Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth
Student Government Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2015
18:00 Auditorium G


Others - Interim Dean Duane Compton

Agenda

1. Discussion on student representation on the Dean’s Advisory Board and other higher-level decision-making boards related to Geisel and DHMC (Ana Maria)
   a. The Student Government President has been invited to attend the next Dean’s Advisory Board meeting
   b. Next meeting will be January 15th and Ana Maria will be attending as a voice for the student body
      i. Can email Ana Maria with any issues you would like her to raise on behalf of the student body and she will also be sending out an email to all the classes for additional feedback

2. Interest group applications
   a. Benjamin Rush Institute (Jared Rhoads)
      i. TDI/MPH candidate
      ii. Dartmouth chapter of the Benjamin Rush Institute
         1. modelled after the Federalist Society at law schools
         2. Help student chapters at medical schools put on events such as debates
         3. Different from Health Policy Interest Group which has monthly journal club meetings to discuss current papers
         4. The Benjamin Rush Institute would have the connections with the national organizations to enable them to bring in big name speakers
      iii. First event idea: policy debate in the spring time
      iv. Bill Nelson is the faculty advisor
      v. Motion made, seconded, and approved for creation of Dartmouth Chapter of the Benjamin Rush Institute interest group
   b. ENT Interest Group (Emily Harding-Theobald)
      i. ENT interest group
      ii. There is currently not enough early exposure to ENT
      iii. Dr. Smith is the faculty sponsor and is having an interest meeting coming up
      iv. Events ideas: Already run a skills night, residency application sessions
      v. Motion made, seconded, and approved for creation of ENT interest group
   c. Latino Medical Student Association (Adrianna Staley and Freddy Vasquez)
      i. Dartmouth Chapter of the Latino Medical Student Association
      ii. Provides a space to celebrate heritage and discuss issues related to Latino health care
      iii. Will be open to anyone interested in Latino health care
      iv. There is currently no Latino specific healthcare group, only a group for minority students and the existing groups aren't very proactive
      v. Event ideas: discussions on Latin American healthcare issues, Latin American culture night, Latin Dance night
      vi. Motion made, seconded, and approved for creation of Dartmouth Chapter of the Latino Medical Association interest group
3. Travel subcommittee survey results and proposal presentation (Sarah Kleinschmidt)
   a. Tonight’s aim is to enter an ongoing discussion. A single vote or single decision will not be made tonight.
   b. Survey Results
      i. Responses
         1. Was open for 3 months
            a. Despite an additional call for responses, responses have not changed since the last presentation
         2. Response rate was not high and varied by class
         3. Most likely not representative of all the students
            a. May be biased toward students who are more interested in student travel
      ii. Priorities for funding (in order)
         1. More expenses paid for a given conference
         2. Send multiple students to conference
         3. Equity across classes
         4. One student going to more than one conference
      iii. Other student comments on funding varied and seemed to represent individual interests
      iv. Percentage of SG Budget
         1. Would like us to spend ¼ of budget on travel
         2. Currently spending 15% on travel funding
   c. 2013-2014
      i. We supported 54 students in total
      ii. After funds were consolidated in February, we supported 21 students
         1. One student went to two conferences
         2. One student went to three conferences
      iii. Most people are getting small amounts of money
   d. 2014-2015
      i. Geisel classes 1-4 have reached their budget limit
   e. Discussion items
      i. How to prioritize allocation of money
      ii. Currently set up where the amount of money you get depends on how much you will be spending to attend the conference
      iii. Not currently encouraging people to look for other sources of funding
   f. Proposals from the Travel Funding Committee
      i. Prohibit reimbursement for one student attending multiples conferences per year
      ii. Clarify the language on the website that explains that this not intended to cover the full cost of the conference and to encourage seeking out other funding sources
      iii. Do not separate the travel funding by class
      iv. Allocate more money towards funding
      v. Removal of the $400 level of reimbursement
         1. Currently set up for people spending over $600 per conference
      vi. Each student has an allocation that they can use over the course of their time at medical school
   g. Action items for tonight’s discussion
      i. Change by laws so one student cannot receive SG funding to go to more than one conference per year
         1. Discussion
            a. Set a different price amount for regional, international, etc
            b. Consider supporting one conference for presenting or two for just attending per person per year
            c. We may have people who already applied to conferences and were planning on going to another one in the spring
         2. Motion made, seconded, and approved to update by laws to restrict travel funding for one conference per person per year.
      ii. Combine funds right now and allocate more money
         1. Discussion
            a. All classes are currently out of money except for TDI/MD/MBA/PhD (dual degree account)
            b. TDI conferences are later in the year
c. According to the survey results, those who responded felt that supporting travel was important.

