

OMSA Council Meeting #3
Oct 24, 2020 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), Jamal Tarrabain (Queen's), Kristina Yau (Ottawa), Alexandra Finstad (Ottawa), Sinthu Senthillmohan (UofT), Justin Lin (UofT), Angela Fan (Western), Rylee Mose (NOSM), Devon Wilton (McMaster),
Guests: Samantha Hill (OMA), Adam Kassam (OMA), Allan O'Dette (OMA), Kyle Dieleman (OMA), Mary Boulos (CFMS), Jessica Garabon (CFMS)
Regrets: Francis Lao (McMaster), Chelsea Rehak (NOSM), Shauna Peng (Western)
Reimbursements: All members present will be reimbursed through OMA Honouraria for their time.

- 1. Welcome, Introductions, and Adoption of the Agenda** [10:00-10:10]
 - 1.1. Motion to Start the Meeting
 - Mover: Jessica Scott
 - Seconder: Zach Barkhouse
 - 1.2. Motion to Adopt the Agenda
 - Mover: Rae Woodhouse
 - Seconder: Sinthu Senthillmohan
 - 1.3. Motion to Approve Last Meeting's Minutes
 - Mover: Sharon Yeung
 - Seconder: Alexandra Finstad

- 2. Question Period** [10:10-10:15]

- 3. Welcome to New Council Members - OMSA President** [10:15-10:30]

- 4. Ontario Medical Association - Dr. Samantha Hill, OMA President** [10:30-11:00]

& Dr. Adam Kassam, OMA President-Elect

 - Concerns have been voiced around the OMA Governance Transformation that is being planned. The idea is that the current shape of OMA Council right now does not allow for efficient work to be done - with smaller, more efficient teams, hopefully more will be able to actually be done when issues or concerns arise.
 - Q: What are your thoughts on Ontario hospitals' overall preparedness for the second wave of COVID-19?

- Hospitals are much more prepared now, but the burden will fall on public health to make sure we have good guidelines for reducing community transmission. There is still a lot to learn as we are still in the early stages of the pandemic, but the OMA is attempting to bring as many physician leaders as possible for future waves and further issues past this pandemic.
- Q: How is the OMA supporting students with issues surrounding the MCCQE Part 2?
 - This issue has just come across OMA's radar, and OMA is having conversations with the CMA about how to support students. Dr. Hill will return to us with a more clear answer as to how the OMA can support Ontario students with provisional licenses.
- Ushma to forward remaining questions to Dr. Hill and Dr. Kassam or bring them up at the next meeting.

5. CFMS Updates - CFMS Ontario Regional Directors

[11:00-11:30]

- Please find the CFMS update [here](#).
- Any updates on MCCQE situation? CFMS is very disappointed with the situation, but it has been an important conversation over the past few weeks, so advocacy steps will be taken in the near future.
- When is the NDoA and has the topic been selected? It will be in February, and the topic is being selected now and will be ratified at the next CMFS meeting.
- Rae and Michael are having conversations about reaching out for certain discounts that may be useful for medical students, and will loop in CFMS to this conversation.

6. OMSA Executive Updates

[11:30-12:30]

6.1. Advocacy

- Please review the update [here](#).
- Did the team send an advocacy survey to assess students' priorities for advocacy for the DoA? Yes, this DoA is based on the survey from last year, and another survey will be sent out in the spring for the next DoA.

6.2. Education

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

6.3. Student Affairs

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

- How are clerkship kits being distributed? Some schools are planning to distribute in January. Western had their mask fitting sessions, and distributed during those sessions.

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](#).

Lunch

[12:30-1:00]

7. School Updates

[1:00-2:00]

7.1. McMaster

- Please review the update [here](#).
- How are different schools making up for career exploration opportunities? This is an issue for each different school. UofT is hoping to open up virtual shadowing for next year. Different residency programs and interest groups are planning panels, etc for sharing info about the specialties.

