



Medical Student Council Meeting  
Tuesday, **December 3rd**, 2024 6:00 PM  
Student Center Main Lounge  
\*\*\*Minutes\*\*\*

**Voting Members in Attendance: *Name (proxy for name)***

Hayley Carabello (proxy for Mo Heiba), Alberto Barrientos, Rahat Elahi (proxy by Alberto Barrientos),  
Kunika Chahal, Dominic Williams, Hend Heikal, Mike Lynch, Kyle Reid, Ijeoma Okoronkwo,  
Mohammed Shah, Samantha Lam, Shadman Kazi, Hannah Brown, Joya Ahmad, Abiha Naqvi, Mandy  
Azmi (proxy by Abiha Naqvi), Chris Montalvo, Anna Lieberman


**Guests in Attendance:**

Adam Burgman, Schuyler Hooke, Dr. Putman

**Minutes recorded by Hannah Brown.  
Rachel Baum presiding over the meeting.**

**Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting called to order at 6:02pm with quorum being present.**

1. Approved absences for this meeting: Rahat Elahi, Amanda Azmi, Mo Heiba
2. New Business
  - a. Class Updates
    - i. 2025
      1. Graduation tickets
        - a. Typically automatically 5, but people can get 2 more as long as the building isn't sold out
          - i. (but people do typically get their 7)
      2. Match day reception – guests?
        - i. This is informal; you can have guests
        - ii. Someone (Schuyler? Med Council?) should do an RSVP asking people how many guests (for food purposes)

- iii. People should get an official couple of hours off in the middle of the day from clerkships
      - 1. Dean Lazar will speak to the emergency medicine rotation leadership and let them know they should get off
  - 3. Can we move transition to residency one week later?
    - a. Awkward week in between the 2 weeks of transition to residency, but the class doesn't want to move it because people have already made plans that week
  - 4. Can transition have one week virtual and one week in person and we could schedule senior week the in person week?
    - a. Dr. Quinn is already planning this
      - i. She's trying to put activities that people should be in person for all in 1 week
      - ii. They can work in senior week into this week, and Dr. Putman can tell Dr. Quinn not to make something that day
        - 1. MS4s will set up a meeting with Schuyler in the next 2 weeks or so to plan Senior Week
      - iii. They could also do a lunch that week
    - b. Transition to residency was created based on recent graduates
      - i. Basic clinical skills
      - ii. Licensure things
      - iii. People are concerned because a lot of residency programs have orientations that already go over these things, and the fact that graduation is so late and the orientations are so close, people have less vacation. So students are wondering if it can be condensed even a few days on each end
        - 1. Dr. Putman will look into this again
      - iv. Possible change: many asynchronous modules that have to be done, and 1 day in person?
        - 1. MC25 will meet with Dr. Quinn to bring this up
- ii. 2026
  - 1. How often can we restock the lounges based on our budget?
    - a. Can we reorder now?
      - i.  Copy of Student Lounges Order 9.24
      - ii. Response: can reorder any time; \$1500 yearly budget but we have a lot of class reserves we can use if we decide; Need to decide on an appropriate schedule for reordering and have someone take the lead on that
      - iii. MS3s have \$1,432 now in our budget
      - iv. Coordinate with Z to order
  - 2. Issues with some attendings refusing to fill out evaluations for students

- a. Students have to badger some attendings for evals, and it's concerning
  - 3. Surgery lectures have no set schedules, and they just completely change on a whim
    - a. Within hours notice they change
    - b. It's disrespectful to us to have this happen
- iii. 2027
  - 1. CBSE- How it will count towards mk grades amidst gateway changes?
    - a. Dr. Putman: They're trying to make Gateway 2 a more competency-based experience
    - b. Dr. Putman has an idea of more clarifying information, but he will check before he tells us something so he has the correct information
    - c. Big issue: tutors need to be actually trained to help students
      - i. This isn't happening at all
    - d. The idea of hiring outside tutors was brought up officially for the first time today
      - i. Maybe there could be an outside tutor that trains the Downstate tutors
    - e. Nick Cromie's replacement is currently being hired, so there will soon be 4 people in academic advising again
  - 2. Concerns about mandatory sessions starting January 2nd, many students have to travel
    - a. Dr. Putman is aware of this issue
    - b. Nothing much can be done
  - 3. It would be nice to have some information about what to expect on the Unit 6 Mid-Unit Exam.
    - a. There's no information session this time
- iv. 2028
  - 1. Some students feel uncomfortable using the food pantry due to its location in a high-traffic area, leading to concerns about privacy and stigma.
    - a. Response: Adam thinks this topic is better for UC or SCGB, but let's discuss during meeting
      - i. If we have a suggestion for a new location let's send our rec to UC (Joya will bring it up at the next UC meeting)
  - 2. They would like to have a schedule of when the mid-unit exams are
    - a. Dr. Putman will reach back out to them to discuss
  - 3. From Comments/Concerns:
    - a. I left my bag in lecture hall 2 for an event today for two hours and then I took the downstate shuttle to Winthrop after the event ended. When I got on the subway, I noticed a BED BUG on my bag. I flicked it off my bag immediately but could not find it on the floor to kill it 😭. I don't have bed bugs at home. I think it got on my bag from the

couch seats in lecture hall 2 or the shuttle since those seats are couches too. Maybe spraying the lecture room and the shuttle van would be a good idea.

