



WAMSS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

For the **Committee Meeting** to be on **Zoom** commencing at **6pm** on **27th April 2020**

Attendance:

1. Ollie Dearsley
2. Lauren Masi
3. Saish Neppalli
4. Stuart Purdie
5. Britt Suann
6. Kayley Crebbin
7. Luke Percy
8. Matt Cransberg
9. Angela Burvill
10. Alex Mehl
11. Kate Dowden
12. Olivia Tan
13. Jonathan Pang
14. Nicole Wong
15. Anthony Copeland
16. Amy Collins
17. Deanne and Kate from Avant
18. Tithi Kulkarni
19. Kierra O'Grady
20. Tom Russell
21. Sarah King
22. Jasmine Begovich
23. Ayeesha Thevar
24. Erin Hassett
25. Dinnu Devarapalli
26. Andrei Sincari
27. Francis Winfield
28. JT Yeung
29. James Ngyuen
30. Jana Crous
31. Rudra Bhatt
32. Emma Lu
33. Tom Drake-Brockman
34. Dewvruwan Gammanpila
35. Alex Armanios
36. Tristan Lee



1. Acknowledgement of Country

The Western Australian Medical Students' Society acknowledges the Whadjuk Noongar people as the traditional custodians of this land, and pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, strength, beliefs and connection with this land.

2. Acceptance of Minutes

Ordinary Procedural Motion

That the committee accept the minutes of the last committee meeting as a true and accurate representation of what took place.

Moved: Sarah King

Seconded: Ollie Dearsley

The motion passes.

3. Acceptance of Agenda

Ordinary Procedural Motion

That the committee accept the agenda for today's meeting.

Moved: Stu Purdie

Seconded: Amy Collins

The motion passes.

4. Declarations of conflict of interest or potential thereof.

5. Apologies

- Ci Chia
- Jordan Ladwig
- Em Hackett
- Will Morris
- Tamika Ponton
- Hannah Matthews



Part I – items for communication to be dealt with en bloc. See attachment.

1. Executive Report

- 1. President** - as read
- 2. Vice President Internal** - we've had a development with the ungraded pass / fail which is now sitting with the Faculty to be decided this week
- 3. Vice President External** - as read
- 4. Treasurer** - as read
- 5. Secretary** - as read

2. Education Report

- 1. Education Chair** - as read
- 2. Year 1 Representatives** - as read
- 3. Year 2 Representatives** - as read
- 4. Year 3 Representatives** - as read
- 5. RCS Representative** - as read
- 6. Year 4 Representative** - as read
- 7. International Officer** - had success. They previously weren't allowed to work more than 40 hours in COVID with their student visas, but we've worked with AMSA and the Government to have that lifted temporarily

3. AMSA Report

- 1. AMSA Representative** - as read
- 2. AMSA Junior Representative** - absent

4. Social Portfolio Report

- 1. Social Representatives** - shall we advertise that people can come together in quiz night as groups of tens
- 2. Medical Dinner Representatives** - as read
- 3. Allied Health Representatives** - absent
- 4. MD1 Orientation Events Coordinators** - as read
- 5. MD2 Orientation Events Coordinators** - as read

5. Sports Portfolio Report

- 1. Sports Representatives** - as read

6. Communications Portfolio

- 1. Communications Chair** - as read
- 2. Publications Chair** - as read
- 3. Marketing Officers** - as read
- 4. Website & IT Officer** - as read

7. Academics Portfolio

- 1. Student Grand Rounds Coordinators** - as read
- 2. Academic Events Coordinators** - as read



3. **SHMRC Convenor** - as read

8. Non-portfolio bound

1. **Interhealth Chairs** - as read

2. **Red Party Chairs** - as read

3. **Indigenous Chair** - absent

4. **WAMSS Mental Health Chairs** - as read

5. **Undergraduate Communications Officer** - as read

6. **WAMSS Electives & Exchanges Officer** - as read

7. **Foundation** - as read

8. **Queer Chairs** - as read

Part II – Items for decision to be dealt with en bloc.

Part III – Items for discussion and/or decision.

