

Student InterCouncil Orientation

Wednesday, August 31, 2022

UCT 1505C

5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Minutes

- I. 5:00 – 5:30 p.m. Check-In, Survey, and Individual Headshots upon arrival***
- II. 5:30 – 5:50 p.m. Call to Order and Introductions**.....Kate Wall, *SIC President*
- A. Introductions
1.SIC Officers
 2.SIC Advisors
- III. 5:50 – 6:00 p.m. Group Photo**
- IV. 6:00 – 6:30 p.m. Last Year in Review**.....SIC Officers & Returning Members
- V. 6:30 – 6:45 p.m. Introduction to SIC**.....Eric Solberg, *Senior Vice President and SIC Advisor*
Nedra Booker and Yuliana Nunez, *SIC Advisors*
- VI. 6:45 – 7:00 p.m. SIC Business**
- A. Expectations for SIC Members.....Kate Wall, *SIC President*
 - B. Website Overview & Social Media.....Amber Chen, *SIC Historian*
 - C. Important Dates.....Melissa Liu, *SIC Secretary*
 - D. Project FundingCem Dede, *SIC Treasurer*
 - E. Committee Descriptions & Sign-Ups.....Jayanta Mondal, *SIC Vice President*
- VII. 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Group Discussions**.....All
- A. School-Specific Role Selection (15 min)
- VIII. Brainstorm Annual Priorities (Remainder)**
1. What types of events would you want to experience or see at UTHealth as a student?
 - 1. International fair**
 - a. Potluck
 - b. Different booth set up by students to represent different countries
 - i. Can allow students to showcase and discuss their home countries or cultures
 - ii. Provide food/drinks
 - iii. Amber discussed how her university used to do this and it was a big hit
 - c. Combine SPH Diversity Fair with McGovern fair since some infrastructure is already there and can reach out to more people
 - 2. Career fair/development**
 - a. Since we have so many institutions in the TMC, it would be beneficial for students to learn about different companies
 - b. UTHealth seems to have a focus on academia and research instead of industry. Some students would benefit from learning more about what

- types of careers are out there in industry that is unrelated to research or academia. A career fair could be a useful way to network
- c. Texas Consulting Club at Medical Center – would like to reach out to alumni or UTHealth network to connect to large consulting organizations to expose students to more of people in industry and consulting
 - d. UTHealth Alumni Association – want to work with SIC to really promote their purpose
 - i. Wants to get involved with Wellness Week and Crawfish
 - ii. Use the website to connect with alumni from each school
 - e. Or even a panel from each of these schools or groups/alumni
3. **Community outreach/volunteering** – At GSBS, there isn't a lot of opportunities for general members of their volunteering organization to volunteer (usually only officers show up)
 - a. Elementary/high school STEM fair that allows all six UTHealth students to volunteer and advocate for STEM
 - b. This was scratched because anything involving minors requires 180 hours of training and a lot of paperwork
 4. **Communication** – between SIC and Student Governance at each of the six UTH schools
2. Things each of us what to focus on each year and something we could implement
 1. Jayanta – focus on International Committee and create an inclusive environment for them while uplifting their voices at UTH
 - a. Wants to continue Speaker Series
 - b. Career development and fairs
 2. Cem – wants to focus on communication. Each institution has a bunch of internal issues that makes it hard for students to resolve outside the walls of their institution. It would be beneficial to promote and use the apps between the schools to voice their concerns.
 3. Kate – networking and communication. Wants to prioritize Speaker Series (1-2 events this year).
 - a. Remote Speaker Series was nice because it didn't cost a lot. Could allow for in-person Speaker Series by playing the speaker on a large screen and allow for more networking while still keeping costs cheaper.
 - b. Could replace Wellness Week with Career Week instead if that's more useful for students
 4. Amber – Creating networks and safety net for students with disabilities. International festival.
 5. Diversity and inclusion committee –
 6. Jordan – student engagement and communication. A lot of times students don't know what we're working on so we should promote SIC across the schools so that students can come to us to make improvements
 - a. Student services emphasis at UTH
 - b. Diversity – again, international festival or diversity fair
 7. Ruchira – career fair plus workshops (resume building, networking, communication, mock interviews)
 - a. Inter-professional communication – learning about each of the different schools to learn different perspectives
 8. Logan – career fair to learn more about each profession
 - a. International fair
 9. Melissa – transparency and communication between schools

10. a. International fair
Sharmeen – three day career fair and workshops to help students navigate transitioning from graduate/professional school to the workforce (industry, clinical, academia)
 - a. Improve communication between different UTH schools
11. Halimat
 - a. Food pantry for students who are struggling financially
 - b. And other volunteer opportunities to support people of low SES
12. Devanshi – as an international student, she mentioned she cannot enroll in some certificate/courses at the different schools. She suggests finding a way to allow international students to be able to enroll/register for certificate course at other schools than their own school.
 - a. May not be feasible due to OIA and federal policies
 - b. Or just provide students with a list of policies/resources for international students
13. Jabria – intraschool networking to get to know students in our own schools because we still don't know everyone
 - a. Interprofessional development
 - i. Make business cards for students to give to recruiters
14. Lilac – interprofessional development – she describes most of her opportunities have been external/outside UTH. Maybe provide more students with more internships or networking opportunities that people can benefit from
 - a. Workshops to help international students navigate the job recruitment culture in the US and how soft skills such as leadership, communication are so important here
15. Nedra – invite more guests to speak at SIC meetings
 - a. OIA
 - b. UT Police
 - c. Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
 - d. Human Resources – career development
 - e. Anyone we want more information from or could use support from
16. Clayton – collecting feedback from students
 - a. Served on UTH Safety Council and said that there's a lot of student concerns/issues that can be addressed if only students were aware of where/whom to raise these concerns to
 - b. Maybe put a place on the website to do this
17. Jaren
 - a. Use Salutation as a way to network
 - b. Food pantry – consolidate resources and money for students who are struggling with financial issues
18. Elnora
 - a. Great Conversation – invite donors, alumni, students to sit at a table and have a general conversation that connected alumni and donors. Connects us to different schools and is an event that allows people to just really get to know the large network at UTH/TMC
 - b. **Mental health** – better marketing from Counseling and Mental Health Services and increased accessibility to students across the board at each school
 - i. Doesn't even know what is offered here so it would be useful to get more information and advertisements

- ii. Ask different student services to come and speak at the schools during orientation or do it twice a semester to promote it through word of mouth and really explain what they do/what they offer

19. Akhila –

- a. **Transportation** - Shuttle service doesn't run on the weekends and would like to see if there is any way to expand that service because many students still go to labs and work on the weekends
 - i. Depends on actual usage by the students/budgeting
 - ii. Internships
 - iii. Students can get 50% off the metro by filling out an application but many people are not aware of this service or opportunity
 - iv. Should try and see if we can have a way for the university to get a student pass through the university instead of the Metro themselves

20. Students services –

- a. Provide documents and information for students for services offered by UTH
- b. International students – maybe offer a pickup for international students the first time they land here. Offer some housing or support services for the international students.
- c. Wellness Week – do a tournament or Olympic style event

3. Crawfish boil

- 1. Could integrate international fair with crawfish boil so that we can be more inclusive with the food options and still allow for people from the different schools to socialize
- 2. It is tradition though, but we can still alter this so that it appeals to more people

IX. 8:00 - 8:30 p.m. Find Your Meeting Buddy.....All

X. Adjournment

**Individual Headshots will also take place during Introductions
Surveys can also be completed at the end of the meeting*



SIC Information Survey