

University Council Meeting 2024 – Meeting Minutes

Agenda 1/18/2024

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Student Center Reading Room

Members:

Member	School	In Attendance (Y/N)	Proxy (if Absent)
Tim Morello	COM 2024/College Council	Y	
Freddie Birnbaum	COM 2024	N	Lindsay Blank
Tobi Somorin	COM 2025	N	
Isaac Vingan	SGS	N	Tobi Somorin
Jake Britton	Nursing	Y	
Paul Fried	COM 2024	N	Kunika Chahal
Thomas Sanford	COM 2026 / SUNY SA	Y	
Kelsha Sanchez	COM 2026	N	Shivasuryan Vummidi
Shivasuryan Vummidi	COM 2026	Y	
Lindsay Blank	COM 2026	Y	
Sonja Joshi	SOHP	Y	
Janille Williams	SPH	N	Timothy Morello
Daniel Green	COM 27 / SUNY SA Rep	Y	
Kunika Chahal	COM 2026/College Council	Y	

Non-Voting member in attendance:

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1. Call to Order at 2nd by Daniel

2. Budget Request

- a. No budget requests received in December or January (last one in Shiva's email is 11/13/2023)

3. Old business

- a. Free Narcan and Discounted First Aid/BLS training?

- i. Contact said he can do 12 people in a class (4-5hrs minimum) can cover narcan and materials, narcan is a separate certificate and he cannot give the certificate but he can do the trainings.
- ii. Can reach out to SUNY, state agency (?OASIS) that will come for free narcan training, but not BLS training.
 - 1. Perhaps voluntary narcan training one evening for students to attend. Clubs can help push this idea.
- b. Prepaid metrocards for commuters
 - i. Dean Putnam brought it up to Alicia, no response. Will re-email.
- c. Free coffee event
 - i. \$500 invoice from Ernie
 - ii. Suggestions requiring further follow up:
 - 1. Suggestions from the free coffee event
 - a. Feminine hygiene product disposals
 - i. Table until next meeting
 - b. Free feminine hygiene products
 - i. Table until next meeting
 - c. Free printing
 - i. Table until next meeting
 - d. Better enforcement of quiet study area on the 2nd floor of the library
 - i. Students complaining of noise in the 2nd floor, likely by the windows where group study is popular
 - 1. Potential for allowing group study by window and single study in cubicles
 - 2. Follow up with librarians
 - e. CPT for international students
 - i. Has to be related to the curriculum. Class has to be implemented first, then we can create the program
 - ii. Federal law for F1 students
 - iii. Grad students are fully funded
 - iv. SPH
 - 1. Students are required to cover tuition fees and do not get paid, which is why we are looking to implement this for SPH.
 - 2. Is there any way for work study jobs that aren't being occupied be converted to be available for international students?

- a. Yes, but department has to have cash to cover these students, since federal resources can't cover
- b. Putnam's idea: Central pool of student assistant money that can be used to fund an international student

3. SPH is working on this class

iii. Tobi – Surgeon General talk at Barclays Center

- 1. Will be tabled for next event

4. New Business

- a. Facilities: 4 graduate students have complained about separate occasions where the elevator on the BSB side of the HSEB/BSB junction dropped a few floors rapidly and then they were stuck in the elevator between floors.
 - i. Has this been reported already? Students should be reporting to FM&D
 - ii. Contact 2626 if any elevator emergencies.
- b. Dan Green's New Logo Design!
 - i. Will have to get it approved since it has downstate in the name
 - ii. Medical symbol may lead to it not getting approved
- c. Start thinking about the multicultural fair! **April 4th**
 - i. Team assignments for student tabling, entertainment and/or COTAD fashion show
 - 1. Food, Receipts
 - a. Tobi, Shiva & Kelsha
 - 2. Entertainment
 - a. Sonja (will see for fashion show)
 - b. Student clubs to help represent culture
 - 3. Set Up
 - 4. Take Down
 - 5. Flyer
 - a. Lindsay
- d. Book store is currently shut down
 - i. Marva has officially retired
 - ii. Discussions are ongoing for alternatives
 - 1. Meeting yesterday for company that covers book purchases. We really need a spirit store. Have not found anyone interested in managing a book store.
 - 2. To be continued

- e. Updates from middle states accreditation
 - i. Dr. Gillespie has the list of student names that he will assign to committees, potentially next week.
 - ii. Staff side has been gathering information, and students will be able to provide feedback.
- f. Student opinion survey results pending February or March
- g. Spring Fling
 - i. Marriot Brooklyn Bridge, tickets to go live next week tuesday
 - ii. Student price has been lowered to pre-covid tests (\$60), guests \$150
 - iii. Guest ticket: \$150, student fee \$60
 - iv. Get the message out to councils

5. Council Wide Initiatives

- a. Food Pantry- We received a donation of \$5000
 - i. Initiative in the spring to order food boxes (tuna, beans, produce, non-snack foods etc)
 - ii. Protein bar donations
 - b. Coffee station/event (\$500)
 - i. With this budget what should our frequency be?
 - 1. Twice in fall twice in spring
 - a. February 14th
 - i. MS1s are available
 - ii. OT student field work
 - iii. Nursing - some have clinicals,
 - 2. April 23rd - nursing presentations (will be on campus)
 - a. Table in PHAB as part of the event
 - c. Student Health
 - i. Student health is doing a great job, positive feedback from council members on their updates.
 - d. Spring Fling - April 1, 2023
6. Suggestion box
- a. No new suggestions

7. Program Updates

- a. **Reps, you should be attending the council meetings for your program**
- b. SGS: No major updates, most programmatic executive meetings were held before the holidays. Over 90 applicants total this year, interviews have started. There are worries that there won't be enough funded lab space to support a new class of students. Qualifying exams and thesis proposals are changing and becoming more formalized for the sake of milestone expediency. A core class (writing) has been moved from spring to fall. The

dean is continuing to follow up with late stage students to ensure they are on track to graduate soon.

- c. SPH: fun end of year holiday party, PhD students are taking longer to graduate. Why?
- d. SOHP: water fountain flow fixed, harassments of 2 students in scaffolding across from the gas station adjacent to Kings County. Advised to take shuttle and safer routes to the train.
- e. CON: meeting Monday to discuss spring semester plans, dates for June and July convocations,
- f. COM: COM24 match breakfast instead of event, COM25 orientation for rotations have been waste of time, gateway 3 dates getting worked on, COM26/27 asking for grades information
 - i. Per Putnam, Disability coordinator is a new position we just submitted information for (assistant VP for student affairs used to do both jobs, now there are 2 finalists for DC position) director of accessibility services from SUNY position to start in late spring. Funding for two staged testing center that can be proctored, will re-puprose lab. Software to track students with disabilities to ease the testing process. Increased mental health faculty - wellness counselor, social worker in addition to psychologist/counselor
- g. SUNY SA: no updates
- h. College Council: no updates

Adjournment at 7:59PM by Tobi Somorin, 2nd by Lindsay

Tobi Somorin, University Council Vice President