

March 16, 2022

Fall 2021 - Semesterly Counselor Report From Vice President Academic (Amandeep Garcha)

(1) Curriculum Committee (CC)

CC continues to work to improve the PharmD, PPP, and CCPP programs as courses undergo review. Student representatives on the committee include the first, second, and third year class representatives and the APSA VP Academic (standing member). As CC meetings typically require 2-hours and overlap with courses, the student representatives meet for 1-hour with Dr. Hall to review the monthly agenda.

This semester, the course reviews were focused on the graduate study courses and the CCPP courses. As such, the student representatives were not formally involved in the review process but were able to overlook the comments and provide any thoughts at the Pre-CC and CC meetings. APSA updates were c

At each meeting, I provide an APSA update, thus I have shared resources APSA has created, upcoming events, and information regarding how the student body is coping with the challenges of the continuous change. There are meetings in place to orient the incoming VP Academic into their role on CC meetings.

(2) Student Advisory Committee (SAC)

SAC is composed of a faculty representative as chair, VP Academic, first, second, and third year class representatives. Over my experience with the committee last year, we noted that SAC turned into a support system for class representatives by providing a safe environment and a place where we can come up with solutions. This term, the mid-semester feedback form was collaboratively worked on with the faculty representative Dr. Ken Cor. Dr. Cor shared the results of the survey with the student body.

SAC met early in the semester to outline how this term would run and any outstanding issues from last term. The APSA constitution was modified to include a member of both BPSA and LGBTQ2S+PSC on SAC next year. Finally, I have invited the class representatives to present their respective cohorts class award at blue & gold this year.

(3) APSA's Awards Committee (AC)

AC is chaired by the VP Academic, and is composed of: faculty representative, VP Social, VP Fundraising, VP Finance, and a representative from each four cohorts. Awards committee promoted APSA awards heavily at the beginning of this term, measures were taken to increase diversity & number of applicants. Award applications closed at the end of January and the awards committee deliberated the award recipients. It was an honor to see the hard work, dedication, and passion demonstrated by peers within their applications. VP Finance & VP Academic noticed discrepancies between the number of awards indicated on the APSA website and what was originally included in the budget, as such - we brought forth increases in budget proposals to the APSA general council.

Awards plaques are currently being engraved to reflect both this year and last year's recipients & award certificates are ready to be printed. APSA Award recipients will be announced at Blue & Gold. This year, I worked collaboratively with committee's acting co-chair, Kit Gamage, to ensure the process was equitable, fair, free of conflicts of bias, maintaining confidentiality, and ensuring we exhausted the security/accessibility regarding award materials to limit the chances of breaches. Some hiccups were noted throughout the awards application & selection process, these will be discussed with the incoming VP Academic.

(4) Professionalism Committee (PC)

PC is chaired by the VP Academic, and is composed of faculty representative, APSA President, Past-President, VP Student Services, and one active APSA member who is not on council. Professionalism committee meets on an as needed basis.

Career series sessions were continued this term, 3 sessions were originally planned however one session fell through. One of the career series sessions this term was co-hosted with BPSA and our guest speaker was a black pharmacist from U of T. Our other session this term will be co-hosted with LGBTQ2S+PhSC later this month.

(5) Academic Appeals Committee (AAC)

As the VP Academic is a voting member of the faculty's AAC, I am not in a position to be able to provide students with advice heading into their appeals meetings. I partake in appeal hearings and am able to provide students with resources regarding the steps towards the appeals process itself.

(6) Council of Faculty Associations (CoFA) - Advocacy Board

CoFA Advocacy Board meetings were continued this term with updates from respective faculties being provided. Concerns surrounding a strike were discussed and resources distributed to students from UASU.

(7) Pharmacy Undergraduate Journal Club (PUJC)

This past semester, 5 PUJC meetings were organized however the uptake was low or conflicting events arose last minute. I will communicate with the incoming VP Academic on strategies that may improve future uptake of PUJC

Sincerely,



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