

**Student InterCouncil**  
**Saturday, September 12, 2020**  
**Cooley Center & WebEx**  
**12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**  
**Meeting Minutes**

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**I. 12:15 pm: Call to Order and Approval of Minutes .....Rachel Pham, SIC President**

- A. Introductions
  - a. SIC Officers
  - b. SIC Advisors

Present: Rachel Pham, Rachel Buckley, Allison, Medina, Maria Elana, Omid, Zaid, Nedra Booker, Yuliana Nunez, Eric Solberg, Charlie Figari, Jim, Rohail, Jayanta, Tanvi, Britney, Angela, Ankita, Niharika, Sharmily, Sonia, Swathi, Kate, Nour, Naomi, Melissa. Paul, Anna Robb

**II. SIC Projected Budget & Project Funding.....Niharika Leela, SIC Treasurer**

- A. Funding available for events around school for events open to everyone.
- B. Grand total is \$62,446.00
  - a. Tentative budget since we do not know how these events will pan out.  
Funding sources: SIC, Student Union, Auxiliary Enterprises.
- C. Salutation budget breakdown
  - a. prices, parking passes, bookstore gift cards
  - b. Items still tentative, so please suggest ideas
  - c. Salutation grand total: \$ 2,374

**III. Introduction to SIC.....Rachel Pham, SIC President**

- A. What is SIC
  - 1. improving student life across UTHealth.
    - a. Recognized forum of UTHealth: sent out COVID-19 survey recently
- B. Meeting dates and important events
- C. Rachel Pham's account of SIC

**IV. Ice Breaker**

- A. Alliterating your own name and remembering everyone else's alliterated name

**V. Advisor Introduction to SIC.....Eric Solberg, Vice President for Academic and Research Affairs**

- A. What is student governance and the role of SIC?
  - a. Representing all the schools, so important to know the school and students that you represent
  - b. SIC's major responsibility is to make sure we include student needs across all schools
  - c. The SIC represents 5,500 students
  - d. President Colasurdo has a strong passion for Student Governance: literally the SIC is advising the leadership of UTHealth
  - e. SIC is one of the 3 constituency councils: Other 2 are University Classified Staff Council and InterFaculty Council
  - f. The SIC is involved in policy making at UTHealth

- B. Advisor roles:
  - a. Eric Solberg: 832 525 9430
  - b. Charlie Figari: VP and Chief of Auxiliary Enterprises Officers - 713 557 4665
  - c. Yuliana Nunez, Senior Executive Assistant and SIC Advisor
  - d. Tanedra Booker, Senior Program Manager
- C. Calling meetings, prioritizing initiatives, making recommendations and voting to confirm SIC decisions
- D. How ideas are developed, shared and implemented? This is up to the SIC to prioritize
- E. What we can/ cannot use our funds for?..... ..Eric Solberg, Charlie Figari**
  - a. Funding comes from student fees and their are guidelines on what we can/cannot spend money on
  - b. Recognized by the Texas Higher Education Board
  - c. Funds need to be spent to benefit students on our campuses
  - d. Funds not spent last year were used for COVID scholarships
  - e. Our budget is usually half of what it is this year, only reason budget this year is higher this year is due to scholarships and roll-over from last year
  - f. Zaid: Any restrictions about what we can receive for funding?
    - i. Can pretty much accept anything, if something is questionable it would be sent to legal
  - g. Naomi: SON lacking understanding of the exact role of SIC; how involved is SIC in the SGOs?
    - i. Varies on the school in question
    - ii. To apply for SIC funding for events, the event has to be promoted and open to all schools
  - h. SGOs under the same guidelines for funding as SIC.
  - i. Naomi: Can SGO members of schools attend SIC meetings?
    - i. Unless they are presenting something, they cannot attend meetings. Anything to bring up in SIC meetings needs to be communicated by the SIC representatives back to their schools.
  - j. Kate: Are all scholarships being paid out for Fall?
    - i. Recent COVID scholarships: specifically for students struggling due to COVID
      - 1. Office of Student Affairs in each school reviewed the applications
      - 2. Number of scholarships awarded depended on student body enrollment/breakdown by school
  - k. Britney: Does Community Service have a budget this year? Yes they do
  - l. Sharmily: when do other scholarships happen?
    - i. Have a scholarship committee that will review applications in the spring
  - m. Sharmily: Can SIC members personally submit funding requests and vote?
    - i. Yes, but members would have to abstain from voting
  - n. Guidelines for rewarding funding?
    - i. Must be open to all schools
    - ii. Have to promote the SIC and its financial support

## **VI. SIC Business**

- A. Expectations for students.....Rachel Pham, SIC President
  - a. Open communication, be respectful, be polite, take care of yourself
  - b. If you need help, ask
  - c. Remember that you're presenting your school, so make those interests clear too.
- B. Website Overview & Social Media.....Melissa Yang, SIC Historian
  - a. Website contains SIC information, members information, funding information, meeting minutes, SIC bylaws, SIC Student Pulse (student newsletter published every semester).
  - b. SIC t-shirt design - please update document with sizing
- C. Important Dates.....Ankita Podichetty, SIC Secretary

- a. Meeting dates: 3rd Monday of every month on Webex
  - b. Salutation will be virtual
    - i. A combination of a live Webex section and a website containing pre-recorded content and more information.
    - ii. Website will be on the SIC page
    - iii. A student wide email will be sent, but it would be helpful for students with access to their school's respective social media accounts to share as well.
  - c. Sports Day and Crawfish boil is uncertain
  - d. Dean's Dinner: is a big event, we show all our progress as SIC this year. What we are working towards so we have great things to present.
- D. Committee Descriptions & Sign-Ups.....Rachel Buckley, SIC Vice President
- a. Descriptions of each committee
    - i. Standing committee: permanent committees that do not change yearly
    - ii. Ad-Hoc committees: more immediate committees created for specific purposes and committees outside of UTHealth that we contribute to.
    - iii. Student Activities Council (SAC)
      - 1. Not entirely sure when some of these meetings will happen so TBD
    - iv. Diversity Committee: chair must also attend Diversity Task Force meetings.
      - 1. A standing committee created last year and added to the bylaws.
      - 2. The Diversity Task Force is headed by Dr. Latanya Love and was created in response to the events surrounding George Floyd's death and BLM
    - v. Environmental Ad-Hoc committee: centered around getting recycling available in clinical areas and where students congregate.
    - vi. Got rid of TMC SAC due to lack of communication and organization.
    - vii. If you feel very strongly about a certain committee, let us know.
    - viii. Meetings are flexible due to the current virtual environment.
- E. Business Updates
- a. Submit t-shirt size by responding to form filled out by Melissa Yang
  - b. Fill out survey Nedra sends out
  - c. Fill out member committee selection forms and submit to Yuliana; if not submitting in person at the end of meeting, email to Yuliana by **September 28th by 9:00pm** (next meeting date)
  - d. Dr. Love wanted us to talk about how students are transitioning from COVID

**VI. Adjourned** A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Ankita Podichetty, on 09/21/2020  
Approved by Student InterCouncil on 09/28/2020.