**April 12, 2016  Medical Student Government Minutes**

**Outline of Meeting:**

1. **Welcome and introductions**
2. **Speaker: Dr. Marsha Rappley, *VCU Vice President for Health Sciences, VCU Health System Chief Executive Officer*.** 
   1. About the search for a new dean.
   2. Q: How did you get where you are?
   3. Q: How often do you practice now?
   4. Q: How do you think your diverse background will help VCU evolve?
   5. Final words
3. **Keith Zirkle, President of MCV SGA**
4. **Class updates**
5. **MSG updates**
6. **Funding Requests**

***Student Groups***

* 1. Dogs on call
  2. Endocrinology Student Interest Group (EIG)
  3. MedLife
  4. Class of 2019 Yoga Classes
  5. Mr. M1 Celebration
  6. M3 Orientation Week

***Redistribution of Funds***

1. DOCS event
2. Toner/paper

**Highlights:**

* Dr. Rappley explained the process of searching for a new dean and spoke about how she got to where she is now.
* SGA moving towards one joint government. More details to come in the fall.
* **Take offs** are May 11th at the hippodrome. Everyone welcome to come!
* **Graduation** May 13th
* **Flying squirrels game** is May 9th. Please sign up! There is no cap.
* **April Liver rounds** are this Friday, April 22nd 6-9pm @ Railway Taphouse.
* **Strauss Cup**, Sunday May 1st 1:30-4PM @ Clay Park
* **Mini-DOCS** rescheduled for April 30th
* **Curriculum updates**: clinical grading will change from normative to criterion based grading, effective for class of 2018. Created USMLE requirements: must take CS & CK before October 1st and encouraged to take after all clerkships.
* **Qatar Trip**: applications due April 19th. Visit <http://www.vcusga.org/qatarleadershipexchange/> for more information.
* **Spring study breaks**: April 19th and 20th from 12-1pm on Bear Hall Lawn!
* **Spring Mixer:** come meet and mingle with other MCV students @ District 5 on April 27th 5-7pm. There will be free food!
* **MSG Executive Officer applications** – DUE APRIL 18th!

**Meeting**:

1. **Welcome and introductions**
2. **Speaker: Dr. Marsha Rappley**

***VCU Vice President for Health Sciences***

***VCU Health System Chief Executive Officer***

*a. Per the search for a new dean*:

* We are starting the search for the dean. I know it’s difficult to hear that the dean from when you were admitted is leaving. A little about the process: we have about 20 people on the committee, including a student and a resident. When electing the student, think about the time commitment. 6-9 months to recruit, meetings about once a month. When we have candidates, will need to sort through the candidates and choose the best, usually 5 or 6. Often 20 or so applicants, though it depends year to year. Will settle on a small number and then interviews will occur. The number is then brought down to a smaller number, usually 2-3, and then will do more intense interviews. All the names are highly confidential. It is important to have a student opinion on the committee. Dean Strauss’s shoes will be hard to fill, however he has created a great school, so we will have many people interested in the position. Will be choosing the student soon, probably by May. They will need to reflect the student perspective. Meetings are generally afternoon or later in the day. The first meeting will be learning about the process.

