

# EXECUTIVE REPORT

*Golden Gao, Vice President – Global Health  
2016 Annual General Meeting  
September 22-25, 2016, Edmonton, Alberta*



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## GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAM NATIONAL TEAM 2015-2016

Vice President, Global Health (VPGH) – Golden Gao (UBC)  
National Officer of Partnerships (NOP) – Scott Hodgson (UofM)  
National Officer of Partnerships (NOP) Interim – Jessica Bryce (UWO)  
National Officer of Human Rights & Peace (NORP) – Koray Demir (McGill)  
National Officer of Sexual and Reproductive Health (NORSH) – Jenna Webber (NOSM)  
National Exchange Officer (NEO) Outgoing (2014-2016) – Antonio Lee (UofT)  
National Exchange Officer (NEO) Incoming (2015-2017) – Kelly Ma (UofA)  
National Exchange Officer (NEO) Outgoing (2016-2018) – Montana Johnston (UofS)  
National Officer of Global Health Education (NOGHE) Sr. – Kelita Singh (McGill)  
National Officer of Global Health Education (NOGHE) Jr. – Marguerite Heyns (UofC)  
National Officer of Indigenous Health – Ryan Giroux (UofT)

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## DESCRIPTION OF VPGH POSITION

The CFMS Vice-President Global Health (VPGH) is responsible for coordinating the activities of the CFMS Global Health Program (GHP) and for promoting global health education, advocacy and experiences for all Canadian medical students. In addition, the position serves as the liaison between the CFMS and the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA), representing our projects and positions on an international level.

## PRIORITIES AND PROJECT AREAS

### GHP Strategic Plan

The focus of this year was to re-evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the Global Health Program as a whole. While the CFMS Strategic Plan 2014 – 2017 included strategic directions pertinent to GHP, there were few Year 1 Action Items directly under the Global Health portfolio. Thus, the development of a GHP specific strategic plan was initiated after AGM 2015. The GHP strategic directions were based on inputs from Global Health Liaisons from across Canada, while the GHP Year 1 Action Items were developed by the VPGH and GHP National Officers. Going forward, the GHP Strategic Plan will help guide the activities of our global health leaders across Canada at both a local and national level.

### Internal Representation

This was another fantastic year for the GHP with respect to internal representation. A significant amount of effort was spent helping the CFMS executive, medical society presidents, and CFMS representatives to better understand the activities of the GHP. Initiatives included presentations to the President's Round Table and the CFMS Representatives Round Table at SGM 2016, and presentations to the CFMS Executive Board at executive meetings. Through effective communications and advocacy, we will continue to ensure the relevance the GHP within the greater CFMS organization.

### External Representation

Lastly, as GHP, we represent the CFMS internationally at the IFMSA General Assemblies. This year, we have continued to build upon the previously established relationships with other National Member Organizations in order to secure a wide variety of international exchange opportunities through the IFMSA Exchange Program. In addition to IFMSA involvement, we have also successfully supported Canadian students in representing Canadian medical students at international events such as the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP21), the World Health Assembly (WHA), the Latin American Cooperation on Maternal Health and Access to Safe Abortion (LACMA), and NCD Child Workshop at the International Pediatric Congress.

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## SUMMARY OF PORTFOLIO ACTIVITIES

### IFMSA Relations:

- 10 delegates were sent to the IFMSA March Meeting in St. Paul's Bay, Malta, where we had the opportunity to present the Global Health Core Competencies project
- 8 delegates were sent to the IFMSA August Meeting in Puebla, Mexico, where we were able to sign over a hundred exchange contracts
- Have begun process to re-evaluate the quality of certain IFMSA exchange destinations as well as the fee structure of the exchange program

### Partnerships

Jessica Bryce (UofS)

*Forthcoming*

### Human Rights and Peace

Koray Demir (McGill)

- Completed first set of human rights and health pocket cards, part of effort to render human rights in the health context less abstract and more tangible for the practitioner. Themes include refugee health, abuse, environmental health and human trafficking
- Preparing to open consultations on topics and launch research committee for Lobby Day 2017 at AGM this weekend.
- Continuing to follow up on possible partnerships and draft formal memoranda of understanding between partners (Stand Up for Health, CMA Advocacy)
- Upcoming projects & goals include developing human rights and health podcast series, strengthening relationships with SCORP/IFMSA, managing transition to next generation of GHAs and the new NORP

### Reproductive and Sexual Health

Jenna Webber (NOSM)

*Forthcoming*

### Exchanges

Antonio Lee (UofT), Kelly Ma (UofA), and Montana Johnston (UofS)

*Forthcoming*

### Global Health Education

Marguerite Heyns (UofC) and Kelita Singh (McGill)

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## Indigenous Health

Ryan Giroux (UofT)

- Ratification of an official CFMS stance on Indigenous Health in Medical Education, which is now in the process of being published
- Development of an Educational Advocacy Toolkit that helps LOIHs to begin implementing Indigenous curriculum at their schools
- Development of Problem Based Learning (PBL) and Observed Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) scenarios in various Indigenous topics to bring to faculty for integration into the curriculum
- Founding of a research study out of the University of Alberta that aims to be adapted for multiple schools across Canada that focuses on how student-run Indigenous-focused health seminar series changes student perspectives on the topic
- Development of a position paper on Indigenous mental health and suicide
- Securing funding to bring 8 LOIHs to the CFMS' Annual General Meeting in Edmonton to discuss next steps for the program

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## FOLLOW UP, VISION, GOALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE VPGH 2016-2017

### Capacity Building

- Continue advocating for financial resources and administrative support for the GHP
- Create a standardized terms of reference for the Local Officer positions
- Participate in the transition process of the National Officers
- Continue expanding and improving the Global Health online database
- Explore opportunities for changing the GHP name in order to better reflect the activities of our National and Local Officers
- Engage the Global Health Liaisons and the Local Officers in implementing the Global Health Strategic Plan 2016-2019

### Internal Representation

- Continue communicating with the President's Round Table, the CFMS Representatives Round Table, and the CFMS Executive Board to help members better understand the activities of the GHP
- Continue advocating for the priorities of the GHP within the CFMS

### External Representation

- Seek out and establish long term partnerships with external organizations that involve mutually beneficial services to all parties involved
- Identify and collaborate with other National Member Organizations within the IFMSA to develop mutually beneficial activities and share resources
- Continue advocating for GHP attendance at various national and international meetings
- Strengthen the relationship between the GHP and the AFMC Resource Group on Global Health

### Communication

- Better utilize existing communication tools with the GHP
- Explore and implement new communication and data-sharing tools for the GHP
- Continue updating the GHP Blog and sharing Global Health activities

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## IFMSA

- Complete the evaluation of the fee structure for the IFMSA Exchange Program
- Establish a platform for Canadian students to provide feedback with regards to their IFMSA exchange experience
- Finalize the standardized contract between the CFMS and individual faculties for securing placements for incoming IFMSA exchange students
- Continue disseminating IFMSA related opportunities and increase support for student to participate in IFMSA related activities
- Continue encouraging CFMS members to pursue leadership opportunities within the IFMSA

**Golden Gao**

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