

**Semesterly Report Fall 2022**  
**Tamara Gligoric, VP Academic**

Dear APSA Members and Council,

Below I have outlined a summary of what I have completed over the summer and fall semester as APSA's VP Academic.

**I. Ongoing:**

- Attendance at weekly general and executive council meetings
- Attendance at biweekly executive council-faculty meetings
- Attendance at monthly FoPPS Pre-curriculum and Curriculum Committee meetings
- Attendance at as needed FoPPS Academic Appeals Committee meetings
- Attendance at as needed FoPPS Awards Committee meetings
- Attendance at as needed Student Advisory Committee meetings
- Chair as needed Awards Committee meetings
- Chair as needed Professionalism Committee meetings

**II. By month:**

**March-April**

- Attended the APSA Spring Changeover Meeting (for transition to new APSA council)
- Met with previous VP Academic, Amandeep Garcha, for role transition.
- Attended the FoPPS Curriculum Committee (CC) introductory onboarding meeting for an introduction on CC processes, expectations and responsibilities.

**May-August**

- Attended the following meetings:
  - Various APSA executive meetings involved in preliminary planning for the APSA 2022-2023 academic year (Re: budget planning, a focus on inclusivity, expectations of executives and council, summer retreat planning, etc.) throughout May and August.
  - FoPPS Class of 2026 Admissions Committee meeting in June.
  - FoPPS pre-curriculum committee meeting in July.
  - FoPPS curriculum committee meeting in August.
- Ensured various requirements for APSA were met and completed such as:
  - Submitted VP Academic budget requirements to VP Finance, headshot/biography to VP Administration, and certificate of completion of the Trans Wellness Initiative Introduction to Affirming Spaces Training module to APSA President.
  - Completed Event-Organizer Training.
- Presented and volunteered at the Class of 2026 First Year Orientation.

- Through my portion of the presentation, the Class of 2026 was introduced to the ACP Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice, expectations for professionalism as a student in the U of A PharmD Program, skills lab and placement dress codes, as well as APSA Awards.
- Attended the annual APSA Summer Retreat.

### **September**

- Met with committee members of the Professionalism and Awards Committee to outline process and expectations (i.e. confidentiality, fairness, etc.).
- Addressed a concern regarding breached professionalism as chair of Professionalism Committee, in collaboration with APSA executive council and Pharmacy Student Services (details concealed as per confidentiality).
- Collaborated with VP Administration and VP Finance in creating an event spreadsheet pipeline, to create a clear and consistent process for APSA council to submit APSA events.
- Re-introduced APSA Blacklisting for events to APSA council and members.
- Met with Dr. Cor, Dr. Hall, BPSA President, APSA President and VP Administration regarding expansion of the Student Advisory Committee (SAC) for broader pharmacy student involvement.

### **October**

- Continued the conversation regarding professionalism breach with guidance of SU and SGS.
- Met with Dr. Cor, Dr. Hall, Trent Nabe, BPSA President, APSA President and VP Administration to continue the conversation with regards to expanding the SAC.
  - It was decided that we will continue with the traditional SAC structure for the remainder of the school year, until the new SAC structure is established.
- First formal (traditional) SAC meeting was held with Dr. Cor and each year's class representatives.
- Completed course review for PHARM313 required for the Curriculum Committee.
- Met with the Alberta College of Pharmacy (ACP) alongside VP Fundraising, VP External and APSA President.

### **November**

- Closed the case for the breach in professionalism in collaboration with APSA executive council and Pharmacy Student Services after completion of meetings with students involved.
- Chaired APSA Awards Committee Meeting to vote on the recipient of the CAPSI Guy Genest Award.
- Discussed and synthesized Dr. Cor's student feedback (re: program delivery feedback) for the fall semester with the Student Advisory Committee; discussed parallels with some of APSA Members Feedback results.
- Collaborated with VP Administration in creating infographics to outline APSA's monthly highlights for APSA's Members Corner Facebook group.
- Began modifying the applications for the 2022-2023 APSA awards.

### **December**

- Continued modification of APSA Awards applications, to be launched in early January.

- Met with Dr. Ussher to discuss and address student-voiced concerns regarding inclusivity in PHARM345, with particular focus on the Pregnancy and Nutrition lecture.

