



**WAMSS COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS**  
**For the Committee Meeting to be held at 6pm on 30th March 2020.**

**1. Executive Report**

**1. President**

"Wow - what a month we've had! I think I can speak for everyone when I say that the month since our last meeting has been completely occupied by the COVID-19 pandemic. It's everywhere you look, everywhere you go, everyone is talking about it and this can be super overwhelming and scary - especially when we know it is going to have implications for our degree and learning. Take care of yourselves in this difficult time and remember to ask for help, or even just a chat, if you need it - I'm always free!

Firstly, I want to start by apologising to all you hardworking committee members who have had events cancelled. From the bottom of my heart, I want to say how sorry I am, especially when I know how passionate you all are and how much work you put into your events. What we're going through now is an unprecedented crisis and we need to follow the recommendations of important bodies like WA Health and the Federal Government. As such, we had to make the difficult decision to cancel most upcoming WAMSS events, with more being tentative until we have a better grasp of the COVID-19 situation. I want to thank you for your hard work, and want to emphasise that you are still part of the WAMSS Committee. It is our job to represent the student body, at a time when they need representing the most. Over the next few weeks I will be posting more often and asking for more input from all of you to best direct how WAMSS approaches the COVID-19 issue. Thanks for all your hardworking and help so far, and I know we will get through this together!

I have been to countless meetings over the last few weeks about many different issues, mainly about the COVID-19 situation. Instead of writing it up here, I thought I would give a mini presentation at our meeting which will be up to date and current about where we are at with it all. I've been to meetings with AMA, AMA DiT, PMCWA, MDANZ, AMSA, UWA and more about this issue and can't wait to share what I know about it with you.

I'm super excited to be able to officially introduce and welcome our inaugural Queer Chairs: Anthony Kopeland and Thomas Drake-Brockman. They are both super passionate individuals and I'm sure will do an amazing job creating the role and defining it for the years to come! If you have any questions or things that may be relevant to LGBTIQ+ individuals then please get in contact with them at [queer.chair@wamss.org.au](mailto:queer.chair@wamss.org.au).

## THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN MEDICAL STUDENTS' SOCIETY

M501 University of Western Australia  
35 Stirling Hwy  
Crawley WA 6009  
[www.wamss.org.au](http://www.wamss.org.au)



Now for some more Portfolio specific updates from my team!

### *International Officer:*

Sherwin has been doing a fantastic job as our International Officer so far, particularly in a year that has been so challenging and worrying for International students. He has been liaising with the Faculty about international issues in relation to COVID-19. The Singaporean Government has asked all students to come home in a state of emergency, but it is extremely difficult with the current travel bans and implications of self-quarantine upon return and what this would do for placement requirements. This also places crazy restrictions on the ability of an international student to travel home for holidays to see family. We need to be as supportive as possible to our international colleagues, it is a very hard time for them indeed. This is on top of the stress of potential degree elongation, given they are full fee paying students. The Faculty is working towards being able to put worries at ease and ensure graduation this year.

### *Marketing Officers:*

I think we can all agree that Bravide (Brie + Davide for any newcomers) have done an INCREDIBLE job at re-energising WAMSS this year. Firstly, our new logo is super snazzy, sleek and sexy (wow, just like Bravide!!!!!!) and really makes us look like a professional organisation. A reminder to please update any and all material with the new logo if you haven't yet! The new shirts, sunnies, hats, stickers and banners are a testament to how hard they have been working. I'm excited to see what the rest of the year holds for potential new merchandise... WAMSS facemarks?!?!?! They also did a fantastic job at O-Day at the end of February, we had over 100 new sign ups thanks to them. Make sure to get your hats, sunnies and shirts if you haven't yet - they will be selling them at this meeting!

### *Indigenous Officer:*

Super excited to welcome Tamika to the WAMSS Committee for the first time as well! She has been working hard as our Indigenous Rep so far this year and we can't wait to see what she gets up to in 2020. We will be having a meeting very soon to sort out our plan for this year.

