



# REPORT

*From the office of the...*  
**First Year Council Chair**

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TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly  
FROM: Justin Lee, Chair  
SUBJECT: SRA 16F Report  
DATE: February 4, 2018

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## **PROGRESS ON YEAR PLAN**

Due to the busy nature of this month, we have not made much headway into our year plans as much as we have been working on our events. However, we have made significant progress with our consultation committees. We have created the basis of a First Year Council Advocacy Page which includes a description of what First Year Council is and about what each consultation committee is about. We have also tried to include the jurisdiction of each committee to allow for a clearer understanding of what they do. This page would, at the bottom, encourage students to send us their suggestions with our contact information. The page is up and running at <https://www.msumcmaster.ca/governance/first-year-council-fyc/advocacy>.

## **PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

The council has been busy this past January. We begun First Year Olympics, already having run events such as Dodgeball Showdown (January 20<sup>th</sup>), A Midwinters Dream (January 25<sup>th</sup>) and Master Chef (January 30<sup>th</sup>). Separate from the Olympics the non-campaign team members of FYC facilitated the Who Wants to be MSU President (January 22<sup>nd</sup>) debate/gameshow which was also available via livestream on Facebook live. We also planned our MSU Spotlight Series which will highlight specific MSU services we can promo for via snapchat videos. We also recently put out the hospitality services survey, so we can find out what first-years thought about hospitality and how we can work to improve it. Prior to 2018, the last thing the council did was create and distribute exam care packages; we gave away the entirety of our package supply.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

We are excited to complete planning for our first cookies and cram run by this council. We plan to hold this event the week before the mid-semester recess. We believe this time to be strategically placed because it was not too late nor too early for midterm season. We also plan to distribute FYC highlighters at these cookies and crams to also help incentivize students to attend. Our last event of the First Year Olympics, titled Video Olympics, will take place Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, where we showcase the videos made by each residence. Also, quick update on our FYC club night- we have confirmed the name of this event, "Life's a Beach". Logistics, decoration planning and pricing is still under discussion as this event is one of the last events we run this semester.

## **CURRENT CHALLENGES**

January was tough, and it is crucial to our future event's success that, as a council, do not fall into a slump after a tiring month. The challenge will be to continue getting things done as efficiently as possible, especially managing our time wisely with the midterm exams and assignments coming in.

### **SUCCESSSES**

To start, A Midwinter's Dream, while being the most expensive First Year Olympic event to run, was a huge success. The amount of talent that performed was, in lieu of a better way to describe it, awesome. Students from many different residences and upper years performed a range of talent, not to mention one of our special guests Chukky performing a beautiful series of poetry/spoken word. Our Olympics in general have been a great success being able to see lots of competitive first-year students who want to show off their talents. I'd also like to mention Who Wants to be MSU President as we found this experience to be informational as well as entertaining. It was a good way to get students who may not entirely be interested in student politics, to meet this year's candidates in a light and fun setting. The consultation committees have also been doing a great job of advocating for the needs of first-year students, and to comment specifically on the Student Life committee, we have brought up interesting points to consider relating to the transparency of the entire process as well as the effectiveness of the personality test.

### **OTHER**

Overall, we started the year off strong and hope to continue the momentum going forward so we can not only run exciting, engaging events for our first-year students, but also to continue advocating for their needs and concerns. We will continue to work on points in our year plan as the semester progresses. We also plan to take a step back from event planning, so we can aim our focus back to advocating and creating meaningful, sustainable change. Thank you for your time.

Best,

Justin Lee  
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