



ADAM KHALAF for MSU Speaker

Platform Booklet

First & Foremost

Dear Members of the Student Representative Assembly,

I would like to congratulate you for achieving a seat in this assembly! Your passion and drive towards this university never fails to amaze me. Thank you for taking the time to read through my speaker package as I describe why I ran for this position, my qualifications, and my platform points. I am running for the Speaker position of the MSU and I am beyond excited to share my platform points, ideas and forward thinking to this union.

Two years ago, my journey in McMaster started as an international student from Lebanon. The friends, experiences and passionate individuals I got to meet was so inspiring that I decided to give back to this community. What is the speaker and the role associated with this position? Many people tend to forget the importance of the speaker's position in these meetings as they focus on the Vice President elections, however it is important to remember what role the speaker serves the assembly. The speaker of the assembly chairs: bi-weekly SRA meetings, the electoral appeal board, the MSU award committees, the general assembly, as well as advertising to the students' union the awards and the general assembly through campus media, whilst finally interpreting and following the MSU constitution, bylaws, and policies.

My role as a speaker ensures the efficiency of the assembly while maintaining the flow of debate through moderation. This year I had the great pleasure to chair the World Health Organization (WHO) in the McMaster Model United Nations Conference (MACMUN). Through this role, I developed a love for chairing and moderating whilst following the Model UN rules and procedure which are extremely similar to the rules the assembly uses to function. The reason I decided to run for this position is to engage in the student's union by keeping the assembly efficient and better advertising the opportunities for students to get involved in the student's union. I believe I possess the necessary qualifications, leadership skills, and experiences to take on this role.

Thank you again for reading and I hope to work with you in the future to ensure the efficiency and transparency of the assembly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam Khalaf', with a stylized, cursive script.

Adam Khalaf



About Me

My name is Adam, I am a third Biology (Physiology) student with a passion of student life, community engagement and educational leadership opportunities. Throughout my undergraduate career, I have been involved in several science communities based learning projects to help mentor high school students. Moreover, I was involved in the McMaster Science Musical this year which brought me that much closer to my faculty and community here at McMaster. I came to Canada from Lebanon in my final year of high school to move on to McMaster in 2014. I adapted, learned and grew so much due to the experiences and people I have met. I hope you allow me to give back to such an amazing community.

Related Experience & Qualifications

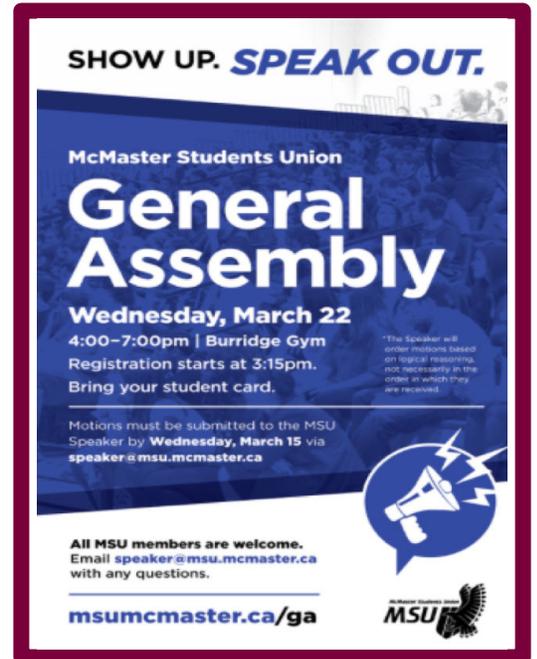
My experience for this position can be summarized as follows:

- 2011–2016: Model United Nations delegate for seven different conferences in three countries (Lebanon, England and Canada):
 - Most Diplomatic Award (2012) representing Belarus in the General Assembly
 - Honourable Mention Award (2013) representing Djibouti in the Political Justice Affairs Committee
 - Secretary General Award (2013) representing Somalia in the General Assembly
 - Most Diplomatic Award (2014) representing Turkey in the Human Rights Council (Bath, England)
- 2013–2017: Chairing Model United Nations conferences across two countries following the Model UN procedure and bylaws:
 - Chairing the economic and social council in Lebanon (2013)
 - Chairing the World Health Organization at McMaster (2017)
- Guest Registration Staff Member (2015)
- McMaster Science Musical:
 - Proved leadership and time management skills working as part of a team as a lead character for a year-long project
- Summer Camp Supervisor (2013–2015) in Beirut and Mississauga

Platform

#1: Better Advertising of the General Assembly

This platform point comes after the shy turnout this year in the general assembly. Every year the assembly gathers to have input from student voices and opinions. However, it is yet that the McMaster Student Union's General Assembly to reach its voting quorum. The general assembly has only reached its quorum three times since its initiation. The assembly has not been efficient in advocating for student voices. If elected, I plan to better the work of advertising these events along with the award events by better using the MSU website, campus media and student engagement. With help from the SRA members and the vice presidents, this can be easily achieved. If the campaigning for the GA was as big as promoting the "Yes" campaign for the expansion, the turnout would definitely be much higher. I plan to use all media resources available to ensure the GA progresses its efficiency. Outreach is a point that many SRA members have been advocating for and to expand on the outreach to student politics events will ensure a progressive and transparent students union.



Platform

#2: Accountability

As a speaker I want to make sure that the SRA members are held accountable on their platforms and advocacies. Members in the assembly are elected based on their platforms. Students of the union expect that their representatives work towards these platform points whilst advocating for them throughout the year. I will plan to have the SRA members hand in their platform points and advocacies in advance of the meetings. Working on a timely yearly report and their plans and progressions. With support from the VP administration, these reports can be reviewed and SRA members can be held accountable when advocating their positions. This can help make the SRA better internally transparent as well as maintaining efficiency of the assembly.

I want to work with the SRA members and the upcoming Vice-president Administration to ensure that the members follow their promises in what they are advocating for.

Platform

#3: Impartiality

If elected, one of the biggest roles I will ensure to perform is being impartial throughout the course of the assembly meetings. Being impartial allows the assembly to work efficiently and sustaining the sense of professionalism associated with the assembly. It is imperative to allow these meeting to continue without any favouritism or the foundation of the assembly would get destructed. As an example, the role of any chair of any meeting is to be impartial. Whilst chairing in the McMaster Model United Nations, many close friends applied where in the committee I was chairing and yet they were treated as fairly as all the delegates. My character was not influenced by any of my friendships in the committee. If elected, I will maintain my impartiality in the process of chairing the assembly and all related events.



Thank you for Reading!

ADAM KHALAF
for MSU Speaker