### *Mental Health:*

Queen of WAMSS herself has decided to give WMH a go this year, and wow she's doing an incredible job so far. Lianne has been leading an amazing group of students who have a whole lot of new ideas. Unfortunately WMH has been hit really hard with the COVID event cancellations. Amazing events such as MedFest, P4P Discussion, OneWave and more have

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been victim to this pandemic. Nevertheless, I know Lianne will regroup and come up with new ways to promote mental health amongst medical students - something that is important in this time now more than ever! <3 <3

### *Queer:*

As mentioned before, Anthony and Thomas have just started in their role as Queer Chairs. I haven't even gotten around to properly inducting them yet - sorry guys, don't blame me blame COVID! I will be meeting with them this week (on Skype!!!!!!) to induct them officially and let them loose on medical students, but I'm sure they have plenty of ideas already.

### *AMSA + AMSA Jnr:*

Ayeesha and Kriti have been doing a fabulous job this year as our AMSA reps. They were fantastic at O-Day where they answered questions about AMSA that up and coming Medical Students may have had. Also, the first Think Tank was a huge success! Unfortunately I could not attend, but I heard it was an awesome night and I'm super proud of them and the Think tank subcommittee <3 Ayeesha has been doing an awesome job representing us at AMSA Council this weekend as well - thanks! As I'm sure you've all heard I'm sure, Convention has devastatingly been cancelled :( this means our girls don't get to organise our misfit selves and care for us in Melbourne :( I guess we will find them another job to do ;)

### *WEEO:*

Rudra planned a fantastic Electives & Exchanges information night earlier this year. It started off with some yummy pizzas, and then went through a very thorough but succinct explanation about everything elective. Unfortunately, COVID has also put electives at jeopardy but this is a space we are watching closely and I'm sure Rudra will do a good job of keeping us in the loop. The Photography Exhibition is tentative at the moment... fingers crossed this all resolves soon!

### *Foundation:*

I've heard that Erin is now the BNOC in Port Hedland... no surprises there! Erin has done an awesome job introducing the assured medical students to WAMSS this year, and has been thinking hard about new and exciting things to do this year. I've been a bad Exec Liaison in his COVID-19 situation, but hopefully over the next few weeks we can get back on track with all things Foundation and bring you some reports soon... including the fun job of spending our Return of Assets - watch this space!



*IPP:*

Harry is out there somewhere being a big shot doctor! I heard he is saving the lives of sick people at SCGH by just showing his face... who wouldn't be healed by his 11/10 good looks! We miss you Harry, come say hi sometime soon!

## 2. Vice President Internal

Has been a very hectic 3 weeks of being your new VPI but what a time to be alive! A really interesting year to be medical students. This report is coming to you from the four walls of my bedroom on Day 2 of quarantine.

Current major issues:

### 1. COVID-19

- Honestly not sure to start with this one! This has been a huge issue and is so difficult to follow as it is constantly changing
- The main pointers to know are that Helen Wilcox and the entire medical school is behind us, each step of the way. They are trying their hardest to ensure our educational opportunities are bountiful and meaningful. Helen Wilcox is sending daily updates as the situation evolves.
- WAMSS has set up the FAQ document which I will be moderating daily. This will hopefully reduce the burden of emails to committee and staff.
- Where possible teaching has been taken online. This has been the most important for the MD1/2 students. Zoom and interactive forums have been utilised to facilitate small group learning. Clinical orientations (e.g paediatrics, palliative care) have been taken online using zoom too
- Procedural skills log-books are going to be reviewed in light of reduced opportunities to carry out procedural skills on placement (especially things like O<sub>2</sub> delivery, spirometry!)
- Students are likely to be pushed out of high risk areas (e.g ICU, ED, some theatres) in upcoming weeks. Everyone needs to be understanding and patient of the situation
- Use of students in the surge workforce may or may not occur. Brendan is representing our views to the MDANZ committee. It is likely that there will be a national policy regarding the situation. This is more likely going to be an issue affecting the clinical students.
- Ollie has surveyed students from all years regarding the impact of COVID-19 on their learning.



## 2. MD Forum

- I attended the biannual MD forum - an aggregation of all of the academic staff in the MD degree. They covered big issues ranging from the AMC report submission through to student mental health
- Some very positive conversations coming out of the staff under the new leadership of our dean Dr John Watson.

## 3. Clinical preparation block and unprofessional tutor behaviour

- One student reported an account of unprofessional tutor behaviour during the Preparation for Clinical rotation.
- This was promptly dealt with by Helen and the year representatives.
- I have set up a form for MD4 PAL tutors to report any incidents of unprofessional behaviour to Dr Narelle Kealy. Have had 10 responses so far - 4 which identify unprofessional behaviour by the tutor. I have forwarded this feedback onto Narelle.

