



Medical Student Council Meeting
Thursday, **March 6th**, 2025 6:00 PM
Student Center Main Lounge
Minutes

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

Mo Heiba, Joya Ahmed, Alberto Barrientos, Dominic Williams, Hend Heikal (proxy for Abiha Naqvi and Chris Montalvo), Mohammed Shah, Samantha Lam, Shadman Kazi, Michel Liu, Anna Lieberman, Hannah Brown, Hayley Carabello, McKenzie Andrews, Mike Lynch, Kunika Chahal

Guests in Attendance:

Jason Lazar, Frank Arturi, Chelsea Okoli, Adam Burgman

Approved absences: Mandy Azmi, Rahat Elahi, Ijeoma Okoronkwo, Kyle Reid,, Eric Acosta

**Minutes recorded by Shadman Kazi.
Rachel Baum presiding over the meeting.**

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

1.) New Business

a. Class Updates

i. 2025

1. **Ongoing/Repeat Issues:**

a. Nothing to report

2. **New Issues:**

a. Nothing to report

ii. 2026

1. **Ongoing/Repeat Issues:**

a.

2. New Issues:

- a. Lottery results are delayed - How to submit final 4th year schedule by 3/14 w/o results
 - i. Soon potentially by early next week. The deadline to make schedules will be extended by 10 days. Memorandum will be sent out tomorrow regarding information.
- b. From comments/concerns form:
 - i. Issues with clerkship coordinators not responding to emails. Can someone have a talk/meeting with them and encourage them to be more on top of responses
 - 1. Dr. Lazar will share with Dean Jacobson-Dickman and meets with clerkship directors and will ask her to deal with this on an individual basis and not with all clerkship coordinators.
 - ii. Hi, as an incoming MS3 who should we contact regarding possible making up or rescheduling Clerkship period for presenting research? My research was already accepted and forwarded to Dean C (Dec) and respective clerkship director/coordinator (today) to see if she could either schedule the Core Elective Period/switch with another student then or allow me to make up the days for the Anesthesia elective. According to the handbook it should be allowed with enough notice and making up missed days but I am getting no response and I'm being told by the anesthesia department coordinator that is not possible.
 - 1. Was asked to follow up and email Dr. Lazar. Student later said the issue was resolved.

iii. 2027

1. Ongoing/Repeat Issues:

- a. ICD grading policy change
 - i. Passing rate is the same process as other exams.

2. New Issues:

- a. Transition to clerkship may begin on Eid (which will likely be Monday or Tuesday)
 - i. Dean Lazar states it was noted and will be addressed.
- b. Difficulty obtaining meetings with Academic Services office for remediation.
- c. The passing score for ICD should be a 56 as per national averages the total EPC score mean and standard deviation were 67 and 11, respectively. This difference has a role in not only affecting those who had a 56 or higher on the ICD to avoid an ID but also prevents

them from having to use 3.5 hours of their dedicated study time to retake the ICD that could instead be utilized toward Step 1 studying. If a 56 is the national average -1.65 SD, then that should also be the school's passing cut off as well despite our class' averages as the school's concern for those being ready for pre-clinicals and passing Step 1 are more dependent on if they study to pass Step 1 than getting a 60 on the ICD. Passing Step 1 is already incentive enough for students to focus on studying to pass their Step exam versus feeling extra anxiety and stress--which hinders performance and is already at a high during dedicated--to remediate the ICD when a 56 or higher is passing on national averages -1.65 SD.

- i. Will ask Dean Granat to reach out to COM 2027 and redo calculation.

iv. 2028

1. **Ongoing/Repeat Issues:**

- a.

2. **New Issues:**

- a. **Unit 4 mid-unit exam date:** Students are requesting the Unit 4 mid-unit exam date as soon as possible since the Unit 4 schedule has not yet been released. They are making plans for spring break and booking tickets (**Dr. Putman has confirmed with Dr. Bianci that the Unit 4 Mid-Unit Exam is scheduled for the morning of Monday, April 28, 2025. - jp**)
- b. **Inappropriate Behavior and Language Regarding Patient Care**
 - i. Student Affairs/Dr. Putman has been notified and will be reviewed.
- c. **Proposed Change to Grading Policy:** Request to revise the grading policy so that failed courses/units, once successfully remediated on the first attempt, are replaced with a "P" (Pass) on transcripts. This change aligns with the policies of most other medical schools and would prevent students from being disadvantaged in the residency match process.
 - i. MSPE and transcripts are intended to accurately reflect a student's performance is a decade old philosophy. The issue has been brought up repeatedly. Changing this would require a change in Downstate's grading policy. It would require a vote by the Dean's Council Education. It has not successfully passed in previous meetings.

