



APSA General Council Meeting

January 11, 2021 at 17:00

(Google Meets <https://meet.google.com/efk-zzcf-amo>)

1. Call to order (17:01)
2. Roll call (2 min): Megan, Matthew, Ayush, Anthony, Kevin, Angel, Garrett, Rachel, Navjot, Diane, Jackie, Marzena, Paul, John, Cody, Jared, Monica, Nathan, Doha, Akshita, Eliana, Makboolee, Nicole, Brianna, Yan, Mandy, Prof. Bharadia, Dr. Sanghera, Leah, Zac,
Regrets: Scott, Colleen
3. Additions to the agenda (1 min)
 - a. CAPSI National Elections - Ayush (1 min)
 - b. Review of SU Action Items - Dr. Sanghera (5 min)
Motion: To approve the agenda
First: Ayush **Second:** Matthew. **Motion carries**
4. Review last meeting's minutes (1 min)
Motion: To approve the previous Council Meeting Minutes
First: Ayush **Second:** Leah. **Motion carries**

New Business:

5. Upcoming Elections Overview - Paul (5 min)
 - a. Paul - I just wanted to go over a rough timeline of events so that if there's any timing issues I can get them out of the way now. The general process is going to be the same for the general elections in March, although those dates are set by the Student Union not APSA. My current plan is on Monday January 18th to release the application for the presidential elections and I will run that until Sunday January 24th. I didn't see anything in the constitution that says that electronic signatures will be an issue. On Tuesday January 26th, I'll be having the candidates meeting after class and then January 27th will be the deadline for candidates to submit their biographies. The campaign will officially start on January 28th. I'm thinking I might have the candidates forum during lunch on February 1st and then voting will take place on February 3rd-4th from 9am-5pm. This then gives us Friday and Saturday to calculate the votes and then the results will be announced on 7th at the latest, assuming there's no issues. I might need some help with the candidates forum because I haven't set up a Zoom or Google Hangout before.
 - b. Ayush - I can help with setting up the candidates forum.
 - c. Paul - The other thing I wanted to ask was regarding class speeches. In the past, we've had class speeches where you can talk before class. I'm wondering how the class reps feel about that this year with things being online. I know I've noticed that we're already starting usually a little later, figuring out tech stuff and if the reps are okay approaching professors asking if they could take time for students to make a speech or if in addition to their one post on APSA members corner we allow them to also make a one minute video of a speech that can either go on APSA members corner or the class pages.
 - d. Brianna - I went through the video process for my class election and I thought it went really smoothly and that it was very simple. I think it is probably the best way to go because as you said, we're already facing time constraints being online.
 - e. Kevin - I wanted to speak on this more because I know we typically don't allow candidates to post onto class pages and we see lots of posts on Members Corner. Given this year and the challenges we have for candidates, I was wondering if we were considering either making a separate page that's attached to APSA members corner that will have everything elections on it. That way we have a separate page and it won't take over APSA Members Corner and it



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won't take over the different class pages. I feel like we have to give the candidates a space to speak but flooding APSA Members Corner is not a good idea.

- f. Paul - Right now candidates can only make one post on APSA Members Corner, where they're allowed to say "this is who I am, this is what I'm running for, here's my Facebook page, please follow me there" and their own Facebook pages are where they can actively campaign. My question is more so if candidates should be able to post an extra 60 second video in addition to the post instead of doing class speeches, or if they want to do a particular speech and tailor it to each class then post it on each class page.
- g. Kevin - I was wondering if we can put all the speeches on it's own page because that way it doesn't take over APSA Members Corer because there will be that one day when everyone's posts are coming through which is bad for candidates because their posts will get lost in all the candidates.
- h. Paul - I can compile them all into a Google Drive and share that on Members Corner.
- i. Anthony - Before, each president-elect candidate would be allowed to make the one APSA post and I think if we try to substitute a class speech a post onto that specific class page wouldn't be too much. I don't think it would be overflowing APSA Members Corner by any means but I do think it is a good idea to have an APSA election page where people can refer back to it and do their research.
- j. Kevin - I also think because we're moving forward and I think Paul was talking about the general elections in March that if we make the elections page the infrastructure will be in place for the elections in March.
- k. Matthew - I think that going with recorded videos to the class would be more feasible because it saves professors from trying to have to open the Zoom linke 5-10 mins early. I also know that a lot of my class tends to log in at the last minute so I think recording is better. I think the idea of compiling them all into one big list once we get the nominations would be nice.
- l. Paul - I can release it at the same time as the biographies so the biographies and videos are released together and then candidates can make their one post.
- m. Megan - If we did want to go down the route of live class speeches we do have a policy in place with the faculty for that I can help navigate. I do have concerns about making a separate APSA elections page and I think making a Google Drive folder that we link onto Members corner would be better. If we do an APSA elections Facebook page, to keep materials confidential we would have to go through the APSA members list and approve every single person and that's a lot of work to do when we already have that one Members corner. We could link the Google Drive and have the settings as only people with the link can access the folder and so I think that is probably a better route to go down just logistically.
- n. Diane - I was wondering if we can make an infographic for this like Megan does for APSA monthly? I think it's really helpful to keep APSA Members on track and because I'm hearing a lot of potential changes I think it could be helpful.
- o. Ayush - I liked the timeline alot but maybe making a post sometime this week to give people a heads up that presidential elections are coming up and if they are interested they should start talking to Anthony because it is a lot to take on, especially when we don't know what next year will look like so people should put in proper thought before taking the presidential position.
- p. Paul - I was going to make a post tomorrow morning before classes.
- q. Anthony - For any first or second years in this meeting right now who are interested in running, please feel free to reach out so we can have a chat and talk things over.



