



APSA Executive Council Meeting

July 5th, 2023 @7:00pm, online via Google Meets

1. Call to order (7:01 pm)
2. Roll call (2 min): Jin, Prerna, Sydney, Sarah, Brooklyn, Zach, Talia
 - a. Regrets: Asmaa, Goodwin, Cassandra
3. Additions to the agenda (1 min)

Motion: To approve the agenda
First: Talia, **Second:** Jin
4. Minutes of the last meeting (1 min)

Motion: To approve the previous meeting minutes
First: Sydney, **Second:** Brooklyn

New Business Topics:

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| 5. Update on Orientation Schedule (Sydney) - 5 mins | 1 |
| 6. Welcome Back BBQ (Sydney) - 15 mins | 2 |
| 7. Updating Student Handbook APSA Section (Prerna) - 5 mins | 3 |
| 8. RxA (Prerna) - 15 mins | 3 |
| 9. Defining Benefits of APSA Membership (Sarah) - 20 mins | 3 |
| 10. Check-in About Unveilloween and RxFactor - (Prerna) - remaining time | 5 |

New Business:

5. [Update on Orientation Schedule \(Sydney\) - 5 mins](#)

Sydney: This is just an updated schedule, but it's not complete as we are waiting for room bookings based on if renovations will be finished. Tentatively, we start with the morning presentation with all students in the big ECHA classroom then break 3 different groups. We don't want to plan how long each presentation will get until we can confirm the room booking.

Talia: Assuming you get the room booking, do we have travel time between rooms?

Sydney: yes we have 5 mins allotted for moving rooms but this is optimistic if people start moving.

Talia: Oh yes, I see that now.

Jin: I wanted to ask if there are tours and walking around like last year in the afternoon?

Sydney: Yes, we will be planning some activities for the afternoon.

Sarah: Do we have a tentative end time for orientation?

Sydney: Based on what Justine did last year, probably 4 pm. I don't want to be too long.

Prerna: I also don't want to take away from Student Groups talking and presenting, but if they need more time.

6. **Welcome Back BBQ (Sydney) - 15 mins**

Sydney: I don't really know what to say but we talked with Prerna about it, but if anyone would like to be involved with it. To summarize, Shoppers Drug Mart wants to be involved with sponsoring the Welcome Back BBQ, which we were thinking of doing after the first day of classes (Sept 5th) since we are hoping more people will attend. And we have to get in contact with the Sports Reps to host activities because this event has happened in the past, but it hasn't happened over the last few years. I think Goodwin might have more information, but we can talk about it later.

Prerna: So Shoppers reached out a couple of weeks ago asking about the BBQ then Brooklyn and Sydney had a conversation about it yesterday with me. They had a good point of doing it right after the first day of classes. I don't know if Shoppers is looking to book a park or have it on campus. I am hoping they book a park. Right now it's Brooklyn, Sydney and I that are planning it, if Goodwin and Sports Reps also want to help plan it that would be good. If anyone wants to help plan let me know and we can make a group chat. I just don't want to leave it to Brooklyn and Sydney as they already have orientation and other activities to plan.

Sarah: From what I got from Goodwin, the upper years he knew did not actually attend the event so we don't have the best details but what I got was that they booked the beach volleyball field and they had a beach volleyball tournament. But regarding the logistics of whether it's Shoppers or us booking something, I think it then becomes a question of who is responsible for this? Are we putting it through BearsDen or is it entirely hosted by Shoppers? I don't think Shoppers should host this event because it's about welcoming students to the pharmacy program, which is what APSA should be doing. So I think it should be under us then we have the liability of booking, food handling safety and booking BBQ?

Talia: Adding on, if it's on campus then I think we should have a hand in it. But if it's off campus, like the Future Pharmacist Social, which we just needed to advertise then it's entirely out of our hands and I don't see why we would need to be involved.

