

Student InterCouncil Meeting

Monday, October 17, 2022
UCT 1726, 5:30pm – 7:30pm

I. Quorum, Call to Order, Approval of Minutes Kate Wall, *President*

Kate polled the members for any objections or corrections to the minutes for September 19, 2022. Upon motion made and seconded, the minutes were unanimously approved, as presented.

II. Safety, Health, Environment & Risk Management Robert “Safety Bob” Emery, DrPH *Vice President for Safety, Health, Environment & Risk Management*

Safety Bob gave the following updates:

- 1. N95 Fit testing will accommodate with schools
- 2. UTHealth Houston Alert – state law requires that all students be enrolled
 - UTHealth Alert sends notifications about imminent weather and other emergencies
 - The university never closes, but can go to controlled access for students and faculty
 - Classroom instruction will be up to faculty, whether it will be online or cancelled
 - Inpatient care will happen at HCPC during emergencies
- Safety Tests are mandated twice a year
- Next upgrade of UTHealth Houston mobile app will come out soon
- Nov 9-10 Safety and UTPD, will conduct a lighting walking
 - They will walk migratory path of students and will improve student lighting
 - Lighting issues should be reported to Safety Management
- Questions/Comments:
 - Jayanta – “What is the best way to reach the Safety department”
 - safetybob@uth.tmc.edu
 - “Is it possible to have a webinar for students to report safety concerns”
 - Safety website has a anonyms line for student feedback
 - Kate advised Safety Bob that if there is anything that you need from SIC to reach out to her.
 - Elnora– Can you clarify the difference of safety and security
 - The difference is Intent:
 - Safety is a part of being secure against unintended threats
 - Security is looking at aspects of malicious intent
 - i.e. Someone coming into campus to do harm

III. Fall Events and Dates Kate Wall, *President*

Kate gave the following updates:

- A. It was brought up in Slack that some SIC members would like to change the meeting start time to 6:00pm from 5:30pm
- B. **A motion was made to vote for moving the Nov. 14 meeting time to 5:30-7:00pm or 6:00-7:30pm**
 - a) **Majority vote: the meeting will continue at 5:30 - 7:00pm**
- C. Kate proposed if anyone is willing to be the point of contact with Alumni Engagement to be involved with possible partnership and sponsoring the crawfish boil.
- D. Jayanta advised that Melissa and him attended the last meeting and Alumni Engagement wants to work closely with SIC and any upcoming events

- a) Jayanta and Devanshi will work with Alumni Engagement
- E. Salutation Review
 - a) Kate announced that the event went smoothly!
 - b) She thanked Yuliana and Nedra for helping put on the event
- F. Wellness Week (Close Out w/ in-person Sports Day)
 - a) Will take place the week of November 7-12

IV. Budget/Project Funding Updates

Cem Dede, Treasurer

Cem gave the following updates:

- A. Salutation
 - a) \$395.49 left over from the event
 - b) \$1,000 – encumbrance
 - c) Projected budget numbers depending on the previous budget
- B. As some of the events move to in person and because of the economic reasons there will be an update in the budget.
- C. There has not been a difference in the projected budget but there has been a change in individual events
- D. Crawfish Boil
 - a) source of the money is from Student Union – \$10,000
 - i. Auxiliary Enterprises may provide \$6,000 more – we asked Auxiliary for an exact cost of the event, they are working on it right now and will have it before the next meeting
 - b) Jayanta asked if the \$10,000 for the student union set or is that also up in the air?
 - i. Traci advised that the funds from student union account are set aside for the Crawfish Boil
 - c) Cem stated that there were ideas of changing this event, but the good part is we know how much we should spend on this event, and we can get an updated price tag from the vendors
 - d) Kate asked if we are potentially short on the \$6,000
 - i. Cem advised that it is under discussion whether we can put \$6,000 towards Crawfish Boil from Auxiliary Enterprises. If not, we may have to trim the event
 - ii. Kate advised that we can trim the event, although we prefer not to
- b) The officers will meet with necessary parties regarding the crawfish boil budget

II. Spring Meeting Dates and Times

Kate Wall, President

Kate announced the Spring meeting dates, they will begin at 5:30pm:

