

OMSA Council Meeting #3
October 30, 2021 10:00 - 16:00 EST
[Zoom](#)



Present via teleconference: Ushma Purohit (President), Angie Salomon (President-Elect), Mahdi Zeghal (VP Communications), Leah Bennett (VP Student Affairs), Zack Chuang (VP Finance), Connie Li (VP Education), Devon Wilton (McMaster), Mike Darcy (McMaster) Abby Ross (Ottawa), Kristina Yau (Ottawa), Ayushi Bhatt (Western), Justin Lin (Toronto), Lara Parlatan (Toronto), Rylee Mose (NOSM), Chelsea Rehak (NOSM), Jamal Tarrabain (Queen's), Amelia Boughn (Queen's), Sauliha Alli (VP EDI), Faran Khalid (VP Operations)

Guests: Marta Hano (OMA Insurance), Kyle Dieleman (OMA)

Regrets: Sinthu Senthilmohan (VP Advocacy), Shauna Peng (Western)

1. Welcome, Introductions, and Adoption of the Agenda

- 1.1. Motion to Start the Meeting
 - Mover: Ushma Purohit
 - Seconder: Amelia Boughn?
 - Motion passes
- 1.2. Motion to Adopt the Agenda
 - Mover: Victoria Turnbull
 - Seconder: Zack Chuang
 - Motion passes
- 1.3. Motion to Approve Last Meeting's Minutes (September 11th, 2021)
 - Mover: Mahdi Zeghal
 - Seconder: Victoria Turnbull
 - Motion passes

2. Land Acknowledgement - President

- Treaty land acknowledgement
- [Truth and Reconciliation Health-Related Recommendations](#)
- TRC Recommendation 24 and Proposed Actions
 - Recommendation 24: *We call upon medical and nursing schools in Canada to require all students to take a course dealing with Aboriginal health issues, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations*

Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, and Indigenous teachings and practices. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.

3. OMA Insurance - Ms. Marta Hano

- About OMA Insurance
- OMA Insurance Team

4. OMA Introductions - Mr. Kyle Dieleman

- [Prescription for Ontario - OMA Healthcare Plan](#)
- [OMSA Suggestions for OMA Healthcare Platform](#)

5. Council Introductions and Brief Overview of Robert's Rules

6. CFMS Update - CFMS Ontario Regional Director

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

7. Executive Updates

7.1. Communications

- Please review the update [here](#).
- Portfolio VPs - encouraged to check out website sections that fall under their portfolio and request edits/changes to VP Communications as several portions of the website remain outdated.
- Right now, we will continue having VP Externals distributing the communique until we gain traction with the subscription system.

7.2. Advocacy

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

7.3. Education

- Please review the update [here](#).
- Virtual CaRMS interviews are beneficial in reducing costs to students and are more environmentally sustainable, but would be most effective if visiting electives return where students had the opportunity to become familiar with programs at different schools. Local electives hinder this as students apply to programs and may do interviews with no prior knowledge of programs applied.
- “Cultural differences” in virtual interviews - may be referring to IMGs and/or immigrant/refugee medical students

7.4. Student Affairs

- Please review the update [here](#).
- VP will be following-up with an email updating on clerkship kits and their dissemination, with help from VP Externals.

7.5. Operations

- Please review the update [here](#).
- Acceptance/rejection emails have been sent out for most portfolios. Round 2 for Call to Applications will begin in a few days for IT and Bilingualism committees.

7.6. Finance

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

7.7. EDI

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

7.8. President & President-Elect

- Please review the update [here](#).
- In terms of increased medical school enrollment and accommodating this with residency positions, there has not been a clean plan laid out yet; no entity has claimed significant responsibility for preparing a plan to add residency positions for the increase in medical students.
 - There are less urban areas which may become teaching sites to allow for more training opportunities for graduates, particularly family medicine residents. However, five-year residency program positions are not as easy to add so if this is not done while more medical students enroll, the rate of students not matching will gradually grow in number.
 - A discussion item may be included in the next council meeting to further expand on this topic and get other perspectives as this would be important to raise at external councils.

