SGA Meeting Minutes – November 10, 2010
5:30PM – 6:50PM; Conference Room, 6th floor of Lions Building

I. Meeting called to order by Danny Eads

II. Special Guest – Dr. Janis Letourneau, Associate Dean of Faculty and Institutional Affairs
    a. Dr. Letourneau is filling in on behalf of Dean Nelson, who was originally scheduled to be at the meeting, but was called to an emergency meeting in Baton Rouge by the Chancellor.
    b. New academic medical center construction update
       i. Tentative date for formal ground-breaking – Nov 29, 2010
       ii. There is approximately a 6 month delay from the original plans
       iii. Most likely open to patients in year 2014
    c. Higher education budget cuts
       i. 4-5 years ago, our state general funds allocation was around 40 million dollars. We have since sustained a successive budget reduction of these funds in recent years, so that our current state allocation is about 26 million dollars.
           1. In the last 2 years, the state allocation has not been comprised of what it normally has been in the past. It is now comprised of stimulus money, American Recovery and Reinvestment money, and state general funds. Only 12 million of our allocation money is actually from state general funds, and 14 million of this 26 million is stimulus money.
           2. Because many states, including Louisiana, used this stimulus money to fund higher education, once the 2 years since the bill was signed is over, state institutions will run into a problem with the fiscal year beginning July 2011.
       ii. Meanwhile, there is also an ever increasing overall budget for the School of Medicine in the order of 340-350 million dollars.
       iii. Our school has to generate funds to cover the deficit in allocation money
           1. Self-generated through grants of contract and new revenue- research grants, NIH funding, contracts with hospitals
           2. Cut expenditures
              a. To date, basic sciences have been reduced the most
              b. Savings/reserve money
           3. Tuition increases
              a. This includes a 5% increase in the fall, and then a 10% increase in the spring. The goal is to increase tuition to reach the Southern average for public medical schools.
              b. We are currently constitutionally limited to the amount of increase allowed in a given time period
              c. [Response to student question] The school does not anticipate losing students in the applicant pool due to these tuition increases, because we feel that the tuition,
while increased, is still a reasonable amount in comparison to tuition nation-wide.

d. [Response to student question about possibly reducing tuition to previous amount once financial situation improves] We are not anticipating that right now. We are looking at, at minimum, a 2 year debt, and there has been no discussion of that issue yet.

d. The recruitment of new department heads
   i. Finalized for Department of Ophthalmology; Dr. Jayne Weiss from Wayne State
   ii. Candidates for Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology following retirement of Dr. Nolan
      1. Dr. Amy Young – Baylor
      2. Dr. Conrad Chao – UCSF Fresno
      3. Dr. Robert Maupin – LSU
   iii. Search for Department of Surgery following the unexpected departure of Dr. Baker
      1. 11 candidates have been interviewed preliminarily – 2 of these 11 are internal
      2. The goal is to have a new department head by July 2011
   iv. Search for Department of Cardiology

III. Executive Board Reports
   a. Ryan Vega – President
      i. Unable to make meeting due to an away rotation
   b. Danny Eads – Executive VP
      i. Introduction of new L1 officers
         1. President – Daniel Logsdon
         2. VP Community – Erin Cahill
         3. VP Social – Randy Sorge
         4. Treasurer – Caitlin Robinson
         5. Secretary – Michael Modica
         6. Tech Chair – Claueq Pirtle
      ii. The locks on the SAR door have been fixed. It was due to a circuit board failure in the device. Any other issues like this should be addressed to Ryan Vega or Danny Eads
   iii. Molly Sweeny play sponsored by SGA and produced by Baton Rouge Irish Club
      1. Two-act play to be held in the Lecture Hall on 11/11/10
      2. Free of charge
      3. Drinks and snacks will be provided during intermission
   iv. Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill Screening Program
      1. Preventative program and screening for psychological issues related to the oil spill
      2. If any interest group is interested in participating, please email Danny Eads. Funds for such community service events can also receive financial backing/assistance from Tiger Run funds.
   v. Annette Zacharia, L2, will be recognized during halftime of the LSU homecoming game for her outstanding commitment to LSU and the greater community. She will be receiving a monetary award as well as a certificate and recognition from the Chancellor of the LSU systems.
   vi. Social Networking Committee will publish information by early spring semester. The LSMS has recently passed their own social networking policies; so much of our own policies will be based upon theirs.
   vii. Family Day – March 26, 2011
1. Class presidents will coordinate volunteers for the skits. The class with the best skit will be awarded $500 to spend however volunteers deem fit.

c. Christian Hernandez – Community VP
   i. Tiger Run – April
      1. Will solicit volunteers after Thanksgiving via email
   ii. Community Service Project – project pending
      1. Possibly Habitat for Humanity
   iii. Tiger Run funds
      1. Interest groups are encouraged to apply for Tiger Run funds to help get projects, professional development, or community service events off the ground.