i. Dr. Putman will tell facilities

b. I think that the number of absences allowed in a unit should be dependent on the length of the unit. It doesn't make sense to me that we get only two absences for all units when some are multiple weeks longer than others.

i. Dr. Putman: "No one who's asked for a day has been denied a day off, even if it's over 2"

ii. Dr. Putman will bring this up again

b. Adam:

1. please vote at your December meeting for either your advisor (Dr. Jeffrey Putman) and/or for the Director of Student Life (Schuyler Hooke) to be allowed to sign MC Payment form as a back-up for the student organization.
2. Spring Fling will likely be Tuesday April 2nd at the Marriott
  - a. More info to Rachel by the end of next week

c. Trending Topics

i. **Ongoing Issues**

1. Student health requiring drug tests to sign health clearance forms for away institutions despite written confirmation that the institutions do not want a drug test
  - a. Dr. Putman will talk with student health about modifying the forms so students can really indicate if a drug test is needed
  - b. It's also possible to do a drug test without marijuana
    - i. But you have to check if your away site actually does required marijuana
  - c. Since Downstate doesn't require drug tests, they don't pay for it

ii. **New Issues**

1. We will ask all clubs we give money to to send pictures from the event(s)
  - a. So we can post them on the website, in a newsletter, etc
    - i. Show people what the student activities fee goes towards!

d. Budget Requests

i. Ophthalmology Club - TOTAL \$342

1. Intro to Optho - 102
2. Journal Club - 120
3. Optho Session - 120

ii. Oncology Club

1. Deck the peds hall - \$140

iii. Transfer zoom account to SCGB

1. We don't use the Zoom account

**Closed Meeting:**

- i. Motioned by Anna
- ii. Seconded by Kunika

**iii. Meeting is now closed.**

**New Business**

- 1.) Approval of November Minutes
  - a. Motion to approve November minutes made by Abiha
  - b. Seconded by Joya
    - i. Vote:
      1. For - 19
      2. Against - 0
      3. Abstain - 0

**Motion passes to approve November minutes**

- 2) Vote to make Dr. Putman or Schuyler official signatures for MC payment forms
  - a) Motion to approve Dr. Putman and Schuyler as signatures for MC payment forms made by Hayley
  - b) Seconded by Joya

**Motion passes to approve Dr. Putman and Schuyler as signatures for MC payment forms**

- 3) Vote to transfer Zoom account to SCGB
  - a) Motion to transfer Zoom account to SCGB made by Alberto
  - b) Seconded by Kunika
    - i) Vote:
      - (1) For - 19
      - (2) Against - 0
      - (3) Abstain - 0

**Motion passes to transfer the Zoom account (40-70413-012-30001) to Student Center Governing Board**

- 4) Budget Requests:
  - a) Ophthalmology Club - attachment #1
    - i) Options: Fund in full
    - ii) Motion to fund in full made by Rachel, second by Hend
    - iii) Vote:
      - (1) For - 19
      - (2) Against - 0
      - (3) Abstain - 0

**Motion passes to transfer \$342 from Projects and Programs (40-70174-012-30001) to Ophthalmology Club (40-70259-012-30001)**

- b) Oncology Club - attachment #2
  - i) Options: Fund in full
  - ii) Motion to fund in full made by Chris, second by Anna
  - iii) Vote:
    - 1) For – 18
    - 2) Against – 0
    - 3) Abstain –1

**Motion passes to transfer \$140 from Projects and Programs (40-70174-012-30001) to Oncology Club (40-70272-012-30001)**

Motion to end meeting by Hannah

Seconded by Joya

Meeting Closed at 7:22

**Minutes were scribed by Hannah Brown**

**Approved by Amanda Azmi - Medical Council Secretary**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Azmi', written in black ink.

## Attachment #1



## Interim Budget Request Form

Date: 11/29/24

☐ University Council Funding ONLY

Please check one box:

☒ Med Council Funding ONLY☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION NAME: Ophthalmology Club

PRESIDENT: Moshe Weber

VICE PRESIDENT: Carvena Carrington

TELEPHONE: 646-263-1122

TREASURER: Julia Glatman

PROJECT	ITEMIZED EXPENSES	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM UNIV COUNCIL	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM MED COUNCIL	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM OTHER SOURCE (please specify)
Intro to ophtho event	Lenny Pizzq		\$102	
Journal Club	Pizzq		\$120	
Ophthalmoscopic Session	• Pizzq • Soda		\$120	

## Attachment #2

DOWNSTATE  
HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

## Interim Budget Request Form

Date: 11/27/24

☐ University Council Funding ONLY

Please check one box:

☒ Med Council Funding ONLY☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION NAME: Oncology club

PRESIDENT: Will Cao

VICE PRESIDENT: Kunika Chahal

TELEPHONE: (203) 581-2966

TREASURER: Benjamin Rizer

PROJECT	ITEMIZED EXPENSES	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM UNIV COUNCIL	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM MED COUNCIL	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM OTHER SOURCE (please specify)
Deck the Pediatric Halls	- 13 Pcs christmas party decorations (11.99) - Christmas ceiling decorations (15.99) - Snowflake Ceiling decorations (9.99) - Snowflake window decorations (5.96) - Winter wonderland banners (9.98) - LED string lights (7.59) - Christmas Tinsel (12.99) - Tax (6.61) - Snacks (26.98)		\$107.44	

USE THE BACK OF THIS FORM IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED. PLEASE WRITE LEGIBLY AND CLEARLY. ILLEGIBLE REQUESTS WILL BE REJECTED.