SIC Sports Day

The Student InterCouncil (SIC) sponsored and organized its very first “SIC Sports Day” event on 11/05/2016 as part of the SIC’s annual fall bash event. More than 140 people (students from all six UTHealth schools and their guests) took part in this sporting event, which was held at the UTHealthRecreation Center Athletic Fields from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Competitive sports included in this event were soccer (6 vs 6), volleyball (5 vs 5), and singles ping pong. Six teams competed in a soccer tournament and the winner and runner-up teams were “Believe the Hypertrophy” and “Team Awesome” respectively. In the volleyball competition ten teams... (continued on p.3)
Being a SIC Student InterCouncil (SIC) representative is a great responsibility and fun at the same time. After a good turnout at SIC Salutation and the SIC Sports Day, SIC representatives will be going to each UTHealth school with the SIC Meet and Greets. We all know student feedback and encouragement are driving forces behind good governance. While feedback helps in assessing issues in the system, encouragement energizes body and mind towards fixing the problems. Being student representatives, all the SIC members are working hard to make the UTHealth an even better place than previous years for our students. We believe we can achieve it with the help of all the people associated with our UTHealth administration, and The meet and greets are planned with the objective to involve everyone across the all six UTHealth schools to make it a better and safer place. The SIC Meet and Greets will be held separately at every each UTHealth school, but students are welcome from all schools to attend any of the Meet and Greets. Your school SIC representatives will be there to welcome the students. Through this event the SIC is seeking the students valuable feedback related to issues that students have faced or are facing currently at the their schools. Also, the students will get to know about the SIC and meet your school SIC representative. We believe to achieve a continuously assessed university environment and well-connected atmosphere across UTHealth through your feedback and participation. Remember one more thing with these being a greeting event. Please appreciate the efforts of your school SIC representative in this Thanksgiving season as they are working tirelessly to make it better for all. If you don't make it to the meet and greet table, you can reach the SIC on Facebook or by email at sicgov@uth.tmc.edu. The SIC appreciates your feedback. Adios!

Pratik Chaudhary
SIC Representative
M.S. Student in the School of Biomedical Informatics.

The TMC Student Affairs Council has planned a Texas Medical Center-wide volunteer day specifically for students called TMC Serves: One Day. One Event. One Purpose. TMC Serves is an opportunity for the students of Texas Medical Center institutions to give back to the Houston community. For the second year, the students of the TMC will be heading to the Houston Food Bank, and we are hoping for all of you to join us!"

The event is on November Saturday, November 19th from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Students can sign up at: http://www.tmc.edu/news/event/tmc-serves-one-day-one-event-one-purpose/.

Looking Forward to SIC Meet and Greets

The School of Public Health Diversity Fair

Student Inter Council is one of the sponsors of the School of Public Health’s annual Diversity Fair. This fun filled event is open to all UTHealth students! The Diversity Fair will be held at the Cooley Life Center on Saturday, November 12th from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

TMC Serves
Published on www.tmc.edu:

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Pratik Chaudhary
SIC Representative
M.S. Student in the School of Biomedical Informatics.
Working for UTHealth Students

The SIC is in full swing and hard at work supporting UTHealth students through activities geared towards fun and fellowship. Our project funding committee is eager to hear from university registered student organizations who have events in the works that will bring students together and form bonds between the various schools of thought. An example of bringing all six schools together is the SPH Diversity Fair. The committee will award up to $500 towards events that educate and center around multidisciplinary fellowship. Those organizations interested in applying for funding can contact our SIC Treasurer, Smruthi Vijayaraghavan or go to the SIC website Project Funding page for more information. Please pay close attention to our requirements for project funding. If the application is not clear or complete, funding will not be granted and the application will have to wait until the following meeting to be voted upon. This delay can be significant because we meet once a month. Apart from ideas submitted by fellow students our Student Activities Council is working to finding and creating events. One such event the SIC found is the TMC Serve Project, which is open to all students in the TMC. In addition, the SIC has open ears to hear any concerns or ideas the student body has about UTHealth or the UT System and infrastructure that supports the students. We have a wealth of personnel resources to help implement changes and organize events. So don’t hesitate, get a hold of your SIC representative today!

