

6:00PM – Call for Meeting & Attendance

## Guest Speakers

6:05 PM – **[Discussion]** Dean Schweitzer (Dean of School of Medicine and Vice President of Health Affairs) (45 mins)

- *Dean Schweitzer* - Reflecting on the last two years as Dean of WSUSOM
  - This coming calendar year there are couple of major objectives/focus areas for administration
    - 1. Quality of student life outside the classroom - soft open this week for the 1328 (same code as the gym), still want to do an official opening post-COVID. Starting on Jan 24th, a semi-permanent pop-up serving food in the cafeteria regularly and also 3-4 more days a week there will be a food truck outside Scott Hall. Sometime this summer UHC space will hopefully be up and running. Also planning on some dedicated study/rec space for DEI students in the UHC space?
      - *Student ?* - While we are of course very grateful for the addition of food options for Scott Hall, I am just wondering if healthy options are being taken into consideration? As a medical school, I think a lot of us students not only want to be healthy ourselves, but also set an example for promoting preventative medicine through healthy lifestyle habits. I know this is easier said than done, but have you explored other options in addition to a burger truck?
        - *DS* - We sure will try, but we do have to cater to what people actually want to buy. So while I agree that promoting health is good, we also want to provide food options that people will like. Happy to work with you all on that. Some thought and care has been put into the menus having healthy items as well as vegetarian/vegan/halal/kosher options on them.
    - 2. Offer more tailored educational concentrations for those that want it - This will affect incoming students (CO 2026). MD/MBA joint program was rolled out this summer that students in the CO 2026 will have the option to pursue. We also have enrolled 10 incoming pilot students in the 3-yr MD program. The MD/MPH program is also under development.
      - Though these programs are not directly available to any of you here now, what will affect all of you, is an increased diversity of clinical offerings that we have also been working on behind the scenes.
        - We are going to have more students at Oakwood - only free standing psychiatric hospital in the greater Detroit area. Dearborn also has a higher medicaid percentage than DMC so it aligns with our mission at Wayne State to serve the underserved.
        - More slots available at St. Mary's - smaller space, more opportunities to get to know attendings, residents, peers
        - Providence slots will start in April 2023 with the first 18 students rotating there. Historically this was a WSU hospital up until about 15 years ago.
        - There will be about 40 fewer students rotating at Henry Ford starting in April. This was out of my control completely, and a reaction to things that happened 2 years ago, unfortunately. In all honesty I think this solution is actually better, because it allows us to diversify the kinds of clinical experiences our students get exposed to

