

Guest Speakers [None]

New Business

6:05 PM – **[Presentation]** New Student Organization: Women in Surgery Organization (15 minutes)

- WSUSOM Student Senate supports the formation of the Women in Surgery Organization, congratulations!!

6:20 PM - **[Presentation]** New Student Organization: Canadian Medical Student Organization (15 minutes)

- WSUSOM Student Senate supports the formation of the Canadian Medical Student Organization, congratulations!!

6:35 PM – **[Discussion]** Student feedback on Fasting in Medicine (5 minutes)

- *Exec* - There was a concern brought up in the senate feedback form about the new Fasting in Medicine student org regarding potential negative consequences of fasting on both physical and mental health especially for students who may currently be or have struggled with eating disorders in the past. They raised the concern that seeing emails from the org that promote fasting may be triggering for some students. Though the org presentation was definitely well intentioned and focused on the science of the fasting process and discussed working with nutritionists and dietitians, I think we also shared some of these concerns, while conscious that this is a well intentioned organization, as a senate following their presentation so we wanted to bring it up for discussion to you all so we can discuss how best to advise this org to hopefully prevent some potential unintentional harms.
- *Exec 2* - We do think that this comment needs to be shared with them and I think they are aware of these concerns. They were also very diligent in saying that they are reaching out to registered nutritionists and will make sure that they are collaborating and running their advertisements by their faculty and clinical advisors. They mentioned that they intend to have a nutritionist as an interprofessional chair on their E board, so hopefully this will help them have a broader perspective. They did mention at length that this is a developing aspect of medicine that they are interested in exploring, and they have shown documented interest from the student body. We can also request that their faculty advisor, Dr. Gatti, plays a very active role in advising them about their communications as well
- *Exec 3* - Regarding the recommended proofreading of their emails per the senate discussion request comment, I don't think that is something realistic that senate can do, and I am hesitant to hold this org to a different standard regarding their communications than other orgs because I think that could get really messy if we start approving orgs, but then having special conditions for each org
 - That is a really good point and something to think about moving forward for sure
- *Exec 4* - Can we ask the org to put a recurring disclaimer statement in all of their communications that says something along the lines of "We recognize that some students may struggle with eating disorders and we want to be clear that we are not promoting unhealthy eating habits. If you or someone you know has or is currently struggling with eating disorders, please see the following resources" and have resources about eating disorders linked? And I know there are other orgs outside of this one such as plant based medicine, etc. that I am thinking maybe we could write into the BSO or senate bylaws something about "lifestyle" type orgs ensuring that they are sensitive to these issues and provide resources in their communications? Maybe that is something that constitution committee can work on?
- Also understanding that health professionals also are known to have a higher rate of eating disorders is important to make known

- It is hard to put the authorship of a disclaimer statement like this on them, as they are not experts on this topic so I think that maybe we emphasize that they utilize their advisors, the registered nutritionists, Dr. Waiono with Health and Wellness, to make sure they are on the right track with constructing this statement and providing resources to not cause harm. I think that would really help them cover their bases
- *Exec 2* - I think the name of the org could also be a little bit misleading without deeper context, so perhaps we could suggest they get creative with that because once it was explained it really made the goals of the org a lot more clear, that this isn't promoting some sort of fad diet, or quick weight loss regimen, rather, they are really focusing on exploring how physician supervised and guided fasting can really help with chronic diseases through evidence-based research.
 - Unfortunately I don't think we have the power to ask them to change their name since we already supported them as is and the approval power is ultimately in DOSO's hands. However, the org leaders seemed really receptive to feedback so I think it is something we can definitely suggest to them.
- So to summarize, the BSO president will communicate this discussion and our recommendation back to the org. Also, I think that as we move forward with discussions about how student orgs will communicate to the student body in the future, we may be able to get around this issue a little bit by having restricted listserv that students can opt in or out of communications to. That way, if students worry about being triggered, they wouldn't have to be on that listserv. So hopefully that is something we can navigate further as these discussions continue to evolve.