7.2. NOSM

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

7.3. Ottawa

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

7.4. Queen's

- Please review the update [here](#).
- Is there a plan to make up for missed weeks if a student has symptoms or is positive? There is no specific plan, but this might just become a reality that students

have to live with. Outbreaks in Toronto have left some UofT students having to quarantine and miss parts of their rotations.

7.5. Toronto

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

7.6. Western

- Please review the update [here](#).
- Are there policies on seeing COVID-suspected or COVID-positive patients? Most schools do not allow clerks to see COVID-positive patients. At UofT, clerks can see patients until they are confirmed positive.

8. Motions

[2:00-2:20]

8.1. 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](#).
- What does advocacy from OMSA in response to this position paper look like? The Policy and Response team is looking at this paper, as well as past papers to try to create tangible frameworks for action in regards to these recommendations.
- Should it be the job of the academic institutions to arrange financial literacy sessions since many financial institutions (e.g. MD Financial) offer these supports that students can arrange for when necessary?
 - UofT does a good job of providing financial literacy for their own students by experts hired by the school, not representing any financial institution, which leads to greater student trust and more use by students. There is a mandatory requirement to meet with them once. This would hopefully eventually be the gold standard.
- Motion to postpone to a later date
 - Mover: Michael Scaffidi
 - Seconder: Jamal Tarrabain

9. Discussion Items

9.1. Conversations on Race - *VP External Sr, Toronto*

[2:20-2:35]

- Please see document Sinthu made to lead discussion [here](#).

9.2. Defunding the Police - *VP External Sr, Toronto*

[2:35-2:50]

- Please see supporting document [here](#). What are OMSA members' thoughts on defunding the police?

- Advocacy team is considering a partnership with Doctors for Defunding Police and suggesting that municipal Days of Action include asks related to defunding the police. For example, McMaster included an ask that trained community workers respond to mental health crises rather than police officers, citing a success story in Oregon.
- Why not focus on police reform (which might increase funding for the police) rather than defunding? What about when police presence is necessary in mental health crises that may present or lead to a safety risk?
 - Why spend more funds on training police officers when there are already tons of folks who are very well-trained in handling specific situations (i.e. mental health social workers, etc.)?
 - Often, reporting crimes to police does not benefit victims. There was also lots of anecdotal evidence from OMSA members about police presence and involvement making a situation worse rather than better.
 - Much of what might be thought of as reform has been done before (i.e. increased training, etc.), so what exactly does reform mean?
- OMSA council members are generally supportive of moving forward with these conversations so we will continue conversations on this topic to see how we can continue in advocacy efforts

9.3. In Lieu OMSW Thoughts/Preliminary Planning - *VP Operations* [3:00-3:15]

- OMSW team is considering several options for OMSW this year - options include scheduling small in-person events at each school (based on public health guidelines, etc.), sticking to just virtual events (which may not have a high level of engagement) or tabling OMSW 2020 and leaving the budget for a bigger and better OMSW 2021
 - It seems like schools are doing less and less in person stuff as time goes on, so planning anything in-person may not be feasible
- Would both first and second years be attending OMSW 2021?
 - This hasn't been decided yet
- In-person events do not seem feasible to plan, so VP Operations and team will look into virtual options, consulting with VP Student Affairs who is looking into virtual options for the Wellness Retreat.

9.4. Financial Partnerships - *VP Finance* [3:15-3:30]

- Motion to go in camera
 - Mover: Rae Woodhouse
 - Seconder: Sharon Yeung

9.5. Budget review - *VP Finance* [3:30-3:35]

- (still in camera)
- Motion to go out of camera
 - Mover: rae
 - Seconder: sharon

9.6. OMSA Sweaters - *VP Education*

[3:35-3:50]

- The idea of getting Council OMSA sweaters was brought up at the last meeting, and Michael provided a mockup which can be found [here](#).
 - Michael to connect with Ushma on how best to gauge interest for the sweaters.

10. Varia

[4:00-4:15]

11. Next Meeting

11.1. December 5, 2020 10AM - 4PM EST

12. Meeting Closure

[4:15-4:20]

- 12.1. Motion to end the meeting
- Mover: Jamal
 - Seconder: Zach