

Medical Undergraduate Society

Council Meeting minutes -February 3rd 2020; 7:00 PM

Date	MSAC	IMP	NMP	SMP	Call-In # 1-877-792-2770
Feb 3 2020	VC Room	RJH 246 MSB 107 VGH 1908	UHNBC 5032 NHSC 9-370	KGH 250 RHS 148	30335 https://meet.vc.ubc.ca

Preparation

Review Robert's Rules [here](#).

Add/update/verify your contact information [here](#).

Minutes

Present: Chris, Chloe, Vito, Isaac, Billy, Reem, Army, Stephen, Jeremy, Sabrina, Gabriel, Parker, Monica, Vanessa, Zach, Annette, Dr. Lui

VC: Ravi P., Kian , Dallas G., Tribesty

<https://meet.vc.ubc.ca> **Call 30335**

Regrets:

title	proposer	time
Approval of Agenda	Mover: Gabe Second: Reem In favour: all	7:04
Approval of Previous Minutes https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gP2Kh1Tpt8hGdzyI5F_Viwbj4dRccZ1LsgzKoPTcJMY/edit	Mover: Vanessa Second: Stephen In favour: all	

Remarks from the Chair

Zach Sagorin
(President)

Zach: A couple of these are upcoming opportunities you could be involved with if you are interested. 1) Induction of Medical Hall of Fame. 2) Laura Taylor Award - MIND group has requested that 1-3 MUS members will join the selection committee. This should be minimal responsibility but essentially reviewing applications, but you would be exempt from being nominated. If interested, you could reach out to myself or Nancy Lum.

Last time, there was the topic of conflict of interest. It will be ready for the next meeting.

Another update: endowment fund. Initially, it was to be administered by the Dean of __. Now it will be administered by Dean of Student Affairs so someone we have been regularly and frequently communicating with. That should be helpful to more directly obtain those funds.

Last update: related to faculty receiving letter of National Black Students Association for \$1500 for 3 separate \$500 scholarships to send students to medical conferences. We were contacted if MUS would supply funding for this and whether we should put the money forward when it was requested by the faculty. At first, this seemed like a positive opportunity to increase diversity and having UBC representation so we thought to offer \$250 from the variable use fund to support half the cost of 1 student and request faculty to support the other half.

Stephen: Have other medical schools also contributed?

Zach: All schools were contacted but unsure how other medical schools were funding this and unsure how they were going about this.

Stephen: If we contribute to gently push the rest of Canada to do this, this would be a good opportunity. Do we have three students that want to go to conferences?

Zach: Once the fund gets insured, we can advertise it and see if there are students interested.

Billy: Faculty has a lot of money left over that they don't know what to do with, so this is one very good opportunity for us.

Zach: With that in mind, is it worthwhile for us to request faculty to sponsor 1.5 students.

Billy: If it were up to me, we should definitely push as much support as possible. But repeating what I had said, our primary goal is to be able to send a student to this meeting and not have a "No you should fund this" back and forth push between MUS and faculty getting in the way of sending the student to conference. So we should try to push but funding is still available from the MUS.

Medical Education Committee Transition

Proposed constitution amendments:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LGFexu5KQbS6u3u2GKbApFEnPvYASIPi/view?usp=sharing>

After consulting with class councils and the Medical Education Committee (MEC) this last year, I believe that MEC is ready to transition its 4 appointed positions into 6 elected positions. Given the MUS elections are coming in March, the MUS Constitution would require amendments at our next MUUS meeting so that these positions can be elected with the rest of MUS council.

The general meeting did not follow through in September because it requires a 30 day notice. So, we are asking for the March meeting to be a Special general meeting.

The MEC is a subcommittee of MUS division of academics. It provides a streamlined framework for selecting students to sit on faculty committees. The goal is to maintain communication between student reps and MUS. One issue is that MEC is succeeding at some

Stephen
McCarthy (VP
Academic Sr.)

of its goals but not all of them. Positions on MEC include VP Academic Sr, Jr

Chloe: Elected as IT Officer on MEC separately from MUS. I am sitting on MEC not as a part of MUS but as a MEC position.

