Student Representatives on One Health Commission

Board of Directors are selected

Students’ first Board Meeting: August 20
Reported by Cheryl Stroud, DVM, PhD, Executive Director, One Health Commission

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The One Health Commission (OHC) announced on March 30, at the first Students for One Health online meeting, a call for nominations/applications for six student representatives to serve on its Board of Directors. Two students from each of at least three of the One Health domains (animal, environmental, human, plant or other) were sought to serve, one as voting Representative and one as non-voting Alternate-in-Training representative. Both students from each domain will participate fully in Board meetings and discussions with the Alternate delegate automatically rotating in the second year to become the voting student when the Voting Student rotates off the Board. Students were encouraged to self-nominate or be nominated by their peers, faculty/deans or by OHC Board members. Twenty nine highly qualified students from seven countries stepped forward, eager to lead, six from the human domain, nineteen from the animal domain and four working in the environmental/ecology domain.

Requirements to serve were:

- Demonstrated passion for furthering the One Health concept across disciplines
- Strong communications and leadership skills. Leadership experience is a plus.
- Vision and implementation ideas to actively lead Students for One Health ‘Chapters’ in partnership with the work of the Commission as it ‘connects’ One Health stakeholders to ‘create’ action teams that will join hands to work together to ‘educate’ about One Health and One Health issues.
- Commitment to attend and fully engage in 6 out of 8 Board meetings in each 12 month cycle.
- Strong academic scores; this extra-curricular activity must not jeopardize the student’s academic performance.
Each Applicant submitted to the OHC Board a current vitae and a 300-500 word essay on the topic: The One Health concept is increasingly being adopted as a way to address complex global health problems that involve people, animals and the environment. Write a short essay about an idea you have for a novel, creative and innovative way to advocate for, raise awareness of, promote, or advance the science of One Health.

Students selected to serve from August 2015 – August 2016 are:

**Animal Domain:**  
Voting Student – Aqil Jeenah, aqiljeenah@gmail.com  
BvSc Candidate (Veterinary School), Class of 2018  
University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa  
Application Package

Alternate Student – Ilya Slizovskiy, MPH, B.Sc. Hons. Ilya.Sлизовский@rams.colostate.edu  
DVM Candidate, Class of 2018  
College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences  
Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado  
Application Package

**Environmental Domain:**  
Voting Student – Risa Pesapane, BS, BS, MS rrpesapane@ucdavis.edu  
PhD Candidate, Foley Laboratory of Infectious Disease Ecology,  
University of California at Davis, Davis, California  
Application Package

Alternate Student – Lara Curkeet, BS, MS laracurkeet@hotmail.com  
Master’s Candidate, University of Edinburgh Online Distance One Health Master of Science Program, Waterloo, Wisconsin  
Application Package

**Human Domain:**  
Voting Student – Alice Tin, BA, MPH Alice_Tin@brown.edu  
MD Candidate, Brown University Warren Alpert Medical School Class of 2018  
Providence, Rhode Island  
Application Package

Alternate Student - Sultan Mahmood, MBBS (MD equivalent) dr.sultanmahmood@yahoo.com  
Master’s Candidate, One Health Epidemiology Fellows Program,  
Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control, & Research, Bangladesh and Massey University, New Zealand based in Dhaka, Bangladesh  
Application Package

Congratulations to each of these hard working student leaders. The One Health Commission Board looks forward to working with each of you as we carry out your ideas for furthering the One Health Sciences. All 29 applicants and all active SOH participants will be invited to serve on trans-disciplinary working groups to support projects created from the student ‘OH ideas’ essays.