

Executive Council Meeting

November 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	Regrets
Vice President, Wellness	Robert Pap	rpap066@uottawa.ca	Regrets
Vice President, Social Affairs	Mia Sapin	msapi072@uottawa.ca	Present
Vice President, Equity Diversity, and Inclusion	Sara Siddiqi	ssidd089@uottawa.ca	Present
Vice President, Financial Affairs	Haben Dawit	hdawi008@uottawa.ca	Present
Vice President, Administrative Affairs			
MSc Epidemiology Representative(s)	Junayd Hussain	jhuss025@uottawa.ca	Regrets
	Carolina Soto	csoto007@uottawa.ca	Regrets
MPH Representative(s)	Philippe Morin	pmori037@uottawa.ca	Regrets
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

- The October meeting of the Faculty of Medicine Graduate Studies Council was cancelled
- The Faculty of Medicine Faculty Council mainly focused on strategic priorities for the Faculty
 - The Dean noted during his report that the university has found itself in a \$74M deficit this year (down from a \$41M surplus last year)
 - Primary driver was stock market losses, but expect to see further cutbacks and belt tightening around the University
 - The Dean would like to leverage the changing mayor to expand our integration with municipal services. Amongst other things this may mean more research and placement opportunities with the City of Ottawa

Vice President, Epidemiology Academic Affairs

- No SEPH Epidemiology Graduate Studies Council has been held since our last meeting
 - Minimum stipend increased to \$18,000 (MSc) and \$21,000 (PhD) at the recommendation of the external evaluator for the epidemiology programs (\$7,500 provided by uOttawa in year one)
 - Charles would like input on whether incoming students should be allowed to waive the scholarship and self-fund their studies. Currently students require a supervisor to provide funding in order to enter the program
- No SEPH Program Development Committee has been held since our last meeting
- Shan is Planning a Scholarship Application session Tuesday 8 November (CIHR, OGS, QE-II)
- Shan is working with Ian Colman to plan a Research Paper vs Thesis discussion session
 - Contact Shan if you are interested in sharing your experiences in either stream with new students!

Vice President, Public Health Academic Affairs

- No update was given for the SEPH MPH Program Committee
- No update was given for the SEPH Program Development Committee

Vice President, Wellness

- No Wellness Update was given at this meeting

Vice President, Social Affairs

- SEPHGSA hosted a Trivia event at Jack Astor's on November 1!
 - 15 people RSVP'd but only 6 people attended
 - Attendees encouraged us to hold more events in the future
- Mia will be putting together some initial planning for a SEPHGSA Merchandise order – targeting sometime before the winter holiday

Vice President, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

- No SEPH Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee has occurred

- Sara is considering an event with a panel of students/faculty from diverse backgrounds to discuss their experiences navigating school and their careers

Vice President, Financial Affairs

- We still need to coordinate and fill out the GSAED form for this year's funding
 - Charles to email Shannon and set up a time to ensure that financials are handed over

Vice President, Administrative Affairs (Vacant)

- No Administrative Update was given at this meeting

Program Representatives

- No MSc Epidemiology Update was given at this meeting
- No MPH Update was given at this meeting
- No PhD Epidemiology Update was given at this meeting

GSAED Director

- GSAED Board of Directors focused mainly on the reopening of Café Nostalgica
- No University Affairs Committee was held since our last meeting

Business Arising

Vacancies on Council

- President
 - No one has expressed interest in the role of President 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

Constitution Referendum

- Shan sent out a statement of notice for the referendum Wednesday, September 21, targeting a referendum voting period of October 10-15
 - Notice was also given through the SEPH Daily Announcements
 - We have not received an official update to our mailing list from GSAED to ensure that we are contacting all students in the program
 - Charles will contact the GSAED General Manager again for updates

Scholarship Changes

- We will need to re-write the [SEPHGSA funding blog](#) to address these changes. For the moment it has been unpublished from the website to avoid confusion

Website Update, Avatars, and Biographies

- Please send Charles any updates to your Avatar or Bio for the [About](#) section of the website (Avatars should be a PNG image from [GetAvataaars](#))

Main Business

School Assembly PhD Talks

- PhD Students are encouraged to present their research before School Assembly each month (First Friday of the month at 9:00)
 - All students are encouraged to attend the talks!

Dean Jasmin Visit

- The Dean of Medicine will be visiting the SEPH School Assembly (December 2, at 9:30)
 - Charles would like to encourage students to attend if they are interested in the future directions of SEPH and the Faculty of Medicine

Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement

- CIHR awardees are encouraged to apply for the Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement
 - Last year there was more funding available than there were applicants!

Varia and Adjournment

Varia

- No items were raised in varia

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 16:49

Next Meeting

- The next SEPHGSA Executive Council Meeting will be **Friday, December 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 Friday, November 4, 2022 at 17:06:17

