

[In these minutes: GAPSA Funding Update, Blood Borne Pathogen Exposures]

## **ACADEMIC HEALTH CENTER STUDENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (AHC SCC) MINUTES**

**NOVEMBER 3, 2010**

**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:** Eric Moeker (chair), Samantha Berget, Brandon Burk, Sean Corvin, Patrick Day, Mark DeRocher, Junaid Ghouse, Grant Hennington, Kelly Johnson, Kit Johnson, Erin Kasper, Lynn Seuer, Eden Sonn, Josie Thole

**REGRETS:** Barbara Brandt, Megan Meyer

**ABSENT:** Paul Syverson

**GUESTS:** Ryan Kennedy, president, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA), Ross Janssen, privacy and security officer, AHC Office of Occupational Health and Safety

**OTHERS ATTENDING:** Barry Park

I). Eric Moeker convened the meeting, welcomed those present, and called for introductions.

II). Members unanimously approved the October 6, 2010 minutes.

III). Mr. Moeker introduced Ryan Kennedy, president, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA), who was invited to provide information about GAPSA's funding situation. Mr. Kennedy began by explaining that as a registered student group, GAPSA requests funding each academic year from the Student Services Fees Committee. Groups applying for funding from the Student Services Fees Committee must include the reasoning and rationale for their request. GAPSA then allocates any funding it receives based on a per student, per semester fee basis.

Last year, noted Mr. Kennedy, GAPSA missed the deadline for submitting its fees request by one day. After an appeal to the Student Services Review Fees Committee, GAPSA received partial funding for the 2010 – 2011 academic year, which resulted in a cut of approximately 50%. This omission was a one-time event, and the GAPSA executive body does not anticipate any similar problems in the future.

In light of the Graduate School restructuring that is underway, noted Mr. Kennedy, GAPSA is in the process of evaluating its funding model. It is looking at how funding is distributed to students who pay in versus the amount GAPSA pays out to each school's council. The goal is to make sure council funding is proportional to the number of students.

Mr. Kennedy stopped at this point and solicited member's questions. Questions and comments from student members included:

- Is the entire AHC treated as a single entity when requesting funding, or does each school within the AHC request funding separately? Currently, noted Mr. Kennedy, each school

submits their own requests. In evaluating where dollars are coming in from, there seems to be some students who are paying in who are students of the AHC, but not tied to any particular program/school, and, as a result, these funds are not being given to the appropriate council. Up until now, GAPSA has simply looked at the enrollment of each school and allocated funding based on this number. It is clear, however, that there are AHC students that are falling through the cracks and funding is not going to their school's council. GAPSA hopes to fix this problem as part of its comprehensive review of its funding model.

- Is the AHC SCC eligible to receive funding from GAPSA? Mr. Kennedy stated that because this committee is affiliated with the University Senate, traditionally such groups have not been recipients of student fee dollars. He agreed to look into this further, and deferred to Renee Dempsey, Senate staff, for her input. Ms. Dempsey explained that in order for the AHC SCC to get funding from the Senate Office, a proposal would need to be submitted, which would be reviewed by the Senate's Budget Subcommittee. The proposal would need to include information about how much money is being requested and what it would be used for. The Budget Subcommittee would then review the proposal and decide whether to approve or deny the request. Currently, like many other units, the Senate is facing challenging financial times. Mr. Kennedy asked whether GAPSA could provide funding to the AHC SCC or whether there are restrictions prohibiting this? Ms. Dempsey stated that she did not know, but would be happy to look into this.
- Do the Student Services Fees that students pay go to the school where they are enrolled? Mr. Kennedy stated that 55% - 60% of GAPSA's budget goes to grants, a significant portion of which are given directly to the individual councils. Fee allocations to the individual councils are currently based on enrollment numbers, but, as mentioned earlier, GAPSA is trying to get better estimates of enrollment numbers, which the schools have traditionally self-reported. GAPSA is working with the Registrar's Office to get more accurate enrollment figures.
- Is there overlap between GAPSA and the AHC? Mr. Kennedy stated that there is overlap in terms of GAPSA giving each of the AHC student councils funding.
- Has the budget request for the 2011 – 2012 academic year been submitted yet? GAPSA's funding application for 2011 – 2012 is due mid to late January. Currently, the budget is being developed.
- Do students have input into how GAPSA allocates the money it receives and how it sets its budget? Mr. Kennedy stated that within GAPSA there are also opportunities for students to sit on the assembly, which has input on GAPSA's budget. In addition, students can apply to serve on the Student Services Fees Committee, or share their thoughts/concerns at the public comment events that are held.
- Does GAPSA share its budget request with students prior to submission? Mr. Kennedy explained that the budget is developed internally within GAPSA. The budget request does not need student approval per se. The GAPSA budget for 2010 – 2011 will be approved at its General Assembly meeting on November 10.

