

# NATIONAL OFFICER REPORT

*Negar Atefi and Lauren Wong, Partnerships Team  
2022 Annual General Meeting  
September 16-17, Vancouver BC*



## I. ACTIVITIES

### **Ongoing Partnerships:**

- Amnesty International- promotion of previously developed educational modules; in contact with Amnesty representatives about potential next steps and future projects.
- Pathways- assigned coordinator for continued support and connection between established Pathways branches at various medical schools and the national organization; New team to create a national mentorship group that meets regularly to promote collaborations and capacity building in medical schools to develop new branches if currently nonexistent.
- Canadian Association in Global Health - discussion surrounding future collaboration in the areas of mentorship (Women in Global Health mentorship program), event promotion by CFMS, Potential for CFMS to have a space in the Student and Young Professionals chapter in the CAGH 2022 Conference to discuss the scope of our activities
- IFMSA Panama: set up initial collaboration on a project centered around fast fashion and its health and environmental impacts. This project was passed on to the HEART team to take the lead, as it falls more directly under their team aims.
- DENEM Brazil: currently planning a joint 3-4 day conference. We are aiming to involve Indigenous peoples from Canada, Brazil, Peru, and Bolivia to speak about various topics over multiple days of the conference. Topics include experiences with the healthcare system, traditional medicine, and social determinants of health. By recognizing that Indigenous populations in different geographic locations are unique, our goal is to broaden students' perspectives through hearing from them firsthand.
- IFMSA Guatemala: collaborating with several countries, led by IFMSA Guatemala, to put on a medical education event for students. This event will involve speakers from the medical field, with the goal of familiarizing students with the healthcare systems and approaches in different countries of Americas. It will provide students with some insight and interaction with peers on an international level, which will be especially beneficial given that exchanges for Canada have been put on hold this year.
- MedSIN Sudan: discussed the possibility of a joint educational event, perhaps related to surgery. Planning was put on hold due to their transition to a new team, but they were willing to work towards putting together an event and facilitating conversation about exchange.

### **New Partnerships:**

- Equity in Medicine (<https://www.equityinmed.com>): Connected with Dr. Kim Kelly, who is the founder of Equity in Medicine. They have events and educational materials available

# NATIONAL OFFICER REPORT

*Negar Atefi and Lauren Wong, Partnerships Team  
2022 Annual General Meeting  
September 16-17, Vancouver BC*

throughout the year that would be of interest to promote to students, relating to EDI principles. Members of their team are also willing to provide mentorship for GHIG projects, as these physicians are familiar with pioneering EDI work within their own communities. There is opportunity for medical students to get involved with their team throughout the year as a volunteer, particularly in a Francophone capacity.

- PEGASUS Institute (<https://pegasusinstitute.ca>): We met with members of the PEGASUS team, who shared about their mission and opportunities available through their organization. PEGASUS has a wide network of physicians and healthcare professionals, including a Francophone and Latin America network, who they are willing to connect CFMS students with for global health-related projects and initiatives. Research studentships with people in their network may be an attractive option for students. They have main goals each year which their projects are oriented around, and students have the potential to propose ideas for collaborations or get involved as a volunteer.
- IFMSA Capacity Building (CB): We have been in communication with the CB Regional Assistant for the Americas, as well as other members of the IFMSA CB team through the August IFMSA meeting. CFMS does not have an official CB team or branch, but much of the work done under the Global Health portfolio could be officially recognized as a CB program or event. CB is a large part of the NMO management committee at IFMSA meetings, and would be a significant way to collaborate with other countries in the future. We believe that designating a specific position or team within Partnerships to oversee CB would be beneficial.

