



PHO
Department of Public Health
East Carolina University
1709 West Sixth Street
Greenville, NC 27834-2803

Public Health Graduate Student Organization

Thursday, October 2, 2008
6:30, Allied Health Building 1345

I. Call to Order (President, Elizabeth Baker)

Attendees: Elizabeth Baker, David Blackley, Summer Choudhury, Kelvin Freeman, Neil Gilbird, James Gordon, Chris Green, Bennita Harper, Tandra Hilliard, Travis Kauffman, Marissa Kleffman, Suzanne Lea, Rachel Loflin-Maguire, Brian Loveland, Becky Merrick, Lloyd Novick, Tanya Paul, Ross Pendley, Eddie Reynolds, Anna Szamosi, Adam Kyle Wilson, Sara Woolard, Fred Wright

II. Special Orders

a. Welcome Aaron Lucier, Pitt County AIDS Service Organization (PiCASO) President

i. Background Information

1. PiCASO is an HIV case management and education group that predominantly serves Pitt county. It is a small agency with 3 full-time staff members (Executive Director, Case Manager and an HIV Educator) and 1 half-time staff member (Billing Specialist).
2. The organization's mission has two main branches: 1) Prevention and testing, and 2) Case management, care and support. PiCASO offers rapid HIV testing. Aaron stressed the importance of testing and identifying HIV positive individuals so that the spread of HIV among members of the population can be eliminated. They also have a housing assistance program and food pantry offered through their Case Management branch.
3. PiCASO works very closely with the Brody School of Medicine's Infectious Disease Department.
4. They have a board of volunteers and are a true non-profit organization. Their office is located on Country Club Blvd. here in Greenville.

ii. Volunteering

1. PHO will be volunteering with PiCASO on October 18th at the ECU vs. Memphis football game. Aaron asks that all volunteers enter through Service Gate A to get a bracelet. Our booth is booth number 6.
2. PiCASO makes 10% of what the booth makes plus tips. This money is important to the organization because it is not attached to a grant and they can use it to pay for the small things the agency needs. A board member will also be at the October 18th game to help us.
3. PiCASO works every single football game and needs a minimum of 10 volunteers per game. With a large amount of volunteers on that day, PHO will be able to rotate out and enjoy the game. Aaron provided his email for students: luciera@ecu.edu.

- b. Welcome Dr. Lloyd Novick, Department Chair/Director of Masters of Public Health Program
 - i. Dr. Novick began by congratulating those who attended NCPHA last week on making quite a splash at the conference. We certainly gained a lot of attention for our program.
 - ii. The faculty retreat is October 20th and it will be different this year than it was last year. This year, there will be approximately 20 attendees and it will be a half day of planning for the program. Dr. Novick encouraged students to attend, as it will be very helpful for some students to be there to share their opinions. Dr. Novick & Elizabeth will decide which students will represent the student body and address the group at the retreat.
 - 1. The Analysis and Management concentration will be a topic of discussion. It will be split into two separate concentrations; epidemiology and management.
 - iii. Dr. Novick noted that there had been some confusion about requirements for graduation. They will be issuing a new manual to clear up any confusion regarding requirements.
 - iv. Occupational Health and Chronic Epi will not be offered next semester. Dr. Novick advised students to talk with their advisors about substitutions for these courses, such as a Health Policy course.
 - v. Students were reminded that they must meet with their advisor before spring semester registration on October 27th to make decisions regarding their schedule.
 - vi. Dr. Novick also encouraged students to attend the Phi Kappa Phi Forum that was held on October 7th from 8:30-12 in Brody Auditorium entitled, "Health Care: Public or Private Good?" Sara provided the number and email address on the board for those who wanted to register for it.
 - vii. Graduation will be different this year than it has been in the past. There will be no special ceremony for the December graduates. They are invited to attend the May commencement ceremony. The Chancellor has decided that he would prefer that no program ceremonies occur prior to the main commencement exercise, which will be held on a Friday morning. Therefore, the MPH program graduation ceremony will occur after that one; perhaps on that Saturday.