Brandon McCullough
SIC Representative
D.D.S. Student at the University of Texas Health Science Center Houston School of Dentistry

SIC Sports Day (cont’d)

(continued from p.1) ... participated in which “Ginyu Force” was the winner and “Believe the Hypertrophy” was the runner-up. Sixteen individuals participated in singles ping pong competition in which “Naveen Ramesh” defeated “Lingyi Tang” in finals and became the winner. Winners and runners-up were awarded with trophies and medals. Apart from competitive games, many people enjoyed the non-competitive games like bubble soccer, horseshoes, cornhole and ladder golf. There were games especially for the kids which included sack races and egg/spoon races. Boxed lunches, water and soft drinks were provided to all participants. The SIC hopes that this event will become an annual event with hopes of growth in participation next year!

Sunil Acharya
SIC International Representative
PhD Candidate at the University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Houston
Spotlight Interview: Varun Joseph, UT System Student Regent

Mr. Varun Joseph
Dental Student
at UTHSC-San Antonio

During Varun’s campus visits to the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, I was able to sit down with him to find out a little more about what is involved in being the UT System Student Regent.

Brittany (BEJ): What is your schedule like as student regent?

Varun (VJ): I try to make sure to divide my week so that I take care of my school responsibilities and then I am free to go visit campuses or attend meetings. Usually I will have clinic at the beginning of the week, then travel later in the week. Next week, I’m heading to UT Northeast and UT Tyler in one trip, so it will be a little busier than usual.

BEJ: What are some of the responsibilities of the Board of Regents?

VJ: Two of the main responsibilities of the Board are to determine how the funding of UT System is distributed among the schools. It is quite an undertaking. The Board of Regents also approves the degrees conferred by UT System component schools. In this way, the Board’s decisions are important to each student in the UT System.

BEJ: What is something that has surprised you about UT System since becoming Student Regent?

VJ: It is really remarkable how different each school really is. Here at UTHealth, there are six schools that are all graduate schools. It is set in the middle of one of the nation’s largest cities, which makes campus life different than the undergraduate schools or schools that are set in a more rural location. Each of the fourteen UT System components are unique, but all offer great opportunities for education in Texas.

BEJ: How often does the Board of Regents meet?

VJ: Four to five times per fiscal year, but more meetings can be called if there are pressing matters to discuss.

BEJ: Any advice for a student who is interested in becoming student regent?

VJ: Definitely apply! There is definitely a good time in each program to do it, so think about when that might be for you and plan to apply then.

Brittany E. Jewell
SIC Historian and Underrepresented Student Representative
PhD Student at The University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Houston

Are you interested in becoming the next UT System Student Regent?

Application for Student Regent and for Student Representative to the Texas Higher Education Board are available at www.uth.edu/sic and are due on Friday, November 18, 2016.
What is the Student InterCouncil?

The Student InterCouncil (SIC) is the official UTHealth student governance organization and is the recognized forum of student opinion and the primary vehicle for student participation in the governance of UTHealth. The organization is comprised of three representatives from each of the six UTHealth schools and three from underrepresented student groups and three international student constituencies.

The SIC contributes to the quality of student life at UTHealth by participating in the development and implementation of policies and procedures affecting students; providing funds to support special projects of other UTHealth registered student organizations; representing student interests on external and internal committees; improving communication among the schools through the publication of an SIC newsletter- Student Pulse, and planning and implementing activities that encompass all students across UTHealth. Remember that we are here to be your voice, so contact us anytime at sicgov@uth.tmc.edu.

A Look Back at Salutation 2016

2016 SIC Representatives

**Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences**
- Alem Belachew
- Michael McGuire
- Robert Williams

**School of Nursing**
- Hallye Fogtman
- Gil Rosas

**McGovern Medical School**
- Alix Baycroft, Secretary
- Margaret Wang, President
- Gina Duong

**School of Biomedical Informatics**
- Pratikkumar Chaudhary
- Jingcheng Du
- Swati Goyal

**School of Dentistry**
- Marian Chen, Vice-President
- Mason Borth
- Brandon McCullough

**School of Public Health**
- Connor Cordray
- Palak Jalan
- Katie Oetken

**International Student Representatives**
- Smruthi Vijayaraghavan, Treasurer, GSBS
- Sunil Acharya, GSBS
- Pritul Patel, SPH

**Underrepresented Student Representatives**
- Brittany Jewell, Historian, GSBS
- Jacquelyn Randle, MMS
- Angelina Williams, SPH