



Senate Bill #2
of the 2016-2017 Session

To Charter the Health Professions Task Force

Introduced by
Komal Luthra, Student Association Internal Vice-President, 2016-2017
Monday, September 13, 2016

Passed on
Monday, October 3, 2016
GRIFFIN THOMAS, Student Association President, 2016-2017
Presiding Officer

Whereas, The Student Association understands the importance of providing students with resources and opportunities for success in future goals;

Whereas, Rice aspires to promote the success of all students regardless of their background, interests, and future goals;

Whereas, Pre-health professions offer a great deal of advising due to the ever increasing requirements for admission into medical school or other health professions institutions;

Whereas, Medical schools and other health professions institutions carry out a holistic application to look for strong applicants, not only with great academic performance, but also with volunteer, research, and observership experiences;

Whereas, It is crucial that Rice University provide this large number of students with excellent opportunities for developing qualities and skills necessary for the healthcare field outside the traditional classroom setting;

Whereas, With programs that give them the opportunity to build leadership skills, gain clinical experience, and learn about medical school, these students are better prepared for medical school, nursing school, and other health professions institutions;

Whereas, Rice offers considerable resources to pre-health students in their collegiate success through a number of outlets including the Office of Academic Advising, Orientation Week Advisors, Peer Academic Advisors, and Academic Fellows;

Whereas, Campus organization such as Rice Pre-Medical Society, Rice Emergency Medical Services, Medical Humanities, Rice Global Brigades, Volunteers Around the World, Neuroscience Society, and many others seek to provide students with research and volunteer opportunities;

Whereas, The numerous resources offered to pre-health students are decentralized, and it is important to take an inventory of the strengths and weakness of the current state of health professions community

Whereas, Currently, there is a lack of strong understanding on the perceptions of health professions students regarding pre-health advising and the awareness, accessibility, and usage of the pre-health programs and resources; and

Whereas, Health professions students' views and opinions should be evaluated carefully and given great consideration to be able to best support them with beneficial experiences for success during their time at Rice and after graduation; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Health Professions Task Force shall be created with the purpose of facilitating a discussion amongst students as to the specific opinions of pre-health professions students at Rice face and documenting any concerns to work towards tangible solutions with faculty and administration;

Resolved, The task force shall focus on understanding the perceptions of students and their needs to succeed in their goals;

Resolved, The task force shall work with the Office of Academic Advising, Health Professions Department, and student organizations to better understand the current state of pre-health advising at Rice;

Resolved, That the task force shall, beginning in January 2017, gather input and actionable improvements from members of the undergraduate student body, aiming to better understand how to increase support and awareness of the large pre-health professions community;

Resolved, The task force shall present its findings on the current state of pre-health advising to the Student Association Senate for feedback on how to proceed with the initiative;

Resolved, The Health Professions Task Force shall be chaired and overseen by Komal Luthra, current SA Internal Vice President;

Resolved, The Health Professions Task Force shall consist of a Chair, Vice Chair, and four additional committee members;

Resolved, The committee membership may be expanded upon recommendation of the committee Chair and approval of the Student Association Senate;

Resolved, The Vice Chair and committee member will be chosen by the committee Chair through an application process;

Resolved, That progress reports will be delivered to the Senate as deemed necessary by the Committee Chair or by request of the Student Association Senate, in consultation with the Student Association President; and

Resolved, That the Health Professions Task Force will conduct a final presentation at Senate and submit a final report to the Student Association President by May 2017 displaying the results of the initiative.

PASSED



RICE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT ASSOCIATION