

**SUNY Downstate School of Public Health**  
**Meeting Notes**

**Meeting Date:** 2.25.2021

**Subject:** SPH Student Council General Body Meeting

**Time & Location:** 4:30pm (hybrid) in-person and via Zoom

**Attendance (voting members):** Dong (Ken) Zhen, Faven Araya, Ikhtiyor (DJ) Djuraev, Janille Williams, Dr. Megan Hall

**General members:** Mazin Khahil, Kristelle Pierre, Jeff Ukekew, Christina Kim, Kurt Joseph, Linda Werling, Nicole Romeo, Sai Akhila Reddy Bhumanapalli, Hector Gonzalez, Ayanna Besson, Suzanne Hope

**I. Fall 2021 Review**

A. Town Hall w/ Dean Demisse

1. Concerns expressed and addressed

- a) Hyflex Option: Students were provided with more clarity on the various options. The class schedules distributed included a summary of the various options as well as the class syllabus.
- b) Schedule of classes: Students complained that they were unable to take multiple classes or keep up with classes held on the same day at the same time. This semester changes were made to accommodate by starting some classes at 3:30 pm.
- c) Social connectedness: Hyflex Social Mixer (Both faculty and students attended. Dinner to go was served, games were played and team building activity).

**II. Spring 2022 into Action**

A. Upcoming Workshop series

- 1. Resume/Cover letter + LinkedIn
- 2. National Public Health Week
  - a) Exercise/activity
  - b) Research exhibition
- 3. Meeting with the Dean
  - a) Issues to address
    - (1) Advisory/student interaction
    - (2) Off-campus paint night
    - (3) Microaggressions/cultural competency

- B. MPH Tea Time
  - 1. Lead by Ken + DJ to create a collective space for Master-level SPH students to enhance networking opportunities

**III. Alumni Spotlight: Samiha Hussain**

- A. Began MPH program in 2019 (pre-pandemic); was able to witness the transition
- B. Q&A
- C. Upcoming MPH Spotlight 3/25: [Kristelle Pierre](#)

**IV. Other Business**

- A. Changes in available electives/lack of options; not sure what electives will be available
- B. Ability to accept transferable credits from another Master's level program
- C. Access to Downstate resources/information with alumni (e.g. access to email)
  - 1. Suggestions:
    - a) Conduct exit interviews for graduating students
    - b) Career advisement
- D. Coffee breaks coming back soon!

Meeting Adjourned

X   
\_\_\_\_\_

Secretary of the School of Public Health Student Council