## Meetings attended

5/03/20 - VPI handover with Grace Wilkerson  
10/03/20 - FLTC apologies sent  
11/03/20 - MPC Meeting  
12/03/20 - Final Year Committee Meeting  
13/03/20 - MD Forum  
15/03/20 - Exec Meeting  
16/03/20 - Education Portfolio Meeting with Brendan McQuillan and Helen Wilcox  
18/03/20 - Guild Education Council CANCELLED  
23/03/20 - Student Staff Consultative Committee CANCELLED

## Portfolios:

- Education chair: The current ed chair is a pretty rad gal! Chipping along well, has done the HE number submission for February.
- First year: JT and Shanae have been doing an amazing job so far. Lots of big changes with the online teaching, so keep up the great work. Each individual unit has now made the decision to take all MD1 stuff online.
- Second Year: Probably one of the most understandably stressed year groups with the huge implications COVID is going to have on their placements.
  - Some rather serious professionalism issues noted about certain tutors in the clinical preparation block. Dealt with directly by Helen, year reps and the student involved.



- They have been liaising with Helen and have been the pilot year group for Zoom online tutorials and seminars where live lectures are unavailable
- Students affected by individual hospital withdrawals of students will be contacted in due time
- Students are requesting for updated information to be released as it becomes available.
- Students have been informed to not plan clinical electives at this time.
- Third year: Third years are currently business as usual. Nicole and Dev have consulted their year group and done a survey regarding the first rotation. Mainly positive feedback!
  - A small number of students have been pulled from Joondalup hospital and certain rotations may be withdrawing students as the whole situation progresses.
  - One issue with international students and returning home in a recall which has been sorted at the individual level by the faculty
- Fourth year: People are up in arms about what this is going to mean for graduation. There is a lot of fear, speculation and strange rumours spreading around.
  - Medical schools are very much aware and are making big changes to ensure delayed graduation does not happen, and concerns of the students are heard by the faculty.
  - Francis and Katherine have arranged for the intern information session to be completed online via Zoom.
- RCS Rep: I have encouraged the IMP2 committee to include Jasmine Begovich.

### 3. Vice President External

Sad times for sponsorship given all the events we've had to cancel due to covid :( Renegotiating things but lots of uncertainty for how long things will go on for- currently looking at making a new prospectus given all the possible changes with new ways sponsors can get involved online. Will hopefully have a clearer picture by the time this WAMSS meeting happens.

If anyone has events they're moving online instead of cancelling, please let me know so I can add on some sponsors to give a quick spiel and get more money from them #saveWAMSS :)

Meetings attended

12/02/20 = MPC Meeting

27/02/20 - MD1 Cocktail, best meeting ever



15/03/20 - Exec Meeting

16/03/20 - Education Portfolio Meeting with Brendan McQuillan and Helen Wilcox

Portfolios:

- SHMRC: Abstract workshop is going to have to be postponed due to COVID, will hopefully have SHMRC in the back end of the year depending on COVID, thanks for being so flexible team <3
- Pubs: Thanks for the work with the guidebook, love your work <3
- MD2 Orientation Reps: Currently discussing how to go about camp next year, and the possibility of restructuring it given MMS3s are essentially MD1s next year, possibly an MD1 camp being reintroduced? Can trust T&T to deliver a solid plan to save camp <3
- SGR: Great feedback from the MD2s about SGR Friday tutes, a shame they've had to cancel the SCA and restrictions have essentially stopped SGR tutes from happening :( Great work nonetheless
- RedParty: Sad times with the quiz night being hit by COVID, Angela and Hayden are working hard on bouncing back, here's hoping COVID resolves by the time Red Party comes around!

