



APSA General Council Meeting
October 19, 2020 at 16:00
(via Google Meets)
<https://meet.google.com/bzv-wdmj-mht>

1. Call to order (16:00)
2. Roll call (2 min): Megan, Anthony, Ayush, Navjot, Cody, Matthew, Yan, Paul, Rachel, Leah, Monica, Garrett, Nicole, Marzena, Nathan, John, Eliana, Brianna, Makboolee, Mandy, Prof. Bharadia, Jackie
 - a. Regrets: Colleen, Scott, Kevin, Angel, Dr. Sanghera, Akshita
3. Additions to the agenda (1 min)
Motion: To approve the agenda
First: Ayush Second: Matthew

New Business:

4. Academic Restructuring Proposals and Round Table Summary - Anthony (15min)
 - a. [Supporting Document](#)
 - a. [Supporting Document 2](#)
 - b. Anthony - I'm not sure who had the chance to look at the interim report that was released. I know, we talked about it at our last general council meeting. You had a couple weeks to hopefully peruse it and gather your thoughts. I didn't want to jump to any conclusions without giving people the opportunity to look it over. So hopefully, you've had time to do that and if not, there is a brief summary here. So they presented three options. The first option option A they call it the Health Sciences consolidation. As you can see by the image, most faculties retain their faculty status except nursing, school of public health, rehab med, us and kinesiology would get consolidated into a larger Health Sciences faculty. So we would lose our faculty status and would become the School of Pharmacy. In the report, they explained that we would retain significant academic autonomy and control over academic programs, management and research not crossing disciplinary boundaries. The faculty unit would provide all administrative functions, they would set overall strategic direction, recruit and oversee school leaders, so they would determine who's going to lead our School of Pharmacy and the academic restructuring working group recognizes this option would provide the least cost savings for the university and they say that it kind of maintains the current academic structure. As I mentioned, most faculties retain their faculty status except the select few including pharmacy. Option B is a tri-agency alignment. As you can see, they're kind of three main agencies with campus St. Jean, Augustana, and native studies kind of off on their own. The academic restriction working group mentions they don't really know how they would handle those three. For us, we would basically get swallowed up into a health and med- sciences agency in which we would retain our faculty status, retain ownership of programs teaching and research. The overall division would provide strategic direction, administrative services, they recruit and supervise faculty leaders and set faculty budgets. They recognize this would bring the largest cost savings for the university and they also say it's the most radical approach condensing down to three working units. Option C is kind of a hybrid approach they call the consolidation and shared division. So the Faculty of Medicine, Medicine and Dentistry retains their faculty status, we get swallowed up into a larger Health Sciences faculty similar to option A, and then there's a bit more restructuring with other faculties. In this option, we lose our faculty status as well. So that was just a brief kind of summary. Now, I wanted to talk about the roundtable discussion. So I believe everyone was invited to this and it was last Wednesday afternoon. Basically the university president Bill



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Flanagan as well as leaders of this UofA for Tomorrow proposal were involved, as well as the faculty. There were a few students that attended, I think I counted five, including myself. So there weren't that many students there, which I get because it is midterm season. A few points that came out of it, from a faculty perspective, there appeared to be unanimous support for option B. This was mainly around collaboratively, it makes the most sense, research wise, we do majority of our research with the Faculty of Medicine, it was brought to the university's attention that the other schools that we would kind of get lumped into an options A and C, you know, we don't collaborate with them that often, you know, nursing, kinesiology. So from a faculty perspective, they said, option A and C didn't seem to make a whole lot of sense, and option B was the most favorable. When I initially looked at the report, I would agree option B seemed to make the most sense. One, it allows us to retain our faculty status. It also saves the university the most amount of money. Option B also seemed kind of the most fair and equitable to me, because it is the only scenario where the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry is also affected and so everyone is kind of going through the same amount of change in option B. The round table was essentially an hour long conversation and a bunch of faculty members spoke up, asked questions, and expressed concerns. I also wanted to just bring in APSAs perspective and wanted to make sure that I advocated for us and future students coming in, as well as our staff, specifically, our administrative staff and our Student Services staff. So I spoke to three different points. The first thing I wanted to bring in was a student perspective and maintaining funding for APSA. So I just mentioned that we have a really strong faculty association, we have great student support, every class has almost 100% membership and participation. So, I wanted to just put it on the radar that however things work out come December, I just wanted to ensure APSA, retains the funding and resources we're used to and we require to, put on such a great experience for our students and provide so many supports and events. The second one was in regards to the market market modifier fund, and how as a professional program, we pay extra in tuition that goes into a market modifier fund, which is supposed to be used for student betterment. I think the current situation we find ourselves in now we have a great working relationship with the faculty and we really do have a large degree of control over how that money is used and with the notion that us as students know how student betterment funds are best spent. So I just wanted to ensure that when things get condensed, and we merge with other faculties that were still given that autonomy to determine how our market modifier fund should be spent towards student betterment. The third thing is I wanted to support some of the concerns that were brought forward in the meeting around student services and the loss of administrative staff. I just wanted to basically support them and express that being such a small faculty, we have such a good relationship with our Student Services team and they do so much for us and they provide a lot of support and a lot of unique support that you would lose in a larger faculty. So I just wanted to get that on the academic restriction working groups radar that this is a concern for students as well as for faculty staff. So it was also mentioned throughout the discussion from the faculty that they wanted to ensure we maintain accreditation and that was also a point that I had wanted to bring up but the meeting was coming to an end so I didn't want to spend too much time. As the class of 2022, we are the first entry-to-practice PharmD class and so with revamping the program and maintaining accreditation for a Doctor of Pharmacy degree, I just wanted to make sure that when they're working through these proposals that they understand the Faculty of Pharmacy or the School of Pharmacy is going to require the necessary resources and funding in order to implement programs that maintain our status as a Doctor of



