

OMSA Council Meeting #7
March 26, 2022 10:00 - 16:00 EST
[Zoom](#)



Present via teleconference: Ushma Purohit (President), Angie Salomon (President-Elect), Mahdi Zeghal (VP Communications), Zack Chuang (VP Finance), Leah Bennett (VP Student Affairs), Connie Li (VP Education), Faran Khalid (VP Operations), Sauliha Alli (VP EDI), Abby Ross (Ottawa), Kristina Yau (Ottawa), Shauna Peng (Western), Ayushi Bhatt (Western), Aidan Goertzen (NOSM), Rylee Mose (NOSM), Amelia Boughn (Queen's), Jamal Tarrabain (Queen's), Justin Lin (Toronto), Victoria Turnbull (CFMS - ORD)

Guests: Dr. Adam Kassam (OMA President), Madeleine Nolan (EDI - NORM), Anchaleena Mandal (EDI - NORM)

Regrets: Devon Wilton (McMaster), Michael Darcy (McMaster), Sinthu Senthilmohan (VP Advocacy), Lara Parlatan (Toronto)

1. Welcome, Introductions, and Adoption of the Agenda

1.1. Motion to Start the Meeting

- Mover: Leah Bennett
- Seconder: Mahdi Zeghal
- Motion passes

1.2. Motion to Adopt the Agenda

- Mover: Leah Bennett
- Seconder: Aidan Goertzen
- Motion passes

1.3. Motion to Approve Last Meeting's Minutes (February 26th, 2021)

- Mover: Sauliha Alli
- Seconder: Mahdi Zeghal
- Motion passes

2. Land Acknowledgement - Ushma Purohit, President

- Reflecting on the treaties and land for which we have a privilege to grow up in and study in

- Reflecting on the Health Care Consent Act of Ontario and how this relates to patients from marginalized populations, and how this relates to individualist vs. collectivist cultures
- References:
 - [The Unforgotten](#)
 - [In the spirit of reconciliation and cultural safety, our health laws must change](#)

3. CFMS Update - CFMS Ontario Regional Director

- Please review the following [update](#)

4. AFMC Tender Process - Ushma Purohit, President

- AFMC came out with a statement that the resident matching system is going out to tender - i.e. will be out in the open and companies can take over and replace CaRMS in organizing the resident match system
 - Purpose: potentially for-profit (as CaRMS is currently not-for-profit), and there was a claim that this was for legal reasons. However, in consultation with lawyers it is confirmed that this is NOT the case.
- Issue: we have rank lists which are confidential and only known by CaRMS, but we are unsure if this confidentiality will be kept if taken over by another company. Depending on who holds this information it can open the door to possible bias and discrimination.
- We have turned to various MedSoc presidents to send a letter out drafted to highlight our stance asking AFMC to not have the system be put out in tender
- Letter to be sent out from our end by noon today

5. Executive Updates - Part 1

5.1. Advocacy - in absence

- Please review the update [here](#).

5.2. Communications

- Please review the update [here](#).
- Project/initiative with increasing website accessibility as this has been mostly on the backburner for now as new website content has been on the forefront as a top priority. However this is a long-term plan we will focus on, and especially aim to include in the work plan for next year
- Clarification on communique dissemination: the method outlined in the update was suggested by the OMA communications team, so it is unclear why it was not suggested to provide our communique to them and they are responsible for disseminating. In any case, the current method suggested will involve signing a confidentiality agreement for whoever holds the list of emails. Will also need to

consider the cost associated with sending a communique via a mass number of emails.

5.3. Education

- Please review the update [here](#).

6. OMA Update - *Dr. Adam Kassam, OMA President*

- Discussion surrounding advocacy and the challenges of increasing engagement (from students, physicians) to go out and vote
- Discussion surrounding OMA's thoughts on increasing the number of UGME & PGME positions
 - Important to note that this is an election promise; to that end, the details are still not completely outlined
 - Adding more PGME spots is certainly positive, but the OMA was not as willingly ready to accept if medical school spots were added without a simultaneous increase in residency spots

7. Executive Updates - Part 2

7.1. Student Affairs

- Please review the update [here](#).
- For cost of Wellness Retreat, the cost may be subsidized depending on how many students register (more registrations means it gets increasingly subsidized)
- Will need to do website updates for the Wellness Retreat before marketing so that students can have as much information as possible beforehand

7.2. Operations

- Please review the update [here](#).

