July 18, 2014

Dear members of the McMaster community,

McMaster’s Office of Sustainability has undergone reorganization and has been developed into two distinct areas: campus operational sustainability initiatives and academic sustainability programs. Campus operational sustainability initiatives, including those related to energy, green space, transportation, waste, water, and green buildings, will be managed by Shahid Naeem, Energy Management and Sustainability Engineer, Facility Services. Shahid, reporting directly to Dr. Mohamed Attalla, AVP Facility Services / Chief Facilities Officer, works with other areas within the Department of Facility Services in enhancing sustainability on campus through innovation and efficient operations as well as Graduate and Undergraduate students taking part in experiential learning courses in order to provide them with experiential learning opportunities with Facility Services. Shahid, a professional engineer (P.Eng.) and project management professional (PMP), began working at McMaster in September 2013. He was awarded Energy Engineer of the Year (2013) for Canada Region by Association of Energy Engineers (AEE), USA.

McMaster’s new Academic Sustainability Programs (ASP) Office will be led by Kate Whalen, Senior Manager, Academic Sustainability Programs. The ASP Office currently includes the following initiatives: the Sustainable Future Program; the Sustainability Internship Program; the Graduate/Undergraduate Collaboration in Experiential Learning (GUCEL) Program; and the new, interdisciplinary Minor in Sustainability. In her new role, Kate will continue to maintain a focus on community engagement tied to sustainability-focused experiential learning opportunities for McMaster students. The ASP Office resides within the Faculty of Engineering, reporting to the Associate Dean (Academic). The Office however has a university-wide mandate. Kate previously held the position of Senior Manager, University Sustainability and Director, Sustainable Future Program. Kate began working at McMaster in November 2008, and holds an Honours B.A. and M.A. from McMaster. Kate is also a PhD Candidate in McMaster’s School of Geography and Earth Sciences.

Change to the previous Office of Sustainability within the University reflects the recent advancements made in establishing a number of successful programs that provide students with the opportunity for a unique learning experience with the goals of providing all students with the opportunity for community-based, interdisciplinary, student-led, and experiential education with a
focus on sustainability. These programs support and supplement the university’s ongoing development of sustainable business practices. Through this division and new structure, we will be better equipped to continue to facilitate programs across the University that will advance our goals of both academic and operational sustainability, as well as to position McMaster as a leader in these defined areas.

For more information, please visit the following pages:

Academic Sustainability Programs Office: ASP.McMaster.ca
Office of Sustainability: Sustainability.McMaster.ca

Please help us to welcome Shahid and Kate into their new roles.

Roger Couldrey
Vice-President (Administration)

David Wilkinson
Provost and Vice-President (Academic)