



# The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School

## Student Senate Agenda

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Location: Zoom (The virtual space!)

Date: Wednesday, July 29th 2020

Time: 7:00pm - 8:30pm

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### Observation of Attendance and Quorum

- A. Attendance logged digitally [here](#).

### Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting (04/22/2020)

- B. Minutes found digitally [here](#).
- C. [Move](#) to approve the minutes: Alex Fincher
- D. Seconded: Charlotte Heron
- E. Approved by: Majority

### Agenda Items:

#### I. Culture of Wellness

- A. How do we provide new/continuing support to the MS2s? (SBFB, 5 minutes)
  - 1. MS2 vibe: We don't know what we don't know but are surviving.
  - 2. It is difficult for the class to assess what is "normal;"
    - a) MS2s are now experiencing the new normal of clerkships in COVID.
  - 3. General concern: not getting enough experience on clerkship/gaining the skills needed for clinical education because of patient cases and sharing with multiple classes.
  - 4. Uncertainty of how evaluations will reflect unprecedented times, working with non-Dell attendings, lack of continuity
  - 5. Recommendations:
    - a) We encourage MS3s to explicitly call themselves MS3s so as to differentiate between stages of training/learning for expectations.
    - b) Work with your clerkship director for specific concerns
- B. Social Events/Community Building (Sam/SBFB, 5 minutes)
  - 1. Propose creating a group/task force
    - a) Is there a desire from the entire student body for social interaction?
      - (1) We are concerned that the class of 2024 is isolated from us and each other and we want to continue to pass on a culture of community.
    - b) Next Steps: Sam and team will put together a proposal for different social opportunities, and will seek help from the outside of senate to allow for new leaders to shine.
  - 2. Society Updates
    - a) We will generate events that both fall within the societies and that are independent of them

#### II. Student Representation

- A. Duty Hours Debate (All, 20 minutes)

1. We are concerned that Dell policy isn't well worded and the LCME doesn't have specific rules.
2. Multiple opinions from the senate:
  - a) We should potentially consider different duty hour expectations per class (MS2 vs. MS4s) considering differences in outside study (lack of shelf for MS4s)
  - b) The duty hour policy should be universal so as to preserve health/safety of students, as we do not always understand our limits
  - c) It wouldn't be a significant burden to have all students track hours. An extra question on one45 evals should be added for students to elaborate on why duty hours were broken.
3. Potential Solutions:
  - a) Surgery is now having MS2s track hours weekly, could require this across all clerkships to encourage a culture of safety. Add a question on one45 to have students detail their experience of duty hours. Charlotte, Evelyn, Ciura to write a proposed change to the policy.

B. Student Health Interprofessional Practice and Education Committee (Sam, 1 minute)

1. This committee will have representatives from across campus in the various health schools
2. For academic, professional, social collaboration.
3. Hoping to create the opportunity for "consults" w/ pharmacists, nurses, etc. for projects

### III. Academic/Professional/Personal Development

A. COVID testing and quarantine guidelines for medical students (SBFB, 5 minutes)

1. Confusion between ascension policy vs. student policy, what "exposure" means, when you need to quarantine, etc. Guidelines seem to vary rotation to rotation and faculty are unsure what does and doesn't apply to students.
2. Adequate/correct PPE still remains an issue for students that are fitted for Small N95s
3. Recommendation: if you have an exposure or symptoms, your first point of contact should be your clerkship director on what to do next.

B. Branded scrubs update (Sam, 1 minute)

1. First scrub order went well!
2. Currently working on an order scheduled for the spring semester for scrubs with our logo on them.
3. Only available colors are from ["Dell color palette"](#), contact Sam with thoughts

### IV. Communication

A. Slack Best Practices (Sam, 5 minutes)

1. Communication task to send some reminders about best practices.

B. MS1 communication gaps (SBFB, 10 minutes)

1. MS1s have the fresh perspective of learning about communication frustrations. Continue advocating for early and detailed communication.
2. Senate presidents will reach out to the Class of 2024 to assess for specific questions and concerns and facilitate leadership within the class to bring their concerns to the appropriate groups

### V. Student Body Feedback

- A. "Not sure how senate elections will be done, but would really like the option to rank multiple people (more than the available positions). I think there are several people who would make excellent delegates but may not accept the position. I want to vote for them regardless of their stated interest at this time, but also want to include alternates to ensure that my vote isn't "lost" if they turn down the job. "

1. To be discussed by elections task force and have some resolution before next election

- B. "Is there a possibility of getting med student vehicles registered with a special decal or sticker recognized by PTS so that we can park in lot 108 or 118 overnight? Or perhaps a paper printout that students can download and print and put in their vehicle overnight shifts."
  - 1. You can use your hospital badge to park in the garage for overnight shifts. If you're having issues with your badge, reach out to Jenny!
- C. "Continue to advocate for quality of life things, one idea that I've thought about is getting 1 "PTO" day per clerkship (Essentially just a flexible day off we can use). Residents get a minimum of 15 days PTO, so I think it's reasonable to have 1 day per clerkship."
  - 1. Senate presidents will do research into policies like this at other schools and present a proposal to UMEC for consideration

## VI. Violets

- A. Violets to class of 2022 senators new and old!! Appreciate all you've done and continue to do for the school regardless of your titles!
- B. Violets to the class of 2024 for starting at a difficult time and still bringing us your concerns!
- C. Violets to Charlotte, Evelyn, Ciaura and Girija for discussing duty hours openly and respectfully!

## VII. Action Items

- A. For the next senate, Sam and a team will put together a proposal for different social opportunities, and will seek help from the outside of the senate to allow for new leaders to shine.
- B. Charlotte, Evelyn and Ciaura will work on a proposal to better define how students interact with duty hours
- C. Communications Task Force will create a slack best practices document
- D. Sam and Megan will research other school's for policies for "PTO days" to create a case for UMEC
- E. Sam and Megan will ensure specific COVID policies are available to the student body