

Student InterCouncil
Monday, September 30, 2019
University Center Tower (UCT) Room 1726 (17th Floor)
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Minutes

I. Call to Order & Minutes Approval..... Tristen Tellman, SIC President

Meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm. Tristen polled the members for any objections or corrections to the minutes from Orientation September 14, 2019. Upon motion made and seconded, the minutes were unanimously approved.

In attendance: Tristen Tellman, Evit John, Ankita Pondichetty, Jeff Ackroyd, Michelle Man, Alexander Wheeler, Brittany Trinh, Alexandra Zingg, Niharika Neela, Rohail Momin, Oluchi Nwaobia, Rachel Buckley, Arlene Cortez, Anik Banerjee, Melissa Yang, Alexandra Alvarenga, Sonia Patel, Sehej Hara, Jayanta Mondal, Rachel Pham, Liang Wu, Paul Emeony

Absent: Kelsey Park

Advisors: Eric Solberg, Vice President for Academic and Research Affairs, Yuliana Nunez

Guest: Mr. Amar Yousif, Vice President for Information Technology & Chief Information Officer

II. Headshots and Group photo.....UTHealth Photographer

III. SpeakerTristen Tellman, SIC President

Guest Speaker, Mr. Amar Yousif, VP of Information Technology & Chief Information Officer

Mr. Amar Yousif was introduced by Tristen Tellman, President. Mr. Yousif spoke on what his role is here at UTHealth and opened the floor for open discussion.

The first question to Mr. Yousif came from the medical school student reps that expressed concerned regarding requirement for Dell brand laptop and that other Texas schools allow a wide variety of laptops for school use. Mr. Yousif expressed surprise at the lack of an Apple alternative. He explained that technology is limited as a security measure to protect patient data against data breaches. However, he agreed that an Apple alternative should be added to the safe list

Mr. Liang Wu raised the question regarding about VPN being blocked in other countries, particularly China. Mr. Yousif advised that UTHealth does not block any Chinese connections.

Mr. Jayanta Mondal asked about student access to software needed for our work such as Graphpad Prism, SAS, Matlab, and Adobe. Mr. Yousif advised he would look into licensing software or providing a discounted copy through the UTHealth bookstore

Students also asked Mr. Yousif about the auto logout of UTHealth registration issues and it was advised that it could be a PeopleSoft issue that restricts verification, but Mr. Yousif advised that he would look into the issue and possible solutions.

Ms. Tristen Tellman asked Mr. Yousif about the interface between MDACC and UTH technology policies at GSBS and if UTHealth had planning to restrict USB access. Mr. Yousif

advised that while MDACC necessarily employs stricter policies, UTHealth does not plan to restrict USB access at this time.

Mr. Jeff Ackroyd asked about the size of email inbox and Mr. Yousif advised he was unaware of the issue and that he would look into the issue and what option are available for more space whether that utilizes an auto archive or more server space.

The question was asked about utilizing 2 factor authentication on multiple devices simultaneously. Mr. Yousif advised should not be an issue as all students and employees have access and implied it might be more of a device issue.

Students inquired about a personalized academic career planner Mr. Eric Solberg advised that this is a school specific issue. Modules are available in campus solutions, but SBMI and SPH opted to not use this module, and chose to utilize their own systems, which may be operational in the future

SIC members thanked Mr. Yousif for joining us, and he thanked us for the invitation and encouraged to continue to ask his office questions.

IV. Committee Updates.....Jeff Ackroyd, SIC Vice President

Mr. Ackroyd announced the results of committee selections and reviewed the committee charges in accordance with the current SIC By-Laws. Mr. Ackroyd asked that each committee chair introduce themselves and also advised that at the end of the meeting there would be time for the committee to get together and discuss their charges.

V. Salutation PreparationTristen Tellman, SIC President

Ms. Tellman reminded the SIC member of the purpose of Salutation and that attendance is mandatory, barring an excused absence submitted in advance

Ms. Yuliana Nunez asked that members who can come early be at the Cooley Center by 4:00pm

Mr. Evit John, SIC Historian advised that T-shirts will arrive in time for Salutation.

VI. Advisor announcements..... Eric Solberg, SIC Advisor; Yuliana Nunez, SIC Advisor

VII. SIC Business.....Yuliana Nunez, SIC Advisor
Mr. Nunez reminded members that the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 21, 2019.

VIII. Other Business and Committee Breakout Session.....Tristen Tellman, SIC President

IX. Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Michaela Sandoval, on 10/16/2019.
Approved by Student InterCouncil on 10/21/2019.