- *Senate Question* - What are your greatest accomplishments and challenges of the last two years and how are you taking those into consideration when looking forward
  - Stabilizing the finances of the school was the best accomplishment, now we have funds to invest in chair searches, we wouldn't have had this ability in the past.
  - Multiple chair searches are ongoing and are going well, because of the stabilized finances, we now have attractive packages to offer excellent candidates
  - We have one of the best New Vice Deans of Medical Education in the country in my opinion. He started a medical school, meaning he likely knows LCME standards and how to creatively and adequately implement programming to satisfy them.
  - We now have a full-time vice dean of DEI who is really excited to work with students
  - Well along the path of 2 new buildings, maybe three. We secured \$100 million from the state, had bond capacity approved for another \$100 million, and have secured \$70 million from private donors, so I am very proud of that. I think we may be able to get a new Kresge Eye Institute from an outside donor as well.
  - Gender balance in leadership is significantly improving. When I first started we had a single female chair, now there are four. We also have 4 African American chairs, 1 Latinx, 3 Middle Eastern chairs, and others, this diversity is improving and constantly a motivating factor in all of our leadership searches.
  - Stabilizing the clinical rotations and elective opportunities for students. Integrating all of the residencies together under one leader into one group is a huge.
  - In the last 2 years, we have also seen a 20% increase in NIH grants, and are considered to be at an elite level in terms of research funding now.
  - State funding has also increased by 5 times in the last 2 years. More out of state medical students that go to Wayne stay in MI for residency than UofM, which I think is a testament to our training and mission, we create the doctors that stay here and treat this population.
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- *Senate Question* - What kind of medical institution would you like Wayne to be and what is being done to achieve this goal?
  - Wayne students have always been known to roll up their sleeves and get things done, they have grit. In my mind, this is the single most important characteristic to be successful in life. We need to continue to be a hands-on school where our students learn how to handle adversity. We are a mission-based medical school and are one of the few actually known to stay true to that mission. I think that our students have a unique and unusual sense of mission compared to other schools, and with boards going to P/F, the reputation and history of the school are going to play a larger role, setting Wayne students apart. I think that this needs to be facilitated and supported, and the student reputation from Wayne is a major strength. I believe everything should represent the diversity of the community it serves. Wayne state is known to support this, the med school is more diverse than the institution as a whole, and as already mentioned, I am focusing on this in leadership as well. I am also focusing on this in the clinical experience as I look for training sites for our students. All of our locations should focus on aligning our mission. Lastly, it is important to me that we have faculty that cares about teaching, and we are setting expectations and ensuring our educators are fairly compensated for their efforts in order to keep our excellent educators we have.
- *Senate Question* - We have heard recently that DMC emergency medicine will no longer be taking WSUSOM students for EM clerkships and have partnered with Central Michigan University – many students come to WSUSOM for the opportunity to train in the heart of Detroit at DMC for emergency medicine and we graduate a large number of EM doctors every year, what impact will this have?

- This is definitely not true. As a little background, PPAP funds are a way to increase medicaid payments to physicians. The state of MI provides no funding to medical schools, so despite being a state medical school we don't get allocation. The University as a whole gets it, and can decide to allocate it as they see fit. We do get more total dollars as an institution because we do have a med school. One purpose of PPAP was to increase payments to practitioners, another purpose was to funnel the money to the school to offset the costs of educational endeavors. Prior to my start, we had a non-competitive way to approach this. We are one of the lowest overhead rate-institutions in MI, so some groups started looking elsewhere. COVID hit EM departments harder than any other specialty. So the EM group at DMC decided to use CMU as their banker instead of Wayne. This doesn't affect education in any way. The number of students and physicians will remain constant. When this happened, we did not want what happened at Children's Hospital to happen again, so we came up with an agreement that there would be zero change in education. The research grants and everything still go through WSU, and the students will still rotate through there, we worked really hard to make sure of this.
- *Senate Question* - What will be done to maintain other spots at DMC/HF/VA for WSUSOM students to maintain that Detroit experience they come here for?
  - VA should remain unchanged. Henry Ford steady state will remain at a slightly lower number as mentioned, but should maintain. It might go down a tiny bit in the next few years, just being completely transparent. We want to increase our presence at St. John's, which is actually often busier than DMC. Providence is still on the Detroit line, so Wayne retains it's commitment to Detroit and I do not think that will change in my lifetime, or in any other Deans lifetimes. We were historically at all of these locations, this actually changed significantly in the last 10 years, and so this is a long standing history at the school
- *Senate Question* - There is a big concern within the student body about the current climate with the number of faculty and administration who are leaving or have been replaced. Most recently, Dr. Bosch, Dr. Mendez, Dr. Allen, and Dr. Mattingly. These faculty play a key role not only in education but other initiatives
  - *DS* - So you have multiple reasons why faculty may be leaving, some are retiring vs. leaving for another position, a lot of these you mentioned are retirements. Keeping things in perspective, average faculty turnover varies by specialty, some is 10 years, some is less. We have a lot of faculty that have been here for 20 years. A lot of this turnover is for people that have been here for very long, we have probably some of the most stable faculty as any other institution. At Mayo, when you are chair, you are chair for only 5 years, that's the term limit. In Canada, 10 years is the limit. These institutions believe new blood leads to positive change and new ideas. Every one of these people are being replaced as quickly as possible, and we have packages and searches underway for most and are planning and actively moving forward at a fast pace with the rest. We are being very diligent in diversity while carrying out these searches and seeing this as a positive with the university. We are also currently looking for a pre-clinical Dean, I wanted to wait for the new Vice Dean of MedEd (Folberg) before this because I believe he should get to choose how he wants to conduct the search for his team he will be working with. For this search, we are not required to have a formal search committee. I am letting him decide this and how he wants to do this.
- What actions are being taken at WSUSOM to create a more inclusive environment for LGBTQIA+ students?
  - *DS* - Well I am happy to say that the new faculty announcement today was the first chair in the SOM's history that self identifies as part of the LGBTQIA+ community (Dr. Sokol Todi). If there are specific asks of that community, I would be happy to facilitate that with them and work with Dr. Roy to ensure that we continue to improve inclusivity here. We are also making sure to diversify the website to better reflect our community in that sense. In terms of diversity overall,

