

Student InterCouncil
Monday, September 19, 2016
University Center Tower
Room 1726, President's Boardroom
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Agenda

I. Call to Order & Minutes Approval.....Margaret Wang, SIC President

Meeting called to order at 5:35 p.m. The September 10, 2016 Orientation minutes were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the 9/10/16 minutes with grammatical revision on spelling. The motion was seconded and approved. The minutes were approved with marked grammatical changes in spelling.

Attendance: Sunil Acharya, Alix Baycroft, Alem Belachew, Marian Chen, Connor Cordray, Swati Goyal, Brittany Jewell, Brandon McCullough, Michael McGuire, Katie Oetken, Jacquelyn Randle, Smruthi Vijayaraghavan, Margaret Wang, Robert Williams, Mason Borth, Palak Jalan, Pritul Patel, Angelina Williams, Gina Duong and Jingcheng Du.

Absent: Pratikkumar Chaudhary.

Advisers: Charlie Figari, Vice President and Chief Auxiliary Officer, Kathy Rodgers, Assistant Director for Academic Affairs, Eric Solberg, Vice President for Academic & Research Affairs

Guests: Dr. Michael Blackburn, Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer, UTHealth; Chief Jeffrey McGregor and Officer Manuel Leston, UT Police Department.

II. University Guest Speakers 5:35 p.m. – 6:10 p.m.....Margaret Wang, SIC President

A. Welcome to the Student InterCouncil.....Dr. Blackburn, EVP and CAO
Dr. Blackburn introduced himself and gave a biographical background about himself and his work at UTHealth. He noted that UTHealth is preparing for growth. We currently have 4600 students and over 36000 alumni. Dr. Blackburn spoke about his vision to build a team comprised of the deans of each school. The goal of this team will be to work together to learn about each other's schools, promote inter-professional education, and initiate both joint research programs and joint recruitment of faculty. He emphasized that he would like to use the SIC as a sounding board for these efforts and would like the SIC to reach out to their constituents to promote future changes at UTHealth. He explained that he has an open door policy and looks forward to meeting with students on SIC.

B. Campus Security.....Officer Manuel Leston & Chief Jeffrey McGregor, UTPD
Chief McGregor and Officer Leston came to speak about security on campus. They stressed that UTPD are partners with TMC and Houston in keeping our campus community safe. Officer Leston spoke about the "See Something, Say Something" program and how if we, as students, see something or hear something that we feel is unsafe, then we should say something to the UT Police. The UTPD is here to help the UTHealth and MD Anderson communities within TMC. Officer Leston is the Community Outreach Officer at UTPD. He told SIC members about a variety of classes available to the community including Travel Safety (local and abroad), Hostile Intruder Awareness Class, Verbal Judo, and RAD (Rape Aggression Defense class which is for women only and is usually held at the South Campus). Chief McGregor and Officer Leston advised the students to be aware of their surroundings, stay off cell phones while walking, and to report dangerous drivers. If SIC members have any requests for community outreach, they should call or email Officer Leston, who handed out business cards with his contact information to SIC members.

III. Standing Committee Reports 6:10 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

A. Project Funding Committee..... Smruthi Vijayaraghavan, SIC Treasurer

The SIC Treasurer presented two project funding proposals.

Body and Mind, a registered student organization at McGovern Medical School, requested funding for two cooking classes, one October 20th and one in the spring. It was noted that Mind and Body did not attach an itemized budget to the funding application and did not include a list of ingredients that would need to be purchased for the classes. After discussion, the SIC decided to request an itemized budget and to inquire about whether or not participating students will be charged for the cooking classes. The SIC asked the SIC Treasurer to request an itemized budget as it is a required part of the application. Once the requested materials are received by the SIC Treasurer, the SIC members plan to vote on the proposal electronically or at the next SIC meeting.

The SIC Treasurer presented the request from the School of Public Health Student Governance Organization for the annual support of the SPH Diversity Fair. A motion was made to approve the funding support in the amount of \$500.00 to the SPH Diversity Fair. The motion was seconded and approved to support the SPH Diversity Fair in the amount of \$500.00.

B. Student Activities Committee..... Marian Chen, Vice President

The Chairs for SIC committees were announced. SAC Co-Chairs for 2016-2017 will be Sunil Acharya and Michael McGuire. Community Outreach Co-Chairs will be Mason Borth and Angelina Williams.

Ms. Chen reported that she emailed Auxiliary Enterprises about the proposed SIC fall sports event. She noted that the SIC will not be charged to rent the UT Rec Center athletic fields. Mr. Figari explained that for families to participate the SIC would have to purchase a TULIP (liability waiver). It was decided that the SAC Co-Chairs will determine cost of this waiver both with and without a suggested moon bounce game. If this game plans to be added, participating families will have to sign the waiver at the event. The SAC plans to reserve the rec fields as soon as possible. Proposed dates for the event were October 29th (with costume contest for Halloween) or November 5th. A motion was made and seconded to accept November 5, 2016 with a rain out date of November 12, 2016 for the upcoming SIC fall event. SIC members voted unanimously to accept the dates of November 5th and November 12th.

