



WAMSS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

For the **Committee Meeting** to be held in **Zoom** commencing at **6pm** on **29th June 2020**

Attendance:

1. Ollie Dearsley
2. Lauren Masi
3. Britt Suann
4. Saish Neppalli
5. Stuart Purdie
6. Amy Collins
7. Lianne Leung
8. Jasmine Begovich
9. Hayden White
10. Davide Tomassoni
11. Sherwin Xie
12. Thomas Drake-Brockman
13. Kate Dowden
14. Shanae Jupp
15. Luke Percy
16. Matt Cransberg
17. Francis Winfield
18. Tamika Ponton
19. Kierra O'Grady
20. Dewruwan Gammanpila
21. Olivia Tan
22. Tatiana Ninkov
23. Ayesha Thevar
24. Katherine Middleton
25. Andrei Sincari
26. Jonathan Pang
27. Jana Crous
28. Brendan Selby
29. Tithi Kulkarni
30. Dinnu Devarapalli
31. Emma Lu
32. Tristan Lee
33. Tom Russell
34. Jasper Brooksbank



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: Lianne Leung

Seconded: Davide Tomassoni

The motion passes.

3. Acceptance of Agenda

Ordinary Procedural Motion

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

Moved: Dewruwan Gammanpila

Seconded: Davide Tomassoni

The motion passes.

4. Declarations of conflict of interest or potential thereof.

5. Apologies

1. Erin Hassett
2. Kayley Crebbin
3. Brie Nolan
4. James Nguyen
5. Hannah Matthews
6. Rudra Bhatt
7. Alex Mehl
8. Ci Chia



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

1. Executive Report

1. **President** - as read
2. **Vice President Internal** - as read
3. **Vice President External** - as read
4. **Treasurer** - as read
5. **Secretary** - we will be going ahead with the SGM in July, which basically just means earlier RAIs! Massive apologies in advance. Also a recent email from venues which says we can start to book venues again, so long as we prove we are staying within COVID restrictions.

2. Education Report

1. **Education Chair** - as read
2. **Year 1 Representatives** - as read
3. **Year 2 Representatives** - will be looking at Halfway dinner at the end of November
4. **Year 3 Representatives** - event confirmed, just have to determine the type of event they want to do
5. **RCS Representative** - as read
6. **Year 4 Representative** - as read
7. **International Officer** - as read

3. AMSA Report

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

4. Social Portfolio Report

1. **Social Representatives** - as read
2. **Medical Dinner Representatives** - Ball at Optus stadium 6 November.
Please do not schedule any social events one month prior to Ball
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** - absent
2. **Academic Events Coordinators** - as read
3. **SHMRC Convenors** - absent

8. Non-portfolio bound

1. **Interhealth Chairs** - as read
2. **Red Party Chairs** - contact with the Court, looking at locking in a date on the 14 August
3. **Indigenous Chair** - as read
4. **WAMSS Mental Health Chairs** - as read
5. **Undergraduate Communications Officer** - as read
6. **WAMSS Electives & Exchanges Officer** - absent
7. **Foundation** - absent
8. **Queer Chairs** - please do wavelength modules!

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

Part III – Items for discussion and/or decision.

- **President** - Ollie Dearsley - we are looking to restructure the Committee. The following changes are looking to be made through the SGM in July. Please see the following document, Amendments to the Constitution, for our proposed changes.
Addition of a Mature Chair - who should be in charge of electing the Mature chair? Student body or only people who identify as Mature Students?
 - Brendan Selby: There are unique needs for mature age students such as child care arrangements. I envision a role in advocating to the Faculty for greater flexibility in catering for family responsibilities (timetables).
 - Brendan Selby: Further, in the mature age community, there is hesitancy in getting involved with WAMSS. It is slightly intimidating as the Committee is composed of very young people. Perhaps a representative would encourage mature age students to engage with WAMSS and support services
 - TDB: Very supportive of the need to advocate for the needs of mature age students in MD. This is only going to be more relevant now that UWA has moved to a PG only model. I've seen a lot of difficulty getting reasonable allowances for important factors such as caring for children
 - OD: I fully support this. Some of the roles are only voted on for by someone who identifies as the portfolio demographic. Should this be the same for mature age students?
 - Brendan Selby: self identifying would be the main criteria