d. The first year class was given back the $1000 that was given to the 2nd year class at the beginning of the year
   i. All classes have spent their $2000 and the 2nd year class spent $3000

e. Current budget
   i. Our total budget is $68,000, and we can draw from reserve funds if needed, but we rarely do it
   ii. Discretionary has a little over $5000 left

f. One suggestion would be to add money to one large pool and then cap it at $150 per person for the remainder of the year.

g. If TDI/dual degrees also ran out, then they would also have access to the pool

h. Not a responsible use of money because we will not have this excess next year and we have used what we expected
   i. We are already $1000 over budget and unfortunately we ran out of money sooner than we usually do
   ii. We should not allocate any additional money to this fund
   iii. We should not change the policy halfway through the year and set a precedent for spending money that we will not always have
   i. It is a good thing that more people are applying and we should adjust to this
   i. It would be a better use of the extra money that we have to allow students to attend more conferences and help them grow professionally

j. Other big expenses coming up this year:
   i. Match Day: usually allocate an additional $1000
   ii. Community Service Day: couple hundred dollars
   iii. Specimen Cup: couple hundred dollars

k. Do not want to set a precedent for allocating more money so that people can travel as much as they would like, but also would not like to have money left over at the end of the year when we could have used it towards supporting students
   i. Would like to have a discussion with faculty to explore other funding options

2. Motion made, seconded, and approved to allocate $2100 from discretionary for a pooled fund for Geisel classes 1-4 and the TDI/dual degrees accounts once drained and then cap at $150 per conference for the remainder of the year.

h. Comments for tonight’s discussion
   i. We could just reimburse for travel only, conference fee only, hotel accommodations only, etc
   ii. Students have a right to travel and stay however they want, but we should not incentivize expensive travel
   iii. The volume of applications was significantly greater this year and caused the early shortage of money
   iv. We run out of money every year, the timing of this is different each year though
   v. Consideration of group travel
      1. Q: Does encouraging group travel reduce costs?
      2. A: not a focus of this survey
      3. Q: Was it a cause of the uptick in funding?
      4. A: Likely not (see above)

4. Tuck-Geisel interactions (Ana Maria)
   a. Ana Maria met with the president from Tuck and they would like to increase Tuck-Geisel interactions
      i. Interested in working together for community service events, social events, interest groups
   b. Currently we have 11 MD/MBA students
   c. Intramural Sports
      i. Tuck has a designated intramurals person, something that we could consider adding
      ii. Currently, if schools are setting up across campus intramurals, the emails get forwarded through Tina
      iii. Suggestion to have a student to be in charge of intramural team organization but not be a voting member of student government
   d. Lunchtime exchanges
      i. Tuck and Geisel students to give presentations about different aspect of healthcare from a business or medical student perspective
      ii. Discussion:
         1. In the process of making an MD/MBA interest group and this could facilitate these events
5. Social updates: suits & stethoscopes, winter formal, etc (Alix Perry, Michelle McMahon)
   a. Suits and Stethoscopes: Friday, Feb 27
   b. Heart Rounds for February TBD
   c. Geisel formal will be held the end of March/early April
   i. Currently looking into venues
   d. SNAP and Social Chairs have been working together to create “Grad Pub”
   i. Isolation is a problem at Geisel and other Dartmouth graduate students
   ii. Talked to Salt Hill and other locations to set up a regular weekly Happy Hour for all grad students at Geisel

6. Community Service, Dartmouth United Way campaign (Joe O’Donnell email)
   a. Be on the look out for a community service survey
   b. What should SG’s role be in this campaign?
   i. Some discomfort about asking students for money for a specific cause given that students are going into debt

7. Match Day Funding Request (Ayo Olufadeji)
   a. 4th year budget currently has $6826.37 left
   b. SG typically allocates an extra $1000
   c. All classes are invited to the Match Day Ceremony
   d. Discussion
   i. If the 4th year class has money left over, it goes back into the discretionary
   ii. Money is also spent on gifts for everyone who matches and the 4th year class has purposely been saving money for Match Day
   e. Motion made, seconded, and approved for allocating $1000 towards the 4th year Match Day Ceremony

8. Approval of updated by-laws
   a. Updated job descriptions for current positions, including those positions on the executive committee
   i. For example, we added the position of secretary
   b. Discussion
   i. Diversity Reps
   1. Do not work for the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, but their advisor is Shawn O’Leary
   2. They do not do administrative work within the office
   ii. The language is final, but the formatting will be proofread before posting on the website
   c. Motion made, seconded, and approved for acceptance of updated by-laws

