I. Call to Order…………………………………………Michelle Martinez-Rivera, SIC President
Meeting started at 5:46 p.m.

Attendance
Pamela (Patricia) Abella, Alixandra Baycroft, Melissa Bing, Mason Borth, Marian Chen, Chigozie Dike, Gina Duong, John (Matt) Franzen, Swati Goyal, Katherine Langston, Jillian Losh, Michelle Martinez-Rivera, Camille Range, Margie Sutton, Morgan Jones Thigpin, Angie Torres-Adorno, Smruthi Vijayaraghavan, Margaret Wang, Anna Xu

Absent
Nizar Bhulani, Alokananda Ghosh, Pritul Patel, Melissa Resnick, Jocelyn Triplett,

Guests
Mr. Eric Solberg, Vice President Academic & Research Affairs (EVPARA); Mr. Charlie Figari, VP/Chief Auxiliary Officer; Ms. Kathy Rodgers, Assistant Director for Academic Affairs (EVPARA); Dr. Robert Emery, Vice President of Safety, Health, Environment & Risk Management

II. Approval of SIC Minutes
A motion was made to approve the March meeting minutes as written. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

III. Guest Presentations
a. Emergency Response Feedback……………Dr. Robert Emery, Vice President of Safety, Health, Environment & Risk Management
Dr. Emery presented the facts surrounding the weather emergency response to the recent Houston floods on April 18, 2016. He requested student feedback regarding the current method of notification and if students would appreciate a text message alerting them of a change in decision, even if they have already started to make their way to the Texas Medical Center. Students provided comments and suggestions regarding the safety issues that arose since many of them were not alerted about the closures until after they had already started their journey to campus. Additionally, students felt a text alert would be more effective than the e-mail that was sent out. A suggestion was made to include a campus weather status link in the text alert where students go immediately to find updated changes as they occur. The Emergency Information link found on the UTHealth home page was also mentioned since it was not in easy display on the website. It was suggested that this link to campus weather information be prominent on the UTHealth homepage and not listed at the bottom of the page as it currently is structured. It was also suggested that students should be apprised on each of the six schools situation since some schools ended up closing that morning. SIC members will e-mail Michelle Martinez-Rivera additional comments that she will compile and forward to Dr. Emery for future consideration in revising the campus weather alerts.

IV. Standing Committee Reports
a. Student Activities Council…………………………………………..Margie Sutton, Co-Chair
A summary of the crawfish boil, held April 8, 2016, was presented. Attendance for this year's event was 677 total (509 students, 168 guests) with the largest number of students attending from the McGovern Medical School. This attendance was slightly less than 2015 in which 589 students and 200 guests were counted. 1300 pounds of crawfish was prepared and consumed, and 800 regular hot dogs and 300 veggie hot dogs were prepared (with about 60 regular and 158 veggie hot dogs remaining). 36 cases of beer were ordered (28 cs Shiner Bock and 8 cs Coors Light), only 2.5 cases of Coors Light was left over. Lemonade (42.5 gallons) and Water (50 gallons + 16 cases donated by AE) were consumed. The SIC purchased sunglasses and koozies for the event for giveaway items. The DJ was a hit this year and additional expenses incurred to rent chairs brought the total cost of the event to $11,614.57.

b. SIC Community Outreach Committee ………………Marian Chen and Mason Borth
A summary of the UT House Medics event was presented that was held on April 16th and April 23rd weekends. The one scheduled house was completed with less students but in less time than
last year. Overall the event was a huge success and a few suggestions were made in regards to
starting the planning in the Fall next year rather than waiting until the spring. It was also noted to
serve lunch later (around 1pm) and for the SIC to assist in pre-loading the truck with needed
supplies during pick up.

e. Scholarship Committee……………………………………….Margie Sutton, Chair
The Scholarship Committee received 32 applications for the SIC Academic Achievement Award, 15 applications for the Toshi Nikaidoh Service Award and 15 applications for the Shohrae Hajibashi Memorial Leadership Award. The Hajibashi Award is reviewed and selected by the SIC Alumni Association. Of the applications reviewed by the Scholarship Committee, each application was reviewed by three independent reviewers who did not have access to the other reviewer’s comments or scores, and particular attention was given to not have several reviewers from the same school as the applicant when assignments were generated. Applications for the SIC Academic award were reviewed based on academic achievement, rigor of coursework, leadership ability, community service, essay quality, and the letter of support. Applications for the Toshi Service award were reviewed based on essay quality, project impact, leadership ability, motivation to serve, timeline of service, and letter of support. Mr. Dennis Ruder from the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences was selected to receive the SIC Academic Achievement Award and Ms. Kemly Mary Philip a MD/PhD student in the McGovern Medical School and Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences was selected to receive the Toshi Service Award. Ms. Margie Sutton from the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences was selected by the SIC Alumni Association to receive the Hajibashi Memorial Leadership Award.
The SIC also awards, through their scholarship endowment, six $750 scholarships each year based on the recommendation of the Student Financial Services office. One student scholarship to each UTHealth school. This year the SIC was able to award two student scholarships to each UTHealth school. The students named in these scholarships are given the award in memory of Dr. Matthew C. Mireles, past SIC President who passed away in 2014. It was noted that one student named this year also won a previous scholarship in 2015. With this in mind, a suggestion was made to review the current guidelines of the three SIC scholarships that go through a review and selection process to stipulate rules on receiving awards in multiple years. The SIC also suggest to have each aspect of the application review rubric weighted differently next year. The incoming Scholarship Committee will take on this task next year.

f. Public Relations Committee………………………………..Margaret Wang and Angie Torres-Adorno
The PR committee has been working to improve visibility of SIC and reach out to all students at UTHealth. They have held four meet and greets so far at SON, SPH, MMS and GSBS. A summary of the student feedback collected from these events regarding individual school needs, interschool interactions, student services and more will be submitted in the year end report. The Student Pulse newsletter was published in three editions this year, September, December and March, and contributions were made by several SIC members as well as outside guest writers.

V. New Business

a. Annual Committee Reports……………………………Michelle Martinez-Rivera, SIC President
The annual committee reports are due to Alix Baycroft, SIC Vice President by Monday, May 2, 2016. The template is uploaded to Filr Secure Share.

VI. 2016-2017 Officer Elections

a. Call for SIC Officer Nominations…………………………Alix Baycroft, SIC Vice President
The following SIC members were elected as the 2016-2017 incoming officers:
1. President- Margaret Wang, McGovern Medical School Representative
2. Vice President- Marian Chen, School of Dentistry Representative
3. Secretary- Alixandra Baycroft, McGovern Medical School Representative
4. Treasurer- Smruthi Vijayaraghavan, International Student Representative
5. Historian- John “Matt” Franzen, School of Dentistry Representative
6. UTSSAC 1 year position- Mason Borth, School of Dentistry Representative
7. UTSSAC 2 year position- Swati Goyal, School of Biomedical Informatics Rep.

VII. Announcements

a. Association of Students for Interprofessional Healthcare (ASIPH)……….Gina Duong
There is a new student organization currently awaiting registration approval that is aimed to bring
students from all six campuses together with a passion for interprofessional collaboration. Student
recruitment will begin once the application for a new student organization is finalized and the
student organization is approved as a registered student organization at UTHealth.
VIII. **Adjournment**
A motion was made to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:53.