- **MD2 Orientation - Tat Ninkov, Tom Russell** - Thoughts on handing over the commencement of the 2021 orientation rep position towards the end of this year.
 - TR: Would like to get the role of orientation rep rolling earlier to make camp organisation less hectic and to save money by holding ticket sales earlier
 - KC: I second this, we heard about MD2 camp quite late and that probably affected numbers. So I agree an earlier handover would be better
 - JN: Have organised the MD2 camp before, we found you can pretty much organise everything except tickets in November/December. The issue with opening tickets earlier is a lot of MD1s aren't on WAMSS Facebook pages yet so there's an issue in fairness with people accessing / knowing how to pay for camp
 - SK: Getting organised earlier is better. Are we doing the MD1/2 camp combined in 2021? MD1s are really difficult to get engaged until they've arrived
 - TR: For 2020 we planned to sell out but ended up being 35 tickets short so we ended up with a spare bus.
 - Also maybe a point is to market it as a 'med camp' instead of an orientation camp if MD2s are joining. Just because the comments from 2020 were that MD2s already felt oriented and had their friend groups
 - AC: Advertising the date earlier will always help. Was too late in 2020.
 - EH: Last year we discussed whether it would be staying as a MD2 camp or changing it back to a MD1/2 combined camp. Did we come to a conclusion?



- BS: No not really. Will draft up a straw poll for the May Meeting so that we have a definitive and actionable answer for 2021
- LL: From last year, the loose decision was camp should be open to MD2s but if there were spots leftover to leave it for the MD1s. Whatever happens it's going to be difficult to accommodate two cohorts in the same year.
- SP: Camps in the last couple of years have been under budget so we should be able to budget for a larger budget. The issue last year was in finding enough volunteers
- BS: Will post on the page for a discussion for a straw poll to follow
- **Treasurer - Stu Purdie** - WAMSS (Associate) Financial membership - Should Medical students be paying more than associate members for membership?
 - SP: It is very easy to pay for an associate financial membership (undergraduate) instead of paying for the more costly postgraduate option. We want to avoid this because it does cost WAMSS money.
 - EH: I feel like it's not fair for the UGs to be paying the same prices as the PGs as their benefits are reduced. At the same time it's not good that PGs are paying less, and for bigger discounts, by using this work-around.
 - SP: Jonathan can talk about the technical difficulties. But the main advantage of an associate membership is discounts for events
 - JP: Having a look at the website, I don't think there's any way to separate Undergraduates and Postgraduates via their login. We could separate the landing pages to make it more separate but, technically you can still work your way through to the other page to pay for the less costly option
 - KC: There would be some events where only med students would want to attend. For those kinds of events, could we select for only the people that have a full membership, rather than an associate member one?
 - OD: We previously have made our academic events open to ALL med students regardless of whether they are a member of WAMSS
 - EH: Coming back to Stu's suggestion, could we just keep the webpages separate enough to stop people who are 'accidentally' buying the wrong membership
 - SP: This would be the easiest way to go about this



- LM: The other issue essential to this is we hope that people aren't deliberately trying to buy the cheaper membership. We've discussed in Exec whether pricing might just have to be all of the same.
- EL: At the ball last year, we had the WAMSS membership prices significantly below the non-membership. A lot of people bought the \$5 membership specifically for that \$15 discount. When you multiply that buy many people paying \$15 less for a ball ticket, that does turn out to be a lot. If you're comparing a \$5 membership to a \$10, that's a significant amount for WAMSS
- SP: I think we can restrict it so that only WAMSS financial members can buy discounted tickets for certain events versus WAMSS associate financial memberships
- OT: \$10 would likely be too much to encourage first year undergraduate students to sign up. Most undergraduate clubs are \$5 to join
- AC: Could you remarket it as 'Undergraduate' membership, so that people are clear of the distinction, as opposed to just 'associate' membership which is vague
- OD: The only reason we have the associate membership is because WAMSS is not allowed to represent non-medical students as we are underneath AMSA. But we could check this with them.
- LL: There is the option for membership to Curtin / ND / Dentistry / Podiatry underneath the associate membership as well. Everyone is free to join. So we can't rename the title as the 'Undergraduate' membership
- KG: For the few people I know at Curtin, they currently don't have a very good social aspect of their society, so we could encourage that membership to other groups.
- JC: Do we think that the discounts are appropriate? We do make more money from people buying the more expensive ticket to our events
- OD: I don't think we got to a point. Should we be paying more for a membership?
- JP: Financial associate memberships don't seem to ever expire. Memberships aren't automatically downgraded. So is one possible way to fix this, to make people renew their membership each year?



