

## School of Public Health Student Senate Meeting Notes: November 12, 2020

6:30-8:00 PM CT via Zoom

In Attendance: Ian Passe (President), Keelia Silvis (Vice-President), Sophia Ibrahim Ali (Director of Communications), *Susana Carlos (Secretary) [unable to attend]*, Christopher Schmitt (Alumni Relations Board Member), *Alina Okamoto (MHA Executive Board) [unable to attend]*, Alexandra Kurutz, Amy Lamb, Sylvia Gutierrez, Cynthia Pando (COGS), Julia Ngep, Emily McGuire, Victoria Anderson, Aanu Ayeni, Rebecca Molinsky (COGS), Foster Jacobs (COGS), Taylor Lees, Sarah Steffen, Joseph Akambase, TH Tran, Taiwo Aremu, Morian Yarrow.

### CHECK-IN

- Say your name, pronouns, program + year
- Question: What is your (one) favorite food that you typically eat for Thanksgiving?
- First-Generation Celebration Week Shoutout!

### OFFICER REPORTS

#### President Updates - Ian Passe:

- SPH grading updates
  - Satisfactory/Not Satisfactory [updates](#) Fall 2020 and Spring 2021
    - All MPH students can switch to S/N grading thru November 30th
      - HARD DEADLINE
    - Announced to professors; some are already spreading the word
      - Marta Shore announced already to her Biostats class
      - Rachel Widome announced to her Epi class
      - Pamela Schreiner has also announced to Epi III students
    - MHA has slightly different guidelines
      - S/N for up to 12 credits for 1st and 2nd years
    - Fewer options for MS/PhD students, but Ian has reached out to Scott Lanyon to attempt to remove 30% cap. Also asked Dean John Finnegan to reach out to Dean Lanyon re S/N.
  - Deadline for withdrawing from courses is DECEMBER 1ST
  - More leniency for student interested in doing an incomplete
- Other Projects:
  - Website updates
    - [z.umn.edu/sphss](http://z.umn.edu/sphss)
    - Student Senate Google Calendar
  - Dean's Search Committee
  - Environmental Health Science Curriculum Planning Committee
  - StrengthsFinder Assessment for Senators
  - Vaccine registration hold ([z.umn.edu/ahcflushot](http://z.umn.edu/ahcflushot))
    - Email Carol Francis with a proof of flu shot, [franc004@umn.edu](mailto:franc004@umn.edu) if need to remove hold immediately

- Note from Rebecca: Even if vaccinations are up-to-date on Boynton, you STILL need to fill out the above form!

#### Vice-President Updates - Keelia Silvis:

- Student needs updates
- Keelia: Alina had MHA updates on students needing more resources from Profs. I've also heard from MPH students about the need for [trauma-informed](#) awareness for when, where, and how difficult conversations (e.g. the election) are brought up. Looking to social work as a model.
  - Students have the right to keep their camera off in any and all class situations. It is at the student's discretion.
  - Become familiar with and promote mental health resources at UMN
    - <https://www.sph.umn.edu/about/strategic-priorities/covid-19/fall-2020/health-and-wellbeing/>
    - Mental Health Advocates, Vic Massaglia

#### Director of Communications Updates - Sophia Ibrahim Ali:

- Follow the Senate on all social media pages, like/comment/share posts
  - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UMNsphss>
  - Twitter: @umnsphsenate
  - Instagram: @umnsphsenate
- Apply to join [CLARION](#) student board for the Spring 2021-Fall 2021 terms as a Quality Improvement Co-Chair.
  - [Application link](#)
  - Contact Juan Perez, [perez934@umn.edu](mailto:perez934@umn.edu) with questions
  - CLARION: case competitions, interprofessional talks/events, guest speakers etc
- Global Health Case Competition

#### Secretary Updates - Susana Carlos:

- No updates

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### Alumni Update:

- Alumni Society President Leisl Hargens wants to work on social isolation and mental health issues and is interested in exploring the idea of creating safe places for people to connect socially while distanced physically.

#### Events Committee Updates:

- Keelia: [Gift cards limitations](#)
- Sarah: [Friendsgiving](#)
  - Current students + alumni
  - Tell your network about it, especially alumni!
  - Hosted on icebreaker

- Keelia: Midweek lunch social
  - Does anyone want to host next Wednesday's lunch?--Reach out to Keelia if interested
- Keelia: Yoga update
  - Delay in getting started; we'll def have a series in the Spring Semester, Fall Semester is unclear. Reach out to Keelia if interested in getting involved.

#### Grants Committee Voting - APPROVED

- A PhD student in Epidemiology is asking for \$250 to register for the 13th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health which will take place in mid-December. They have received a grant from us in the past but not this year. They will not be presenting at the conference.
  - Ian recommends funding for \$200, since that is the amount that we have listed on the website and as part of the application.
- Public Health Review is asking for \$150 to renew their podcast license on Soundcloud (<https://pubs.lib.umn.edu/index.php/phr/perspectives>).
  - Ian recommends funding for \$150.
- APPLY FOR GRANTS! And tell your friends to apply.
  - [More information](#)

#### COGS:

- Voted on advocacy priorities for 2020-21
  - [List of priorities](#)

#### Professional Student Government:

- Meeting with Dr. Cedric Alexander

#### University Senate:

- Create Campus Safety Committee
- Saliva Covid Testing
- Sexual Misconduct Hearing Committee

#### EDIT/Diversity Network:

- October contest winners have been announced and prizes are in motion. Prizes were changed to meet the guidelines from Student Union & Activities (SUA).
- Trivia night will be postponed until Spring
- Diversity Network is planning a social event via Zoom, more information TBD

#### **OTHER UPDATES**

- Alina's updates from the MHA program:
  - We are offering S/N for up to 12 credits for 1st and 2nd years
  - Delivered a student climate survey for DEI related things: students would like more support from professors and more avenues to talk about topics.

- Does anyone have any suggestions of how to bring this up to professors?  
Is this something we can affect?
- Creating deliverable for both student and faculty MHA specific survey results on how we are doing
- We will be hybrid next semester: professors will opt-in or out of being in person
- ONGOING DISCUSSION: Professor's ability to have productive conversations on race and racism

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Keelia: What is a fair set wage for guest speakers?
  - \$200? \$500?
- THINGS TO ASK MELISSA ABOUT SENATE FINANCES:
  - Can we fund software purchases/database access for students?
  - Care package purchase limits?
  - Speaker honorarium limits?

There was a motion from **Keelia** to adjourn the October meeting at **7:40PM** and seconded by **Amy**.