



To the most distinguished members of the assembly;

This is a record of my activities for the year. It is a summary of my activities till date, and elucidates on the actions I will be taken in the last month of my term. The first section begins with a summary of my activities this winter. It also acts as a summary for the document. The second section is an update with all the items on my original year plan. And lastly open recommendations to the organization for improved operation for next year.

Winter term projects update.

- 1) MSU Job Portal Expansion- this was successfully completed under the leadership of the VP Finance. There are opportunities for this to be further expanded; working with gigit, we can launch a massive event that drives students to a portal where we are consistently connected, and can find work and recreational opportunities constantly.
- 2) SLEF expansion - we were able to expand the SLEF portal this year to provide larger opportunities for student to give feedback. We also connected it to the exit of all the ballots this year. We transitioned the ideas of presidential candidates into the SLEF portal creating a more rich pool of ideas.
- 3) Second semester textbook exchange - not done because we could not coordinate presidents council in time. We did empower academics to coordinate the used and for sale Facebook page and coordinate with the campus store. The goal was still met with a different strategy.
- 4) Affordable textbook strategy created and implemented - this has been an ongoing priority for me this year. It is still ongoing and there is no significant progress to report just yet. I have raised this with the university president, the provost the VP faculty, deans and associate deans, I have asked to be put on the agenda of the associate deans meetings.
- 5) Creating the neighborhood assistant program - there was a major breakthrough with this with our meeting with Chris Murray the city manager. Myself the honorable VP education and her worship the AVP municipal affairs had raised our concerns around the need to expand the programs available through SCSN.

Winter Advocacy Priorities

- 1) Teaching Evaluation improvements- I have been consulting with the President of MUFA, the director of McPherson, the president and the Provost, and the Associate deans on the appropriate level of support for evaluation. Central to my advocacy is the need to institutionalize formative feedback in our courses. This means that students should have opportunities to provide feedback before their second significant assessment. The provost has



supported this and has advised he will send communications through campus about the need for formative feedback.

- 2) Academic Regulations for Students Success - The university has looked to redesign the curriculum structures. I have been advocating to the provost to move forward with the major and two minor recommendations. We have also voiced the real concern of the limited student consolations through the creation of the CASS process. I have voiced the need for him and his staff to build on the supports given to UGC, but also connect with faculty societies and program societies to get a sense of what the real needs on campus are, and build resources that allow students to be successful.

I am currently waiting on the report on mandatory literacy and numeracy courses on campus. To understand what the academic activities of the academy will be in the coming years.

- 3) I have also been engaging with the president on the academic freedom debate to find a medium that accounts for the diverse needs of students on our campus. That appropriate supports are in place for students looking for it, and university departments are properly staffed, and reporting and response protocols are in place for those who choose to access it. My position to the president has been; in addition to the robust and necessary discussions about freedom of speech, we must remember that students have raised concerns about violence on campus for quite a long time. Student who have raised significant concerns with the proposed guidelines fundamentally lack trust with the system and do not believe in its legitimacy. Students are also generally concerned that even if they choose to engage with feedback, that their names and academic records may be noted. I encourage students to read the report and form their own opinions on it.

Progress On Year Plans

- 1) The first commitment i made to students was to **open up the MSU**. The goal of this was to take multiple approaches to engaging with students. In addition to the MSU open house, we made efforts to expand the timelines for the SLEF portal. We combined this idea with the MSYou pillar of my platform. Using SLEF as a portal to reengage with the ideas of students who lost the MSU Presidential elections. This year we reviewed the ideas of candidates through the SLEF portal and shared them back to students to rank.

I have left the underground database till late in the term as underground has seen significant staffing and operational changes. The goal is to expand the MSU job portal to student groups campus-wide, so they can post their job/volunteer openings all in one place, instead of being lost. I have stalled on this idea although it is a good idea, it was not a priority. We did explore how we can use technology to better connect our student groups. We have consulted with a company gigit, to build a platform for student groups to find each other, post opportunities,



and share resources and ideas. I will take the next couple weeks to explore this idea still, and make a decision before I leave.

- 2) My main goal with the **accessible campus** priority here was to integrate an application into the maces, and operationalise it across campus. Since this application is no longer functional, this goal was not practical. There was much action on this at the university this year as the flex forward program was launched by McPherson. The goal of this program is to share best practices on how professors can design their classes with universal design. Secondly, PACBIC has been working on an accessibility policy and in my meetings with them, I have voiced my support for this policy and its positive implications to student life.
- 3) Our goal to expand electronic waste on campus is progressing. Partnering with a class, we were able to host several electronic waste drives in MUSC. The drive was very well received and students turned out to safely dispose of our phones, laptops, and other electronic waste. This program should be hosted permantly in the MSU through SCSN or the sustainability education committee.

