



AGENDA

AS Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 20, 2021, 5:30 PM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Motion to start the meeting
3. Motion to adopt agenda
4. Approving last meeting's minutes
5. Question period
6. Council Updates
 - AS President – Tony Li
 - Vice-President of External Affairs, Senior – Angela Salomon
 - Vice-President of External Affairs, Junior – Jamal Tarrabain
 - Vice-President of Internal Affairs – Joseph Samuel
 - Vice-President of Academic Affairs – Pedram Akbari
 - and for Academic Coordinator – Adriyan Hrycyszyn
 - Vice-President of Finance – Kiera Liblik
 - Treasurer – Ciara Morrison
 - Communication Officer – Bahar Entezari
 - University Affairs Officer, Senior – William Khoury
 - University Affairs Officer, Junior – Aceel Hawa
 - Social Affairs Officer – Alison Ross
 - Athletics Officer (2) – Linda Archila and Darwin Jimal
 - Global Health Liaison, Senior – Jessica Ho
 - Global Health Liaison, Junior – Rebecca Ng
 - Student Initiatives and Research Officer – Zahra Haq
 - and for Student Interest Group Coordinator – Sloane Kowal
 - Wellness Officer – Avneesh Banghu
 - Equity Officer, Senior – Christine Moon
 - and for Student Representative to the Admissions Committee – Mary Foley
 - Equity Officer, Junior - TBD
 - First Year President – Molly Cows
 - Second Year President – Jenn Campbell
 - Third Year Co-Presidents – Victoria Lee-Kim and Iku Nwosu
 - Fourth Year Co-Presidents – Josh Gnanasegaram and Rae Woodhouse
 - Past AS President – Danny Jomaa
 - Speaker of Council/Chief Electoral Officer – Marielle Balanaser
7. Agenda Items
 - President:

- Vote on signing of McMaster MedSoc "Response to CFMS re-Resignations of Yotakahron Jonathan and Santanna Hernandez"
 - Vote on signing Call to Action to the CFMS: Anti-Indigenous Racism Reforms letter (revised)
8. Next meeting
 9. Varia
 10. Motion to end meeting

MEETING MINUTES

1. Opening of the meeting

- Meeting called to order at 5:32PM
- Members in attendance:
 - Tony Li
 - Angela Salomon
 - Jamal Tarrabain
 - Joseph Samuel
 - Pedram Akbari
 - Adriyan Hrycyszyn
 - Kiera Liblik
 - Ciara Morrison
 - Bahar Entezari
 - William Khoury
 - Aceel Hawa
 - Alison Ross
 - Linda Archila
 - Darwin Jimal
 - Jessica Ho
 - Rebecca Ng
 - Zahra Haq
 - Christine Moon
 - Molly Cows
 - Jenn Campbell
 - Victoria Lee-Kim
 - Iku Nwosu
 - Josh Gnanasegaram
 - Rae Woodhouse
 - Danny Jomaa
 - Marielle Balanaser

2. Motion to start the meeting

- Kiera, Angie

3. Motion to adopt agenda

- Angie, Kiera

4. Approving last meeting's minutes

- Linda, Jenn

5. Question period

- None

6. Council Updates

- **AS President – Tony Li**
 - Congrats to 2022s on starting clerkship!

- Almost there 2021s!
- Setting up virtual care program with KHSC
 1. A few students are going to be helping patients with virtual visits
 2. Making sure it meets SLP criteria
 3. Clerks and potential pre-clerks can be involved
- National wide letter being presented to AFMC tomorrow Re: structured reference forms
- Discussion on resignation of Yotakahron Jonathan and Santanna Hernandez to come
- Accreditation process, MD/PHD interviews, all moving along
- **Vice-President of External Affairs, Senior – Angela Salomon**
 - OMSA
 1. Registration for the Wellness Retreat is open (virtual and free this year)
 - a. Socials, talks, workshops, etc.
 - b. February 13th and 21st
 2. OMSA and CFMS Perspectives in Medicine initiative is back (perspectivesinmedicine.ca)
 - a. You can submit and read stories/art
- **Vice-President of External Affairs, Junior – Jamal Tarrabain**
 - CFMS progress with calls to action
 1. Created a link on their website that tracts their anti-racism and EDI initiative
 - More to be discussed in agenda items
- **Vice-President of Internal Affairs – Joseph Samuel**
 - Nothing to report
- **Vice-President of Academic Affairs – Pedram Akbari**
 - In person classes, procedural skills, etc. were planned to happen in red zone; these are no longer occurring given the situation with COVID
 - First year red zones will run similar to last semester (no additional in-person classes)
 - Summer plans: summer curricular events are still being considered (community week, rotating observerships)
- **Academic Coordinator – Adriyan Hrycyshyn**
 - Rotating observerships is being organized as of now, but there is uncertainty as to whether or not it will happen
 - If they are being cancelled, we are looking to potentially substitute observerships online
 - Will be presenting the program to first years soon
- **Vice-President of Finance – Kiera Liblik**
 - Funding applications review are in progress (first round)
 - There is lots of funding – not all of it will roll over to next year, so please consider what items you may need this year and consider applying for funding
- **Treasurer – Ciara Morrison**
 - All reimbursement from last semester have been sent in