- JB: Unique perspective that perhaps WAMSS misses. Some of the mature age students don't feel they want to get into the advocacy of WAMSS. However, what would happen if no one applies for the role? Would non-mature age students be able to fill the role?
 - Brendan Selby: if no one nominates for it, assumedly no one would fill the position
 - BS: The normal procedure is to continue hosting the election until we are able to fill the role.
- OT: Is there something that AMSA runs similar to Women's Council or Ed Council where different clubs that can come together and meet and advocate with other groups?
 - OD: Yes! Good idea
 - Discussion continued on Zoom chat
- Straw Poll for the addition of Mature Chair : YES - 23 votes; NO - 0 votes
- **President** - Ollie Dearsley - The next change redefines who is applicable to be a WAMSS member. At the moment, it states that members of both the MD and the MBBS are eligible to apply, however we no longer have students enrolled in the MBBS. Therefore it is relevant to update this in the Regulations and By-Laws
 - TDB: Could we just specify 'clinical medicine'?
 - OD: A good idea potentially, we might have to say something like 'a person who will graduate into a clinical medicine role'
 - No opposition
- **President** - Ollie Dearsley - AMSA Junior representative is a role that has become quiet within the Committee, as the major responsibility is to the Convention which is only once a year. We propose that this role could be moved out of the WAMSS Committee and into the AMSA subcommittee.
 - OD: there is some confusion between the AMSA and AMSA Junior role. But the exec sees that the role could be moved into the subcommittee
 - KS: Has traditionally been one big portfolio. Junior rep tends to take care more of the Vampire cup side, however they are self sufficient within their own subcommittees. Erin felt she didn't have a whole lot to do, despite having a Convention in 2019
 - AT: Convention was the only thing that was in contention. Still have that person there, but within a subcommittee context



- JC: Do other Universities have AMSA Junior?
 - AT: Some Universities have AMSA Junior, Curtin and ND do not. Other Universities put the AMSA rep on Exec
 - JC: Makes sense to have it in a subcommittee
- **President** - Ollie Dearsley - Communications Chairs were created in 2018 to streamline and integrate our social media platforms better. The role is proving to be a much smaller role than first anticipated i.e. Secretary has continued to produce the bulletin and the Exec / Social representatives are creating the Facebook events. As such, we propose that this role become a part of a Marketing subcommittee as it
 - OD: This role was started for the first time in 2019 to alleviate some of the work of the Secretary with the bulletin and integrate the social media presence. Last year as Secretary, I found that it didn't make sense for Comms Chair to do the bulletin because external people email the Secretary directly. In terms of Facebook events. We are proposing that it can go into Marketing, which is in charge of our external image role.
 - JC: Marketing role tends to teeter off after the Orientation day.
 - DT: Lots of overlap, don't see a problem with this
 - LL: This is a general point. It will be useful if all of the discussions can be added to the Official Documents document and into the handovers too. This will help with longevity of the change.
- **President** - Ollie Dearsley - Publication Chairs were created to revamp the Reflex magazine, however, it is only an End-of-Year role. We propose that this role become a part of the Marketing subcommittee, thereby reducing their load by taking them out of the WAMSS meetings where they don't possess a deliberative vote anyway.
 - OD: This role normally does the Reflex Magazine and the Back-to-Medicine guide at the start of the year
 - AS: The handbook is already made, so it'll only require minor changes every year. Publications are not needed for that. As for the Reflex magazine, it is more suited to a subcommittee which only has to work at the end of the year.
- **Vice President External** - Saish Neppalli - Orientation reps - we have decided to keep the MD1/2 orientation reps roles as they are so that the four 2021 reps will be able to work on the Mega Camp together. We can then change the role back to the singular orientation rep position in 2020 for 2021 with the course change.



