



Medical Student Council Meeting
Thursday, April **10th**, 2025 6:00 PM
Student Center Main Lounge
Minutes

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

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

Guests in Attendance:

Dr. Lazar, Jenifer Zhumi

Approved absences:

Eric Acosta, Dominic Williams, Joya Ahmed, McKenzie Andrew, Rahat Elahi

Minutes recorded by Shadman Kazi.

Rachel Baum presiding over the meeting.

Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting called to order at 6:11 PM with quorum being present.

1.) New Business

a. Class Updates

i. 2025

1. Ongoing/Repeat Issues:

a.

2. New Issues:

- a.** Lack of credit after three months of away for specific specialties. Possibility of more away counted for more credits.
 - i.** Dr. Lazar recommends to get extra away potentially through research electives, specifically clinical research, as they do not count as part of the three. It has been difficult to change this now as the next Deans Council meeting is not till the end of May. Dr. Lazar will bring this

up with the Education Leadership Committee.

ii. 2026

1. **Ongoing/Repeat Issues:**

a.

2. **New Issues:**

- a. With new leadership for the MS4 radiology requirement (is this accurate?), will the requirement continue to be asynchronous remote?
 - i. According to Dr. Lazar there will be new leadership and it is being worked on currently with the Chair of Radiology at Maimonides. Potentially two months away. They met Thursday and they are assessing his responsibilities with Maimonides. It is expected, not definite, to be remote.
- b. Anesthesia home sub-I not guaranteed before eras is due. No home sub-I offered in July (so 15 spots approx 25 students)
 - i. Dr. Lazar had no idea it was that number or Maimonides was not taking. Dr. Lazar said he would get back to us on that and to send him an email and give him a week.
- c. OB, Maimonides is not responding to requests for aways by
 - i. Dr. Lazar will follow up on this. Dr. Lazar said to send him an email today or tomorrow.
- d. For people who delayed rotations, do they get two extra points for their shelf exam?
 - i. Dr. Lazar will confirm this.
- e. Are there international aways done without Downstate permission? How does that work?
 - i. Dr. Putman states if it is done it is not for credit.

iii. 2027

1. **Ongoing/Repeat Issues:**

- a. Are there any updates on the success of CBSE? Does the data suggest that students were more prepared for step 1?
 - i. Dr. Lazar said as of Wednesday, 155 students took Step 1 and says the results compared to last year are remarkably better with no specific number able to be given. The pass rate now is respectable and cannot give an exact figure because 45 students have not taken it yet.

2. **New Issues:**

- a. Newly rotating students not having Healthbridge access at all. Coordinators and IT saying "we were supposed to get healthbridge training" that was never sent.
 - i. Dr. Lazar said there has potentially been a lot of talk regarding securing another EMR.
 - ii. Dr. Putman states "We are working expeditiously on this. They're streamlining the process to get this resolved as quickly as possible. This is an IT issue and the person who worked on this retired. We believe we have the resolution."

iv. 2028

1. **Ongoing/Repeat Issues:**

a.

2. **New Issues:**

- a. Anatomy Exam Fairness & Grade Flexibility
 - i. Students felt the Unit 3 anatomy practical and RRE were overly harsh and tested obscure content not emphasized in class. The lack of partial credit and all-or-nothing questions were especially frustrating
 - ii. There is a request to review exam structure and grading policies, and to consider implementing a small curve or an optional assignment for borderline students to improve their grades
 - 1. Will be forwarded to SLC.
 - b. Reconsider the ID grade in medical professionalism in light of school policy and student's documented medical needs. Also propose that the school provide clearer communication protocols when excused absences may still lead to academic consequences
 - i. Will follow up with Dean Putman regarding specific details of the issue.
- b. Trending Topics
 - i. **Ongoing Issues**
 - 1. From Adam Burgman
 - a. Our IT department is reviewing the Engage Program
 - b. We hope to have it up and running by early July so Student Councils/Organizations can create their pages
 - c. Requesting \$1000 towards the initial set-up fee (\$3k total split between UC/MC/SCGB).
 - d. The yearly upkeep cost will be coming out of SCGB going forward
 - 2. MC/UC/SCGB Annual Budget Meeting is on April 23rd
 - a. We split up the clubs so starting June 1st all organizations will only have 1 account for funding and not split between the councils
 - b. After this budget meeting, there will be no need for joint budget meetings in the future - OSL (Adam) will still assist the Councils at their request with their budget meetings
 - ii. **New Issues**
 - 1.
- c. Budget Requests
 - i. Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) - **\$150**
 - 1. NYC Health Fair in Washington Heights
 - a. Glucose, A1C, Triglycerides Check - **\$150**
 - i. Total cost is \$300 with \$150 coming from University Council
 - ii. Jessica Yavner - **\$605.91**
 - 1. Oral Presentation at Association of VA Surgeons Conference
 - a. 1 night + hotel fee - **\$307.77**
 - i. \$259/night
 - b. Flights - **\$298.14**
- d. President election candidates:

