



REPORT

From the office of the...
Executive Board

TO: Members of the Student Representative Assembly
FROM: Selene Dominguez Florean, SRA Commerce Caucus Leader
SUBJECT: SRA 18F Report
DATE: September 8th, 2018

Hello Assembly,

I hope all your summer and welcome week (for whoever participated) went well! Within this report the summer workings of Executive Board will be discussed. Although I joined EB a little later in the summer, I will update you all on the things that we have talked about and encourage you to ask any question regarding the report. I will divide it by service and will talk about the relevant information that has happened within the summer. Having said that, I encourage you to read the minutes and all the reports that each service has provided to EB as they show a great amount of detail and effort that each PTM, executive and volunteer has put into the service to make it even greater.

Diversity

Current Events

- Their Assistant Director has been hired, congratulations to Prarthna Sakhuja!
- They have offered their AOP training to many services throughout summer
- Summer is their time for hiring Executives, and that should be hopefully done now or concluding soon.

Future Events

- They are looking into an establishment of a “Research and Training Coordinator” position to meet the demand of people asking for education-based workshops that relate to equity and inclusion. EB raised the question on whether this would be a paid position or how the role dynamics would change with their existing roles, and this should be something that we look into if this position is introduced.
- The service is looking into working together (with VP Ed) to write a Racial, Cultural and Religious Equity policy in the winter semester.
- Questions are being raised on whether Diversity service will continue to deliver AOP training or whether the Equity and Inclusion Office who re-started delivering the training will continue to deliver them. This will be talked about during the service review.

Spark

Past Events

- There have been no past events as SPARK runs during the school year beginning Welcome Week.
- However, all of their executive team has been hired they have developed the first 10 sessions of their service. They are getting ready to purchase the materials and train volunteers on the sessions.

- They are also beginning to plan the First Year Formal with FYC Coordinator Melissa Paglialunga.
- They developed their Spark Guidebook for Welcome Week for incoming students
- They are looking to hire their volunteers during this first weeks of September.
- They have also done their social to get to know the leaders and the executives of the service.

SWHAT

Past Events

Since SWHAT is a service that only runs during the school year starting in welcome week, there have not been that many updates or events. All the hiring has been done of execs and volunteers.

EFRT

Past Events

- All the executives have been hired and have settled into their roles.
- They are active over the summer and have received fewer calls than during the year – as should be expected. They have received around 10 calls each summer month.
- They hosted the inter team training where alumni of the service and members of the community and other first response teams in Ontario came out to join the day.
- The Senior responder of the service attended the Advanced medical life support course in May in Rochester, NY – which was very beneficial for the executives who attended, as they learned how to respond to situations where the responder is not able to see the injury.
- They are looking into the promotions of their first aid courses to generate more awareness and therefore more revenue this year.
- Samantha is looking into putting a capital request to integrate quality-CPR (Q-CPR) into the EFRT pack, protocol, and training. “This is a concept where responders receive real time feedback on the CPR that they are providing to the patients to help improve CPR quality.” Which is very valuable training and equipment in case the team ever encounters, hopefully never, a cardiac arrest situation – although it is an expensive equipment, they believe it is necessary and useful.
- The service also collaborated with Hamilton Paramedic services, Campus events and Campus security for a WW Strategy for the concerts. There will be a paramedic truck for the concert night and EFRT is trying to see if they have the opportunity to monitor intoxicated patients without a safe place to return instead of sending all these students to the hospital rooms.

Future Events

- Just letting the Assembly know that there is an expected cost to replace the walkie-talkies of the service. Facility services recently upgraded their system and devices and they require EFRT to do the same, which means that in the upcoming months these service will incur some additional costs. It will later be told whether this cost will come from the service itself or if the MSU will allocate another funding to cover that specific expense.

Food Collective Centre –

Past Events

- Within the couple of months Hannah and Wooder have been tirelessly working on rebranding the previously known “Breadbin” service to what we have now. Much of the discussion around the Food Collective Centre surrounds the rebranding. We looked at different logos and names and decided that the Food Collective Centre was the name that would better represent what the service stood for.
- Their “Lockers of Love” have been underused for some of the months of summer (July) and had a spike during June due to promotions of the team.
- The Food Collective Centre has also teamed up with Horizons and Farmstand to provide some smoothies for incoming students. They have also collaborated with the meal exchange and sustainability at McMaster to create the Food Insecurity Survey to see how it affects McMaster, which will be released later and is pending on approval.

