

OMSA Council Meeting #2 Sept 13, 2020 12:30 PM EST



Present via teleconference: Sharon Yeung (President), Ushma Purohit (President-Elect), Saara Punjani (VP Comms), Michael Scaffidi (VP Education), Zachary Barkhouse (VP Operations), Jessica Scott (VP Advocacy), Courtney Leach (VP Student Affairs), Rae Woodhouse (VP Finance), Angie Soloman (Queen's), Chelsea Rehak (NOSM), Francis Lao (McMaster), Kristina Yau (Ottawa), Alexandra Finstad (Ottawa), Sinthu Senthilmohan (UofT), Angela Fan (Western), Shauna Peng (Western)

Guests: Marta Hano, Sarah Tufts, Samantha Hill, Allan O'Dette, Michelle North, Natalie Dalcourt, Preya Singh-Cushnie, Lauren Callighen, Felipe Fajardo, Daniel Picard, Sacha Weill

Regrets: none

Reimbursements: All members present will be reimbursed through OMA Honouraria for their time. Lunch expenses will be paid by the OMSA Discretionary Fund.

1. Welcome, Introductions, and Adoption of the Agenda [12:35-12:37]

- **Motion to Start the Meeting**
 - Mover: Zachary Barkhouse
 - Seconder: Francis Lao
- **Motion to Adopt the Agenda**
 - Mover: Shauna Peng
 - Seconder: Courtney Leach
- **Motion to Approve Last Meeting's Minutes (AGM)**
 - Mover: Sharon Yeung
 - Seconder: Zachary Barkhouse

2. Question Period [12:37-12:40]

- Are in camera parts of OMSA meetings recorded?
 - In-camera parts of meetings will not be recorded, unless absolutely necessary for the VP Communications to reference when putting together minutes. Any recordings of OMSA meetings will be deleted after the minutes are completed.

3. OMA Insurance - Sarah Tufts and Marta Hano [12:40-1:00]

- Sarah and Marta are part of the Education and Engagement team of OMA Insurance. OMA Insurance provides different opportunities for insurance protection depending on

the stage of training or practice of the medical professional. Sarah and Marta's team offers education and advice regarding insurance to Ontario medical students.

- There are concerns this academic year about getting the message across to incoming students due to the new virtual format. There is a noticeable difference in Insurance registration this year - perhaps because of the lack of the physical format.
- OMA Insurance usually also hosts sessions for new clerks. Sarah and Marta are wondering what is happening with clerkship at the different schools?
 - Clerkship start dates are varying across Ontario from September to January
 - It may be useful to target new clerks a month or so into clerkship when they are less overwhelmed with this new stage
- **Action Items:** VP Communications (Saara) to connect with Sarah and Marta offline about how Communications can support OMA Insurance (social media posts, Communiques, etc.)

**4. Ontario Medical Association - *Dr. Samantha Hill, OMA President* [1:00-1:30]
& *Mr. Allan O'Dette, OMA CEO***

- Dr. Hill and Mr. O'Dette shared some of the actions of the OMA this year, and their thoughts on leadership in healthcare. It is an immense privilege, but a large responsibility that is carried on and off the job. The OMA has recently undergone some governance structural changes, and the goals of the organization can be summarized with the "4 M's" : membership, mandate, manage, and modernize.
- The OMA does much more than negotiating contracts, acting as the trusted voice of doctors to the general public, as has been highlighted during the pandemic. The OMA also recognizes that medical students are a large part of this. The OMA recognizes and appreciates medical students taking initiative and having provided overwhelming support during the pandemic with PPE drives, grocery drives, etc. Med students are on the front lines as clerks and observing issues on a daily basis. Dr. Hill encourages students to approach the OMA about these issues - there are no dumb ideas, only dumb responses to ideas. Dr. Hill has offered to be present for 30 minutes at each OMSA meeting as needed.

