



Medical Student Council Meeting
Wednesday, **January 13th** at 6:00 PM

Minutes

Via ZOOM

Voting Members in Attendance

Alfonso Caetta, Joya Ahmad, Alexis Roth, Ian Winthrop, Aaron Huang, Liam Deegan, Ali Greenberg, Kunika Chahal, Elaine Fletcher, Dan Kwon, Alana Engelbrecht, Rachel Baum, Lulu Wei, Alice Herchek, David Diaz, McKenzie Andrews, Srishty Amarnani, Hamza Khiliji, Priscilla Varghese

Guests in Attendance

Ping Ping Zen, Alex Narantzini, Raven Lin, Sherry zhang, Alex Krauss, Jessica Sirzzotti, Laureen Chan, Treven Wesley, Gaby Estevez Carlos Berreto, Jennifer Gottfried, Alvin John, Melissa Ramirez, Anna Liberman, Christina Falcone, Geoff Cloud, Leah Goldberg, Isabel Conde, Ayesha Malik

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

New Business

1. Budget Requests

a. American Association of Neurological Surgeons

- i. \$50 For AANS Application Fee

b. DINE

- i. \$200 For plant based meals (Aunts et Uncles) for speaker event

c. GI Interest Group (GIIG)

- i. \$250 For intro meeting

2. Class Updates

a. 2022

- i. INTERVIEW SEASON IS WINDING DOWN
- ii. Rank lists is due soon
- iii. Feb 1st is match date
- iv. We found out that we passed gateway 3

- b. 2023
 - i. Last set of rotations
 - ii. People are waking up to the ideas regarding ERAS
 - iii. When is the VSLO information going to be passed along to us
 - 1. Away rotation information
 - iv. What is the deal with Gateway 3?
 - 1. How is it scheduled?
 - 2. We need more information
 - 3. Class meeting will be happening Monday
 - a. This is MLK day - Putman will double check the dates
- c. 2024
 - i. Remote learning and COVID Protocols
 - ii. UWorld
 - 1. Progressed and waiting on Dean Lazar's approval
 - 2. Response - Was approved last wednesday and was sent
 - iii. White coat ceremony details
 - 1. Email will be sent next week with instructions
 - 2. Graduation is set for April 8th
 - 3. There will be an email regarding name pronunciation and who is coming
 - 4. Will you be requiring guests to be vaccinated?
 - a. Rule in NYC is yes they need to be vaccinated
 - 5. Will be two ceremonies
 - a. Afternoon ceremonies at 1:30 and 3:30
 - iv. Research
 - 1. Proposal of a new research database for students to use housed on the new school website
 - 2. An interim database has been created
 - v. Student Faculty Show
 - 1. There has been some struggle with students getting back to us
 - 2. Will likely not have a show this year
 - vi. First session with counseling sessions
 - 1. Turnout: 10 Students
 - 2. Seemed to be beneficial for those students that attended
- d. 2025
 - i. Student Faculty Show
 - 1. A volunteer from the class has taken charge
 - ii. OSCE
 - 1. We hope to have some questions answered for upcoming OSCE
 - iii. Accountability system
 - 1. Has been established over zoom

3. Student Faculty Show

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

4. Dean Kitaw Demissie

- a. As of January 1st

- i. The hospitalization rate of those with Omicron has been decreasing
- ii. Our hospitalization rate is around 15%
 - 1. It has reached its peak and now is decreasing
- iii. Campus trackers are working to be effectively contact tracing
- iv. The guidelines that we are following are the CDC guidelines
 - 1. The infectivity is a day before symptoms
 - 2. We are isolating those showing symptoms
 - a. 5 days as far as staff and faculty
 - b. Students are being asked to isolate for 7 days
 - c. Permitted to return given that they have not shown any symptoms in the past 24 hours
 - d. Those that are tested positive we require testing at days 3,5 and 7
- v. We ask students to use K95s or N95s for an additional 3 days once they return to campus
- vi. Masks are considered mandatory at downstate
- vii. Omicron is considered mild in terms of hospitalization and death amongst those people that are fully vaccinated and the individuals that are boosted are showing the most protection
- viii. Contact Tracing
 - 1. There are those who were once part of the school of public health that now are working full time to oversee contact tracing
- ix. Pool Testing
 - 1. Those that test positive are immediately contacted
 - 2. Putman, student and faculty health, contact tracing all meet daily at noon to stay on the same page with Dean Brunicardi
- x. Booster
 - 1. Is there a deadline as to when boosted will be required for students?
 - 2. The confusing piece to this is that there are two booster rules
 - a. General SUNY/CUNY student rule
 - i. If you are eligible for a booster as of January 15th - then you have until Feb 15 to get the booster
 - ii. If you are not eligible as of January 15th (after 5 months of Fizer or moderna, or 2 months after johnson and johnson)
 - 1. Then you have one month from the date that you become eligible to receive the booser
 - b. Second rule for healthcare institutions
 - i. Released by the governor
 - ii. Waiting for the final written rule with dates written in
 - iii. We do not have this information yet
 - iv. Whichever rule is stricter is the one the downstate community must follow
 - 3. A memo will be sent out to students with the most recent and accurate information depending on what information we have

