



Minutes from 9-30-03 Meeting in the MRRC Conference Room

Welcome and Introduction by Ramsey

1. Student Travel Awards
 - a. Ramsey gave a brief explanation of the awards and provided copies of the letters for meeting members
 - b. The deadline for STA applications is tomorrow, October 1st, 2003. The next deadline is January 1st, 2004.
 - c. Alex reminded everyone that applications must be typed.
2. There was a reminder about the \$1000 scholarship for research in genetics/cancer research.
3. Parking during construction (Erica Perryn)
 - a. 400 blue and red parking spots will be eliminated resulting in the loss of yellow spots. There is a temporary (gravel) lot behind the post office/fire department; there will also be a more permanent paved lot.
 - b. A new shuttle bus has been purchased which should decrease round trip time.
 - c. Dr. Rawitch mentioned that the permanent lot will be where the Mental Health Center is now. A 900-car garage will be built by the cliff, though funding has not been finalized for the parking structure. They are attempting private funding due to the processes involved with the use state funds.
4. Student Research Forum (Alex Dajkovic)
 - a. Jon Beckwith will be the keynote speaker; he deals with genetics and sociological implications of genetic advances.
 - b. Several committees including photography committee still need chairs; fundraising and poster session reception need volunteers. A sheet was passed around for those that wished to sign up to help.
 - c. The next SRF meeting will take place within the next two weeks – an email will be sent out using the new SRF e-mail account.
5. GSC Budget Approval Vote (Kevin McIntire)
 - a. Kevin mentioned that overall enrollment was down – the current total enrollment is 635.
 - b. The street fair had \$250.00 budgeted – no money was needed/used for the fair.
 - c. The printed budget had the following errors
 - i. PT club had requested \$200.00, not \$250.00 as was printed
 - ii. MD/PhD had requested \$100.00, not \$200.00 as was printed

- d. The requested PT Club funding is for a lunch seminar speaker covering issues not normally covered in their classes. Joe McDonald motioned to vote to approve funding; Jennifer Ho-Chen seconded. The funding was unanimously approved.
- e. The requested MD/PhD funding is to provide lunches four times during the semester to allow MD/PhD students an opportunity to collaborate and share their research. Funding for a speaker will be requested next semester. Joe McDonald motioned to vote to approve funding; Adnan Abu-Yousif seconded. Funding was unanimously approved.
- f. Joe McDonald presented a brief synopsis of the Physiology Society's GSC funding request. The funds help start a once a month social, off-campus meeting for all graduate students to help meet people in like situations. Joe reported that they already have many matching funds, and that the requested \$100.00 would just be as a start up for refreshments. Ramsey pointed out that this money cannot be used to buy alcohol, and that reimbursement requires itemized receipts. Ramsey also pointed out that this money was not committed for additional years, and that this funding was only start up money, and was more of a gesture. Alex motioned to vote to approve funding. Ramsey commented that publicity would need to be made to all graduate students, not just basic sciences. The interdisciplinary committee was mentioned as a committee who could be useful in this endeavor. Mike Oller seconded the motion to vote on funding approval; funding was unanimously approved.
- g. Ramsey mentioned that there was extra funding available due to budget under spending over the course of a few years. One possible use of this money is for more charitable work and/or donations. This money should not be expected and should be considered a "one time thing". The floor was opened to ideas listed below. The amount of money considered is about \$1000.00 per organization with the potential for contributing to a few organizations. This issue will be discussed again at the next meeting.

- i. Additional funding to the medical student-run Free Clinic if needed (Ramsey)
- ii. Hartley family center (Mariam)
- iii. Student scholarship fund (Alan Zidek)
 - 1. Ramsey pointed out for potential conflict of interest and that this money is from the activity fee fund
- iv. Various community programs that could use money (Joe)
- v. Youth Friends (Neal Alcalay) – tutoring and mentoring program for younger (elementary) children involving science
- vi. Reading programs (Dr. Bast)
- vii. Adopt-a-family type programs (Adnan)
 - 1. Adnan pointed out that these types of programs seem better oriented for giving money and not time
- viii. Graduate students in need, possibly health related issues (Marie)

h. Joe McDonald motioned to vote to approve the overall budget. Mariam Riazi seconded; the budget was unanimously approved.