Future Events

- Within the Food Collective Centre, Hannah and Wooder and all the FCC execs have been in contact with Hamilton Cab to see if the Good Food Boxes could be delivered to student’s houses instead of asking them to come to school to pick them up. This would increase the likelihood that students will order them. They have a maximum capacity of 50 orders and this includes the food and the ability to deliver them to their house. On being questioned whether this would be an extra cost, Hannah and Wooder do not believe that this will be an extra cost but recognize that if we need to increase the cost for people who want it deliver to cover all the expenses then that is also a possibility.
- Another next step is training volunteers.
- It is important to note that the Good Food Boxes are increasing the price to \$16, because instead of bags they are putting the food into actual boxes, which increases the cost.

MACycle

- MACycle is currently functional and very successful. They are reaching full capacity almost every day they are open!
- They have hired all their executives and have started a system for recording purchases as well as service usage and recording statistics of customers (like demographics).
- A properly documented inventory and price system is being developed
- Rebranding of the service is being worked on as well.
- Signage made by Underground has been updated in the shop, and it looks great!

MacAcademics

Past Events

- Angel has conducted one-on-one meetings with each executive member to plan for this year.
- She has been looking into collaborating with different groups and organizations for different events.
- Two execs hosted a workshop at Horizons about MacAcademics – what is academic success, resources and supports on campus, etc.
- This service is moderating “McMaster Used Textbook Sales [All Years]” on Facebook that has kept them busy during this time!

Future Events

- Angel is looking into a possible rebranding of the service to create a more understood service identity.

Pride

Past Events

- After very busy time of Pride, the service has been a rainbow of colours; innovating many different ideas that have been very successful within the community.
- All the hiring for execs has been done and the volunteer positions have also been opened. The volunteer applications got fewer than preferred applications, which lead Miranda to extend the deadline to give people the opportunity to apply to get involved with the service.
- For me personally, I was blown away by Miranda's initiative of "Pride Rep Network", which many of you involved in Welcome Week might have heard of. This initiative was to educate some Welcome Week reps around LGBTQ+ issues and how to properly approach certain situations that some LGBTQ+ students might encounter. These reps who received the training would receive a batch that they can place in their suits, so that students knew that these reps were okay to talk to regarding certain issues. Last time Miranda presented it seemed extremely successful with over 200 reps signing up to receive training. Now that Welcome Week is over, I look forward to seeing how this initiative was embraced and any improvements that can also be made.
- Within this past Summer, some of the Pride execs and members also attended Toronto's Pride Parade with McMaster's Marching Band and EngiQueers. They all rented a bus and went together to represent McMaster in Toronto's Pride Parade. Although the rain did rain on their parade, some members still went, unfortunately, not as many as had previously signed up.
- They also participated in Hamilton Pride and joined Spectrum in a [Bi]ke Ride to promote acceptance b/pan/polysexuals at pride.
- Space renovation is also done with new paints a new furniture!

Shinerama

Past Events

- Shinerama has continued to create events all throughout the summer in order to fundraiser and continue to make McMaster the number 1 online fundraiser!
- They also helped at May at Mac to promote their service to incoming first years.
- Although some of the events have not been as successful and well-attended as they had hoped, they continue to put lots of effort into fundraising. EB has continuously encouraged Lauren to focus more on advertising as many of the events that had been held were not known among the EB members, which showcased how much promotion they could improve on. This recommendation, however, was made understanding that it is summer time and many students are away during this time.
- They also had a Niagara Falls trip where they sold water bottles and made over \$450!
- Other events:
 - Bottle drive, photo booth, piggy painting, charity casino and more.

WGEN

- They have finished hiring their first round of volunteers as well as execs, the second round of volunteers will be hired within this time (first weeks of September)
- Reorganized their library to include trigger warnings and implemented an easier checkout system.
- Collaborated with MSU Maroons to promote consent culture and participated at the Monday Night Lights, Friday Concert and the Wellness Fair during Welcome Week.
- Promotion executives have updated their website within the MSU website.

SHEC

- Closed for the summer, will be functional during the year
- Adriana hired her executive team as well as their non-first year volunteers that consist of 31 volunteers. There were over 100 applications and the hiring of 12 new and 19 returning volunteers.
- They are looking into hiring 14 first year volunteers in September
- They were also part of the Horizons Successfest over the summer to interact with incoming first year students.
- They are looking to reduce the amount of literature offered to focus on the quality of the book and information provided within the space.
- New furniture to include more chairs to better aid peer-support.
- Got 5,500 condoms to put into first year swag bags for welcome week!