d. Matt Giglia– Social VP
   i. SGA Christmas Party
      1. Last meeting – December 8, 2010
      2. Food and refreshments will be provided
   ii. Community service project after-party
      1. Tentative date - January 15
      2. Proceeds will benefit the Nicole Murphy fund this year
   iii. Happy Hour – sometime in the spring

e. Warren “Jay” Huber – Student Health VP
   i. Unable to make meeting

f. Jason Gray – Treasurer
   i. Currently on budget with a balance of $14, 209.63

g. Kevin Gipson – Technology Chair
   i. First meeting of the semester for the Tech Committee will be next week
   ii. 2nd edition of the newsletter was published recently. All are encouraged to send it stories for the next installment.

h. Sophia Mai – Secretary
   i. If anyone is interested in helping with Family Day invitations, please email Sophia Mai.
   i. Tim Torres – Intramurals Chair
      i. Flag football championship this Sunday – November 14, 2010.
         1. Possible bbq and tents on site
      ii. Paintball tournament hosted by National Guard this Sunday – November 14, 2010. Sign up with Ryan Rhodes or on site.
      iii. If anyone is interested in martial arts, email Ryan Estaris. His program will give 2 free lessons to any medical student.

j. Jimmy White – L4 President
   i. Still working on selecting a graduation speaker
   ii. Working on a timeframe for ERAS and application process to be published on the website
   iii. Planning for Match Day

k. Kyle McMullen – L3 President
   i. Unable to make meeting due to an away rotation
   ii. A Step 1 Forum was coordinated for the L2s last week. If anyone has feedback, please direct them to Kyle McMullen or Renford Cindass. Please do not hesitate to contact upperclassmen about Step 1 related questions that may arise.

l. Renford Cindass – L2 President
i. Day with the Docs is next week. Annette Zacharia is working with the Physiology department to add spirometry testing in an effort to make the event more interactive for the high school students.

ii. Student Lounge has been cleaned by the L2 staff

m. Daniel Logsdon – L1 President
   i. 1st exec-planned PTP was successful
   ii. Camp Tiger committee selection applications have been sent out

IV. Office of Student Affairs – Dr. Delcarpio & Ms. Bobbie
   a. Drs. Delcarpio and DiCarlo have implemented a Step 1 plan for the current L2s that includes submitting a mandatory minimum score of 200 on a Step 1 practice test to the Office of Student Affairs before being allowed to take the test. This is in response to a recent increase in failure rates of Step 1 takers.
      i. This new policy was recently enforced with 17 students that had to retake Step 1. Of the 17 students, 16 students passed with an average increase in scores of 23 points.
      ii. They are currently assessing the different types of practice exams, and submitting a proposal to have the Technology Committee sponsor the cost of the practice exams.
   b. Please polish up your interest group’s financial books in the event that you are audited.
   c. 175 Dean’s letters have been completed before the deadline of November 1, 2010.
   d. East Jefferson High School will donate a check to Camp Tiger for $2000 that they raised with Penny Wars.
   e. L2s – Do not sign up for Step 1 Shreveport spots unless you live nearby. New Orleans and Baton Rouge sites will open in the coming weeks, so do not be concerned if the website tells you that they are full.

V. General Student Announcements/Concerns
   a. Laura Shoemaker for Homeless Clinics
      i. Orientation for the L1s was recently conducted.
      ii. LSMS featured an article on the interest group. It is currently posted on the group’s website, if anyone is interested in viewing it.
      iii. Fundraising/Physician appreciation dinner – tentative date Feb 24/25.
      iv. Proteges meeting tomorrow to start work on the website.
   b. Greg Lee for APAMSA
      i. Mr. MD pageant – Friday, November 12 at 6pm in the L1 lecture hall
      ii. After-party at Lucy’s with kegs starting at 8:30pm – must purchase $10 ticket for pageant to gain entry
      iii. All proceeds will benefit schools in Cambodia
      iv. In need of L1 and L3 contestants

In Attendance:
SGA President –
Executive VP – Danny Eads
Community VP – Christian Hernandez
Social VP – Matt Giglia
Student Health VP –
Technology Chair – Kevin Gipson
Treasurer – Jason Gray
Secretary – Sophia Mai
Intramural Chair – Tim Torres
L4 Class President – Jimmy White
L3 Class President –
L2 Class President – Renford Cindass
L1 Class President – Danny Logsdon
AAMC – Luke Machen
Aesculapian Society – Clark Alsfield
AMA – Brandon Wiedemann
AMSA –
AIG –
AOA –
APAMSA – Greg Lee
CMDA –
CORE – Neema Patel
CSA – Darion Stofira
DIG – Tracie LeBleu
Edgar Hull –
EMIG –
FMIG – Darion Stofira
GMIG –
HOIG – Clark Alsfield
Homeless Clinic – Laura Shoemaker, Tara Costellano
IMIG –
MPIG –
OBIG – Laura Shoemaker
OIG – Sara Reggie
OSIG - Ryan Rhodes
PARSIG – Ryan Rebowe
PIG – Neema Patel
Proteges/Mentor Program – Laura Shoemaker, Tara Costellano
PSIG –
RIG – Luke Machen
Rural Medicine – Darion Stofira
SIG – John Wilkinson
SIGNNS – Clark Alsfield
SIHO – Elizabeth Fruge
SMILE – Melanie McIntosh
SNMA –
WIM – Maegen Schaff

Randy Sorge
Claude Pirtle
Michael Modica
Shih Y Tan
Will Varnado