- Medical students are eligible and encouraged to use OMA's Physician Health Program, which offers colleague-to-colleague support. The OMA also offers advocacy training and support that is open to medical students.
- Does the OMA ever feel that doctor's interests are at odds with the best interest of patients?
 - No, it is well understood that we need a healthy population of physicians to provide the best care to patients. The OMA advocates for things like stability and appropriate compensation for physicians so that they can work their best to provide the best care to patients.
- How can OMSA support the OMA and further our relationship?
 - Besides these Council meetings, perhaps a roundtable discussion about current issues with OMSA and OMA members can be organized. This can be organized and discussed offline.
- How will the GT20 transformation changes affect how medical students are represented in the OMA?
 - The changes are still being finalized, but students being engaged and informed is very important to the OMA and this will be maintained. The changes move away from a representational model, which will always bring about concerns about voices being heard, but the goal is to create a Council in which all voices are heard and more can be done with that. The specific changes with regards to numbers, etc. will be communicated with OMSA President offline.

5. Council Introductions - OMSA President [1:30-1:40]

6. Introduction to OMSA - OMSA President [1:40-1:45]

- Please find the OMSA Introduction Presentation [here](#).
- Please find the OMSA Handbook [here](#).

7. Introduction to CFMS - CFMS Ontario Regional Director [1:45-2:05]

- Please find the CFMS Presentation [here](#).
- Is there going to be a new Ontario Regional Director after the AGM?

- Yes, Felipe and Avri Lynn will let you know who the new ones are when they are elected.
- What's the ETA for the database of advocacy initiatives CFMS has been working on?
 - The release will be at the AGM, and the website will link to a form where individuals can submit their advocacy initiatives to add to the database.
- Is there any work being done at the national level or CFMS-affiliated work for advocating for defunding the police?
 - Not as of now.

Break [2:05-2:15]

8. OMSA Executive Updates [2:15-3:15]

- Advocacy
 - Please review the update [here](#).
 - What is the recruitment process for Day of Action delegates? Are there any spots reserved for OMSA Council members?
 - There are 60 spots for medical students as DoA delegates. Only 6 spots are reserved, and these are for leads of each Municipal Day of Action. The rest of the 54 spots are open to all Ontario med students.
 - Advocacy is considering partnering with Doctors for Defunding Police.
 - **Action items:** Let Jess know if you are interested in getting involved.
- Education
 - Please review the update [here](#).
- Student Affairs
 - Please review the update [here](#).
 - There are issues around shipment to each school - kits would usually be packaged and given to each VP External to take back to their school.
 - Boxes can be shipped to addresses at different locations if there is an address near the school that is able to accept these packages.
 - Can you facilitate shipments to multiple campuses?

- Yes, just need the address for each campus and the number of students at each campus.
 - Will VP Externals need to package the clerkship kits?
 - Yes, the VP Externals will be in charge of how to distribute the water bottles, USBs and cutlery kits.
- Communications
 - Please review the update [here](#).
- Operations
 - Please review the update [here](#).
 - Can you explain the Operations subcommittees?
 - There is just going to be the Governance subcommittee, which will have more of a general, fluid role. They will also help with the Leadership Summit and keeping the constitution and bylaws relevant. The last role will be supporting the other different committees and seeing what other initiatives they can help out with.
 - Is there a rough estimate of how many apps you have per committee?
 - Zach will send an update offline.
 - Incoming students are probably really preoccupied with MedSocs elections, classes, etc. We will probably see a big influx of applications in the last 24 hours.
- Finance
 - Please review the update [here](#).
 - Day of Action has an expense that is above the credit card limit. Are there any options instead of asking a student to use their own card?
 - There are a few options: - can pay directly by e-transfer or cheque, - Rae offered to use her card, - can reimburse pre-emptively but this is not encouraged.
 - Where is the best place to access funding for students planning initiatives in the fall?

