



Calgary Medical Students Association

Q1 Report

January-March 2022

For any questions regarding the progress updates presented in this report, or any other inquiries regarding the CMSA, please contact us at CMSA.StudentGov@gmail.com. We thank you for your engagement and interest in the CMSA and look forward to hearing from you!

Jusnoor Aujla

President, Calgary Medical Students Association



- Attended **President's Dean Meetings** throughout the quarter
 - Began a **project to secure health insurance** for students that unexpectedly leave medical school (life circumstance/academic reasons)
 - Highlighted **professionalism concerns** within the class
 - The concerns were followed up on within an environmental scan of the Cumming School of Medicine. The report is currently being published and its results are hopefully informing changes that will be seen in the new RIME curriculum
- Attended the **CFMS Annual General Conference**
 - Represented the UofC medical class during conversations around pre-clerkship material
 - For example, **advocated for competency-based evaluations nationwide**
 - Helped to cast ballots on behalf of the UofC medical class when electing CFMS representatives
- Began work on **election reform**
 - In the process of **mapping out the CMSA internal leadership structure** to identify areas of overlap. The goal is to eliminate positions that are redundant and ensure all student reps are better supported when they enter their role
 - Exploring election process reform options like implementing a Q and A panel between current and previous year's representatives, instead of speeches.
- **Represented individual students that were the targets of discrimination** that wanted to remain anonymous to the Faculty during the reporting process
- Worked nationally with other student union councils to **push back against an overhaul of the CARMS** matching process in the absence of student voices
 - Successfully delayed the conversation

Kathy Fu & Mohamed Bondok

- Continued to write **CMSA Exam Question Bank** - Course 2 question bank, student-made 100 question formative exam for Course 3 (March)
- Attended **Pre-Clerkship Committee Meetings, Clerkship Committee Meetings, and Student Evaluations Committee Meetings** with advocacy around:
 - Increased **transparency from UME** with regards to decisions made that directly impact student learning experience
 - Increased **clarifications surrounding MPL, exams**
 - Increased student **academic supports**
 - Increased **privacy** for students
- Attended **round-table Wellness and Academic Roundtable (WAR) meetings** hosted by VP SAW
- Attended **RIME Meetings** to advocate for change on behalf of future students
 - E.g. Reduce evaluations that are worth over 50% of your course mark
 - Provide student feedback on curriculum changes (e.g. less hours per day of lectures)
- Attended round-table **meetings with the VP Academics of all Canadian Medical Schools**
 - Discussed CARMs - Visiting Electives, Mistreatment Policies, COVID impacts on education
- Liaised with **positions under the VP academics portfolio** to answer questions and help them navigate issues
- Provided **peer support** to students struggling with academic issues
- Advised students on navigating UME policy** and key personnel

● *January*

- Worked with the Dean of Medicine and Hyatt Regency to postpone the Stethoscope Ceremony due to rising COVID cases
- Met with UME staff and VP Finance to begin **discussions around Orientation**

● *February*

- Created new **events budget** with the consultation of the Events Portfolio
- Viewed **venues for Nicknaming ceremony** with Jersey Rep
- Began **collecting nickname and picture** suggestions
- Met with UME staff to **discuss financing of Head Shave** Charity Event
- Worked with Hyatt Regency and UME staff to **reschedule date for the Stethoscope Ceremony**
- Met with Director of Athletics to **plan orientation** events

● *March*

- Hosted the **Nicknaming Ceremony**
- Released **registration for the Stethoscope Ceremony**
- Worked with VP Finances, Jersey Rep, and UME staff to arrange for **UME jerseys**
- Released the **first draft of Baby Animals Welcome Documents** for the class to provide input

Bimbola Oyewunmi

- **Regional Round Table Meeting (RRT):** Discussed Curriculum or educational updates and concerns; Wellness updates; Discussed current EDI Initiatives being implemented at various schools and asked about potential ways to collaborate. Schools shared concerns regarding lack of consultation on a decision to fully cancel visiting electives. Cited the issue of not having certain programs in their region. Left with action item to promote subscription to CFMS newsletter in our schools
- **Conference funding meeting with VP Finance and VP External Provincial:** Discussed how funding allocation will work and the timeline for applicants. Clarified how much we have available for students and process in conjunction with CSM funding.
- **Regional Round Table Meeting** Travel Awards for In-person AGM. Discussed the promotion of the Culture changes campaign to our various schools - an initiative meant to highlight the outstanding work of physicians we have encountered.
- **CSM Student Endowment Fund meeting with VP Finance and Karen Chadbolt:** Marked applications and discussed eligibility of applicants to the fund.
- **Regional Round Table Meeting:** Further discussion on Culture Changers Campaign; Discussion on SGM logistics; Discussed Covid protocols at each school and whether rapid testing kits are being provided.
- **Student Initiative Grant 2021-2022 Marking CFMS:** Discussed timelines on marking and completion.
- **Conference Bursary Meeting:** Discussed potential increase in the budget for conference funding. Finalising decisions regarding how to allocate and distribute funds.
- Liaised with Government Affairs and Committee Representative; Federation of Medical Women of Canada Rep