b. Trending Topics

i. **Ongoing Issues**

- 1.

ii. **New Issues**

1. Adam - Budget Reconstruction

- a. Vote "Yes" on mandatory activity fee
 - i. This fee allows Med-Council and all the Student Organization to have events, without the fee there would be no Student Life
 - b. Creation of orientation free
 - c. Restructuring how clubs get funding (starting June 1)
 - i. Med Council will have medical related clubs.
 - ii. SGB has religious, hobby, sport clubs
 - iii. UC would have political/service groups
- c. Budget Requests
 - i. Ethics Society- **\$190.11**
 - 1. Negative Account Balance - \$40.11
 - 2. Event 3/10/25 - \$150
 - ii. Haitian Creole Language Club - **\$650**
 - 1. Requesting \$250 chokola and chat
 - 2. Additional \$400 for multicultural fair
 - 3. Late request submitted**

Closed Meeting:

- i. Motioned by Michel
- ii. Seconded by Joya

Meeting is now closed.

New Business

- 1.) Approval of February Minutes
 - a. Motion to approve February minutes made by Rachel
 - b. Seconded by Shadman Kazi
 - i. Vote:
 - 1. For - 22
 - 2. Against - 0
 - 3. Abstain - 0

Motion passes to approve February minutes

- 2) Budget Requests
 - a) Ethics Society- \$190.11- attachment #1
 - (1) Options - option to fund in full by Joya
 - (2) Motion - motion to fund in full by Mo Heiba, seconded by Hannah
 - (3) Vote
 - (a) For - 22
 - (b) Against - 0

(c) Abstain - 0

Motion passes to transfer \$190.11 from Projects and Programs (40-70174-012-30001) to [Ethics Society at Downstate] (40-70252-012-30001)

- b) Haitian Creole Language Club - \$650 - attachment #2
 - i) Options - option to fund in full by Mo Heiba, option to fund just first item (\$250) and someone should email and notify them by Joya
 - ii) Motion - motion to fund in full by Kunika, motion to fund just first item (\$250) and someone should email and notify them by Mo Heiba, seconded by Kunika
 - iii) Vote
 - (1) For - 22
 - (2) Against - 0
 - (3) Abstain - 0

Motion passes to transfer \$ from Projects and Programs (40-70174-012-30001) to [Haitian Creole Club] (40-70363-012-30001)

Motion to end meeting by Hannah, Seconded by Joya

Meeting Closed at 7:50 PM

Minutes were scribed by Shadman Kazi

Approved by Shadman Kazi- Medical Council Secretary



Interim Budget Request Form

Date: 3/3/25

Attachment #1

Please check one box:

☐ University Council Funding ONLY ☒ Med Council Funding ONLY ☐ Other: _____

ORGANIZATION NAME: Ethics Society

PRESIDENT: Frank Aftw VICE PRESIDENT: Ariel McKowf

TELEPHONE: 914 733 2439 TREASURER: Mina Boutros

PROJECT	ITEMIZED EXPENSES	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM UNIV COUNCIL	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM MED COUNCIL	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM OTHER SOURCE (please specify)
Fix Negative Account balance			\$40.11	
Lecture event 3/10/2025	Pizza		\$150	

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



Attachment #2
Budget Request Form – June 1st 2024 to May 31st 2025

Please check all that apply: ☒ Med-Council Funding and/or ☐ University Council Funding
ORGANIZATION NAME: Haitian Creole Language Club PRESIDENT: Emmanuella Laguerre TREASURER: Emmanuel Cadet

PAST AND SCHEDULED EVENTS: (Detail programs and expenses from this year 2023-2024)			PROJECTED EVENTS AND COSTS FOR THE 2024-2025 YEAR	ANTICIPATED EXPENSES
ATTENDANCE	EXPENSES			
			Chokola and Chat	\$250
			Multicultural Fair	\$400
Total:				Total: \$650

PLEASE TYPE ALL INFORMATION