SCOMSA Meeting Minutes

Date: September 3, 2014  
Location: Dean's Conference Room  
Time: 6:00pm-7:45pm

Topics Summary:
1. Semiformal- September 26th  
2. Class of 2018 SCOMSA representatives  
3. 815 Albany Street BU Shuttle stop  
4. Changes in the fourth year curriculum  
5. Announcements and funding opportunities from the Alumni Association

Executive Board Members of SCOMSA:  
Chair: Jay Schmakel  
Vice-Chair: Jaime Stull  
Treasurer: Olivia Rowse  
Social Chair: Kate Carey

Members Present:  
Mary Louise Fowler, Paul George, Megana Hedni, Cameron Henneberg, Kara Montbleau, Anoop Ravilla, Christina Snyder, Kate Carey, Andy Mittleman, Al Nadjarian, Olivia Rowse, Lili Sadri, Jaime Stull, Rani Chudasama, Charlie Mackin, Rachel Morgan, Jay Schmakel, Mita Hoppenfeld, Nina Farivari, Diane Haddad, Terry Hsieh, Yoonjoo Lee, Ryan Quinton, Yuliang Sun

Members Absent:  
Alejandra Balen, Sara Liu, Tony Christiano, Amanda Fobare, Monica Lee, Louis Yu, Aly Elezaby, Andrew Platt, Katie Spina, David Stepien

Organizational Funding Approved (Treasurer Olivia Rowse):
• Student Interest Group in Neurology (SIGN): Neurology Career Lunch Talk- 10/6  
• BUATP: BUATP Dinner Panel- 9/9  
• AMWA: AMWA Welcome Dinner- 10/2  
• Cardiology Interest Group: Cardiology Lunch Panel- 10/7  
• Family Medicine Interest Group (FMIG): FAMES/CCHERS Panel- 9/11  
• Disability and Illness Interest Group: DIIG Lunch Talk- 9/25  
• Physicians for Human Rights: Syria Refugee Crisis- 9/9  
• Global Health Equity Program: Global Summer Student Panel- 9/25  
• BUCAI: BUCAI Information Session- 9/9  
• Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP), BUATP, and Physicians for Human Rights: Boston Student Health Activist Community LAUNCH Summit- 10/4  
• Physicians for Human Rights: Journal Club- 9/26

Individual Funding Approved (Treasurer Olivia Rowse):
• Apar Gupta: ASTRO Conference-Presenting  
• Bhartesh Shah: ASTRO Conference- Presenting  
• Ankit Agarwal: ASTRO Conference- Presenting

National Funding Approved (Treasurer Olivia Rowse):
• Winnie Wong, Estela Chen, Pamela Huang, Calvin Fong, Connie Wu: Asian Pacific American Medial Student Association (APAMSA) Annual Conference- Remedies for Disparities
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Upcoming Events:
- Semiformal will take place on *Friday, September 26th* on the Spirit of Boston from 11:30pm-1:30am. Each student is allowed one ticket for a significant other; otherwise, tickets are not to be sold to others outside of BUSM.
- Tickets will be sold for $15 on the following dates and times:
  - **Tuesday Sept 9th:** 6pm-8pm
  - **Wednesday Sept 10th:** 12pm-1pm, 5pm-7pm
  - **Thursday Sept 11th:** 11am-1pm
  - **Friday Sept 12th:** 12pm-1pm

