

# Executive Council Meeting

August 4th, 2022



## SEPHGSA Executive Council 2022-2023

President

Vice President Charles Thickstun rthic032@uottawa.ca Present

Vice President, Epidemiology Academic Affairs Shan Dhaliwal sdhal018@uottawa.ca Present

Vice President, Public Health Academic Affairs Felipe Gallego agall061@uottawa.ca Present

Vice President, Wellness Robert Pap rpap066@uottawa.ca Present

Vice President, Social Affairs Mia Sapin msapi072@uottawa.ca Regrets

Vice President, Equity Diversity, and Inclusion

Vice President, Financial Affairs Haben Dawit hdawi008@uottawa.ca Regrets

Vice President, Administrative Affairs

MSc Epidemiology Representative(s) Junayd Hussain jhuss025@uottawa.ca Present

Carolina Soto csoto007@uottawa.ca Regrets

MPH Representative(s) Philippe Morin pmori037@uottawa.ca Present

PhD Representative(s)

## Administrative Note

### Time and Location

Unless otherwise specified in the minutes, meetings of the SEPHGSA are held on the **first Friday of each month at 16:00**. We currently hold our meetings on Zoom 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 Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88552931410?pwd=SFZLTS9McCttekx6WllYbDZsMjF2UT09>

Meeting ID: 885 5293 1410

Passcode: 183364

# Council Member Updates

## President (Vacant)

- No update was given for the SEPH School Assembly

## Vice President

- There has not been a Faculty of Medicine Graduate Studies Council since our last meeting
- There has not been a Faculty of Medicine Faculty Council since our last meeting

## Vice President, Epidemiology Academic Affairs

- SEPH Epidemiology Graduate Studies Council
  - SAS and Biostatistics tutorial sessions have been formalized and will be offered during the Fall term to give students a stronger understanding of SAS during the beginning of their studies
  - MPH students will not be using SAS during their studies going forward
  - Faculty of Medicine Research day abstracts are due by the end of August
- There has not been a SEPH Program Development Committee since our last meeting

## Vice President, Public Health Academic Affairs (Vacant)

- No update was given for the SEPH Public Health Graduate Studies Council
- No update was given for the SEPH Program Development Committee

## Vice President, Wellness

- Robert has joined the Faculty of Medicine Wellness Committee but no meeting has been held since
- Robert suggested a positive sticky notes event for students to post nice things around Peter Morand. He will reach out to Jennifer Collins regarding feasibility and permission

## Vice President, Social Affairs

- No Events Update was given at this meeting

## Vice President, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (Vacant)

- No update was given for the SEPH Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee

## Vice President, Financial Affairs

- No Financial Update was given at this meeting

## Vice President, Administrative Affairs (Vacant)

- No Administrative Update was given at this meeting

## Program Representatives

- No issues were raised for the MSc Epidemiology program
- MPH students for the past year have been receiving double the stated scholarship and received notice that \$2,000 would be clawed back and all students were held in arrears until tuition had been paid
  - After some pressure from students the University backtracked on withdrawing the \$2,000 overpayment from student accounts
  - Students will continue to receive the standard scholarship for their remaining terms
- No issues were raised for the PhD Epidemiology program

## GSAED Director

- A note was made at the last GSAED Board of Directors meeting that we need to submit a form for our disbursements to be released to the GSA. Shan to reach out to Shannon about banking information and signing authorities for the form

## Business Arising

### Vacancies on Council

- President
  - No one has expressed interest in the role of President at this time
- Vice President, Public Health Academic Affairs
  - Felipe has agreed to step into the role of Vice President, Public Health Academic Affairs
  - Council had no objections to his appointment and he was confirmed in his new position
- Vice President, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
  - No one has expressed interest in the role of Vice President, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at this time
- Vice President, Administrative Affairs
  - No one has expressed interest in the role of Vice President, Administrative Affairs at this time
- In the interim, Charles will assume the duties of the vacant positions in a limited capacity

### Scholarship Changes

- We will need to re-write the [SEPHGSA funding blog](#) to address changes to scholarships that have occurred in the past year. In the meantime, Charles will make a note on the Funding blog that it is not up to date

### Website Update, Avatars, and Biographies

- If you would like to update your Avatar or Bio for the [About](#) section of the website you can send Charles an email (Avatars should be a PNG image from [GetAvataaars](#))

## Main Business

### Constitution Referendum

- Charles presented ballots and a statement of notice for the referendum
  - No concerns were raised with the ballots or the referendum notice
  - Charles will circulate finalized ballots and notice shortly before sending notice to SEPH students

### Orientation

- Robert will reach out to Mia about some ideas for orientation events, likely a meet-and-greet of some sort for new and returning students
- The MPH Student Experience Committee is planning several events for MPH students and will coordinate to ensure that events are not in conflict

## Varia and Adjournment

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### Varia

- Charles will be in Tanzania for the September council meeting. In the event that he is unable to Chair the meeting he will reach out to a substitute

### Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 16:52

### Next Meeting

- The next SEPHGSA Executive Council Meeting will be **Friday, September 2, at 16:00**

### Minutes

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

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

The minutes from this meeting were last edited on Thursday, August 4, 2022 at 17:07:57

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