

University Council Meeting 2024-2025

Thursday, April 17th, 2025

6pm

Student Center Reading Room

Attendance

Voting Members in Attendance:

Name	Email
Isaac Vingan	isaac.vingan@downstate.edu
Kunika Chahal	kunika.chahal@downstate.edu
Madhavi Jere	Madhavi.Jere@downstate.edu
Shivasuryan Vummidi	Shivasuryan.Vummidi@downstate.edu
Kelsha Sanchez	Kelsha.Sanchez@downstate.edu
Dhruti Patel	dhruti.patel@downstate.edu
Nour Elshabassy	Nour.Elshabassy@downstate.edu
Jasmine Yu	jasmine.yu@downstate.edu

Voting Members not in Attendance:

Thomas Sanford (proxy Kelsha Sanchez)	thomas.sanford@downstate.edu
Joya Ahmad (proxy Isaac Vingan)	joya.ahmad@downstate.edu
Elana Cohen (proxy: Kunika Chahal)	Elana.Cohen@downstate.edu
Daniel Green (proxy Shiva Vummidi)	daniel.green@downstate.edu

Non-voting Members in Attendance:

Jeffrey Putman	
Schuyler Hooke	
Hend Heikal	
Tobi Soborin (virtual)	
Adam Burgman (virtual)	

Agenda

1. Call to Order at 6:17pm by Isaac, second by Shiva

2. Budget Requests

- a. Emory Global Health Case Competition
 - i. Previous funding was requested under the assumption that 5 students would be traveling. Shiva was alerted after the event that there was a miscommunication on who accepted spots in the competition, and 6 students attended. Students have since attended and returned from the event, below are the exact totals spent on travel. Any travel in Atlanta was covered by Emory.
 - ii. Flights: $\$361.36 + \$197.98 + \$226.97 + \$229.97 + \$356.97 + \$196.60 = \$1,569.85$
 Ubers: $\$143.75 + \$176.62 + \$134.98 = \455.33
 Total: $= \$2,025.18$
 Previous Travel Funding: $\$1,775$
 1. Request: Total - Previous funding $= \$2,025.18 - \$1,775 = \mathbf{\$250.18}$
 2. Passed unanimously

Fund \$250.18 for reimbursement from programs and projects

3. New Business

- a. Welcome new members and congratulations
 - i. Unfortunately many of the new members were unable to attend so we will table this for the May meeting
- b. Thank you!
 - i. Multicultural Fair
 1. We will be writing a step-by-step plan to organize the fair to pass on knowledge to the new board. Isaac will take lead on this
 - ii. New Constitution - passed!
- c. Earth Day April 22nd
 - i. Nour will likely be able to help for an hour
 - ii. Jasmine will be available to help from 12-1pm
- d. Budget Meeting April 23
 - i. Shiva and Tobi will be in attendance. This will likely be the last joint meeting
 - ii. UC = interdisciplinary, philanthropy, and organizational clubs
 - iii. SCGB = recreational clubs
 - iv. MC = medicine-specific clubs
- e. SUNY SA
 - i. Will re-discuss in May meeting. Will re-open applications with new deadline of May meeting- 05/08/2025
- f. May meeting date- 05/08/2025. Prior conflict was resolved so the original meeting date is now reinstated.

4. Old business

- a. Espresso your thoughts
 - i. Resume in the Fall
- b. Student Stakeholders
 - i. Next town hall will be at Medgar Evers on the 28th. Students interested in speaking should reach out to Joya Ahmad
- c. Lavender Graduation
 - i. Joint initiative between UC, SCGB, and Office of Institutional Equity- May 7th.
- d. Instagram revitalization
 - i. Pictures from MC fair *pending*. Z has photos that she can share. Kelsha will reach out to her via email.
 - ii. Update from Panel at Medgar Evers last week *pending*

- e. Placards for the water fountain
 - i. All ready! Many thanks to Z and Schuyler. These will be posted around campus soon.

5. Advisor Updates

- a. Spring Fling Ticket Sales
 - i. Event sold out! We were in a smaller room than last year but everyone had a great time.
 - ii. 95% of the sales were college of medicine
 - iii. This may need to become a med council event moving forward
- b. Invitations for Administrators for the rest of the year- tabled until next year
- c. Blood drive April 28th-29th
 - i. We currently have a good number of signups and are expecting a good turnout
- d. Middle states update
 - i. They were very impressed with the alumni and student government members they met
 - ii. End result: no citations, no recommendations
 - iii. This report goes to a sub committee for further review but as of now this has been a perfect visit.
 - iv. We expect a final answer some time in October
- e. Kudos and Concerns implementation for other programs
 - i. College of Medicine changes: number of complaints sent to K&C, always anonymous but appear to come from outside of Downstate and not from actual students, complaining of staff/faculty (don't fit any behaviors put forth by students). These have been investigated and found to be untrue.
 - ii. Will get sorted to specific schools/campuses.
 - iii. Will require log-in information. In process, expected to be ready by this summer
- f. Health Insurance
 - i. Final bids will be submitted in approximately 1 week. Multiple bids can be submitted by the same company (e.g. United HealthCare or AETNA). An email will be sent out requesting volunteer reviewers
 - ii. Every year there is less students enrolment in the student health insurance plan which is leading to increased cost.

6. Program Updates

- a. COM: 4th years have matched and are on their way out! Rising MS4s are upset with the lack of home sub-I spots for anesthesia (30 students for 15 spots). They need to get a letter from their home department for residency and are being told to rely on aways. OBGYN @ Maimo has not been responsive to Sub-I requests and the deadline is approaching. Currently 12-13 applicants interested in OB. MS2 were having difficulty accessing Healthbridge, however this issue has since been resolved. Step1 pass rate has improved from what it was at this point last year. Many students are still trying to navigate clinical experiences abroad. They are still unable to get credit for this from Downstate.
- b. CON: Focus on end of the year celebrations and graduation. It doesn't seem like many people are going to attend graduation since it is in the middle of the 15 month program and in the middle of their one week break. Some people prefer to travel during this break. At the last meeting there was discussion about blocked registration due to the graduation fee. Students have since received clarity about paying this.
Research day: April 29th
- c. SOHP: Research day is on May 8th, 10:00am - 3:00pm, in the Alumni auditorium. Convocation ceremony is on May 8th, at 6:00pm, in the Alumni auditorium. Commencement is on May 20th, 11:00am, at The Amphitheater at Coney Island
- d. SPH: Elections for new members will be finalized by Monday

- e. GS: No program updates
- f. SUNY SA: The Conference will take place next week
- g. College Council: Has not convened yet

7. Open Floor

- a. N/A

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Isaac at 7:14pm. Seconded by Kunika

Minutes officially submitted on 04/22/2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelsha Sanchez", written in a cursive style.

Kelsha Sanchez

UC Secretary 2024-2025