

## Medical Student Council Meeting Wednesday, **December 9th** at 6:00 PM \*\*\*Minutes\*\*\*

### Voting Members in Attendance

Alexis Roth, Liam Deegan, Rachel Baum, Alexandra Greenberg, Alfonso Caetta, Aaron Conway, Elaine Fletcher, Anna Lieberman, David Diaz. Ian Winthrop, Amanda Jirgal, Srishty Amarnani, Lulu Wei, McKenzie Andrews, Aaron Conway, Priscilla Varghese

### Guests in Attendance

Freddie Bimbaum

Minutes recorded by Priscilla Varghese. Alfonso Caetta presiding over the meeting.

#### **New Business**

- 1. Budget Requests
  - a. None
- 2. Class Updates
  - a. 2022
    - i. Downstate Rebranding / Website Change / Merchandise
    - ii. Grievances About Graduation
      - 1. Date Change: From May 24-25 to May 12
        - Members of the class are upset that visiting family can no longer easily attend due to the shift from a holiday weekend
        - COM2022 would appreciate transparent communication regarding why there was a change in date and acknowledgement of the issues that this shift in date may have caused
        - c. Putman's response Change of Date is related to previous students requesting earlier date due to wanting a greater amount of time to transition to residency
          - i. This was previously not possible given the venue was carnegie Hall
          - ii. Since the graduation is no longer at Carnegie Hall

- an earlier date is possible
- iii. An email will be sent out clarifying this change and the reasoning behind it
- 2. Graduation location change to Coney Island Amphitheater
  - a. Putman This was based on the fact that we wanted an outdoor venue to ensure that guests could attend given the uncertainty of the COVID pandemic
  - b. Other considered locations:
    - Barclay Center students will not know date of graduation till the end of March because of the the play off games
      - 1. A week can be guaranteed, not an exact date
- 3. Tickets for COM2022 Graduation
  - a. Students will likely receive more than four tickets
  - b. Ceremony will be similar to that which it was in 2019
  - c. Special hooders will likely be allowed
  - d. Please note: this is all subject to change
- 4. Cap + Gown Changes
  - a. Cap will have 8 points this year
  - b. The caps and gowns will be directly ordered from the company this year and will be shipped to you
    - i. There is no distribution of caps and gowns at school
- 5. COM 2020 Attendance during graduation
  - a. Class of 2020 were not allowed to attend a graduation
  - b. They request to attend this years graduation and walk across the stage
  - Putman We did speak to COM2020 about conducting an event during this past fall
    - i. COM2020 attending graduation this year needs to be discussed and revisited

- b. 2023
  - i. Student Faculty Show
    - 1. Need people to step up and to the Student Faculty Showcase
  - ii. No other updates
- c. 2024
  - i. Group Counseling
    - 1. Inspired by Class of 2025
      - a. Given that the Class of 2025 called attention to students navigating cancer and other terminal illnesses, the COM2024 would like to provide resources to our class in regards to mental health and addiction
      - b. 48% of our class is affected by addiction in some sort of a way
      - c. Mental health through Covid was also a struggle
      - d. Student counseling services can look into providing on