- **Website and IT Officer** - Jonathan Pang - Decide what we're going to delete! Please go to this Google Spreadsheet and have a read of all 132 pages that we currently have on our website - did you know that less than half of these are accessible from the header menu? (i.e. only 60). Further instructions are in the spreadsheet <3 <https://wamss.org.au/website-cleanup-2020>
 - JP - website has some very old pages which are a pain to dig through. There are old ones and those that are entirely blank. I was helping to get input into the old pages that might be able to get deleted. If you see anything that you are meant to have control over that you don't want deleted, let me know. Anything that doesn't have an owner but has specific content will be brought to future Committee meetings for discussion
 - LM - do you have a due date?
 - JP - will post a timeline on the committee page
- **Third Year Representative** - Dewruwan Gammanpila, Nicole Wong - Should the MD3 event be a cocktail night (might clash with the potential ball?) or a more casual event (e.g. picnic)? The MD3 event is supposed to be in the middle of the year so that RCS and metro students reconvene but it has now moved to the end of the year (which is tricky because we don't know when RCS students are back or when MD3s finish).
 - JC: Last year, the MD3 cocktail waited for the RCS students. Does this have to happen?
 - DG: Normally the idea is to reconvene the RCS students with the metro students in one large party
 - JC: Could there be a welcome back event at the start of MD4?
 - FW: To that point, the Welcome Back BBQ that does exist is normally a poorly attended event. However that's normally because of the timing with the Electives that occur.
 - LM: Could you maybe poll the MD3 year group and see what the general consensus in the year group is?
 - DG: Sure thing. If we do the Cocktail event, it will most likely run at a loss. Already discussed with Exec
- **Red Party Coordinators** - Angela Burvill, Hayden White - Thoughts about a potential Red Party later in the year
 - HW: Still running Red party and Red aware week but getting rid of Quiz Night. Booked on 14 August at the Court. You will start hearing about it soon.



- **Secretary** - Britt Suann - I would like the Committee to agree upon the election of Lianne Leung into the role of Returning Officer and James Ngyuen into the role of Elections Admin Officer. Any opposition to this election?
 - No opposition

- **Secretary** - Britt Suann - Exec has set a goal to try and have Committee meetings run in person by the August meeting. The idea is to try to book a (free) teleconferencing room so that you are able to zoom or attend in person, the choice is yours. How do we feel about this?
 - No opposition

- **Marketing** - Davide Tomassoni - is there a need for student doctor scrub?. Can only envision it being used in ED. There are some complications to ordering them but keen to hear about whether students would want to use the scrubs
 - TDB: I think that this is a good idea. We should be able to wear them in hospital whenever they want. Lots of doctors do this and avoid clinical wear. This is probably more of the future than not. Clinical outfit is very gendered. WAMSS/UWA branded scrubs would be uniform scrubs (not worn to theatre but they could be worn into the clinic)
 - JC: At the same time, this is needed to be done in an advocacy role to the Faculty. It is bigger than the WAMSS student body. Some hospitals may not like non-hospital scrubs being worn so would probably be something to discuss with hospital reps through the Faculty
 - FW: Would a point be to contact our major hospital sites to gauge what colour we should do (e.g. FSH told us not to wear FSH scrubs)?
 - SN: Agree with Frank, RPH seem to have the same pattern of scrubs in ED/MAU but with certain colour codes that represent their position.
 - KM: As many will know, third years at RCS have the option of ordering their own scrubs which have UWA on them. They were perfectly acceptable on RCS but having returned back to Metro in RPH, students have been told not to wear these scrubs. This is a University / Faculty discussion.
 - LM: I agree. The issue lies with the hospital, COVID discussion meant Faculty advocated for scrubs but hospitals were anti this year. A really good way to fix this, could be for the embroidery. This would need to be done at a Faculty level.
 - HW: Do you think hospitals would have an issue with UWA students wearing scrubs if the other Unis weren't involved?



- OD: The scrubs are not going to be overly useful because we can't wear scrubs in medical wards but the majority of medical words in SCGH/RPH will wear clinical clothes. When you're on surgery or Obs/Gyn, you're entitled to your own scrubs but maybe we should be pushing for students in ED to wear scrubs. If we're asking for scrubs in medical wards, we're asking for them to change their policy on Dress policy for doctors and students.
 - JC: Don't necessarily think it would mean the policy would have to change for the doctors.
- LL: Fun scrubs might just be a fun addition to our merchandise.
- DT: To sum things up, some people are on board and would like the option to wear scrubs but it's an issue that needs to be raised with the Medical school first (if we're looking for a professional option, not a social option).

Part IV – Other Business

- **SGR Coordinators** - Hannah M, Alex M, James N - Ollie to be knighted
- **Medical Dinner Representative** - Emma L, Izzy A, James N - can there be a prize for first RAI in?
- **Committee Member of the Month** - Website and IT Officer - Jonathan Pang