III. Officer Reports

- a. President, Elizabeth Baker
 - i. Elizabeth was happy to announce that ECU students "took over" the NCPHA conference and had great representation there. There were 4 open positions for the Student Caucus and our students were elected to 3 of them. The new 2008-2009 NCPHA Student Caucus Officers are: Chairperson-Neil Gilbird, Vice-Chairperson-Jackie from UNC-Charlotte, Treasurer-Brian Loveland, and Secretary-Summer Choudhury. Adam Kyle Wilson was appointed Member-at-Large for the entire Eastern Region of NC.
 - ii. Dr. Lea's comments
 - 1. Dr. Lea was pleased with the participation in NCPHA from our students. ECU was well-represented and she hoped that those who attended networked and met many people. Long-term involvement in NCPHA is also very important. This organization makes things happen at the local level.
 - 2. Dr. Lea is the Membership Chairperson of NCPHA. There were 174 new members in NCPHA last year. This year, the number one person to bring in new members to the organization was our very own Elizabeth Baker. Elizabeth surpassed others throughout the entire organization in enrolling new members.
 - iii. NCPHA Student Caucus Chairperson Neil Gilbird
 - 1. Unfortunately, participation from other public health schools has not been great, as evidenced by their lack of students at the NCPHA conference. The number one goal of the Student Caucus this year is to continue to grow and this will be accomplished by encouraging more active participation by UNC-Chapel Hill and UNC-Greensboro. NCPHA is invaluable for meeting people.
 - 2. Neil noted that the first day, our students met Leah Devlin, the State Health Director. Elizabeth added that Leah Devlin took it upon herself to introduce our

- ECU students to various others, including a prominent figure from UNC-Chapel Hill and challenged them to increase their student involvement.
3. He introduced Summer and Brian and encouraged students to ask them how they can become more involved.
 4. Neil concluded by thanking Elizabeth for being so proactive and making sure that our students were setting a bright example for other schools.
- b. Vice President, Eddie Reynolds
- i. PHO members will soon be playing soccer games every Thursday night at 8:30.
 - ii. Marissa added that if students bring their one card and shoes to the game, they can join the team on the spot.
- c. Treasurer, Ross Pendley
- i. Un-paid dues need to be collected before those individuals leave the meeting
 - ii. Checks need to be made out to the Public Health Organization
- d. Parliamentarian, Marissa Kleffman
- i. MPH t-shirt contest
 1. Prize-free shirt
 2. Voting will take place at next meeting; therefore, all submissions should be turned in to Marissa by Tuesday, November 4th. Submissions can be placed in the PHO box in the Hardy Building.
- e. Secretary, Tandra Hilliard
- i. Roll Call-Sign Up Sheet
 - ii. Icebreaker Activity
 1. The icebreaker activity consisted of students tossing around a ball that had a variety of questions written on it. Students responded to whichever question their left thumb landed on.
 - iii. Big/Little Program
 1. These are the Big/Little assignments. Please contact Tandra if you would like to be assigned a 2nd year Mentor.

<u>LITTLE</u>	<u>BIG</u>
James Gordon	Sara Woolard
Kyle Wilson	Marissa Kleffman
Brian Loveland	Summer Choudhury
Bennita Harper	Pamela Sullivan
Felicia Ezikpe	Tandra Hilliard
Fred Wright	Kelvin Freeman
David Blackley	Eddie Reynolds
Leisha Johnson	Rachel Maguire
Matasha Brown	Elizabeth Baker
Chris Green	Virginia Sutton
Becky Merrick	Neil Gilbird
Tanya Paul	Rachel Ward

IV. Special Reports

a. Committee Meetings/Brain Storming

- i. Committee members met for 10 minutes and decided on a Committee Chairperson (Social & Volunteer only). Ross Pendley, Treasurer, is the Chair of the Fundraising Committee.
 1. The new Social Committee Chairperson is Travis Kauffman
 - a. The Social Committee had the following recommendations: bowling, ice-skating, movie night and dinner. Ideas for sports activities were soccer, basketball, football and softball.
 2. The new Volunteer Chairperson is Becky Merrick.
 - a. The Volunteer Committee recommended volunteering with the local food bank or Adopt a Highway.
 3. The Fundraising Committee recommended the T-shirts as the primary fundraising activity and perhaps working a concession stand for a basketball game.