we are working really hard to diversify our students we matriculate. We just received a grant to expand the postbac program for the first time. We just got funding for 5 full scholarships for URIM medical students. That office has been working very hard, we are trying to make up for lost time before Dean Roy started. I firmly believe we need to do this regardless of outside pressure and national conversation, we need to do it because it is the right thing to do and it is who we represent as WSUSOM. We are an institution who had the first African American medical student in the history of MI, long before people were watching. This is going to be a tough year, applications overall are down, and there are leadership gaps, but we are doing the best we can.

- *Student Question* - What are we doing to support URIM students once they are here?
  - *DS* - This is my major charge for the new DEI Dean, Donovan Roy
    - Jenna - We plan to work with him on mentorship, alumni association collaborations, and other initiatives through IJI and the SJMEC on creating and fostering a more inclusive environment and training
- *Student Question* - What is being done to ensure adequacy of counselors with Ms. Connors retiring? I know she played a major role in career counseling, and the number of counselors was already inadequate to begin with, as was assessed by the Community Needs and Assets Assessment.
  - *DS* - I think this is more a question for Dean Folberg, I am not 100% sure on the plans for this position, but I am confident we did not cut this position and I do know that we are trying to expand career planning by utilizing our clinical faculty.
- *Rep from the learning communities* - We are concerned about the goals and future stability for the learning community program. COVID has stagnated us, what do you see as our future?
  - *DS* - I am worried about 3 major things from COVID:
    - 1. skewing in clinical education experiences. I think it helps with resilience and grit, but decreases diversity of medical ed experience.
    - 2. I am also concerned about the sense of connectedness to the school, I think students are losing their grounding in what it means to be a wayne student by not having to spend time with peers on campus.
    - 3. My main concern is social support and the emotional health of our students. We need to be very assertive and aggressive with this. However we get there should be a joint decision mostly from the students, with the support of faculty and administration. We need to think broader about clubs and spaces as to how we can best utilize our resources. Our main concern is getting people together, I think LCs are a great place for that and more resources should be allocated to them. I think we need to foster this. Please think of suggestions for solutions and pitch them to Drs. Folberg and Chadwell.
  - *Learning Community Rep* - We would like more clarity on communication of our budget and what activities we might be able to plan. Is there a way we can know our exact number ahead of time and what types of events we will be allowed to use them for? There has been a lot of confusion surrounding this in the recent past.
    - *DS* - The budget wasn't cut, some expenses seemed to be high, but for morale purposes it wasn't cut. Ask Dean Folberg and Thane Peterson.
- *Senator* - It's really awesome to hear how much emphasis and support is being put into the health and wellbeing of the med students at the school to prevent burnout and foster career development. For PhD students enrolled in PhD programs at the school of medicine, studying on this campus, there is literally zero programming to foster cross departmental PhD student mental health and career development. There are no counselors for us, no career mentoring, no professional development, no health and wellness activities, no opportunities for us to even meet each other. Is any progress or initiative going to be made to address this?