As previously reported the priority to expand the green boxes through the student centre was not successful. Our partners in hospitality services have apologised as they where not able to fulfil their end of our understanding. They have committed to expanding their sustainability efforts by promoting the current programs they have.

- 4) Optimizing Student tech - Myself and the General manager have been able to open new communications between the MSU and UTS. In our conversations we have been advocating for building out the tech resources on campus, specifically around mills library and Thode. In addition to this, we have conformed the creation of a student tech consultation committee. We worked with UA committee to host a focus group on student tech supports.

Tech lit week was a great initiative and there is much room for growth and fine-tuning the program. As a whole, this was one of our more successful intiatives from the realm of service delivery, program development and advocacy. The relationship between the MSU and UTS is one that has not been actively cultivated for a long time. Students will strongly benefit for the new relationships that has been developed.

I continue to sit on the wireless committee. Initial investments have been to improve campus wireless but there is still much work to be done. Thode, MUSC, Mills, and MUSC have seen significant investments. The second phase of the program is to cover less used spaces on campus. The wireless committee is currently costing out areas on campus that still have relatively low coverage and is drafting a proposal for funds to boost services in those spaces.



- 5) Off Campus- Experience The early changes we made to SCSN this semester have paid off incredibly well. This combined with the incredible leadership of their PTM, and their volunteers have meant that programs that look to supporting off campus students have been vastly improved. There is still need for stronger coordination between OCRC, SOCS, and SCSN. I'm not sure at this point how to make it work. Part of the challenge is that we have been separated for such a long time, and groups are used to working independently. SCSN must actively cultivate the relationship with OCRC for long term viability and effective support of off campus students.

The challenge with bus shelters is ongoing. Since I reported last, there has been no update. I have now raised this with Patrick Deane, and following up with the stakeholders. Progress has been made with the land lord wiki. the survey is done, the questions are done. And i will make sure to continue working with the website administrator to get this online and published.

- 6) Ensuring Good governance The McMaster People Project launch is going just swell. We have released information all through campus, developed a decent social media presence, and have hosted one event this semester. The goal was to host one more, but the timeliness where too tight. With the General manager, and the operations coordinator, we are exploring improved opportunities for training of the SRA. I have tasked them to connect with several training firms to ensure we set the assembly up for success.

President council has been going extremely well. We have been able to coordinate advocacy initiatives , and cross promote events, and coordinate our advocacy. It was extremely useful in ensuring the rep ratio challenges where handled appropriately. We were also able to coordinate policy creation and gain feedback from them.

We still need to do more in president's council. Humanities, Science, Art Sci and engineering presidents were the most consistent and their issues are easier to resolve.

The creation of both the status of women committee and the international students council have meant that we are stronger in the connections that we are making with students. They have all shared with us that they would like to see this committees meet consistently, and build relationships with each other going forward. This is useful for coordinating resources, best practices and making meaningful connections with the MSU.

- 7) Strengthening Student Communities - We have successfully introduced a club loans portal to reduce the out of pocket costs for students. We have made it easier for clubs to access funds and run programs over the summer. This will help engage with more students and provide better opportunities for our clubs. We will also be continuing with the integration of clubs into welcome week.

The interfaith council, status of women committee, and international students committee all allow for constant development of our student groups. By sharing best practices, coordinating resources, and collaborating, our student groups are able to support each other.



We have also created a new and improved clubs recognition event. Club's night which was lead by the clubs administrator was a massive success this year. Through a combination of initiatives; both financial, administrative, and programmatic, clubs feel supported, and well resourced, and in return, they are able to better support their communities.

There is opportunity to build a relationship between the clubs administrator and the office of community engagement. We started this conversation with the clubs administrator but did not reach resolutions. Their office of community engagement has confirmed they are interested in helping in every way, and it will be up to us to determine how best to build the relationship going forward.