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6. Social January Photo Challenge - Leah (2 min)
 - a. Leah - I just wanted to give you a brief overview of social January and the photo challenge I have going on because I know there's a lot of posts. This is another Mint Cup initiative and it is an opportunity to earn individual Mint Cup points as well as team points. Please keep your photos professional but have fun with it. I'm going to be posting 6 more challenges after today over the next 3 weeks. It's a chance to make us feel a little bit more connected even when we're far away. If anyone is confused at all, please shoot me a message. We also have one more social January event at the end of this month which is a sitcom themed trivia happening on January 28th.
7. Photography Idea (Humans of New York) - Doha (15 min)
 - a. [Supporting Website](#)
 - b. Doha - I am one of the photographers and I thought I would bring my idea to council for feedback and suggestions. The idea is to present and showcase the students in our program and perhaps even staff members on our social media platforms, such as Facebook or Instagram in a Human's of New York format. I'm not sure if you are familiar with that but it would be posting a picture with a caption of the individual's unique story or experience they've had whether it was with the pharmacy program or just the theme we are talking about. Along with that I would have to coordinate with the social media director. If you wanted to have the posts themed towards a certain area like the graduating class, I can reach out to the class social reps and I could work in a collaboration. We could even look at giving out Mint Cup points for participating. The details regarding the set up would include probably having a Google Form to fill in, which students who want to participate can fill out. Pictures would be taken outside and dependent on COVID restrictions the interviews can be done in person or Zoom, again depending on COVID restrictions. Do you have any suggestions or feedback regarding this?
 - c. Brianna - I'm a part of the CAPSI student wellness and they are implementing the same thing. Just to let you know and have that on your radar too that maybe you could collaborate with them, if someone submits something to CAPSI and they're from our faculty you could possibly also post it for us as well. If you want I can connect you with the people doing this for CAPSI.
 - d. Ayush - The Race Against Racism committee had been talking about this prior to the fall term ending, basically highlighting people of color within the faculty, sharing their stories on social media, etc. I think that would be something you could integrate into this instead of us doing 2 separate things. The other thing I wanted to say was that this is a cool idea and I appreciate you bringing it to council!
 - e. Navjot - I just wanted to share that this was something that we wanted to bring forward and I think it was more with faculty and other healthcare professionals. If that's something you think you'd also like to help with and maybe we can explore it further.
 - f. Angel - I don't know if you have been keeping up with Humans of New York lately but recently once the lockdown happened the founder has been doing distanced meetings where instead of talking in person they would talk over Zoom and instead of having to take their picture in person, you would have the person submit their photo to you. I think that would be safer for everyone involved and it's something you can consider for your project.
 - g. Anthony - I just want to mirror what Ayush said, that it's a really cool idea and I appreciate you bringing it forward to council and it is definitely not a small undertaking but I think it would bring a lot of value. It's good to highlight students you know outside of the pharmacy world and allows us to connect with people at different levels. Maybe you can touch base with Brianna and Navjot and you can try to collaborate on a few things and discuss it further.



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8. APSA Bear - Garrett (2 min)
 - a. Garrett - This week, starting the new semester, I wanted to give the APSA bear to AYush because he has helped me a ton with everything that I've needed, whether it be RxFactor or anything else. He always gives his opinion and he always has helped me through things, even if his opinion is not always the same as mine he isn't afraid to voice it and I really appreciate that from him.
 - b. Anthony - Very well deserved Ayush!

9. Additions to the Agenda
 - a. CAPSI National Elections - Ayush (1 min)
 1. Ayush - CAPSI National elections will be happening this weekend at the national meetings that Rachel and I will be attending. We vote on behalf of the student body for the national positions. Sometime this week, we'll be launching the people who are running on the Facebook page so I encourage everyone to vote because our job is to vote for the student body. We have 2 people on council running. Megan is running for Executive Secretary and Makboolee is running for VP Professional Affairs. So please show your support and vote in the Google form that Rachel and I will send out later this week.
 - b. Review of SU Action Items- Dr. Sanghera (5 min)
 1. Anthony - Dr. Sanghera I'm not sure if you wanted to lead this or if you had questions based on our last discussion?
 2. Dr. Sanghera - My apologies for missing the last meeting I wanted to seek some understanding and if there were any outcomes from APSA putting forward that letter or those recommendations or signing on with that policy, because it does have implications for the program. I also wanted to offer support as Morgan did in the last meeting and see if there is anything we can take back to the faculty to address the concerns.
 3. Navjot - APSA signed the joint call to action to the workload and we did not sign the joint call to end online proctoring. In terms of where the letters have gone I haven't heard anything from COFA, and I know that was their first step to gauge where the student bodies were from the different faculties. I will follow up with David from the SU to see where both of those are but I haven't heard of anything yet and I don't have a meeting upcoming yet. Is there anything in particular that you wanted me to look into?
 4. Dr. Sanghera - If we can keep the communication between the faculty and the student experience open that is very important to us. Understanding that we are in a unique situation being a professional program if you could follow-up that would be great. Dr. Cor and Dr. Hall and I meet every 2 weeks. The other thing that came up in the minutes was the need for town halls and it's been a while since Student Services has held a town hall. I was going to ask the group when we should schedule another one? Is there a need right now?
 5. Anthony - I think that would be beneficial. I know I had expressed before the meeting started that the break felt really short and so I hope that people had the time to recharge but just talking to some peers, it doesn't really appear that way. I think it'd be great to open up that communication, to listen, and provide some encouragement because we do have a long road ahead of us knowing it is going to be online again.



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6. Dr. Sanghera - That is great feedback and I'll go back to student services and we'll schedule something before the start of midterms and go from there.
7. Anthony - Thank you sounds great.

10. Adjournment (17:27)

First: Garret Second: Leah