- LL: In terms of raising the price, if it's going to be a problem then it's probably best to avoid. But \$5 a year is similar to many other UG clubs
- OD: Best to make it yearly otherwise that's a huge job for the IT officer
- **WEEO - Rudra Bhatt** - Alan Charter's photography competition is usually in the art gallery but this year the UWA Alumni are pushing for it to be done online. The art gallery people would prefer to postpone it. What do we think?
 - RB: The issue has been mediated and sorted; the competition is to become an online event for 2020. The main thing is to ask MD4s to please promote this to your year groups. Last year, there were hardly any submissions. There is up to \$1000 to be won and lots of money that WAMSS gives up from photos
 - LL: Katherine / Frank have put this in the MD4 newsletter.
 - RB: Thank you! It is going to be more difficult than usual as it is typically the presentation that wins the award, but we will have to make do with a webinar
- **SGR - James Nguyen, Hannah Matthews, Alex Mehl** - best way to do SGR tutes?
 - JN: Have been approached by interns and doctors who want to give us some tutes. They are interested in helping us out. The best thing about the SGR tutes in the past has been the small groups with interaction. However, if we have it on zoom and don't restrict numbers, it just becomes a lecture (which is not what the interns want to do)
 - JC: Could cap the numbers to prevent these seminars becoming too big? We could stick with the typical SGR style of 'first in best dressed' signups. Or possibly we could assign an intern to the core curriculum groups and make it into a study group which the intern leads?
 - LL: If you run it by zoom you should be able to justify putting a limit on numbers. I think students would appreciate and understand this.
 - KC: Agreed
 - AM: Coming from SGR, we polled MD3s on what they were wanting, and they were keen for case-based investigations and management. This would work for a small group by making it feel like a tute. We were keen to keep it small, but should we record and make them available to people who missed out?
 - LL: Seems like a great alternative (committee agreed)



- **Queer Chairs - Thomas Drake-Brodman, Anthony Copeland** - We are looking at how we would be able to incorporate more Queer health education within our curriculum. The current Queer health resource that AMSA has been encouraging people to complete are the Wavelength modules (<https://www.wavelengthmeded.org/>), a series of 4 free modules focusing on terminology, gender, sexuality, and intersex health. If anyone has any spare time to go through these modules, we would greatly appreciate any feedback on this resource. Anthony is part of the working group for the resource and any feedback can be incorporated into the modules.
 - AC: Looking at how to incorporate more LGBT learning into the curriculum. We would appreciate feedback on the resource e.g. is everything too basic? This type of information is good for us to know.
 - BS: Could be good to get a trial group together to try the modules then report
 - OD: We can't make anyone do anything but would be great for people to run through and send feedback back
 - SP: One of the MD2s has already posted this module into our Facebook cohort group, so there are probably MD2s who could give feedback on this.
 - AC: If there's too much material, I'm happy for the group to split the modules up as well.
 - LM: We can start a thread on the Committee page to get this up and running
- **VPE - Saish Neppalli** - Sponsors have raised some ideas for initiatives/events they would like to run online, such as a webinar by Dr Sonia Henry, a podcast series, a series of webinars from people from different specialties to make up for Careers' Expo being cancelled, professionalism workshop etc. Just want to gauge how popular these would be amongst committee to see if they are viable
 - SN: Because of the lack of the careers expo, we haven't had much information about specialities and on different training programs. So far. Avant is looking to supplement this with a webinar series to address this. Does anyone have any opinions on this type of program?
 - LM: I think a rolling series would be a great way to do it, with a different specialty each week
 - LL: Career talks were formally discussed last year, so I think it would be great to get it running this year (i.e. as soon as possible)