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Pharmacy program, and as students, we don't lose out on that opportunity. That was brought up a bit by the faculty and I didn't get the opportunity to bring it forward but it is definitely on my radar and I think it was on the faculty's radar as well, which was good to see. So for next steps, in regards to the whole restructuring proposal, they're going to update things and present to the university community in November for the third phase of consultation, and hopefully bring a final proposal for approval in December. At the end of the semester, we should know what direction we're going to be headed for next year, because the plan is to implement this academic restructuring next academic year for 2021-2022. As I mentioned before, things are moving very fast but I think the university has done a great job at being transparent, including us in the discussion. I just got an email today from the SU president Joel, who basically reached out to faculty association leaders and wanted to gather feedback that he can bring forward to the working group. I'm really happy with how things are progressing and I think option B appears to be most favorable and who knows what the final result will be but I just wanted to give everyone an update and open the floor to any questions or comments.

- c. Ayush - I had the chance to go to the session with Anthony and I want to say that he did such a good job of representing the students. At first Bill Flanagan thought Anthony was a professor he spoke with such confidence and so professionally. Normally I would suggest we give him a round of applause but since we're online I think we should all give him a virtual round of applause.
- d. Anthony - Thank you Ayush, it was good to bring in the student perspective.
- e. Nathan - I think that Anthony's really done a great job at hitting the point home and really making it known why scenario B would be the best option to pursue in terms of supporting our faculty and our faculty association. If there are any questions that people have, whether it's, you know, right after this meeting, or at a later time, please reach out. I'm going to be speaking with the president of the SU Joel Agarwal, next week, just so that we can consolidate our thinking. He is one of the only two students representing the working group so it's really important that we streamline that conversation with him. Ultimately the vote does rest in Makboolee's hands at GFC and I trust that she's doing a good job. I hope that everybody, or most of you will also come around to supporting scenario B.
- f. Makboolee - So there's a lot of debate going on with all three proposals. One of my biggest concerns when this first came up was losing faculty status. So the fact that option B gives the opportunity for us to retain our faculty status is pretty important. That's one of the things that I'm really looking at during these meetings and trying to use my voice when I can. If you all have any concerns, or anything that you want me to bring up any opinions on voting, let me know. Just a couple moments ago they were talking about being bold and how a lot of faculties are saying that retaining that faculty status is very important to them. They said that it's now creating complexity for them for their decision making and it would be best to just be bold and let go of that idea and move forward doing which is kind of concerning. I'm happy that we're at least involved right now and the decision hasn't been made, and the way that it's looking like they are currently leaning towards option B.
- g. Anthony - Thank you everyone, and as we said before if you have any questions or concerns you'd like to talk about please feel free to send them either to me, Nathan, or Makboolee.



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5. CAPSI Competitions - Ayush (3 min)
 - a. Ayush - CAPSI competitions are live. I've sent it out in emails and we have profs who have committed their Thursday night. If you could all sign up and help fill up all the spots I would appreciate it. We have PIC and OTC which both have two spots left. The other competition we have is SLC and I just wanted to kind of explain that one in-case you get asked about it. It's basically a 1000 word essay on a hot topic in pharmacy. If you win on the local level, you get to compete on the national level with that same paper. If you win nationally, you get to be published in the Canadian Pharmacists Journal. It's an easy way to get published if you're passionate about something. I have zero submissions right now. So there's good odds of winning. The deadline is November 5 and because I know we're in the midst of midterms I'm hoping we get some more submissions closer to the deadline. The class emails will also advertise the competitions until they are over.
 - b. Anthony - Thanks for bringing that up. I hope we can get more submissions for you once midterms slow down.