MEC chooses reps via faculty rules and advertises for open positions in the spring and the fall. Submissions are blinded to allow fair judging. 3 MEC reps score applicants on three domains and then the final applicants for important positions will be interviewed. Most positions are 1 year terms with option to renew. No student can be on >2 committees to promote diversity.

This is a detailed picture of the 80 student reps on MEC. There are committees for admissions, student affairs, curriculum, research, student mistreatment, faculty development, post-clerkship etc. They are doing a great job but they are not connected to the MUS and class councils.

So far, fair and equitable selection of student reps is occurring and there is a better representation of sites. The temptation to pick friends is minimized and the process is transparent. If any applicant is upset about the results, they can talk to the MEC chairs. The selection for new committees is streamlined through MEC.

What hasn't been working is that MEC has been drifting away from MUS. They have their own logo and student reps are part of a membership. There are no former connections to each year's class councils. Student reps once chosen felt isolated and did not receive support from MEC or MUS. MEC is self-appointed so this leads to less accountability to the MUS council.

Chloe: MEC needs a webmaster even if the IT officer is on MEC. It isn't fair for the MUS IT Officer Junior to have to take on this responsibility since it is not listed in the MUS constitution. The MEC position also requires coding which is not mandated in the MUS position.

The proposed solution is to make the MEC director elected. The IT senior returns to the MUS and MEC will have a webmaster elected specifically for MEC. The MEC director should be a 2 year term and the MEC webmaster should be a 1 year term. The second round of changes is to have each year's student rep on the year's class council

as well. The MEC student reps will be elected along with class council elections and be non-voting members.

Isaac: Why does MEC's webmaster have to be part of the MUS council?

Stephen: Ideally, the MEC's webmaster is also elected for higher accountability. The problem is that MEC is self-stagnating because they keep self nominating their own people.

Billy: For the webmaster, how much coding is required for this position?

Chloe: It's not too much, you just need Java, CSS and Java script. The thing is, MD/PHDs have this set of skills.

Advantages to elected positions are that the positions will be directly accountable to the MUS council and the 4 MEC class execs will relay information to the class council. MEC spring and fall recruit will improve with the help of class councils. MEC chairs agree with this strategy.

To amend the constitution, the general membership must be given the proposed amendments 30 days before they are voted on. Link to constitution will be sent out by VP Comms. On March 2nd, we can discuss amendments and vote on whether to adopt them.

MOTION:

WHEREAS the Medical Education Committee (MEC) has agreed to have its leadership elected during the Spring MUS elections;

AND WHEREAS any Constitution amendments shall be posted and shared with the Society 30 days before they are enacted, in accordance with Article IV.2.d,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the next MUS Meeting on March 2nd 2020 become a Special General Meeting, in order to vote on suggested MEC amendments.

Motion mover: Monica
Second: Army

In favour 18
Against 0
Abstentions 0

External Updates

Mindfulness 101 event with CMA

Reem Aziz
(VP External Jr.)

This event was a success. We chatted about mindfulness techniques and the taboo behind it. It also provided useful tools for students to use in lecture. This was better than the lectures we received in class because those are very lecture-based. This event provided tools and checklists.

Link to Presentation:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1T6gh3L4ZqHqbPjOfL0xFh2GLAsEJFOT-3MnPeUxgMDM/edit#slide=id.p>

Intro to the CFMS lecture

This was initially supposed to be done in September but the first years were very overwhelmed in the beginning of the year. I was talking to people at CFMS and they thought it would be good to bring a brief overview to MUS. The CFMS is the national organization that represents Canadian medical schools. Members of CFMS sit on committees all across Canada (CaRMS, CFMS etc.). They collaborate with IFMSA to connect with medical students across the world.

