

University Council Meeting 2023 – Meeting Minutes

Agenda 8/31/2023

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	Y	
Tobi Somorin	COM 2025	Y	
Isaac Vingan	SGS	Y	
Amayra Choudhury	Nursing	Y	
Paul Fried	COM 2024	Y	
Thomas Sanford	COM 2026	Y	
Kelsha Sanchez	COM 2026	Y	
Shivasuryan Vummidi	COM 2026	Y	
Lindsay Blank	COM 2026	Y	
Sonja Joshi	SOHP	N	Proxy: Tim Morello
Janille Williams	SPH	N	Proxy: Isaac Vingan
Kanika Chahal	COM 2026/College Council	Y	

Non-Voting member in attendance

Adam, Jerffrey, Schuyler, Swati Madankumar, Mana Botero,

1. Call to Order

- a. Isaac called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

2. Title IX Training

- a. Completed at 6:25pm

3. Welcome Back Members

- a. Introductions

- i. All board members echoed a desire to have more student input and student voice regarding campus wide issues; honored to be able to be the voice for

students; advocating for issues that are school wide; to build the college culture by planning events like the block party;

- ii. Dr. Putman's goal- continued support of UC initiatives
- iii. Schuyler's goal- continued student advocacy
- iv. Adam's goal- Encouraging continued growth and development of University Council

- b. Get access to the google drive
 - i. Access links sent to all board members via email
- c. Get access to slack
 - i. Access links sent to all board members via email

4. Budget Request

- a. Transfer approved \$1000.00 to SCGB [40-70409-015-30001] for block party [UC-Block Party: 40-70409-016-30001]
- b. Approve additional transfer of \$2000.00 to SCGB [40-70409-015-30001] for block party [UC-Programs and Projects: 40-70173-016-30001]
 - i. Last year had a \$6000 budget in anticipation of 200 attendees. We had over 300 attendees. In anticipation of this, there is a desire to increase the budget to \$11000.
 - 1. Additional food this year (increase in \$2000) such as bubble tea etc. there will also be a kosher menu. Plans for additional new activities and prizes to create a 'full on carnival.'
 - 2. Vote to pass this motion initiated by Isaac, seconded by Shiva, passed unanimously.

5. Old business

- a. Student Health Insurance Renewal
 - i. Update: Currently on the United HealthCare Student Resources one-year extension.
 - 1. Process of bidding will start around November. Current options are United HealthCare Student Resources and Aetna. Final decisions will come after the bidding process. Various things are taken into consideration including the extent of coverage and which doctors take the respective insurances. Various things are driving up the insurance cost per user such as pregnancy, cancer treatments and psychiatric services that are used by students. The number of students on the insurance plan has also decreased over the years since students stay on their parents' plans, spouse's plan or go on Medicaid- leading to further increase in insurance cost.
- b. Purchasing a social media device for the student center
 - i. Didn't happen this summer and will fall back under SCGB

6. New Business

- a. Block party
 - i. Wednesday Sept 6th
 1. University Council is in charge of half of the food serving
 2. Set Up is from 3-4pm
 3. Food Serving from 4:45 5-6pm
 - a. Freddie - M
 - b. Lindsay - M
 - c. Shiva - M
 - d. Tim- M?
 4. Food Serving from 6-7pm
 - a. Tobi- L
 5. Kunika, Isaac (L) and Kelsha (S) will be there throughout the event
 - ii. Activities Fair
 - i. Tuesday Sept 12th at 4:30pm (set up) 5pm (start time) 1.5 hr event
 - ii. Volunteering
 1. Kelsha
 2. Freddi
 3. Isaac
 4. Tobi (maybe)
 5. Lindsay (will be around)
 - iii. Give away
 1. Follow us on Instagram to get a giveaway
 - a. Give away item- Fanny Pack
- b. Council Leadership Mixer
 - i. Sept 18th (tentative - waiting for nursing council elections)
 - ii. More info to come, possibly subject to change
- c. New student center advisory council
 - i. 4 students, including Isaac Vingan were selected to sit on the new University Center Committee
 1. need input on uses and facilities you and your classmates would like to see in a new student center
 - a. What do you expect to be in this new building?
 - b. Consider what would students want to use this building for
 - c. Email suggestions to Isaac
- d. Vacant SUNY SA position
 - i. Who will be sending to the SA Assembly?
 1. Tobi will be on back up
 2. Thomas will attend the meeting in the late fall
 - ii. Restructuring SUNY SA positions?

1. Elections
 - a. Consideration of having one election where both members are elected at the same time
2. Number of positions
 - a. Suggestion by Tim to have two reps and they both go to both the meetings. Seconded by Tobi
 - b. The person with the most votes will serve as the voting member
3. Number of students we send to the SA - both students
4. University Council will do a call for nominations before the September meeting
- f. Brooklyn Museum - Africa Fashion
 - i. Adam is asking whether UC would be interested in subsidizing the Tickets
 1. Unanimous support for this initiative- details to follow

7. Council Wide Initiatives

- a. Top of the year:
 - i. Which of these do we want to continue?
 - ii. Do we want to take on any more right now?
 - b. Food Pantry
 - i. At least \$700 donation from SUNY- pledged
 - c. Coffee station
 - i. Eboard should follow up with Mr. Bentley
 - d. Student Health
 - i. Clearance Issues – no electronic notice was given
 - ii. staffing issues?
 - iii. Follow-up student health long intake waiting period
 - e. Expanding awareness
 - i. IG – Reposting stories about food and activities in the IMMEDIATE area
 - ii. Advertising meetings, the suggestion box etc.
 - iii. Appointing a social media chair-person- Lindsay has consented to spearheading this role
 1. If you have ideas please bring them up in slack or email them to Lindsay
 - f. Parking
8. Suggestion box

9. Program Updates

- a. **Reps, you should be attending the council meetings for your program**
- b. SGS: Orientation for new students was yesterday. MD/PhD program director has retired. Today ends the call for a new program director. There is still no update on

the new Dean for the graduate school since the last Dean step down one year ago. Council elections will be switching to May moving forward.

- c. SPH: Planning a breakfast/ lunch welcome mixer for their class. There is a new program- Master of health admin that is starting
- d. SOHP: First meeting on next Tuesday
- e. CON: There was a ceremony in July where the budget was over spent and the CON council is currently dealing with this bill. White coat coming up in November
- f. COM: Class of 2024 is dealing with meeting the requirements for pathways. Class of 2025 is having issues accessing EMRs at rotation sites. The temperature is uncomfortably cold in the carrels and lecture halls. Class of 2026 Dr appts no longer count towards absences? Dr. Putman will clarify this.
- g. SUNY SA: No Update
- h. College Council: No Update

10. Adjournment—Motion to adjourn by Isaac, seconded by Lindsay

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10pm

Secretary of the University Council:



Kelsha Sanchez