Other Minutes:
- **Welcome Class of 2018 SCOMSA Representatives:**
  - We are thrilled to announce our 2014-2015 Class of 2018 SCOMSA representatives!
    - Mary Louise Fowler
    - Paul George (Dean’s Executive Committee)
    - Megana Hedni
    - Cameron Henneberg (Secretary)
    - Kara Montbleau
    - Anoop Ravilla
    - Christina Snyder
    - Yuliang Sun (MD/PhD)
- **Survey will be sent to the student body soon gauging interest in faculty-student venues**
- **Update from Dean Jackson:**
  - Regarding the BU Shuttle stop at 815 Albany:
    - There was a survey sent to BUSM students and overall, it was found that the 815 Albany shuttle stop was used by very few students
    - Drivers say that cutting the 815 stop out of the schedule will save 5-10 minutes
    - There is increased policing at the MSR, and the shuttle that can be used by students in the evening: [http://www.bumc.bu.edu/transcomm/shuttle-buses/evening-transit-t-shuttle/](http://www.bumc.bu.edu/transcomm/shuttle-buses/evening-transit-t-shuttle/)
    - Public safety can also be used to travel from the medical school to the MSR: 617-414-4444
    - Contact parking@bu.edu with questions and concerns
  - The ER side of Albany street will be closing in September- students will have to walk on the other side of Albany street to reach the school- don't anticipate this being a safety concern but public safety should be notified of any issues.
- Questions raised
  - How can we best use Paige and Shannon and do we need more support? This is an ongoing conversation, OAE has set up workshops throughout the year for students.
  - Is there an overemphasis of early Step 1 studying?
  - Should the DRx curriculum be revised to make lectures more condensed/focused on what to learn for exams without excess information?
- **Update from Dean Hughes:**
  - Changes in the fourth year curriculum
• Attempt to decrease the amount of required clerkships by 4 weeks because residencies are getting more competitive and there is a need to free up more time for interviews.
• Geriatrics, ambulatory, and surgery subspecialty are undergoing modifications to accommodate this change.

• Announcements from the Alumni Association (Tim Fitzgerald & Jake Hopkins):
  o Student volunteers are needed for the phonathon will take place on Wednesday, September 10th and Tuesday, September 16th. RSVP here if you would like to participate: [http://www.bumc.bu.edu/medalumni/events/annualfundphonathons/](http://www.bumc.bu.edu/medalumni/events/annualfundphonathons/)
  o About funding student organizations: there is a website with a survey student organizations can fill out to enquire about funding. Can also send an email to alumbusm@bu.edu to schedule to meet for selling a pitch
  o The Alumni Association looks to sponsor activities such as lectures, workshops, publications, and lunch talks are examples of activities that would be funded
  o The easiest way to get projects pushed through is giving the association as much time as possible; furthermore an organized budget is helpful- be prepared!
  o The Alumni Association can promote your event in email, newsletters, and even request alumni attendance
  o There are mentoring and shadowing opportunities: [http://www.bumc.bu.edu/medalumni/student-life/ementor/](http://www.bumc.bu.edu/medalumni/student-life/ementor/), as well as availability to be hosted in locations to where you are traveling for conferences or interviews: [http://www.bumc.bu.edu/medalumni/student-life/alumni-host-inquiry/](http://www.bumc.bu.edu/medalumni/student-life/alumni-host-inquiry/)

• Student Services update:
  o Request for whiteboards for the test rooms (to put up passwords)
  o The 11th floor is uncomfortably cold
  o Why can’t we use the stairs to the 11th floor when there aren’t exams?
  o There is interest in forming a meeting between representatives of different schools on campus (medicine, dentistry, public health, physician assistant, GMS) to communicate more clearly about the on goings between schools like sharing event dates and ideas.

*Note: These minutes contain all topics also discussed at the August SCOMSA meeting.*

Next SCOMSA Meeting: If you have any questions, please email us at scomsa@bu.edu. We look forward to hearing from you.
Date: October 1, 2014

*Please remember that all funding requests for the month are due three days before the next SCOMSA meeting, by SUNDAY AT 7PM. SCOMSA cannot retroactively fund events.*

MEC Meeting Minutes:
If you are interested in reading the MEC minutes please visit their website: [http://www.bumc.bu.edu/mec/mec/](http://www.bumc.bu.edu/mec/mec/) and follow the link for the minutes: [http://www.bumc.bu.edu/mec/mecminutes/](http://www.bumc.bu.edu/mec/mecminutes/)
You must be on campus or logged in through off-campus VPN to access them.

Minutes submitted by Jaime Stull