REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Non-Tuition (Miscellaneous) Fee review
MAPS continues to oppose a proposal from the University Student Fees Committee (USFC) that would prorate existing and new ancillary fees. Essentially, this would result in MAPS members paying substantially more (as much as 84% more) for ancillary fees of services that they never consented too, care to use, or need. Even though MAPS, the McMaster Students Union (MSU), the Graduate Students Association (GSA), and the MBA Association (MBAA) have gone on record as opposing this proposal, the USFC may at any point revisit this issue, and as such, the MAPS Board of Directors is prepared to lobby against such a proposal with the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities - the provincial government body responsible for ensuring that Ontario universities do not collect ancillary fees illegally.

MAPS-MSU Transferability
MAPS in partnership with the MSU and in some instances, McMaster University, continues to administer a transferability mechanism between MAPS and the MSU. MAPS members who become members of the MSU (by enrolling in 18 or more units) have an option to transfer their membership back to MAPS under certain circumstances, thereby foregoing MSU fees and only paying MAPS fees. To be eligible, a student must be an undergraduate degree student who in a previous fall/winter academic session was a member of MAPS and will be registered in 18-20 units in the fall/winter academic session or is in her/his graduating year, and in a previous fall/winter academic session was a member of MAPS and will register in more than 17 units to complete her/his degree at the next Spring Convocation. Also, members of MAPS who meet specified criteria have the option to permanently transfer their student association membership.
from MAPS to the MSU, the student association governing undergraduate degree students registered in 18 or more units per academic session.

**Government Lobbying**
The MAPS Board of Directors continues to explore avenues of government lobbying. This past year, MAPS ceased observing Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) in order to observe and ultimately join the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance (OUSA).

**Proposed Art History Closure**
MAPS successfully quarterbacked a thorough advocacy campaign in conjunction with multiple campus stakeholders to opposed the proposed closure of Art History, not once, but twice.

**Seniors Tuition & Supplementary Fees**
MAPS successfully prevented the Board of Governors from accepting a recommendation from the University Student Fees Committee (USFC) that would have eliminated free tuition and supplementary fees for seniors (students aged 65 and over).

**University Student Fees Committee (USFC)**
After two full years of lobbying for part-time student representation on the USFC (since representatives from MAPS, the MSU, and the GSA were removed), the USFC has finally conceded and created a part-time student specific seat on the USFC that will be filled by a part-time student with the assistance of MAPS.

**Liberal Arts Speaker Series**
MAPS launched its inaugural Liberal Arts Speaker Series this past year, a series designed to bring awareness to the liberal arts by showcasing guest speakers with topics in the Social Sciences and Humanities.

**Financial Workshop**
New for MAPS this year was a financial workshop that covered topics pertinent to funding post-secondary education including financial goal setting, budgeting, cash flow planning, investments, borrowing, repayment strategies, and avoiding financial fraud.

**Mills Memorial Library Learning Commons Expanded Hours (24/5)**
As a result of advocating for greater part-time student access to Mills Memorial Library, the Learning Commons is now open 24 hours a day from Sunday to Thursday.

**Digital Recording of Convocation**
At the request of part-time students, MAPS successfully lobbied the Registrar’s Office to digitally record convocation ceremonies.