C. SIC Selection Committee..... Marian Chen, Vice President

The SIC Vice President announced that Co-Chairs for the 2016-2017 Selection Committee will be Smruthi Vijayaraghavan and Palak Jalan. No other activity was reported for this group at this time.

IV. Ad Hoc/External Committee Reports 6:30 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.

A. Community Outreach Committee..... Marian Chen, Vice President

The SIC Vice President announced that Co-Chairs for the 2016-2017 Community Outreach Committee will be Mason Borth and Angelina Williams. No other activity was reported for this group at this time.

B. UT System Student Advisory Council (UTSSAC).....Mason Borth and Alix Baycroft

The SIC UTSSAC representatives updated the group about the first UTSSAC meeting that took place September 9-10th. They reported that there are four committees in UTSSAC: Diversity and Inclusion, Student Life (specific to undergraduate students), Graduate Student Affairs, and Finance. Mason, who serves on the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, requests short emails from members of the different schools to learn more about resources available and problems they have with diversity on their campus. Alix, who serves on the Finance Committee, will plan to meet with the Office of Academic & Research Affairs to discuss the tuition and fees process at UTHealth. Both Mason and Alix called for suggested topics to address that affect graduate students in the UT System.

They also spoke about *It's Time Texas*, a statewide public health initiative that promotes exercise and healthy eating. SIC Members expressed interest in inviting someone from UT System to speak about *It's Time Texas* at a future SIC meeting.

V. Old Business 6:45 p.m. – 7:15 p.m...... Margaret Wang, SIC President

A. SIC Budget Update..... Smruthi Vijayaraghavan, SIC Treasurer

The SIC Treasurer presented an updated budget for 2016-2017 that included annual encumbrances (funds set aside for SIC operating expenses and SIC events). She noted that the operating budget is flexible and changes can continue to be made in future meetings, but it is important that the SIC agree on the basic amounts to put aside for operating and SIC events for this year. A motion was made and seconded to approve the presented 2016-2017 SIC Budget as written. The SIC voted unanimously to accept the 2016-2017 Budget as presented.

B. Salutations Update.....Kathy Rodgers, SIC Advisor

Ms. Rodgers brought SIC members up to date about the upcoming Salutation event being held at the Cooley Conference Center on Monday, September 26th. She reminded SIC Members that they are the ambassadors of the event and need to help the event go smoothly by volunteering their time. SIC members will be needed to make sure the food lines move appropriately and ensure that students sitting at the Student Regent’s reserved table rotate out frequently. Members working at the SIC Booth should encourage students to fill out the SIC Salutation Survey in order to enter to win one of three Kindle HD Fire tablets. This year, the conference doors will remain closed until 5:30pm as students tend to come early and sometimes interfere with the vendor set up. The registration table will have sign-up sheets for each school, so SIC members at the table will need to check student IDs, make sure students sign in, and ask if they need a parking validation stamp.

The SIC Vice President requested that SIC members sign up for the Salutation duty roster. She reminded all members that they are expected to help clean up after the event. It was noted that the drawing for the Kindle HD Fire Tables will take place at 7pm and students must be present to win.

C. Breakout Sessions..... Margaret Wang, SIC President

The Public Relations Committee and Student Activity Council will meet for a short breakout session since they have upcoming events to work on. It was asked if the SIC would prefer to have these breakout sessions as part of the regular meeting to allow committees time to meet face to face. Most members agreed that this would be a good idea if time allowed.

VI. Announcements 7:15 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.Open Session

The SIC President asked members if they knew when their student governance organizations plan on meeting. SOD will meet on 10/6. GSBS (GSA officers only) will meet on 9/27. SPH is still working on elections and plans to meet on either 10/6 or 10/7. SBMI meets on the second Friday of the month and will have their next meeting on 10/14. At this time, the SIC did not have any School of Nursing students to report on upcoming meetings at the school.

It was also noted by the SIC President that any SIC members on an external committee should email the committee/council contact for meeting dates. The SIC Vice President will then place the SIC representatives on the agenda for committee updates at future SIC meetings.

SIC members were asked to send any suggestions for future speakers to the SIC Executive Officers.

Ms. Wang also gave a brief report about her meeting with Dr. Colasurdo, UTHealth President. She noted that Dr. Colasurdo would like to initiate planning for an inter-professional health fair in Houston. She noted that she plans to meet with the SGO presidents to discuss this idea and how students can get involved.

VII. Adjournment 7:30 p.m. (Adjourned at 7:12)

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 7:12.