received

4. The booster will be required at some point after you are eligible to getting the booster
5. Students should not wait for february 12th for students
6. Submit to red cap as soon as you can

xi. Student Concerns

1. Ineffective contact tracing
 - a. PBL's and other student groups are not being notified of COVID exposure in a timely manner.
 - i. Contact tracing has been backed up.
 - ii. We were not prepared for the influx of positive cases in January
 - iii. We have recruited more workers to make sure contact tracing continues smoothly.
 - b. Once a student is found out to be positive, they are unsure who to contact.
 - c. Getting N95s/KN95s are not easy - they are expensive and hard to come by
 - i. Student health can give you an N95
2. This is a very reactionary response as opposed to a preventative response
 - a. This is because of the fact that we were not prepared
 - b. We were definitely overwhelmed but have recruited more workers to ensure students remain safe
3. It may be good to have an open form for students to express their opinions on returning back to campus.
 - a. Concern of students that are immunocompromised returning to campus or those with family members with compromised health.
 - b. Common consensus amongst healthcare leaders in the county is that omicron is not a virulent version
 - i. We are not virgins to the virus
 - ii. Almost everyone is vaccinated at home
 - iii. Those that are vaccinated are not going to be hospitalized by this virus
 - iv. THESE decisions are made by the chancellor and other SUNY authorities
 - c. We are evaluating each piece of your education, weighing your safety and the value of your education
 - i. For example, this week for the MS2s we transferred an event to online because of students (50+) being in a small
 - d. These are all decisions being made with your safety prioritized
 - i. We also have been looking to other schools to see how they are responding to the pandemic
 - ii. SBU etc - are in person since break
4. The educational leadership team, deans, contact tracing, all meet

- steadily, daily if not multiple times a week to provide safety for students
5. The things that need to be virtual are being done in person and the things that need to be done in person are being done virtual
 - a. We understand that you are trying to prioritize our education but the wrong modalities are being prioritized
 6. The Class of 2025
 - a. 70% of the class feels not safe coming in this coming tuesday
 - b. 30% of people who said they would want to come back is solely for anatomy
 7. If you are unconcerned that you are positive
 - a. You can contact the COVID email
 - b. You will be excused from class until you get a negative test
 - c. Students that are exposed to positive if you were in contact with a positive case
 - i. If you were asymptomatic and exposed - you are still considered fine - to come in according to CDC guidelines
 8. Exam week may need to change soon - not all of it can be done this way
 9. Will MS2s be pulled for random testing during dedicated
 - a. Random pool sample is a spreadsheet where each of you were assigned a random number
 - b. It is possible that you would get an email from me saying that you have been selected
 - c. But all you would do is that you select that you are not on campus this week
 - d. If you are coming in to campus everyday to study then
 10. What do students that are immunocompromised do?
 - a. These students can submit forms directly to
 - i. Involves you getting in contact with your doctor
 - ii. Doctors are currently Backed up
 - b. If we have your health records from when you registered - then this should be sufficient
 - i. Reach out to Dr. Pervil Directly

Trending Topics

1. Updated covid guidelines and booster timeline
2. SFS
 - a. As of right now they are being released online
 - b. Students can come to the auditorium to watch together
 - c. There is still a to-go dinner being offered

Closed Meeting

- I. Motioned by Alfonso Caetta
- II. Seconded by Amanda Jirgal

Meeting is now closed.