6. PQ+2 Editor Position - Megan (5 min)
 - a. Megan - This is something that Paul, our CEO and the rest of Executive Council talked about a bit already. We had 3 people apply for PQ+2 editor in our latest call for applications. According to our constitution we only have 2 spots on the council for PQ+2 editors. One of the spots is already filled by Yan but she is acting as publications director. Ayush brought up the idea that we could alter the constitution to allow all 3 people who applied to be PQ editor to have those positions this year. This would allow Yan to focus on the role of publications director while still retaining the official title of PQ editor. We talked to Yan about this and she had no objections to it. Does anyone have any questions or anything to add?
Motion: BIRT APSA General Council approves increasing the number of PQ+2 Editors from 2 to 4 for the 2020-2021 academic year.
First: Megan Second: Garret
All in favour. None opposed. Anthony abstains. **Motion carries.**

7. PQ+2 Editor Appointments - Megan/Paul (5 min)
Motion: BIRT APSA General Council approves the appointment of Alison Cheung to the position of PQ+2 Editor for the 2020-2021 academic year
First: Megan Second: Ayush
All in favour. None opposed. Anthony abstains. **Motion carries.**

Motion: BIRT APSA General Council approves the appointment of Queeny Wu to the position of PQ+2 Editor for the 2020-2021 academic year
First: Megan Second: Nicole
All in favour. None opposed. Anthony abstains. **Motion carries.**

Motion: BIRT APSA General Council approves the appointment of Saad Malik, to the position of PQ+2 Editor for the 2020-2021 academic year
First: Megan Second: Ayush
All in favour. None opposed. Anthony abstains. **Motion carries.**



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8. APSA Photographer Appointments (Online Motion) - Megan/Paul (1 min)
 - Motion:** BIRT APSA General Council approves the appointment of Henry Bui to the position of APSA photographer for the 2020-2021 term.
First: Jackie Second: Cody
18 in favour. None opposed. Anthony abstains. **Motion carries.**

 - Motion:** BIRT APSA General Council approves the appointment of Jessica Wong to the position of APSA photographer for the 2020-2021 term.
First: Jackie Second: Cody
18 in favour. None opposed. Anthony abstains. **Motion carries.**

 - Motion:** BIRT APSA General Council approves the appointment of Doha Anwar to the position of APSA photographer for the 2020-2021 term.
First: Jackie Second: Cody
18 in favour. None opposed. Anthony abstains. **Motion carries.**

9. Recruitment Director Budget - Akshita (5 min)
 - a. Ayush - Akshita had an emergency come up so I'm just going to present on her behalf. For background, each year APSA hosts a career night in partnership with the career centre and essentially in past years we sponsor \$350. It was not included in the budget but it is in the transition document for recruitment director. We don't know how much the cost is going to be for career night but this money is used to cover the career centres efforts in recruiting pharmacists. The costs will most likely be lower this year than in the past but we are wanting to be proactive about it. There is a meeting in November and the costs will be negotiated then.
 - b. Anthony - Jackie and I have talked about this and we both think it is appropriate and it is financially feasible for us.
Motion: BIRT APSA General Council approves \$350 to be added to the recruitment directors budget for career night.
First: Ayush Second: Garrett
All in favour. None opposed. Anthony abstains. **Motion carries.**

10. APSA Bear - Anthony (2 min)
 - a. Anthony - Megan brought it to my attention that we hadn't done the APSA bear yet this year and I apologize because as President I start the year with the APSA bear. At every general council meeting will pass the APSA bear off to a different council member based on the work they've been doing to acknowledge their hard work and the special efforts people are putting into their roles. There is a physical bear that Navjot currently has and normally we would physically pass it but this year we will virtually pass it. I wanted to give the APSA bear to ackie because he has done so much work behind the scenes. I think that many students don't realize how much work goes into the roles. He has really gone above and beyond in formulating the MOU's, getting budgets from people and being really detailed. He gave us a level of transparency with the budget that has never been achieved before and has made my workload much easier.



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11. Additions to the Agenda

12. Adjournment (16:30)

First: Ayush Second: Megan