

PhD Leadership Meeting Minutes August 15th, 2019

Attendance: Josh Acklin, Guha Arunkumar, Sindhura Gopinath, Basil Hanss, Maggie Hung, Denise Jurczynszak, Allison Kann, Abigail Lubin, Bar Nachmani, Shikha Nayar, Matthew O'Connell, Chris Panebianco

Start time: 16:03

PLM Business 5 mins

1. List of PIs taking students
 - a. List is almost complete → this will be live and continually updated. Will be housed on Student Council PhD representatives website and the Student Portal.
 - b. Matthew will distribute this to 1st year students and MTA directors as well.
2. Newsletter first edition
 - a. Potentially looking into ways to track number of opened emails.

Updates from the Deans ~10 mins

1. Basil Hanss, Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Career Development
 - a. General updates
 - i. October: there will be a school-wide mental health awareness campaign (main focuses are access and de-stigmatization).
2. Matthew O'Connell, Senior Associate Dean for Curriculum, Recruitment and Admissions
 - a. General updates
 - i. Orientation completed; classes started. Next year: coffee hour with other groups (such as oSTEM/SEOS/Women in Science) to be added to the orientation schedule.
 - ii. Classes: BMS is trialing a software that is video/audio recorded and produces a written transcript.

Student Council- Josh Acklin, Chris Panebianco, 5-10 mins

1. Graduate School welcome back dinner/school-wide party
 - a. Graduate school welcome back party will be held August 20th at Five Mile Stone.
 - b. School wide welcome back dinner will be in the student lounge on August 27th.
2. 97th street guard resolution
 - a. Dean Charney indicated that the guard would be reinstated. Chris to check on this with Steering and provide updates.
3. TV screens in Aron Hall
 - a. TV screens displaying persons who are banned from campus are still at student view in Aron Hall. This was brought to the attention of the Housing Committee of Student Council.
 - b. Survey will be going out to students wrt CCTV screens being on public view in the Aron Hall lobby.

THAW- Maggie Hung, Denise Jurczynszak, 5 mins

1. PEERS roll out in September
 - a. PhD students (1st years) course will be co-led by social workers and student facilitators. Efforts to add this onto an IRB for long term data tracking are being conducted.
2. STMH move to Aron Hall survey
 - a. Results compiled and being sent to John Ripp and the new director of STMH.

Steering Committee- Bar Nachmani, <5 mins

1. General updates
 - a. No meeting over the summer; next meeting in September.

Curriculum Committee- Abigail Lubin, Guha Arunkumar, 5 mins

1. Course discussion and evaluation forms
 - a. 2 courses proposed: both approved (advanced course in social neuroscience; emerging viral threats)
 - b. Evaluations: some students wish to have individual evaluations for speakers, especially courses that are modular. Evaluation form to be discussed to potentially incorporate this.
2. Classroom locations
 - a. Fixed location should happen for every course and every student (scheduling and room changes being decided by a higher up committee).

Student Affairs- Sindhura Gopinath, Allison Kann, 5 mins

1. General updates
 - a. International student guide: Students should have access to this “guide”. Official information from the international office to be compiled into an official “handbook”.
 - b. Clarification with Hamel wrt social security numbers and other international policies must be had before distribution of the guide.
 - c. Milestones: Matthew has a PhD and MTA-specific guide for this→ will send to Student Affairs to add to the portal.

Feedback from the student body 10 mins

1. Workshop development
 - a. Students are requesting workshops on technology and tool development→ some core facilities already do this. Curriculum committee reps to reach out to other cores and look into providing more such seminars.
 - b. Online courses and company seminars host these too.
 - c. Resources for all of the above to be compiled by Curriculum committee.
2. PLUMX
 - a. Student Council will talk to library IT wrt to procedures to update students’ PLUMX accounts.

3. Facial recognition and entry into Aron Hall
 - a. Legal—use in the hospital is fine.
 - b. Entry into Aron Hall—everyone who has a Sinai badge should be able to enter without signing into the gym but have to sign in to go upstairs. Students believe that if Sinai student guests are entering with those who live in Aron Hall, they should not need to be stopped to sign in. **This issue has been brought up multiple times→ this needs to be addressed at Student Council Steering committee again.**

4. Institutional DataCamp license
 - a. Students are requesting this to enhance learning basics of coding/computer languages → Matthew to report back on this next meeting.

5. PI training/oversight
 - a. Students with that mentors should be required to take some kind of mentorship training module before they take on a student.

Meeting adjourned: 16:59

Next meeting: September 12th