The CFMS Structure consists of the president, past president, VP Finance, Directors of regions, directors of GH, ME, GAM SA, VP Comm. There are two meetings, the AGM and SGM. Devon, Reem and Henry are on the CFMS. There are 6 major portfolios for advocacy, education, finance, global health, student affairs, and communication. The electives database was initiated this year where students give feedback on their own electives. The global health portfolio has a cool pocket card series that gives you tips and advice. Everyone should apply for leadership awards because we are all a part of CFMS. The strategic innovation fund under finance is for large-scale national initiatives. There is up to \$75,000 funding to be used for initiatives. I don't have examples of past projects but if you have a cool idea this may be a good opportunity.

Student spotlight is a new initiative that advertises what students are doing across the Canadian medical schools. For example, Feb-U-Hairy is a fundraiser movement at memorial

university for local planned parenthood. OnExam is a cool tool which has an OSCE type checklist and physical exams.

Go to CFMS and login to subscribe to the CFMS communicate. We're trying to phase out Reem sending it out through MUS. CFMS winter call applications closes today for first year positions.

The SGM is coming to Vancouver in April and we might have enough to sponsor 18 medical students. It will cover costs of registration (\$200/person). Anyone on the council can submit a position paper for the CFMS. Position papers are written by students on topics that they are passionate about.

Discounts are available as a CFMS member.

Stephen: We have been contacted by the Academics round table so if people are interested in writing a position paper, feel free to reach out to me.

Reem: There are step by step instructions on the CFMS website on how to write a position paper. Feel free to check those out.

Dallas: We need to organize two social events for the SGM. I'm potentially finding a one club night event and a one non-club social. We are thinking of holding a mindfulness event as well. If anyone has good ideas, I am looking into pubs in the area to see what options there might be.

Reem: Are there any restrictions money wise for the social events?

Dallas: I still need clarity for how much money we have for the social events. The way she worded it was just getting free cover for 160 people.

Reem: I can bring this up at the CFMS round table, and they may have some good ideas.

Dallas: Some ideas brought up included morning yoga, where we could involve the UBC Yoga club or someone from MUS could lead it, so that it's relatively feasible.

Reem: Last year, there was a 1h slot for mindfulness. Is it the same this year?

Dallas: She just said to plan an event.

Reem: If you could clarify what she really wants, that would be great

Zach: Another question, do you feel like you can attempt full autonomy in organizing this or if you need assistance?

Dallas: Great question! At this moment, I am okay but as it gets closer, maybe we can get keen first years who are interested in helping out. Would you guys be okay with me reaching out to class groups to see if anyone is interested in helping. I'm not sure what we can offer (if anything, to them) to form a small social committee.

Zach: How many guaranteed sponsorships do we have?

Reem: We have about approx 18 students that we can sponsor other than the MUS. Once I talk to Devon about that, we can have a little part in the application to ask if they're willing to help.

Dallas: I probably only need 1-2 people.

Reem: It's nice for them to help out and attend. I'll talk to Devon and let you know.

Dallas: I'll hammer out the details and figure out what we actually need.

Zach: Thanks Dallas!

Dallas: No worries!

Internal Updates

Career's Night - February 13th 7-9 - get excited!

It is an evening where all the program directors meet at the MSAC and they get their own booths. Students are able to chat with all of these program directors. Have heard from every program except for two so far.

MedBall - March 14th - tickets coming out this weekend, get excited!

Everyone should come, it will be fun! It will be LIT.

Teaching Awards - 4 MUS Teaching Awards and Webber + Hardwick

- Nominations open
- Need some people to join me, Vanessa, Sabrina for the Webber and Hardwick award committee.
- Each class nominates one teaching award. Webber and Hardwick awards are nominated from every class.

PAC

- MUS officially endorses the AccessBC campaign and the MUS released a joint statement with AccessBC in support of free universal access to contraception, as outlined in the draft letter attached
- There was a timeline that did not allow the vote for the motion to be done at this meeting so it had to be done online. We did endorse this statement after all so thanks for people for voting on this.