**4. Treasurer**

- This month has been a very big challenge with so many events cancelled due to the emerging COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you to everyone for being so understanding of the requirement to cancel so many of the events that we normally run. I appreciate everyone's positivity in such difficult times
- Refunds: Need to process refunds for Allied Health presale tickets sold online (~28 tickets). Also need to process refunds for MD2 prep for practice (~160)
- Year budgets: Due to the changes to a lot of portfolios with COVID cancellations, I will be extending the deadline to the 1st of April for year budgets. Please make sure to complete these!!!!
- Theft!!!! Unfortunately, somebody stole one of the WAMSS exec debit cards from the mailbox of the exec it was being delivered to. Whilst the card had not been set up yet with a pin, the thief managed to make payments online to Culture Kings, Synergy and Nike (what a weird mix???) for a total of just over \$1000. This has been reported to Suncorp and we should get the money reimbursed within the next 30 days. Because the thief is an absolute idiot and ordered things online to be delivered to their home address, the fraud team/police should be able to track them down and bring them to justice :)



- Other: Have to go through and reconcile Paypal in Xero - not quite balancing. Also looking at upgrading the expenses function for Xero (stay tuned). Also finally got hold of the paypal machine - will be sending out an email about its use in the future.

#### Invoices paid

- IIMC 2018 donation
- Remaining invoices from MD2 orientation
- Invoices from MD1 orientation
- AQWA deposit for MD3 cocktail night

#### To be Paid

- Birthing Kits Kits
- Hot Dub Med Machine Photographer
- Additional year book prints from 2019
- Red party donation 2019
- IIMC 2019 donation
- IH shirts
- VC keep cups

#### Portfolios:

- Social - What an amazing night Hot dub was. Barely a hitch and an absolutely lit night
- Academic - Unfortunately had to cancel P4P/mSCA due to the MD2 mock OSCE. Looking at options for running things online. Tisha are absolute STARS with the amount of effort they've put in
- Interhealth - Dimy are absolute angels, need I say more. They've been great at keeping all the IH committees up to date on emerging COVID developments and the impacts this has on each portfolios events. Also in the process of ordering some snazzy new IH Shirts
- MD1 orientation - Thanks to all the committee members that came down to meet the MD1s. For those that attended, I'm sure we can all agree that Hayden and Patricia did a stellar job of running the cocktail night at the tav. Shoutout to Ollie and Sarah nearly getting kicked out by security when eagle rock came on
- Med Dinner - Hoping ball still running at this stage. Will reassess in a few months time if/when situation changes

## 5. Secretary



Has been an interesting time to say the least! Secretary role is mostly online so my role hasn't changed too much, but no more venue hiring at Uni is to be had. Mostly just sadness that so many portfolios have been affected by COVID19, but we can only do our best in what is a very confusing and overwhelming time.

Thank you to everyone (especially those in my portfolio) who has taken all of the cancellations with a grain of salt and have then been leaders in the community in terms of representing WAMSS and protecting the community through social distancing. I'm not sure it's as easy to realise now, but in a couple of weeks I think we'll look back on this time and be proud that we took early measures to protect our community

Portfolios:

- Sports - have been incredible in not only engaging the WAMSS community, but also engaging with RMOs, NDSS and Curtin. Super impressive stuff and always organised. So sad to see the volleyball and soccer events subside :(
- Allied health - this one was absolutely devastating. Ci and Alex you did an amazing job with marketing. Hands down one of the best efforts. I have seen those posters on so many occasions / bathroom stalls and it's such a shame that we won't be able to see how it all turned out. Thank you for your hard work regardless and we're excited to see what you can do in the future
- Communications Chair - super motivated to make a change and improve communications. Probably a good time to get onto it considering we're all going to be relying on media for sociality!
- Website and IT Officer - knows so many things that I do not understand and I love Jono to the ends of the earth. The end.
- UCO - Liv you are an absolute gun and so good to see everything starting to happen with your subcommittee. Again difficult considering we can't manage events but definitely a great time for your rebrand idea

## **2. Education Report**

### **1. Education Chair**

It has been a busy start to the year. I [Lauren Masil] am still doing the education chair role on the side of VPI as we are waiting for someone to step into the position. So far I have attended some meetings with the year reps, and WAMSS executives.

The biggest job has been collating the expired HE numbers which has been done for February 2020. They think it's going to be another 4-6 weeks until we have access again.



