



APSA General Council Meeting  
February 28, 2022 17:00

1. Call to order (17:00)
2. Roll call (2 min) Jared, Rachel, Marzena, Amandeep, Garrett, Talia, John, Molly, Jasmine, Tegan, Mostafa, Mahnoor, Zoria, Nathan, Ravina, Naomi, Daniel, Alyna, Ivy, Alyssa, Carolina, Bojana, Jonathan, Rokhand, Diane, Katie
  - a. Regrets: Saad
3. Additions to the agenda (1 min)  
**Motion:** To approve the agenda  
**First:** John. **Second:** Jared.
4. Minutes of the last meeting (1 min)  
**Motion:** To approve the previous meeting minutes  
**First:** Rachel. **Second:** John.

#### New Business

5. FoPPS EDI Committee Updates/Student Services Update - Ravina (5 mins)
  - a. Ravina: I wanted to touch base on the work that the EDI committee is doing. I am liaison on the EDI committee centrally and Dr. Cor and I co-chair the faculty committee. There isn't much work being done at the college level as we are not organized into a committee structure. The hope is to broaden the discussion of EDI and levy eachothers resources and tools. To give you an update on what we have been talking about on the faculty level, we try to meet once a semester. There is a lot of great discussion happening in the committee, a lot of work coming our way. We are more of an advisory situation but anyone that comes to our committee is wanting tangible action and wants to hold the faculty accountable for those actions and rightfully so. The issue we are having is that we don't have the resources and powers sometimes. I have discussed it with Dr. Hughes and Christine Ma but my goal is to make a list of tangible action items we can put in place so that anyone who takes on this work during the restructuring has a base to go off of. We are really focusing on education and professional development at the faculty level and hope to at the student level as well. We have been discussing pronoun and gender education and we had a presentation on that. We have a mandatory session coming up for all students as well. We have been doing anti-racism education and talking about microaggressions at the faculty level. We had a seminar in the summer and we are inviting a human rights expert to talk to the faculty again this summer. We also discussed how instructors and preceptors can disrupt these incidents when they are occurring. Medicine has a much more well thought out EDI plan but I love that we are having the conversations that weren't happening when I was a student. We are discussing scholarships and bursaries for various groups. We are looking at essential skills and abilities and having individuals reflect on their ability to go through our program, not to turn them away, but instead to ask for help and modifications so that we have a variety of individuals represented in our program. An example of this is we had a prospective student come in during reading week and she has mobility issues and we did a day at the faculty. We want to have conversations and identify gaps so we can improve. Right now the Indigenous Canada module we were hoping to make mandatory in our program is on hold. We are waiting on the college to give us some direction on that. We are looking at a platform for students to submit incidents of discrimination and harassment whether they are on rotations or in the faculty. We are levying central resources but we are trying to tease out a way where students can come to the faculty one way or another to have those conversations. We are working really closely with Dr. Thompson on educating preceptors. We are encouraging them



APSA General Council Meeting  
February 28, 2022 17:00

to have these conversations early on during rotations and that was brought forward by current students on rotations. A lot of work is to be done but we need to figure out how to get it done and make sure we have the right people doing that work. We have members from APSA, BPSA, LGBTQ2+PhSC and class representatives that sit on the committee. I was going to share the minutes with APSA and if you think it is appropriate to share the minutes with you Marzena, I can do that so you stay informed. I have been working with BPSA and the exciting news from Student Services is that our students will be getting RxFiles back in May. The current fourth years won't have a subscription but the rest of the students will.

