

Dec 4th 2021 - 6:00PM – MS Teams

TMSA EXECUTIVE MEETING AGENDA

Finalized by Mays on Dec 3rd 7:08pm

Present: Maryam, David, Marah, Tamara, Dalia, Bryan, Stephanie, Erika, Maya, Yasmine, Walid, Mays

Absent: Rama, Michelle

1. Motion to start the meeting

- a. Second: Maryam
- b. Time: 6:01PM

2. Approval of previous meeting's meeting minutes

- a. Second: Maryam

3. Updates

a. VP Bilingual (Maryam)

- i. BMI meeting – results of EDI survey
 - 1. They found that TMM student population is very diverse according to those who answered the survey
 - 2. Discussed academic accommodations – Tamara to explain more about this
 - 3. Learning specialist for Faculty of Medicine to coordinate with SASS
 - 4. OGS scholarships at Master's and PhD level were found to be given disproportionately to white students – Professors discussed why this happens and what can be done differently
 - 5. They proposed increasing stipend for Master's and PhD students to keep up with increasing living costs

b. VP External (David)

- i. Board game night went well! Will host again in Winter 2022
- ii. Portraits – email will be sent to TMM students so they can sign up to get grad photos taken
- iii. Class composite from previous graduating cohort – at this point we will move on because they're unresponsive

1. Only two left, Bryan will personally contact the students to coordinate or Michelle will deliver the sweaters on Tuesday in class.

- ii. Newsletter for this month is done

h. Recruitment Coordinator (Stephanie)

- i. N/A

i. Social Media Coordinator (Erika)

- i. N/A

j. Research and Careers Coordinator (Maya)

- i. Conversations with TMM - date change from Dec 8th to 15th due to time conflict with another networking event

1. There will be 2 guests for first panel, 1 guest for second panel

2. Will start promotions on Dec 8th

k. EDI Coordinator (Yasmine)

- i. Contacted FoM to have someone write a story about the award we're receiving

- ii. Tech grant was resubmitted with revisions

- iii. Award ceremony on Thursday - Bryan will take photos and Erika will post them live

l. English 3rd Year Representative (Michelle)

- i. Working on the wellness form for third-years

- ii. We will begin planning the next event for third-years over the break.

m. French 3rd Year Representative (Walid)

- i. Students are not happy with workload; higher than current 4th year cohort and previous cohort as well

- ii. Some professors have also complained that there is poor coordination between courses

n. President (Mays)

- i. N/A

4. VP Academics role (Tamara) - Meeting with Dr. Lee

- a. Meeting was informed by conversations Tamara's had with students from both cohorts

b. Evaluation and course load

- i. Dr. Lee is currently planning to send an email to all course coordinators to have an organizational meeting for the winter to ensure that all deadlines are dispersed, and that professors are re-assessing the structures of their courses, etc. They used to do this pre-COVID but haven't done it since.
- ii. Dr. Lee will send this email to Tamara and our 3rd year reps to proof read

c. TMM organizational meetings

- i. Tamara was told a while back that she would attend these meetings - she was never notified so she wasn't sure if they was forgotten or if they never happened.
- ii. It turns out they never happened yet but she will be notified when they do.

d. VP Academics Role

- i. Dr. Lee's suggestion:

 - 1. Students come to Tamara, she advises them and redirects them to Dr. Lee
 - 2. If students do not want to talk to Dr. Lee directly (situations that require confidentiality): Tamara will represent the students in conversations with Dr. Lee who will act as her council

 - a. These issues will not be discussed in detail by the entirety of the TMSA but we will receive general updates
 - 3. If issue is in Dr. Lee's course, the Vice Dean's office would deal with the issue with Tamara
- ii. The idea is that TMSA can't really make any changes for Academics, so it's important to take these issues to someone who can change it (i.e. TMM director)
- iii. In camera: 6:29pm - 6:46pm

