



MEMO

From the office of the...

Vice-President (Education)

TO:	Student Representative Assembly
FROM:	Stephanie Bertolo, Vice-President (Education)
SUBJECT:	Changes to the MSU Sustainability Education Committee OP
DATE:	September 19, 2018

Dear SRA,

Please find attached recommended changes to the MSU Sustainability Education Committee Operating Policy. The major change is no longer requiring the Advocacy Coordinator to be chair of the committee. Instead, the Committee Chair will be elected from and by the voting members on the committee. The Advocacy Coordinator will still be responsible for organizing and calling the first meeting and sitting on the committee throughout the year. They will be a resource for the committee and will be a liaison between the committee and their Advocacy Team, especially when the committee decides to run a campaign and event.

The Advocacy Coordinator position has changed over the past three years and their 10 to 12 hours of work are spent on coordinating campaigns, events, and other logistics within the Education Department. The task of coordinating this committee can consume a great deal of time that would be better spent on other tasks the VP Education assigns them. The Advocacy Coordinator is still able to run for Committee Chair if it is a personal interest of the individual in the role or if they believe they have the time to coordinate the committee. As well, allowing the Committee Chair to be elected from the voting membership will provide an leadership opportunity to a student who may be more passionate about environmental sustainability on campus compared to the Advocacy Coordinator. This is what happened last year (2017-2018) when the Education Team did not have an Advocacy Coordinator, but instead a Advocacy Project Assistant; the Sustainability Education Committee was run by an SRA member who was passionate about the topic. The committee was very successful throughout the year. A few of their accomplishments included getting compost bins on campus, running a "Know What to Throw Campaign", and working in the Environment Sustainability Policy with the Education Team.

Since this committee does fall under the Education Department, the VP Education will work with the elected chair to ensure they are prepared for the role and hold them accountable to following the operating policy.

There are other small changes proposed in the Operating Policy, including updating a job title, changing the wording from working group to committee, adding clarity to some items in the policy, removing items that had little meaning, and fixing a typographical error that creates confusion around how many meetings are supposed to occur each month.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask!

Best,

Stephanie Bertolo
Vice-President (Education)
vped@msu.mcmaster.ca