New Business

1. Approval of December Minutes (Vote)

- 1. Motion to approve December minutes made by Ian Wintrop
- 2. Seconded by Liam Deegan
 - i. Vote
 - 1. For - 16
 - 2. Against - 0
 - 3. Abstain - 0

Motion passes to approve December minutes

2. Budget Requests (Vote)

- 1. AANS (Attachment 1)
 - i. Motion to table request until they confirm that they have \$250 dollars in their budget made by Alfonso Caetta
 - ii. Seconded by Aaron Huang
 - 1. Vote
 - a. For - 16
 - b. Against - 0
 - c. Abstain - 0

Motion passes to table request until AANS is able to confirm that they have \$250 in their account

- 2. DINE (Attachment 2)
 - i. Motion to fully fund (\$200) by Aaron Huang
 - ii. Seconded by David Diaz
 - 1. Vote
 - a. For - 14
 - b. Against - 0
 - c. Abstain - 2

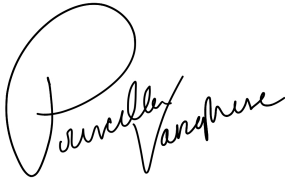
Motion passes to transfer \$200 from Projects and Programs (40-70174-012-30001) to DINE (40-70374-012-30001)

3. GI interest group (Attachment 3)
 1. Motion to fund in full (\$250) Amanda Jirgal
 2. Seconded to fund in full (\$250) Kunika Chahal
 - i. Vote
 1. For - 16
 2. Against - 0
 3. Abstain 0

Motion passes to transfer \$250 from Projects and Programs (40-70174-012-30001) to Gastroenterology Interest Group (new account).

Motion to end meeting by Amanda Jirgal
Seconded by - Kunika Chahal
Meeting Closed at 8:29 PM

Minutes were scribed by Priscilla Varghese

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Priscilla Varghese". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "P".

Approved by Priscilla Varghese - Medical Council Secretary



Interim Budget Request Form

Date: 01/09/22

Attachment 1

Please check one box:

University Council Funding ONLY Med Council Funding ONLY Other: _____

ORGANIZATION NAME: AANS (American Association of Neurological Surgeons)

PRESIDENT: Ganesh Payal

VICE PRESIDENT: Joanna Tabor

BOX #: _____ TELEPHONE: (516) 304-1183

TREASURER: Alvin John

PROJECT	ITEMIZED EXPENSES	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM UNIV COUNCIL	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM MED COUNCIL	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM OTHER SOURCE (please specify)
AANS Application Fee Reimbursement	AANS Application Fee		\$50.00	

Please check one box:

University Council Funding ONLY Med Council Funding ONLY Other: _____

ORGANIZATION NAME: Downstate Initiative for Nutritional Empowerment (DINE)

PRESIDENT: Sasha Martinez-Machado

VICE PRESIDENT: Christopher Musial

BOX #: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

TREASURER: Laureen Chan

PROJECT	ITEMIZED EXPENSES	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM UNIV COUNCIL	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM MED COUNCIL	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM OTHER SOURCE (please specify)
<p>Speaker Event</p> <p>Topic: A Model for Community Health Empowerment with Plant Powered Nutrition</p> <p>Zoom with Lianna Levine Reisner, co-founder and Network Director of Plant Powered Metro New York (PPMNY)</p> <p>Time: Jan 18, 2022 06:00 PM</p>	<p>Plant based meal boxes from Aunts et Uncles</p> <p>Meal boxes are \$10 each</p> <p>We have 24 RSVPs and expect between 10-15 more before event</p> <p>Current funds are \$250, requesting additional \$200 to cover anticipated cost of additional RSVPs meal boxes.</p>		\$200	



Interim Budget Request Form

Date: 1/12/22

Attachment 3

Please check one box:

University Council Funding ONLY

Med Council Funding ONLY

Other: _____

ORGANIZATION NAME: GI Interest Group (GIIG)

PRESIDENT: Sharon Lee

VICE PRESIDENT: Jorge Pincay

BOX #: TELEPHONE: 646-229-7191

TREASURER: Ping Ping Zeng

PROJECT	ITEMIZED EXPENSES	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM UNIV COUNCIL	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM MED COUNCIL	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM OTHER SOURCE (please specify)
Introductory Meeting	Food		\$75	
Speaker Events (Dr. Aytaman, Dr. Weiss)	Food, gifts for speakers		\$175	