Hearing no further questions, Mr. Moeker thanked Mr. Kennedy for attending today's meeting.

IV). Next, Mr. Moeker welcomed Ross Janssen who was invited to provide information on what students should do for blood borne pathogen exposures while on rotations. Mr. Janssen began by introducing himself and stated that he is the University's privacy and security officer and director of University-wide Occupational Health and Safety.

To start the discussion, Mr. Moeker briefly shared a personal experience that he encountered while on rotation at a local area hospital. He reported that he was referred to the wrong clinic for lab work following a blood borne pathogen exposure, and, as a result, incurred unnecessary out-of-pocket expenses. In Mr. Moeker's opinion, rotation sites should be required to distribute

information packets to students when they start working so they know what to do in the event of an exposure. Mr. Janssen agreed with Mr. Moeker, and apologized that he was given misinformation.

Mr. Janssen stated that when students have a blood borne pathogen exposure they are supposed to go to Boynton Health Service (BHS) for care. Services provided by BHS are covered under the AHC Student Health Benefit Plan. Mr. Janssen agreed that the AHC needs to figure out how to improve upon the current process and make it easier to students to get the medical attention they need in an exposure situation.

The Medical School website, noted Mr. Janssen, has general information regarding prevention and blood borne post exposure procedures during educational experiences - [http://www.meded.umn.edu/handbook/policies/bbp\\_prevention.php](http://www.meded.umn.edu/handbook/policies/bbp_prevention.php). Mr. Moeker stated that it was not his first instinct after being stuck with a needle during surgery to look up what he should do on the Medical School's website. He stated that the problem he encountered was that the rotation site provided him with a packet of information geared for their employees despite his insistence that he was a student, and not an employee. Clearly, misinformation is being disseminated at some rotation sites.

Mr. Janssen stated that he would work on developing a packet of information specifically geared for students to make the process very clear. The current blood borne pathogen exposure process and communication pieces need to be re-evaluated. Students need to know what resources are available to them, and to make sure the sites where they are working also have the correct information. Mr. Janssen encouraged students to take a laminated card that outlines what to do in the event of a blood borne pathogen exposure and a sticker that they can put on their id badge with the number to call if they have an exposure, which he brought to the meeting.

Mr. Janssen noted that when the University changed its occupational health provider for employees from BHS to HealthPartners this likely added to the confusion.

In response to a question about where students who have clinical rotations in Wilmar, for example, go for treatment of a blood borne exposure, Mr. Janssen explained that students are still required to call the BHS 24-hour help line (612-625-7900) and that BHS will inform students where they can go for treatment in those areas. Mr. Janssen volunteered to provide the committee with a list of clinics where treatment can be sought. He added that more needs to be done in terms of making sure the University has clinic sites conveniently located close to all the clinical rotation sites where students are working.

With respect to a question about international rotation sites and blood borne exposures, Mr. Janssen stated he was not sure about how the protocol for handling exposures that occur abroad, but suggested students contact International Student & Scholar Services. A student member stated that she believes that students with international rotations are required to purchase the University's insurance - the Student Health Benefit Plan (SHBP).

A student asked whether students who do not have SHBP coverage still need to call the BHS help line. Yes, stated Mr. Janssen, the help line is set up to get students treated if needed, and to

let them know where they should go for that treatment. It is very important that students who need to be treated are treated.

For Rochester students who are doing their rotations within the Mayo system, should they be going to Mayo for treatment given they do not pay the student service fee to access BHS, asked a student? Mr. Janssen stated that he will follow-up on this question and make sure that insurance covers students who go to Mayo for treatment. He also volunteered to check into the insurance piece for students who have SHBP coverage versus students who have their own insurance.

To conclude, Mr. Janssen stated he would make every effort to get the blood borne pathogen exposure information organized in such a way that it will be easier for students to understand what they need to do if they find themselves in this situation.

Mr. Moeker thanked Mr. Janssen for attending today's meeting and for providing useful information about what students should do if they have blood borne exposure. He added that the committee also appreciates Mr. Janssen's willingness to look into better organizing and communicating what students need to do if they have an exposure.

Mr. Moeker asked whether anyone had other business for the committee. Ms. Dempsey, Senate staff, stated that Susann Jackson from BHS has been invited to the December 1 AHC SCC meeting to provide information concerning the SHBP. Then, Victoria Nelson from Parking and Transportation will attend the committee's January 26 meeting to talk with members about parking issues and concerns.

Ms. Dempsey encouraged members who have ideas for additional agenda items to contact her. Hearing no further business, Mr. Moeker thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting.

Renee Dempsey  
University Senate