



REPORT

From the office of the...

Elections Department

TO: Members of the Executive Board
FROM: Chloe Deraiche, CRO & Sarah Figueiredo, DRO
SUBJECT: Elections Department Report #1
DATE: October 3rd, 2017

UPDATE

Despite being hired late and with a slight lack of transitional resources, we have both found our footing in our roles. We have successfully completed one MSU election, three external elections, and begun organizing the service for the remainder of the year.

SERVICE USAGE

We conducted an event called “Elections 1A03” in conjunction with MSU First Year Council and had a turnout of roughly 30 first years and 15 upper year students present to speak, including Chukky and Tuba. Additionally, we had 28 nominations for First Year council and only 16 positions to fill. We had a turnout of 14.6% for all of FYC and an average turnout of 37.8% for residences. Finally, on Facebook, we have reached over 5000 engagements in the past week.

PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

Elections 1A03

As previously mentioned, we ran a collaborative event with MSU First Year Council called “Elections 1A03”. This event was designed to prepare students to run in MSU & external elections, as well as connect them with upper year resources and get them overall more comfortable with the election process. The event was received extremely well by the first years who attended, and much of this can be credited to the fantastic advice and information provided to students by the experienced volunteers who came to share their knowledge at this event. We released a Feedback Form in the event page following the event, and the responses were entirely positive, noting that the event made students feel more comfortable with elections and taught them something about elections within the MSU that they did not know prior to the event.

First Year Council Elections

Additionally, we just wrapped up MSU First Year Council elections on the evening of the 28th. We held Elections Committee training at the beginning of last week, and had our first fines meeting on the evening of the 28th. We received zero (0) complaints throughout the course of the election, making our first fines meeting a fairly easy one. That being said, we were faced with the challenge of several candidates submitting their expense sheets late, resulting in fines. Additionally, we had a fairly good voter turnout for the election (14.6% for all of FYC, average of 37.8% for residences).

External Elections

We have been working with faculties & the registrar to complete external elections. So far, we have completed First Year Rep elections for the MSS, the MES, and the BHSS. Getting used to this process (filling out FIPPA forms, contacting the registrar, etc.) was a bit of an adjustment and had to happen quickly in order to complete these elections on time, however we were able to do this and these elections went off without a hitch. Moving forward, we are preparing to conduct polling for the MBA association, the MHS, and the DCS.

UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

We have finalized our dates for all upcoming elections, which is exciting! The dates are as follows:

October SRA By-Election

Proclamation	October 16 th 2017
Nomination Period	October 16 th 2017-October 20 th 2017
Campaigning Period	October 22 nd 2017-October 26 th 2017
Polling Date(s)	October 25 th & 26 th 2017

November SRA By-Election

Proclamation	November 6 th 2017
Nomination Period	November 6 th 2017-November 10 th 2017
Campaigning Period	November 13 th 2017-November 16 th 2017
Polling Date(s)	November 15 th & 16 th 2017

MSU Presidential Election

Proclamation	December 4 th 2017
Nomination Period	December 4 th 2017-January 11 th 2018
Campaigning Period	January 14 th 2018-January 25 th 2018
Polling Date(s)	January 23 rd 2018-January 25 th 2018

January By-Election

Proclamation	January 8 th 2018
Nomination Period	January 8 th 2018-January 12 th 2018
Campaigning Period	January 15 th 2018-January 18 th 2018
Polling Date(s)	January 17 th & 18 th 2018

SRA General Election

Proclamation	February 5 th 2018
Nomination Period	February 5 th 2018-February 27 th 2018
Campaigning Period	March 1 st 2018-March 8 th 2018
Polling Date(s)	March 6 th 2018-March 8 th 2018

We are definitely conducting an October By-Election, as there are 2 vacant SRA seats for the Faculty of Social Sciences, and one vacant seat for Kinesiology. As far as the November and January by-elections go, they are tentatively scheduled in the event that anyone drops their seat, but are not set in stone yet. We are also looking at hosting an all-year elections workshop towards the end of November to prepare candidates for Presidentials and SRA Generals.

BUDGET

Elections Advertising and Promotions Line (\$2,000)

- \$20 was spent on a ClubsFest table. \$400 has been spent at the Underground to pay for the First Year Council promotions package (\$200), and the October SRA By-Election promo (\$200). The cost of TwelvEighty catering was split between First Year Council and the Elections Department, resulting in a \$59.29 charge to the Elections Department.
- We currently have a balance of \$1,520.71 in the Advertising and Promotions Line.
- No other lines of the Elections Department budget has been used.
- There have been no unforeseen costs or current constraints.

VOLUNTEERS

On Sunday September 24th, a new MSU member was elected to Elections Committee. That being said, we did lose an SRA member that night and therefore a new SRA member will be elected at the next meeting (October 15th).

We held our general training on Monday the 25th, and are currently scheduling our bi-weekly meetings based off of everyone's schedules. We are also in the midst of brainstorming what kind of volunteer appreciation that our committee would like to take part in.

CURRENT CHALLENGES

There are a few challenges that our service is currently facing. Firstly, we experienced difficulty with candidates for FYC not handing in their expense sheets on time, resulting in us having to chase them down in order to get them in on time for the fines meeting. Secondly, we are experiencing difficulty tracking down our files and resources from previous years (due to server errors and our old computer being gone), and therefore we are relying heavily on Victoria for her archives of many things. This is definitely difficult, however we are making it work as best we can.

SUCSESSES

There have also been several things worth celebrating. We successfully ran our Elections 1A03 event, made it through our first MSU election (FYC), and have got the ball rolling on external elections! These little successes for us are worth celebrating, especially this early in our terms, as we are just getting comfortable and learning the ropes.