Refugee Letter

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/article-why-ubc-medical-school-has-decided-to-admit-refugees/>

- We received a letter in the mail addressed to the MUS. There was an opinion piece in the Globe describing UBC's policy that they would accept refugees into UBC medical school. We got a letter from an anonymous person that they were upset that UBC was admitting refugees when so many Canadians were not necessarily accepted.

Isaac Rodin
(VP Internal)

- We have two options: 1) Do nothing about it 2) We can decide to put out a statement on our own 3) The GHI can take responsibility in drafting a statement regarding this.

Billy: What about the MD Admissions committee?

Stephen: We have 2 admissions reps on MEC so it might be good to invite them.

Annette: How do you reply to this anonymous letter?

Isaac: We would just put out a statement publicly.

Parker: I don't see there to be an inherent advantage of putting out a statement because we are making it more of an issue.

Isaac: I don't feel strongly personally to have to draft out a statement regarding this. The MUS as an entity did support it.

Zach: THE UGME reps and the faculty executives voted on this. There were a lot of misconceptions in the letter regarding the process for a refugee to get into the UBC medical school. It does not give them any preferred advantage. I do think it may be useful to contact GHI if they would like to take an action regarding this.

Dr. Lui: You are not in power to reverse the decision. If the MUS felt passionately to reverse it, then it might be worthwhile. I personally think this is a waste of time for MUS to draft a statement regarding this.

Isaac: I think it may be worthwhile to send it to RHI to see if they want to make a statement about this.

December 2019

The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at UBC, Dr Dermot Kelleher, published an opinion in the *Globe and Mail* just before the holidays. The title of the opinion is "Why UBC's medical school has decided to admit refugees". Dr Kelleher is expecting that this decision will be unpopular which may be why he arranged to have the opinion published at a time of year when the public is focused on the holidays. A medical school education is subsidized to a significant degree by Canadian taxpayers. Dr Kelleher who indicates he is not a Canadian citizen, feels that the tax payers of Canada (British Columbia) should pay for anyone in the world to come to UBC. All the individual needs to do is claim refugee status. Citizens in British Columbia already have less opportunity than citizens in most other provinces to go to medical school. This decision would ensure that there is less opportunity in the future.

I would like to see this decision reversed. According to Dr Kelleher, admitting refugees to UBC's medical school would help welcome individuals from anywhere in the world. But Canada already welcomes people from all over the world. It is reasonable that a person claiming refugee status, have the claim validated by the Canadian government and be granted permanent residency status in Canada before applying to medical school at UBC.

A concerned Canadian citizen

cc President Santa Ono, UBC, Premier John Horgan, newspapers in BC

Letter received by MUS:

MUS General Elections Timeline

- Need 4 weeks between close of nominations for senator to start of voting. This would push our

timeline up too much for the other MUS positions. So I am doing a two email process - one email for MUS senator, one email for the rest of the positions one month later, voting will open at the same time for all of them.

- In summary:
 - Two different nomination periods
 - Two different but overlapping campaigning period
 - One voting period

Vivian: I discussed this with the student senate group. The repercussions for us not following the timeline is that we wouldn't make the April meeting. I wanted to propose an idea that we miss that April meeting in lieu of having a more structured campaigning period. The disadvantage for having a separate campaigning period would be that the students are not as engaged. The clause we are trying to adhere to is under the university act (4 week period before nomination period and voting period).

Isaac: The separate campaigning and nomination period will most likely not affect student engagement because the voting period will be the same for all of the positions. If we decide as a council that we don't care, it doesn't matter to me.

Vivian: Can you clarify the campaigning period in relation to the voting period?

Isaac: For senator, nominations Feb 10-28, campaign mar. 16-23rd. Voting Mar. 23-27. Nominations Mar. 2-11, campaign Mar. 16-23 and same voting period.

