All-Hill Student Council Annual Report 2020-2021

Introduction:

The All-Hill Student Council's primary purpose is to enhance the overall student experience at OHSU through a) understanding concerns of the student body across all four schools (dentistry, medicine, nursing, and public health) and one college (pharmacy), b) leading initiatives to provide opportunities for community building, and c) connecting with OHSU leaders on behalf of the student body. Our organization operates through a structure of student representatives elected from each OHSU program and a council of executive officers. Two Office of Student Life staff members support our organization, offering key support at the university level.

Mission Statement:

1) To preserve an intellectually stimulating atmosphere conducive to acquiring health and science knowledge.
2) To act in the best interest of the student body and the OHSU community.
3) To provide an official unified voice of student views.
4) To promote a representative student to school designated committees that receive complaints, investigate student problems, and participate in OHSU students' decisions.
5) To maintain formal communication between the student body and the faculty/administration.
6) To promote the exchange of information and ideas among the various schools at OHSU.
7) To host social and educational events through funding student organizations who wish to provide services to the student body.

Executive Officers:

President – Doug Rice, MD Candidate 2021

Vice Presidents:

- Taylor Vega, MD/MCR Candidate 2022
- Kate Dolan, 3rd-year dental student
- Michael Snow, 3rd-year dental student
- Student Activities Liaison: Julia Hill, 3rd-year nursing student (graduated in December 2020)
- Communications Coordinator – Alex Quackenbush, Ph.D. Graduate Student
School Representation:

**Committee on Academic Policy**

1. Erin Helms

**Graduate Medical Services Committee**

1. Andrew Arndt

**Physician Assistant**

1. Spencer Smith
2. Kathryn George
3. Kamrin Sorenson
4. Nicki Naylor

**School of Pharmacy**

1. Carly Shick
2. Dylan King
3. Jessica Hodgen

**Radiation Therapy**

1. Alysha Hurd
2. Ladan Yazdidoust
3. Sheena Potretzke

**School of Dentistry**

1. Chelsea Plinke
2. Conor Scanlon
3. Madeline Harris

**School of Medicine**

1. Ashley Victor
2. Lubna Khan
3. Nicole Ovregaard
4. Wesley Plinke
5. Francie Goodstein
6. Lukas Magee
7. Jason Agtarap
8. Megha Arora

**SOM Graduate Students**
1. Colin Coleman  
2. Michelle Ozaki  
3. Timothy Bates  
4. M. Kathrina Onate

### School of Nursing

1. Lorenzo Ortega  
2. Van Pham  
3. Emma Blackwell

### List of staff participants:

1. Karen Seresun, Assistant Vice Provost for Student Life/Advisor to AHSC  
2. Heather Doherty, Associate Director of Student Center and Student Activities  
3. Luke Gillman, Strategic Communications  
4. Jennifer Cai, Student Health and Wellness  
5. Andrew Justicia, Center for Diversity and Inclusion  
6. Wes Studer, Center for Diversity and Inclusion  
7. Mike Matheny, Student Finance and Debt Counseling  
8. Andrew Hamilton, Librarian, BICC Library  
9. Erich Knipschild, Membership Manager, March Wellness & Fitness Center  
10. Stephanie McClure, Confidential Advocacy Program  
11. Emily Hillhouse, Student Academic Support Services

### Funding requests and rebate information:

Typically, AHSC accepts funding requests from student groups to support interdisciplinary student activities that involve more than one program (for example, an event that involves students from both the dental school and nursing school). However, this year due to the reduced number of occasions and requests because of the COVID19 pandemic, we elected to allow any request from schools to be evaluated for financial support. The AHSC supported the following programs:

**August 2020:** None

**September 2020:** None

**October 2020:** Annual All Hill Student Body Survey - $1000 - for prizes with a focus on gift cards for local and BIPOC-owned businesses

**November 2020:** None

**December 2020:** None

**January 2021:** None
February 2021: Food Resource Center Task Force – $15,000 – Food offering service that serves ~50 students a week. Funding provided increase offerings and promotional services.

