

**SUNY Downstate School of Public Health
Student Council Meeting
Thursday, September 7th, 2017
5:30pm – Dr. LaRosa's Office**

I. Introductions/ Attendance

Justin Tien
LeConte Dill
Kirsten Weisbeck
Natalie Charles
Samantha Lawrence
Lousette Saint Victor
Andrew Hasenzahl

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes/Secretary report

At the last meeting, we started with a round table introduction. We also talked about having concrete definitions for the roles of the officers. We also talked about the constitutional amendment for eMail votes. Kirsten welcomed the 2 new members at large. We also talked about committee appointments and having council member be representatives in those committees. Kirsten added that since our last meeting, Natalie was present at the orientation which was a great success.

Kirsten motion to approve the meeting minutes

Justin second the motion

Motion approve unanimously

III. University Proposal

Kirsten mentioned that Andrew serves in many committees.

Andrew talked about being the only public health representative in the university council.

He was asked to do a presentation highlighting two key elements: Academic life and student life.

Professional Education and preparation

Kirsten would like to know everyone's thought on hybrid classes vs. online classes. Andrew would like to increase course options that are available to students, and ensure these are reflected accurately on the SPH website, Kirsten agreed.

Justin, thinks it would be great if Downstate offered classes that were more geared towards training students to learn skills that would be useful research positions or other jobs after graduation. He used the example of R verses SAS or STATA. One of the key differences between

the three is that R is less likely to be used in a professional capacity.

Dr. Dill mentioned that SAS and STATA should be a standard skill available for students. Samantha suggested to have those materials offered in workshops if they cannot be offered as courses

Kirsten points out that this was an idea that was discussed prior and it was not successful because the intensity of the materials from SAS or STATA cannot be learned in just one session therefore it would need to be a course or ongoing series of workshops.

Andrew suggested the idea of interdisciplinary course electives. These are 10 – 15 weeks of 1hr projects which are non-credit elective where students would not have to pay for them.

Dr. Dill pointed out that the electives online do not reflect what we offer.

Kirsten agreed that across all concentrations we are lacking a variety of courses.

IV. Constitutional Amendments

Kirsten Motion to approve amendment to the constitution that allows eMail voting for urgent matters as proposed on 7/26/2017

Lousette Second the motion

Motion Approved Unanimously

V. President Report

Leadership seminar

Took place today September 7, 2017. Kirsten mentioned everything that happened there today can be found on the FSA website. If there are any questions about submitting paper work do not hesitate to ask.

Activity Fair- Monday 9/11/2017 4:30 PM

Attendees: Kirsten, Justin and Lousette

Signage: official SPH banner

Giveaways: Candy healthy options (fruits)

Kirsten motion to approve budget of \$40 for giveaways & sign materials

Lousette Second the motion

Motion Approved Unanimously

Dean search committee updates

Kirsten mention the search for a new dean with Dr. Joseph overseeing the Dean Search Committee. Kirsten believe she will be part of this committee as well and will keep use in the loop for thought and ideas.

Committee appointees

i. Marketing (+ Taskforce)

Kirsten mentioned her phone meeting with the Marketing committee where they talked about using the linked in account to reach Alums to keep a relationship going between alums and current students.

On another note, Kirsten asked who was interested in the marketing committee? They are looking for student support, they also have paid position. Kirsten encouraged the members to sign up or invite anyone they might know who would be interested in this committee. The point of contact is Dr. Helzner. Some of the roles include: a student to update social media, Students to write blog posts that highlight MPH students and their field experiences. They are also looking to do a newsletter.

- ii. Curriculum: Justin is interested in the curriculum committee
- iii. Community: Lousette is interested in the community committee
- iv. Tech fee: Kirsten is in the Tech Fee
- v. SAASFSR: Maggie is in SAASFSR
- vi. BFC Support-

Kirsten mention that Michelle is the student council representative on the Brooklyn free clinic council. They are coming up with many new initiatives that overlap with public health disciplines, and therefore there is a lot of related volunteer opportunities. Kirsten mention that she does not know if this is possible but an idea would be to link that with field experience but that would have to first be vetted by Dr. Benker.

Dr. Dill mentioned that someone set up the instructions for field experience at the Brooklyn free clinic and Dr. Benker approved those instructions. She is not entirely sure of where that information is held.

Kirsten Motion to confirm the current appointments as they are
Justin second the motion
Motion Approved Unanimously

VI. Slack

Kirsten mentioned that slack would be a great tool for us at the student council to uses because it helps compartmentalized student council information.

Lousette agreed with the idea of using slack as a communication tool.

Kirsten motion to approve Slack as our primary mode of communication
Justin second the motion
Motion approved unanimously

VII. Student Faculty Mixer

Kirsten mentioned the student faculty mixer is going to be in October.

Kirsten suggested using the day with the least amount of courses

Justin thought it would be better if we host it on a day where there is a lot more classes that way it increases the odds of us getting a lot more students because students are more likely to come if they are already on campus.

Andrew suggested to do the mixer from 4pm – 6 pm because that give a broader range to allow students who are coming from wok to attend.

Dr. Dill suggested that we do a Monday or a Wednesday because that will include DRPH students

Kirsten suggested the 18th of October from 4-6pm and have a Wednesday the 11th as a backup day in case the room is not available for the 18th

Natalie Created a Mock Flyer for the event.

Kirsten asked Natalie to take a lead on event icebreaker activities.

Kirsten Motion to confirm the prospective dates of the mixer pending room availability

Justin second the motion

Motion Approved Unanimously

Budget

Kirsten made mention of a proposed budget that Margot worked on. Kirsten said we can stick on the low estimate of the budget in a lot of these activities.

Andrew asked if the council provide support for other clubs.

Kirsten mentioned that last year there were only a single medical council club that came and asked for support and we indeed supported but no other clubs asked for supports.

Kirsten mentioned that the career fair will be a huge task to take on and instead of doing multiple little events we should just focus on one main event.

Dr Dill asked if we are still doing the conference support? Dr Dill also mentioned that if we are still doing that is \$1000 enough because that could only pay for one person for a conference

Kirsten agree that we should put funds aside towards activities like that.

Justin suggested that we maybe use some money to send public Health students to the Emory Case competition, because public health students always need funding to participate.

Kirsten mentioned that she will forward these suggestions to Maggie and edit the budget and send it out and use our email vote to approve the official budget proposal for upcoming events.

Student Council Event Calendar

Natalie mentioned that she started taking the lead for the off-campus student faculty mixer and proposed a date of December 15th

Natalie also mention that she contacted the Woodland restaurant and would like us to choose between the cellar lounge or the private room with the buffet .

Kirsten mentioned that last year they did the private room with the buffet and it was great.

Natalie will obtain estimates for the use of both rooms, which will likely be higher this year because we are hosting the event on Friday, which is typically a busier day.

Kirsten motion to approve the off-campus mixer on December 15th

Lousette second the motion

Motion approved unanimously

Kirsten will send out a doodle calendar and poll of what events should be prioritized for the year.

Kirsten motions to adjourn. Motion approved unanimously 6.58 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Lousette Saint Victor

SPH Council Secretary



