Dear Fellow KUMC Students,

The 2014-2015 academic year has proven to be yet another momentous and invigorating year full of student innovation, action planning, and refinement. Most notably was the promised renovation of Murphy Courtyard, which was approved as campus project during the previous year and came to fruition this Spring. The courtyard serves as a clear illustration of how much progress can be made over a year’s time, and we can all look forward to watching this outdoor space continue to develop into a beautiful and lively inter-professional core on our campus.

This year a high student demand for multidisciplinary campus activities culminated into the implementation of the first ever Foundations of Inter-professionalism event that brought together all first year students on campus to learn a collaborative approach to patient care. This unique inter-professional educational event brought national attention to our institution and our energetic students, and is an ongoing effort that will have our continued support.

SGC finished the year with a review of procedures and policies. Justin Williams, SGC Treasurer and senior student from the School of Nursing, oversaw the grueling task of leading a committee through comprehensive revision of our Constitution and Bylaws. I am proud that our founding documents now accurately reflect the quality of our Senate.

Finally, SGC has recommended funding of several projects with Bookstore funds as appropriated by the Student Union Corporation Board. These projects are to be implemented over the following year and include the refinishing of the basketball court and exercise studio floors at Kirmayer Recreation Center, and the development of an outdoor sporting field nearby.

I am grateful to serve our student body that, I believe, comprises the best part of campus. And I am grateful for all of our supportive staff and faculty, who help bring our visions to life and ensure the needs of students are met. This has been and will continue to be a notable era for the KUMC Student Governing Council as we continue to implement real and meaningful change.

Kirsten M. Devin,
SGC Chair 2014-2015
SGC President 2015-2016
The **Good Catch Award** honors students who demonstrate courage to stand up for patient safety. Congratulations to this year’s winner Colin Kitzerow (School of Medicine) and honorable mentions Nadia Saina and Tim Walmann (both SOM). Please be on the lookout for opportunities to nominate yourself and/or peers for next year's award!

The first ever inter-professional learning event, **Foundations of Inter-professional Education**, took place in January with all first-year students at KUMC, plus pharmacy students from Lawrence.

**Faculty & Staff Appreciation Day** successfully honored over 200 faculty members and 60 administrative offices this year by hosting a luncheon with student musical entertainment and distribution of gift baskets to offices across campus.

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**Student Services Committee**

**Kirmayer:**

- The basketball court and upstairs aerobics room floors will be resurfaced with 75% funding from Bookstore funds and 25% from Kirmayer.

**Student Life:**

- There were four ticket distributions with an average attendance of 66 students. This event continues to be a student favorite, and future changes will enhance accessibility for time-constrained students.
- The Beat remains an important tool for student event awareness, outreach, and organization financial planning. Strategies for maximizing use of this activity hub are under thorough review.
- The annual Student Survey reached its targeted participation rate, 50%. To incentivize completion, $1000 worth of prizes ($25 Amazon gift cards and an iPad Mini) were bought as prizes for a raffle for those that took the survey.

**Registrar/Financial Aid:**

- SGC is continuing to work toward alleviating the inability to pay with a Visa credit card. The issue is much more complicated than anticipated, affecting not only our campus and school, but other state schools as well.

**Counseling and Educational Support:**

- Students continue to be satisfied with the services provided by this department. Efforts are underway to expand awareness of its newer resource, i.e., Career and Writing Services.

**Student Health:**

- A website update and redesign improved understanding of available services and associated cost. The department presented a budget overview, upon student request, to enhance understanding of how a large portion of student fees (29%) is used to effectively operate and manage the student clinic.
Parking Update: The Parking and Transportation Committee is acutely aware that parking is a major source of student frustration. Your representatives on the committee are working hard to make sure that student interests are heard. The KUMC Parking and Transportation Committee has focused its efforts on accommodating multiple, simultaneous campus construction projects. In total, the construction projects will result in a loss of roughly 260 spaces. In order to mitigate this loss, the Rainbow Mental Health building was purchased and will be re-purposed into a new parking lot. In addition, the gravel lot by the Support Services building will be paved and expanded. Lot expansions are projected to be open by next school year and will result in a net gain of 90 spaces for the yellow zone. The new parking garage will open in 2017; it will cover all demands for campus parking through at least 2023.

KUMC Parking and Transportation Committee recommended a redistribution of parking zones to accommodate lot closures and expansions. Parking permit rates for the 2015-2016 school years will increase by $10 for all yellow permit holders to $90 for student permits and $120 for non-student permits. The new price maintains the 25% student discount. The average student price for parking at other Midwestern medical schools is $262. For safety reasons, all vehicles parked on campus must be registered with Parking Services. Students can register online for a free night (after 5pm) and weekend permit. Once you register online, please call Parking Services to ensure your vehicle has successfully been registered.

Afterhours Parking: Policy was revised about after hours parking whereby students are allowed to park free but must register vehicle on parking department website.

Rave Alert Broadcast Group Revisions: Broadcast groups have been restructured which relay messages to students at a lower threat level.

Escort Service: Thanks to student input, Dykes library has been designated as a site for pick-up and drop-off.

Crosswalk Safety: Several students and staff have been hit by cars when crossing 39th St. The University is working closely with the Wyandotte County Unified Government to find a sustainable, effective solution.

Bicycle Storage Lockers: Students and staff will have access to secure bicycle storage in Olathe South garage via badge access and video monitoring.

Neighborhood Confrontations: The Board of Regents and a County Commissioner were notified of student concerns about aggressive notes from residents placed on their cars when parked in the adjacent Rosedale neighborhood.

Landscaping Update: KUMC recently earned the Tree Campus USA recognition for commitment to environmental stewardship, which will be funded by the Landscaping department. The KUMC Campus Community Garden will continue its third-year of student stewardship on the North side of the Landon Center of Aging. Edible herbs will be planted in high-traffic pedestrian areas and be available for picking throughout the Summer and Fall.
Library/Info Tech Committee: The Refresh Express is a new mini-café located in Dykes Library ground floor! It features both standard and healthier snack and drink options. To ensure this mini-café is stocked with items students will enjoy, students are encouraged to offer feedback to the library.

Support Services Future Goals:

Campus Lighting – The administration is entertaining a review of campus lighting for safety.

Rave Alert Personal App – Work with the KUPD and developers to assess interface and functionality, and to determine cost of upgrade.

RAD Training – Despite very favorable feedback for participants, there is very little registration and participation from students. We will strategize to address the barriers of scheduling and outreach.

Biker Safety – KUMC should be a leader in the area for embracing cyclists, participate in discussions on bike lanes on and around campus.

Signage for Parking Spot-Finding – Push for clear signage for the number to call when students are looking for a parking spot.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The finance committee oversees an $81,000 budget. The majority was allocated to organization funding ($20,000), campus projects ($10,000), ticket distributions ($10,000) and travel awards ($20,000).

Organization Funding: Use of organization funding was down slightly this year. A majority of organizations used the finance module on The Beat to apply, monitor and request for reimbursement of funds. SGC voted to fund this module for another year to assess its value.

Student Fee Validation: Next year’s SGC subcommittees will be tasked with reviewing the budgets of departments that receive student fees to ensure fiscal responsibility. This will enable targeted cuts and increases when SGC reviews student fees next year, rather than across the board increases, which is the precedent.

Student Travel Awards: We are glad to see so many students (164) applying for travel award funding this year. In four rounds of applications, SGC has distributed ~$20,000 to a total of 54 awardees.

The finance committee’s immediate plans are to revise bylaws, modify the travel award application scoring rubric, and evaluate the organization funding application process.

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