



The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School

Student Senate Agenda

Location: Zoom (The virtual space!)

Date: Wednesday, February 3rd, 2021

Time: 7:00pm - 8:30pm

I. Action Items

- A. Contact UMEC reps & offer support for upcoming P/Fgrading vote
- B. Meet with admin to share student perspectives wellness during clerkships, school culture, community building in an accelerated curriculum
- C. Follow up on clerkship independent study half-day proposal
- D. Recruit Class of 2022 students for Step 1 Panel
- E. Read Me document for Microsoft Teams

II. Violets

- A. Violets to the Clerkship Assessment Working Group for presenting their recommendations to UMEC
- B. Erin and Munachi for conducting an amazing interview season
- C. DMKI for coordinating a highly attended fireside chat
- D. Congrats to Hannah Kay, Pooja Srikanth, and Nitya Rao for matching!
- E. Will Squiers for his recap of the UMEC clerkship grading presentation

Observation of Attendance and Quorum

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

Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting (01/19/21)

- B. Minutes found digitally [here on the DMKI site](#).
- C. Move to approve minutes
 - Seconded & approved by majority

Agenda Items:

III. Student Affairs Updates (30 min)

- A. Submit your Outlook compatible email address [here](#).
 - 1. MS3s must do this by 2/15/21 to receive STAR access
 - 2. Schoolwide deadline is 3/1/21
- B. Step 1 Panel for MS2 intersession
 - 1. Monday 3/1/21 @3:00pm
 - 2. Evelyn is recruiting MS3s for this
- C. Compass Time Out

1. After 60 days of no use it locks you out and requires IT assistance to reinstate
 2. Recommendation: MS3s set a monthly reminder to login to compass
- D. Student to Student Guides
1. Student Affairs is going to curate info from the Dell Med wiki to make a one stop student-written guide that is only viewable by students
 2. Senate ask:
 - a) Can this include an archive of what students are working on in their 3rd year?
 - b) Yes
- E. Pass/Fail UMEC Proposal
1. Steve: This is a major thing and I want to weigh in. I am 100% in favor of going to 4 years of pass/fail grading but I don't think now is the time for it with us being a new school and Step 1 going to pass/fail.
 2. Questions from senate
 - a) Do you think this proposal would come back up again later?
 - (1) Yes
 - b) Why wasn't honors/high pass/pass/failgrading system considered?
 - (1) This question will be forwarded to Dr. K. Brown.
 3. You may also contact your General UMEC representatives for details.
 - (a) MS1 - Yosha Singh, Mandy Justiz
 - (b) MS2 - Michelle Raji, Tammy Spear
 - (c) MS3 - Faith Noah, Matthew Seghers
 - (d) MS4 - Nitya Rao, Will Squiers

IV. Student Representation (10 min)

- A. Supporting UMEC members (Will)
1. Upcoming vote for P/F in MS2 clinical rotations
 - a) Two reps per class with a single shared vote (see above representatives)
 - b) The MS4 representatives are going to hold a zoom session for their class during which they plan to share Dr. Brown's presentation, provide space for Q&A, discussion, and gather a pulse from their classmates
 - c) Senators to reach out to the UMEC representatives for their class to provide support as needed

V. Communication (5 min)

- A. Move to Microsoft Teams coming this semester
1. Do we have timelines of when the hard switch will come?
 - a) No specific deadline for hard switch
 - b) Will this be done in phases?
 - (1) Yes. Senate and specialty interest groups will migrate on March 1st.
 - c) The incoming Class of 2025 will be onboarded at orientation via shared responsibility with senate and student affairs

2. Communications Task Force is working on a read me document to orient new users

VI. Academic/Professional/Personal Development (10 min)

- A. Follow up on resources requested last meeting
 1. Shadowing protocols in “20210130 Update” email from Steve. Can also be found on [Dell Med Student Life Resources Wiki](#) under “scheduling”
 2. Research opportunities
 - a) <https://intranet.dellmed.utexas.edu/public/strategic-plans>
- B. Assessing need for academic support during MS2 year (Evelyn)
 1. UMEC HCD committee has been discussing this need in the context of rising percentage of shelf exam failures. Current proposals include collecting information from students about what students need support in
 - a) Senate Response: it’s several things going on simultaneously...
 - (1) Notes are billable and help students feel useful to the team but are they cutting into study time?
 - (2) Could student schedules be optimized for more studying (i.e. cutting saturday rounds and looking for other opportunities to increase study budget):
 - (3) Cultural things: feeling like you can’t study during wards “down time” for fear of appearing disinterested
 - b) Action Item: Follow up on clerkship independent study half-day proposal that Catherine presented to UMEC earlier this year
 2. How can we promote a culture of understanding, forgiveness, and flexibility?
 - a) We need admin help here. We don’t see this as something that can be student-run
 - b) Action Item: meet with admin to share student perspectives on wellness during clerkships, school culture, and community building in an accelerated curriculum

VII. Culture of Wellness (10 min)

- A. Senate Happy Hour (Sam)
 1. Recognizing the desire to connect and zoom fatigue, can we bring in-person happy hour events back?
 - a) Per social distancing policy cannot hold interest group or senate functions in person
 - b) Virtual Dell Med Coffee Break?
 - (1) Not enough interest. Barriers are zoom fatigue, scheduling conflicts from clinical duties and class times
 2. Please contact us If you have ideas for promoting student body connectedness

VIII. Student Body Feedback (10 min)

- A. Summarized for brevity, see *Academic/Professional/Personal Development* for related discussion

1. Lack of access to academic support as MS2, particularly around shelf exams
2. Costs of outside academic resources recommended for MS2 year
3. School culture around failures: need to change language from “Is your failure a pattern?” to “What support do you need?” and promote a culture of understanding, forgiveness, and flexibility
4. Some clerkship projects and assignments do not effectively contribute to learning

IX. Senate Business

- A. Steve would like to meet with Elections TF prior to next senate election cycle to ensure student privacy is protected in the process

X. Next Meeting

- A. 02/17/21
- B. [Student Senate Feedback Form](#)