



APSA General Council Meeting

October 26, 2020 (15:00)

Via Google Meets (<https://meet.google.com/krr-vapv-ieg>)

1. Call to order (15:06)
2. Roll call (2 mins): Anthony, Megan, Garrett, Navjot, Ayush, Eliana, Jared, Jackie, Leah
3. Additions to the agenda (1 min)
Motion: To approve the agenda
First: Navjot **Second:** Ayush
4. Review last meeting minutes (1 min)
Motion: To approve the previous meeting minutes
First: Garret **Second:** Ayush

New Business:

5. RxA Initiatives and Support - Anthony (15 min)
 - a. Anthony - I had a conversation with Ali Demani from RxA on Friday just to check up on everything. He has been looking for ways for RxA to get involved and how they can support us. He wants to get more students involved in RxA, increase their membership and have students keep their memberships when they graduate. He has quite a large budget and they have contributed a lot of money to APSA in the past and he is willing to do that this year. I told him that because everything is online we don't really have as many events planned that are set in stone like we typically would. I said I would bring him initiatives on an ongoing basis when they came up. I wanted to bring this to everyone's attention to be aware of so if you want to try to implement an event or initiative and you are wondering how to get funding for it Ali is a great resource. If you bring an idea to me I can get you and Ali in contact with one another and you can strategize ways to make it happen. If you have any current events that you already have planned and want sponsorship or try to increase student turnout by providing prizes we can reach out to Ali and ask for some funding for prizes. Ali is also willing to attend events to just have RxA's presence there. I was thinking he might be a good person to add in to Career Series because his background and career are quite diverse. Ayush I was wondering if you had reached out to him for the PAM advocacy video yet?
 - b. Ayush - When I met with Lisa two weeks ago, it sounded like she had a meeting with Ali and was going to pitch forward the PAM video to him, did he bring that up at all?
 - c. Anthony - I asked him about it specifically and he had no idea. I know that he and Lisa are working on an advocacy competition for the 2023's next semester.
 - d. Ayush - I can reach out to Ali about the PAM advocacy video. The video itself is going ahead so I can reach out to him with logistics and other opportunities to get involved.
 - e. Navjot - I can send him some dates for career series for next semester. It is looking pretty busy because a lot of things have been pushed into next semester due to COVID but I can send him some dates. I believe he also already has access to the Google Calendar, is that correct? I can also send him the links for the career series that are planned already as well in case he wants to pop in to those.
 - f. Megan - He does have access to the calendar but I can resend the link in case he has trouble accessing it. I can also check in with him to see if he wants an email reminder every couple weeks in advance with the events we have planned in the next few weeks.
 - g. Navjot - i know we are still working on sponsors but we do have some awards that have RxA's names attached, I don't know if we want to open the door for them to sponsor more but that's something to think about.
 - h. Anthony - Jared may have a better idea of where we are at sponsorship wise.
 - i. Jared - We have 3 sponsors for this year so far. We have one sponsor from last year, Calgary Co-Op, and the Medicine Shop. As far as everyone else, it has been a bit challenging in terms of people not being sure what they can do for us. I have been giving them a tentative plan of what we have planned for winter. A lot of people have been hesitant to sponsor us because we're not in person and so they won't be able to interact with the student's face to face. My

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uncle works for Bayer Crop Sciences/Bayer Pharmaceuticals and he is going to sponsor us in some capacity. I am also going to be contacting ACP in a week or two, I know they're currently looking at their budget and seeing how much they can give us. I think ACP will also be interested in probably sponsoring an award or two again this year.