## 2. Year 1 Representatives

- MD1 footy tipping
- Made a MD1 FB chat that is quite civil and sharing documents and late night banter
- Other people of other societies also posting on FB page (surgical society etc)
- Seeing other students in labs (maybe more of these where we can small group interact to help with socialising) and meeting people who don't come to lectures - thnx COVID for ruining this >:(
- Attempting to arrange for people to lecture bash so our MD1 FB was not congested with posts
- Liaising with academic staff and students regarding COVID
- Started a spreadsheet of all lectures and issues regarding these lectures (for tracking purposes) - from previous years 2019
- Most people have been added to the MD community on LMS (thanks COVID for letting us even know this was a thing in the first place)

## 3. Year 2 Representatives

Problem solving and liaising with Helen about changes to our year with COVID in mind

## 4. Year 3 Representatives

MD3 Rotation 1 report made and disseminated to the MD3 committee. Trying to shift Cocktail night to later in the year. Trying to stay on top of the changes to our course, minimal at this moment in time.

## 5. RCS Representative

- In weekly talks with RCS faculty to determine how COVID19 will affect rural placements.
- The lack of available PPE (particularly in the Kimberly) appears to be the main concern, and this will impact sites differently based on supply. We have already been advised not to attend surgical placements to prevent wastage of PPE.
- RCS have provided students \$100 each for the provisioning of supplies for students who may have to self isolate.
- If placements are discontinued, RCS will support us in returning back to Perth if we choose to.
- RCS is very well placed to continue with distance education, as a lot of tutorials are held on zoom anyway.



### 6. Year 4 Representative

- Organising alternative arrangements for the events still going ahead (Internship Application Seminar)
- Replying to +++ messages about COVID and graduation/placement/infection concerns
- Rationalising plans for MD4 events
- Starting to get jumpers sorted

### 7. International Officer

Dec 2019 -Met up with Dr Helen Wilcox regarding advocacy for international students. Discussion on making a handbook for incoming new international students.

Jan 2020 - Meeting the new incoming MD1, dentistry and podiatry international students and speaking with them.

Mar 2020 - Questions from different international students (IS) regarding English requirements for internship in Australia. Queries extend to AHPRA applications.

### 3. AMSA Report

#### 1. AMSA Representative

- Held Think Tank 1
- Launched Vampire Cup Campaign
- Cried because Convention M20 is cancelled

#### 2. AMSA Junior Representative

### 4. Social Portfolio Report

#### 1. Social Representatives

HOT DUB MED MACHINE!! Thank you to all of you from the committee who came, we had a blast and are stoked with how the event went. We had 292 people on the night, and managed to be on the positive side with our post-budget, so we made WAMSS a bit of money which is dandy.

#### 2. Medical Dinner Representatives

Booked Westin - paid for deposit. Second and third installments to be paid 60 and 30 days before the event, respectively. SCGH RMO society recently had to cancel their ball which was planned for November. However, at this stage, we are planning for our event to go



ahead on October 24th. We are being mindful of the situation and as we negotiate deals with our vendors (e.g. photographer, DJ, photobooth), we will be asking for refunds should we need to make any cancellations. Hopefully we can meet with the Westin in the coming weeks to put in plans in case the ball does have to be cancelled.

### **3. Allied Health Representatives**

Since the cancellation of the event, we have been finalising refunds.

### **4. MD1 Orientation Events Coordinators**

We held the annual MD1 orientation cocktail night at the Tav. It went really well. Lots of Bevvies, lots of dancing. We will now just be online mates with the MD1s.

### **5. MD2 Orientation Events Coordinators**

Camp is done and dusted and was executed successfully.

## **5. Sports Portfolio Report**

### **1. Sports Representatives**

Interyear volleyball on Friday 27th March (this week) however uncertain about whether to proceed, beginning to gather information about year level involvement (google form)

Doctor vs. Student soccer match (Sun 29th Mar) cancelled at bequest of interns, prior to cancel had gotten MIPS offer of sponsorship and SGR application was also put in for this

Awaiting response for tri varsity netball venue booking (from UWA sports), but have been discussing next semester dates with MSAND/Curtin in case needs to be rescheduled

MD1 reps have been doing exceptionally well at organising interfaculty, but will be waiting to see the word from UWA sports on continuing events, would like to look at getting WAMSS branded uniforms or march out to participants, considering logistics

## **6. Communications Portfolio**

### **1. Communications Chair**

Your Comms team had a busy start to the year:

- We created some Facebook events for the various WAMSS events that happened (NB: we can't make private events from the WAMSS page - learnt that the hard way)
- We promo'd some events from the WAMSS page and Insta - thanks to all for submitting great captions/blurbs and lovely creative media for us to post!



