

Executive Council Meeting

August 3, 2023



SEPHGSA Executive Council 2023-2024

President	Ishika Obeegadoo	iobee055@uottawa.ca	Present
Vice President	Sumali Mehta	smeht055@uottawa.ca	Present
Vice President, Epidemiology Academic Affairs	Sara Siddiqi	ssidd089@uottawa.ca	Present
Vice President, Public Health Academic Affairs	Stephen McCarthy	smcca104@uottawa.ca	Present
Vice President, Wellness	Sarah Syed	ssyed020@uottawa.ca	Present
Vice President, Social Affairs	Rebecca Cano	rcano028@uottawa.ca	Present
Vice President, Equity Diversity, and Inclusion	My-An Auprix	maupr046@uottawa.ca	Regrets
Vice President, Financial Affairs	Renée Schryer	rschr099@uottawa.ca	Regrets
Vice President, Administrative Affairs	Sami Aftab Abdul	sabdu070@uottawa.ca	Present
MSc Epidemiology Representative(s)			
MPH Representative(s)			
PhD Representative(s)			

Administrative Note

Time and Location

Unless otherwise specified in the minutes, meetings of the SEPHGSA are held on the **first Thursday of each month at 17:30**. We currently hold our meetings on Microsoft Teams and intend to continue in an online or bimodal manner for the foreseeable future. All active members of the SEPHGSA (students currently enrolled in the Master of Science in Epidemiology, the Doctor of Philosophy in Epidemiology, the Master of Public Health, or the Graduate Diploma in Population Health Risk Assessment and Management) are welcome to attend the monthly Executive Council Meetings and may do so using the following information:

Join Microsoft Teams Meeting: <https://tinyurl.com/4vu3vztf>

Meeting ID: 211 529 625 126

Passcode: MUAMMY

Council Member Updates

President

- SEPH School Assembly Update
- Fall-Orientation:
 - Received presentation slides from Charles.
 - SEPH presentation followed by a presentation by GSA.
 - Details: See Business Arising Section Below
- Financial Budget: Will coordinate with Renée.
- Career Week: See Business Arising Section Below
- Scholarships in Fall: Dr. Brouwers offered a representative from department/office to offer advice and logistics.

Vice President

- Faculty of Medicine Graduate Studies Committee
 - Meeting is yet TBD
- Faculty of Medicine Faculty Council
 - Will begin in September.
- Working on Blogpost for Fast-tracking from MSc to PhD for SEPGSA Website
- Looking into open GSAED position for SEPH Representative (Sumali as Rep)
 - Need to hold byelections internally via possibly Microsoft Forms

Vice President, Epidemiology Academic Affairs

- SEPH Epidemiology Graduate Studies Council
 - No Major Updates
- Met with Dr. Ian Colman to discuss SEPH fall orientation and offered ideas on organizing events (working on EPI event) - Will discuss further at Fall Orientation Subcommittee
 - Emphasized not splitting events between EPI/MPH

Vice President, Public Health Academic Affairs

- SEPH MPH Program Committee Meeting
 - No Major Updates
- Working on Beach Volleyball event: See Main Business Section Below

Vice President, Wellness

- Wellness Update
 - No Major updates
 - Wellness Week in January will coordinate near then.

Vice President, Social Affairs

- Events Update:
- Fall Orientation: Hosting Event at Maclaren's on/around Sep 8th evening, clashes with MPH SEC event.
 - Working on social media posts for event

- May need to involve a dedicated EPI student to help run logistics.
- Gala:
 - Date: November 2nd (weekend better for all students + Faculty)
 - Venue: Canal Ritz Rental Fee: \$0.00, remaining funds can be used for decor (with approval from VP Finance)
 - Look into CVUO funding for GALA event.
 - Volunteer to help with set up of GALA.
 - Food: \$35/person, with a potential cash bar/drink vouchers/ticket