*b. Q: How did you get where you are?*

* Came here because of all the unique clinical enterprises as well as the fact that there are 5 health colleges.
* My path is unusual, however getting less so. Many years ago the average medical student went straight from college, but that’s no longer the case creating a more rich and stronger diversity of backgrounds. When I went to medical school in 80s, I thought I was old since I was 28yo. I was a nurse. Very unusal to be a woman and a nurse in medical school. Went to Michigan State, which was actually quiet diverse, ahead of its time. In medical school you will make friendships that will be with you for your entire life. It’s an amazing bond that happens when you’re in this intense state. Same thing happens in residency, though different. It’s a good thing; helps support you through this tough time.
* I was a pediatric nurse before. My sister was hospitalized and ended up having a trache. I cared for her, as if I was her mom. That got me into the role of taking care of children. First job was at the children’s hospital of Detroit. I say I loved it and I did, but I cried every night for the first 3 weeks, because I was taking care of these sick sick babies. The margin for error on the job was very small, drips and interpreting doctor orders. I decided I either had to stop crying or change where I worked. Made myself do it. I didn’t ever imagine becoming a doctor for a very long time. There were very few female doctors and I didn’t like how doctors acted. Then someone told me, why not?
* What you’re really doing in medical school is learning to think. It was a really exciting time for me. I went into third year open minded. I didn’t just want to walk through M3 year since I knew I wanted to do pediatrics. But ultimately you realize where you fit in. After residency I started as a 3rd year medical school faculty member. I always knew I wanted to work in a medical school.
* My baby and I were in a different city than my husband. I took a job working on behavior problems, just to be in the same city, but then I ended up loving my job. I felt challenged and felt I could make a contribution. These were kids many didn’t want to take care of. I was also happy that I had research. I looked at how medications were used. This research triggered inquiry on standards of care, all evolved from work I was involved with early on. I take a lot of satisfaction from being a part of that. I looked at psychotropic medications. The first time I submitted a paper they said cant be true. Just had to keep trying. Triggered a lot of research. These were deeply disturbed kids and using medications that had only been used on adults.
* I never wanted to be a dean or anything like that. I realized I enjoyed building my clinic. I liked being the medical school course developer. I liked organizing the course and making it better all the time. It took me 6 years to perfect my lecture. I enjoyed all of that and when they needed an interim chair of pediatrics, they asked me to do that. I think it was because I hadn’t really taken sides, just figured doesn’t matter, just take care of our patients and teach the students.
* In the course of that I went to all the meetings with all the deans. They said, why not be academic chair, and I thought it’d be the best job in the whole world, and it was. Then the dean resigned and the provost asked me. As dean of medical school, you become much more external and political. I wasn’t sure I would like all of that. I thought it would be unpleasant to ask for money, and that is a very important component. I learned it’s not as much about asking for money, but you meet these people who have millions of dollars to give away, which is hard to imagine. You meet these people who want to use their money toward something great.
* I spent my whole life in the state of Michigan, 30 years including medical school. I never imagined myself in Richmond, Virginia. One day the president called me about the job. The more we talked the more interesting it sounded, and here I am.
* If you asked all the medical school deans, only a handful would say they set out to be a dean. Most were just increasing took on responsibilities. The biggest part is timing.
* Coming here I had to leave behind my research, which was difficult. I also had to leave behind some patients, which was hard. Some I families I had been with for 25 years. You have to leave clinic, which is why timing is so important. You don’t want to leave too early. You have to know that when you step away that you are ready for that.

*Q: How often do you practice now?*

- I am still waiting for my license. Will probably work in the resident clinic.

*Q: How do you think your diverse background will help VCU evolve?*

* My background has given me a deep appreciation for all the aspects of medicine. It’s more who you are than what you are when you’re sick. Cleaning the bathroom is just as important as who is writing your prescription. I also have a deep understanding of all the social determinants. I didn’t come from any means. My parents were one of the first in our family to come out of poverty. It gives me an understanding of not being able to pay for prescriptions or riding the bus etc. We have arguments about whether we should spend our time thinking about social determinants and things have come around. VCU health can’t be responsible for eradicating poverty, but we can partner. We can say we are doing this part, what are you doing and how can we interphase. Medicine is being pushed out from the usual places and that will accelerate over time. We need to know how to deliver care in other places. We will still have VCU medical center, but it’s just ~5% that need care at that level. We have some very effective models. The question is how to scale them up. We have some great outcomes, for example complex care clinic. It’s hard to think about it at that scale, but unless you do no one is going to get better.

*Final words:*

* You should push to have a voice in whatever system you’re in. My generation has had a hard time changing. What we have done has been successful, but we haven’t moved the needle enough. Don’t let yourself be marginalized because you’re too young or inexperienced, those are important attributes.

