



REPORT

From the office of the...

SRA Arts and Science Caucus

TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly
FROM: Sunny Yun, Arts and Science Caucus Leader
SUBJECT: SRA 170 Report
DATE: Sunday, February 25, 2018

Dear fellow SRA members,

I hope that you've all had a restful and enjoyable reading week. This report on the continuing work of the Arts and Science caucus focuses on: constituent outreach (MSU Presidential Campaign Season, Advertising SRA 2018-19 Nominations & Elections, Video Recap Series), work being done in conjunction with the faculty society Society of Arts and Science Student SASSEx (Inter-Year Social Event Scheduled for March), and Mental Health Initiatives (undertaken through my role as a student consultant on the Student Wellness Centre Advisory Sub-Committee).

PROGRESS ON YEAR PLAN

- MSU Presidential Campaign Season
 - During the Presidential Campaign season, I acted as a main source of contact to Arts and Science students to inform them regarding the various candidates in the electoral race. As part of this outreach, I sent out emails to the students with information and links to each candidate's platform. I also hosted an in-person and live-streamed Q&A event with six of the seven presidential candidates (the one who was not there had a conflicting event) to an audience of approximately 10 Arts and Science students (packed the room that was booked out in MUSC). I received substantial feedback from Arts and Science students that the event helped them form a better understanding of the platforms on campaign and which candidate they wished to vote for in the election.
- Advertising SRA 2018-19 Nominations & Elections
 - I have also been consistently advertising the SRA 2018-19 nomination period and upcoming elections via emails and social media posts (also in conjunction with help from the faculty society SASSEx). I have heard interest and consideration from the role from multiple students and am optimistic for the SRA election season ahead.

UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

- Inter-Year Social Event Scheduled for March
 - I am scheduling an inter-year social event for March for Arts and Science students, with food, drink, and sib-family mingling. The purpose of the event is to continue promoting cross-year connections and relationships within the Arts and Science program. Features of the event will include a structured section with silly get-to-know-you questions and conversations, friendly competitive games, and unstructured time for mingling over food and drink. The event booking and location details are to be announced.
- Video Recap Series
 - To date, the Arts and Science Caucus, Humanities Caucus, and Business Caucus have collaborated on producing and releasing 3 SRA recap videos throughout the school year. We are hoping to continue this project with recapping this meeting and meetings to come. Feedback regarding the videos has been positive, with approximately 2,800 views on the January 24-released recap video.
- Mental Health Initiatives (Accessibility to Physical Health Services and Inspiration from Western University's CMHA Collaboration)
 - One of the elements on my year plan was to advocate for mental health initiatives and supports on campus. Through my role as a student consultant on the Student Wellness Centre sub-committee, I have been discussing with a nurse, physician, and representative of University Student Affairs ways in which we are able to improve access to health resources on and off-campus for students. These discussions have largely been informed by this year's Health Services Review, which released the results of the Health Services Survey, done by the University Affairs committee under David Lee.
 - One main topic of conversation during our last meeting was regarding students being able to access off-campus health clinics, and that a potential factor for students not completing recommended blood and other types of health testing was because they are unfamiliar with navigation in the Hamilton area. As part of my action on this problem, I will be discussing with Compass for instating maps, forms, and directories of health clinics within Hamilton such that any students wishing to receive information on transportation may have more access.
 - Another main initiative that I am looking into is regarding cross-collaboration between off-campus mental health clinics and the Student Wellness Centre. Western University's student union has begun a project in which they partner with their local CMHA branch to provide drop-in, after-hours counselling and mental health care for their students which has proven to have been successful so far. The next steps for myself in researching this topic is to look into the local mental health resources that we have ourselves in Hamilton and what sources of funding may be available to provide this type of care to students, given that a common concern regards a shortage of counsellors and counsellor-to-patient time through the Student Wellness Centre directly.

As always, should you have any questions or desire for cross-caucus collaboration, do not hesitate to reach out to me!

All the best,
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