Maroons

- Helped out during May Mac!
- The team bonding experience of the sports game fell through they are still planning a Blue Jays game.
- They ordered their shirts for Welcome Week and by look of the pictures they turned out great!
- They also got all of their planning done for Welcome Week.
- Maroons camping weekend also happened over the summer and will be reported in the upcoming EB meetings.
- They had some challenges in regard to the PTM's support towards their leadership team, but it is now being worked on.

Maccess

Not open during the summer but got all their hiring done! They have also purchased a resource library of various disabilities studies, memoirs and mental health related resources. This library is open to all students using the space.

Horizon

- All of horizon is a past event! It finally happened the weekend of July 27th-29th. Although registration was little lower than they aimed for, Josh raised a point that it was important to provide a good service to the delegates rather than focus on the maximum capacity that the service can hold.
- They had over 175 delegates and 71 staff and they received much positive feedback on the activities done through some event feedback forms that were handed out to both delegates and staff.
- Josh also brought up that it might be better to consider hiring the PTM of Horizons earlier in the year to improve the service and outlined that transition was a barrier for the role, which he was fortunate to have his sister to help him.

Future Events

- There is talks between creating a greater link between Horizons and SPARK. Trying to get students to go from Horizons to SPARK as they come into first year. This can be done by creating the reunions with unison with SPARK. This is an idea for the long term.
- There were also some issues with two external partners (SOBI and the lanyard company). Josh ordered lanyards for three years of Horizons, which would be more economically feasible than yearly orders. Unfortunately, the order was messed up and many of the lanyards did not come as desired and Josh is currently looking to see if they can be redone. The other issue arose when the SOBI representative was very unresponsive and unhelpful when trying to create an event where delegates and LDs would bike around Westdale. The day of the event, there were not enough SOBI bikes for all the delegates, although Josh was assured that there would be enough. Josh is also looking to see if they can be refunded some of the money that they paid for all the bikes that they were promised.

Farmstand

Past Events

- Operating all of summer, Farmstand is in a new location this year, inside MUSC near the atrium. The service continues to sell their delicious goods at reasonable prices for local produce. Although sales have been a little lower than desired, their sales range between \$700-\$900 weekly, with many weeks having the sales at a lower range.
- There have been new incentives to get people to buy more vegetable produce with their most demanded product; the baked goods.

Future Events

- Their Local Food Discount Card (LFDC) is expiring soon, therefore they are looking into new vendors for their new card – and are opened to ideas of businesses!
- They are looking into making one cooking video this year, similar to last year's video. There were some issues around delivering the food to a shelter at the end of the week with any leftovers of the sales. This is because the person from Good Shepherd that did it last year cannot do it anymore. This means that there needs to be some change on whom the company will be and how that will work.

SCSN

SCSN has been inactive during the summer and will resume during the school year.

Clay

Yay! Also done! Rachel and all her team worked extremely hard to make Clay successful.

These are some of the highlights of the conference and service:

- She had a team of 45 staff (39 LDs/LDL; 5 LDEs/ 1 Media SET) who was trained in Anti-Oppressive Practices through the Diversity Services.
- They created 8 sessions for the delegates to engage during the weekend of May 25th to May 27th.
- They fundraised close to 7k in sponsorship money and fundraisers and had registered over 130 delegates much of the fundraising went into providing full/partial subsidies to delegates.
- The day of the conference 118 delegates showed up and the rest pulled out due to different reasons.
- They had 15 delegate groups with 7-9 delegates, which received greatly positive feedback on how manageable and more close-knit these groups were from the ratio.

- The conference reached out to different organizations like the Empowerment Square, Boys and Girls Club, Pathways to Education students. These students were also partially/fully subsidized.

Although Rachel encountered a low number of applications, the weekend and conference ran smoothly.

Past Challenges:

- Hiring needs to be done on time and the PTMs need to be trained properly. This arose from her lack of network or promo training and very little help around budgeting.
- The current relationship with Hamilton Wentworth District School Board really hurt the number of Hamilton delegates that could attend the conference.

OTHER

Just letting the Assembly know of a couple of things that have happened within the MSU:

- As you may have noticed there was a new job that focused on the promotion of The Grind and the 1280. This will try to close the gaps between our desired profit than our current deficit of 1280.
- The flooring for 1280 was also redone and the stage was taken out. This led to an unexpected cost of fixing the outlets and electricity after the stage was ripped out. This is why EB had to allow more money to Scott to do this.
- Another discussion that has been brought to EB is in regards to Compass after GO transit has decided that in 2019 they would no longer allow their services to be sold at Compass. This, however, is much of how Compass gets their revenue from, which means that we are trying to vision what the service will now look like.

Best,

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