

**FACULTY OF COMMUNITY
SERVICES SOCIETY**

**ACADEMIC
ADVOCACY
POLICY**

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PREAMBLE:

Any group that is recognized as an official Faculty of Community Services Society student club and receives benefits, such as the use of an office or locker space, must meet the policies and guidelines set in this document. All of the following should be abided by for the duration of the student club's occupation of the spaces provided.

1.0 Academic Advocacy

1.1. Definition of Academic Advocacy

Academic Advocacy in the Faculty of Community Services means to support the implementation of an integral academic, professional development, or career development experience for students that will be useful after their years here.

1.2. Progress of Academic Advocacy

The Faculty of Community Services Society in Winter, Fall 2020 and January 2021 advocated to the Dean's Office to send emails to the Dean's List recipients, and receive a special certificate and letter signed by the Dean to recognize their achievement. These were the only times in our faculty's history these were given out. It succeeded thanks to the student society.

2.0 Principals, Values, and Importance

2.1. Principals

The Faculty of Community Services Society (FCSS) will focus on creating a well balanced academic achievement environment for all students that encourages appropriate technical skill building, advocate to implement mandatory real workforce experiences, and celebration of achievements.

2.2. Values

The Faculty of Community Services Society (FCSS) values Academic Advancement in

- Professional Development
- Academic
- Career Development
- Interdisciplinary
- Interprofessional

2.3. Importance

The Faculty of Community Services Society (FCSS) recognizes the importance of Academic Advocacy in-terms of enhancing the student experience in correlation to Toronto Metropolitan University's 2030 Academic Plan. The FCSS must ensure all advocacy campaigns are related to a majority of the programs in the Faculty of Community Services, and be focused on Faculty-level problems (not program-program course changes). For program course changes the advocacy must come from the Course Union of a program, NOT the Student Society.

3.0 Goals of Academic Advocacy

3.1. Deans List Letters

Ensuring that every year there are congratulations emails, and digital copies of Dean's List letters delivered to undergraduate students in the Faculty of Community Services.

3.2. Paid Placements and Co-ops

Ensuring that each year we build upon the proposal, and work with key stakeholders until the advocacy, and project is complete. This process takes 4-5 years to complete.

3.3. Mandatory Co-op or Placement Requirement in each program

Ensuring that each year we build upon the proposal, and work with key stakeholders until the advocacy, and project is complete. This process takes 2-3 years to complete.

3.4. Dean's List Lunch

Ensuring that each year with a levy we host in collaboration with the Dean's Office a Dean's List Lunch for the undergraduate students who successfully obtained the Dean's List Award.

4.0 Published Academic Advocacy Achievements

4.1. Website

Ensuring that with every advocacy achievement success we make it as transparent as possible, by posting it on our website under About, Accomplishments page.

4.2. Student Society Board

Ensuring that with every advocacy achievement success we make it as transparent as possible, by posting a physical copy on the Faculty of Community Services Society board located to the side of DCC 331, and SHE 676.

5.0 Academic Advocacy Committee

5.1. Committee Focus

The Academic Advocacy Committee shall work on events, projects, proposals, and initiatives that fall under the umbrella of Academic, and Professional Development. The Committee has a few annual events that it must complete each year which is outlined below. Though new initiatives, and events are more than welcome for the Academic advocacy Committee to focus on, only if it goes with the sections above in this policy.

5.2. Events

- 5.2.1. Year One Transition Seminar
- 5.2.2. Career Fair
- 5.2.3. Ontario Health Sciences Games
- 5.2.4. Lunch and Learns
- 5.2.5. Policy Series
- 5.2.6. How to get a Government Job
- 5.2.7. Zone Learning Collaboration Seminars
- 5.2.8. Panels
- 5.2.9. Beyond the BSc. with the Science Society

5.3. Initiatives

- 5.3.1. Resume Workshop
- 5.3.2. CV Workshop
- 5.3.3. LinkedIn Workshop
- 5.3.4. Thesis Writing Workshop
- 5.3.5. Academic Care Kits