Vivian: Campaigning for a shorter period of time is better because last year there was an extra week which was taxing. That works out, thank you!

Stephen: Can the MEC director be on the nominations to go out that day on Mar. 2nd?

Isaac: yes they can be added.

AFMC Summer Electives

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MkxusOWIDvquTu9cEjkYeslpi11GkEGFsP-3Y_kBF5k

MUS Travel Bursary: All \$8000 has been distributed. She missed the discussion but the conflict of interest worked out.

AFMC summer electives. I was only made aware of this a bit more than a week ago. This is more related to third years. UBC has 5 weeks of summer break between 3rd and 4th year, and through surveying other schools, they usually do not have a break, or a much shorter one. UBC's current policy (28 on extracurricular activities) are that students are allowed to apply to unofficial summer electives through AFMC portals to schools that accept unofficial students. University of Alberta, University of Dalhousie, University of Manitoba (and University of Saskatchewan, now retracted). Apparently a lot of classmates had started applying in January. Every school has a home page that is not very electronically updated; there is a text message section. On Jan 6, either Dalhousie or UoA changed their rules and no longer accept unofficial electives. On January 10, UoA also reversed their position. Since this is not part of any announcement posting, a lot of students missed reading this and lost their money applying. Dalhousie also released in their statement that students who applied before Jan 7 will still have their application processed. This became odd to most of us why schools would cut it off for some students to come through for unofficial electives but not other students.

CHloe: the frustrating part is that you have to apply 26 weeks before electives start (late December). UoA told us that we changed the policy (can't let us have a summer elective) and cancelled our applications. Sask approved and then cancelled on people who approved and took their

Annette Ye
(VP Academic
Jr)

money. It is frustrating that they were on a break so they didn't update their terms and time.

Vivian: There is inconsistency in terms of what schools are doing for each applicant. For example, I still have my UoA elective and someone has their Dal elective. It is very dependent on schools.

Annette: There is a deadline where if you had applied before then, you can keep your elective. So now, there is a roundtable. In the survey attached, some schools have already responded. It seems like a lot of schools don't have summer break so for their faculty, it's not very important to decide whether unofficial summer electives should be an opportunity for students, which is why there are limited schools offering this. For other schools, they have a flexible fourth year elective program. Similar to us, they have 24 weeks of electives but students could choose when they wanted to take their 24 weeks. For Manitoba, you could put your electives during summer break and take a longer winter break. They wouldn't have unofficial summer breaks as it is still part of their school year. UBC is on its own in terms of allowing students to do unofficial electives and we don't have a lot of leverage in making our case.

Zach: AFMC have increased transparency or compatibility amongst one another?

Annette: There are two asks. 1) transparency - electives are actually on AFMC portal in announcements column. 2) UBC faculty should be involved and we need to consult them on whether or not it makes sense for UBC to allow students to take non-credit summer electives if it sounds like other schools do not have these opportunities and they are just changing their policies on dates without warning. Right now, we are running into trouble where our summer credits aren't for credits so it doesn't count as 8 week credit. For most schools, doing an elective in summer will count towards 8 week cap. I want Faculty to have more of a discussion about this.

Zach: So at this point, this would not discussion towards recourse of AFMC

Stephen: AFMC has a group of people who deal with these issues such as refunds. But getting electives back would be a whole another issue.

Annette: I wouldn't say that it is necessarily because it is unofficial summer elective that school should be reimbursing students. They are allowed to do so for any electives up to any number of weeks.

Zach: We should raise this as a concern to various faculty committees as appropriate. Whether or not we should have summer electives is a big conversation in itself. Perhaps we should rephrase what would be the ask for for faculties. Are we more concerned that students are getting their electives cancelled and these arbitrary rules are affecting students - how can this be fixed?

Annette: It has just come to our attention that some schools changed their policies. A portion of students had secured electives and you are okay to proceed with them. We just want reassurance that school still is okay with you participating with non official electives. The arbitrary deadline seems unfair. UBC should make a statement that they still support you.