Prerna: I think it would be nice for APSA to be involved as it's a good event to get different years to start mingling with each other. I don't know what Shoppers wants but if they want a booth to talk to students then that's fine. I think it should be a BBQ sponsored by Shoppers and not a BBQ hosted by Shoppers if that makes sense.

Jin: I agree with what you said and I agree with what Sarah said. If we are welcoming students back to the program we should be involved but because it's on campus and we are dealing with food, would we bring outside food in? Then I think food safety, getting insurance and getting BearsDen approval might be tricky and we will need to plan further in advance.

Sydney: I am reading their email again and it looks like they are aware of the Welcome Back BBQ tradition and just wanted to confirm if it's happening so that they can get involved by contributing support in prizes or sponsorship. So they don't want to create the event but get involved in it.

Prerna: So we will create it, but it gives us a lot of freedom, which is a good thing. And if they want to do prizes or a booth then that's fine.

Motion: To move into camera

First: Talia, **Second:** Zach

Motion: To move out of camera

First: Jin, **Second:** Brooklyn

7. **Updating Student Handbook APSA Section (Prerna) - 5 mins**

Prerna: Anjela emailed me about making updates to the APSA section of the Student Handbook. I just wanted you guys to take a look at it then if you had any changes you can submit them to me as I have commenting permissions on the document from Anjela. I told her I would make changes by Friday, but if you don't have time it's okay as it's more my responsibility. Any questions?

Jin: Since you said you would get the edits done by Friday, the Council image is from last year and we haven't done anything with that yet. Would we need to change that by Friday?

Prerna: No, the moment we get that ready I will send it to her, but we haven't even sent out the email for that yet.

Sarah: I will be sending out the email for that tonight or tomorrow morning.

8. **RxA (Prerna) - 15 mins**

Prerna: Spoke with Ali recently and talked to him about how there has been a gap in communication between students and RxA. They have sponsored quite a bit of events last year, but they want to break down the structure of how they sponsored and supported us and redo everything whether it's through money or Lunch and Learns they end up supporting us with. It sounds like they are scraping Lunch and Learns and we don't know how much money they will be giving us this year for events. I know that RxA are very good advocates as they got us prescribing rights, but I don't think many pharmacy students know about this.

Talia: I think they know about little bits and pieces, but mostly people know they were instrumental in getting us APA. The problem is getting the students to take interest.

Prerna: They want to see more from us, but also I asked them what they want whether it's an increase in memberships. Students get free memberships but after we graduate we have to start paying. I told them I want a goal over the next year for us execs to work on. They will come back with an answer and we will have to determine how we can do that through our sponsorship package to them. I just wanted to keep you guys updated on that.

Talia: I think the angle we need to take for students is what resources or benefits does RxA provide that does not require me to get involved with no desire to participate.

Prerna: I don't know what the membership entails, but for actual practicing pharmacists they usually get the membership for drug disposal and discounts on CCEs. Otherwise I don't know what perks students get from RxA that benefits them. Maybe a RxA discount card? I don't know if we want to incorporate it into the survey year, Sarah? About what people want from sponsors in general and RxA?

Sarah: Okay.

Jin: We are talking about memberships for free from students?

Prerna: So students sign up for free in pharmacy school when they hand out the backpacks, but often students don't buy RxA memberships after they graduate. They talked about how they are really seeing any return on their investment into APSA in getting students more aware of RxA. At the same time students want something or they won't take interest, but even when they get something like Lunch and Learns or dinners they still don't seem interested. It's understandably frustrating for them and we want to figure out how we can support RxA.

9. **Defining Benefits of APSA Membership (Sarah) - 20 mins**

Sarah: So I wanted to just try to get people thinking about what we want to advertise as the benefits of being an APSA member as I feel that it's something we need to start drawing the line so people know what they get and we can enforce in terms of non-APSA member attendance to events. I will be putting

together a poster for the Orientation as well as for updating the APSA website. We will likely have to discuss this at the next meeting due to the time remaining and I think we are missing some key voices for some of the points. So first thing, how did we feel about the APSA member price at events?

