

AHSUM Attendance Minutes

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Speaker: Recchia, Jule

Secretary: Vice President, Nagib

Attendance

The following members were present:

- Recchia, Jule
- Sloan, Connor
- Ismail, Sarah
- Crawford, Meagan
- Hang, Vivienne
- Nathoo, Sarina
- Al-Hammadi, Mawj
- Harris, Taylor
- Szajbely, Katie
- Ismali, Raina

Regrets: Nagib, Hannah and Erb, Clara

Preliminaries

Call to Order

President, Recchia called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Highs and Lows

High and lows will not be recorded since they are personal reflections.

Regular Agenda

Approval of Agenda

Be it resolved that Approval of Agenda

Motioned: Vice President, Sloan and Seconded: Director, Szajbely

Motion carries unanimously

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Be it resolved that Approval of Agenda

Motioned: Representative, Nathoo and Seconded: Director, Szajbely

Motion carries unanimously

Reports of Officers

President

President, Recchia reported that individuals are working on the constitution and are hoping to have it finalized soon. President Recchia explained that she is currently making final edits and then will have to go over it with the WUSA President, Abby. As well, President Recchia reported that AHSUM is close to finalizing the name change with respect to the society, however, she is waiting to hear back from WUSA President, Abby in order to see if this is a matter which will need to be brought up at the general meeting on March 9, 2021. President Recchia explained to the team that after the meeting on March 9, 2021 the changes should be finalized and if not then, then they will be finalized by the end of the term

VP of Internal Affairs

No updates.

VP of Education

Vice President Harris reported that she will be forwarding information with respect to the general workshops that the Centre for Career Action offers to the discord team so that it can be posted and shared with other AHS students.

VP of Finance

Vice President Sloan reported that the gift cards were sent out. Vice President Sloan further explained that if anyone on the team did not receive their gift card, then they are to send their email to Vice President Sloan and he will reach out to Accountant Gurpreet regarding this matter. Likewise, Vice President Sloan explained to the team that if any students reach out to them regarding not receiving a gift card then they are to email Vice President Sloan.

Directors

Director Szajbely reported that she attended the Student Engagement Working Group Meeting on February 24, 2021. She further reported that many individuals (students, staff and professors) brought into light that discord is difficult to navigate especially with respect to the Pops and Talks event. Director Szajbely explained that difficulties included not being able to get onto the server on time or figuring out how to get on at all. Director Szajbely also reported that there will be an Alumni Panel taking place on March 11, 2021 and is open to everyone at the University of Waterloo. Director Szajbely explained that there will be three panelists: a first year internal medicine resident, a data analyst and a health informatics student. Director Szajbely reported that the Alumni Panel event is looking for AHSUM to aid in promoting the event through their social media platforms. Finally, Director Szajbely reported that Josh suggested that he host his office hours on the AHSUM discord channel so that he can reach more students and that he will be in touch with the AHSUM executives in the future regarding this matter.

Director Crawford reported that advertisements regarding the laptop stand initiative will begin February 26, 2021, however, she asked if there was a way to send an email to all students so that those who do not have social media will still be able to take part in this initiative. President Recchia directed director Crawford to speak with Josh regarding emailing all students and also suggested contacting Krystal with respect to posting the advertisement on LEARN. Director Crawford also mentioned that Krystal will have the power to post the advertisement on the Faculty instagram. Finally, Director Crawford reported that sweater sales should be ready to begin soon.

Representatives

Representative Nathoo reported that herself and Representative Al-Hammadi attended the SPHHS Faculty meeting. Representative Nathoo further reported that SPHHS will be undergoing a name change by April 2021 and their name will be changed to the School of Public Health Scientists, SPHS. Furthermore, Representative Nathoo also reported that she attended an Advisory Committee meeting where they discussed creating the new budget model for the Student Lives Initiative committee. Representative Nathoo also reported that there is more flexibility in the budget since there are no in person events due to COVID-19. As well, representative Nathoo reported that she attended the Health Working Group Committee with Director Szajbely where they met with Janet and Elena Neiterman where they discussed ways to promote experiential learning beyond co-op. Representative Nathoo explained that they are hoping to drive the EDGE program to first students so that they are able to be more involved as well as they would like to organize more panels for students to attend.