March 2021: a) Queer Health Alliance - $200 - Pride Badge pulls for MD students b) Gender Equity Center - $6000 – to provide to the survivor fund budget

April 2021: Muslim Community at OHSU - $633.50 – outdoor picnic to build community and prepare for Ramadan

May 2021: None

June 2021: a) Health Care Equity Fair - $2,000 for supplies – disposable supplies, gloves, syringes, etc. b) Confidential Advocacy Program – remaining All-Hill Budget – to provide to the survivor fund budget

Change in Executive Duty Structure

In previous years, each Vice-President helped plan one of the significant events we typically plan. Without in-person events, the structure of our administration focused on advocacy work while trying to maintain our core goal of inter-professional community-building with five central committees led by All Hill executive officers and having committee membership by AHSC representatives

- Finances – Kate Dolan, VP
- Social Impact – Taylor Vega, VP
- Community Building – Michael Snow, VP
- Covid19 Response – Julia Hill, SAL
- Social Media– Alex Quackenbush, Communication & Doug Rice, President

In reflection, this was an effective strategy that helped organize duties among the executive officers. However, it was difficult to understand its potential due to the stifling nature of the pandemic that largely prevented activities.

All-Hill Student Life Survey

COIVD-19 drastically shifted the delivery of each program's curricula. The All-Hill student council sent out a survey to better understand students' top concerns. Broad categories included mental health, academic concerns, financial concerns, and graduation with the overall aim of completing three goals:

1) Assess the overall wellness of the OHSU student body – provide immediate resources to those in need

2) Identify resources that students are lacking

3) Gather student concerns through open-ended free-response questions
A more comprehensive report of this survey can be found at the end of this report. Here, I will provide a brief conclusion interpretation summary from our executive council:

**Mental Health Concerns:**

1. **The majority of respondents mentioned ‘counseling’**
   - Difficulty with the availability of services
2. **Feelings of social isolation**
   - Requesting in-person group meetings or counseling
3. **Offer massage/acupuncture**

**Academic Concerns:**

1. **Virtual Learning Experience:**
   - Harder to learn, more distractions, hard to separate personal and work life, internet unreliable, managing family at home, home environment not conducive to studying
2. **Clinical Experience:**
   - Worried about preparedness
   - Shortened experiences
   - Not in person, which is the primary purpose of clinical
   - Finding mentors, networking, etc.
3. **Should not be paying full tuition given the reduced quality of educational and clinical experiences**

**Financial Concerns:**

1. Continuing full tuition given reduced clinical and academic experiences (reduced course materials, interaction with faculty, clinical opportunities)
2. Not the same quality of education
3. Concerns about only offering half-tuition to MD program in Spring 2020
4. Loss or reduction of secondary income that supports food/housing/tuition due to pandemic

**Program Support:**

- More consistent communication, more transparency
- Tuition reduction
- Promote socialization/community
- In-person learning/training
- More study rooms

**Graduation:**

Two different opinions present:

1. No point (give money back, graduation doesn't matter)
2. Graduation is essential: ideas to help make it memorable: OHSU sends memorabilia or food, people sent robes (some want for free), great commencement speaker, slide about each graduate (picture, quote, goals)
Why not an outdoor venue for an in-person ceremony? Drive-in graduation?

The All-Hill executive council devised an action plan with these results, which included:

- Disseminating survey results/solutions to appropriate all-hill members, program directors, university services, and student leaders
- Sending campus-wide email communicating available university services
- Follow up with the provost office with any assistance we can provide to help solve these issues

### All-Hill Response to OHSU Lawsuit

A sexual assault lawsuit was filed Friday, Feb. 26, against OHSU and a former employee, which sparked numerous conversations and responses across campus. All-Hill immediately sent an email providing links to services for those who have been affected by sexual assault. In the days that followed, we provided surveys and considered a conversation to discuss how to move forward. We found participation to be very low and suspect it could be due to three things:

- The majority of the Med21 class graduated
- A general slowdown of student involvement in a range of areas (pandemic fatigue during a time of improved weather)
- Students having their own smaller and perhaps informal debriefs/conversations on these triggering topics

Motivation had been slowly declining in general, especially with the weather improving. We struggled for All-Hill participation at meetings and subgroups. Other organizations reported poor turnout to meetings. The graduating school of medicine class (Med21) is usually a very active group, but as of Mar. 19, ~70% graduated and were preparing for residency, which has made it difficult to get any of them involved in OHSU activities.