- Our sponsorship grants have two deadlines a year, usually July and January, but the July one was pushed to August this year because of COVID. The idea is that students should be planning far ahead in advance for their initiatives. However, MedSocs seem to be looking for places to spend their money this year - might be a good idea to reach out to your own school's MedSoc.
- Is there a part of our contract with OMA Insurance about social media posts from our account?
 - Yes, Rae to send Saara the contract. Saara to follow up with OMA Insurance to complete our contractual obligations.
- President & President-Elect
 - Please review the update [here](#).

9. School Updates

[3:15-4:15]

- McMaster
 - Please review the update [here](#).
 - Is there any update on the event to be held in lieu of OMSW?
 - VP Operations is still brainstorming options and will include this as a discussion item in the next meeting. VP Finance mentioned that there is no shortage of funding for OMSW with leftover funds from UofT last year and this year's budget.
 - Have you chosen your Municipal Day of Action topic?
 - Yes, McMaster has chosen the topic of homelessness. Asks are for more hygiene centers, non-police interventions, and that shelters are more inclusive (e.g. for folks that use drugs or have pets).
- NOSM
 - Please review the update [here](#).
 - First and second year students will be in-person two days a week indefinitely, with the days hopefully increasing over the year. As of now, it will be twice a week for labs and SCS (SP interviews).
- Ottawa
 - Please review the update [here](#).

- Queen's
 - Please review the update [here](#).
- Toronto
 - Please review the update [here](#).
- Western
 - Please review the update [here](#).

Break

[4:15-4:25]

10. Motions

[4:25-4:45]

- Motion to Adopt the Position Paper “Integration of PoCUS Into Formal Curricula Across Ontario Medical Schools”
 - Please find the motion [here](#). Please find the position paper [here](#).
 - The position paper focuses on adopting PoCUS into medical school curricula across the province, with an emphasis on this being a change institutions are involved in, as there are already really great student-led PoCUS initiatives at every school.
 - What is exactly is OMSA’s role on this working committee?
 - OMSA would be a powerful tool in facilitating the communication between the group and the other schools that they might not otherwise have access to. VP Education is working on revamping the policy paper process, so more to come, but Michael has set aside 1-2 Education committee members this year to work on how best to implement actions from endorsed policy papers.
 - How will you ensure continuity?
 - The authors are second-year medical students planning on continuing this throughout their medical education, and perhaps the PoCUS execs at each school each year can take on the role of carrying this forward.
 - Would the authors be interested in bringing PoCUS to the virtual OMSW event that might take place in lieu of the in-person event?
 - Yes, Michael will work with the authors to facilitate this when we are planning OMSW workshops.
 - **Mover:** Michael Scaffidi

- **Secunder:** Jessica Scott
- Motion passed unanimously.

11. Discussion Items

- Trello for Comms tasks - *VP Communications* [4:45-4:55]
 - Please use Trello for submitting website, design and social media tasks for the Comms groups. VP Externals, please “watch” the VP External list so you get notifications when things are added.
- OMSA Finances and Grants - *VP Finance* [4:55-5:10]
 - Find Financial Infographic that outlines OMSA’s incoming and outgoing funds on the OMSA website [here](#).
 - You can find all the information needed for reimbursements on the OMSA website [here](#).
 - Conference Grant applications are due in December and May of each year. More information can be found [here](#).
 - Innovator Grants are for \$700-1500 given in March of each year. More information can be found [here](#).
 - Event/initiative sponsorship grant applications are due in July/August and January of each year. This round, we placed a greater focus on EDI initiatives - almost all that were selected were EDI related. More information can be found [here](#).
 - Student Recognition Awards -- There is the Art of Medicine Award where students submit a piece of art related to a set theme, which we still need to choose for this year. The Hidden Hero Award recognizes students making a difference in their communities. Both of these are due in March and more information can be found [here](#).
 - Motion to move in camera
 - Mover - Rae Woodhouse
 - Secunder - Zach Barkhouse
- Winter Retreat - *VP Student Affairs* [5:10-5:25]

