



CFMS 2018-19 President-elect Nominee

Name: Christina Schweitzer
School: University of Calgary
Year of Study: 3/3



Bio/Letter of Intent (250 words max):

Dear friends and colleagues,

It has been a privilege serving you, the CFMS members, as your VP Communications for the last seven months. Every day, I have the pleasure of sharing the work that you do in your medical schools, communities, and through the CFMS with our members, partners, and the general public.

I love sharing the successes and achievements of Canada's medical students, and advocating for the issues that are important to you. It would be an honour to continue to do so as your CFMS President. Through my experience as VP Communications, I have been involved in all of the CFMS' portfolios and am familiar with the activities, challenges, and future directions of the organization. I have a strategic plan for how we can best leverage our partnerships and public profile to achieve the advocacy goals that you, our members, have identified as priorities.

A key issue for the CFMS is Unmatched Canadian Medical Students. I have been heavily involved in developing our public relations strategy and coordinating with media, including ten publications in April alone.

As President, I would propose to the Federal Minister of Health the creation of a national coordinating body for managing residency numbers and distribution, ask that unmatched CMGs be discussed at the Federal-Provincial Health Ministers

Round Table, and explore having centralized national CaRMS interviews in one location.

I look forward to chatting with you more about the ideas I have for the role and to answering your questions!

Christina Schweitzer

MPhil (Cantab), BSc

Medical Student and Gates Cambridge Scholar

VP Communications, Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS)

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Education

Medical Doctor (MD) Student and Nat Christie Scholar 2016-2019

University of Calgary, Cumming School of Medicine, Calgary AB, Canada

- Clinical clerk in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories

MPhil in Biological Science (Immunology) and Gates Cambridge Scholar 2013-2015

University of Cambridge and the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge, UK

- Laboratory research degree, with thesis on antibody-directed intracellular immunity to viruses

BSc in Engineering and Chancellor's Scholar, First Class Honours 2009-2013

Queen's University, Kingston ON, Canada

- Chemical Engineering major, Biochemical/Biomedical Engineering specialization

BSc in Engineering (International Exchange) 2011-2012

École Supérieure de Chimie Physique Électronique de Lyon (CPE Lyon), Lyon, France

- Full-year academic exchange, with French as the language of instruction (fluent in French)

Professional Experience

Healthcare Analyst, Sociable Data, London, UK 2015-2016

- Performed research, analysis and consulting at a pharmaceutical competitive intelligence firm

Teaching Assistant & Project Manager, Queen's University, Kingston, Canada 2012-2013

Selected Leadership and Teamwork Experience

Medical School (University of Calgary):

VP Communications, Canadian Federation of Medical Students (CFMS) 2017-2018

- Leading internal & external communications of the CFMS, the national body representing over 8,000 medical students at 15 medical schools across Canada

Editor-in-Chief, The Calgary Guide to Understanding Disease 2017-2018

- Overseeing writing, editing, publication and development of free, open access online medical learning resource www.thecalgaryguide.com. Have authored 5 topics and reviewed & edited 26

Advocate, Federal & Provincial Medical Student Political Action Days 2016-2018

- Met with MPs in Ottawa to discuss response to the opioid crisis and indigenous mental wellness
- Met with MLAs in Edmonton to discuss mental health policy and cannabis tax revenue investment

TEDMED Research Scholar 2018

- Editorial evaluation of TEDMED speakers under consideration for TEDMED's 2018 conference

Graduate (University of Cambridge):

Secretary and Vice President, Darwin College Students' Association 2014-2015

- Represented over 600 graduate students; responsible for internal affairs, operations and elections

Varsity Athlete (Half Blue), Cambridge University Women's Ice Hockey Blues 2014-2015

- Competed in the 2015 Varsity Match against Oxford University and at National Championships

First Boat Rower, Darwin College Boat Club 2013-2015

- Awarded Blades in Lent Bumps 2015, competed in four sets of Bumps with Darwin W1 boat

Head of Marketing and Communications, Cambridge University Science and Policy Exchange (CUSPE) 2014

- Managed the public profile of CUSPE (website, newsletters, Facebook, Twitter), 2000 members
- Organized the first Annual Policy Review debate at the Royal Society in London

Operations Officer, Darwin College May Ball 2014

- Organized logistics of hospitality for over 800 people, managing a budget of ~\$33,000 & 40 staff

Undergraduate (Queen's University):

Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Queen's Model Parliament, House of Commons of Canada (Ottawa) 2010, 2011, 2013

- Developed diplomatic and public speaking abilities (French and English) in the House of Commons
- Author of a bill on foreign policy, senior leadership role in a caucus of 83 MPs in 2013

Board of Directors, Engineering Society 2012-2013

- Oversaw corporate initiatives (café, pub, newspaper, apparel, science camp, orientation week)
- Reviewed finances, budgets and annual reports (annual budget of \$1.2 million, 2,400 members)

Chair, Strategic Planning Committee, Engineering Society 2012-2013

- Led strategic, long-term planning for the 8 corporate initiatives operated by the Society

Co-President (Internal Affairs), Friends of MSF: Queen's 2010-2011

- Raised awareness for MSF (Médecins Sans Frontières / Doctors Without Borders) initiatives

Selected Awards

Joule '17 in 2017: 17 physicians who helped shape the future of healthcare in 2017' 2017

University of Calgary Nat Christie Medical Entrance Award, \$17,000 2016-2019

Gates Cambridge Scholarship, ~\$200,000 2013-2015

- Top international scholarship at the University of Cambridge, from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Queen's University Jean Royce Graduate Fellowship, \$21,000 2013-2014

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)

- Alexander Graham Bell Canada Graduate Scholarship (declined), \$17,500 2013-2014

Queen's University Chancellor's Scholarship, \$36,000 2009-2013

Selected Published Peer Reviewed Commentaries

Schweitzer C *et al.* (2018) Youth and the opioid crisis: Strategies for intervention and the British Columbian experience. *University of British Columbia Medical Journal* 9(2)(34-35).

Schweitzer C. (2017). The Time is Right for a National Pharmacare Program for Canada. *University of Toronto Medical Journal* 94(3).

Schweitzer C. (2014). A Good Death. *The Gates Scholar*. (On legalization of assisted suicide).