

# the PRESIDENT'S PAGE



Anna D'Angela  
VP Administration

vpadmin@msu.mcmaster.ca  
ext. 23250



## MSU Celebrates MACPRIDE and Campus Diversity

For the second year in a row, I marched in the Pride March on Tuesday November 5th with queer-identified folks and their allies from across campus. This event is only one of the many that are being held this week as part of the annual Mac Pride Week put on by the MSU's *Queer Students Community Centre* (QSCC). This is a week to support and celebrate the diversity of gender and sexual identities on our campus and thanks to the work of Jyssika Russell (Coordinator for the QSCC) and her entire team, there are many exciting events open to all students to attend.

As a self-identified ally of the LGBTQ+ community, I recognize my privilege as a cisgendered, heterosexual white woman. Similar to the sentiments expressed by Jemma Wolfe, Executive Editor of *The Silhouette* last week in her editorial "Be an ally during MacPride", I truly appreciate the opportunities to participate in events such as Mac Pride. This week allows me to recognize and reflect on the privilege that I experience given my sexual identity, my gender and my race.

This year, I am glad to see that the MSU is working as a whole to do the same. Through various channels and groups in our organization, we are looking for ways to better celebrate and support diversity on our campus. *MSU Diversity Services*, run by Israa Ali (Director) and Ana Qarri (Assistant Director), continues to host a variety of events, with more plans for next semester. As well, *Diversity Services* is excellent at forming partnerships with campus groups to showcase the many different experiences of Mac students.

Moreover, for the first time, all Part-Time Managers (full-time students who manage an MSU service), members of the *Student Representative Assembly* (SRA), and *MSU Maroons* participated in Anti-Oppression Training. The goal of this training is to be able to better represent and deliver services to all members of the MSU.

Along with members of the SRA, our services, and the student community, I am part of the *Women and Gender Equity Committee* (formerly known as the *Women and Trans\* Centre Committee*) to explore the next steps in the creation of a centre to provide a safe space for women and trans\* folks on campus. While there are still many details that remain to be addressed, I encourage anyone who is interested in participating in these conversations to join us each week on Fridays from 2:00pm-3:30pm in the MSU Main Office (MUSC 201) to contribute to our meetings.

Now, I am not saying that the MSU is the picture of representativeness and diversity. There is always more we can do to help support the diverse voices of all members of the McMaster community. However, we are trying. And I am looking forward to continue working with my peers throughout this year to do so.



Spencer Graham  
VP (Education)

David Campbell  
President

Anna D'Angela  
VP (Administration)

Jeff Doucet  
VP (Finance)



The President's Page is sponsored by the McMaster Students Union. It is a space used to communicate with the student body about the projects, goals and agenda of the MSU Board of Directors.

[www.msumcmaster.ca](http://www.msumcmaster.ca)