- Should take a few months to be processed
- **Communication Officer – Bahar Entezari**
 - Nothing to report
- **University Affairs Officer, Senior – William Khoury**
 - Nothing to report
- **University Affairs Officer, Junior – Aceel Hawa**
 - Nothing to report
- **Social Affairs Officer – Alison Ross**
 - Doing second round of clothing pick-ups this month – all contactless
- **Athletics Officer (2) – Linda Archila and Darwin Jimal**
 - QMed Yoga is starting up
- **Global Health Liaison, Senior – Jessica Ho**
 - Health and Human Rights Conference went smoothly last weekend
 1. 300+ people registered
 2. Raised \$3000+ for selected organizations
 - Happy to discuss Global Health Liaison calls to action
- **Global Health Liaison, Junior – Rebecca Ng**
 - Nothing to report
- **Student Initiatives and Research Officer – Zahra Haq, and for Student Interest Group Coordinator – Sloane Kowal (absent)**
 - Mid year reports have been sent out to interest groups
 - Will be enforcing mandatory 1 collaborating event, and transition manuals to 2024s
- **Wellness Officer – Avneesh Banghu**
 - CFMS Wellness Challenge happening Jan 18 to Feb 14th
 - Pre-clerkship confidential event will be on Jan 27th (tentative)
 - Bell Let's Talk is coming up
 - QMed Wellness month will be starting after the national wellness challenge
- **Equity Officer, Senior – Christine Moon**
 - Nothing to report
- **and for Student Representative to the Admissions Committee – Mary Foley**
- **First Year President – Molly Cows**
 - Concerns with clinical skills adolescent session arose this past week; have been discussed with the UGME and clinical skills rep will be following up with that soon
- **Second Year President – Jenn Campbell**
 - Part-way through red zone
 - Testing for red zones
 1. Occupational health at the hospital was able to test students on the Friday before red zone
 2. Helped getting more students participating with clinical skills
 3. Will be discussing how to fix the testing bottleneck with Dr. Jones
- **Third Year Co-Presidents – Victoria Lee-Kim and Iku Nwosu**
 - 2022s started clerkship! Thank you to 2021s for helping around the hospitals

- Met with 2022 presidents across Canada
 1. Discussed vaccine rollout (dependent on regions, number of vaccines...)
 2. Discussed electives
 - a. There will be no visiting electives until September
 - b. Affects some schools more than other
 3. Standardized letter of reference for CaRMS
 - a. Concerns being sent via joint letter
- **Fourth Year Co-Presidents – Josh Gnanasegaram and Rae Woodhouse**
 - Starting process of getting graduation awards in order
 - Aesculapian award recipient can be nominated on by all of QMed – will be posting in Queen's Medicine group on FB
- **Past AS President – Danny Jomaa**
 - The admission committee advisory group met with Kelly Moore and Dr. McDonald to provide feedback and discuss the recommendations that were put forward for the current admissions cycle; also discussed MMI station that are being planned this year
- **Speaker of Council/Chief Electoral Officer – Marielle Balanaser**
 - Elections are ongoing (3 elections: Equity Junior, 2024 Professional Reps and 2023 Curricular Reps)
 1. Please vote!
 - We are holding a by-election for the second 2023 clerkship Curricular Rep role
 1. Only the AS will be voting in the by-election; it is important we vote in a timely manner to get the team ready to go

7. Agenda Items

- President (see speaker's list for the discussion surrounding both agenda items):
 - Vote on signing of McMaster MedSoc "Response to CFMS re-Signations of Yotakahron Jonathan and Santanna Hernandez"
 - a. Motioned by Tony, seconded by Iku
 - b. Motion passes with over 2/3 votes in favour
 - Vote on signing Call to Action to the CFMS: Anti-Indigenous Racism Reforms letter (revised)
 - a. There is weight in having a medical school society signing off on a letter
 - b. There have been some schools that have voted to sign on and some schools that have voted to not sign on
 - c. Motioned by Jessica, seconded by Tony Li
 - d. Motion passes with over 2/3 votes in favour

Speaker's list

- *Jessica: would like to bring attention to the FAQ section, particularly in regard to the changes and why they happen (decisions made in consultations with Indigenous student advocates); the letter is not to be divisive, but to highlight Indigenous voices and their thoughts on what must be done to effect real change; the resignations in the board do not disqualify the work that these individuals are able to enact*