6:40 PM – **[Update]** In person senate meetings (5 minutes)

- *Exec* – I have been in communications with Scott Nelson about scheduling our recurring senate meetings in-person! Current capacity limitations inhibit this but he is thinking that the capacity will go up for Maz room over the next few weeks from 16 for a double room to more. We could also explore using Margherio or a lecture hall
- We will eventually definitely go back to in-person meetings and we will keep you posted. You will also still be able to zoom in if you are out of town or not able to make it to the meeting in time in person due to clinical situations, we are also considering a hybrid virtual/in-person approach but will keep you updated

Old Business

6:45 PM – **[Update – 2024 President]** Class of 2024 Grading/Testing policies (5 minutes)

- *CO 2024*
 - Since the last senate meeting we have continued to collect student feedback in our class reporting form and have had 2 meetings with Dr. Rajasekaran
 - After our meetings with admin, we sent an email with updates to the class where we listed the things that we had discussed with them which may be possible to change and the things that likely can not or will not be changed. After that email, we received another wave of really negative feedback from the class and communicated this to Dr. R
 - He requested to meet with a smaller cohort of around 11 students after that and it went a little better, it was a 5 “why” exercise that helped explain some of the justifications of their methods
 - We also had a town hall last week from which the feedback was not great, they talked at us for most of the time and barely left any time for questions so the students didn't feel heard and left feeling really frustrated. They even disabled the chat so questions couldn't be posted and the

only way you could unmute and ask questions was if the admin unmuted you due to their zoom controls. It was really frustrating, only like 3 students even got to ask questions

- We want to emphasize and reiterate that the entire class is VERY upset right now
- Admin has requested patience as they try to address these issues but we will continue to advocate for the class
- Our next steps are to establish a cohort of student course reps that Dr. R wants to meet with course directors at least once a month to communicate how the class is feeling and provide feedback on student wellness and stress and handling of the material load. We are working on setting this up as a senate
- They did show us the stats from our class last year which have gone down slightly but it doesn't look like they are much worse. Once we get the results from this recent exam hopefully that will help too
- They did seem more willing to change based on this town hall and said they are going to make some drastic changes over the next few weeks, however, it doesn't seem like they are going to budge on the cumulative component.
- Based on just general sentiment/word of mouth, it seems like having more mental health services available and more in-person activities to engage with each other for peer support might help lift spirits
 - *Exec* – we could continue to include the list of support resources we sent out in the last WW edition as a continual reminder of these resources
 - *CO 2024* – I also think outside of WW, a specific email to our class would be warranted, in addition to CAPS we should also mention “Wayne’s Warriors” services which I also believe are able to prescribe medication if needed as well
 - In-person wellness activities planning for Learning Community sponsored events are underway as restrictions continue to lift, we are hopeful that we will be able to provide more opportunities for socialization really soon!
- *Exec*- Please continue to do a good job of monitoring the mental health and stress levels of your classmates so that we know when to continue sounding the alarms and advocating on behalf of your class
- *CO-2024* – It should also be noted that school also isn't respecting break times, for example, we have an upcoming 10 day break and a GROUP assignment due right when we return, meaning we have to work over break, Dr. Mendez is also notorious for sending us massive emails that require direct attention and follow up during our breaks as well. I think that this is really low hanging fruit that would be easy to change and would show that they are actually respecting our time off.

6:50 PM – **[Update]** Back to Campus Task Force (5 minutes)

- Capacities for study spaces will hopefully be getting increased as MI restrictions have lifted today
- Facilities was supposed to send out an email requesting student help moving furniture back into rooms, but we haven't seen anything yet
- The gym/music/meditation room door codes are still in the process of getting fixed, unfortunately progress is slow and there will still only be one person allowed per room as it stands
- There is a cap of 42 people for the lecture halls currently but hopefully getting increased soon
- Orientation is apparently mostly virtual... which is new news, considering that it was previously decided to be in-person. I know that some senators are really working hard to advocate for this to change, especially for things like the org fair
 - For planning in-person orientation events, it would really help student orgs to be able to plan these orientation events if we could have this news really soon. I think we have really come to

the conclusion that in person would be the best option and as more people are vaccinated and MI restrictions are currently completely lifted, there really doesn't appear to be a sound reason why this is the current plan