6. APSA Website [Teen Vaping Content](#) Inquiry - Marzena (5 mins)
  - a. Marzena: This was an email that came to Monica Choy, the fourth year class representative. She got an inquiry from this website from Joseph Rex and it was sent to the community education email too. They were wondering if they could have their content posted on the APSA website but I am not sure if it is relevant to post on our website. I wanted to bring it forward to you all as they linked the APSA website page that includes the list of all the education programs we do for schools and wanted this included on there but I don't know what this website is or who this person is.
  - b. Ivy: They emailed me a while ago but I didn't answer. A lot of their content is information we already have. I was going to bring it up but their website has a lot of repetitive information and I don't know if APSA wants to endorse their business or website.
  - c. Marzena: I didn't think it was relevant either but Monica had asked me to bring this up for her. I think if everyone is okay with it, I will ask Monica to email back and say we will not be endorsing their website.
  - d. Ivy: I can email them back.
  - e. Marzena: Sure, you can email them back and I will let Monica know it is taken care of.
7. University Strike - Garrett (10 mins)
  - a. Garrett: The next two points feed into each other. I wanted to gauge everyone on the bargaining situation that is going on and the possibility of a strike. Ravina has this as her next point in the meeting too. I will start by saying that the University is still in mediation and I believe they have another session on March 2. Hopefully we can find out more information after that. It is possible that after that mediation session that they schedule another session. As of right now, based on what we know, the earliest that a strike could happen would be 14 days after Wednesday. There is the possibility that it would be later than that or not even happen at all. I don't know if scheduling more mediation sessions means that they are making headway and having success with the conversations. I will let Ravina speak about the bargaining situation.
8. Bargaining Situation - Ravina (2 mins)
  - a. Ravina: We have been in touch with Wayne from accreditation. They are doing a wait and see approach. I don't anticipate they would revoke accreditation but maybe give us options on how to meet program outcomes. We are a strong program so I am not concerned about accreditation. Another thing that should be clarified is that if we are on strike, it is the faculty instructors and EPO. The Dean, Faculty General Manager and Admin Support staff are excluded. Anjela would still be available. Strike is stressful, but most of us are feeling more hopeful than we were a couple weeks ago. If we can ride out mediation until finals that would be even better. We don't know what bargaining looks like right now because they can't disclose, but like Garrett said, there is another meeting scheduled and potentially a follow up meeting. We have planned out what we would do to support students and that may mean not providing education upfront and not facilitating the education, but being cognizant that we may have to work with you at some point when things are resolved to catch up. I don't know what that will look like but I don't anticipate us extending our term or anything like



APSA General Council Meeting  
February 28, 2022 17:00

- that, but we don't know what will happen, but that is all I know.
- b. Garrett: I met with the SU a few days ago to talk about what this would look like for students. They are trying to look into the broader terms for students living in residence since they talked about the possibility of extending the semester, which may affect practicums. I don't know how that would affect us, being a professional program. Does anyone have any questions, comments, or concerns as this is an important topic.
  - c. Ravina: I wanted to send out a communication to all students but it is hard to say anything since things are rapidly changing, so we are pausing right now. We have a draft communication ready but we will have to wait a few days. If APSA wants to share the message we talked about today that would be okay and you can do that by informal channels.
9. Council Dinner - Daniel (10 mins)
- a. Daniel: I have posted a link in the chat so I just wanted to see where everyone wants to go for dinner. If everyone could fill that out we can figure out where to host our council dinner. We can probably schedule something for after the second wave of midterms.
  - b. Mahnoor: Can we have a Google Form for dietary restrictions? It might help us decide what options we have.
  - c. Daniel: I can modify the Google Form to include that.
10. Blue and Gold Update - Jared (5 mins)
- a. Jared: Lots of work has been put in over the past week and thank you John for helping me out. In a nutshell, I have submitted Blue and Gold to SGS and wrote a detailed email outlining why I think our faculty deserves a party at this scale. At the time, I thought the 3:1 capacity was still in place so I urged them to lift that restriction and bottom line, I got a response back that PHRT has removed the restriction of 3:1 capacity. There will be no restrictions moving forward with our event which is a good sign. In talking to them, there is a lot of optimism that this event has a good likelihood of going through. There are still a few loopholes I have to jump through and the event is still not approved so I have to meet with them. It is up to them at this point and it sounds promising. I have met with the venue and I have 80% of it set up and ready to go so once we get the approval it'll just be finalizing the details from my end. I will pass on the event information to the faculty and student body if we are able to put on this event. I am optimistic, so hopefully nothing crazy happens, but I will keep everyone in the loop about it.
  - b. Carolina: I don't know if I missed it, but do you have a tentative date? Will it be in March or in the summer?
  - c. Jared: This will be the Blue and Gold at the Grand Imperial Conference Centre on March 25 as long as everything is approved.
11. APSA Bear - Garrett (2 mins)
- a. Garrett: I was graciously given the APSA Bear at the last meeting and this week I want to give it to someone who APSA cannot operate without. Marzena is always keeping us on track, doing the meeting minutes, answering all of my questions and making sure I am doing everything properly. She does so much behind the scenes work that I don't think a lot of people see. Thank you for everything you do.
  - b. Marzena: Thank you so much, I really appreciate it.
12. Additions to the Agenda
- a. APSA Memberships for CCPP - Amandeep (10 mins)
    1. Amandeep: I had a question about CCPP students, which are the students that have graduated outside of Canada that are doing the 10 month program to practice in Albert. It was a question about whether they can attend APSA events or if they have



