

[In these minutes: Election of 2005-06 chair and vice chair, review of 2004-05 business, student health insurance implementation, Center for Allied Health, AHC Strategic Planning, 2005-06 committee business]

ACADEMIC HEALTH CENTER STUDENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (AHC SCC) MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2005

5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

488 CHILD REHAB CENTER

[These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate; none of the comments, conclusions, or actions reported in these minutes represent the view of, nor are they binding on the Senate, the Administration, or the Board of Regents.]

PRESENT: Jeremy Olsen, Chair (Medical School-4th Year), Geoff Archibald (Dentistry), Amy Cahoy (Nursing-Twin Cities), Larissa Denker (Dental Hygiene), Autumn Erwin (Medical School-Duluth), Laura Hubbard (Pharmacy-Twin Cities), Linnea Jorgensen (Nursing-Rochester), Karen Joye (Public Health), David Nelson (Medical School-1st Year), Shawn Peterka (Pharmacy-Duluth), Jeff Pinnow (Medical School-3rd Year), Alexander Rydell (Mortuary Science), Joseph Steingraeber (Physical Therapy), Wayne Zerr (Occupational Therapy).

REGRETS: Katherine Peterson (Veterinary Medicine), Larry Pyers (Medical Technology).

GUESTS: Barbara Brandt.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Jeremy Olsen welcomed members to the meeting and members introduced themselves.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Jeremy Olsen was elected 2005-06 committee chair and Jeff Pinnow was elected the vice chair.

3. REVIEW OF 2004-05 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Jeremy Olsen noted that the committee looks at issues across the entire AHC and hears from students about what is good and what is not. Information from the meetings is then reported to Senior Vice President Cerra. In the last year, the committee worked on the following topics:

- Student health insurance
- Bus routes and timetables
- The closing of the Occupational Therapy program
- Legislative issues including Minnesota health care bills

4. FEEDBACK ON STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE IMPLEMENTATION

Jeremy Olsen asked members for student feedback on the process. Members made the following comments:

- Students do not like the certification process
- Some students were hassled by Boynton
- Some students were told too late to provide certification and were then charged for the insurance
- There was not clear communication to students, which lead to frustration
- There are issues with the pharmacy access at Duluth
- Some students who got waivers were still billed for insurance
- Insurance cards are just arriving for some students
- Duluth Pharmacy does not operate with the same hours
- When students pay for the two semesters, they are also covered over the summer

Barbara Brandt said that information has been forwarded to the Duluth Pharmacy to look for a solution. The Duluth Student Health Service, however, does not report to the AHC, so there is less that the AHC can do. Duluth students do pay less for their insurance due to the differences in services available.

Q: Where can students find the specifics of the insurance policy?

A: It is available in Boynton next to the other student insurance forms.

Q: How often do waivers need to be submitted?

A: Every two years.

Jeremy Olsen said that he would invite Sue Jackson to join the November meeting to discuss this topic.

5. DISCUSSION OF CENTER FOR ALLIED HEALTH

Barbara Brandt reminded members that the Occupational Therapy program has been asked not to take a class this year and next year. While there are workforce shortages, the financial model for the program shows that the program is small and has a high operating cost. There are no significant state dollars for the program here, and the same problem exists throughout the nation. OT is offered at other state institutions, but all are private colleges; the University is the only public institution. There are distribution issues to the non-metro areas. The program will not be allowed to admit students until the University knows to what students will be admitted.

As for Medical Technology, there were 12 programs in the state in the 1980's and now there is only one with two more being developed. The state needs 100-150 new graduates each year.

A task force was created with leaders from industry, higher education, and government offices to look at the allied health fields from a state-wide approach in conjunction with MnSCU. New resources are needed, and there is hope that industry can donate funds for students in these programs.

Additionally, the AHC has created a Center for Allied Health that is within the Senior Vice President's Office. The task force met today to discuss the Center. Issues being discussed are one-line education, face to face time, program distribution in the state, workforce development, and audits in programs. Once these issues are finalized, a decision will be made regarding whether OT will take a class next year and whether MT will take a larger class.

She said that she has met with the faculty in the programs and has offered to meet with the current and prospective students in November to explain what is happening. OT and Physical Therapy have been challenged by the balanced budget bill, which does not provide reimbursement from most of the populations with which these professionals work.

Q: What is the status of the PT program?

A: PT is a doctoral level program, does research, and is integrated into its department. Once the Center for Allied Health is established, PT may want to move into it, as well as allied health fields that are placed in other colleges.

Jeremy Olsen asked members to spread this information back to their students and bring feedback to future meetings.

6. UPDATE ON AHC STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

Jenny Cieslak joined the meeting and distributed a packet on the AHC strategic planning process. The University has created 34 task forces, four of which are in the AHC. She works with the co-chairs to manage the process. They are in the organizational phase now with reports due in May. She then walked the committee through the packet, outlining the goals of the process.

Additionally, a steering committee has been formed to work on issues of common concern. The steering committee is comprised of Dr. Cerra, the committee co-chairs, the chair of this committee, and the chair of the AHC Faculty Consultative Committee. They will be meeting monthly to review committee progress.

Barbara Brandt said that student input will be through Jeremy Olsen's position on the committee and discussions with other

student leaders. On November 1, the AHC will also be hosting an all-AHC student lunch with Dr. Cerra. He usually holds individual meetings with each colleges, but this year he will be doing the one event with connections to Duluth and Rochester.

7. 2005-06 AGENDA ITEMS

The committee mentioned the following potential agenda items: student health insurance, update on allied health center, and update on the AHC strategic planning process.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

With no other business, Jeremy Olsen thanked the members for attending and adjourned the meeting.

Becky Hippert
University Senate