YEAR PLAN
MSU SRA NURSING
SHARON NWAMADI
2017-2018
(submitted July 11th, 2017)
Dear Members of the Assembly, and fellow nursing students,

Welcome to a new year of growth, and development for the Nursing faculty, the McMaster Students Union, and the McMaster community as a whole.

Nursing students come from a variety of diverse backgrounds, and communities. We are the only faculty to have three different sites, and three different streams which are all a part of the same family: the McMaster family.

This year, the overarching focus of the nursing caucus is to be present. This means including students in decision making, collaborating with the nursing society and faculty, and making information available, and easily accessible.

This year plan is comprised of 5 larger goals, with smaller objectives contained within. These goals are to demystify the workings of the SRA/MSU to the nursing student body, build on the foundation of the 2016-2017 SRA Nursing caucus, improve collaboration with the McMaster University Nursing Student’s Society, work to improve the Constituent Outreach Policy to the benefit of nurses, and to advocate for transparency and change within the School of Nursing.

This year plan will outline the steps needed to complete these goals, and the specific objectives that will be tackled throughout the year to come. While most, if not all of these goals are attainable, this year plan may not encompass all that will be targeted for change within the 2017-2018 year.

Nonetheless, I look forward to working with my fellow representatives to create positive change, and working for the betterment of nursing students within the McMaster community.

Best regards,

Sharon Nwamadi
## GOALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 1</th>
<th>Demystify the workings of the SRA/MSU to the nursing student body.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td>There is a disconnect between the nursing student body and the MSU. The major reason for this is that nursing students don’t know what the purpose of the SRA/MSU is, and what services and clubs are available to them. I want to provide this information to students in early in the semester so that they have the tools to get involved within the McMaster community.</td>
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| **Benefits** | - This will minimize the disconnect between the nursing student body and the MSU.  
  - Nursing students will be informed about MSU services and clubs in a public forum where they can ask questions comfortably.  
  - Nursing students will be able to get involved in MSU services and clubs once they are informed of the existence and purpose of such groups. |
| **Difficulties** | - Advertising  
- Encouraging student engagement  
- Planning around clinical days |
| **Long-term implications** | - In the long term nurses will be informed and will be able to share this information with their friends to encourage more involvement within the McMaster community. |
| **How?** | - I will provide a seminar each semester tailored to nursing students and the faculty of health science to discuss the workings of the MSU, elections, the available services, and how to get involved with these services.  
- I will use the SRA Nursing Facebook, and Twitter pages as an avenue to provide information regarding upcoming MSU events that may be of interest to the nursing student body. |
| **Partners** | David Lee - SRA Health Science |

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<th>Objective 2</th>
<th>Improving collaboration with the McMaster University Nursing Student Society (MUNSS).</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td>MUNSS is the major representatives of nursing students as they run events for all students at all three sites, and streams. While SRA Nursing only represents approximately ⅓ of the student body, it’s</td>
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important to be inclusive of all nursing students in any way possible. I want to collaborate with MUNSS so I can reach out to more nursing students through both communication, and events.

| Benefits                                                                 | - Having a strong bond with MUNSS will make running events, and information translation smoother  
|                                                                        | - Working with MUNSS will increase my outreach abilities  
|                                                                        | - Working with MUNSS will allow me to determine which advocacy initiatives lie within the SRA versus MUNSS |
| Difficulties                                                           | - Attending MUNSS meetings at Conestoga site  
|                                                                        | - Not being a voting member on MUNSS  
|                                                                        | - Having the MUNSS Education & Finance Chairpersons sit on MSU committees  
|                                                                        | - The MUNSS president isn’t from McMaster site, and isn’t represented by the MSU |
| Long-term implications                                                 | Creating a bond with MUNSS will make planning and collaborating on events simpler. |
| How?                                                                  | - By attend MUNSS meetings to provide updates regarding the SRA.  
|                                                                        | - By collaborating with MUNSS to ensure that information regarding SRA Nursing events can be shared through all mediums possible.  
|                                                                        | - By creating a bond with the MUNSS president where expectations can be communicated effectively  
|                                                                        | - By collaborating with the McMaster Nursing Welcome Week Representatives and the McMaster University Nursing Student Society (MUNSS) to provide information about the SRA/MSU during welcome week so that incoming students can be informed from the start of the semester  
|                                                                        | - By arranging meetings with faculty and staff to establish faculty support |
| Partners                                                               | Thomas O'Handley - MUNSS president  
|                                                                        | Lois Chui & Alyssa Hirtle - McMaster Nursing Welcome Week Planners |

**Objective 3**  
**Building on the foundation of the 2016-2017 SRA Nursing Caucus.**

**Description**  
During the 2016-2017 the SRA Nursing Caucus launched the Nurses of McMaster Initiative, and hosted a career panel with the SSC. I want to continue these initiatives.

**Benefits**  
- The Nurses of McMaster Initiative will encourage a familial bond with the nursing faculty.  
- Career services will benefit individual students.
As a nursing student, a major focus of our any individual is career planning. Providing career services such as resume and cover letter building workshops, interview skills and information sessions from different specialities will give students a closer look into their future as nurses.