- **Meeting GAAC and VP External Provincial:** Discussed Political action day, budget and advocacy symposium potential on January 7
- **CMSA Executive:** Met on January 10, regrets on February 19th. Updated from committees, progress with conference bursary, idea behind collaborating on survey questions and putting things on agenda from student perspective with governing boards (e.g. AMA)
- **Regular check ins with External committee members and AMA committee members:** Included meeting with External Committee January 10: Discuss updates from committees and budget requests for initiatives.
- **CPSA:** January 28th and Board meeting March 17-18th. Orientation and brainstorming of CPSA strategy. Heard presentations from strategic planning, committee updates to council, machine learning in health care and registration fees. Asked about students, training in COVID and how the CPSA is going to ensure support for that member.
- **Conference funding application process with VP Finance and VP External National:** Initiated on February 2, 2022. Discussed received applications and UME funding on March 31st. VP Finance sent email to all applicants to remind of rules of application. Requested and board approved increase to budget based on interest in the fund.
- **AMA Committee on Student Affairs:** February 9, discussed Spring RF, numbers for ADIUM Insurance, advertising sponsorship application, and Bursary application totals from two schools (158 from U of C and 209 from U of A applications)
- **Representative Forum AMA:** March 11, Discussions on compensation strategy and government negotiations. Mentioned question about students trained during COVID and how this is being considered by AMA

[Full report](#) which will try to keep up to date

VP FINANCE

Omer Mansoor

- Worked with the Bilby Executive Team to **develop and pass the CMSA 2022/2023 Budget.**
- Evaluated **Endowment Fund** applications and distributed the first round of funds for the current fiscal year.
- Evaluated **CMSA Conference Funding applications** and pre-approved various applicants.
- Worked with Karen Chadbolt (UME Finance Manager) around **financial literacy sessions.** These sessions aim to discuss financial topics important to medical students such as debt repayment, line of credit, borrowing, investing and any other topics.
 - Also worked on the possibility of a 'Certificate' around financial skills within the MD Program (**mini-MBA**).
- **Planned the Info Fair 2022** for the new Baby Animals (Class of 2025) and secured 20 different organisations/banks/departments to attend the fair in-person this year.
- Continued to **process different reimbursements**

VP SAW

Alex Stephenson

- Wellness and Academic Roundtable was ongoing with VP academics
- Planned Forum on Failure
- Ongoing meetings with SAW re student concerns
- Planning for Mental Health Week events

Amira Kalifa

- Working with/on **professionalism committee** to address student concerns
- Continued work from the **CMSA constitution review** following a workshop led by the Future Ancestors (Fall 2021) via development of questions for the CMSA survey. Questions developed from themes arising from constitution review and included the following:
 - Power and democracy within the CMSA
 - CMSA transparency
 - Student body comfort and interest in EDI work/topics
 - Understanding of the CMSA
- **Met with newly hired Chair of UME EDI Committee** to discuss student concerns, talk through hiring processes for new committee members and expectations of committee from the student body
- **Researched equity/anti-racism policies within other medical student governance bodies** to begin drafting a new CMSA policy (included meetings with Tanuki reps of DIAG to discuss incorporating an accessibility policy into CMSA governance)
- Attended monthly **Office of Professionalism Equity and Diversity (OPED) meetings**
 - Brought forward **issues regarding reporting structures** within the Cumming School of Medicine
 - Working with the Vice Chair of the Council of Foothills DGAs to **draft a student feedback letter to the committee regarding a proposal of the OPED team to “Create a Healthy Learning Environment” that did not address the concerns of the student body**, or provide explanations of the pathways where student safety on campus will be ensured
 - Continuing to work with OPED committee to **address mistreatment reporting** within medical school

VP COMMUNICATIONS

Rafa Abbas

- Scheduled monthly meetings in coordination with the president and organized Zoom calls for meetings. Recorded minutes at monthly meetings, which were uploaded to the CMSA website by the IT Officer.
- In response to Bilby feedback, created a CMSA Events Calendar on *team-up* with an instructional video.
- Reorganised the Newsletter with feedback from the class via a survey
- Created an informal 'meme committee' and asked the class for memes

VP GLOBAL HEALTH

Sarika Haque

- Continuous **monthly Global Health Roundtable meetings with GHs from all medical schools.**
 - Ongoing learning about global health initiatives in other schools
 - Promoted projects being done at other schools (e.g. Climate Wise: McGill x UCalgary)
- Planned 2 upcoming projects in collaboration with SHINE and RHOGIG
 - SHINE: **Population Health Immigrant & Refugee Patient Panel** (to be held during the Pop Health course)
 - RHOGIG: **Inclusion in Reproductive Health** (to be held in June/July)
- **Met with the new EDI Committee Director** with VP EDI to discuss the goals and makeup of the committee moving forward

For more information on topics discussed during the town hall or any CMSA matters, email us at CMSA.StudentGov@gmail.com

If you would like to contact a specific member of the CMSA, the emails are listed below:

President	Jusnoor Aujla	jusnoor.aujla@ucalgary.ca
VP Academics	Kathy Fu	Kathy.fu@ucalgary.ca
	Mohamed Bondok	Mohamed.bondok@ucalgary.ca
VP Events	Rudra Patel	rudra.patel@ucalgary.ca
VP External (National)	Bimbola Oyewunmi	oyebimbola.oyewunmi@ucalgary.ca
VP External (Provincial)	Chaim Katz	chaim.katz@ucalgary.ca
VP Finance	Omer Mansoor	mohammad.mansoor@ucalgary.ca
VP SAW	Alex Stephenson	alexandra.stephen1@ucalgary.ca
VP EDI	Amira Kalifa	amira.kalifa@ucalgary.ca
VP Global Health	Sarika Haque	sarika.haque@ucalgary.ca
VP Communications	Rafa Abbas	rafa.abbas@ucalgary.ca

