

**Dow Graduates Association of North America  
(DOGANA)**

February 6, 2022

**I. Call to order**

Dr. Mansoor Mohiuddin, the president of DOGANA, called to order a monthly central council meeting of the Dow Graduates Association of North America on February 6, 2022, at 9 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, a virtual meeting at gotomeeting.com.

**II. Roll call**

S. Adil Ahmed conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

M. Mansoor Mohiuddin, S. Adil Ahmed, M. Saeed Sabir, Samia Faiz, Aamir Ehsan, Naushad Noorani, Aliya Ahmad, Irfan Aslam, Shahid Hasnain, and Arshad Khan.

Absent:

Ali Imran Moosani, Naushaba Butt.

Excused:

M. Azim Qureshi

**III. Approval of minutes from last meeting**

The approval of the January 2022 meeting minutes was moved by Dr. Aamir Ehsan and seconded by Samia Faiz. The motion of the January meeting minutes was approved by the central council.

**IV. Old Agenda:**

- 1- The Board of Trustees of DOGANA approval was received; Dr. Hasan Ali Habib informed DOGANA that the BOT unanimously approved Dr. Abdul Munis to serve on the board for a five-year term beginning January 2022.
- 2- The Board of Trustees of DOGANA has unanimously approved transfer of a fund of \$25,000 from DOGANA accounts to the DOGANA/University of Maryland endowment fund.
- 3- Approval of Mamona Shaikh-Ahmed for EnDow was proposed by the DOGANA 2022 central council and was approved by the EnDow chair.

**V. New Agenda**

- a) The Committee chairs gave their reports.

A brief introduction was provided by Dr. Arshad Khan and Dr. Shahid Hasnain.

### **Committee Chairs reports:**

**DIGS committee**, Dr. Amir Ehsan, said DIGS lab trainees, who were fully trained in the USA last year are being returned back to DUHS Karachi. DIGS trainees are also collaborating with other hospitals in Pakistan such as Indus hospital. DIGS trainees are also working on publishing some data with the help of their trainers in California.

The purchase of a next generation sequencer machine was already made by us and DIGS are waiting for delivery of the machine to the DIGS lab from the vendor.

**Membership committee** chair, Dr. Saeed Sabir, will hold a formal meeting with the membership committee. He said the membership committee will concentrate on making more lifetime members this year. He will make contact with DOGANA committee members who don't currently have a DOGANA membership to renew their expired memberships or become a member. Dr. Mansoor said that all committee members are required to be DOGANA members.

**Publication committee** chair, Dr. Naushad Noorani, will hold a meeting with the publication committee members once he gets an updated committees list. Mansoor suggested to initiate quarterly electronic publications on the DOGANA website. Publications may include the progress of various DOGANA committees' activities in general and, more importantly, details of DOGANA's ongoing projects that will be published in quarterly publications.

**Young physician committee** chair, Dr. Arshad Khan, said he has had a meeting with the committee earlier this month and, as a new chair of this committee, he is in communication with last year's chair, Dr. Gulraiz, about the ongoing YPC activities and about the DOGANA YPC collaboration with APPNA for YPC webinars. Dr. Gulraiz added that he is in collaboration with APPNA for YPC webinars. In these webinars, they are guiding young physicians, providing information for resume building, and providing additional guidelines for their residency application process. Dr. Arshad Khan also added that there is a need to improve upon email communication between the YPC committee and young physicians involved in the program. He added that these young physicians ask for research and observership opportunities in the US. This year, Dr. Khan is planning to present webinars on how to do research. Dr. Khan also asked how to verify committee members' membership statuses with DOGANA. Dr. Saeed Sabir will verify the membership statuses with Ms. Kathleen Taylor.

**Disaster relief committee** chair, Syed Tariq bin Sagheer, said that he will contact the disaster relief committee advisor to define the committee's role for disaster relief. He will have a formal meeting with the advisor and the committee members. He asked a few

general questions about the role of this committee and those questions were answered by Dr. Mansoor.

**Student loan committee** chair, Dr. Samia Faiz, communicated with the committee adviser, Dr. Mansoor Abdi, and she discussed the original idea of this committee and her plans for this year.

The loan committee has ten members; Dr. Azim Qureshi is an executive director and Dr. Mansoor Abdi is an advisor. Both of them will be non-voting members. She also communicated with the other eight members. Unfortunately, three of them were not DOGANA members. Dr. Samia advised them to become a member in order to stay in the committee as membership in DOGANA is now required for committee members.

Dr. Samia also added that Ms. Kathleen Taylor will provide administrative assistance duties for the loan committee. For this part of her duties, Ms. Taylor will be compensated from the loan committee account. She added that 20-30% of the DOGANA Spring Retreat income was originally proposed to fund the student loan program.

Dr. Samia will update the promissory note and the criteria to release the loan money to the approved applicant(s). For future transactions, the loan money should be released to the applicant(s) US-based bank accounts. No loan money will be issued to third party accounts. The DOGANA website will be updated with these changes.

Dr. Samia added that she is contacting previous loan committee chairs and treasurers to make a list of loan borrowers. The loan committee will contact borrowers for loan recovery protocol.

In regard to the **DOGANA/UMD/DUHS endowment fund**, Dr. Mansoor Mohiuddin explained the purpose of this endowment fund to CC members who were not present in our January meeting. He said that, after the BOT approval, he will ask the University of Maryland and the DUHS to start a process to establish a mutual relationship for externships and research opportunities at UMD for Dowites. There are some hurdles from DUHS, and Dr. Mansoor is trying to negotiate a mutual solution to make the progress required in order to have a long-lasting relationship with UMD.

**Finance committee** chair, Dr. Naushad Noorani, is waiting for his respective DOGANA bank account access. He will propose a 2022 category budget in the next meeting.

**Matrimonial committee** chair, Dr. Alia Ahmad, said that she is communicating with her committee member Dr. Shazia Anwar. She added that Dr. Shazia has a matrimonial group on Facebook for Dowites and their families. Dr. Shazia has been providing access to matrimonial profiles for a number of Dowite families through this group. Formal collaboration of Dr. Shazia's Facebook matrimonial group is still to be discussed with Dr. Shazia. Dr. Mansoor proposed to add a matrimonial committee link to the DOGANA website as an additional resource. Dr. Alia will further discuss it with matrimonial committee members.

**Constitution & bylaws committee** chair, Dr. Shahid Hasnain, said that he has some ideas and he will provide details in the next CC meeting.

- b) **The DOGANA annual retreat update** was provided by Dr. Mansoor; he is in a process for selecting a hotel for the retreat in Washington D.C. with the help of event manager Tipu Ahmad. Dr. Mansoor will update the CC with the progress.
- c) The meeting started at 9 p.m. Eastern Standard Time and the quorum completed at 10:05 p.m Eastern Standard Time.

## **VI. Adjournment**

Dr. Mansoor Mohiuddin, the president of DOGANA, adjourned the meeting at 10:05 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, March 6, 2022.

Minutes submitted by: S. Adil Ahmed

Minutes approved by: DOGANA 2022 Central council