

Attendees:

Charlene Steeves – Chair of Health Sciences	Marcus Tang – Career Specialist, BCITSA	Jared Legaspi – Medical Laboratory Science
Josh Dean – Radiation Therapy	Odin Lithgow – Biomedical Engineering Technology	Harley Johnson – Biomedical Engineering Technology
Brett Marchinkow – Medical Radiography	Prithikasri Senthilkumar – Medical Radiography	Tamara Takach – Diagnostic Medical Sonography
Lindsay Geier – Diagnostic Medical Sonography	Alexandra Pelletier – Nursing	Tanveen Gill – Nuclear Medicine
Vijona Devolli – Medical Laboratory Science	Rhyllie Balkewill – Medical Laboratory Science	Jessie Rempel – Medical Laboratory Science
Samuel Paula – Medical Laboratory Science	Lucas Jong – Environmental Public Health	Tushar Dhingra – Environmental Public Health
Olga Tomaszewska – Nursing	Kaitlyn Ngyuen – Nursing	Catherine Yip – Nursing
Maya Archambault Seto – Nursing	Anastasia Hryniuk – Nursing	Kirby Emerson - Nursing
Emma Wood – Nursing	Farah Alvarina – Nursing	Marah Alvarina – Nursing
Cora Bell – Nursing	Kelsey McKay – Clinical Genetics	

3.1. Call to Order - 4:30 PM by Charlene Steeves, Chair – School of Health Sciences

3.2. Territory Acknowledgement

3.3. Welcome and Introductions

3.4. SoHS Chair Updates

3.4.1 Power Hour

- The Chair is planning to host a session at end of Feb to have aboriginal health navigators and elders from VCH and PHSA, Fraser Health to speak about cultural safety in healthcare. Set reps were encouraged to spread the word amongst their sets.

3.4.2 Donation Drive

- The Chair reports lots of donations of textbooks and scrubs have been provided from nursing. These donations are to be given out to students in need. The Chair reports she is working to find the best method to distribute, and encouraged set reps to promote the donation drive amongst their sets. One set rep suggested more advertising and awareness amongst other SoHS programs would be beneficial. A set rep suggested an ad on Learning hub to be posted; the

Chair will follow-up to try to have an ad posted. A set rep inquired about dates/times for the drive, and where donations could be dropped off. The Chair reports she has a place in the Student Association office (3rd floor) where donations can be dropped off Mon – Fri 8:00 – 4:00. The Chair reports items currently being collected will be distributed for the next term.

3.5. Student Concerns

- A nursing set rep reported concerns about Open Lab, as their cohort is having trouble accessing the lab and supplies. They report there is not enough space as there are only 2 beds available and students are leaving due to how busy it looks. They report this has been brought up to the Student Success Coordinator, who notes that they have tried to get mobile kits up. Another set rep reports similar experiences amongst their cohort and expressed students have almost been turned away because it's too busy. Questions were raised by set reps about what can be improved and how this issue can be addressed.
 - Set reps report that Level 3 space is limited, and the SE12 space is being renovated. Equipment availability is limited and students are not able to setup as instructors suggest, as equipment is already setup previously by other students. Set reps report there is miscommunication between instructors, Open Lab administrators as student concerns are being directed to each other and elsewhere. Chair to follow-up.
- One set rep brought up a concern that arose during the transit strike January 22nd & 23rd, as students were still expected to be on campus despite the difficulties students had commuting, particularly from communities far from campus. The set rep reported that instructors were told by program head they were not able to livestream lectures. Set reps expressed if faculty wants to hold the lecture, it should be livestreamed in extenuating circumstances. The Chair reports that BCIT policy may require in-person classes to be taught if campus is open, but recognizes challenges for students to travel to campus. Other set reps noted that other local post-secondary were able to transition online and this was done during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the technology is available. A set rep inquired if the Student Association is doing anything to advocate this change. The chair will follow-up on this issue.
- A Medical Radiology set rep reports their entire set doesn't have access to labs/X-ray rooms, and were suggested by the program that students should partner with someone who does have access. The set rep expressed concern that they were the only person in their set to have access, and it's challenging for their set to partner with students from other sets to access the lab due to scheduling. Another Medical Radiology set rep reported that over 50% of their set also does not have access to the labs. The Chair will follow-up with the program head, and noted that this is a possible issue to be raised with BCIT as they provide access to the labs.
- A set rep inquired if any other programs have courses with Indigenous content. Set reps in nursing report only nursing does. One set rep from radiation therapy reports their program has an online module with Indigenous content. The Chair reports there is a de-colonizing lead who is pioneering restructuring and inclusion of Indigenous content. Set reps are encouraged to keep advocating to program heads and reach out to the Chair for support.
- A set rep reported that their set had no access to courses on Learning Hub till their first day of classes. With courses being condensed, they were not able to do any pre-reading, which resulted in some students dropping courses due to feeling overwhelmed with their workload in the first week. The Chair and other set reps reported this is an issue in many School of Health Science programs, and one set rep suggested it may be BCIT policy to not open class before first day, but instructors should not be assigning work ahead of time if so. The Chair will bring forward this issue to the executive team and advocate to BCIT for changes.

- A set rep inquired about updates on financial aid for clinicals located outside of the Lower Mainland. The Chair reported she has been in contact with the Financial Aid department at BCIT and they do not have much available right now, as much of focus on financial aid in health sciences has been on nursing with sunsetting of bursary and provision of alternative financial resources. The Chair reports this issue has been brought forward the VP of Students, but there has been no response on what financial support available. The Chair is continuing to follow-up. A set rep asked about any possibilities through Student Aid BC. Another set rep reports student aid has given more weight with student aid for outside of BC placement at about \$25 a week extra.
- Nursing Set rep reported their set had two 4 hour lectures scheduled with a 10 min break in between, and expressed concern as students did not have a proper lunch or break of any kind. The set rep reported that this occurred during a snow day where students were required to be participating online with cameras and microphones on, and on a day with in-person classes this would have meant the 10 min break would have been used to walk between classrooms. The set rep reports faculty was notified and the issue was to be discussed with instructors, but there was no response to this. Another set rep reports having had a similar issue, and the response from instructors was to eat during lectures. The Chair will follow-up with faculty and potentially discuss if the class can be split over two days or get longer break in between lectures.
- A set rep inquired if minutes will be sent to set reps. The Chair reports minutes will be posted to the BCITSA website, but can send them out once they are finalized.

3.6. Open Forum

- A set rep inquired if there was a way to get more chairs in the common area of NW4, as there are too many tables compared to chairs, making it difficult to enjoy lunch breaks in the space. The Chair will follow-up with BCIT on the issue.

3.7. Meeting Adjournment – 5:13 PM.