Representative Al-Hammadi reported that the school is looking to create a school specific teaching reward opposed to the AHS Teaching Award; aiming to recognize more professors. Representative Al-Hammadi explained that they are looking to create two - three awards

however for the time being, they have come up with 4 tentative awards. The awards go as following:

1. Undergraduate thesis supervision award – will recognize instructors who are committed to supervision of undergraduate thesis students. This award will (a) celebrate the existing champions on undergraduate thesis supervision and (b) promote undergraduate thesis supervision within the School as a valuable form of teaching.
2. Undergraduate teaching award – will recognize the exceptional instructions within the school. This award will consider those who did outstanding work in the classroom and/or showed commitment to undergraduate teaching via participation in activities that promote students' engagement outside the classroom. Specific consideration will be given to candidates who made an impact on students' learning by making contributions to students' knowledge (e.g. tie to Learning Objectives) and/or creating a sense of community and belonging to SPHHS community (e.g. tie to EDI goals).
3. Graduate mentorship award – will recognize faculty members who demonstrated an outstanding commitment to graduate students' mentorship, offering meaningful opportunities for engagement and providing support to their mentees???
4. Graduate teaching award – will recognize instructors who demonstrated excellent and commitment to graduate teaching. This award will consider those who did outstanding work in the classroom and/or showed commitment to graduate teaching via participation in activities that promote graduate students' engagement with the SPHHS community. Specific consideration will be given to candidates who made an impact on students' learning by making contributions to students' knowledge (e.g. tie to Learning Objectives) and/or creating a sense of community and belonging to the SPHHS community (e.g. tie to EDI goals).

Representative Al-Hammadi further explained that nominations will be done by students, preferably using ONE online form with an opportunity to nominate the same instructor for multiple awards and/or provide narrative for each identified criteria. As well, Representative Al-Hammaid further explained that a committee composed of the Teaching Fellow, one/two other faculty members (Diane/Scott) and representatives from graduate and undergraduate students will assess the nominations and identify potential winners. Representative Al-Hammadi also explained that the committee will review students' nomination, but will also consider factors pertaining to these instructors' demonstrated excellence in other domains. Finally, representative Al-Hammadi asked the AHSUM Executive team what their opinion with respect to this idea is. Vice President Harris suggested that these awards are all sent to the AHSUM facebook group as it is a lot to take in at once and also asked if there are currently students in the school who are currently doing an undergraduate thesis. Representative Al-Hammadi answered explaining that this is where the form comes into play as a lot of the time what happens is that professors who teach bigger, first year lectures will have a larger quantity of people who are able to nominate them whereas if you are teaching an upper year seminar there are a lot less students therefore, they wanted to separate the thesis award and general teaching award to ensure it is not based off of quantity. Vice president Harris proceeded to ask whether Representative Al-Hammadi was aware of how many professors were supervising thesis's and representative Al-Hamadi answered saying that she will figure out the answer to that question and let her know. Representative Hang asked whether the awards were nomination based or elected by the school and Representative Hang responded saying they are nomination based; focusing on student's voices. Representative Hang also suggested telling professors to tell their students that they were allowed to nominate them for

the award. Finally, representative Al-Hammadi reported that once she has more details regarding this matter she will let the team know.