 - 1. Second: Marah

e. SASS

- i.** Discussion in BMI meeting re: SASS: Faculty was very receptive to this during the meeting
- ii.** Dr. Lee agreed to having (to be in effect next academic year):
 - 1. Classes in PMD or RGN during finals and exam season to be used for SASS so students can get their accommodations
 - a. Students having to go to main campus contradicts the point of SASS being a discreet service/program
 - 2. A person within TMM Admin/SASS who will be a TMM SASS representative. They will act as a line of contact for SASS students at Alta Vista campus since SASS office is on Main campus
 - 3. A SASS student advocate – Tamara proposed that this be written within the constitutional role of VP academics, regardless of whether or not they are a SASS student
 - a. Mays: Why do we need this position if we're going to have a TMM admin person?
 - i. Last year, Mays and Yasmine represented Tamara to the council and it was helpful to have student representation
 - ii. VP academics will be in contact with the SASS admin person to provide student perspective
 - iii. Students come to students first, before they feel comfortable going to admins or profs
 - iv. Students came to Tamara without knowing that she's in SASS
- iii.** A SASS representative will attend BMI and CMM meetings to explain to professors what SASS is, how accommodations work and why they're important

- a. This will be helpful since some professors' expressed resistance to SASS accommodations
- iv. TBD in the future - It was alluded that VP academics may have a list of SASS students so they can follow up with them. This is not happening as of right now.
 - 1. Students should give consent
- f. Nominations for TMM awards**
 - i. There is no formal awards committee nor nomination process for TMM awards - this will change next year
 - ii. How it's been done thus far: professors are asked to provide a list of students based on their involvement, a short list is derived and professors write reference letters then a student is chosen (one French, one English)
 - iii. Tamara suggested to allow students to nominate other students and to increase the number of awards available
 - 1. At least one more award in each stream will be added
 - 2. If anyone has suggestions for awards to suggest to Dr. Lee, let Tamara know!
 - iv. Potential suggestion to bring to Dr. Lee: adding two more TMM student of the year awards for this year

5. Formal(DJ) - Venues, prices, discussion

- a. See David's PPT for more details
- b. Voting was done via survey linked in the ppt
- c. Considerations: event dates, cost, catering, on-site AV, etc.
- d. Tamara: AV costs can range a lot, we should wait until we have a full and final quote from each place
- e. Maryam: we should narrow down our list of our preferred venues via survey then follow up and get a final quote from each of the preferred venues
- f. Dalia:
 - i. Their prom was at the Shaw centre and they only had one screen - they didn't use the whole space

- ii. the Telfer charity event was at the Shaw centre, it was a smaller event, we can ask them how much they paid per ticket and how it worked

g. Revenue options to pay off/subsidize formal

- i. Being a student association under UOSU
 - 1. Once we're approved, we're hoping to get \$4000 from them. Clubs get upward of \$2300 and students associations typically get more
 - 2. We are expecting them to give us the money within a month of requesting it
 - 3. How funding works:
 - a. Budget proposal submitted - once approved, organization received an e-transfer from UOSU
 - b. Organization is able to use the money - must save receipts
 - c. At the end of the term, receipts and reports of how money was used must be submitted to UOSU
 - d. Any leftover money must be returned to UOSU or organization can apply to keep the money for future terms (but must submit an application with a budget proposal)
- ii. Leftover budget money
- iii. Profits from other ticketed events
- iv. Bake sale - not an issue with COVID
- v. Increased ticket price

6. Student connect extension (Marah)

- a. Previous proposal to implement an extension to the student connect program to connect 4th year students with current graduate and medical students
- b. Grad school application deadlines: some have passed and many are fast approaching - is it worthwhile to start this initiative now?
 - i. Might be too late to start it now

- ii.** We should lay out the plan for this program (guidelines, contacts, forms, etc.) to help the future VP internal to jump start this next year

7. Motion to End Meeting

- a.** Second: Maryam
- b.** Time: 7:44PM