Jin: I think having the member price was good as long as there was a big difference in cost, just so you knew the membership went directly to covering your ticket cost. But it might be hard to police someone who is not an APSA member if they used the code, I don't know how well it was done in practice?

Prerna: We did a check for APSA members, which Kevin did for the Hockey game and Julia did for the other events, but they would get a spreadsheet and double check the membership lists. You do have a point they do pay for this, I think the tier system was good for showing the benefit of APSA membership.

Sarah: So in terms of giveaways, with our new Pharmacy Student Cup we have the point system where everyone will be allotted to the same team, unless it changes this year. So I wanted to clarify if the prizes and stuff associated with the Cup are going to be for everyone versus only APSA members? I think anyone could have won things, but it was never clearly stated anywhere whether you had to be APSA members to get points.

Zach: I think a lot of the points were for attending APSA events or CAPSI submissions to get responses. But I don't think it would really affect if we let non-members participate because you only get points for attending an APSA event or do it for a contest.

Prerna: So you're saying they are APSA members anyways?

Zach: Like that or it's blacklisted or it helps me out like for pin design contests or blood donations where we want any responses at all.

Jin: I don't know if there are events that were open to anyone and not just APSA specific that you could get points for Mint cup. I will say that most people who go to events are mostly APSA members, I don't know if that applies to the pizza parties at the end of each month because it applies to the whole group and not the ones who got points so that kinda blurs the lines a bit for me about if we need to draw a line.

Sarah: So I'm thinking about events hosted by Justin like the Music Bingo or Trivia events with draws at the end of the event. I wasn't sure if those prizes are meant to be for APSA members or anyone? I think a lot of the events we advertise in APSA Member's Corner as its the only way we advertise them, but they are open for anyone to participate. Or that's how I understood it in terms of Mint Cup events.

Sydney: Where did the money for prizes come from? If it's APSA it could be for APSA members only, but if its sponsors I think it could be for anyone. I feel like prizes are a big incentive to be an APSA member.

Prerna: I think Mint sponsored them last year so it wasn't an APSA thing.

Zach: I know Mint Cup sponsored the prizes, but for sponsors they give the prizes with the goal of bringing people to events. So if we restrict it then it looks bad for future events. If we want to restrict based on the source like Sydney suggested, but if it is from a sponsor I don't think we should restrict as they are trying to get their name out there.

Sarah: I know Goodiwn suggested that the amount Mint gave to us, we could potentially fund ourselves, or we get a sponsor for the entirety of the cup?

Prerna: Yeah so I have talked to people about sponsorships for the cup. Either we get one sponsor or get multiple sponsors allocating some funds to the cup controlled under our own name. I think it's better to get a single fundraiser than one because it's easier to sustain it for the whole year versus having to work with multiple sponsors to fund it. I'm just worried if we get big sponsors for the cup that they won't want to fund events like Blue and Gold.

Talia: I don't think it's necessarily bad, I think the issue last year was that we weren't offering enough appealing things for them to sponsor. But having a big, year long event like the cup is easier to market compared to what we were marketing last year. I think it won't take away from other things, and it will

balance out in the end. If our VP Fundraising is good at marketing and selling APSA then there are new sponsors we can reach out to for events, which is easier than a cup?

Sarah: So the end verdict, do we want to consider whether its the source or whether its cup points related it can be for anyone?

Prerna: I think let's open to everyone right now, especially sponsor related.

Sydney: Why can't they just win the prize? Why are there points associated?

Sarah: I just meant points for attending and then there's a prize at the end.

Sydney: Do they still get points if they are not an APSA member?

Sarah: So the way I understood it last year, every single student, regardless of membership, is assigned to a cup team so you could get points for your team by attending events. The cup is essentially for everyone to benefit from.

Sydney: That's kind of confusing.