Representative Hang reported that she met the Ontario Kinesiology Association which is looking to create a network of resources and connections for Kinesiology students across Ontario and they are looking for AHSUM to promote it. Moreover, Representative Hang reported that it is free to get an OKA membership and there are a lot of perks and opportunities included in the membership. Representative Hang explained that she asked if this is available to students outside of Kinesiology and she is still waiting for her response. Moreover, Representative Hang reported that she attended the Kinesiology Undergraduate Committee where they discussed that they will be moving forward with the Neuroscience minor and are hoping to have it implemented before September 2021. As well, representative Hang reported that they are looking to change the Kinesiology student CO-OP sequence in order to ensure it is done during one term to save resources, however, they will be consulting students before making any decisions. Finally, representative Hang reported that she attended the Kinesiology Department meeting where they discussed that the department name change was approved at senate and this will start September 2021. As well, representative Hang reported that the department is still looking to hire research assistants, SOLA'S and OLA's for the spring term but they are waiting to hear back with respect to funding.

Miscellaneous

Ontario's Games Night

Director Szajbely reported that with respect to games night, they have asked all faculty's to set aside \$100 for prizes and informed the team that they might not have to use all or any of it. As well, director Szajbely explained that the event will be taking place over zoom and that Josh had concerns due to what happened with the environment event and wanted the team's opinion. Representative Al-Hammadi explained that as long as they have some people in charge of monitoring the event she believes the pros outweigh the cons and that it is worth giving the event a chance. As well, President Recchia asked if there is a way to send a code or link to only the students that signed up for the event opposed to making it public. Director Szajbely answered explaining that a link will be sent out to students who signed up for the event via email. Director Szajbely asked Vice President Sloan whether we could fit the \$100 for prizes into our budget and Vice president Sloan responded with yes. President Recchia asked if director Szajbely knew if Ryerson had any plans put in place incase any issues arose and also told director Szajbely she is able to tell them about the environment event incident. Director Szajbely answered saying she does not have an answer to that question and will ask at the next meeting. Director Szajbely further explained the plan for Ontario's Game Night thus far. Director Szajbely explained that everyone will be put into a Kahoot game and the top 3 winners will be awarded prizes from whichever university they belong to. Director Szajbely further explained that afterwards there will be breakout rooms where games will be taking place and that there will be room monitors who are keeping track of who wins and everyone will be put into a prize pool so that however many prizes are being awarded it will be a big draw.

New Business

AHSUM Website

President, Recchia reported that herself and director Erb were in a meeting with Josh and Michelle, who is overlooking the website. President Recchia explained that we will be changing programs which has been limiting AHSUM from updating the website. President Recchia further explained that this switch will be happening from May-May and that is with respect to all the websites. Additionally, President Recchia reported that as of today, AHSUM has been granted permission to begin updating the website however, there are accessibility issues that need to be resolved as well. As well, President Recchia explained that herself and director Erb will need to go through the entire website and decide what needs to say and what needs to go. Furthermore, President Recchia asked the team what their opinion was with respect to creating a poll for students to identify student engagement with respect to the AHSUM website. Representative Szajbely answered saying she personally went through the website a lot therefore, for students like herself she believes that the website should be updated. The AHSUM executives collectively decided that updating the website would be a great idea.

Fees

President Recchia reported that the AHSUM executives need to decide whether or not they would like to charge the \$5 fee to AHS students in the spring term. Vice President Sloan answered saying that the fee should be charged. President Recchia further clarified that the \$5 society fee will be optional therefore, students are free to opt out of the fee if they desire. Vice president Harris asked whether students who have been entering our contests and events this term are on a study term. President Recchia answered saying as of right now due to being online, there has been no criteria for entering events or contests as there is no way to monitor that and that co-op students are still allowed to join events and contests. The AHSUM executive team came to the consensus that they will charge the optional \$5 society fee for the spring and will also be keeping it all year round. With respect to the endowment fund fee, President Recchia reported that Josh is looking for the AHSEF committee so that he could talk about giving them the survey results as well as charging the endowment fund to students.

Be it resolved that the Chair adjourns the meeting at 4:56 pm.

Motioned: Director, Ismali and Seconded: Representative, Nathoo

Motion carries unanimously