- Camp Wanakita, where the Winter Retreat was held last year is happy to move forward with in-person planning, adhering to social distancing guidelines put out by the government. The Wellness Committee is now deciding whether or now they feel comfortable with preliminary planning for an in-person event given the lack of certainty surrounding the situation. Points in favour of going forward include that Camp Wanakita is very big and suitable to adhere to social distancing, and that many activities can be planned around distancing (ice skating, crafts, etc.). Concerns that were brought up include that having to be apart from friends might take away the appeal of the event and reduce interest. There was concern about legal and optics repercussions should anything happen at the event with regards to spread of the virus. Suggestions were to consult Public Health Ontario in the planning process, have participants take a COVID test right before the retreat, or possibly move the retreat dates back to maximize the chance we can hold the event with the least restrictive rules. However, the timing of the event was ideal for the CaRMS process. Cancellation policy needs to be discerned before any decisions are made.
 - **Action items: Courtney** to follow up with Camp Wanakita about cancellation policy and to start to explore alternate programming options in the event that OMSA does not carry forward with the retreat at Camp Wanakita.

○ Wellness Roundtable - *VP Student Affairs* [5:25- 5:35]

- VP Student Affairs is considering facilitating a provincial Wellness roundtable to enhance collaboration and communication between the Wellness/Student Affairs leaders at each school. There does exist a CFMS roundtable that each of these leaders sits on that does national-level initiatives, but the goal of this would not necessarily be to start new Ontario-wide initiatives, but rather to act as a place for the leaders to communicate and collaborate if they would like to. One idea that was suggested would be to create a less formal means for collaboration that might be less organization-heavy - could collect information for these individuals at each school and share that with the rest so that are able to communicate as needed.
- Is there a “Wellness” leader on each school’s MedSoc?

- McMaster has a VP Student Affairs. Ottawa has a VP Community Health. Western has a Student Affairs Rep from each year that reports to VP internal. UofT has a VP Student Affairs.
- OMA Ambassador Program - *President-Elect* [5:35-5:45]
 - The OMA Ambassadors program allows students to get involved in medical politics and leadership with no prior experience. Ambassadors get to get involved with medical association governance, etc. and the added opportunity of getting connected to a mentor related to the individual's own interests. OMA has asked for OMSA's help in better marketing of the program this year, as there was not as much interest as hoped for in past years. The program is targeted at first- and second-year students, so help from VP Externals and Council members advertising this on their school's FB groups and own accounts would be really helpful. This year, the team is working on how best to implement a virtual mentorship platform and make sure that students do not get too overwhelmed with online content.
 - Action items: Ushma to send an email to Council with the application form.
 - OMA Section of Medical Students Election - *President* [5:45-6:00]
 - The document explaining the OMA Section of Medical Students Election and OMSA's role can be found [here](#). Recent structural changes in the OMA have made it a bit more complicated for the individuals that were elected by Ontario medical students to OMSA to maintain their roles in the OMA's Section of Medical Students, so we must go through a different process, as outlined in the document.
 - Although we have a temporary solution, it does not seem like this process should be held up long-term, is there another solution for this?
 - After OMA's GT20 transformation plan, we will have a different idea of what the Council will look like, so the solution will be more appropriately discussed at that time.

12. Varia

[6:00-6:10]

- Michael requests some information from VP Externals about their schools to be provided in a survey that Michael will send after the meeting. The surveys pertain to COVID curriculum changes and financial literacy (for a position paper on financial literacy that will be brought to the October meeting).
- Thoughts on OMSA branded t-shirts or face masks? Members are interested, although this is something that would likely have to be funded personally.
 - Action items: **Michael** to collaborate with **Rae** and look into the process of doing this for the next meeting.
- The tentative next meeting date falls on Thanksgiving weekend, which conflicts with some members' schedules.
 - Action items: **Ushma and Sharon** to communicate offline and choose a different meeting day for October.

13. Next Meeting

- To be decided

14. Meeting Closure

[6:10-6:15]

- Motion to end the meeting
- Mover: Zach Barkhouse
- Seconder: Jessica Scott