- We started to ramp up our Insta presence with stories and posts
- We've tried to update WAMSS logos wherever we can.
- We created some nice FB chat groups with various portfolios who had events coming up, and generated some good discussions on approaches to event promotion
- We realised that for Comms Chairs, our communication with one another regarding social media posting schedules SUCKED so we made a pact to be better <3
- Despite our not-great communication about our role, we are loving continuing to be able to work together despite the RCS/metro separation!!
- Now with literally all events being cancelled for the foreseeable future (BIG TEARS, MUCH SAD, VERY DEPRESS) our job is eerily quiet :'(

## 2. Publications Chair

- We have completed the guidebook for first-year MD's and the undergrad students entering MD2.
- The guidebook was supplied to all these students and provides a resource on surviving medicine and life at UWA.

## 3. Marketing Officers

Selling merch :) We have put a hold on ordering new things since everyone has bigger issues than their love for wamss at the moment

## 4. Website & IT Officer

- Added lots of new members from O-Day (130!)
- Big sorry for stuffing up Prep for Practice - shout out to Tithi, Ayeesha, Stu and whoever else helped sort out my mess!
- Please check your email address carefully - all invalid @wamss.org.au email addresses come to me, and I try my best to redirect ---> e.g. www@wamss.org.au is different to w.www@wamss.org.au (next time someone does it maybe I'll actually name and shame...?)

## 7. Academics Portfolio

### 1. Student Grand Rounds Coordinators

Friday Tutes for MD2s :)

- Sign-ups for the students have been filling in a few minutes every week
- Good feedback from all so far



## 2. Academic Events Coordinators

- Planning all of mock SCA x P2P (now cancelled rip :( )
- Booking venue for MD3 and MD4 mock osces

## 3. SHMRC Convenor

- Had our first meeting with our subcommittee
- Due to COVID-19 the abstract workshop will be postponed until further notice and SHMRC will be held in October this year (actual date has not been set as of yet).

## 8. Non-portfolio bound

### 1. Interhealth Chairs

Hello all!

We have decided to split our report into Pre and Post COVID 😊

Pre COVID:

- IIMC - IIMC Coordinators were appointed: Ginger and Lauren (from Curtin)
- Lookout Bake Sale - Lookout raised over \$350 for Bushfire relief!!
- Against Our Oath - A really incredible night for those who came. The documentary was simultaneously heartbreakingly difficult to watch and inspiring, and the speakers that attended were amazing to hear from. We all left feeling more impassioned and motivated than ever to take action in the refugee/asylum seeker health sphere. A big thank you to the team that made this event possible, particularly Paul and Jamie & James (CB4H superstars).

Subcommittees

- We got heaps of applications which was great to see amongst concerns of decreasing engagement with our subcommittees. However, we did notice that there was a disparity between positions in that a lot of positions were highly competitive and others (generally the marketing/ promotions based positions) had very few applicants. We also had to reopen applications for GHSC but all positions were filled after the second round and we were excited to get a student from Curtin on board! Thanks to the rest of WAMSS committee (& Britt!!) for accommodating us with the dates for subcomms being pushed back and the short turnaround with selections!
- TBH Training Nights - Good attendance at TBH training nights. They went off without a hitch thanks to Kayley, our incredible MOOs and assistance from our newly appointed ELO dream team.



- Population Health Meeting - We met with Colleen Fisher who is the head of the School of Population Health. It was an extremely productive meeting in terms of how we can get pop health students involved with Interhealth, as well as setting up some great contacts for us!
- Yira - Over the past few months we have been working on getting our new project Yira up and running. We had our first meeting with CAMDH and our Indigenous Rep Tamika a bit over a month ago and they provided some great insight into our future direction. As it currently stands, we are taking an approach centred around collaboration - examining non-Indigenous students' gaps in knowledge, biases, insecurities as well as addressing perspectives from Indigenous people. We intend to keep the focus of this project to our medical student cohort (by medical students for other medical students). The development of this project is ongoing and we expect to be in consultation with Tamika and CAMDH throughout. Uma and the Yira subcommittee have been working incredibly hard and have so many great ideas and the dedication to see them through. The short-term goals for Yira are to create a more detailed description of the project and its goals, as well as a vision/plan for the next 2 years (amongst other things 😊)
- Climate Strike - A group of ~ 10 of us attended the Uni Students Climate Strike on Friday 13/03. Organised by our lovely Code Green gals, we had a great morning of sign making and a delicious sustainable breaky before setting off to the strike. Unfortunately the strike headed in an unproductive direction that we felt didn't reflect our approach to climate action, so we decided to make an early exit. Code Green shared a short statement to their socials reiterating our stance on climate action – that we advocate on the harmful effects climate change has on health, and we do so in an evidence-led and collaborative way.

