

Student Inter Council (SIC)
Saturday, September 10, 2016
University Center Tower (Rm 1726), 8:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Minutes
ORIENTATION MEETING

I. Call to Order and Introductions.....Margaret Wang, SIC President

Meeting started at 9:02 a.m.

SIC officers, SIC representatives (school, international and underrepresented groups), and SIC advisors were introduced.

Attendance

Sunil Acharya, Alix Baycroft, Alem Belachew, Pratikkumar Chaudhary, Marian Chen, Connor Cordray, Jingcheng Du, Gina Duong, Swati Goyal, Brittany Jewell, Brandon McCullough, Michael McGuire, Katie Oetken, Jacquelyn Randle, Smruthi Vijayaraghavan, Margaret Wang, Angelina Williams, Robert Williams

Absent

Mason Borth (excused), Palak Jalan (excused), Pritul Patel

Advisors

Mr. Eric Solberg, Vice President, Academic & Research Affairs; Ms. Kathy Rodgers, Assistant Director for Academic Affairs

II. University Guest Speakers

a. SIC Responsibilities.....Eric Solberg, VP for Academic & Research Affairs

Mr. Solberg emphasized the role that the SIC plays at UTHealth. He reminded the SIC of the reason we were founded, what we were charged to do when elected to our positions, and provided insight into the responsiveness of UTHealth leadership to student opinions and needs.

In addition, Mr. Solberg spoke about Title IX and the new requirements to the law from the Department of Education. Title IX is an anti-discriminatory law aimed to eliminate sexual discrimination. HOOP 59 is the UTHealth policy, which addresses sexual misconduct on the UTHealth Campus. Changes were made to the policy this past year addressing domestic and dating violence, stalking, and harassment. He presented the correlation between the sexual assault rates and alcohol use on college campuses. Advice was given as to what and how to report sexual misconduct. The Student Affairs office, Title IX Coordinator, STOP team, UTPD, and online compliance hotline for anonymous reporting are all resources on our campus that help to ensure compliance. Off campus events should be reported when they involve any member of the UTHealth community. All new students receive training both at their school's orientation and through annual online training.

III. SIC New Business.....Margaret Wang, SIC President

a. Role of a SIC Member

The expectations of SIC members were explained by the SIC President. Members were referred to the Bylaws Primers in the Orientation packet with the expectation that all members read over the full SIC Bylaws.

b. Committee Descriptions

Members of the SIC executive committee described each committee and answered questions from members about the committees. Members were asked to complete a form listing their committee preferences and to turn the form in to Marian Chen (SIC Vice President) before leaving the meeting. Committee assignments will be made before the next meeting on September 19th.

c. Historian Vacant Position - Nominations

The SIC President described the position of SIC Historian and called for nominations from the floor. Brittany Jewell nominated herself for the position. There were no other nominations. The SIC President closed nominations and a vote was taken to accept Ms. Jewell as SIC Historian. The vote passed unanimously. .

d. SIC Fall Meeting Dates

The SIC Secretary presented the fall meeting dates which were voted upon by poll prior to orientation. The fall meeting dates will be Monday, September 19th, Tuesday, October 18th, and Monday, November 21st. There will be no meeting scheduled for December 2016.

e. SIC Projected Budget Plan

The SIC Treasurer presented the proposed budget for academic year 2016-2017. The Student Union fund of \$10,000.00 was presented and the SIC Operating Budget showing approximately \$14,000 for FY2017. A motion was made and seconded to approve the budget as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

f. SIC Events Timeline

The SIC President presented a tentative timeline of the events for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Salutation 2016 - September 26, 2016

Fall Event- November 2016

Community Volunteer Day - March 2017

Crawfish Boil- April 7, 2017

Deans Dinner - April 2017

IV. SIC IcebreakerMargaret Wang, SIC President

SIC members were divided into four groups: red, orange, blue, and green. Groups were charged with identifying an issue that they would like to address this year, steps they would take to address this issue, possible roadblocks, and individuals or groups they would need to contact in order to make changes. Each group presented their idea to the SIC. The SIC President requested that each team send her a summary of their presentation.

Four ideas presented were (see specific notes in Share Drive pertaining to ideas)

- 1) More in-person PR: flyer handout one week before a big event, prominent physical flyers at bus stops, bathrooms, student congregates. The distribution of flyers will have to be investigated to see if locations are acceptable in each UT facility.
- 2) Fall Bash as an all-students Olympic day. Four sports w/ rainy-day alternatives. Also kid-friendly activities will be included.
- 3) SIC as social life aggregate: having a calendar of events from all schools for students to peruse
- 4) 24 hour studying space – maybe at TMC? Increased shuttle hours during finals season. Shuttle questions will be directed to Mr. Charlie Figari in Auxiliary Enterprises.

V. SIC Business Update.....Kathy Rodgers, SIC Advisor

a. Salutation 2016 Update

Salutation will be held on Monday, September 26, 2016 from 5:30pm – 7:30pm in the Cooley Conference Center. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be provided at the next SIC meeting on September 19th. The SIC Historian, Brittany Jewell, will meet with Ms. Rodgers prior to Salutation to discuss the preparation of the SIC presentation board that will be displayed at the SIC booth. It was noted that five out of the six school student governance organizations will have a booth at Salutation this year.

VI. Adjourn

a. Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.