

OMSA Council Meeting #4 December 5th, 10AM - 4PM 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), , Kristina Yau (Ottawa), Alexandra Finstad (Ottawa), Sinthu Senthillmohan (UofT), Justin Lin (UofT), Angela Fan (Western), Shauna Peng (Western), Chelsea Rehak (NOSM), Francis Lao (McMaster), Devon Wilton (McMaster)

Guests: Samantha Hill (OMA), Adam Kassam (OMA), Kyle Dieleman (OMA), Sarah Tufts (OMAI), Marta Hano (OMAI), Mary Boulos (CFMS)

Regrets: Jamal Tarrabain (Queen's), Rylee Mose (NOSM)

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

- 1.1. Motion to Start the Meeting
 - Mover: Jessica Scott
 - Seconder: Francis Lao
- 1.2. Motion to Adopt the Agenda
 - Mover: Zach Barkhouse
 - Seconder: Francis Lao
- 1.3. Motion to Approve Last Meeting's Minutes
 - Mover: Ali Finstad
 - Seconder: Sinthu Senthillmohan

2. Question Period

3. OMA Leadership - *Dr. Samantha Hill, OMA President*

& Dr. Adam Kassam, OMA President-Elect

- Dr. Hill empathizes with the challenges medical students are facing with virtual learning
- Is OMA doing any advocacy around the COVID vaccine? Are medical clerks involved in this?
 - OMA is working on a policy paper regarding who should be prioritized - OMA is recommending high-risk individuals get vaccinated first.
 - Medical students working in hospitals should be included in the category of "healthcare workers"
 - Dr. Hill to email Chief of EPR letting him know this issue has been brought up
 - EPR White Paper feedback
- When do you anticipate GT20 changes to be implemented?

- The new structure will be in place following the next election (starting this month), which students are encouraged to participate in.

4. OMA Constituency Services - Kyle Dieleman

- Kyle is the primary point of contact for anything OMA-related. Members are encouraged to get in touch with Kyle with any questions, comments or requests.
- If you have a working relationship with another member of the OMA, continue working with that individual, but you can CC Kyle (kyle.dieleman@oma.org) on any emails so he can stay in the loop.

5. OMA Insurance - Marta Hano & Sarah Tufts

- OMA Insurance has a one-question survey asking for feedback on a potential contest asking medical students to share a story about a time they were grateful for having insurance (any kind: home, auto, disability, health, etc.) to help educate students on the benefits of insurance, with a chance to win a \$250 prize.

6. OMSA Executive Updates

6.1. Advocacy

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

6.2. Education

- Please review the update [here](#).
- What's the reason for creating a universal clerkship guide instead of the existing school-specific ones?
- The quality of different schools' guides is not standardized - this will provide an easier resource for clerks from all schools to consult a high-quality guide. However, we will consider having an appendix for school-specific guidelines that continues to get updated.

6.3. Student Affairs

- Please review the update [here](#).
- Action items: Zach and Courtney to connect about working together to combine OMSW and Wellness Retreat initiatives.

6.4. Communications

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

6.5. Operations

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

6.6. Finance

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

6.7. President & President-Elect

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

7. **CFMS Updates** - *CFMS Ontario Regional Directors*

- CFMS has worked on a one-stop shop for medical students going through the CaRMS process: <https://www.canprepp.ca/>. They are also currently working on a volunteer engagement strategy.
- Their Global Health team has been working on a number of initiatives, such as the pen pal program, the URM (UnderRepresented in Medicine) committee, and more.
- The Education team is advocating for issues around the MCC for the class of 2021, and has started the c2022 advisory group. They continue working on optimizing the CaRMS match for c2021 and c2022.
- The Government Affairs team is continuing their Longitudinal Advocacy Training Series and scheduling their second DoA. The NDoA will take place in January and focus on the topics of housing and homelessness.
- They have received grants from the CMA to focus on COVID initiatives and wellness, and if there are any suggestions as to how to use these funds, contact Mary or Jess.

8. **OMA Section of General & Family Practice** - Dr. Alykhan Abdulla

- Please find Dr. Abdulla's presentation to OMSA Council [here](#).

9. **School Updates**

9.1. McMaster

- Please review the update [here](#).
- Action items: Sharon to share Queen's request for compensation for EDI work with Francis.

9.2. NOSM

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

9.3. Ottawa

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

9.4. Queen's

- Please review the update [here](#).
- Action items: Angie to collaborate with other VP Externals/Sharon/Ushma on the OMA General Council one-pager summary document

9.5. Toronto

- Please review the update [here](#).
- What are the key takeaways from your conversation with Dr. Hill?
- Sinthu and colleagues are going to put together a position paper with recommendations for addressing and reducing inequities in the CaRMS process. Contact Sinthu if you have any questions or things to add.
- Reminder that another point of contact in the OMA is your District Director.
- Action items: VP Externals please let Sinthu know if/how your school is ensuring equity in school club applications, etc.

