I. **Report date:** September 13, 2023

II. **Name of Office:** Student/Early Career Representative of the Board

III. **Members:** Blaine Brubaker

IV. **Board Action Required:** N/A

V. **Brief Summary of Activities:**

   On July 20, 2023, I met with several MLStEP liaisons and MLStEP board members to discuss how MLA can help assist them. This discussion included talks about financial situations around MLStEP, ways that MLA can assist financially to student and early career members, and if MLStEP should become an official MLA committee or stay an interest group. These discussions felt fruitful, and I am hoping that this discussion will be the first of many. It really opened my eyes to the importance that MLStEP has as a group within MLA. MLStEP members benefit from MLA, but really, MLA benefits from MLStEP as well. Michelle Rivera has offered to attend a future board meeting to present on this importance based on the presentation she gave at IAML this past summer.

   Annual Reports got off to a late start due to my forgetfulness, but they are underway! Karen McCool, Kerry Masteller, Jason Imbesi, and Melissa Moll played a large part in helping me prepare quickly for the Annual Reports process. I cannot thank them enough for their help! Thank you also to our wonderful president, Paula, for being so understanding and encouraging during this time. Several reminders have been sent to MLA-L, MLACC-L, the new MLAOL-L, and to a targeted email created from a spreadsheet Melissa Moll created. I am expecting many of the reports to come in around the September 15th due date. I am truly excited to make sure that these reports are published in a timely manner and appreciate everyone’s patience as they are edited and prepared for publication on the MLA website. I am hoping to have all Annual Report submissions published by September 18.

   Planning Committee has been moving along as well! At this time, discussions are continuing about a proposal for the micro-grant applications, and I am thrilled to see how these micro-grants will potentially be used.

VI. **Alignment with the MLA 2022-2030 Strategic Plan Objectives**

   The tasks above are aligned with the following Strategic Plan objectives: Goal Area 2, objective 2.1, objectives 2.5-2.6; and Goal Area 3, objective 3.7.