

**Tulane Resident and Fellow Congress**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 14, 2022, 7pm**

**FOR CLARITY/TRANSPARENCY:** These meeting minutes are not transcriptions. We are creating these minutes in order for there to be insight into the ongoing discussions of the TRFC. The summaries are not intended to be, nor are they capable of being, exhaustive. The commentary described below is not intended to reflect direct quotes and may not be comprehensively inclusive of all comments/questions/thoughts. Additionally, sensitive discussions/information may be omitted in the interest of respect for the persons coming to speak with us.

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Old business**

- a. Bylaws Update-Approved by TRFC for GMEC Review, pending GMEC approval
- b. Budget Update-approved \$5k funding by TRFC
- c. May 7<sup>th</sup> General Meeting
  - i. Location: The Fly
  - ii. Time: 6 pm
  - iii. Theme: Cinco de Mayo, taco bar provided sponsored by TRFC.

**III. New Business**

- a. Vote to be sent to TRFC committee to confirm TRFC designated residents that sit on GMEC are peer selected in that they have been designated by a peer elected representative orientation.
- b. Town Hall update – Leslie Miller, MD. See town hall minutes published on website.
- c. Resident benefits update – insurance premiums changed to pre-tax status.
- d. Resident Salary Recommendations update - GMEC has sent salary increase recommendations for approval.
- e. Update on downtown gym: Plan for opening May 2022.  
<https://campusrecreation.tulane.edu/tu-fitness-center>
- f. IDA QI Project – Elora Apantaku, MD: Led by dermatology program director, Dr. Andrea Murine, aiming to improve resident experience in response to hurricanes. Seeking help with implementing resident and program director checklists. Working on hurricane curriculum for new intern orientation. Please email Dr. Apantaku if you would like to participate.
- g. ID Fellow workspace at TMC – seeking recommendations for solutions to lack of workspace for ID fellows at TMC. TRFC leadership has reached out to CMO at TMC for advice and advocacy. Psychiatry consultation-liaison service also having persistent issues with lack of workspace in TMC emergency room. A dedicated workspace seems to be an issue for trainees in general at TMC including internal medicine. Suggestion proposed to

repurpose unused space in the hospital for trainee workspace with computers and printers for completing clinical duties.

**IV. Open floor for new business** (*Open floor is an opportunity for committee members to present items for new business to be addressed at the next TRFC meeting. This is an excellent opportunity for TRFC Representatives to bring resident and fellow concerns to the committee and add them to the agenda.*)

- a. We now have social media!
  - i. Instagram: tulane\_residentfellowcongress
  - ii. Twitter: @TulaneRFC
  - iii. <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100080370039854>
- b. QR code flyers linking to TRFC website have been distributed at TMC. Some flyers already distributed may have an expired QR code, working on getting out new copies with working QR code. Please post these flyers in resident workspaces to encourage resident and fellow communication and engagement with TRFC. [QR COde Flyer - TRFC website.docx](#)

V. Adjourn

VI. Attendance:

1. Andy Pham (TRFC President 2021-2022)
2. Megan Lerner (TRFC Co-VP)
3. Leslie Miller (TRFC Secretary, President-Elect 2022-2023)
4. Katie Cox (Faculty Advisor)
5. Barley Halton
6. Elora Apantaku
7. Mark Rocco
8. Stephanie Goddard
9. Sumedha Purkayastha
10. Dominique Cross
11. Michael Ghio
12. Edgar Acuna

**Upcoming Events:**

- When: May 4, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
- What: Public Service Loan Forgiveness Limited Waiver Opportunity Webinar
- Where: <https://tulane.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAqde-tqjgrEtJ8rgNvQSc7fd1MNGZQB6o9>
- TIAA-CREF has joined forces with Savi, a social impact tech company, to offer a service that can help you successfully take advantage of programs like PSLF. After completing a free assessment, you'll be able to determine: 1. The optimal repayment plan and your estimated monthly savings 2. Whether you qualify for a forgiveness plan, how much could be forgiven and when. Additional information regarding this service can be found at <https://tulane.bysavi.com/>

- Saturday 5/7/22, 6 pm: TRFC Annual meeting followed by Resident & Fellow Cinco de Mayo Party.
  - OPEN TO ALL RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS. Families and significant others welcome.
    - Location: The Fly
    - Time: 6 pm
    - Theme: Cinco de Mayo, taco bar provided sponsored by TRFC.
  - There will be an opportunity to nominate yourself or others to represent your program on next year's TRFC at this event!
- 6/9/22, 6-7 pm: TRFC Open Forum via zoom <https://tulanehipaa.zoom.us/j/91064326157>
- 9/8/22, 6-7 pm: TRFC Open Forum via zoom
- 12/8/22, 6-7 pm: TRFC Open Forum via zoom
- July 2022: TRFC representative elections

### Resource List:

- Mental Health Resources:
  - Find resources via Tulane Companion App: Support > Trainee > Psychotherapy and Psychiatry in New Orleans.
  - Compilation of Mental Health & Wellness Resources for Medical Professionals: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/18kawS\\_YixGrXrNRo\\_rAsW0VcdGjU66b4tYznJh6PvU/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/18kawS_YixGrXrNRo_rAsW0VcdGjU66b4tYznJh6PvU/edit?usp=sharing)
- **TRFC Website:** <https://medicine.tulane.edu/graduate-medical-education/resident-and-fellow-congress-trfc>
  - Please visit our website to find out who your TRFC reps are and reach out to them with any questions or concerns. If you are interested in leadership and trainee advocacy, please consider running for TRFC next year!
- Professional Reporting System: <https://medicine.tulane.edu/student-affairs/professionalismenvironment-learning-program>
- Professionalism Task Force website: <https://medicine.tulane.edu/student-affairs/professionalismenvironment-learning-program/professionalism-task-force>
- **GME website:** <https://medicine.tulane.edu/education/graduate-medical-education>
- Tulane Retirement Plans are available, but Tulane does not match contributions. TIAA customer service representatives have been helpful to individual residents in setting up retirement plans. [https://hr.tulane.edu/benefits/retirement#:~:text=Tulane%20currently%20offers%20four%20retirement,c\)%20tax%2Dexempt%20organizations](https://hr.tulane.edu/benefits/retirement#:~:text=Tulane%20currently%20offers%20four%20retirement,c)%20tax%2Dexempt%20organizations)