited to express the fact that the service had finished a very successful Wikithon. With an a very high attendance, Macademics was able to get just under 200 Wiki's filled out for various courses. Since that campaign has ended, Rohoma is now switching her sights to January where she is already planning for the next Wikithon campaign. The team also spent a lot of time and effort on promoting the course evaluation period that happened at the end of term 1.

MACycle

Andy Tran explained that was not much to update as things have not changes very much since their last report. He explained that since winter is here, most of the shifts are spent with volunteers working on their own projects with very little customer traffic during shop hours. Andy went on to explain that he is

spending most of his time writing volunteer training guides, as well as various job descriptions.

Maccess

Alex Wilson updated the group by highlighting the details of their (In)Accessibility Week, the Speaking for Ourselves coffee house, as well as launching their Campus Physical Accessibility Guide. Alex also noted an increase in space usage, and how eager the team is to move into their new, permanent space come January. Alex talked a bit about some of the challenges the service is currently facing, the main one being the ability to create a safe(r) space for all students to feel comfortable in, while at the same time addressing many of the different perspectives, and privileges some of them may have.

Maroons

Megan O'Brien highlighted the business of the service of during the past few weeks since the last report. While mainly attending varsity basketball and volleyball games, they have also assisted other services with events as well. Megan updated everyone on how the move from their current space was going, as well as devising a plan to store some of their belongings in the committee room in a way that is still accessible for the service. With a focus on many upcoming events, Megan is very excited to be moving forward with the way things are going.

Peer Support Line

Zeinab Khawaja began her report by stating just how busy this service was over the month of November – amount of calls almost tripling from the

previous November. She went into greater detail explaining how the extended hours were definitely an effective step, and is looking to implement this framework again for the second term. Zeinab has pointed out that there have been some accessibility issues with regards to accessing the current PSL space, but this will be resolved once this service finds a new home in the new year.

QSCC

This service didn't have very much new information to report on as this is often the slow season for QSCC. Aly Khalifa highlighted a few of the past events, projects, activities, and also explained a bit of what is to be expected in the new term with regards to programming. Aly expressed a bit of concern in terms of storage space, but has put forward a capital proposal for cabinets in the space to help solve this issue.

SCSN

Balie Tomar started off by highlighting some of the past events that she and her service organized – all of which were successful. A big portion of her recent work has been devising a strategy for the second term, that why they are able to hit the ground running come the first week of school. She expressed a bit of concern around some of the “selfie campaigns” they ran, and will most likely avoid them going forward. Overall she seems very happy with how the year has gone so far, and is optimistic about the future.

SWHAT

Leon Zhang began by highlighting the positive results from Novembers Walk-a-thon. He emphasized that they had increased their promo reach on social media, and around campus, as well as raised additional money for the

Neighbour Centre. During the month of November SWHAT averaged roughly 5.7 walks a night, which is a total of 173 during that time. After a bit of discussion surrounding current and future projects, Leon appeared to be very happy with future direction of this service.

SPARK

Wid Yaseen just finished wrapping up the first year formal they hosted, and it was a huge success on multiple levels – it sold out in less than a week. Past events, projects, and various activities all went according to plan, and with high degrees of achievement. Everyone on the team has gone above and beyond their roles to provide the best experience possible for all students who choose to get involved. With sights set on next term, the team is already a head of the game with programming and events already lined up. One of the only challenges Wid has found is her want to find more was to appreciate the execs on her team because they all put in so much effort.

WGEN

Lainey Stirling explained that despite winding down for the semester, service usage has still be very consistent. Lainey went on to discuss details about all of the events (past and present) that she had worked on, and how each one of them was successful in its own way. A challenge that was focused on during this meeting was around the new Sexual Assault Policy, and how we can all work together for an effective rolling out process. As this is a very important piece of policy, it is essential that all partners work together in making sure all bodies around campus are pushing/sharing promotions that highlight all of these new changes.

Additional information

- Executive Board approved \$2800 for Sponsorships and Donations for various groups in the Hamilton community.

- Executive Board struck a hiring committee for all PTM's to run in the months of January and March.
- Executive Board approved cap allocation and expenditure for electrical work that needed to be done in the main office.
- Executive Board made minor changes to the Elections operating policy
- Executive Board made revisions to the job descriptions for the WGEN Coordinator, First Year Council Coordinator, as well as the Macademics Coordinator.

If you have any additional questions, please to not hesitate to ask us at any point in time.

All the best,

Justin Monaco-Barnes

President & CEO of the McMaster Students Union