There was a sense that the lawsuit may not have felt relevant to schools outside the school of medicine. All-Hill forwarded a survey designed by student SOM leaders to all students that asked for questions we should be asking the administration regarding the lawsuit. The survey only received responses from SOM students, suggesting that students outside may not find this relevant to them.

The triggering nature of this conversation undoubtedly contributed to low response as well. We were planning to host an All-Hill-led discussion with campus leaders but discontinued planning after Student Health suggested it may cause more harm than good. All of us struggle with how to approach this topic and want to be sensitive. Students appeared to be discussing this topic in smaller, safer spaces that may have taken the OHSU administration-led listening sessions, which also received a low response. There is also a sentiment that it’s challenging to engage with the administration since the lawsuit is ongoing, causing many stakeholders not to be as forthright as they would like to be due to ongoing legal action constraints.

### Completed Action Items:
1. Maintained strong lines of communication with the Office of the Provost with monthly meetings
2. Internal: Focused on trying to build community in a time of virtual activities, and adapted meeting format due to COVID-19
3. External: We continued to work with the Office of Strategic Communications to deliver news directly to students. We completed multiple surveys this year to capture the emerging and dynamic student COVID-19 concerns and needs.
4. Social Events: Limited this year due to COVID-19 precautions:
   1. Welcome Back BBQ – canceled this year due to COVID
   2. Drive-In Movie – organized by Michael Snow and Doug Rice
   3. Halloween Party - organized by Francie Goodstein
   4. Ski-Trip – canceled this year due to COVID
   5. Flame Awards - organized by Michael Snow and Doug Rice
   6. Spring Gala- canceled due to COVID-19

Conclusion:

Overall, the All-Hill Council maintained its presence in the OHSU community by soliciting student concerns and communicating student need to the Provost's Office. We provided a unique social activity (Drive-In Movie) that should be considered in future limited in-person scenarios. Despite the limitations imposed by COVID-19 safety concerns, we continued our normal functions and transitioned the organization into a new year with new, more hopeful prospects. The transition to an online platform has proved difficult for maintaining community building and representative engagement. Future administrations will need to be sensitive to this change and improve engagement with in-person activities and meetings.
Survey Objectives

1) Assess the overall wellness of the OHSU student body – provide immediate resources to those in need

2) Identify resources that students are lacking

3) Gather student concerns through open-ended free-response questions
Survey Response – 720 students

All responses were anonymous
Only program information was collected

How would you rate your overall mental health?

~17% of students rated their mental health as “Poor” or “Terrible”
What mental health resources would you like to have available?

1) Majority of respondents mentioned ‘counseling’
   - Difficulty with availability of services

2) Feelings of social isolation
   - Requesting in-person group meetings or counseling

3) Offer massage/acupuncture

   - More appointments available outside school/clinical hours
   - Increased access to providers within insurance taking new patients
   - More BIPOC providers
   - Partner/family/marriage counseling
General Wellness – October 2020

Most students feel food secure
Students need more information about COVID symptom resources

General Wellness – April 2020

Most students feel food secure
Students need more information about COVID symptom resources
Academic Concerns – October 2020

Please choose the academic category(ies) you are concerned about if any

Highest Responses

1) Disrupted Clinical/Patient Care
2) Remote Learning
3) Grades
4) Disrupted Experiments/Research Progress

Academic Concerns – April 2020

Please choose the academic category(ies) you are concerned about if any

Highest Responses

1) Disrupted Clinical/Patient Care
2) Remote Learning
3) Grades
4) Disrupted Licensing Exams
Academic Concerns Free Response

1) Virtual Learning Experience:
   - Harder to learn, more distractions, hard to separate personal and work life, internet unreliable, managing family at home, home environment not conducive to studying

2) Clinical Experience:
   - Worried about preparedness
   - Shortened experiences
   - Not in person which is the main purpose of clinicals
   - Finding mentors, networking, etc.