### III. **By responsibility:**

#### a) **Curriculum Committee (CC)**

- The FoPPS CC is in place to continuously improve the PharmD program year after year by reviewing each course via a consistent schedule.
- The student representatives on this committee include myself as VP academic and each year's student representatives. New additions to the student representation in the CC this academic year include a representative from each of the BPSA and LGBTQ+PhSC.
- A pre-curriculum committee meeting is in place prior to each curriculum committee meeting on a monthly basis. Given that each CC meeting is two-hours long and typically overlaps with the student representatives' school schedules, the pre-CC meetings are in place to make up for this, to hear our student perspectives and bring forth feedback and concerns from the student body regarding curriculum.
- At each pre-CC and CC meeting, I participate in discussions regarding our curriculum and any courses being reviewed. I provide an APSA update at each CC meeting as well.

#### b) **Student Advisory Committee (SAC)**

- As described above in section II, the SAC is undergoing changes to expand and become more inclusive to a broader pharmacy student body. The current structure is composed of Faculty representative Dr. Cor, APSA VP Academic, and each year's student representatives. The purpose of expanding the SAC is due to the overlap in student representation between the SAC and CC. We believe that the student body and faculty would benefit from having more diversity in student voices who represent the pharmacy student body as a whole.
- The new structure is still being developed. Therefore, we are continuing with the current structure of representatives for this academic year.
- A concern brought up in previous years is that class representatives lacked a reliable support system. The SAC has worked to address this, to provide a safe space for the student representatives to bring their concerns and what feedback they've gotten from fellow classmates. As VP Academic, I have also created a group chat for myself and the class representatives to have regular communication amongst one another and an outlet for any concerns or calls for help/support.
- This semester, Dr. Ken Cor sent out a mid-semester feedback form. Please refer to section II: November.
- At each meeting, I participate in discussion regarding any agenda items Dr. Cor, myself or the student representatives bring up. This includes student feedback beyond the curriculum, which separates it from the CC.
- A meeting can be called by any of the committee members.

#### c) **Awards Committee (AC)**

- The AC is chaired by the VP Academic and is composed of a faculty representative (this year, Dr. Ussher), VP Social, VP Fundraising, VP Finance, and a representative from each of the four cohorts.
- Over the summer and throughout the semester, I have collaborated with the VP Finance and APSA executive council to discuss the budget for awards this year.
- The committee voted on the recipient for the Guy Genest Award in November.
- Our goal is to ensure more non-APSA council members feel empowered to apply to these awards, so that we can give back to a broader group of students.
- Given the significant budget change for APSA this academic year compared to last, a significant change to the types of awards and monetary values associated with each follows. VP Finance will continue to monitor the budget and will see if any increases in value for awards are feasible throughout awards season.
- Awards applications will launch in January.

#### **d) Professionalism Committee (PC)**

- The PC is chaired by the VP Academic and is composed of a faculty representative (this year, Trent Nabe ), APSA President, VP Student Services, and one active APSA member who is not on council.
- As VP Academic and chair of PC, I presented a professionalism-focused presentation to the Class of 2026 at their orientation in August.
- This semester, one professionalism concern was addressed with guidance from U of A Student's Union and Student Group Services, as well as our FoPPS Student Services. Details regarding this concern have been documented although remain confidential to protect the identity of the individuals involved.
- Through this role, I have also connected with a couple of students seeking guidance and advice regarding how to navigate professional matters with fellow students and with faculty.

#### **e) FoPPS Academic Appeals Committee**

- The VP Academic is a voting member of the faculty's Academic Appeals Committee. Therefore, I am not in a position to provide students heading into their appeals with advice, although I can provide students with resources regarding the steps towards the appeals process itself.
- My role is to partake in appeal hearings when scheduled as needed. Given that these hearings are on an as needed basis, I have not had the chance to partaken in one as VP Academic yet.

#### **f) Other**

- Speakers for a career series and lunch and learn have been corresponded with and an event for each will be scheduled in the winter semester.
- The Pharmacy Undergraduate Journal Club (PUJC) is set to take place in the winter semester.

- APSA Executive Council created a survey to get feedback from students regarding any concerns they have about APSA, academics, etc. The results have been synthesized and brought forward to various faculty members.

If you have any questions, concerns or feedback regarding my role or any of the above information, please contact me via Facebook or email at [tgligori@ualberta.ca](mailto:tgligori@ualberta.ca).

Thank you and I look forward to the winter semester!

Sincerely,

Tamara Gligoric

Alberta Pharmacy Students' Association

[tgligori@ualberta.ca](mailto:tgligori@ualberta.ca)