1. **Keith Zirkle, *President of MCV SGA***

* Incoming is President is Connor Jarendt, rising P3. He is familiar with the process. He was vice president of social affairs this last year.
* The Monroe Park campus and MCV campus are moving towards one student government regarding SGA. Nothing is changing next year, but the process has started with the formation of the Joint Student Government Council with the hope to create one over-arching student government for 2017-18. Funding for this student government will increase 30-40 thousand. When we partner with Monroe Park campus, hopefully money will sky rocket. With one voice, a lot more happens. We want to hear feedback and will be working on the re-structuring more this fall.
* *Q: Will there be a change in the student fees?* The joint student government council believes that fees will probably change and that likely will change in one or two years.

**4. Class Updates**

1. **Class of 2016**

* All have matched!
* 31 days till graduation!
* We did really well in the match, after soap 99% have matched.
* We are currently in capstone, basically, “how to be an intern 101”. After the first week we will divide by specialty.
* Take offs are May 11th at hippodrome. A committee of 4th year students have come up with funny videos and spoofs, as well as superlatives. It’s really funny and you should come!
* Graduation May 13th

1. **Class of 2017**

* Submitted fourth year schedules Sunday
* Many are applying for away rotations and figuring out what they want to do
* Class potluck May 6th @ 5:20 to celebrate M3 to M4 transition
* Fundraiser coming soon

1. **Class of 2018**

* Everyone has taken step 1! Class average has been good so far.
* Super excited to start M3!

1. **Class of 2019**

* Just finished GI/Guts. Not many people were happy with it. There was more of a discord between what we thought we would be tested on and what we were actually tested on. Otherwise just chugging along.

1. **INOVA**

* Not present.

1. **MSG Updates**
   1. **VP of Social**

* May 9th is the flying squirrels game. Please sign up! 104 have signed up so far and there is no cap. Will have alamo BBQ before hand, probably @ 5:30.
* This Friday, April 22nd 6-9pm April Liver rounds @ Railway Taphouse. There will be live music, Gelati Celesti and a ton of food!
  1. **VP of Publications**
* M3 clerkship guide is almost done. It’s a really good overview, with info like what to study and what to wear. Will hopefully be helpful.
* Staff excellence award & student leadership awards – please fill it out by April 15th and encourage people to fill it out! After that will send out an email about final voting.
  1. **VP of Societies**
* Finalizing Strauss cup, which is Sunday May 1st 1:30-4 @ Clay Park. Will have tons of food, the Gelati Celesti truck, foot ball game, dunk tank, cotton candy, tug o war, sporting events and free stuff! Will have T-shirts for the first 60 people from each society!
  1. **VP of Student Life**
* Winding down the semester and getting ready for new students in the fall.
* Scholarship fundraiser: have been in contact with several local booksellers about selling pocket medicine for a $1-2 extra. It has been slightly difficult because the profit margin is so slim for the textbook market, but my contact at VA Book Company is doing some research and will be contacting me soon with the lowest price they can offer. Happy to take other suggestions that we can look into. Take-offs donations will be plan B if the book fundraiser doesn’t work out. This scholarship will be for a M4 involved in service.
* Orientation Survey: coming soon, from last year’s orientation week (Aug 2015). Working on final drafts to send to admin and give to incoming elected officers.
* On-call room fridge update: new fridge is in place!
  1. **VP of Community Service**
* Last mini-DOCS got cancelled, mini-DOCS rescheduled for April 30th
* Trying again to get a mural project going.
  1. **VP of Curriculum**
* Always ask your curriculum reps if you have specific questions.
* **Pre-clinical updates**: all were reviewed, ask your reps for details.
* **Clinical updates**:
* Neurology clerkship review: gets reviewed more than other clerkships. Some of the suggestions are to have more formal teaching.
* Senior international advanced electives: limited to LCME approved sites only in order to count as an advanced clinical elective (can also be a clinical month).
* Grading: In general, 2018 and beyond, will change from normative (T-score etc based on the class before you) to criterion-based grading (% you get on your shelf) and will have cut offs. Each clerkship will use this new grading. Then there will be a committee that will decide for each clerkship. The cut offs wont be the same for every clerkship, but hopefully how you do wont be as much of a surprise. Should be a good thing. Will look more like the internal medicine clerkship grading across the board. Evaluations and other components will still be part of the criteria. Overall, there will be firmer passing cutoffs based on the shelf exam.
* USMLE requirements: Created a firm deadline by which need to take CK and CS. Everyone needs to take CK and CS by October 1st. By November for M3s. This is because it can take up to 6 weeks to get back your score and if a student needs to re-take they have to take time off to study, which can put pressure on whether you’re going to graduate or not.
* All but 2 people matched into a residency. Very impressive match.
  1. **MSG Rep to SGA**
* Just had the election, new president and exec board!
* Last SGA meeting April 13th @ 6PM in Larrick Ballroom B
* VCU Qatar leadership exchange, really cool. Was done for undergrads, now also for graduate school. The trip is October 15-22nd. The deadline for applications is April 19th. Visit <http://www.vcusga.org/qatarleadershipexchange/> for more information.
* Spring study breaks: April 19th and 20th from 12-1pm on Bear Hall Lawn! There will be free lunches provided by Jason’s Deli as well as FOUR massage therapists. That is double the massage therapists and double the amount of food from last year.
* Spring Mixer: come meet and mingle with other MCV students @ District 5 on April 27th 5-7pm. There will be free food!
  1. **Treasurer**
* Budget was sent out.
* There is about a $2000 surplus. Before we were using money from MSG for lunch lectures and then we were told that we cant do that. Now we are told we can, but only if dean’s fund is out of money. Dean’s fund is out of money, so we can spend money on lunch lectures.
  1. **Secretary**
* MSG Executive Officer applications – DUE APRIL 18th!
* MSG Executive Officer Speeches are April 26th from 5-7PM in MMEC 3-101, the ballot will be released that evening.
* Class of 2017 and 2019 elections
* Last Dean’s Luncheon – Thursday April 14th @12PM MMEC 3-101
  1. **President**
* Student leadership award – due Friday April 15th
* Spread the word about running for MSG! Applications due April 18th!

