

Dear VP Academic-to-be,

Congratulations on your new role! Your role is an important one as you have a key role in providing educational opportunities to the students within the health sciences about interdisciplinary care.

I entered this role in September. One of the reasons that I wanted this role was to become involved in developing the knowledge base of an area that is often overlooked in our fields! I have enjoyed working with the Co-presidents and the other VP's in helping to enrich our students' knowledge of interdisciplinary collaboration.

When I started this position, I was given a lot of flexibility within my role. I would say that you should plan on having one or two major speaker series that relate to interdisciplinary care. Perhaps, one could be organized per semester. I would also say that you should work with HSERC to help them promote their events to the students. They are a good partnership to foster in the area of interdisciplinary collaboration. Finally, I would work towards setting up job shadowing opportunities for the students so they can truly understand how an interdisciplinary team functions. I otherwise encourage you to develop new ideas that will keep students engaged within this area and providing them opportunities to learn more. I would recommend planning these ideas before the fall semester and have a tentative timeline for your major events. This will make your life a lot easier!

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this role. I hope that you will enjoy further developing this role and working within the HSSA Council.

Sincerely,

Allison Farnand

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Timeline of events

October

- Helped Joe MacPherson promote the HSERC event, “Nightmare on Main Street”.
 - o Promoted through “The Wanderer”, which is an online student newsletter
 - o Promoted through “The Gateway”, which is the official student newspaper at the University of Alberta.
 - o HSERC needed our help because they are not a student run group.

November

December

- Attempted to plan a faculty promotion month with one speaker presentation per month that represents that faculty. Idea was not developed or pursued.

January

- Met with the first speaker of the speaker series for Health Week

February

- Attempted to plan job shadowing opportunities for students with the Edmonton North Primary Care Network. This is an idea that needs further planning, as the PCN are interested. See contact information for Paul Regher
- Met with Paul Regher about presenting at the speaker series.

March

- Speaker Series during Health Week: “Interdisciplinary Care: From Theory to Practice”.
 - o Guest speakers included Sandi Kossey and Paul Regher
 - o Anne Pratt from HSERC helped with the planning of the event, including providing a designer for the promotional posters and covering the fee of printing

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