- *Christine: have spoken with Queen's and non-Queen's student on CFMS and OMSA; we are hopeful that things can change at the provincial and national level in terms of policies and practises in student governance*
- *Jenn: are we voting to support McMaster and Calgary's MedSocs in withholding their fees, or are we voting to withhold our fees?*
 - *Tony: We are voting to support of McMaster and Calgary's MedSocs in withholding their fees*
- *Rae: the terminology in the letter is vague in specifying individual involved/the sequence of events; looking for clarity in terms of who we are asking to resign*
 - *Tony: the point of clarity has been discussed a lot by other schools; the first letter is asking the entire board to resign as all but one of the board members contributed to acts of anti-Indigenous racism either directly or indirectly*
 - *Jessica: what exactly has happened on the board has not been share, but the focus here is to believe Indigenous voices*
- *Danny: at the bottom of the page it indicates that the McMaster and Calgary hope to see the demands met by April 2021; it will take time to have these calls to action met appropriately; has there been discussion around the feasibility of these calls to action being met in time?*
 - *Tony: some of the concerns around the resignation were around the impact on CFMS activities; a lot of things planned by the CFMS may not occur due to the number of resignations; a lot of the demands require work from positions that are not currently filled; the hope is that if the calls to action are followed, recruitment can be done as fast as possible to meet the demands on time; the timeline is reasonable, but the speed of the response will depend in part on the response of the board to the letter*
- *Iku: two Indigenous members of CFMS gave up their positions because of the racism they experience; the demands may sound extreme but the impacts on the Indigenous students were just as extreme; some members of the CFMS may have to stay in their roles longer than expected to meet the calls to action*
- *Angie: when will/was the letter presented to the CFMS board? And what has the board indicated to be their next steps and progress towards anti-racism initiatives and EDI, and are they aligned with this letter?*
 - *Tony: the letter should have been received officially by the board today; there is a 24-48h time stated to expect a response*
- *Christine: the demands are the bare minimum we can expect from a student government; there has been pushback in the topic of resignation but we need to consider what we want in our leadership and how we want it to change; the CFMS has not addressed this entire situation responsibly; they are not changing the racist and colonialist policies informing their work; as someone who was not involved in writing this letter, and non-member of the CFMS, I believe we need to push the CFMS with this*
- *Alison: members of the board must have seen the letter circulating on the internet, why have they not responded? Has anyone on the board already resigned? If the board does resign, will new board members continue on following the spring AGM*
 - *Tony: the board is currently having their winter retreat (weekend meetings over a couple of weeks); some national officers have resigned; 3a of the letter outlines a method for new individuals to be selected immediately*

- *Rebecca: no one on the official board of directors have publicly resigned, but other members have resigned*
- *Christine: the organization can hope that BIPOC students will run for positions, but this will not happen if they do not feel safe within the CFMS; we need radical change to see students from equity-seeking groups to run for these positions; CFMS is not bad/racist, but Canadians and the medical institution have racist and colonial values which are reflected in our policies and practices – the AS needs to consider how we can address this*
- *Rae: if everyone resigns and there is a by-election, is there a sense that anyone will want to run for these positions?*
 - *Christine: people are doing this work whether or not they are elected; the question is not whether the work will be done but who we want in leadership positions*
 - *Jess: there is a question of whether we would want to be affiliated with the CFMS if changes don't happen; if we don't do anything at all, there would still be a problem with association with the CFMS*
- *Jenn: do members of the board currently represent BIPOC communities? If yes, how would bringing in a new cohort help?*
 - *Tony: yes and this has been a consideration; we don't want to silence the voices of any BIPOC members, but no true change has been made in the past year; purpose of signing the letters is to show our support and our belief that these racist actions really did occur and we must hold CFMS accountable*
- *Angie: the CFMS culture reflects the medical institution in which we work; I am for signing this form, but keeping in mind that the specific individuals are reflecting medical student culture and not necessarily their personal values*
 - *Tony: I think that is fair, and I agree that these calls are not meant to be punitive, but rather a way to enact change*
- *Angie: it has been recognized that this situation stems from institutional racism – is there any wording in the letter that acknowledges this and that more must be done longitudinally to address the racism, which will be an infinite process beyond the calls to action proposed*
 - *Christine: we should demand change and dismantling of the institution; the demands are the bare minimum and this is a start to getting the CFMS to look at their policies/practises and make change; this work must also be done here at QMed within our own MedSoc*
 - *Jess: we recognise this change we want to see will not happen overnight; we didn't specify exactly how we want to see things happen but we included a deadline to add accountability and see a move in the right direction*

8. Next meeting

- February 3rd, 2021 5:30P

9. Varia

- None

10. Motion to end meeting

- Will, Jenn
- Meeting ended at 6:59PM