1. **Funding Requests:**

***Student Groups:***

* 1. **Dogs On Call:** Money for a free wellness activity. Every year they take dogs over to the undergrad campus, I want to get them here. Requesting $400, which will be used for administrative costs, dog supplies (they have to wash the dogs 24h before the visit), valet parking for the volunteers bringing their dogs and treats for the dogs. 6 people per a dog, 15 minutes per dog. Would like to give them some money as a donation since they are coming here and taking time away from visiting patients.
* **Approved,** *tentatively,* subject to VCU finance approval
  1. **EIG club:** This is the first year of the Endocrinology Interest group (EIG). Had one lunch lecture last semester. At this lunch lecture will be taught how to use the thyroid scanner. Will be open to everyone. Asking for $400: $350 for lunch and $50 for soft drinks and water. Gaged interest and there is a lot. This will be our first big event. Will likely get boxed lunches or chipotle.
* **Approved**: $125, $5 per person
  1. **MedLife**: new, started this semester. Trying to get a group together to go to Peru this summer. Want to do a lunch lecture on Zika virus. Joint with ID and LMSA. Requesting $60 for burritos (which is a third of the cost). Dr. Mike Stevens will be speaking about the Zika virus.
* **Approved:** $60
  1. **Class of 2019 Yoga Classes:** Requesting$150 for a health event. Have already done 2 yoga events, which were really successful. Each had the max 30 people, with 10 on waitlist. Feedback was that people wanted weekend times. Trying to hold 2 more classes before the end of the year. Had no problems with reimbursement.
* **Approved**: $360, suggest holding more classes!
  1. **Mr. M1 celebration:** hosting Mr. M1 this Saturday night, April 16th, at on the Rox. Requesting $500 for food. On the Rox donated their event space, so we want to entice people with food. $150 for decorations and gift bags for the faculty judges.
* **Approved**: $650, suggested not doing gift bags, but doing judge packs.
  1. **M3 Orientation week:** requesting $250 for school wide donut and coffee breakfast during M3 orientation week.
* Approved: $250

***Redistribution of Funds – moving unallocated funds for internal MSG spending***

* 1. $200 – meals during DOCS event
  2. $400 – toner/paper in on call room