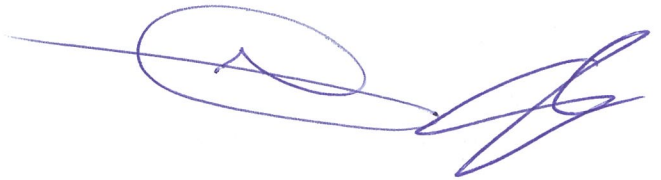


Executive end of year report 2017

Portfolio: Education Vice-President

Name: Emma Pearce



#### Introduction:

As the MAWSA Education Vice-President my main goal from this year was to make sure that I did the best I could in the role and helped make the President's job a little bit easier by taking on other jobs where possible – on such being the Sustainability and Biodiversity student representative for the Wellington campus. After entering the role, it became apparent to me that Class Advocacy in the University was the main priority. Myself and Kate (the advocate) have worked hard this year to redesign the Advocacy program. I am still doing a write up of this which I will send to the manager and give to Bridget (the Education VP elect) once it is completed.

#### Key Contacts:

- Sarah Grant-Wang  
MAWSA Association Manager  
[manager@mawsa.org.nz](mailto:manager@mawsa.org.nz)

Sarah is an essential person to keep in contact with. I found that the more I talked to her throughout the year, the more I was able to understand MAWSA and my role. It helped to pop in and say hi at least once a week as the VP role requires a lot of papers to sign.

- Kate Te Ao  
MAWSA Student Advocate  
[advocate@mawsa.org.nz](mailto:advocate@mawsa.org.nz)

Kate has been such a big help to me this year. She's always been there for a chat – both person and work related. I have learnt a lot from Kate about how MAWSA works and how she sees Class Advocacy going in the future. Keeping in touch with Kate throughout the year really helped me out with the role in general.

- Debbie Snelson  
Massey University Student Life Services Manager  
[d.snelson@massey.ac.nz](mailto:d.snelson@massey.ac.nz)

I had previously worked with Debbie in my old job as an RA, so I was lucky enough to know her already. I worked with Debbie in my role in the Sustainability and Biodiversity Council and had regular meetings with her about how to better the campus with specific reference to recycling.

#### Communication:

- Communication is an essential part of the role. I found that it's important to have a relationship with each member of the executive as I worked with each member over the course of the year. As myself, the President and Welfare Vice-President worked together the most it was important to make sure that that relationship was a positive one from the beginning.

- Social Media: I'm going to admit that my social media use with regards to Facebook was a

bit of a failure this year. I created a Facebook page so it would be easier to communicate better with class advocates however without creating a posting schedule, I didn't create consistent content to post on the page which didn't work out in the long run.

- E-mails: This is the best form of communication to-date. For initial contact with students it's the best way but continued contact with students is much easier via Facebook. For staff members e-mail is the way to go.

- Students need to see people if they are really going to join something like class advocacy. If the people running it are just a name or an email address given to them at an event or told to them in class then the whole thing can seem foreign to them – the best way for students to engage with class advocacy and really become a part of it is that initial face to face contact.

Events and activities I took part in this year:

It's hard for me to say exactly what I have done throughout this year in a small paragraph. I have tried my best this year to be as involved as possible. The key things I did was being a part of the Biodiversity and Sustainability committee in which I helped create open forums for students to have their say before Massey made any major changes. In terms of Class Advocacy I helped Kate run the training sessions and created reflection sessions for students to say how things went and what could be improved in the future.

Support of MAWSA

I've been a part of so many things at MAWSA this year that I'm probably going to miss a lot but here a few things I've helped with

- O-week activities (sex quiz etc)
- Clubs day
- Fresher's Party
- The ball
- BBQs

At each of these events I have helped in some or all of the following – planning, running, mentoring, and ensuring health and safety was met at all times.

Highlights

This year has been amazing and I've learnt a lot about myself, the exec and a lot about how an institution works. The skills I've picked up along the way are things I will carry with me throughout my working life. The best part for me has been working in a team and really feeling like I'm a part of something that is directly benefitting the people we have set out to help.

Lowlights

Not being able to see Class Advocacy go the way I wanted it to. This year has been a real year of foundations for Class Advocacy and I found it hard to see the positives in not having direct results; especially when another member of the exec was focusing on numbers rather than quality.

Suggestions for the future

- As mentioned at the beginning of this report, I am writing a specific Class Advocacy write up which will include all my suggestions for this specifically.