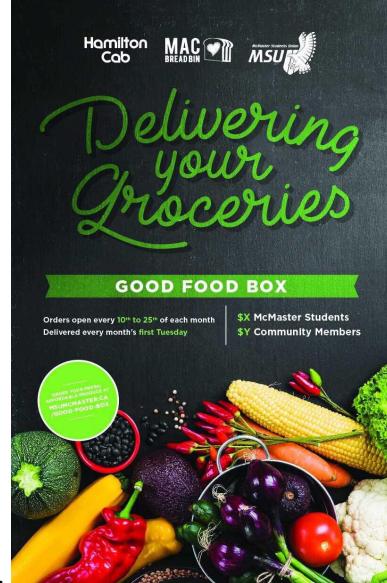
- 8) Health and Wellness - Caring Communities - This CCN project manager has been hired, and the project is going on just swell. The CCN manager is looking to build relationships with clubs, and student communities, to register people for their events. I am looking forward to a report from her by the end of the semester. I haven't received much interest from assembly members on this particular file. Especially those who had showed an interest in mental health. I'm looking forward to growing the project and investing in health resources to our student communities across campus.
- 9) Post-Secondary Access Strategy - This has been one of the most rewarding projects for me to work on this semester. By putting in the right supports for student to be able to come to access quality education. I have spent much of my time supporting initiatives on campus, that share similar mandates. Such groups include Nu Omega Zeta, Empowerment Squared and Bap Mac.

In addition to this, I have been advocating for, and now consulting on the university access strategy. I have also worked this semester to ensure all the supports are in place for students by creation a group for student parents with dependents. We have also launched the nursing space in MUSC. Consultations with student groups and the access coordinator are still on going.

- 10) Affordable Textbooks - There is a lot of excitement on this project, and I reported and previous meeting that there were significant wins. From the early course outline adoptions to OER advocacy. Marauders will be encouraged with the amount of work we have put out, and the success that has come out of this priority. The last thing I need to do right now, is to have a final meeting with the AVP faculty and associate deans to create guidelines for professors, and best practices for procurement of course materials and selection of teaching resources. In speaking with the provost, there is much traction on this idea, and in will be following up and transitioning this to the next group.
- 10) Good Food Delivery – This has been an extremely long and drawn out, but i think students will strongly benefit from its completion. Hannah the new coordinator from bread bin is committed



to following through on this project, and launching it as soon as the web resources are



developed, and the contract is signed sealed delivered.

Recommendations for Next Year – not in order of priority

- 1) The Board of directors should not train or transition the SRA, this should be in the hands of the operations coordinator, the general manager, and other MSU staff. We should be part of the training but should play a supportive role in development of training resources. Where applicable, we should outsource training on governance responsibilities, fiscal planning, and parliamentary processes to field experts.
- 2) SCSN should be a core university services, and the next team should look into transitioning this into a university department. It could be co-funded by the MSU and the university. We can consider raising student fees through SSAC to bolster this ancillary unit and provide relevant services for students. This unit should continue developing stronger relationships with city housing departments to build student services.
- 3) Sincere considerations be given to elected representatives in our region, and their inability to prioritize and continue to advocate on student issues. After 4 years, like by-law enforcement, and land lord licensing are still too much of a concern for our students, and our representatives have not made meaningful progress in these regards.
- 4) Continue to pursue and maintain relationships with Councillor forward 2, Ward 3 and Ward 15 and the office of the city manager. They have proven to be sincerely interested in issues concerning our students, and building up the entrepreneurial capabilities, transportation options, and overall wellbeing of the students in this ward.



- 5) Despite the outcomes of the upcoming election, consider an honorary MSU membership for the current MPP Hamilton West Ancaster Dundas for his constant service and commitment to PSE issues, and the students in his riding.
- 6) Prioritize advocacy on academic issues. This should be the number one priority. From course regulations, to student accommodations, to curriculum development. These are things the MSU should intentionally look into.
- 7) Continue to build relationships with faculty societies, program societies, OPIRG, and enshrine them into our policy creation and advocacy processes.
- 8) Building our federal advocacy powers, regularizing relationships with UCRU, and global Hamilton connect.
- 9) Building resources to develop and recognize our staff, which may include integrating them into university recognition, and pursuing leadership development opportunities for them.
- 11) Institutionalizing SLEF through the finance committee and the administrative assistant should develop a system to regularize its operations, promotions, and functionality.
- 12) Develop the professional capacity of our service managers, connect them with summer learning opportunities and ongoing workshops into the year where possible.
- 13) Evaluate WUSC, this may include amending by Law 5 to include an annual review of WUSC, I strongly support an increase in the WUSC fee, and a matching contribution by the university.
- 14) Review By-Law 5, finance committee should develop a process of constant communication with by-law 5 groups. Look to work constantly with relevant groups.
- 15) Increase the MSU fee by a couple of dollars. If minimum wage does not increase next January, the SRA should at least have a debate about increased wages to staff, and paying our student staff a living wage.

On a personal note;

Thank you for the year you have allowed me to have. I think well intentioned people, with the right training, and the right timing, are able to make great improvements in the world around them. It can something as big as a smile, or as simple as extended library hours. It was a tough year for me, both personally and professionally, but I know we all tried to do right by students. For this, I am grateful to you.

For the last time...Peace and love...now and always.

Your Friend and President

Chukky Ibe

