

SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University School of Public Health

Student Council Meeting Agenda

Monday, January 20th, 2020

6:00 PM--7:00 PM

Blackboard Collaborate

*Members in Attendance:*

Alyson Clarke  
Alexander Barna  
Mamta Karani  
Prachee Keni  
Alecia James

*Non-voting Members in Attendance:*

Dr. Megan Hall

*Members not in Attendance:*

Suwaskie Smith  
Serekie Smith

I. Call to Order

A. Meeting was called to order by A. Clarke at 6:13pm

II. Old Business

A. Review of last meeting minutes

1. After a brief discussion, the following motion was made by A. Clarke and seconded by A. Barna.

a) Motion: to approve minutes from the last meeting. **Motion passes unanimously.**

B. Meeting with Dean Recap

1. Dean wants a student voted teacher award. The SPH Council will spearhead this. Planning on having a list of all professors and having students vote for their top or top 3.
  - a) Dean's office think the first time can be general but will plan to have a more concentrated selection process for next year.
  - b) M. Karani suggested having criteria for the selection process. 3-5 bullet points of what makes a good faculty member. Volunteered to spearhead this
  - c) Dr. Hall recommended looking to other schools of public health to see what they do. Ask the Dean if he has an example or experience with this process.

2. Multipurpose space

- a) After logistics discussions with the Dean's office, it was determined that the set up for use of a multipurpose space as a prayer room would require much more research and planning to assess need and set up requirements. Suggestion made to survey student's need for a prayer space. A. Barna suggested collaborating with outcomes committee to see if this was an inquiry to add to an existing survey.
- b) A. Clarke also made suggestion that the issues of an appropriate prayer space should be taken on and overseen by higher level administration. A. Clarke to see at next UC meeting if this is a campus wide issue. Plan to send a resolution to the appropriate level of administration once need is properly assessed. Decided to let go of multipurpose space.

C. New Student Orientation—01/13/20

- 1. Quick recap. A. Clarke and A. Barna were in attendance. There were about 40 new incoming students for the spring semester. Got to promote student council and A. Clarke talked to new students and gave them advice. Overall it was a great event.

III. New Business

A. Events

1. Career Fair Update

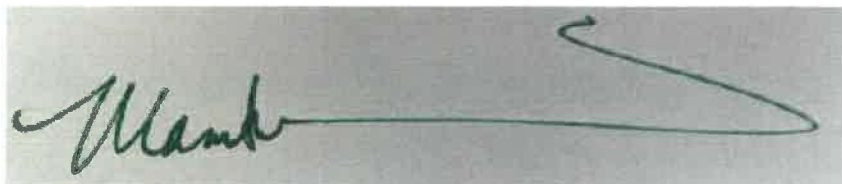
- a) Original Virtual career fair collaboration fell through due to restrictions on positions able to be advertised. Suggestion made that next year's career fair be the result of a student and faculty committee effort. To be discussed at the next Dean meeting.
- b) Plan to do a series of professional development events in lieu of career fair.
  - (1) "Is a doctorate right for you" DrPh and PhD faculty panel
    - (a) A. Clarke, A. Barna, and M. Karani to reach out to contacts
  - (2) Job search workshop
  - (3) Professional branding/how to market yourself with public health
  - (4) DOHMH Workshop
    - (a) H RTP 30 min
    - (b) HR 30 min
    - (c) A. Clarke to coordinate with Kirklyn and Dr. Joseph to set up
  - (5) Mock Interview session 2
    - (a) Create more open scheduling
  - (6) Networking workshop
    - (a) Elevator speeches
    - (b) How to network
  - (7) Alumni panel

- (a) A. Clarke to leverage Dean's office connections
  - (8) Departmental expo
  - (9) Resume/cover letter review—office hours
    - (a) Kirklyn offered to hold
  - (10) Meet with professors (lounge)
    - (a) Dr. Hall to check with Dr. Helzner whether possible
- c) FE/CE workshop
  - (a) M. Karani suggested development of a workshop. A. Barna shared that administration were already developing one but that release date is still pending. Suggestion made for there to be a compilation of FE experiences from past students so that current students can get an idea of where experiences are with potential projects. Dr. Hall to head this up with Dr. Benker's and Marlene's approval to maintain a document with FE experiences.
  - d) Plan to do 3-4 of suggested events
- 2. Spring Mixer
  - a) Discussed holding a spring mixer this semester. Suggested ideas included Woodland, shuffleboard (depending on price and our budget). A. Clarke asked if anyone else knows of activities in Brooklyn, to please email them so costs could be considered.
- 3. NPHW
  - a) April 30<sup>th</sup>
  - b) NPH Day...two film screenings, also trying to do other events throughout the day in different areas. Ideas are still in motion.
  - c) Suggestion for Student Council sponsored event – wellness lounge to have comfortable seating, incense, low light, nice music for students to go for a couple minutes to relax. We will try to move forward with the lounge. Need ideas for low cost options.
- B. Global Health Update
  - 1. M. Karani reached out to Dr. Bruno and will keep us updated as this progresses.
- C. Community Service
  - 1. Our last event was successful and have been delivered to the organization. A lot of books were not up to quality requested and those books will be going to the Salvation Army.
  - 2. For this semester we are looking at volunteering with City Harvest. Would have to be a group project that at least a group of 20 could participate in.
  - 3. Dean wanting committee, M. Karani to write one pager to send to us in the next week. Hoping to talk more with the Dean about this project.
- D. Additional Items
  - 1. Spring Fling

- a) March 30<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are sold for \$65 at Student Center. Event held at the Brooklyn Museum.

IV. Meeting Adjournment

- A. Meeting adjourned by A. Clarke at 7:12pm.

A handwritten signature in dark ink on a light gray background. The signature appears to be 'Mamta' followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line that ends in a small upward hook.

**Official meeting minutes respectfully submitted by  
Mamta Karani, SPH Student Council Secretary (2019-2020)**