

Senate Meeting Minutes, 10/3/07

1. New Groups
 - a. Medical Chinese Interest Group – one representative attended their first meeting, explained group as a sort of independent study in which students are self-motivated but also work with each other to progress. Bi-weekly lessons, possibly hiring an outsider to teach. Described ways in which medical Chinese can be effective and necessary. Submitted a constitution. In terms of funding, would want a few textbooks to be used for many years, etc. We also suggested OMCA funding, as they currently fund Spanish-language texts for M3s and M4s.
 - b. DOCapella – attended second meeting. Have 12 members, an advisor (Dr. Elizabeth Ryan), and submitted a constitution. Have research piano usage in Abbott.
2. Meeting with the Graduate Student Council
 - a. Darren and Ben met with the GSC
 - b. Reps from the Law School also feel unrepresented in the health care insurance
 - c. Graduate students have subsidized coverage through their labs, etc. Feel more concerned that changes were made without being consulted.
 - d. Issue is being brought up at GSC meeting with the Board of Trustees; we will bring this up at Dean's Lunch.
 - e. Side issue – why isn't the school subsidizing flu shots for M3s and M4s?
3. Martin and the M1s will meet up after exams to discuss initial preparations for Silent Auction
4. No updates on the Student Lounge
 - a. Lakshmi is contacting Kaleb about the pool table
5. Leslie is waiting on articles from Arjun and Ben regarding the college system.
6. Martin is writing amendments, and will email out to Senate for comments. We can then respond with our suggestions.
7. Third-year evaluations
 - a. Currently, there is no intermediate system (between students and the overall Curriculum Committee) in reviewing student OME evaluations and making suggestions for improvement. Instead, the Evaluations Subcommittee to the Curriculum Committee as a whole makes changes for the M3 curriculum. Clerkships have their own evaluations for individual residents and attending, and then administers feedback internally.
 - b. Ongoing problems with a resident treating students and interns poorly over many years, and no changes have been made regarding his teaching position.
 - c. There seems to be some confusion regarding the evaluations and who is responsible for reading them and making changes. There is no public notification of changes that are made, as there is in the first two years.
8. Study rooms
 - a. Frequently, study rooms in the LRC, second floor of Galter, etc are used by individuals for studying rather than groups.
 - b. Law library has signs posted prioritizing group use over individual use. Can we put up similar signs?
 - c. Law library also has a swipe system in which medical students are not allowed to use the library during exam time; there is no reciprocal system in our library, and so law students frequently use our study rooms. Should we suggest a policy during which only medical students can use the rooms?

- d. Martin and Darren will communicate this to the Library Committee.
 - e. Larger question of more group study space – not really anything we can do.
9. Research Thesis Program
- a. No transparency – students were not informed until three weeks before the deadline, which doesn't provide students and PIs enough time to apply. Also, how one knows when they will be informed, how many people will be accepted, if anyone can apply or if it is just MSSRP students, etc.
 - b. M1s were given an hour during orientation, M2s got 10 minutes during a break between lectures.
 - c. We would like to know the goals of the program, how it can be better communicated to students, etc.
 - d. Lakshmi is asking M3 friends of hers who applied last year regarding the timeline, number of people accepted, etc. so that we can go into Deans' Lunch with information.
10. Formal
- a. \$2500 allotted; shooting for 2/23 and 200-300 people.
 - b. Knickerbocker has a student group rate.
 - c. Formal Committee needs to inform the OSP more of their progress.
11. Course Review Panels
- a. M1s need to meet soon to review the applications; Nafis will be there to assist and mentor
12. Class Update
- a. 2011: exam on Friday, post-test party is at Leg Room
 - b. 2010:
 - i. Planning a boat formal for 10/19
 - ii. Exam issue being worked on by Martin with Dean Thomas, Dr. Lomasney
 - c. 2009: compiling a roster of everyone's schedules for carpooling, study groups. Will send out soon
 - d. 2008: applying for residencies, scheduling interviews