- i. Kunika Chahal
 - ii. Michel Liu
- e. Vice President election candidates:
 - i. Chris Montalvo
 - ii. Alberto Barrientos

Closed Meeting:

- i. Motioned by Rachel
- ii. Seconded by Shadman

iii. Meeting is now closed.

New Business

- 1.) Approval of March Minutes
 - a. Motion to approve March minutes made by Mandy Azmi
 - b. Seconded by Ijeoma
 - i. Vote:
 - 1. For - 20
 - 2. Against - 0
 - 3. Abstain - 0

Motion passes to approve March minutes.

- 2) Budget Requests
 - a) Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) - attachment #1
 - i) Options - Option to fund in full by Rachel, seconded by Alberto
 - ii) Motion - Motion to fund in full by Micel, seconded by Shadman
 - iii) Vote
 - (1) For - 20
 - (2) Against - 0
 - (3) Abstain - 0

Motion passes to transfer \$150 from Projects and Programs (40-70174-012-30001) to [Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA)] (40-70266-012-30001)

- b) Jessica Yavner Conference Budget Request - attachment #2
 - i) Options - Option to fund in full by Shadman, seconded by Chris
 - ii) Motion - Motion to fund in full by Ijeoma, seconde by Kunika
 - iii) Vote
 - (1) For - 20
 - (2) Against - 0
 - (3) Abstain - 0

Motion passes to approve a reimbursement payment \$605.91 from Conference Funding (40-70416-012-30001) to Jessica Yavner for the trip to the conference in Atlanta.

- c) ENGAGE Program - Adam
 - i) Options -Option to fund in full by Shadman, seconded by Mandy

- ii) Motion - motion to fund in full by Ijeoma, seconded by Mandy
- iii) Vote
 - (1) For - 20
 - (2) Against - 0
 - (3) Abstain -0

Motion passes to transfer \$1000 from Projects and Programs (40-70174-012-30001) to Club Programs and Projects (40-70174-012-30001)

- 3) Greater Med Council elections
 - a) Chris elected as VP
 - b) Kunika elected as president

Motion to end meeting by Ijeoma

Seconded by Shadman Kazi

Meeting Closed at 7:15 PM

Minutes were scribed by Shadman Kazi

Approved by Shadman Kazi - Medical Council Secretary



Attachment #1

Please check one box:

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

ORGANIZATION NAME: Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA)

PRESIDENT: Annalina Sanfelici **VICE PRESIDENT:** Samanta Torres Bartoneli

TELEPHONE: 3474191713 **TREASURER:** Bryan D. Viveros

PROJECT	ITEMIZED EXPENSES	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM UNIV COUNCIL	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM MED COUNCIL	AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM OTHER SOURCE (please specify)
NYC Health Fair in Washington Heights (05/10/2025 10AM-4PM) Collaborating with Columbia, Weill Cornell, NYMC and Touro.	Glucose, A1C, Triglycerides Check - Proposed QTY: 100, Expected cost per patient: \$30, Each school is contributing to cost so we hope to cover 10 patients, total cost; \$300	\$150	\$150	
Expected # of patients: 300-400 Expected # of student volunteers: 30				

