

**Executive Board Meeting 15-15**  
**Thursday, November 5, 2015 @ 8:30am**  
**MSU Boardroom, MUSC room 201**

**Called to Order 8:34am**

**Present** D'Angela, D'Souza, Guarna, Ibe, Nadarajah, Stegmaier  
**Late** Osazuwa, Nestico-Semianiw  
**Absent** Gillis  
**Others Present** V. Scott (Recording Secretary), Mikayla Corcoran (MSU member), Serena Arora (SWHAT Coordinator), Christine Yachouh (Advocacy Coordinator), Jonathan Davis (CLAY Coordinator), Geneva Neal (PSL Coordinator)

**1. Adopt Agenda**

**Moved** by Stegmaier, **seconded** by D'Souza that the Executive Board adopt the agenda, as presented.

**Passes Unanimously**

**2. Adopt Minutes**

Moved by D'Angela, seconded by D'Souza that the Executive Board adopt the minutes from Executive Board meeting 15-13 – October 22, 2015, as circulated.

**Passes Unanimously**

**Osazuwa arrived at 8:36am**

**3. Advocacy Report - Christine Yachouh presented**

- Yachouh summarized report.

**Questions**

- Guarna asked why there was a dip in posts during reading week, even though there was a plan to keep advertising. Yachouh responded that they did post during this time but they reached fewer students because the volunteers were not as engaged during that time.

**4. CLAY Report – Jonathan Davis presented**

- Davis summarized the report.

**Questions**

- Nadarajah asked if Davis has spoken to MSU about making hiring more fair and equitable. David responded that the challenge with hiring is that people have a big advantage if they were already involved as they know everything. He stated that they are trying to make the hiring process different than in the past.
- Nadarajah stated that she knows how much sponsorship was a big thing for CLAY as it made it more financially accessible for youth. She asked if there were any strategies to keep that going and if it was a priority. David responded that it was still a priority and that they are reaching out to community partners.
- Ibe asked what the relationship was with the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board. Guarna responded that the HWDSB gave CLAY money a couple of years ago with the stipulation that a report would be submitted. She explained that the PTM at the time didn't submit a report or a thank you note to them so the HWDSB did not want to participate last year. Guarna added that a report was submitted this past year in hopes that they could try and help out again. Yachouh added that they offered a promotion

to the HWDSB last year that if they sent a certain number of students that CLAY would match that number and pay for them to go. She explained that they called up CLAY this year excited to participate again.

- McGowan stated that if there is any trouble getting into contact with the University to not hesitate to ask for help.
- Osazuwa asked if the conference will be held off campus this year. Davis responded that they would like to.
- Osazuwa thanked Davis for removing the fees for staff members.

#### **5. SWHAT Report – Serena Arora presented**

- Arora summarized the report.

#### **Questions**

- Nadarajah asked if they ever looked into the possibility of having a home base in MUSC 226 but having something else in MUSC while open for visibility. Arora responded that even when they had the visibility students didn't come to them to talk. She stated that they are hoping to have more events like 'SWHAT and Hot Chocolate' to promote themselves.
- Guarna asked if they thought about running an event with WGEN to reduce the stigma of walks having a gendered element to them. Arora thought that would be a good idea as she had been looking at it and there is a stigma.
- Corcoran asked about the walk-a-thon and if that meant that students would be donating to Movember. Arora explained that it was a dollar per walk and it would be donated from SWHAT's budget line.

#### **6. SHEC – report attached**

- Guarna summarized the report. She added that she will be calling Campus Intercept today as when they were unpacking the bags from Welcome Week they noticed that the lube had expired, some of it being from three years ago.

#### **Questions**

- D'Angela asked if SHEC was slated for a logo re-design soon. Wooder responded that they weren't on the schedule but they request to be one of the next ones.

#### **7. PSL Report – Geneva Neal presented**

- Neal summarized the report.

#### **Nestico-Semianiw arrived at 9:06am**

#### **Questions**

- Osazuwa asked when they would be getting their furniture. Neal responded that they just submitted the request, and hoping to get the money as soon as possible.
- Osazuwa asked what changes were being made the space. Neal responded that they are just minor changes in the fixtures as they take up space.
- Osazuwa asked how the ventilation in the space was. Neal responded that it was poor, and while they currently have a small fan right now they are looking to get an extra one. Scott stated that she could talk to facility services to look into that issue on Neal's behalf.
- D'Angela asked how many volunteers they were looking at getting additional training for. Neal responded that they have two options right now. The first being they do the training as a pilot and only get half of the volunteers who will be returning trained, the second being having 45 volunteers trained. She stated that the second option will be costly and that they aren't sure if they would be able to get money from the University.