APSA General Council Meeting  
February 28, 2022 17:00

to be APSA members. This program is brand new, so it is the first year it is running. I wanted to see what your thoughts were. I think that it could be beneficial for them to see how things operate in APSA. I don't think charging them the same amount as we pay would be fair as their program is 10 months and ours is 4 years. Does anyone have any comments or is anyone opposed to this?

2. Garrett: If people want to join APSA I wouldn't want to turn them away. I don't think charging them the full amount would be reasonable and maybe it could be like a quarter of what we charge students in the full program. I don't know if there are any logistical things we would need to do. We could bring this up at the Constitution and Policy Committee Meeting on Friday and see if we can put it into the Constitution.
  3. Marzena: I don't think we added anything last year but we can look into adding something this year.
  4. Garrett: I know there have been discussions in the past, but I don't know what they were. It was something about the PharmD for Practicing Pharmacists but I do think we have had members in the past that were part of that stream, but I don't know how that worked.
  5. Marzena: I would say we should look into it on Friday.
  6. Amandeep: That works for me!
  7. John: Would they need any type of representation or would it just be purely to participate in events. If we are introducing a completely separate student body, they might want some representation and you would have to go through channels to formalize that.
  8. Amandeep: I wonder if we just allow them to be members and see what the uptake is and then if they have a good uptake in the following year, the new council can consider bringing it up next year.
  9. Garrett: That is a good point John. It is good to consider, but I don't know how big the uptake would be. Maybe there would be students interested so they could have access to Member's Corner and events.
  10. John: Do you know how many students will be in the program?
  11. Amandeep: I don't know and I also am not sure if it is virtual or in person.
  12. Ravina: There will be 50 students.
  13. John: I thought it would be a unique opportunity because they are practicing pharmacists working on getting their certification in Alberta. It would be an opportunity to share experiences and perspectives or have EDI opportunities. It would be cool to have them part of APSA.
  14. Molly: I agree with John.
  15. Ravina: There are around 50 students and we plan to increase because it is a requirement for those who want to practice and haven't received their credentials in Canada. They are an awesome group of people, we have great discussions. I think it would be great to engage them and expose them to the culture and opportunities you have. It could form a two way mentorship. It is all virtual, but they come for a 2 week symposium in the summer to do labs and OSCEs.
  16. Amandeep: Are there any other points to consider? My only concern with it being virtual is that if we transition back to being in person and events are in person, if they are not in Edmonton or in Alberta, they would not be able to attend events. It is ideal right now with virtual events but that was my one concern. I agree with John, that having that representation would be great.
- b. Faculty Appreciation Video - Garrett (2 mins)
1. Rachel: I think most of you saw my post on the Facebook page but I wanted to



APSA General Council Meeting  
February 28, 2022 17:00

encourage you to make a video if you are able to. We have already advertised it to the student body and now we are trying to fill the spots. I was also informed that a few professors were missing on the list. If you do notice that someone is missing on the list, please add them in as we don't want to be leaving anyone out.

13. Adjournment (17:29)

**Motion:** To adjourn

**First:** Alyssa. **Second:** John.