



APSA Executive Council Meeting  
November 16th, 2023 @4pm, in person PBL 2-40

1. Call to order (3:01 pm)
2. Roll call (2 min): Zach, Prerna, Jin, Talia, Brooklyn, Talia, Sarah, Goodwin, Sydney, Asmaa
  - a. Regrets: Cass
3. Additions to the agenda (1 min)  
**Motion:** To approve the agenda  
**First:** Talia, **Second:** Zach
4. Minutes of the last meeting (1 min)  
**Motion:** To approve the previous meeting minutes  
**First:** Brooklyn, **Second:** Zach

New Business Overview

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| <b>5. Placement/Statutory Holiday (Prerna) - 5 mins</b>               | <b>1</b> |
| <b>6. Nisa Homes (Prerna) - 5 mins</b>                                | <b>2</b> |
| <b>7. APSA Survey (Sarah) - 5 mins</b>                                | <b>2</b> |
| <b>8. Next Student Services Meeting Agenda Items (Sarah) - 2 mins</b> | <b>3</b> |
| <b>10. Wellness Paint Night (Sarah on Behalf of Cass)- 5 mins</b>     | <b>4</b> |

New Business:

5. **Placement/Statutory Holiday (Prerna) - 5 mins**

Summary:

- Callum, representing Pharmacy Students for Mental Health, contacted the President and VP Admin to discuss the topic of standardizing statutory holidays given off during placements with no need to make it up. Currently this is at the discretion of the preceptor about whether it needs to be made up or not. This can make placements feel inconsistent, especially for fourth year students, they believe giving all students statutory holidays (or a day off in lieu) will improve their mental health and help to ensure success while on placements by reducing burn out.
- APSA should touch base with Experiential Education to discuss with them regarding reasons for the policies to streamline/standardize expectations.
  - Regardless of response, APSA will look at collaborating with Pharmacy Students for Mental Health to draft a letter that can be shared with preceptors with a position statement focused on consistency on giving students statutory holidays off with clear reasons beyond having weekends.

- CAPSI Sr sent out letters on behalf of pharmacy students to all Experiential Education programs for bereavement across the country and it was met with backlash by faculties.
  - There were arguments about variation in lunch hours, working schedules of business, accreditation hours, etc.
  - Concern was expressed that this may result in all students not getting statutory holidays off or that faculty would not be willing to implement a policy for this.
- Plan is to reach out to faculty to let them know APSA's position and inform them that we will be drafting a position statement/letter to preceptors whether or not they are supportive.
  - CAPSI Sr to get information from other schools prior to taking action.
  - Will be trying to reach out to Experiential Learning Lead, Student Advisory Council, Dean-APSA Check ins for Faculty's stance on the topic.
  - President to reply to Callum to speak to other fourth years and write a draft letter if possible.

#### 6. **Nisa Homes (Perna) - 5 mins**

##### Summary:

- Camala from Class of 2025 reached out regarding their BASE advocacy project looking for support for their community partner, Nisa Homes, for receiving toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products through a drive at an APSA event.
  - Nisa Homes is an organization related to providing shelter to those experiencing domestic violence across Canada, who have a branch in Edmonton.
- VP External supported idea as it aligns with our interests as we have advocated for coverage of feminine hygiene products for students
- VP Socials are open to considering it as charity to have a donation box during Blue and Gold would be promoting of the donations on event details and accepting each donation in a box
  - Further communication with group to see what they want for collecting donations
- Ongoing consideration of whether we can have this ongoing within sponsorship packages and councilor events
  - Councilors to be notified about Nisa Homes for winter semester and could incorporate events with charity aspect and wellness events at least for the year and see how it can be implemented for future years dependent on next council
    - Considered: Future events with cost donation from each ticket purchased or donating items through various events
    - Pharm v Dent: Hockey captain expressed interested in using funds towards harm reduction reduction as he is key organizer

#### 7. **APSA Survey (Sarah) - 5 mins**

##### Summary:

- VP Admin wants to run a survey for the main purpose of communication
  - Most important point is to know whether she needs to support VP Admin incoming on transition to Discord for APSA Member's Corner over the summer (dependent on feedback from members)
  - Survey will be run in January as Fall semester is too soon and March (after Winter midterms) is too busy with PAM events
- VP External wants to poll again about Fall reading week as they have heard many students are suffering from burnout and have not had a sufficient break this semester

- President wants to make it comprehensive survey to address multiple issues that APSA can look to address
- CAPSI Sr suggested that in order to poll on Fall reading break specifically it should be done now as it is more timely and it might capture students experiencing burnout whereas in a comprehensive survey students polled may not best representation
  - Decision by execs to take an initial poll now on fall reading break with potential implications then expand and ask again in the comprehensive survey in January
    - This is just for basic interest with no clear answer of implication and then using this information to discuss with faculty based on student feedback
- The General Council will be notified at the next meeting with a timeline for submission of questions, VP Admin and President to narrow down the question list to be reviewed before releasing it to the student body.

8. **Next Student Services Meeting Agenda Items (Sarah) - 2 mins**

Summary:

- Discuss how work from home is working for Student Services

9. Additions to the Agenda:

10. **Wellness Paint Night (Sarah on Behalf of Cass) - 5 mins**

Summary:

- As a non-APSA affiliated initiative: a member of Space and Wellness wanted to allot a room during paint night specifically to any students who may want to paint any Palestine Support Art.
- Execs had no concerns with this idea of students wanted a room where they could comfortably paint on this topic.

11. Adjournment (3:46pm)

**Motion:** To adjourn

**First:** Brooklyn, **Second:** Talia