- As far as I know, orgs are technically allowed to plan in-person activities as long as they are off campus
- No updates on vaccination status of in-coming class of 2025
- Working with SA and Back to campus taskforce to get some compromises in place to try to have some in person things, we are working to propose potential outdoor spaces, breaking the class into smaller groups, etc. It sounds like student affairs is open to discussions and we are in the midst of putting proposals together for this

6:55 PM – **[Update]** New study space for students (5 minutes)

- Meeting on Thursday morning with the new study space committee, will have more updates at the next meeting. They are moving forward with ordering furniture and getting the spaces ready

Executive Senate Reports

7:00 PM – **[Executive President]** Palestine statement (5 minutes)

- We recently had an emergency senate meeting about the feedback that students have been submitting on the Student Senate/IJI Statement and JMSA's response statement, thank you for everyone that attended that meeting.
- We had a pretty robust discussion on this at the emergency meeting, but for now, we just to update and explain to you all the timeline of the sequence of events of how everything went down was as follows:
 - On the 7th of June, Senate and IJI sent out the joint statement for Palestine and the resources for support
 - After hearing some negative student feedback on senate's statement, Exec leadership had organized a meeting with administration (Dean Chadwell, Dr. Smitherman, and others), IJI, Senate, and JMSA representatives. This meeting was scheduled prior to the JMSA statement being released
 - The JMSA statement was released following the scheduling of the meeting
 - This meeting with administration and relevant stakeholders occurred 2 hours following the release of the JMSA statement, but as outlined by this timeline, it was not a reactionary meeting to JMSA's statement, it had already been planned
 - That Friday the same week, we then conducted the emergency senate meeting
- But moving forward, we will continue to share support resources and are planning to have recurring meetings with parties present at our meeting with admin following the conclusion of the M2/M3 upcoming break
- Furthermore, we have advocated for the immediate development of a crisis response plan that IJI has been asking for 4 years now from administration and are going to work to really put the pressure on them for this
- *Senator Question* - Has there been an update on listserv privileges?
 - We are still working this out. This has been a recurring conversation in the past. This is one of the only institutions that allows full listserv access for sending. Currently working through solutions administration including DOSO

7:05 PM – **[Executive Vice President]** Internal committee updates (5 minutes)

- Social committee is currently working on getting some of these M2s to meet each other! We have organized a first PEP for them at Tin Roof this Thursday!
- Working on getting a senate social together that wouldn't just be for Senate, but also an opportunity for non-senators, especially those in the incoming M1 class to come and meet senators to learn what it's all about and how to get engaged
 - We can also make sure we invite External Committee senators as well
- Conversations have begun about gala! Hoping for Jan/Feb/March dates
- Learning Communities are working on organizing a big Tigers game for the underclassmen that would be Learning Community funded, and maybe help and partnership with Senate. Have been coordinating with the Tigers ticket office and have polled student GroupMe's and discords for interest. Admin is on board and the gears are turning, stay tuned for details! Trying to get ticket prices down to \$10 for students. M3/4s could be welcome too but we are looking at capacity and want to give priority to the classes that were most socially affected by COVID first

Committee Reports

7:10 PM – **[Update]** Orientation committee: Student Senate Welcome/Overview & Social event (10 minutes)

- Tabled pending more orientation details

Class Senate Reports

7:20 PM – Class Senate Reports (10 minutes)

1. Class of 2024
 - Please continue to provide us with feedback on the curriculum, it is really important and valuable to us
 - Congratulations on finishing the unit! We hope you enjoy the week off!
 - First Post-Exam Party June 24th at Tin Roof, see you there!
2. Class of 2023
 - Congratulations on being 1/4th of the way through M3!
 - Break coming up, enjoy!
3. Class of 2022
 - Wayne is offering a ton of support throughout the residency application process! See Dr. Chadwell's recent email for a full timeline.
 - A few specialties have officially recommended virtual interviews this season: anesthesia, ophthalmology, psychiatry, pediatrics, and urology. Remaining specialties TBD: see email from April Mayweather for more information
 - Headshot timeline still TBD
 - Continue checking Canvas and make sure you're up to date on all assignments: for example, the monthly JAMA assignment (see Dr. Chuang's Canvas announcement)
 - 269 days until match, 350 days until graduation!

7:30 PM – Adjourn