- D'Angela pointed out that there is still \$2,000 left in the training budget. Neal responded that they would have to do extra training in January regardless. She added that the quotes they found to train 45 people would be \$7,000.
- Osazuwa asked what kind of training do the volunteers receive. Neal responded that they conducted training at the beginning of the year and it included anti-oppression, SACHA, safe talk, as well as MSU training and learning about services. She added that they also go through modules, such as how to take a call, what to do in an emergency, etc. Guarna explained that while it sounds like they do a lot of training they are falling short compared to their peers.
- Nadarajah asked if Neal looked at an executive structure change to help the workload of the Volunteer Coordinator. Guarna responded that they will be looking into making it a paid position for the next year as the Coordinator has expressed to this Board that training and scheduling is time intensive. Neal added that more exec would be a good idea but the Volunteer Coordinator position has a certain level of accountability and is constantly on-call and be ready to deal with issues that arise. She explained that they need someone with a high level of commitment and it would make more sense to have compensation.
- Osazuwa asked if there are follow-up procedures in place for those who have identified as suicidal. Neal responded that the service is confidential but sometimes there are situations when confidentiality may be broken due to risk; such as expressed thoughts of suicide, hurting one's self, etc. She explained that crisis protocol isn't well refined though, which is something they are working on, but in that case the person would get transferred to security so that they can be put in contact with someone on campus who can find them. She explained that while campus security doesn't have mental health training, they were chosen because they are on campus 24/7. Neal felt that if they had ASIST training that there would be better referrals. She added that if the call was transferred over to security they have caller ID, and then PSL can grab that number to follow-up.
- Corcoran asked how the Board could help with advocacy with SWC about being turned away. Neal responded that there is an issue with the drop-in times and sending people away, and the SWC not being transparent about it. She stated that the larger issue is that students can't get in without a drop-in time and they aren't being offered any other options. Neal stated that she was told that the issue could be relieved with more counsellors as the ratio of students seeking counsellors is absurd.
- Corcoran asked if this situation was unique to McMaster. Neal responded that it wasn't. She explained that it's true that most places are worse but that doesn't mean that the University cannot improve. She explained that this is a pressing issue and the University is dropping the ball.
- Corcoran asked what the waiting times for SWC looked like. Neal responded that students cannot book over the phone, they can only drop in. She added that if they show up and someone is available they have to wait until they are, and then the student only gets a 15 minute appointment for a triage assessment. Neal stated that from there they will get an appointment if deemed necessary, and the appointment will be a month away. Neal added that they are concerned because students are distressed that their needs are not being met.
- Nestico-Semianiw stated that there were supposed to be more counsellors supplied to SWC because of the mental health strategy last year. Neal responded that the amount of counsellors is down this year.
- McGowan stated that this has been one of the best discussions on a service in a long time.

## 8. Sponsorship & Donations Committee Recommendations

- D'Angela went over the memo with the Board. He explained that they will also be sponsoring the IWCH Conference for \$250, and that he will be adding another motion to the table. He explained that this was brought forward late because they were waiting on information from the group.

**Moved** by D'Angela, seconded by Osazuwa that the Executive Board approve the following recommendations from the Sponsorship & Donations Committee:

- Donate \$250 to Jagpreet Kaler
- Donate \$100 to #Dream2015 Charity Gala

**Passes Unanimously**

**Moved** by D'Angela, **seconded** by Osazuwa that the Executive Board approve the recommendation from the Sponsorship & Donations Committee to sponsor the IWCH conference for \$250.

**Passes Unanimously**

**9. Committee of the Whole – Service Reports**

**Moved** by D'Souza, **seconded** by Nadarajah that the Executive Board move into Committee of the Whole to discuss Service Reports.

**Passes Unanimously**

Moved by Guarna, seconded by Nestico-Semianiw that the Executive Board move out of Committee of the Whole and to Rise and Report.

**Passes Unanimously**

**Rise and Report**

- Guarna reported that the Board felt that Mac Votes went well with Advocacy. Guarna reported that the Board was happy that CLAY is looking to having the conference off campus again. Guarna reported that PSL is having issues that the Board agreed to look into. Guarna reported that SWHAT thanked the Board for listening to their needs. Guarna reported that the Board will be looking into the SHEC space.

**10. Other Business**

**a) Closed Session – Employment**

**Moved** by Guarna, **seconded** by Nestico-Semianiw to move into Closed Session.

**Passes Unanimously**

**11. Return to Open Session**

**Information and Question Period**

- McGowan reported that there will be discussions with HSR to debrief and get ideas for next year.
- Wooder reported that SLEF is up and running, and asked for everyone to go to the website and share ideas. Wooder announced that Movember is underway and being put on by Campus Events. MAC Pride is going on. Wooder reported that memos will be circulated soon for logo changes for Elections Department and MACycle.
- McGowan reported that they will be talking about the ice rink this week. McGowan announced that they may hear some negative feedback about opt-out cheques not being received on time; this is because the University hasn't given us our money yet. He stated that this is 30 days later than payment was last year.
- D'Angela added that the MSU should be getting a larger advance from the University by the end of the week. D'Angela reported that they are looking into the costing of the ice rink as prices have probably gone up. D'Angela reported that the Student Capacity Survey about student space comes out today.

**D'Souza left at 10:25am**

- Nadarajah reported that she is working on Relay for Life, which will take place in March.

- Osazuwa reported that the promo for SLEF will be out in the next few weeks. He reported that he saw a layout for the LLC building and it will look beautiful.
- Guarna reported that their volunteer appreciation was held, and so much food was consumed. She added that they should know who the Maccess Coordinator will be by the end of today.
- Ibe reported that there will be an event for International students in Bridges today.
- Nestico-Semianiw reported that there will be a course wiki event today in the Boardroom. He reported that next week SCSN and the EA Committee will be hosting a student housing campaign.

## 12. Adjournment and Time of Next Meeting

### Time of Next Meeting:

**Thursday, November 12, 2015**  
**8:30am**  
**MSU Boardroom, MUSC 201**

**Moved** by Osazuwa, **seconded** by Ibe that the meeting of the Executive Board be adjourned.

**Motion Passes by General Consent**

**Adjourned at 10:31am**

/vs