9. Updates from Dean Compton
   a. Thank you to everyone who helped with the planning and attended Kelsie’s Memorial
   b. Please get in touch with Ana Maria if you have issues that you would like to be discussed at the DAB meeting, both things that are working well and things that could be better
   c. Is currently meeting with every department and talking with them to create a collective awareness of the challenges we have regarding our finances
   d. Presentation of mission and financials
   i. Core missions
   1. Medical Education, Graduate Education, Research
   2. Strengths are in discovery science and delivery science
   ii. Geisel Financials
   1. 2020 plan
   a. Made investments in things such as curriculum redesign, marketing, new faculty, etc
   2. Explanation of Current Deficit
   a. Grants are a big part of our revenue
   i. Our total grant portfolio has increased but our actual grant money has remained flat because of the percentage of grants that are sub-contracted
   b. Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) counts
   i. Full-Time Equivalent (FTE): way to express the time of a full-time worker
   ii. The number of grant funded faculty are declining and the number of non-grant funded faculty are increasing
   iii. Expenses have increased more than non-sponsored revenue has increased
   1. Non-sponsored revenue: money that is not coming from grants
   2. Every sector of non-sponsored expenses has increased, so there is no one area of the budget that can be identified as the area where the problem occurred
c. FY14 Financials by Activity
   i. Activities: MD program, graduate programs, TDI, research, clinical and lab services, other institutional activity, advancement, plant and admin overhead, other (not defined at this presentation).

e. Comments on presentation of mission and financials
   i. This activity breakdown is typical of a medical school
   ii. Research always is a negative margin
   iii. Main sources of revenue for the institution: tuition, grant support, endowment distribution, philanthropy, support payments from partnership with the hospital

Q: Does the medical school get any money from the college endowment?
   A: The fraction that we get from the endowment distribution is higher than most other schools

Q: Is our revenue breakdown similar to what is seen at other institutions?
   A: No - our endowment distribution is a bigger contributor than other schools and our philanthropic revenue is much smaller than at other schools

Q: What about trends at other schools?
   A: Almost every medical school is struggling right now because their grant portfolios have also flattened out. The ones that are not struggling are doing so because they are tied to a hospital that is strongly supporting them

Q: Why is grant funded faculty becoming a smaller proportion of our faculty?
   A: New faculty have not yet succeeded in getting grants and we also have faculty who were funded at one time and have since lost their grants and are currently being funded internally

Q: How has our relationship with DHMC played into this?
   A: He is working to create a strong relationship so that we are aligned in the direction they would like to see Geisel moving. On the net, we receive more money from them because they provide to us an unrestricted inter-entity payment. One agreement says that they provide the inter-entity payment to the medical school to support academics. We need to provide a better understanding of how this money is used

Q: Since Geisel was traditionally a 2 year school, we don’t have as strong of a connection with our alumni or alumni may split giving between two institutions. Would you consider this statement to be true?
   A: Believes that this statement is legitimate. The cohort of people who graduated from the 2 year program are in their “prime giving years”. Since we have moved to a 4 year school, the people who would be giving have not reach this point yet

Q: In what ways are we trying to improve philanthropy?
   A: Medical education program is a magnet for philanthropy. Trying to create a narrative for the research program to help with philanthropy.

Q: From the transition from 2011-2012, we lost a lot of grant funded faculty and also gained a lot of non-grant funded faculty, why?
   A: Without looking at the actual numbers and seeing who these people were, it is hard to say what actually happened at this point

Q: How does the naming of the medical school fit into the finances?
   A: There is a bequest that will come when Mrs. Geisel passes away and the exact magnitude of this is not known. It would be a significant mistake for us to view this as money to rectify our deficit. We want to be able to use that money to progress forward

Q: Does coming from the research background help you with dealing with the budget cuts?
   A: This is very difficult and he took on the role because he has been here a long time and the school has supported him through his research career and would like to help the school get back in the right direction

Comment: thank you for being here and presenting this for us. Something like this would rarely happen at other institutions
   A: Does not want to show us all of this to make us unhappy, but rather to be transparent and show us the challenges that he is working on in the Dean’s Office.

Motions
1. Motion made, seconded, and approved for creation of Dartmouth Chapter of the Benjamin Rush Institute interest group
2. Motion made, seconded, and approved for creation of Dartmouth Chapter of the Latino Medical Association interest group
3. Motion made, seconded, and approved for creation of ENT interest group
4. Motion made, seconded, and approved to update by-laws to restrict travel funding for one conference per person per year.
5. Motion made, seconded, and approved to allocate $2100 from discretionary for a pooled fund for Geisel classes 1-4 and the TDI/dual degrees accounts once drained and then cap at $150 per conference for the remainder of the year.
6. Motion made, seconded, and approved for allocating $1000 towards the 4th year Match Day Ceremony
7. Motion made, seconded, and approved for acceptance of updated by-laws

Action Items

1. Update bylaws to restrict travel funding for one conference per person per year and correct formatting (Laurie)

Next Meeting: 2/10/15 Auditorium G, DHMC