- *DS* - Well this is one of the reasons we are trying to bring things like food into Scott Hall, I think it will actually benefit the PhD students more than the med students because they are on campus all day every day. Also, the new rec spaces like 1328 will also be open to PhD students.
  - *Senator* - Okay, that's great, thank you. But I would like to strongly advocate that we also get some centralized organized programming for socialization, health and wellness, and professional development
- *Senator (social committee)* - Regarding our planning for a gala this year, we are in a really tricky spot, we want to connect with our classmates and throw this traditional celebration that brings together students across all 4 classes for one night to dress up and destress and have fun. However, we understand it is tough optics with the pandemic numbers and being a School of Medicine. What are your thoughts of the possibility of holding the event in early March?
  - *DS* - Early March might actually be realistic, I do have a meeting about this in the future in the president's cabinet so I will get back to you with additional details on this. Can I make one suggestion? If our mission and identity is to serve the underserved, I do not think it is great optics to have big fancy Galas or celebrations that look extravagant.
    - *Senator(s)* - So we would like to respectfully disagree because it seems a little contradictory based on the fact that the Medical Alumni Association has extravagant reunions as well annually. I don't think it's a bad thing for one night. It's basically a prom which most highschoools in all areas do, it's one night for students to get to feel special and unwind and have fun with their colleagues in every class
    - We really do jump through every hoop possible to make this event as affordable as possible through donations and subsidies, and contract negotiations. It's also about fostering community, which is a main focus for students currently, and celebrating our accomplishments
- *Senator* - There has been a lot of talk surrounding the fact that Dr. Bosch will no longer be at the school, we are all really worried about this going into boards, as she has historically been hailed as the best board prep for STEP.. What are the plans for replacing her to make sure the content is covered to the quality it has been in the past.
  - This is a Dr. Folberg question, I have been speaking with the chair of Pathology about this as well. We have been speaking about the potential solutions for months but I don't remember exactly what we came up with. I can assure you that we are working hard to find and fill this position with the most qualified individual(s). There is a plan I can assure you, I just don't remember what it was.
    - *Senator* - with getting a new person, we are just worried about what the reception and feedback will be for the new person. I think constant check ins with the students will be necessary. How can you ensure that we have the best M2 year we can have and be fully prepared for STEP1
      - *DS* - We care deeply that you all have the best M2 year you can that sets you up for success. We are revamping several committees in administration that may not have been most effective in the past such as the IEC and GME committees. I can't necessarily guarantee this, if we are not succeeding, please let us know and we will try harder

## **New Business – [None]**

## **Old Business**

6:45 PM – **[Update]** ISA presentations at Town Hall meetings (15 minutes)

- (Tabled)

- Check your emails for mandatory town hall information
- Reps from each class will be presenting at the various TH meetings
- Jenna will send an email about optional add on specific questions we may want to add to the ISA. Keep a look out for how you can contribute your ideas!

## Executive Senate Reports

7:00 PM – **[Exec. Pres]** Overview of term calendar and objectives of the year (10 minutes)

- End of March is Exec elections and class elections will follow that, some classes will already be in the next class year, so you will hold your position temporarily until elections are completed
- Next meeting our guest is Donovan Roy (New Vice Dean of DEI)
  - Will reach out to IJI to ensure they are represented at the meeting
  - *Senator* - Dr. Roy is really interested in meeting with students and he seems to have a lot of great interests in increasing representation and helping implement the goals of SJMEC and more
- At our February meeting we will have Dean Folberg (Vice Dean of Undergraduate MedEd)
- Following meetings will deal a lot with ISA, and board transitions
- Anyone else in admin you want to hear from?
  - Maybe someone to give an update on Scholarly Concentrations and how that all hangs together and summarize what opportunities students have to get involved in expanding their experiences in early years with the addition of new programs, especially as STEP has gone to P/F and these additional experiences will be more important to be competitive for residency. I don't know who this would be?
    - Maybe Chadwell, and Rajasekaran, and Steffes as a panel situation on this topic?