Vice President, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

- EDI Update
 - Away

Vice President, Financial Affairs

- Financial Update:
 - Away

Vice President, Administrative Affairs

- Administrative Update
 - No Major Updates

Program Representatives

- MSc Epidemiology Update
- MPH Update
- PhD Epidemiology Update

GSAED Director (Vacant)

- GSAED Board of Directors
- A call for applications will be sent our mid-end August for elections to occur in September.
- Charles has collated changes to graduate studies governance policies
- Bi-Election for Senate Positions, one position is open for a School of Epidemiology and Public Health representative (temporarily attended by Charles).
- Council on Graduate Studies (University of Ottawa) -> Time commitment to review program changes, currently a position held by Charles as senator (Bilingual position)

Business Arising

Fall Orientation:

- Context: The fall orientation BBQ will be held on Tuesday, September 5 at noon. In the morning there is likely going to be a SEPH-specific series of sessions for the first years. “The BBQ is open to ALL students if you want to let the student community to hold the date”.

- Pamela (coordinator with FOM) we had a meeting on Aug 1st (Ishika, Sumali, Sami)
 - Discussed logistics for all FOM GSA involvement: NSC/CMM, BMI, SEPH, TMM
 - Discussed Aims:
 1. Generate a list of food/beverages to order from Costco,
 2. Identify what “Prizes” to give out to each student body/group,
 3. Schedule volunteers for helping distribute voucher tickets, and grilling food which starts at 10:30 am for lunch at 12-1 pm.
 4. Onus on each GSA to organize their own social events or one big event (potentially to include Master of Applied Science Anatomical Sciences Education students)
- Next Steps: Will communicate with Pamela to discuss specific tasks they would like SEPH-GSA to help with.
- Andre is helping set up nametag and table station for SEPH, QR code to collect contact information.
- MPH-SEC and EPI Fall Orientation Subcommittee

Updates:https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NMR5ZmzKmvvtHDiBxochu40x0vj2kZHbwY_vkn2YA5A/edit

 - Potentially meet with International Student Office or possibly in collaboration with Dr. Krentel and Dr. Brouwers to offer specific resources tailored to international students in a social setting in addition to SEPH-GSA related activities.
 - Given the clash of timing for CUPE event (union rights), an incentive for students to stay after is to offer ice-cream in the courtyard for social events later on (before or after scavenger hunt).
 - To identify SEPH students/cohort during lunch/BBQ, members could wear SEPHGSA t-shirts/a sign will be used to help localize our group from the other GSAs.
 - Next meeting: Aug 14.
 - Key Card Access Issue: New students do not have access yet, working with Faculty to encourage either unlocking the building for the day or expedited key card access (Sara will investigate)

Career Week:

- Organized by Pamela Pakium with Logistics from each FOM GSA: NSC/CMM, BMI, SEPH
- Context: Occurs during the second week of March, with speakers ranging from, government, policy, industry, and academia
- Each GSA to coordinate/recommend speakers
- FOM will provide room booking and food.

Main Business

Interdepartmental Beach Volleyball Event:

- Interdepartmental beach volleyball event: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/14Vae-2354l6ZigwVX3x5htadOyX34fZO3wDTPFwxqnQ/edit?usp=sharing>
 - Context: Epi+MPH + FM and Public Health Residents invited to a volleyball event
- Volunteers are needed: Rebecca offered to contribute volleyball; Others please reach out to Stephen if interested
- Distribution of event information can be done via SEPH email/newsletter.

Varia and Adjournment

Varia

- No items were raised in varia.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 18:13.

Next Meeting

- The next SEPHGSA Executive Council Meeting will be Thursday, September 7, at 17:30

Minutes

SEPHGSA minutes are compiled as soon as possible after meetings and hosted on a public webpage for review. These can be accessed from the SEPHGSA website at the following link:

<https://www.sephgsa.ca/documents>

The minutes from this meeting were last edited on Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 11:47:24

