Medical School Senate Minutes
Tuesday March 6, 2012

In Attendance:
President: Audrey Butcher MD'13
Vice President: Jimmy Rotenberg MD'13
Secretary: Stephanie Le MD' 14

MD'12 Class Representative: David Cohen
MD'13 Social Chair: Brad Cotter
MD'13 Class Representative: Tariq Ali

MD'15 Social Chair: Keith Butts
MD'15 Curriculum Representative: Aron Mohan
MD'15 Green Academy Representative: Olivier Van Houtte
MD'15 Blue Academy Representative: Honora Burnett

Guest speakers:
Linda Gilette- Financial Aid
Marissa Quinn- VP Public Affairs

Start 6:30 PM

Linda Gilette

- Financial literacy, financial wellness
- Student feedback- what do you want to hear/learn about?
- Do students want to help with developing financial wellness programs during the summer for next year?
- Workshops- mostly in the fall
    - When would students like to have them?
- Budgeting- what do students need to know about?
    - Now as a student?
    - During residency?
- Students have been asking about repayment and how that generally works
- Student question: how many students on financial aid?
    - ~76% students are on some kind of finanicial aid
    - Loans (government), scholarship
- Student question: pros and cons of government vs. private loans?
    - Government has more manageable repayment schedules
        - IRB- income based repayment. Looks at monthly income and bases repayment on income, not on the amount owed.
    - Private loans have lower interest rates, but repayment methods are more difficult.
- Student suggestion- send out bulletins on changes in financial aid that are happening currently.

Marissa Quinn

- Media affairs, government relations, Brown Med Magazine

http://brown.edu/go/facts

  - Brown Supports Providence: FAQ
  - More information about Brown and Providence
- Interaction between Brown and the City of Providence
  - 2003 David Cicilline met with leaders of major universities in Providence
    - Agreed on $50 million over 20 years
    - If we purchase properties and transition over to educational use- then decrease payments over time. Over 15 years, eventually no taxes on the buildings. Have not done this yet with the Med School Building
  - Currently-Mayor Taveras:
    - The city is asking for more money
    - Want $5 million/year more than already contributing from now onwards
    - President Simmons met with him, Corporation involved
    - Proposed: December $10 million over 5 years for support of the Providence Schools- Mayor rejected the proposal, took it to- the Providence Journal. Negative press for Brown.
    - Ongoing discussions with President Simmons and Mayor Taveras with feedback from the Corporation.
- 40% of property is untaxed- Federal, State, City government, cemeteries, hospitals, colleges and universities, etc.
- 8% property value- colleges and university
- Of nonprofit sector, colleges and universities are the only ones that have already voluntarily paid.
- Guiding principle- needs to be tied to something that is important to Brown. Otherwise sets a bad precedence.
- Law- if nonprofit purchases land, most either have an agreement with the city or pay taxes.
- Med school area- have gotten special use permits.
- Over time, university will continue to grow/expand.
- Student question: how much money do institutions give to cities generally?
  - Cities are very different
    - Depends on revenue streams
  - Comparison to Yale- Yale gives $8 million in voluntary payments. Much larger operating budget, student population.
- Brown needs to maintain financial aid, employment.
- Brown is very tuition-dependent
- Endowment- all tied to specific things.
- Student question: to what degree to we communication with our peer institutions and see what tactics are used to work with communities struggling with budget problems
  - There are a few groups
  - Payments in lieu of taxes-
- Providence: State reimburses 25% of what we would be paying in taxes to compensate for educational institutions
- What leverage does the state have?

    - Could pass legislation- 25% of what we would be paying. Generally is proposed every year, but has not yet been passed.
    - That would be approximately $30 million/year for Brown
    - King George Charter- existed before RI existed. Binding, adopted by RI state constitution. Strong legal ground for remaining tax exempt.
- Let the office of public affairs know about things that are going on that should be promoted.

Class report:

- MD'12- waiting for match results. Next Friday!
    - There are match day activities that will be happening at the med school, underclassmen welcome to attend.
- MD'13
    - Finishing core rotations
    - Setting up fourth year electives
    - Parking- nothing is changing really. Surgery- can't come in before 5:30 AM.
- MD'14
    - Studying for boards
- MD'15- Spring break next week.
- Curriculum committee
    - Population health- Paul George. Longitudinal focus. Public health, many different focuses: community health, population studies/statistics.
    - Neuro- 4 week elective that people don't really take currently. Want to have an aggressive campaign to get people to take the course.
    - Consider making alternates for representatives- problems with attendance.
- Social committee
    - Generally get $3,000-$4,000 for the year
    - Student activities is apparently $26,000
    - Going to meet with new financial person
    - Want to do survey of schools in the area and see what they get
    - Will use remaining $1,000 for match day event
- Presidential Search Committee
    - New University President- Christina Hull Paxson
- End of year
    - Think about whether you want to run for a position
    - Constitutional rewrite committee
- Two more meetings:
    - April will not be first Tuesday
    - First Tuesday in May?

End 7:40 PM