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

**INDEPENDENT STUDENT INTERIM
BUDGET REQUEST FORM**

This form is to be used by students who would like funding for an event or project but have no club affiliations. **Before considering acting independently of a club, please make every effort to work in conjunction with an already existing organization/club that shares similar interests.** Funding for any projects/events will be provided at the discretion of Med Council and shall be based on the following criteria:

- Available Med Council Funds
- Merits of the student(s) which may include but are not limited to:
 - Frequency and quality of the work and activities performed
 - Size and diversity of the event's attendees
 - Past budget requests and money usage

Any event/project must have a lead coordinator who will ultimately be responsible in making sure that all forms are properly filled out, all receipts are attached and whom Med Council can correspond with. Med Council reserves the right to not reimburse any amount of money that was not used for its intended purpose as detailed in this form and approved at a Med Council meeting.

Student(s) are reminded to keep all receipts pertaining to the event/project for proper and full reimbursement. Please consult with Kristen Diorio and/or the Med Council treasurer at mbctreasurer@gmail.com to ensure all required forms are appropriately filled out as well as with any other questions.

Event/Project Title: **Oral Presentation At Association of VA Surgeons Conference - "Impact of Medical-Student Surgical Simulation Led Curriculum on Student Confidence in the operating room in a limited resource setting"**

Date(s) of event/project: **April 5 to April 8 2025**

Brief description of event/project: **I collaborated with Dr. Kougias, Dr. Eisner, Dr. Kirwin and Dr. Sharath on this project. The presentation will discuss our novel surgical skills curriculum that was recently implemented as a mandatory component of the SUNY Downstate Clerkship curriculum.**

Lead coordinator/planner: **Jessica Yavner** email: **jessica.yavner@downstate.edu**

List other student(s) working on the event/project: **NA**

How many people do you expect to attend? **hundreds** **NA**

The event/project was advertised/pertains to the: (select all that apply) **NA**

☐ College of Medicine ☐ Graduate School ☐ CHRP ☐ Entire Downstate Community

How was the event/project advertised? **NA**

☐ Email ☐ Class Announcement(s) Other:

Has this event/project ever been done before? ☐ Yes ☐ No **NA** If yes, when (e.g. annually)?

Are there any clubs/organizations co-sponsoring this event/project? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If answered YES to the previous question, please list the clubs/organizations and how they plan to contribute (if they are contributing money, indicate how much):

Itemized Budget:

<u>Items (e.g. food, supplies, etc.)</u>	Cost per item	Total Cost (for each line)
1 night hotel + fee	\$259/night +\$48.77 fee	\$307.77
flights		\$298.14

Total: **\$605.91***minus other funding:*Asking amount: **\$605.91****Funding Request:**

Amount from Med Council:

University Council:

Amount from other resources (i.e. grants, department donations, etc.):

Please include any additional information that you believe Med Council should be aware of.

Dear Alumni Association,

I am writing to request financial support for my upcoming conference as my abstract "Impact of Medical Student-Led Surgical Simulation Curriculum on Student Confidence in the Operating Room in a Limited Resource Setting" was accepted for oral presentation at the Association of VA Surgeons Annual Meeting from April 5-8, 2025. I collaborated with Dr. Kougas, Dr. Eisner, Dr. Kirwin and Dr. Sharath on this project. The presentation will discuss our novel surgical skills curriculum that was recently implemented as a mandatory component of the SUNY Downstate Clerkship curriculum. I am looking forward to presenting and sharing our pertinent research findings with our colleagues in the field.

I plan to pursue a career in Surgery, with a focus on surgical education. Engaging in the Association of VA Surgeons annual meeting represents an unparalleled opportunity for me to both foster invaluable connections within the Surgery realm and significantly augment my grasp of the field's nuances. This platform extends access to a community comprising esteemed surgeons, pioneering researchers, budding medical students, and distinguished professionals and promises avenues for collaborative ventures, insightful mentorship, and firsthand exposure to the forefront of research developments. The curated presentations and discussions, coupled with the tangible hands-on experiences, will substantially expand my comprehension of surgical procedures, therapeutic approaches, and burgeoning industry trends. Furthermore, I am eager and excited to connect with female medical students, residents, and surgeons in the field of Surgery. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jessica Yavner Downstate COM 2026