- j. Ayush - With The Capsule, I saw it in the class email and I don't know if this is asking too much for our class reps but instead of having RxA send us weekly emails for us to send to the class reps, could we just ask the class reps to include The Capsule in our class email weekly since the newest addition is released every Thursday?
- k. Anthony - I asked Ali to send me the link every Thursday because I was having trouble finding it and I've been sending it to the class reps from there. Can you explain a bit further what you're thinking?
- l. Ayush - I was thinking we could have the class reps set it up where we have an image of The Capsule and it can hyperlink straight to The Capsule for the week instead of having the link there.
- m. Anthony - How did you find the link? Is it on the RxA website?
- n. Ayush - I found it on Facebook and Ali traditionally posts it every week on the Alberta Pharmacists United Page. If you click that link you can also look at past issues. I can explain more after this meeting but I think that could be something simple to get more people looking into RxA.
- o. Anthony - That is something that we were doing, Ali had reached out to me and we had talked about including The Capsule in the weekly class emails because its a good way to keep up with RxA and what is happening in pharmacy.
- p. Navjot - I know last year with the new legislation being brought in about EpiPens and schools, I know RxA was interested in partnering with community education so I don't know if that's something they're still interested in and I don't know if Nicole is interested in it either. I know Nicole has probably got this semester planned but we could think about pitching it to her to see what she thinks and to see if RxA is still interested and this could be another joint initiative.
- q. Leah - If we are looking for more student involvement I can talk to Ali and see if he would be interested in sponsoring some prizes to get students involved in something like trivia, music bingo, or another event; we could have these prizes instead of Mint Cup points for some events. I know in previous years RxA wanted their sponsorship money to be spent on student betterment as a whole instead of a few students so I'm not sure if they would be willing to sponsor prizes, did Ali say anything about this Anthony?
- r. Anthony - From the sounds of it he has had his budget approved and he is in control of it so I think it would be worthwhile to reach out to him and see what he says. I also think that if he can partner with Lisa and Ayush that would be a big win in his eyes because it's a big public advocacy event. I also think if we can just him the opportunity to be involved in other events throughout the year that
- s. Ayush - Just knowing Ali I think he's going to be less hesitant about prizes because he basically wants to involve students so they go on to be involved in RxA so I think he'll be really flexible.
- t. Anthony - Ultimately at the end of the day RxA wants more members, and they want students to keep their memberships when they become pharmacists.
- u. Anthony - Navjot, to your point about community ed, I think this is something that we can talk to all counselors about because we aren't the only ones planning events so we can just make them all more aware that RxA is wanting to be more involved.
- v. Ayush - I know last year we had an APSA event where APSA councilors went to a dinner with RxA to network and learn about advocacy and leadership, could we consider opening that up to the whole student body over Zoom? I don't know who's portfolio that would fall under but we could plan in March and I am willing to speak to him about that. I know in my research it came out that it didn't make sense that APSA councilors were the only people who got to gain

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access to events like this to network with the professionals.

- w. Anthony - This past year we were going to have a government walk through to see the process of how you advocate, what it's like to meet with the government and there was going to be a session afterwards. It was supposed to be last year but got cancelled due to COVID. Ellen and Ali are going to try to redo it virtually this year and have Scott mediate it like a panel discussion. I don't know if this is something that is being opened up to council or the entire student body. Ali mentioned that it is something to serve as a casual conversation about hot topics in pharmacy and doesn't have to be as much about government and politics. If anyone wants me to reach out to Allie on their behalf, let me know. I know we all have a pretty decent relationship with him and he's a super easy going guy and very receptive to ideas. Garret, a question for you about RxFactor and Unveil-O-Ween. Have you been sending the information to external bodies or have you been keeping it more for students and faculty? I know in the past RxA has been at RxFactor and has even acted as judges.
 - x. Garret - I hadn't anticipated sending the link to external bodies and we hadn't talked about it at all. I am talking with Ravina and Dallyce because they wanted to get it out to the faculty which is why we are putting it on the student services eClass so the faculty can view it.
 - y. Anthony - I think it would be worthwhile to reach out to them. I know it is a different format this year and it's not an event they can attend and they can't necessarily sponsor at this point but I think it would show that we are still trying to include them.
 - z. Garret - Do you think we should just send out the RxFactor talent section to them or should we send out Unveil-O-Ween as well?
 - aa. Anthony - I think just the RxFactor part is fine.
 - bb. Garrett - That is also what I was thinking.
 - cc. Ayush - How far are we from finishing the second video?
 - dd. Garrett - The second video is not done yet.
 - ee. Ayush - Would it be possible to get RxA to throw together a little video of "their talent"? I know Margaret is pretty funny and she would probably be willing to throw something in. It could just be a way to include RxA in this if it's possible within the deadlines of the video.
 - ff. Garrett - November 13th is the deadline for the contestants to submit their talents, so it might be a little tight for this year but I can still send Ali a little email to see if they would like to be involved in this.
 - gg. Anthony - Okay so if we can all contact Ali about our respective initiatives that would be great.
6. Additions to the Agenda
7. Adjournment (15:35)
 - a. **First: Ayush Second: Leah**