

[In these minutes: Review of the committee charge, Issues for future meetings]

ACADEMIC HEALTH CENTER STUDENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (AHC SCC) MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2003

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 or Twin Cities Campus Assembly; none of the comments, conclusions, or actions reported in these minutes represent the view of, nor are they binding on the Senate or Assembly, the Administration, or the Board of Regents.]

PRESENT:

Kim Canfield, Chair (Public Health), Angela Feneis (Occupational Therapy), Wesley Kurszewski (Physical Therapy), Alisa Madson (Dentistry), Jeremy Olsen (UMD School of Medicine), David Renstrom (Pharmacy), Kelly Schneider (Mortuary Science), Ryann Signorelli (Veterinary Medicine), Mark Wiisanen (Medical School – 3rd Year).

REGRETS: Leslie Carranza (Medical School – 2nd Year), Tori-Thuy Le (Dental Hygiene), Leah Van Gorp (Nursing), Christopher Zaun (Medical Technology).

1. REVIEW OF COMMITTEE CHARGE

Kim Canfield distributed a slightly revised version of the committee charge, noting that changes had already been made to add the allied health fields to the membership and to stipulate that the committee meets with the Assistant Vice President for Education, the position currently held by Barbara Brandt.

She then asked members if the election and/or appointment language was correct for all areas. Members suggested adding language that a program advisor could appoint someone if a student board does not exist, since this is usually the case in smaller programs.

Kim Canfield then asked if members regularly report back to their student boards. Most agreed that a report is given, although sometimes it is in a classroom setting for smaller programs. Members then agreed to add language to the duties section regarding reporting back to students in each area.

Kim Canfield then asked if members would like there to be an explicit relationship between the committee, such as the chair, and CHIP. Members agreed that this type of relationship would be useful. Members also agreed that the chair should only meet with the Student Senate Consultative Committee when needed, as opposed to each semester.

With no further comments, the revised charge was approved as amended.

2. ISSUES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Kim Canfield then said that a representative from MetroTransit was contacted to attend this meeting, but the topic was postponed until December. She referred members to the list of issues that were generated earlier this year and asked which topics the committee should focus on next, or what new issues have arisen.

Members made the following comments:

- Tuition and its impact on diversity is an issue
 - Q: Is diversity an issue across programs?
 - A: While Mortuary Science injects cultural diversity in its curriculum, there is no diversity in the student population. There is also no diversity recruiter for the program, although Pharmacy hired a new diversity officer. Students need to have hands on experience with diversity since differences exist in terms of how funerals are conducted.
 - Q: Does Mortuary Science have clinicals at diverse locations?
 - A: Students have a total of 6 8-week clinicals, but all sites are in the Metro area and students only go to sites that have volunteered.

- Crammed and repetitive curriculum should be discussed
 - Q: Has course curriculum always been crammed or is this a recent development?
 - A: For Dentistry, a semester has been lost and board exams are being moved up. Pharmacy has moved many of its courses between years, which hurts students caught during the change. Some students are taking 20 credits their first semester. Also, elective tracks were removed, but students still need to take the electives but only within three semesters. Public Health curriculum moves at a slower pace. While Veterinary Medicine and Mortuary Science seem to have a good pace, Mortuary Science has repeat curriculum.

- Overall status of facilities affects many students
 - For the issue of facilities, Kim Canfield stated that the Regents are being presented with the University's six-year capital plan this week, so she suggested inviting Gina Jennissen, a Student Rep to Regent, to attend a future meeting to talk on this issue.

- Immunization policy for new students which are not covered by student fees
 - Q: Have most students had to re-supply their immunization record?
 - A: Most students were required to re-supply because of a one-time change to the system. However, many students were sent nasty emails regarding not receiving loans if the information was not submitted. Also, needing to have the records signed was an issue.

- Dental coverage is still an issue
 - Kim Canfield suggested having Sue Jackson and Dave Golden back again in spring to see if any changes have been made or considered

Kim Canfield said that last year's committee worked on a best practices list to create a better balance in programs. Students in Public Health talk about classes and changes do happen. Does each program have a similar practice in place and does it work? Most members knew of a similar practice in their program, but most noted that change is so slow that a student will not see it while they are in the program.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

Kim Canfield then read an email to the committee from Josh Rhein, AMSA President, talking about interdisciplinary collaborations. His suggestion was to offer a lecture series on global health issues that all AHC students could take as an elective. Logistics would be a problem, so he was asking for coordination among programs as to days and times of classes that cannot be skipped.

Members made the following comments:

- Many programs have a forced march and no room for electives
- Students might register if the class was free because of the credit plateau
- Class would need to be for credit to add legitimacy
- Myahc could be used to advertise this class as well as others that are open to all students
- Duluth currently has a monthly seminar series that is open to the public
- Students would learn what each program can contribute to the whole in a classroom setting before they are faced with the situation in a clinical
- AHC students should get a basic understanding of each discipline before they enter clinicals
- CHIP sponsored a roundtable last year with representatives from each school. It was very useful and will likely continue this year
- Primary Care Week focused on some of these issues, and it will continue in the spring
- An on-line offering would be helpful for students who are on clinicals
- An incentive might be offered to increase participation
- It would be helpful to schedule a seminar at a set time once each week to discuss interdisciplinary issue that each program would work into its schedule

In closing, Kim Canfield asked each representative to get the master schedule from their program so the committee could see if one time would work for this type of seminar. With no other business, she thanked the members for attending and adjourned the meeting.

Becky Hippert
University Senate