### organized service to the class

- 2. Satisfaction Survey (Transparency Concerns)
  - a. There have clearly been some transparency concerns expressed by members of the COM2024 class .
  - b. Srishty created an extensive survey that she wants to send out to the school
    - The goal is to see what the internal issues are that students are reluctant to share with faculty and staff
    - ii. How does this replace LCME surveys?
      - 1. Student to Student surveys allow for students to be more transparent that they can be on LCME surveys
- 3. Putman Hesitant about this because there are a lot of surveys being sent out and this will continue to rise through LCME
  - a. Plan: Share survey with Dean Putman for feedback.
- ii. Places to Eat on Campus
  - 1. Additional Seating in the Cafeteria
    - a. More tables are going to be moved into the cafeteria
    - b. Social distancing may also be toned down
    - c. Issue is that there may be patient guests that are not vaccinated a reason why social distancing is also still being implemented
  - 2. Other spaces could include
    - a. Hallway outside PHAB
      - i. Couches in lobby
  - 3. Solution is hopefully found in the next week or so
- iii. White Coat Oath Changed Dean Communication
  - 1. Our class is still under the impression that we will be getting the hippocratic oath
    - a. Putman there is a thought that the hippocratic oath should not be taken till students graduate
    - b. The White Coat ceremony will have students recite the same oath that 2025 did
    - This will be communicated to the class
- iv. Website issues
  - 1. Archived Copy of the Website Is it possible for us to get access to an archived website?
    - a. Many links on the new school website are not accessible
    - b. This includes links to the calendar, clubs, budget forms, etc
  - 2. There are a few issues on the website in terms of wording that should be fixed because it may rub others the wrong way
    - a. Members of the council will reach out to Putman regarding the specifics of the language used on the new website
- d. 2025
  - i. Unit 2 exams next week (hopefully we can get out quickly!)
  - ii. Score Release
    - 1. Faculty plans to give an email saying that all students who have

ID'ed have been notified

- iii. Osce Scheduling
  - 1. We would appreciate the schedule being released earlier
  - 2. Current rumors are that they will only be released 12 hours before
  - 3. Putman will find a way to get this information to students soon
- iv. Unit 3 Anatomy
  - 1. Would appreciate upperclassman to become anatomy tutors since MS2s will be studying for STEP and Unit 6

## 3. Student Faculty Show

a. Reschedule to January (Not April) - reminder!!

## **Trending Topics**

### 1. Student Counseling

- a. Student Counseling Services Updates
  - i. Waiting for SUNY approval to reduce the technology fee and increase health.
  - ii. Also working to make counseling sessions in person
    - 1. Current spaces are not large enough for 6 ft distancing
  - iii. A goal is to triple the amount of counselors
  - iv. We are also working to make Dr. Deutscher full time
    - 1. She is currently part time
- b. Medicap
  - i. New Software is also being bought for the counseling center
  - ii. Currently Medicap being used for the health center
- c. There is a licensing issue regarding counseling by a mental health counselor
  - i. In terms of insurance NYS states say that both people have to be in the state of New York
  - ii. SUNY has been made aware about this being problematic in terms of virtual counseling
    - 1. This is a law and may take a while to change
  - iii. Away rotation (INCLUDE ELSEWHERE)
    - 1. A lot of 4th years are on medicaid
      - a. Over 26 years of age
      - When you go out of state for away rotations, many places do not take medicaid - this makes it an issue and student may at last minute not be able to attend away rotations

### **Closed Meeting**

- I. Motioned by Alfonso Caetta
- II. Seconded by MK

Meeting is now closed.

### **New Business**

### 1. Approval of November Minutes (Vote)

- 1. Motion to approve October minutes made by Rachel Baum
- 2. Seconded by Ian Winthrop
  - i. Vote
    - 1. For 17
    - 2. Against 0
    - 3. Abstain 0

### 'Motion passes to approve November minut

## 2. Budget Requests (Vote)

1. None

# 3. Bylaws Update (Vote)

- 1. Motion to approve the Bylaws as presented in the updated document by Srishty Amarnani
- 2. Seconded by Ian Winthrop
  - i. Vote
    - 1. For 16
    - 2. Against 0
    - 3. Abstained 1

### 4. Article XX: RATIFICATION AND AMENDMENTS (Vote)

- 1. Motion to implement changes as described by Srishty Amarnani
- 2. Secondined McKenzie Andrews
  - i. Vote
    - 1. For 17
    - 2. Against 0
    - 3. Abstained 0

Motion to end meeting by McKenzie Andrews Seconded by - Ian Winthrop Meeting Closed at 7:18 PM

Minutes were scribed by Priscilla Varghese

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Approved by Priscilla Varghese - Medical Council Secretary