Student InterCouncil (SIC)
Thursday, January 21, 2016
University Center Tower (Rm 1726), 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Minutes

I. Call to Order………………………………………………Michelle Martinez-Rivera, SIC President
Meeting started at 5:33 p.m.

Attendance
Alixandra Baycroft, Nizor Bhulani, Melissa Bing, Mason Borth, Chigozie Dike, Gina Duong.
Alakananda Ghosh, Swati Goyal, Jillian Losh, Michelle Martinez-Rivera, Melissa Resnick, Margie Sutton, Angie Torres-Adorno, Jocelyn Triplett, Pritul Patel, Smruthi Vijayaraghavan, Margaret Wang, Anna Xu

Absent
Pamela (Patricia) Abella, Marian Chen, John (Matt) Franzen, Morgan Jones Thigpin, Camille Range

Guests
Mr. Charlie Figari, VP/Chief Auxiliary Officer; Ms. Kathy Rodgers, Assistant Director for Academic Affairs (EVPARA); Dr. Patricia Starck and Dr. Juliana Brixey, Senior Vice President of Interprofessional Collaboration and Program Director of Interprofessional Collaboration (IPC)

II. Approval of SIC Minutes
A motion was made and seconded to approve the November meeting minutes with grammatical corrections presented by Margie Sutton. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

III. Welcome New SIC Members……………………………..Michelle Martinez-Rivera, SIC President
Swati Goyal (SBMI Representative) and Camille Range (Underrepresented Representative) were welcomed to their new roles in SIC. There is still a vacant position remaining in the School of Nursing following the graduation of Kara Dean.

IV. University Guest Speakers
a. Center for Interprofessional Collaboration (IPC)……..Drs. Patricia Starck and Juliana Brixey
Dr. Starck introduced what the Center for Interprofessional Collaboration is and who currently makes up the leadership team. She provided the mission statement of the IPC and described the goals of the program to encourage communication, teamwork, and collaboration unifying the healthcare of patients between all providers. She encouraged SIC members to promote the Dean’s Honors Colloquium Series which is offered during the Fall and Spring semesters which teaches the fundamental skills needed to enhance interprofessional collaboration. Dr. Starck described the current landscape of the IPC at UTHealth and how this program will be integrated into current curriculum rather than being added as an additional course. Faculty will be able to apply for small internal grants to implement IPC topics and methods into their current teaching environments and/or initiate activities that promote interprofessional collaboration. Additionally, a recognized student organization of IPC is being established at UTHealth and she encouraged members of the SIC to participate and share this information with their constituents.
Questions were raised regarding the charge of the student group, how the grant applications would be integrated into the current curriculum, and how the inclusion of students who do not directly interact with patients would be included in this training experience.
Dr. Starck mentioned that the student organization/group would participate in national competitions which often involve a case study and a team of interprofessional students to work through, and that this organization would promote the mission of the IPC, and advocate for implementation of IPC training. Additionally, Dr. Starck elaborated on the grant application process which would allow faculty to apply for $5,000.00 to be used based on their proposal to implement IPC ideas into the current curriculum, and possibly targeting the overlapping courses between schools might be a quick and beneficial way to do so. Lastly, Dr. Starck and Dr. Brixey discussed the involvement of basic researchers and those without direct patient care in the Dean’s Honors Colloquium Series and that the skills learned such as communication, teamwork, etc. are applicable to “team science” and “translational research.”
V. Standing Committee Reports
   a. Student Activities Council............................................................Michelle Martinez-Rivera
      Ruben Mendoza has resigned from SIC and Patricia Abella has stepped down from her role as co-chair. The SAC committee will need to make progress towards the Crawfish Boil event held in April. Margie Sutton, Smruthi Vijayaraghavan, and Pritul Patel volunteered to co-chair the SAC for the remainder of the semester.
   b. Community Outreach Committee..................................................Mason Borth
      The toy drive from the fall semester was a huge success and a thank you letter was sent to all SIC members from UTPD. The spring event will be to help with UT House Medics. A brief overview of last year’s event was given to the group. A few important dates prior to the event were discussed: April 2nd, crew meeting between the team leaders. April 23rd and April 30th and the rain out day is May 7th. Comments regarding the involvement of students to participate during one weekend or both weekends were made, and the Community Outreach Committee along with UT House Medics will decided what is mutually beneficial.
   c. Selection Committee.................................................................Jillian Losh and Chigozie Dike
      The Selection Committee reviewed applications for both the UT System Student Regent and The Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) Student Representative. The Committee ranked applicants based on eligibility, leadership, volunteerism, and their personal statement. One candidate for the student regent position and two applicants for the THECB student positions was sent as recommendations to the UTHealth President.
      The Committee also selected the next ranking underrepresented member to take the place of Ruben Mendoza who was unable to fulfill his term. Ms. Camille Range was notified and accepted the position.
   d. Scholarship Committee...............................................................Ms. Kathy Rodgers
      The call for applications for the SIC Academic, Hajibashi and Toshi Scholarship Awards will need to go out to UTHealth students by February. Mr. Charles Figari notified the SIC that the SIC scholarships for these awards will be raised from $750.00 to $1000.00 each. The endowment funds are now able to cover this increase to the awards.