Stephen: So you are saying that students should be reassured that these electives are secured.

Vivian: It is worthwhile bringing up the ultimate programming that most schools had, such as flexible fourth year where we can have flexible breaks. We should advocate for our students to have something more fair across the board.

Annette: We should let people know that the summers and what we offer is very different from schools across Canada. To a sense, we are disadvantaged by these other schools.

Zach: If there are further questions and concerns, we should keep some things to ourselves. Unless you have concluding points, we should ensure that everyone has time to make their opinion.

Year 1 and 2 Cluster Reps

Chris: We are finding it tough to recruit cluster reps for the year 1 and 2s. There is a lack of interest from the students and the lecturers. When we did have cluster reps, the lecturers would sometimes turn it down. We are bringing this up because we are going against the constitution for this.

Army: What we are wondering is if we can revise this on the constitution.

Stephen: At our annual general meeting, there will be an opportunity for everyone to make amendments. What are the points of view from the faculty coordinators?

Annette: You should bring it up on at the Year 1 and 2 student rep meetings.

Stephen: They will support you if you are struggling with this issue. They may email the lecturers that this is a valuable opportunity. I sold cluster reps as a way to network with the lecturers. It is unearned endorsement and I told people weeks ahead what fields the lecturers were.

Chris: It may be good to reach out to people that may be more extroverted to do this.

Chris Pang
(Year II Class
President) &
Army Alam
(Year I Class
President)

8:42
pm

Army: Currently, the Vp academics are doing this role. I wonder if it will be good to change the constitution to make it more flexible for cluster reps recruitment.

Zach: Can you give us an update from the Year ½ student rep meeting at our next meeting?

Book and Clothing Sale Update

I was in touch with Toronto Notes and Calgary Black Book to I'd be happy to collect money and just distribute. UBC bookstore is happy to do 10% off but last year, we provided 5% so I was wondering who I should talk to to organize that.

Zach: Last year, they sent us a cheque. But do we want that as a resource?

Billy: I got a cheque for \$2000+ from the bookstore and I never knew what it was for. Good to know!

Zach: If you want to raise the question on whether that is a good source of revenue, we could have this discussion.

Chris: So we are paying them 5% to offer students the 10% discount.

Zach: So this is us paying 5% for the clothing sale. We can talk with Billy about the logistics.

Chris Pang
(Year II Class
President)

Student Affairs Assistant Dean Search Committee - Student Reps Recruitment

The student affairs are searching for an assistant dean. They asked me to appoint 2 people from years 2 and 3. I was wondering what process of recruitment we should do?

Stephen: Do you want MEC to help with this?

Chris Pang
(Year II Class
President)

Chris: There are already 2 students from MEC on the student affairs committee. We have until the end of this month to recruit.

Stephen: I can try to ask MEC to streamline this process.

Annette: Wouldn't delegating this to MEC be the same as us advertising out as MUS?

Stephen: If you give me a deadline, I can see if they are able to do this.

CFMS HHRT

Link to file:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1C0xFMrFLpkYFHO1CyESXHfKphilG7xuv/view?usp=sharing>

There is a new initiative called the human health resources taskforce to put together on relative data on physician workforces. For example, it shows you how many spots are available for different specialities. They also survey physicians to see their opinions. It has become a national project. There will be a designed CFMS webpage for this and they are hoping to release this by the SGM. There will be a map view of all of the specialities and a graph builder for data over time. I brought this up because they are wondering if you have input on what the website should look like. Come to me if you are very passionate about this. Instead of you having to check out all of the information by yourself, it compiles it all in one document.

Stephen: There is another survey where program directors give opinions on what they want for residents.

Reem: That would be interesting

Reem Aziz
(VP External
Jr.)

Motion to Adjourn

Moved: Reem

Seconded: Chris

In favor: All