#### COVID:

As everyone would be well aware, the evolving COVID-19 situation has affected activity WAMSS wide and Interhealth is no exception. We have cancelled/postponed all our events for the foreseeable future including GHSC, TBH school visits, Bunnings BBQs, Yira movie screening, Crossing Borders PCH placements, Ronald McDonald House Lovin' in the Oven, and our Subcommittee Training Night. All our other events planned for the year are on hold until further notice. This of course is a difficult time for us as a lot of our fundraising, engagement and advocacy is done through events. However, we are feeling positive about taking this opportunity to focus on other aspects of our projects and coming up with new ways to get people involved. Some projects lend themselves very well to social media based advocacy and education e.g. Code Green, whilst others are very heavily reliant on



their physical events e.g. Teddy Bear Hospital and IIMC. We are working with our Project Coordinators to see how we can continue to function effectively this year. We are also preparing a Subcommittee Training document to send out to our subcomm members in place of our Training Night.

Other Post COVID:

- AMSA Crossing Borders Virtual Palm Sunday Rally April 5th – we would love to see everyone get around this! See the event for more details but essentially it will involve posting a photo of yourself holding a sign that says: "Today, I am marching at home for refugees around the world #detentionharmshealth".
- IH T-shirts – we have ordered more IH T-shirts because we were very low on stock. Unfortunately not great timing but we did so right before this storm hit.

## 2. Red Party Chairs

Had confirmed the dates and venues for our three major events. Selected our sub-committee and had our first whole team meeting. Unfortunately, we learnt that the Red Party Quiz had been cancelled, in light of the current pandemic. We are giving the option to those on the Quiz Night to join the Red Aware Week or Red Party sub-committees instead.

## 3. Indigenous Chair

Meeting with Interhealth Reps & CAMDH for discussion about Yira project. Also meeting with Yira project reps to discuss project further.

## 4. WAMSS Mental Health Chairs

This month, we welcomed our subcommittee:

- Julian Atlas (MD2)
- Claire Breidahl (MD2)
- Alex Brown (MD2)
- Fiona Iwansantoso (MD2)
- Emily Wishart (MD2)
- Cynthia Carvalho (MD3)

We had our first meeting to meet each other, discuss plans for the year and we wrote up three SPG applications and Emily and Alex put together the event WMH x One Wave in the space of a week!



Since the rapid development of COVID-19, we have had to majorly revise plans for the year now. At the moment, we have stopped plans for our events and are focusing mainly on online projects e.g. website updates.

#### **5. Undergraduate Communications Officer**

- Sundowner - was great, thanks to all that helped out!
- Subcom meeting - will have happened by the time this meeting occurs, aiming to have a chat to them about what small events we can run in amongst the COVID-19 recommendations and restrictions
- I now have access to every med sci facebook page through my subcommittee members so email all your advertising material to me :)

#### **6. WAMSS Electives & Exchanges Officer**

Electives Exchanges Night, organising Alan Charters, Updating electives database

#### **7. Foundation**

- Foundation Subcommittee has been chosen, and divided into projects, and I'm really looking forward to working with everyone over the year
- 2020 projects: Associate Outreach, Membership Benefits, Census and Return of Assets
- I'm also going to be working on the transition from metrics to event feedback forms this year (rip)
- In the process of organising out first subcom meeting, which will be held over zoom/skype from our various locations around the state

#### **8. Queer Chairs**

Hi, we're your brand new Queer Chairs - Anthony (he/his) and Thomas (they/them). Following our recent arrival we've not had much time to do anything, but we've got a few ideas in the works - specifically around awareness and education in LGBTIQ+ health. This would likely include a (online) event aimed at giving MD students a better footing in LGBTIQ+ safe practice. We'd appreciate advice on this from committee with existing WAMSS event experience.

We're also obviously here to make sure LGBTIQ+ students in MD have a voice. So now that this role exists, please make sure you key us in to any relevant issues new or ongoing that are raised with you, so we can make sure we offer our support and keep an ear to any student concerns.