## Committee Reports

7:10 PM – **[Social Committee]** Gala updates and discussion (10 minutes)

- TDLR from our recent meeting with staff of the Dean's Office regarding gala. Basically, in years past, the Dean's office has done huge holiday parties with food and alcohol that not a lot of people came to. They were poorly attended and advertised so instead, the Dean's Office gave the students a sum of money to supplement the Gala so that tickets could be offered to students at a lower cost. So Dean Chadwell and Allison Gherardini in Student Affairs suggested we reach out to the Dean's Office to inquire about this. The new leadership in this office was absolutely appalled at the cost of the event. They asked and offered to help figure out a more cost effective way to host this event.
  - Basically, we didn't really get a yes or a no, and this is where we are at currently. With COVID as it is, it is seeming to be very hard to plan an event like this, not only because of the COVID optics, but also because that office really doesn't seem supportive of it in any sense.
- Basically, COVID-wise, as Senators, we don't feel that it is responsible to move forward this year, and I don't think it would be feasible at this point with the contract to hold onto a "let's wait and see" unfortunately.
- Let's try to explore putting away a pool of money that otherwise would have gone towards gala for the classes that have missed out on this opportunity for the last few years. Let's also explore fundraising for the future to try to make this a lot more cost effective for the years to follow. We will also maintain a good relationship with Roostertail for the future
- We will send out an announcement to all four classes soon

7:20 PM - **[Social Committee]** Gift Exchange (20 minutes)

## Class Senate Reports

7:40 PM – Class Senate Reports (10 minutes)

1. Class of 2025

- After many hurdles and delays, we finally have a class merch store that will be open starting Friday, January 7th to Monday, January 17th. Please try to have all orders in before the 17th as orders placed afterwards will lead to shipping delays. Thank you to everyone for your patience and happy shopping! We are still in correspondence with WSU Marketing/Student Affairs to work out the possibility of ordering Patagonias. We will make sure to include any updates via Class Senate E-mails.
- Reminder that Histology labs and Neuroscience labs will be virtual for the month of January so please check Canvas for the latest updates. The first exam of HBF-III will be 01/19! No PEP planned due to current state of COVID-19.
- Thanks to those of you who have already submitted your class dues (which should have already been submitted). Winners of the raffle have been selected and will be contacted within the next week. If you have yet to pay your class dues, please submit them to the following accounts!
- Cash App: \$WSUSOMsenate
- Venmo: @wsusomsenate
- In addition to your 75 dollar payment, please include your name and access ID in the description. If you have any trouble with either of these payments please email our wonderful Treasurer, Laial at [gh9730@wayne.edu](mailto:gh9730@wayne.edu).

2. Class of 2024

- On dedicated
- Turn in calendars by this Friday!
- Site preference due tomorrow
- Stay safe, stay sane, happy studying!

3. Class of 2023

- Jan 15th: Year 4 schedules, to be signed off by a faculty mentor, are due. Refer to Dr. Chadwell's e-mail on 11/15 for more info.
- Jan 17th: MLK Day University Holiday - Do not need to report to clerkships.
- Jan 18th Afternoon: Y4 Scheduling Meeting, Town Hall, VSAS updates

4. Class of 2022

- Belated congrats to the Military Applicants who Matched in December!!!
- Rank Order List Meeting on 1/13 at 3:30pm
- Urology rank lists due on 1/12--good luck!
- For those applying to Canadian residencies, the submission deadline is 1/31
- Match day & graduation are still TBD with regards to being virtual or in-person
- For those interested in the service award to be presented on Match Day, please see Dr. Chadwell's email for more information.
- 28 days until urology match, 34 days until ophthalmology match
- 73 days until match and 153 days until graduation!\*

7:50 PM – Adjourn