VI. Ad Hoc/External Committee Reports
   a. Interfaculty Council Update.......................................................Margaret Wang
      The Interfaculty Council (IFC) met on January 20, 2016 and is comprised in a similar fashion to SIC but includes faculty instead of students. One major topic of discussion was the use of student evaluations in tenure decisions. This was brought forward by several faculty who presented literature documenting the disparities of student evaluations between male and female instructors. SIC members discussed the advantages and disadvantages of student opinion course surveys being used as a measure to evaluate tenure appointments.
   b. University Safety Council............................................................Melissa Resnick
      The University Safety Council met and discussed two areas of concern; 1) There has been increased traffic into buildings without proper permission. Identification badges should be worn at all times to help security and other UTHealth personnel identify unauthorized persons who have entered the buildings, and 2) Student immunizations are delaying student registration and resulting in additional late fees and processing at the beginning of each semester.

VII. Old Business
   a. Budget Update.................................................................Smuthri Vijayaraghavan, SIC Treasurer
      The SIC has a current balance of $4,100.00 of available operating funds. A motion was made to use all $10,000 of the Student Union Account to pay for the crawfish boil since the fall bash was canceled. This, in turn, will only use $1,000.00 from the SIC Operating budget for the crawfish boil. A motion was made and seconded for the change of allocation in the Student Union and SIC Operating budget. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. New Business
   a. UT Housing Pest Problem........................................................Margaret Wang
      A recap of the meeting between Ms. Wang, Mr. Figari, and Mr. Patlovich was provided to all SIC members that outlined some issues brought forward regarding student housing. Topics included roach issue, communications with housing staff, safety mirror in phase III parking garage,
Security check-in hours for residents, additional trash dumpsters, and amenities that would increase rent for all residents. Since the meeting on Friday, January 15, 2016, a mirror has been placed in the phase III parking garage. Additionally Mr. Figari elaborated on the steps Auxiliary Enterprises is taking to address the concerns mentioned. He also noted that allowing pets, or offering valet trash/recycling services would increase student rent.

b. **Campus Carry**
   
   A short presentation was made outlining personal concerns regarding SB11 “Campus Carry” and impact it could have on potential recruitment and student life at UTHealth. Dr. Stancel answered specific questions regarding the town hall meetings that were held across UTHealth and the draft recommendations made by the UTHealth campus carry working group that were sent to Dr. Colasurdo regarding exclusion zones.

IX. **Announcements**

   a. **Dean’s Dinner Dates**
      
      A doodle poll has been sent out to select a date for Deans Dinner in late April.

   b. **SIC Spring Meeting Dates**
      
      A doodle poll has been sent out to select the dates for the February, March and April meetings.

      **Maternity Leave**
      
      SIC President, Michelle Martinez-Rivera, will be starting maternity leave in February. All SIC related issues or concerns should be addressed to Alix Baycroft, SIC Vice President, Margie Sutton, SIC Secretary or Kathy Rodgers, SIC Administrative Advisor. These individuals will correspond with Ms. Martinez while she is out on maternity leave.

X. **Adjournment**

   A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:28.