- A. January 23rd, 2023
- B. February 20th, 2023
- C. March 27th, 2023

III. Committee Chair Updates

Each Committee Chair

- A. Student Activities Committee (SAC)
 - a) SAC will start doing committee outreach by:
 - i. Conducting one community outreach event a month that students can sign up for
 - ii. Start doing more service-based volunteering rather than spending money on community outreach
 - iii. Redoing the budget based on service-based volunteering
 - b) SAC will do the following for Wellness Week:
 - i. Virtual events as well as an in-person sports day

- ii. Redo budget
- c) **A motion was made to vote on combining the Community Outreach budget with the Wellness Week budget**
 - i. **Majority voted to combine budget**

B. Public Relations Committee (PRC)

- a) Salutation
 - i. Lilac will upload pictures from the event and post them on social media
 - ii. During the event, PRC went live on Instagram to encourage turnout and engagement
- b) Wellness Week
 - i. PRC will start posting promo and updates on social media
 - ii. PRC will create Student Pulse newsletter stories for each event
 - a. There is a Fall newsletter and a Spring newsletter
 - i. The deadline for newsletter stories is set by PRC, but it must be completed before Christmas break
- c) PRC advised that the SIC can promote any opportunities or events that SIC would like to promote on the SIC platform,
 - i. For example, PRC has promoted the following UTHealth Houston events: Women in Leadership Series, Career Development events by Human Resources
- d) PRC advised everyone to follow the SIC on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook and share the SIC's posts

C. Project Funding Committee

- a) Meeting happened on 9/30
- b) No new updates or applications received

D. Operations Committee

- a) University Leadership Council - Kate
 - i. TMC3: updates relevant to the school year started and the construction will be put off for a new building
- b) Hoop Committee - Joan
 - i. Faculty grievances
 - a. Penalties for vaccine compliance and their consequences
 - ii. Marijuana testing
 - a. Is it required for remote workers?
 - b. Decision was not concluded
- c) University Academic Council – Jayanta
 - i. No relevant updates
- d) Student Services Council - Jordan
 - i. GSBS announced they have an Interim dean –
 - a. 3 new dean candidates are currently interviewing right now

E. Scholarship Committee

- a) Updated that the SIC is able to fund 6 scholarships again this year in the amount of \$1,000 each courtesy of Auxiliary Enterprises (SIC Academic Award, Toshi Nikaidoh Service Award, Shohrae Hajibashi Memorial Leadership Award)
- b) The SIC will also be able to fund 12 Matthew Mireles scholarships in the amount of \$750

F. Diversity Committee (DC)

- a) DC plans to launch a Humans of New York Campaign
 - i. Collaborating with PR by highlighting students from each school
 - a. DC will be accepting nomination for students
- b) DC is working on closing the gap on diversity
 - i. Lunch and Learn Events
 - a. Will highlight changes at UTHealth Houston in terms of diversity
 - b. Speakers do not have to be outside guests but can be someone from UTHealth Houston
 - ii. UTHealth Houston DEI Consortia
 - a. Information and networking opportunities regarding DEI across all UTHealth Houston schools and their SGO with the goal of unionizing efforts between all professional schools
 - iii. Diversity Fair with SPH
 - a. Will reach out at the end of November for collaborating and updates
 - b. Budget will come out of project funding
 - c. Will have a budget breakdown for next meeting

G. International Student Committee

- a) Will have an update next meeting

H. UTSSAC Reps

- a) Day 1 – icebreaker for students
- b) Day 2 – forming committees
 - i. Melissa and Ruchika joined graduate student committees
 - a. Common issues across all UT System campuses
 - i. 1. More information about student services
 - ii. 2. Transportation
 - iii. 3. Stipends
 - 1. Stipends do not match the cost of living
 - 2. UT System institutions should take a poll with students about their cost of living and stipends
 - 3. Can create a student resource survey that will include this stipend.
 - 4. SBMI students paying tuition
 - iv. Campus safety
- c) Career development survey
 - i. Expand the survey to include the housing questions, computing resource questions
 - ii. Possibly include incentive prizes
 - iii. Include the survey to be able to skip certain parts
 - iv. Finish questions by 10/21/22 and circulate 11/1/22

IV. School SGO Updates

Each SGO Rep

A. Table that for next meeting

V. Diversity Discussion

Chijindu Diopka, Member at Large

A. Presented on accommodations at UTHealth Houston

VI. Advisor Announcements and SIC Business

Nedra Booker, *SIC Advisor*
Yuliana Nunez, *SIC Advisor*

VII. Adjournment