3) Should not be paying full tuition given reduced quality of educational and clinical experiences
   - Creating study spaces for students to attend lectures while socially distancing
   - Reservable study spaces on the hill students can use for a period of time
   - Summary of national clinical experiences by program - "normalize clinical experiences"
Clinical Education

Please choose the academic category(ies) you are concerned about if any

Highest Responses

1) Reduced options for clinical care experiences

2) Exposure to SARS-CoV2

3) Adequate PPE availability

Financial Concerns - October 2020

Please choose the financial category(ies) you are concerned about if any

Highest Responses

1) Tuition

2) Personal Finances

3) Financial Aid/Student Loans
Financial Concerns – April 2020

Please choose the financial category(ies) you are concerned about if any

Highest Responses

1) Tuition
2) Personal Finances

Financial Concerns Free Response
Financial Concerns Free Response

1) Continuing full tuition given reduced clinical and academic experiences (reduced course materials, interaction with faculty, clinical opportunities)

2) Not the same quality of education

3) Concerns about only offering half-tuition to MD program in Spring 2020

4) Loss or reduction of secondary income that supports food/housing/tuition due to pandemic

- Updated response from the Provost office on the full costs of tuition
- Continue offering food security funding to students

Have you had increased child-care costs as a result of the pandemic?

~Over 50% students are paying increased costs for child-care
Wellness Resources – October 2020

I have access to the information I need for relevant health and wellness resources at this time

~1 in 5 students need greater access to wellness resources information

Wellness Resources – April 2020

I have access to the information I need for relevant health and wellness resources at this time

~1 in 10 students need greater access to wellness resources information
University Resources - October 2020

What resources would you like more information on?

Highest Responses

1) Student Health and Wellness
2) Personal Finances/Debt Management

University Resources - April 2020

What resources would you like more information on?

Highest Responses

1) JBT/Student Health
2) Student Academic Support Services
6/24/21

My program has found ways to support students during this time.

~1 in 5 do not feel supported by their programs.

### Program Support

- **521 students** (73%)
- **128 students** (18%)

**Survey Demographics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Percentage (%)</th>
<th>Students (#)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.) MD (any other dual degree program)</td>
<td>28.8</td>
<td>207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.) Nursing</td>
<td>23.3</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.) Graduate (Ph.D. Masters, Certificate Program)</td>
<td>19.7</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.) Dentistry</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.) Public Health</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.) PA</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.) Pharmacy</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.) Radiation Therapy</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.) Other</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Students Who Marked Any Form of "Disagree"**

<table>
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<td>18.8</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.) Public Health</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.) Pharmacy</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.) PA</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.) Other</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.) Radiation Therapy</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Systemic program issue – not isolated to one program.
Program Support

My program has found ways to support students during this time

More consistent communication, more transparency
Tuition reduction
Promote socialization/community
In-person learning/training
More study rooms

Send program specific reports to deans and student leaders
Help facilitate action items they see fit
Graduation Ceremonies

Are you graduating?

Most students want in-person hybrid ceremonies

Graduation Ceremonies

Graduating Respondents

Non-Graduating Respondents

Option 1: In-Person Hybrid Ceremonies

Option 2: Virtual Ceremonies
Graduation

Graduation Free Response

- Two groups of people
  1. No point (give money back, graduation doesn't really matter)
  2. Graduation is important: ideas to help make it special: OHSU sends memorabilia or food, people sent robes (some want for free), great commencement speaker, slide about each graduate (picture, quote, goals)
- Why not an outdoor venue for in-person ceremony? Drive-in graduation?
All-Hill Action Plan

1) Disseminate survey results/solutions to appropriate all-hill members, program directors, university services and student leaders

2) Send campus-wide email communicating available university services

3) Follow up with the provost office with any assistance we can provide to help solve these issues