Two years ago, I took a chance and applied for the role of Horizons Coordinator with the MSU. Though I had been actively involved with the conference for many years, I was nervous to apply. I didn't know if I could handle everything that came with being a Part-Time Manager (PTM). Putting aside my fears and at the suggestion of one of my friends, I submitted an application. I interviewed for the job and eventually I got it. The excitement I felt that day when I had been selected has been matched only a few times in my life. I share that story with you as it is now my turn to offer this role — as well as many others within the MSU — to the students of McMaster University.

A Part-Time Manager is a full-time undergraduate student who works part-time for the MSU, supervising one of our many student-run services. From the Horizons Conference to the Student Walk Home Attendant Team (SWHAT) and everything in between, our student-run services cover a wide range of interests. If there is something you are passionate about, we probably have a service that has it as its focus. A complete list of our services and our available job opportunities can be found online. Visit www.msumcmaster.ca/jobs for more information.

These jobs will allow you to work in an area that you are passionate about, as well provide you with training opportunities that will help you grow both personally and professionally. A PTM will undergo numerous training modules that focus on a variety of very important skills and topics including budgeting, communications, human resources and volunteer management. These modules supplement the learning experienced on the job. For example, I learned about creating a budget, but it wasn’t until I was responsible for managing the service’s $30,000 budget, paying for all of the required amenities while balancing new challenges, that I truly understood the importance of a budget.

If you are looking for a job next year, look no further than your McMaster Students Union. On Sunday, January 12th at 11:59pm, the job postings for the 2014-2015 Part-Time Managers will close. Check out our Jobs Portal (www.msumcmaster.ca/jobs) to learn more about these awesome opportunities.

A PTM job is only applicable to full-time undergraduate students (enrolled in 18 or more units). However, if you are graduating this year, the MSU also has several one-year, full-time contract positions (May ’14 through April ’15) available for the next academic cycle. These jobs, known as Student Opportunity Positions (SOPs), also cover a wide variety of interests and organizational needs such as Silhouette Executive Editor, Union Market Manager, Communications Officer, CFMU Community Outreach Coordinator and Clubs Administrator, just to name a few. Beginning Monday, January 13th the MSU’s numerous SOP opportunities will come online. These roles are fantastic career starters, offering hands-on industry experience and continuous development opportunities, along with competitive salary and benefits. For more information on any of the Student Opportunity Positions, or any employment-related questions about the MSU, please do not hesitate to contact me!