5. Filling open GSC positions

- a. Susanna Harju mentioned Christmas in October, which will take place Saturday, October 11th starting at 8am until approximately 3pm. The project will be fixing houses in the Rosedale area. Lunch will be provided and the length of time one stays is flexible. Those interested should contact Mary Bosco by e-mail.
- b. Travel fund – filled by Christina Kaiser
- c. SHOT – Mike Oller
 - i. Works with Rebecca Vaughn and provides input about things such as Wellness

programs and the student health center – meets 2-3 times per year.

- d. Kirmayer – Christina Kaiser continues
- e. Technology – Adnan Abu-Yousif and Erica Perryn

- i. Active student input is needed especially with the library/ITC integration this year. SGC is also looking for representatives. Issues include wireless capabilities, privacy issues, computer kiosks, troubleshooting, as well as review of the current technology situation on campus.

7. Couples Enrichment Seminars (Dr. Vandegest)

- a. These seminars are to provide counseling-type services for both couples and families as long as one member is a KUMC student. The enrichment seminars are to work on meeting the needs and demands of relationships with regard to graduate school. They would be held on one night for 2-3hrs. Dr. Vandegest mentioned that the counseling methods used were based off of scientific data and research methods.
- b. Possible ideas for these seminars include having a panel of successful couples who have made it through graduate school and providing experiences. Desired focuses also include women and child issues, one member of the relationship in graduate school and one not, and development of an “inferiority” complex by the lesser educated partner. More ideas and interests should be e-mailed to Dr. Vandegest at kvandegest@kumc.edu
- c. Scheduling meetings would involve providing a three to four week advance notice, so those interested in attending would have ample time to plan out their schedules.
- d. Suggested methods of notification include broadcast and specifically targeted e-mails, flyers in departments, and working with the GSC. A potential first meeting would be in November.
- e. Dr. Bast suggested that these programs would also be beneficial to first year graduate students. It was discussed that waiting until possibly the beginning of second semester would be best, as it would provide time for the first year students to get adjusted to their schedules.

8. Returned to filling open GSC positions

- a. International exchange – Alex Dajkovic and Marie H  l  ne Boudrais

- i. Dr. Rawitch mentioned that the international exchange department/committee deals with a broad range of issues including how to make foreign students feel comfortable and get adjusted, as well as developing funding efforts for KUMC students wishing to study abroad. This committee will meet once a month and lunch will be provided.

- b. SEAD – those interested need to forward their names to SEAD. They will hand pick those they wish as representatives.

- c. Student Wellness – Erica Perryn

- i. Works on wellness programs/passport related projects.

- ii. Would meet 3-4 times a semester and set up programs for the following semester (possibly academic year). Theresa Brown is looking for student input.

- d. Departmental representatives

- i. Anatomy – Ramsey McIntire and Erica Perryn

- ii. Biochemistry – Susanna Harju suggested Anna Bomhoff

- iii. Pharmacology/Toxicology – Adnan Abu-Yousif

- iv. Microbiology – Alex Dajkovic and possibly Christina Newport

- v. Physiology – Kara Wagoner

- vi. Pathology – none selected (no students present)

- vii. Nursing – none selected (no students present)
- viii. Hearing/Speech Pathology – Mariam Riazi
- ix. Dietetics – none (no students present)
- x. PT/OT – Ann Hammond (PT) and Shweta Parab (OT)
- xi. IGPBS – Danielle Walker

9. SGC committee positions to be filled

- a. Website/technology, parking, diversity advisory, interdisciplinary, and Kirmayer committees all have open spaces.
- b. Committee members must be elected at the next SGC meeting, which will take place Thursday, October 2nd at 5:30pm

10. Karen Cole will be at both the SGC meeting and the next GSC meeting to discuss students' library issues.

11. Alex mentioned that the American Association of University Professors is holding a conference at UMKC in February to talk about graduate student organizing. He will have more information at the next meeting

12. The next meeting will be in late October – specific date to be announced later
