

## SUNY Downstate School of Public Health

### Meeting Notes

**Meeting Date:** 8.27.2021

**Subject:** SPH Student Council Meeting

**Time & Location:** 2:30pm via Zoom

**Attendance:**

- Voting members (officers): Dong (Ken) Zhen, Faven Araya, Ikhtiyor Djuraev, Janille Williams

**Meeting Notes:**

- Meeting called to order by Janille Williams at 2:30 PM

**Area of Focus 1: Social Connectedness**

★ **Welcome (virtual meet and greet) for new students**

- A few older students attend, share their experience

★ **Student/Faculty Mixer Tentative date: Sept 30**

• **In-person:**

- **Location:** Grove (area with chairs on New York Ave, bet. Lenox and Clarkson Ave) or Student Center Patio
- **Activities:**
  - Pandemic board games
  - Vision boards
  - Other board games
  - Food catered by Ernie (Grab & Go)
  - Music
  - Prizes for game winners
- Outreach and recruitment (significant effort will be required)
- Students will have to RSVP
- Flyers

★ **Increase social media presence**

- Start Facebook Group
- Share existing WhatsApp group chats for courses as well as start new ones

★ **DrPH: Continue Coffee Break sessions**

- Students meet with faculty to discuss things like APEx (Applied Practice Experience), QE (Qualifying Examination) etc.

- ★ **MPH & Adv. Cert.: Start Teatime session**
  - Students meet with faculty to discuss things like APEX, CE, transitioning from Adv. Cert. To MPH
- ★ **Have activities like that of Student Center but target public health students/staff/faculty**
- ★ **Suggestion Box/email**
  - Students and faculty can anonymously email their questions, compliments, or concerns on a variety of topics including the new hyflex, hybrid models
  - Instagram live: Rapid fire of questions asked for the week where SPH faculty & staff respond
- ★ **Townhall meeting with Dean Demissie**
  - **Reach out to the Dean Demissie and Dr. Wilson (dr. Hall will send an e-mail within the next few days)**
- ★ **Table at Activity Fair: Thurs Sept. 9 (4-5:30pm)--Follow up with Adam**
- ★ **Welcome Back email**
- ★ **Public Health Week planning (Start early)**

### Area of Focus 2: Mental Health and Wellness

- ★ **Mental Health Day- Need to be discussed with SPH administration**
  - Friday (midway through semester)
  - No classes
  - No TA sessions
  - No assignments due
  - No emails
- ★ **Safe spaces for mental health check-in**
  - Student Counseling (promoting what's already available; Dr. Hall will work on this)

### Area of Focus 3: Alumni engagement

- ★ Get alumni to:
  - Lead workshops
  - Share their journey
  - Share advice
  - Alumni panel: Transition to workforce; best practices etc.

### Establishing connection with other schools of Public Health

e.g., Columbia (dissertation student presented their proposal last spring)

### Global Public Health-

- Collaborating with **Partners in Health**
- Global Public Health (seminars, competitions, internships etc.)

Meeting Adjourned

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Secretary of the School of Public Health Student Council