

David Rios

For Vice President Finance

Thank you for taking the time to read a brief outline of my candidacy for Vice President Finance.

For the past four years, through a wide variety of roles I have had the privilege of experiencing first hand how the MSU can make a meaningful impact on student lives. That is why I am so excited to share my platform. A platform that I believe will bring meaningful change to student lives, help our service and business units grow and provide a plan to effectively distribute the MSU's growing reserves.

If you have any questions or comments please email me at riosdj@mcmaster.ca

Communication

Health Care Informational Campaign

Promotion campaign to better inform students of the MSU Health and Dental Plan, when they can opt-out and how they can take advantage of their plan.

Annotated Budget and Financial statements

Making our finances easier to understand by creating easy to read annotated versions of the MSU's Budget and Financial Statements.

Investments

Telling students where the MSU invests its money through infographics online.

By-Law 5

Give a platform on the MSU website for By-Law 5 Organizations to tell students what they do for student life and how they could get involved.

Organizational Communication & Budget Townhall

Make the MSU more proactive in how it communicates with students:

- Expanding Maroon Minutes to inform students not just about what happened at the previous SRA meeting but also why they should come to upcoming SRA meetings.
- Give more public notice when the SRA will be allocating funds.
- Presenting the budget to students before SRA votes on it.

Business Units and Services

Union Market

Introduce local food and expand take out options.

1280

Expand events offering and find creative ways to use unused space during the day.

Underground

Increase hours as well as explore the possibility of adding apparel.

Child Car Center

create a 20% undergraduate student discount to the Child Care Center.

MarMor

Introduce opt-in printing and online issue while asking alumni on how to better improve the yearbook.

Modify Wage Review

implement a more pragmatic wage review system to take the onus away from staff to bring forward wage concerns.

Clubs Support

Implement a holistic approach to how we deal with our clubs, by increasing hours and trying to streamline paperwork.

CFMU

Online applications for radio shows as well as new student timeslots to get more students on the airwaves.

Sustainability

Bike racks

Get student input into where and how much money goes into placing bike racks on campus.

The Silhouette Publishing

Reduce the amount of copies of the Silhouette that are printed to match student demand and ensure we are not wasting paper or money on printing costs.

Compost Bins

Better promotions of the compost bins in MUSC and long term plan for composting in the student center.

External Advocacy

IRC

While respecting the autonomy of the Inter-Residence Council, I believe the MSU should be lobbying for a decreased fee and increased spending on student programming.

Meal Plan

Ask hospitality services for first year students meal plan money to carry over into future years. So students can spend it when they want.

University Transparency

I believe that the first step in lowering tuition is an informed conversation about the University's finances. That is why I believe the university should be providing more in-depth and accessible information about their budget.

Reserves plan

Ask students, MSU full-time staff, and SRA members how to best spend a part of the MSU reserves fund. Take those suggestions and craft several viable long-term plans and then send them to referendum.

Empowering students

Centralized Funding Opportunities

The University, the MSU and faculty society all provide funding opportunities to make student ideas and projects a reality. I want to centralize those funds so students can more easily access them.

Action funds

Earmark a part of Sponsorships and Donations to specific action funds with separate applications to tackle issues that we as a school community need to do more of.

SRA Empowerment and Accountability

Facilitate the SRA in accomplishing their goals for the year by creating individual SRA year plans. Meeting with each member and connecting them with the tools or resources to make their dreams a reality and creating accountability by the creation of year end transition reports.

Build

Community Food Kitchen

Help transition the idea of the community food kitchen idea to a reality. Making a space where students can cook food and remove some of the barriers to accessing food assistance.

Outdoor Rink

I have been working in some capacity or another on getting a rink on campus for the past two years to get a rink on campus. I have seen the project from an idea to almost a reality with funding already secured I want to ensure we carry forward the momentum this project has and ensure McMaster has a rink on campus for next winter.

Plan for Maroon Shop

In DBAC the MSU is currently renting out space to the University for them to run the Maroon Shop. I want to access if we could be doing better things with the space.

Thank you
for your consideration