

1. President/Vice

1.1. Faculty mental health initiatives

- A grad student from the faculty emailed the Student Affairs Office who show up on the online resources for anxiety help. They told the student to go to main campus. What usually happens is that the main campus bounces us back to RGN. VP emailed them and asked why SOA turned the student away. They started cc'ing other people in as did VP. Will see where it goes.
- We will now be sending two emails from two groups to the university admin. One from the student council groups. Other one from Nadine as program director to by-pass the dean completely. We want to ask why isn't anything concrete happening for mental health help. Someone from neuro, and epi will also be sending their own letters.
- A psychologist that was recently hired, only four grad students were seen, compared to 22 staff. Allan emailed President that the Faculty is paying for a psychologist 1/3 of their time for grad students. The faculty wellness program = one psychiatrist and one clinical psychologist who will see anyone from faculty of medicine, we get 1/3 of psychologist's time. Wait time is 2 weeks, and they only see on Monday and Thursday. Comparatively, MedSAO has 3 counsellors for med students.
- Moving forward, it may or may not be sustainable. We will advertise these services to grad students.
- We are also trying to develop soft skills workshop, a course every quarter on stress management, team building, interpersonal relationships, etc., where one of the workshops would be mandatory for the grad students to take. We don't know when this might come into effect.
- Wellness meetings, not much student representation. uToronto has Grad Minds program which brings together a large student council with representation from each council. We are in the works of establishing something similar.

1.2. Mental health letter to FOM

1.3. FOM trainee letter to uOttawa president regarding budgetary cuts

- Received feedback from FOM leadership, letter updated and to be sent this week.
- Championed by MD/PhD student. Instead of being problem-oriented, have to be solution-oriented, not use aggressive language. We will eventually have less budget, less students.

1.4. FMGSC meetings – cancelled

1.5. Deans ask me anything event April 26th 5pm @ Doolys

1.6. uOSIC – Pascal Couture to present regarding uOttawa Student Interdisciplinary Committee (looking for a replacement for the 2018-2019 year)

- Part of the UO student interdisciplinary committee – trying to get reps from each faculty with a focus on health care. Have a lot of reps from med faculty. Looking for someone to connect our council to UOSIC. They meet 3 times a year, and attend the interdisciplinary health conference. John has offered to be the rep (?)

1.7. Possible New member – Supriya Hota

1.8. Space concern – TMM students

- There are about 30 TMM students. They don't have any space here so we were asked if we could invite them to the 3rd floor grad student lounge. We decided to invite them to the space, as they might already be using it, and we can revoke the offer if things become difficult.

1.9. uOttawa Guidebook (app) for mental health

- There is an app for medical students that is supposed to be for grad students. Info on who to email for mental health issues, but really seems to be specific to med students.

2. VP Social/Athletic

2.1. Pub night.... Planned for April 27th (dean's night the 26th... reschedule?)

- moved to May 4th, VP Social is finalizing the bar situation and then will make/send-out posters.

2.2. Movie night in April?

3. VP Academic

3.1. Poster presentation (thanks VP Academic and OHRI Rep) – how did it go?

- See email thread
- poster presentation workshop went well. 34 people showed up (10 BMI and a few from Human Kinetics and Health Sci, rest were CMM), Nadine showed up and is getting the department to pay for pizza. VP Academic gave her a 25\$ second cup gift card. The students all seemed to like it and find it informative. Thanks to OHRI Rep and President for volunteering to present.

- Maybe planning to have a "How to write a Research Paper/Critical Review Paper workshop at some point this summer
- 3.2. ImageJ workshop – date/advertisement?
- Haven't contacted Chloe yet regarding the ImageJ workshop but will do so this week and start planning it for the last week of April or first week of May? (email VP Academic for any suggestions/preferences)
4. **VP Student Support / Wellness**
- 4.1. Wellness meeting march 29th 4-5pm rgn 2029
- -VP Finance update?
- 4.2. ASSIST program (Sat-Sunday)
- The assist training is the higher ups trying to cover their bases.
 - Training = core group of students to target student suicide. Not sure if the students that were trained are liable if something goes wrong. Training is not useful if you don't know the students personally, hard to spot the signs. We need to push for more stable and timely mental health care.
5. **VP Finance**
- 5.1. Updates?
- 5.2. Updates regarding YRC?
- 5.3. *may be receiving more \$ from Nadine
6. **GSAED Director**
- 6.1. GSAED Updates?
7. **Webmaster**
- 7.1. Updates?
8. **VP Communications**
- 8.1. Updates?
9. **VP Administration**
- 9.1. Updates?
- Email VP Admin for anything to be included in the Biweekly
10. **BSS Rep**
- Any responses yet?
- No concrete responses just yet.
11. **Kaya** (Skype) – update on the HI meetup?
- There's a trainee committee at the heart institute for all grad students
 - Student at uOHRI attendance to RGN events is extremely low
 - Kaya organized a meet and greet at uOHRI (about 10 students showed up), asked which events they'd like to see. Offering ride sharing to events to the general, maybe hiking in Gatineau.
 - Council now organizes smaller events rather than try to organize very large events like rafting or hiking which traditionally led to low turnout.
 - We'll email students to ask what they would like to see for events for upcoming year.
12. **Drobi** – running club set to go?
- Running club will start sometime in May
 - Start by meeting up once a week
 - We can include, students, staff, post-docs, BMI, EPI
 - Route to be planned
 - Faculty is working towards building gym space
13. **Reps (OHRI, CHEO, Royal, Heart, CMM, NSC, Masters, New Student, MD/PhD)**

NEXT MEETING: Monday, April 30th ([RGN 3126](#))