2021 VP Services AGM Report

**GSA Website**

The GSA website has been built and put online on our own server for nearly a year. After many tests and improvement, the website is running stably. With the new website, a lot of news and events can have a good place to propagate. Each of the clubs and faculty associations has a specific introduction page. And they also have a right to publish new events.

We have decided to do an annually upgrade in April. Hope there will be new features to our website. And we are going to work on providing sub-site to our faculty associations.

**Clubs**

I am happy to see 4 new clubs got recognized in the last year. As we all know, we must stay at home due to the COVID-19. But it won’t stop our clubs to have many activities. More students are gathering online to meet each other and help each other.

I started to apply a specific McMaster email address for the existed clubs and new clubs. Now nearly all of them have their own email. This can make the contact of each club more formal than before, and they will not lose any important historical information.

The clubs committee has been re-established. I have let each club to assign one student in this committee. During the past 2 meetings, I taught them how to login to our GSA website and publish news and events, how to use Student Group Event Portal and what kind of events we can have during COVID-19.

**Health and Dental**

The GSA health and dental plan works pretty good in the last year. According to the annual claim report from Studentcare, our premium has much surplus till the end of the academic year, and we believe this will continue in the next year.

Many enrolment and opt-out policies have been improved. First, students who have TA or RA in lieu can still hold their GSA dental plan, even if they will automatically have CUPE dental plan. Next, international students who cannot come to Canada in the whole 2020~2021 academic year can fully opt-out all the GSA insurances. We are also working on enrolling visiting students to our GSA health plan and reimbursing students who graduate at the end of Fall term or Winter term.

**MFin Program Deferral**

Nearly all the students in MFin program are from China or India. Due to the COVID-19, they cannot come to Canada on time. Even though the university has provided the option to study abroad online, it is impossible for them because of the 12-hour time lapse. After many communications with school of graduate studies and dean of business school, new MFin students in 2020 have the option to defer to Winter 2021. This is the first time ever in McMaster University that MFin students can start from this time