### Difficulties
- Getting unfamiliar faces to contribute to the Nurses of McMaster Initiative

### Long-term implications
- Career services will benefit students as they begin to search for work after graduation.
- The Nurses of McMaster Initiative will bring students with similar interests together.

### How?
- **Nurses of McMaster Initiative**: By creating a Google form to make submissions easier. And by posting on a consistent biweekly schedule.
- **Career panel**: By communicating with faculty and the SCC to plan a career panel in second semester.

### Partners
- **Tracey Jewiss** - Level 1 Chair McMaster Site
- **Anna Magnotta** - SSC
- **Gisela Oliveira** - SSC

### Objective 4

**Working to improve the Constituent Outreach Operating Policy to the benefit of nurses.**

**Description**
The constituent outreach operating policy outlines rules regarding how often an SRA representative has to be in contact with students. I want to increase my presence, especially through social media as that has been proven to be the most effective means of communication.

**Benefits**
- I can get student feedback on creating new initiatives and improving those that already exist
- I can involve students in decision making, and keep them informed

**Difficulties**
- Encouraging student engagement

**Long-term implications**
Through using student feedback, I can build on my platform and suggest major areas for change for the following years.

**How?**
- I will be present both online and in-person to hear concerns and questions from nursing students even beyond my outreach hours. I will work to address these questions and concerns to the best of my abilities.
- I will use google forms to hear student ideas regarding what they would like to see SRA Nursing do.

**Partners**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Objective 5</strong></th>
<th>Advocating for transparency and change within the School of Nursing.</th>
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<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td>Course evaluations are run on different sites separate from other McMaster courses which makes doing them tedious. I'd like to advocate for one stream of information, and evaluations that allow for less constricted feedback. I'd also like to advocate for transparency in what occurs with tutor evaluations. In addition, I'd like to advocate for the opening up of health science electives to nursing students, as we are in the same faculty.</td>
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</table>
| **Benefits**    | - More elective courses will enrich learning  
                   - Accessible feedback forms will improve student responses which can lead to positive change |
| **Difficulties**| - The School of Nursing may be reluctant to change their policies on evaluations  
                   - Finding the right people to contact  
                   - Arranging meetings with faculty |
| **Long-term implications** | More student feedback will lead to improvements in the nursing program. Having access to health science electives will create a broader range of choices for students, as we are often at a disadvantage due to prolonged clinical days and course conflicts. |
| **How?**        | - By sitting in on meetings with the Dean and other faculty members in collaboration with MUNSS to discuss these changes |
| **Partners**     | Pamela Baxter - Assistant Dean, Undergraduate Nursing Education  
                   Sandra Carroll - Interim Associate Dean Health Sciences (Nursing), Director School of Nursing  
                   David Lee - SRA Health Science |

### Long-term planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Overarching Vision (what is the ultimate goal?)</strong></th>
<th>Increase Facebook Likes &amp; Twitter activity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td>● Improve social media reach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Benefits</strong></td>
<td>● More students will be engaged with MSU content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year 1</strong></td>
<td>● Advertise the group in nursing specific Facebook pages</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GOALS to strive for

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

1. Being present at Faculty day to provide information about the SRA and MSU to incoming students
2. Creating a google form where students can contribute their ideas for changes they would like to see this year
3. Providing students with an update on what I will be working on in the Fall and Winter term to come
4. Begin communicating with the SSC to plan the career panel
5. A plan of action for how to improve student engagement

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

1. MSU and You - Introduction to Services and Clubs
2. Increasing Facebook likes by 5%
3. Meeting with the Dean to advocate for changes in course evaluations, and course selection
4. Presenting my year plan to MUNSS
5. Successfully re-starting the Nurses of McMaster Initiative

List 5 things you would like to have completed during the winter term (2nd)
1. Career panel
2. MSU and You - Elections seminar
3. Increasing Facebook likes by an overall 10%
4. Updating students on the implications and use of tutor evaluations
5. Changes in the course evaluation system, and the opening of health science electives to nursing students

Master Summary
(calendar and checklist)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Tasks</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>• Providing updates to constituents via social media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>• Creating a plan of action to improve student engagement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>• Feedback form: What would you like to see this?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| September | • Restart the *Nurses of McMaster Initiative*.
          | • MSU & You - Clubs & Services |
| October | • Meeting with the Deans’ to discuss concerns with course and tutor evaluations.
          | • Collaborating with MUNSS to provide Midterm de-stressors. |
| November| • Collaborating with MUNSS to provide exam de-stressor activities. |
| December| • Providing updates to constituents via social media |
| January | • MSU & You - Elections |
| February| • Collaborating with MUNSS to provide Midterm de-stressor activities. |
| March   | • Career Panel & Workshop
          | • Collaborating with MUNSS to provide exam de-stressors. |
| April   | • Feedback on the year, and looking forward to changes for the next year |