COMMITTEES

SOCIAL	VOLUNTEER	FUNDRAISING
Kelvin Freeman	Summer Choudhury	Rachel Maguire
James Gordon	James Gordon	Fred Wright
Kyle Wilson	Brian Loveland	
Brian Loveland	David Blackley	
Pamela Sullivan	Fred Wright	
Bennita Harper	Leisha Johnson	
Felicia Ezikpe	Chris Green	
Fred Wright	Becky Merrick	
Matasha Brown		

V. Old Business

a. Volunteer at PiCASO on October 18, 2008

- i. Marissa Kleffman, Kelvin Freeman, Summer Choudhury, James Gordon, Neil Gilbird, Brian Loveland, Pamela Sullivan, Bennita Harper, Felicia Ezikpe, Leisha Johnson, Becky Merrick, Tandra Hilliard, Elizabeth Baker, Eddie Reynolds, and Ross Pendley
 1. Students will be sent directions, along with a meeting time. Students will rotate out and they are also going to get a free hotdog and drink.

VI. New Business (No Faculty Present)

a. **OPEN STUDENT DISCUSSION-not recorded in minutes**

b. Football games

- i. All fee-paying students may get a ticket to home games
- ii. Tickets are first-come, first served, and often sell out
- iii. Those volunteering on the 18th do NOT need a ticket; however, tickets for that game will be available for purchase on Tuesday, October 7th.
- iv. Homecoming, ECU vs. Marshall, will be available on Tuesday, November 4th.

VII. Announcements

- a. Remember that Phi Kappa Phi is co-hosting its Annual Forum, "Health Care: Public or Private Good?" It is October 7th, 2008, from 8:30-12:15 in the Brody Auditorium. Registration is free for ECU students. Visit <http://eahec.ecu.edu>.
- b. Health Policy, and John Price from the NC Office of Rural Health will be speaking to Dr. Cummings' MPH class on Federal and State Rural Health Policies that Effect Rural Underserved Communities on Wednesday, October 8th from 3 – 5pm in Brody 3E 92. Any student may attend.

- c. The Global Health meeting is rescheduled for Thursday, Oct 16th, 8:00pm, potential location – Starbucks on Arlington and Stantonsburg. It will be informal to assess interest and potential format.
 - d. A Food Literacy course will be held over two sessions on October 4th and 11th from 8 to 5 pm at the Farmville Central High School. Contact Mallory Rimmer at 744-1358 or by email rimmerm@ecu.edu.
 - e. On Thursday, October 9, 2008, there will be over 200 employers at the ECU Health Careers Fair looking for eligible ECU students to hire for part-time jobs, full-time jobs, or internships. It will be held at the Health Sciences Building from 10:00 am-1:30 pm.
 - f. Internship information sessions will be held October 16th and November 20th at 4:00 pm in the Hardy Building conference room. For more information, contact Rachel Ward. You need to attend one of these sessions if you plan to start your internship in the spring.
 - g. A Kid's Triathlon will be held on October 12th (Fall Break). Volunteers are needed. Although PHO will not be participating as a group, individuals interested can contact Dr. Chris Mansfield for more information. Also visit http://www.runnc.com/Race_Schedule.htm#Splash%20&%20Dash.
- VIII. Adjournment (President Elizabeth Baker)

Prepared by Secretary Tandra Hilliard