



## Minutes from 12-16-03 GSC meeting

1. Voting on bylaw changes (went over at last meeting)
  - a. Erica Perryn made a motion to approve the changes as displayed on the GSC website (<http://www.kumc.edu/student/GSC/bylaws.html>)
  - b. Kevin McIntire seconded the motion
  - c. The motion was approved with 8 yes votes and 3 abstain votes
    - i. Abstains were due to not having previously read the changes
2. SRF Update (Alex Dajkovic)
  - a. Kansas City Life Sciences is giving \$3000 again as last year
  - b. Fundraising letters have been sent out
  - c. Next meeting will be tomorrow (12-17-03) at noon
  - d. Speaker
    - i. Jonathan Beckwith, PhD; Professor, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, Harvard Medical School
    - ii. has been secured, though travel dates have not been finalized yet.
    - iii. Probably out for workshop, but not certain as of yet
  - e. Abstract deadline
    - i. Abstracts will be solicited after winter break
    - ii. Online submissions only
  - f. There will be a poster session again this year – abstract submission deadline for posters will be the same as for oral presentations
2. Student Survey results (Dr. Larry Long)

a. Background of SCESS

- i. 3 psychologists
- ii. free services for students
- iii. learning services – test taking skills, study skills, writing skills, etc.

b. Student Needs Assessment Survey

- i. Sexual harassment was identified as a major issue where students weren't satisfied how problems in this area were managed
- ii. Alcohol concerns
  1. Some students were concerned that their performance could be better without alcohol and marijuana use
  2. Mainly a medical student complaint/issue
- iii. Trends and Themes
  1. Gender & Equity/inequity
    - a. Significant amount of males over females thought that there was equal treatment of males and females
  2. Concern in some KUMC schools about sexual harassment
    - a. Past data shows a problem in SOM for several past few years
    - b. Resident-student, student-student, and faculty-student potential problems

c. Wants to work with faculty for changes

- i. Needs student ideas/input
- ii. People within a given discipline talking to other students or faculty will have a bigger impact than someone from outside the field
- iii. Would like to get students to work and encourage programming in this area

d. Student opinions

- i. Possibly a student wellness workshop addressing questions such as the following
  1. What is sexual harassment?
  2. How to deal with harassment?
  3. What are the consequences?
- ii. Not many obvious consequences
- iii. Connected issues – harassment and gender inequity; should be addressed in tandem

1. also racism, bigotry, homophobia, etc.

iv. Need to identify channels to go through and how to report

v. Major advances often aren't made all of a sudden

1. education on communication and how to prevent situations from escalating to the point of harassment could be beneficial

e. Currently working on a one page handout summarizing what sexual harassment is and how to report

i. Equal Employment Opportunity office has a clear policy for faculty members, but not necessarily for students

ii. Is there a policy in the student handbook?

1. Will review the Lawrence campus graduate student group policy, if any

f. What type of process would students like to see?

i. Address verification process to prevent false accusations

g. Gender Inequity

i. A plausible graduate student concern is a mentor choosing or refusing students based on unfair criteria

1. married vs. single

2. having children or not

3. male or female

h. Please send additional feedback to Dr. Long – [llong@kumc.edu](mailto:llong@kumc.edu)

### 3. Committee Updates

a. SHOT (Kevin McIntire/Mike Oller)

i. Give surveys to Mike Oller or bring by Student Health Center (SHC) before Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup>

1. SHC will be closed on 12-19-03 for retreat

2. Issues brought up in the student surveys will be dealt with and discussed at the retreat

ii. Discussion of current state of SHC

1. Current issues include misdiagnosis, long waiting time to get in/scheduling, certain staff members' attitudes

2. Scheduling is often a 3-4 day wait

a. Dr. Kennedy from Family Practice (FP) is only available 4 hours/week, and doesn't have a set schedule for when in

b. In case of emergency, students can be referred to FP in which case there is

no cost

3. Many negative opinions from previous years are carrying over and keeping students from returning to SHC
  - a. There was the current observation that even though they say they are always booked up, it seems that no patients are actually ever there
4. Budget is the biggest problem
  - a. Idea was proposed to have residents come through student health, but they will probably still have to go through FP and it will cost money
- iii. Starting 1-19-04, spouses and children (over age 6) of current KUMC students will be able to be seen at the SHC
  1. This will be a trial semester for this program
  2. There will be a per semester fee which allows the spouses and children to be seen for free (just like actual students)
  3. Possibly will turn out to be a money maker for SHC

b. Student Wellness (Erica Perryn/Mike Oller)

- i. Plans for Spring 2004 semester
  1. General tax session in the early Spring
    - a. will include international student tax concerns
  2. Money, credit, insurance will also be addressed
  3. Identity theft a possible subject also
    - a. Prevention and how to deal with the repercussions
    - b. How to read a credit report to tell if fraud has occurred
  4. Talk to Mike Oller or Erica Perryn with any further ideas
  5. Student Health Insurance
    - a. Dean Knoll will be presenting two workshops (duplicates) consisting of a survey, presentation, Q&A session, and then a post survey
    - b. Contact Sara Honeck ([shoneck@kumc.edu](mailto:shoneck@kumc.edu)) for renewal of Student Insurance

c. Community outreach

- i. The rest of the toys for Adopt-A-Family will be delivered today
- ii. Ronald McDonald House Dinner was last night and was a success
- iii. Girl in China
  1. The contract was signed to transfer funds to KUMC Outreach

2. Dr. Zhang will be the advisor
3. Contract is for four years of support
  - a. Only will guarantee \$150 per year
  - b. Covering tuition increases will be voted on per year
4. A photograph of the girl as well as a translated letter should be available in February or March

5. Other announcements

a. Neuroscience Journal Club

- i. Students in any school or department are welcome to attend
- ii. Students present a paper in a twenty minute talk and lead a subsequent round table discussion
- iii. Interested students may contact Numa Dancause ([ndancause@kumc.edu](mailto:ndancause@kumc.edu))

b. Travel Award deadline – next one is January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2004

c. Midwest Women in Medicine and Science Conference

- i. Held January 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2004
- ii. Registration deadline has been extended indefinitely
- iii. Website – <http://www2.kumc.edu/wim/conference/>

6. GSC Picnic brainstorming

- a. Current ideas for activities include kickball/dodgeball tournaments, having a DJ, trivia/college bowl
- b. Will be held in late spring, after SRF and other major events have occurred
- c. Want to bring other graduate departments together, not just basic science students
- d. Let Erica know about any further ideas

7. Next meeting will be in late January