First of all, I would like to offer my congratulations to Mary Korol, who was elected President of the 2010/11 MSU Presidential elections. The results are still preliminary until the appeal period closes, and any appeals submitted within that time are resolved. Mary ran a positive campaign and obviously showed impressive results. As soon as the poll results are heard back, the President-Elect will finish up the academic year and begin the transition until the start of her term on May 1st.

I would also like to offer congratulations to all the candidates who ran. Knowing from experience, the campaign period can be a trying process resulting in a nail-biting ballot count, which unfortunately was an extended count in this case. Each of the candidates conducted themselves with dignity and decorum, and proved to be more than adequate competition for one another. Much effort goes into campaigning, and unfortunately this effort cannot generate a positive outcome for everyone. Having said that, if you were doing it for the right reasons - for the good of your fellow students - then President is simply a title and there are opportunities available to you to serve the students of McMaster.

I would also like to take this opportunity to plug the fact that I am still President until April 30th! I know, some might think, but that is really my intent. Often after the elections of their successors, MSU Presidents are given the stigma of being “lame ducks.” Unfortunately, it has also not gone without president that some MSU Presidents have let that stigma reflect onto them and as a result they have gotten lax in their adherence to their job. If you are in the energy and zeal with which they approach it. This effect has ranged anywhere from a loss of concentration to even outright “phoning it in.”

Thus, I pledge to you, the students of McMaster, that I am not, nor will I be until the last moment of April 30th, a “lame duck.” I work for you and I assure you that I will continue to do so until the time comes to leave the job in my successor’s capable hands. This job means a lot to me and I would view any compromise in that opinion as a compromise on myself.

In one of his frequent moments of casual, inspirational motivation, the General Manager of the MSU, John McGowan, had remarked to me that “these especially are the months that students casting 1966 (55.6%) votes in opposition to the renewal of his intent. Often after the elections of their successors, MSU Presidents have let that stigma reflect onto them and as a result they have gotten lax in their adherence to their job. If you are in the energy and zeal with which they approach it. This effect has ranged anywhere from a loss of concentration to even outright “phoning it in.”

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President’s Page

I AM STILL THE PRESIDENT!

MSU matches student donations to help Haiti

One of my favourite parts about being a student at McMaster is witnessing the simple acts of kindness. When a catastrophic earthquake hit Haiti on January 12th, the response of students at McMaster was instantaneous. Over the past three weeks, McMaster clubs have been actively raising money on behalf of the devastation in Haiti, followed by an immediate surge of donations whereby close to half of a dozen MSU clubs have raised over $5,000 to donate to Haiti relief. Special recognition goes out to Right to Play, West Indian Students Union, Muslim Students Association, Jewish Students Association, First Nations Student Association, African Canadian Student Association (ACSA), Students Against Racism in a Lifetime (in the Rapid) and all of the clubs and students who have been donating individually or raising money collectively. Whether they collected loose change or held bake sales, these students saw a need and dedicated their time and energy to a crisis that will require both immediate and long-term attention.

It’s quite an inspiring feeling.

We are students who are constantly strapped for cash, whether we’re paying for tuition, writing the cheque for next month’s rent, changing our credit card for food, or just looking for a few bucks to have a good night. That’s what inspires me. These same students are so unselfishly selfless, so willing to donate their hard earned money to a crisis far from home. To help in a crisis situation like this is only second nature to these students. If we as students regularly throw so much passion and energy into crisis, then what’s all this talk about student apathy? I guess McMaster students aren’t as apathetic as some might think.

In an effort to support student initiatives, the MSU has decided to donate $5,000 to the Canadian Red Cross for Haiti Relief. The motion was approved by the Student Representative Assembly (SRA) on Sunday, February 7. The funds will be used in special recognition and support of all the time and effort that McMaster students have put into such worthy causes. Rest in Peace, Student Apathy.

Furthermore, the McMaster Student Union has entered into a partnership with Hospitality Services, will be collecting funds to aid in ongoing relief efforts. Collection boxes can be found at all Hospitality Services locations, as well as all MSU retail services, including Union Hospitality Services, will be collecting funds to aid in ongoing relief efforts. Collection boxes can be found at all Hospitality Services locations, as well as all MSU retail services, including Union.