

December 26, 2019

SEMESTER COUNCILOR'S REPORT FROM VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC (JADIN CHAHADE)

Journal Club:

APSA's VPA is responsible for chairing our Pharmacy Undergraduate Journal Club. During my term as VPA, I have been trying to promote awareness around Journal Club, especially for the 2022s and 2023s so they can continue to grow the club as they progress through the program. Dr. Makowski and Dr. Hall are a wonderful addition to our club as they allow students to understand the process of critical appraisal and increase our efficiency while doing it.

I have made a Google Drive where I upload each presentation and corresponding journal article. This way, pharmacy students will have a reference to look back to while on rotation if a similar PICO question arises. You can find our Google Drive [here](#). Please join our [Facebook group](#) so you stay up to date on when we are meeting next.

Student Advisory Committee:

Historically, the SAC was designed to elicit student feedback regarding the volunteering placements and our rotations. Now the SAC focuses on integrating student feedback from your Class Representative's mid-semester surveys as well as ongoing student concerns.

As APSA's VPA, my role is to organize these meetings and stay up to date with your class representatives to ensure all issues are being addressed. Dr. Cor is the chair of this committee and has been an integral part in addressing your concerns. All students are welcome to attend our SAC meetings. Please ask your class representative for our next meeting date.

Curriculum Committee:

This year, Dr. Cor and I made APSA's VPA a standing member on the curriculum committee. The committee meets on a monthly basis. Before each meeting, I along with your class representatives meet with Dr. Cor to discuss the agenda items for the upcoming meeting. In the past, getting student involvement was difficult due to timing conflict/student engagement. However, our new arrangement with Dr. Cor has proven to be an effective way for students to engage with faculty members during the discussion regarding the ongoing implementation of the new Doctor of Pharmacy program.

Throughout the term, the committee has been engaged in an ongoing conversation regarding future electives to be offered in the Faculty of Pharmacy.

Academic Appeals Committee:

APSA's VPA is a voting member of the faculty's Academic Appeals Committee. As a result, I am not able to provide advice for students who are preparing for their appeals meeting. To circumvent this, I am working with Dr. Brocks and Dr. Sanghera to make a document to be used as a resource for

students who are having difficulty with their rotations, whether it be with their preceptor or gaps in therapeutic knowledge.

This document will provide you with the first step you should take, and who in the faculty you should contact for further assistance. Included will be a guide for students who are preparing for their appeals meeting and what important factors you should consider.

APSA's Awards Committee:

APSA's VPA is the chair of APSA's Awards Committee. The committee has been hard at work alongside our VP Finance (Michael Lu), to prepare for the 2020 APSA Awards. We have included new awards and retooled old awards criteria to match the needs of our Pharmacy Students. Awards will be given out at our annual Blue and Gold Ball.

Alberta College of Pharmacy:

As the student representative on the ACP council, I have the honor of staying informed in the discussions brought to the council and offer a student perspective. In addition, I provided ACP with an APSA report to keep them up to date on (most) things APSA related! Please find the report [here](#).

Professionalism Committee:

APSA'S VPA is the chair of the Professionalism Committee. Historically, APSA's professionalism committee dealt primarily with academic misconduct and other unprofessional behavior displayed by pharmacy students. The committee would like to take a proactive approach to establish professionalism by changing our vision to helping students establish their sense of professional identity. We are hoping to collaborate with members of the Faculty and showcase their various career paths and the story of how they developed their professional identity. The Professionalism Committee will be hosting a mini-series where we can showcase the professors in our faculty so they can share what impacted their professional development the most.

I have been working alongside Ayush Chadha to promote this idea to Pharmacy students and see what they believe professional identity means to them.

Council of Faculty Associations (Advocacy group):

APSA'S VPA is a member of the Council of Faculty Associations Advocacy Group. In 2018, the SU's VPA (Akanksha Bhatnagar) spearheaded a survey on undergraduate attitudes towards academic advisors and advising. This year, the advocacy group is taking the data gathered from the survey and using it as evidence to present to various facilities to protest budget cuts to highly utilized resources.

Adhoc Working Group on Clinical Research:

I, along with a few members of our faculty, were asked to join this working group to brainstorm solutions to the main issues that arise while conducting clinical research on campus. The main issues pointed out so far are the barriers to effectively and efficiently institute clinical research projects on

campus. The possibilities for student participation, as well as student-led clinical research projects, is a reality so addressing these barriers to implementation is paramount. I will keep APSA posted as the discussion unfolds.

Library Space Planning Consultation:

I am lucky this year to have the opportunity to participate in the discussion for the re-location of our second home! Did you know the John W. Scott Health Sciences Library is moving?! In January of 2020, I will be able to bring a student perspective to the library space planning committee. I am excited and will be sure to keep you posted!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jadin', written in a cursive style.

Jadin Chahade, Vice President Academic
Alberta Pharmacy Students' Association
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