

## SEPHGSA Executive Council 2021-2022

President	Shannon Thompson	sthom193@uottawa.ca	Present
Vice President	Charles Thickstun	rthic032@uottawa.ca	Present
Vice President, Academic Affairs	Shan Dhaliwal	sdhal018@uottawa.ca	Present
	Abi Kalanandan	akala013@uottawa.ca	Present
Vice President, Wellness	Zobaida Al-Baldawi	zalb014@uottawa.ca	Regrets
Vice President, Financial Affairs	Haben Dawit	hdawi008@uottawa.ca	Present
Vice President, Administrative Affairs	Amin Zahrai	azahr094@uottawa.ca	Present
	Ayni Sharif	ashar025@uottawa.ca	Present
Vice President, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion	Rola Hashem	rhash064@uottawa.ca	Regrets
Vice President, Social Affairs	Gabriele Zitikyte	gziti039@uottawa.ca	Present
	Mia Sapin	msapi072@uottawa.ca	Present
MSc Epidemiology Representative(s)	Carolina Soto	csoto007@uottawa.ca	Regrets
	Junayd Hussein	jhuss025@uottawa.ca	Regrets
MPH Representative(s)	Ami Li	yli874@uottawa.ca	Regrets
	Felipe Gallego	agall061@uottawa.ca	Present
	Phillippe Morin	pmori037@uottawa.ca	Present
PhD Representative(s)	Na Zeng	nzeng028@uottawa.ca	Regrets

## Updates

### President/Vice

- Updates?
- Faculty Council Meeting was held to evaluate concerns from students and faculty
  - uOttawa has told GSAED that they have increased the graduate student funding by \$13 million but we're not sure where that money is

- However uOttawa has had increased international student enrollment
  - A public statement was published before on this issue
  - SEPHGSA to prepare a letter to send to the university
    - Shannon, Amin and Charles to write a letter to the Faculty by April
- The SEPH assembly did an EDI survey
  - This is a faculty wide survey that the department wants students and staff to complete
  - Shannon will send a reminder email to the SEPHGSA to finish the survey
  - Ian is looking for accreditation reviewers which could be MSc Epi/MPH or PhD students, to meet with external reviewers as part of the quality assurance process for the graduate program and the responsibilities are to give feedback and students' expectations of the program
    - See email from the SEPHGSA email to sign up
    - Shannon and Gabby volunteered
- Funding
  - SEPH wants to create the SEPH student scholarship
    - Many unknowns with whether they want to give it to EPI or MPH students, and taking EDI and financial needs into account
    - Shannon will forward the email to all SEPH students
    - The faculty of advisory committee for internationalization wants someone as a representative
- Change in the department
  - No SEPH student will be turned away from a SEPH class going forward
- Townhall meeting
  - Happening next month with Dr. Bernard Jasmin
- Earth Day
  - Department of BMI has reached out to us and they are looking for a GSA member for an interfaculty earth day committee
    - They are looking to have 1 student from each faculty and need a person from SEPH
    - Promote ways for the departments to be more eco-friendly
  - SEPH looking to setup a tree planting day
    - If you know of any students who are interested in sitting on the committee for this event, please email the SEPHGSA
  - Setting up a recycling bin for batteries for SEPH
    - Gabby and Mia would get involved if there is a tree planting event
      - Shannon to send an Earth Day email
- The TMM program has reached out to SEPH because they are interested in SEPH's involvement with TMM and they are looking for undergraduate students to take courses with the EPI program
- Scholarship discussion
  - At least part of the money that given to the Faculty to support graduate students came as a form of merit scholarship which they put towards the funding that got cut for students with >8.0 and >9.0 GPAs previously
  - The funding was therefore used to cover the previous round of funding cuts and current cuts can't be covered

- Faculty will look into supplementary ways of covering the new cuts
- Charles will circulate draft changes and updates to the AGM including a new position for handling merchandise and for all GSAED related tasks to be handled by the GSAED
- AGM date
  - We'll need to determine a date for the AGM
    - Could have it on April 29th? Date to be determined by the next SEPHGSA meeting
    - We could either cater food or do a barbeque
- End of year celebrations
  - Loft/Douly's/Mclarens?
  - First week of May
    - Need to determine whether it will be in-person, hybrid or virtual

### **Vice President, Academic Affairs**

- Updates?
- Career day
  - Helping Dr. Wiper-Bergeron with career day organization
    - Speaker is set
    - Event scheduled for March 17
  - Thinking of planning a panel of the MPH program's previous students and discuss their practicum experiences
    - Maybe also an intro to thesis promoting workshop
  - We had an undergraduate student association asking if we can do the intro to Epidemiology or MPH program
    - Plan to implement it in the next Fall term
  - Dr. Wiper Bergeron will be doing a poster for career day
    - Mia and Gabby to post on social media channels

### **Vice President, Wellness / Social**

- Updates?
- Promotion of the check-in form on social media (poster updates?)
  - Poster now shared with VP admins to put on the website
- Meeting with a counsellor from the Faculty of Medicine on March 10
  - Zobaida to provide updates after the meeting

### **Vice President, Financial Affairs**

- Updates?
- We have received a payment from the GSAED (for fall or winter?)
  - It was equal to the payment that we got for one of the semesters from last year
- We received the last hoodie payment from Melissa Brouwers
- Charles and Shannon will work together on the sticker orders as the last financial order for the year

### **Vice President, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion**

- Updates?

## Vice President, Administrative Affairs

- Updates?
- A section on mental health resources has been added to the website
- Blog posted on the website on what's unique about SEPH

## Round Table

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- Suggestions/comments

## Next Meeting

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Friday April 1<sup>st</sup> @ 4:00pm on Zoom

## Administrative Note

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### SEPHGSA Archives Project

These minutes were compiled as part of an archival project to collate the minutes of past SEPHGSA Executive Council Meetings into a complete archive on the SEPHGSA website. The goal of this project is to provide a complete record of SEPHGSA activities in so far as we are able

As these minutes are being formally compiled after the fact, there may be information that is missing or incomplete as it was not included in the written record at the time. If you have any questions about the archival project – or have information about missing or incomplete records of SEPHGSA activities – we encourage you to reach out to [uo.sephgsa@gmail.com](mailto:uo.sephgsa@gmail.com) or visit the contact form on the SEPHGSA website at <https://www.sephgsa.ca/contact>

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 Friday, March 24, 2023 at 16:14:16

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