7.3. Finance

- Please review the update [here](#).

7.4. EDI

- Please review the update [here](#).
 - Includes a detailed update from EDI NORM Committee Chair & Co-Chair
- EDID Priorities Survey - will aim to increase promotion as responses turnout hasn't been very high

7.5. President & President-Elect

- Please review the update [here](#).

8. Break (Lunch)

9. [School Updates](#)

- 9.1. McMaster
- 9.2. NOSM
- 9.3. Ottawa
- 9.4. Queen's
- 9.5. Toronto
- 9.6. Western

10. Motions

- 10.1. Motion to Approve the Creation of OMSA's ORT and Adopt its Terms of Reference
 - Please review the motion [here](#).
 - Please review the proposed OMSA ORT's terms of reference [here](#).

 - Mover: Ushma Purohit
 - Secunder: Zack Chuang
 - Motion passes (92% in favour; 8% abstained)

- 10.2. Motion to Approve OMSA's Hiring Policy
 - Please review the motion [here](#).
 - Please review the revised/updated hiring policy [here](#).

 - Mover: Faran Khalid
 - Secunder: Ushma Purohit
 - Motion rejected
 - Plan is to further review the document and make any further tweaks to finalise before re-tabling it to motion in a future meeting

- 10.3. Motion to Adopt Position Paper Guidelines
 - Please review the motion [here](#).
 - Please review the summarised position paper guidelines [here](#).

11. Break

12. Discussion Items

- 12.1. Expansion of UGME and PGME spots - *VP Education, ORD*
 - As previously discussed with Dr. Kassam - UGME and PGME spots have been announced by the current Ontario government

- As also discussed - there are certainly pros in that its effort aligns well with our advocacy efforts to increase PGME positions, but there are also cons (e.g. increasing UGME positions as well and the risk this poses of still having unmatched graduates)
 - Original plan was in fact only adding UGME spots, but OMA did not agreed with this and MOH eventually also added PGME spots
- OMSA will be sending an email to the key decision makers (e.g. COFM) outlining that we are kept up-to-date with information surrounding the addition of these UGME/PGME positions, and in particular certain important details
 - UGME: are there enough opportunities for electives to accommodate increased number of medical students? And with the increase in UGME & PGME spots, does the student spot:residency spot remain the same or even better decrease closer to 1:1 (1 student per residency spot)
 - PGME: which specialties are going to be acquiring these additional residency spots?
- Some OMSA council members may consider writing a position/statement paper outlining some of the disadvantages that may stem from this announcement of additional UGME/PGME spots. There is question if this is a paper that need to be released from OMSA as a whole or individual students; we would need to consider how we carefully express our stance.
 - May need to have further discussion in a separate meeting

12.2. Leadership Summit Speaker Ideas - *President/President-Elect*

12.3. Updates for VP External: feedback on current process - *VP Communications*

12.4. Clerkship Kit Troubleshooting - *VP Student Affairs*

- Confirming that these have now been disseminated and VP Externals at each school are now independently working on passing it on to the students
- Overall positive feedback from students
- For next year of clerks - there is preference for having pre-clerks obtain kits prior to starting clerkship (before the fall). In general, there is preference

12.5. Structured Reference Letters - *ORD*

12.6. Synchronous vs. asynchronous CaRMS Interviews - *ORD*

12.7. Review of major OMSA event timelines (standing item) - *all*

13. New Business/Varia

- None

14. Next Meeting

14.1. March 26th, 2022: 10am-4pm

15. Meeting Closure

15.1. Motion to end the meeting

- Mover: Ushma Purohit
- Seconder: Victoria Turnbull
- Motion passes