

**New Year's Greetings to all Members,**

The MN SOPHE Board extends best wishes to all for a good year ahead. Please see the highlights from the first board meeting of the year held on January 8.

**Welcome New MN SOPHE Board**

Kelly Kunkel, President; Mary Kramer, President Elect; Cherylee Sherry, Treasurer; Judith Luebke, National Delegate; Taylour Blakeman, Membership chair; Antonia Yenser, Continuing Ed chair; Derek Hersch, Advocacy chair; Cecelia Schaefer, Communications chair; Suzanne Driessen, Past President; Jean Streetar, Secretary

Special welcome to the newly appointed Student Representatives: Sia Xiong, a graduate student at St. Catherine’s University and Kayla Rinderknecht, Undergrad at Minnesota State University-Mankato.

**All Members: VOTE to Approve Chapter By-Laws**

The MN SOPHE Board of Officers has, as required under Article X, Section 2 of the MN SOPHE by-laws, conducted the bi-annual review of the chapter by-laws. Before the new by-laws can be formally adopted, under Article X, Section 3 of the MN SOPHE by-laws, *the new by-laws must be brought to the general membership for a vote.*

Please take a moment to review the proposed by-laws

at [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Js3TGIUs73NmEQBFjJE\_MKB8fTPwqb9L/view?usp=sharing](https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdrive.google.com%2Ffile%2Fd%2F1Js3TGIUs73NmEQBFjJE_MKB8fTPwqb9L%2Fview%3Fusp%3Dsharing&data=04%7C01%7Cjoseph.visker%40mnsu.edu%7C47849656241745f588fc08d8b0ee6ee5%7C5011c7c60ab446ab9ef4fae74a921a7f%7C0%7C0%7C637453885395824884%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=cSSeqovG7CKo55fcphebrOdqxGjLf%2F1ggtQAMhqCuNc%3D&reserved=0).

Once you have reviewed the proposed Bylaws, please cast your vote by **January 15,**

**2021** at: <https://mnsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9p1gTRVgDmL8iRD>

Please contact Dr. Joe Visker (joseph.visker@mnsu.edu) if you have any questions or concerns.

**Thank You for Completing the Member Survey!**

Valuable information was provided by members to help shape future work of the MN SOPHE chapter. Here is snapshot of the results. Full results can be reviewed at: <https://mnsophe.wildapricot.org/2020-MN-SOPHE-Survey>. Congratulations to Kristen Miles who is the winner of the survey drawing for a $20.00 Caribou gift card!

***NEW* MN SOPHE Resolution**

The MN SOPHE Board of Directors voted in favor of adopting the Resolution on Ending the Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products. The resolution calls for advocacy, health education and promotion activities directed to end the sale of flavored tobacco products. The newly adopted resolution is posted on the chapter website: <https://mnsophe.wildapricot.org/Advocacy>

For more information on this issue, please check out the recording of the webinar MN SOPHE hosted in September 2020: [Flavored Tobacco: A Social Justice Issue in Minnesota](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jlpWZWNnMwsbsYzk0WjgjCFYRba3NC1j/view?usp=sharing).

Aligned with this resolution, MN SOPHE has become a member of [Minnesotans for a Smoke-Free Generation](https://www.smokefreegenmn.org/) - a coalition of over 50 organizations, with a goal of reducing youth tobacco use.

If you're interested in getting involved in MN SOPHE's future advocacy efforts, including the creation of our 2021 legislative priorities, please contact me at: derekherschmsp@gmail.com.

 ***Save the Date*: MN SOPHE Webinar Feb 18**

The first webinar for the year hosted by MN SOPHE will focus on “tips for meeting with elected officials” and will feature Patrick Stieg (previous chapter advocacy chairperson). Save the date for February 18, 2021 at noon. CHES and MCHES credits will be offered **FREE to members**. Watch for more details in your emails.

**MN SOPHE Board meetings** are held on a monthly basis. All members are welcomed to join in the Zoom calls. The next meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2021. Contact Kelly Kunkel, President for more information at sopheminn@gmail.com

Submitted by: Jean Streetar, Secretary