## **Successful projects:**

- Global Health Initiative Grant
  - The purpose of the Global Health Initiatives Grant (GHIG) is to act as an adjunct to the existing CFMS Student Initiative Grant (SIG) and Funds (SIF). As per the awards program guideline, the current eligibility criteria for SIG and SIF excludes any applications involving individual academic research. In addition, due to the high degree of competition and taking into account the scale of the projects/initiatives, smaller projects or projects focusing on minority groups in medical schools may not have a chance to receive SIG/SIF awards. We have established the GHIG to support global health-specific events or projects of various formats (including research projects) and scales, particularly those that relate to equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI).
    - Summary of round 1:  
[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1tZzVCCKQ0F9niNuEuza7Q0bTqXN82UpWd5aOGVKDIjw/edit#slide=id.g1561c609064\\_0\\_0](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1tZzVCCKQ0F9niNuEuza7Q0bTqXN82UpWd5aOGVKDIjw/edit#slide=id.g1561c609064_0_0)

# NATIONAL OFFICER REPORT

*Negar Atefi and Lauren Wong, Partnerships Team*

*2022 Annual General Meeting*

*September 16-17, Vancouver BC*

- Opportunities spreadsheet and calendar
  - Encourage GHs and LOs from each university to add events and initiatives that students can take part in
  - Adding opportunities from the IFMSA to give students a chance to get involved and network internationally
  - Website revamp with the help of CFMS IT team to improve the layout and accessibility of the spreadsheet and calendar webpage

## II. MEETINGS ATTENDED

Date	Meeting	Location
January 5-9, 2022	IFMSA Americas Regional Meeting	Virtual
January 13, 2022	NOP and Communications meeting	Virtual
January 22, 2022	Pathways Handover meeting	Virtual
January 23, 2022	NOP transition meeting	Virtual
January 28, 2022	NOP Planning meeting	Virtual
February 5, 2022	Amnesty International meeting	Virtual
February 11, 2022	IFMSA Guatemala intro meeting	Virtual
February 13, 2022	NOP Check-in	Virtual
February 16, 2022	Finance and budget meeting with Director of Finance	Virtual
March 2-6, 2022	IFMSA March Meeting	Virtual
March 12, 2022	Budget taskforce meeting #1	Virtual

# NATIONAL OFFICER REPORT

*Negar Atefi and Lauren Wong, Partnerships Team  
2022 Annual General Meeting  
September 16-17, Vancouver BC*

March 12, 2022	NOP Check-in	Virtual
March 18, 2022	Budget taskforce meeting #2	Virtual
March 26, 2022	Budget taskforce meeting #3	Virtual
April 9, 2022	DENEM Brazil Indigenous conference meeting	Virtual
April 10, 2022	IFMSA Guatemala Committee Meeting	Virtual
April 20, 2022	IFMSA CB Regional Assistant meeting	Virtual
April 21-24, 2022	CFMS SGM	Calgary, AB
April 30, 2022	MedSIN Sudan intro meeting	Virtual
May 9, 2022	GHIG Review meeting	Virtual
May 26, 2022	CAGH intro meeting	virtual
June 8, 2022	NOP Check-in	Virtual
June 20, 2022	Equity in Medicine meeting with Dr. Kelly	Virtual
June 29, 2022	IT Opportunities Webpage meeting	Virtual
August 1-7, 2022	IFMSA August Meeting	Istanbul, Turkey
August 14, 2022	Pathways Transition Meeting	Virtual
August 16, 2022	DENEM Brazil Indigenous conference meeting	Virtual
August 24, 2022	NOP/Directors Transition meeting	Virtual

# NATIONAL OFFICER REPORT

*Negar Atefi and Lauren Wong, Partnerships Team  
2022 Annual General Meeting  
September 16-17, Vancouver BC*

August 29, 2022	PEGASUS Institute meeting	Virtual
September 8, 2022	NOP Check-in	Virtual
September 16-17	CFMS AGM 2022	Vancouver, BC

### III. CONCLUSIONS

#### **Future directions:**

- Working with the GHIG coordinator to facilitate future rounds of the grant
- Strengthen CFMS connection and communications with regional IFMSA
- Continue developing international collaborations, with a focus on principles of EDI and immigrant/Indigenous health
  - Currently in discussion with AHEM Haiti and MedSIN-Sudan about potential partnerships
- Coordinating with the IFMSA CB team and IFMSA Quebec VP Internal/External to find opportunities and additional training for our committee members
- Optimizing the platforms for sharing opportunities and website updates

Lauren Wong  
UAlberta, C2025  
[lwong4@ualberta.ca](mailto:lwong4@ualberta.ca)

Negar Atefi  
UManitoba, C2023  
[atefin@myumanitoba.ca](mailto:atefin@myumanitoba.ca)