- FW: This is in hopeful replacement of the Careers expo that is no longer running (a relatively big event). It fills a gap in what we normally get quite well. The series would lead itself more towards the senior years but the earlier years would be able to get a lot of information from it too
- SN: There was also talk of a podcast series and putting this online. Would people be interested in listening to this (Consensus → Yes)
- SN: Yes/no if you would be interested in attending a webinar by Dr Sonia Henry on doctors on suicide and mental health (Avant). This is a talk happening over east but if we're interested we can replicate it for WA. (Consensus → Yes)
 - SK: Actually read her book over the holidays and it is really great. Would be very keen for this.
 - DG: Sneha MD3 has started doing podcasts, could be an interesting student to collaborate with.
- SN: Would want to get WAMSS mental health collaborating on this as well. Another idea was a professionalism module; a social media module. Would students realistically come to this? (Consensus → mixed)
 - LM: We do a lot around this topics with Paul McGurgan so this idea might be redundant if it focuses on MD4s
- **Mental Health - Lianne Leung** - Bonding for MD1 (and MD2?). Tutes are generally when you get to know each other and make the friends that carry you through med school. Time for this in the revised course will be greatly reduced. How can WAMSS help facilitate MD1s and MD2s in making those friendships both DURING this time and also AFTER, when we are free from quarantine but have less time before everyone disperses to clinical?
 - LL: In the interest of time we can table this for next month
- **Foundations Chair - Erin Hassett** - Return of Assets - Committee survey and suggestions
 - EH: WAMSS surplus money is returned back to medical students. Would be great to see what students would like this money to go towards. Please fill out the form posted on Facebook.



- AT: On the google form, please only choose a handful of options instead of just choosing all of the options available. It gives us more meaningful data
 - LL: I have just opened the google form, would we be able to add an estimated cost to the options that appear here?
 - NW: Good idea, will be implemented
- SP: Building on this, last year at the SGM we had a bunch of changes to the Returns of Assets policy. It's been difficult to judge the amount of money we have available considering COVID, but we haven't actually set a minimum reserves amount.
- **Fourth Year Representatives - Katherine Middleton, Francis Winfield - MD**
Pass/Fail requirements for 2020 units
 - KM: Just wanted to bring up the pass / fail requirements. However, this seems to have been talked about since.
 - OD: Essentially, it's with the Faculty now after Helen and Brendan have written a proposal (reviewed by Lauren and Ollie). It will be put forward at the FLT meeting and Full board meeting in a month. Does look like we will be implementing an opt-in system for pass/fail. Try and keep this within the committee for the next few weeks until a formal announcement.
- **Social - Kierra O'Grady, Matt Cransberg, Em Wishart -** We basically just wanted tips and tricks for running quiz night with zoom! And if people who have used zoom for events before know if WAMSS zoom account has ticked yes for the setting for assigning people to breakout
 - MC: Quiz night is this Friday. MIGA has offered us some money for prizes. We just wanted some tips for hosting from Zoom. Would you be able to message us on Facebook, or send us an email. Also, with this change in group rule, should we advertise for groups getting together?
 - OD: Playing the Devil's advocate, we don't want to advocate for something against social distancing. (Consensus → agreed)

Part IV – Other Business

- **Medical Dinner - Emma Lu, Izzy Atlas, James Nguyen -** we have a theme, guess what it is. Send your thoughts into dinner@wamss.org.au



- EL: We're running a competition for the theme for the ball, the winner will get a free ticket. Email Med Dinner.
- **Treasurer - Stu Purdie** - WAMSS cookbook??? Would people be keen to make a virtual cookbook; compiling students submitted recipes and sharing it around with the cohorts?
 - SP: We have a rough idea for a template for a WAMSS cookbook. Calling it the 'medical digest'. Possibility for a cookbook subcommittee
 - Avant: Are you planning on printing this?
 - SP: I think the plan is to publish it in a google doc form so that everyone could access it online, but if they wanted we could organise printing for a small cost and get it delivered to people directly
 - OD: It could be a really nice thing to print as a memento of the year that has been 2020! But I don't think we'd be widely distributing it printed
 - AC: Print copies as prizes for contributing?
- **Marketing Officers - Brie Nolan, Davide Tomassoni** - Miss you guys <3
- **Mental Health Chair - Lianne Leung** - Anyone else like meditation and want to join JT in running some sessions? :)
 - LL: JT is running meditation, if anyone would like to join, hit us up!
- **VPI - Lauren Masi** - Committee member of the month. The prizes are fancy socks.
 - March: Social for Hot Dub and for being inventive for events in COVID
 - April: SGR for their hard work during COVID to get the core curriculum summaries project up and running.