9.6. Western

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

10. Motions

10.1. Motion to Adopt the Position Paper "Improving Personal Financial Literacy of Ontario

Medical Students"

- Please find the motion [here](#). Please find the position paper [here](#).
- This paper was edited to change the language around Recommendation #4
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

11. Discussion Items

11.1. Conversations on Race - *President-Elect*

- Please see [this article](#) for reference on our conversation. The OMA Gender Pay Gap event touched on the topic of differences in compensation between white and visible minority physicians.
- Often, women and visible minorities in medicine are treated differently than men or white physicians - asked for blankets and food, asked for rationalizations of their clinical decisions, etc.
- How is there such a discrepancy in pay between female and male family physicians, who presumably have the same billing codes?
 - Are females more likely to undervalue their work, bill for less tasks, choose the lesser billing code for the same work, etc.?
 - Females also tend to spend more time with patients, perhaps related to their need to justify their clinical decisions more than their male counterparts
- How can OMSA advocate for medical school representation?
 - Is there a way we can retrieve data on diversity of applicants that apply to medical school vs. the diversity of students that are accepted.

11.2. Our Role in Urgent Advocacy - *VP External, UofT*

- What is OMSA's/Ontario med students role in advocating for issues that come up in the short term?
 - An example of tangible and “easy” advocacy that we could encourage from med students is phone calling policymakers with a script regarding certain advocacy issues. OMSA Council is generally in support of encouraging this type of work - perhaps we can make this a monthly initiative. We just want to be wary of oversaturating these networks in a way that drowns out our own voices.
 - Most schools have weekly/monthly newsletters where students can submit anything to be shared with the medical class - perhaps we can use these avenues to share petitions, etc. for students that want to be involved.

11.3. Student Involvement in Conferences - *VP External, Western*

- WRT conferences: How much involvement do different schools' students have? How do they find out about conferences that may interest them? What's the best way to disseminate information?
 - Perhaps the OMSA Communique is a good avenue to share information about upcoming conferences.
 - <https://www.canprepp.ca/events> has a list of residency panel events
 - CFMS had a live document with a list of conferences that was always being updated by a team of students - this might work better than a newsletter as newsletters are sporadic and this can always be accessed and updated.

11.4. Clerkship Elective Schedule Survey - *VP External, Queens*

- Is there an avenue to update students on how different schools are dealing with clerkship electives?
 - Action items: Michael to re-release the COVID curricular changes survey asking about this information and share the results with students, and contact Angie for help as necessary.

11.5. Clerkship Concerns - *VP Education*

- Michael attended the DME COFM where they discussed policies regarding vaccinations and PPE. There is no plan as to whether the COVID vaccination will be mandatory for students.
- Jess spoke with MPP Glover about a policy on medical students' place in vaccinations - he will bring this up in Parliament and connect with Jess following that.
- Vaccinations
- PPE
- Rotations
- Electives
- CaRMS
 - Is it worth it to have a subcommittee that focuses on CaRMS and the transition from medical school to residency?
 - There is a lot of CFMS advocacy surrounding CaRMS - we don't want to step on their toes or repeat any of that work
 - Can this be broadened to be a transition to residency/post-med school group, potentially partnering with PARO,

- What clerkship details are relevant to include in the survey of what different schools are doing in the COVID?
- VP Externals will have access to the document

11.6. OMSA Sweaters - *VP Education*

- Michael to re-send out a form asking about sweater interest to be distributed in the post-meeting email.

11.7. Sponsorship Advertising - *VP Education*

- MD Financial asks:
 - Greater presence on the website, on our social media streams, and exclusivity in sponsorship
 - Can offer exclusivity as our only “financial management” sponsor, the same way OMAI is our exclusive insurance sponsor
- MSERG to offer a sponsorship package with different levels of sponsorship based on funding amount
 - Can we offer naming rights - i.e. naming the specific grants after a sponsor?
 - This will be considered by the team.

11.8. OMA Advantages - *VP Student Affairs*

- Traditionally, OMA Advantages used to provide funding for costs related to CaRMS travel. They would like to know where to shift these costs with the pandemic.
 - Suggestions include discounts on Wifi, food and coffee (Starbucks, etc.), medical textbooks, tech-related vendors (for laptops, phones, etc.)

11.9. Budget Review - *VP Finance*

- Motion to go in camera
 - Mover: Rae Woodhouse
 - Secunder Michael Scaffidi

12. Varia

13. Next Meeting

- 13.1. January 2, 2021 10AM - 4PM EST

14. Meeting Closure

14.1. Motion to end the meeting

- Mover: Zach Barkhouse
- Seconder: Sinthu Senthilmohan