

University Council Meeting 2022 – Meeting Minutes

Agenda 11/20/2022

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Student Center Reading Room

**Members:**

Member	School	In Attendance (Y/N)	Proxy (if Absent)
Tim Morello	COM 2024	Y	
Freddie Birnbaum	COM 2024	N	
Tobi Somorin	COM 2025	Y	Freddie Birnbaum
Isaac Vingan	SGS	Y	
Zach Olmsted	COM 2023	N	Tim Morello
Sai Bhumanapalli	SPH	Y	
Peter Arden	COM 2025		Sai Bhumanapalli
Joya Ahmad	College Council	N	Isaac Vingan
Victoria Cagle	SOHP	Y	
Amayra Choudhury	Nursing		
Paul Fried	COM 2024	N	Kurt Moskovitz
Thomas Sanford	COM 2026	Y	
Kurt Moskovitz	COM 2024	Y	

**Non-Voting member in attendance**

Adam Burgman

Schuyler Hooke

Jeffrey Putman

**1. Call to Order**

- a. I. Vingan called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm

**2. SUNY SA applicants**

- a. Joshua Barnes
- b. Gabriel Vizgan

Voting was done via a secret ballot. Joshua won.

### 3. Budget Requests

- a. Karaoke night
  - i. Downstate music club, had a karaoke night last week with a turnout of 60 people
  - ii. Retroactive budget requisition of \$125  
Motion to transfer \$125 from programs and projects (40-70173-016-30001) to downstate music club (40-70080-016-30001), motioned by Isaac, seconded by Tim, unanimous yes.

### 4. Old business

- a. Event Recaps
  - i. Thanksgiving dinner—was a huge success, and got donations for the food pantry(\$84 from 64 people).
  - ii. Schuyler to announce a winner from the people who donated via lottery and gift them a goodie bag.
- b. Spring Fling March 27th, 2023
  - i. announced at thanksgiving dinner
  - ii. Prices to be announced before Christmas break, tickets to go live after that.
- c. SOHP students have requested that bathroom stalls have single use seat covers
  - i. Any update?  
No update yet, their meeting was canceled.
- d. Developing a resource outlining which faculty/staff/organizations to ask different questions to
  - i. Who would like to spearhead this?  
Putman said there is a prototype already in progress, more questions can be added

### 5. New Business

- a. Facility thermostat poorly regulated - Putnam said they are working to regulate the system. Thomas proposed the idea of an environmental sensor. Putman said they are hoping to purchase large fans.
- b. Multicultural Fair 2023
  - i. Same time as last year (spring, Ramadan)
    - 1. People bring up ideas
    - 2. E-board will discuss in a few weeks
- c. Graduate and MD/PhD students have been talking about asking the campus for an increased stipend - Putman said he isn't sure of the origin of

stipends, said this is more of an employee issue. Union is probably the way to go about this.

- i. SUNY Downstate higher stipend than majority of SUNY campuses by ~1-2K
- d. Parking Lots closed on Veterans Day—mandatory classes meeting that day- Parking lots were closed because most of the faculty was out, and most of the staff too. Students had difficulty making it to required activities due to this. Nobody knew that there were classes that day.
- e. Med school had classes on Veterans Day, Question was raised as to why are there classes on veterans day?
  - i. Isaac to reach out to Ally and approach Dean Brunicardi

## 6. Council Wide Initiatives

- a. New logo
  - i. No update  
Isaac to reach out to Sean Till
- b. Water Bottle Refill Stations
  - i. Cancellation of water jug contract for 20 new water bottle filling stations - likely happening due to budget issues
    - 1. Campus wants to increase water bottle filling stations 2 per global floor including PHAB, Hospital, student health
- c. Food Pantry
  - i. Donation set up through Alicia G.?  
She said she will be helping out the food pantry, she is a government relations person, also working on citi bikes.  
- Schuyler to create work-study jobs (up to 5) to work for the food
- d. Bringing back a coffee station—Putman to follow up
  - i. Isaac has not heard back from Richard Bentley  
Putnam said Richard has been working and there is progress, he is currently out of office.
- e. Addressing the issues of student Health
  - i. Any update on student helpers?  
We can have students as helpers, it is in progress. They are in the process of creating job descriptions.
- f. Bikes
  - i. First main focus on Citi Bike
  - ii. Alicia G for follow up
- g. Ongoing council goal of expanding awareness and community outreach
  - i. FAQ list on UC website

pantry

1. All budget questions etc, in student club powerpoint
2. Instagram for University Council - Tobi and Sai to lead the social media handle.
3. Absence policy

**7. Suggestions**

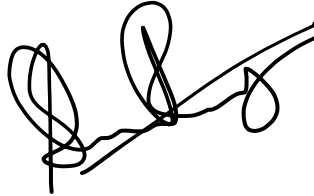
- a. Too hot in the classrooms

**8. Program Updates**

- a. SGS: MD/Phd Stipend issues, had campus town hall with the dean
- b. SPH: Anxiety management workshop coming up
- c. SOHP: had an orientation for incoming spring semester
- d. CN: A club for ethics and nursing is in talks
- e. COM: Students are just busy with exams
- f. SUNY SA: Conference is over zoom now
- g. College Council: were there any meetings? Had no meetings.  
Putman said they reached out to him to organize a meeting.

**9. Adjournment- Motion to adjourn at 7:25pm.**

Secretary of University Council:



Sai Akhila Reddy Bhumanapalli