Jin: Do we have any numbers on how many people attended Mint Cup events and whether they were APSA member versus non-members? Do we have data? I think it's good to open to everyone if its sponsored. I think what I struggle with is when Goodwin said what's the value of an APSA membership to a student whos not already bought one. I think you're right that having giveaways and prizes is a good draw to people to buy a membership, but also I think that Cup related prizes should be for everyone as its a year long event and its for bettering the quality of student life for all pharmacy students. I struggle with how it's going to affect the value of the APSA membership.

Prerna: How does everyone feel about that? I know we had talks about even the APSA Lounge and whether it was for everyone. I just want everyone to know what APSA can do, and do we need to be exclusive? Or is it for the benefit of everyone like mental health? Are we okay to put a pin in it? I think it's a bigger conversation on how we want to be seen as an association ethically and mentally.

Sarah: Yeah this is just a starting point as I did not foresee this covering everything in a single meeting.

10. **Check-in About Unveilloween and RxFactor - (Prerna) - remaining time**

Prerna: Jin, would you benefit from us talking about last year's RxFactor went?

Jin: I think it's fine since it's the end of the meeting and we don't have anything else to talk about?

Prerna: Okay, I want to know what everyone thought about last year so Jin has some considerations for this year.

Sarah: I just wanted everyone else to start, because I tend to focus my feedback on negatives. Starting with Unveilloween, the dance mob idea didn't really consider how it would work in a bar. There was no space between the crowd and the dancers because it was so packed and then you couldn't see anything if you were a few rows back. I couldn't see any of that performance, but when your reason for going is to see your friends in the dance mob it's frustrating. Otherwise, I think the event was fine. The actual RxFactor, I think we need to give whoever is in charge of tech to have the slides in advance. I feel there was an issue with the Family Feud slides and knowing how it worked. In addition how the responses to the family feud were generated was that generated by you or student feedback because I don't recall getting a survey.

Prerna: That was more from when they did RxFactor a couple of years ago.

Sarah: Yeah so I think it would be interesting to get the current student feedback as well as its nice when you can say oh I voted for that. If you are doing a different challenge then what I said won't be super relevant. Then there is the food situation, I think when it was advertised in the poster it said dinner and then when it was advertised at the general council meeting it was advertised as snacks. So I think there was a gap between the expectations we were setting as a contributing issue and likely issues with the

caterer themselves. But set the expectation on if people need to eat prior to the show or not, but those were my main feedback points. I think in general it's a good event as a talent show.

Sydney: I liked the overall vibe where it was moody with the cute photobooth with props. I liked the performances. The food was obviously not ideal, but it was overall a good event.

Perna: I think logistics wise I will say we can have bigger conversations, but have your team decide who's making the slides, how much rehearsal do you need and other stuff. Use your teams and decide how that's going to be run. I know I talked to Sydney and Brooklyn about the venue for Unveilloween.

Jin: One thing I want to bring up, with what you discussed with Sydney and Brooklyn, is there any preliminary concerns having the unveiling at one location then moving to another location. As we are a big group and there might be confusion.

Sarah: I think its more inclusive as I think some Muslim students have expressed that they don't want to be in a bar near alcohol but gives them a chance to see the performance and leave after, but I don't know if the first venue will also have alcohol as well as people might drink prior.

Perna: I think the first venue is also a bar with a stage.

Sydney: Actually now that I think about it, it won't look very good if we borrow one bar for one hour then we leave for a different bar. If we get enough people at the first venue we won't need to move, something to consider.

Jin: I felt the same Sydney as its Halloween weekend or evening. But yeah since its a bar, it won't be a compromise for any who doesn't want to be near alcohol. I don't know if we want to hold it campus, but is there a space for Unveilloween? Maybe Dinwoodie, but as we talked earlier there is uncertainty.

Perna: We could do it in a corridor or main floor of Katz then give out tickets to the Pint so people can still go to the unveiling if we want to be more inclusive as an option. Something to think about.

11. Additions to the Agenda: None

12. Adjournment (7:59 pm)

Motion: To adjourn

First: Zach, **Second:** Jin