8. Break (Lunch)

9. School Updates

9.1. McMaster

- Please review the update [here](#).
- Can later discuss how schools have differed in delivery of their medical curriculum to students during the pandemic and where they are currently as restrictions lift and transition to post-pandemic times.

9.2. NOSM

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

9.3. Ottawa

- Please review the update [here](#).
- Big issue is the unavailability and restriction on pre-clerks being able to have elective observerships. We will be having more discussion later to compare and contrast between other schools and how we can help support and advocate for students at uOttawa and other schools facing similar challenges.

9.4. Queen's

- Please review the update [here](#).
- President-Elect will reach out to the VP External for each school for information on the academic policy for pre-clerks/clerks

9.5. Toronto

- Please review the update [here](#).
- Plan for hiring promotions: Shared via our FB page. Leah and Sinthu also shared it.

9.6. Western

- Please review the update [here](#)

10. Motions

10.1. Motion to adopt OMSA's Social Media and Promotions Strategy

- Please review the motion [here](#).
 - Amendment:
- Mover: Mahdi Zeghal
- Secunder: Ushma Purohit
- Motion passes unanimously

11. Break

12. Discussion Items

12.1. Partnership with iMD – *VP Finance*

- iMD is free; would like to promote it to medical students for them to benefit from various resources. No catch; it is sponsored by pharmaceutical companies. In exchange, iMD advertises coupons for medications offered by these companies. There may be minimal pharmaceutical influence, but overall iMD tries to minimize conflict of interest and the platform overall is a great educational tool for healthcare professionals.
- Multiple useful resources:
 - Surveys

- Medications coupons for those who may have limited coverage
- Health tests & monitoring
- There is somewhat pharmaceutical influence, but overall this platform is a great educational tool for healthcare professionals.

12.2. Taking advantage of external committees - *VP Education*

- At external council and committee meetings with few students present, staff/faculty members then consult the few students present on the assumption that their voice can represent the entire student body, which isn't very reasonable.
- How can we help students coming into these meetings best receive varied input and perspectives from the student body to ensure they are well-represented at these meetings?
 - Surveys on social media may be helpful; we would also have to consider how institution-specific issues can be addressed which an open survey to all students may not best support
 - Another idea could be having an area on the website (under Education) highlighting which committees/council our members sit on and what they entail so students are aware of what kind of change can possibly occur if students provide their input

12.3. OMA Governance/Elections changes - *President*

- Number of challenges we're facing with OMA governance
 - Refer to the following link:
<https://transform.oma.org/the-newgeneral-assembly/>
 - Past: OMA General Council was a 250-person general council with 8 student representatives. Now, it is the OMA Priority Leadership group - a 125-person priority and leadership group with now only 1 student representative. Observers are also being limited / not being allowed, which further limited student representation at the OMA.
- Elections
 - OMSA council election occurs in May, but the election for OMA Section of Medical Students happens on a different date and occurs on a different platform. The issue is that because there is no official link between OMSA and the OMA Section of Medical Students, hypothetically any student could run, but it typically has been the OMSA President that naturally holds the position on the Section.

12.4. Hiring Process & Feedback - *President*

12.5. PARO Collaborations - *President*

- Please refer to the following [document](#) for more information.

12.6. *Afternoons with Adam - President*

- Dr. Adam Kassam (OMA President) speaks with section chairs for 10-minutes to Tuesday afternoon about anything they would like to talk about
 - Goal: to flush out any ideas or bring up any issues/concerns you have with Dr. Kassam
- Let Ushma know if there's anything you'd like brought up so she can bring it up on behalf of the Section.

13. EDI Discussions - VP Education

- Motion to go in-camera
 - Mover: Ushma Purohit
 - Secunder: Connie Li
 - Motion passes

14. New Business/Varia

- None

15. Next Meeting

15.1. December 4th, 2021: 10am - 4pm

16. Meeting Closure

16.1. Motion to end the meeting

- Mover: Ushma Purohit
- Secunder: Zack Chuang
- Motion passes