Students’ Council Weekly Meetings
Minutes from 9/20/15

Members Present: Emily, Claire, Adedoyin, Mis, Jason, Alana, Tristan, Jay, Ian, Saumya, Hunter, Zach, Julia, Yancheng
Members Absent: Jessica
Guests: Don Campbell

1. Moment of Silence
2. Intros for Class Reps
3. Don Campbell Discusses DC Oval
   1. Don: The DC Oval is intended to be an outdoor space for students to get together on their way in/out DC, in the evening, etc. There are different ideas for how to create the space. Wondering if students would use this space. If so, will get design done and maybe start construction in spring. If nobody wants to use it, then there’s no need to build it. The designs have a variety of things there: when it gets cold, there is a fireplace; there are seats facing DC, so it can be used for speakers, etc.
   2. Ian: What would be done for DC basement with the time and money? Don: We did some things over the summer, and are working right now redoing basement of HCA 50. We want to learn about what spaces students like, and to give students something they will use. Another thing done in the summer is for Haverford Robotics in basement of INSC. They moved out of the chemistry lab, and we bought them all equipments they need. We are looking for opportunities to improve students’ life.
   3. Emily: How much space would the renovation take? Don: The ramp and the stairs would still be in place. Will probably put some railings there, so there is more space. In the design, there are different levels of space. And there are 3 different kinds of flavors. If students don’t like these, we can come up with more plans.
   4. Ian: Can it be a place to gather people on Saturday or Sunday nights? Don: I don’t see a problem as long as there’s no destruction. We are also looking into the space in front of DC, and trying to see what we can do. The space can be another place where people can hang out 24/7. Maybe we will put a TV there if that’s something people want. In the DC Oval, we will probably build a fireplace, one with a timer so that there will not be a fire with nobody around. We want to make it more functional, and make people interested in using it.
   5. Emily: Will people get in/out DC easily during construction? Don: While the walls are taken down, there may be some problems with the front entrance of DC, but this may not be done while students are here.
   6. Don: Do you think people will use it? Zach: People who live in HCA don’t go to DC that often, so they may not use it. Tristan: HCA people may need a place to hangout between classes. Ian: It will be a good place for people to congregate.
   7. Don: The DC is “in the center of campus”, and since it is in an oval, the sound will not get as far as in other places. So people can get louder without disturbing other people. Also the nearest dorm is Lloyd, which is not so close, so there will be no disturbance. The construction will mainly be wood structure, so we will make it safe.
   8. Who will be responsible for cleaning the space? Don: There will be trash cans there. We will also have people from Facilities pick up trash there. If there’s a party and people leave trash there, it would not be fair for people to clean up, but we will figure things out.
   9. Claire: Will it be a space that students can reserve? Don: We will leave the choice to students to see what is the best. Maybe students can reserve the space through the new EMS system. Also
we will see the setup, and there will be one space or multiple spaces.

10. Yancheng: The campus is pretty cold during the winter. And will there be vending machine, etc?
Don: Students can go into DC to get things to eat, so no vending machine is there. There may be vending machines in the DC basement. It is not a huge space, so there will not be a coffee bar, but it would be definitely possible if students want to grab their lunch from DC and eat there.

11. Don: Jason and Claire will figure out people to work this out with. Will start to work on it maybe next week or so. We just don’t want to build something that people won’t use. The work won’t take a long time, maybe 3-4 1-hour meetings.

4. President Updates
a. Plenary
   i. 2 Pre-Plenary meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday. If you want to present a resolution, come talk to us.
   ii. SC Co-Sees will coordinate with HC Co-Sees to take minutes at Plenary. Members of SC will take turns to count quorum at the door.

b. Meeting with Wendy Smith
   i. Talked about some issues, which are pretty difficult. Are making efforts with freshmen and Customs. Thinking about pairing up Customs with varsity teams in order to get people mingle and go out to games. Jessica is taking lead in this project.
   ii. Club sports have limited budget. Thinking about maybe get Crew a varsity club but there will be other problems. So there are few things we can do on the institutional level, but we are trying to get the culture better.

c. 2020 Implementation Committee
   i. Met last Friday with senior staff, Jason and Claire, Board of Managers, and faculty.
   ii. Topics included advising-- making first and second year advisors more like mentors; how the advising system works and if it is useful or not. Jason: I didn’t feel connected to my advisor because I was not interested in his field. Maybe it will be better for advisors to be more like mentors. Feel that switching names will make a difference. Sometimes changing the name just changes the feeling.
   iii. Emily: Who would be responsible for advising? Claire: Faculty will still be responsible for advising for classes, etc., but maybe they can take more on the college experiences and so on.

d. Plenary Resolutions
   i. Jason & Claire: When Co-Sees are newly elected, they don’t know how to do elections with BigPulse, so they need to call lots of people for help. So we think it will be better to elect a election officer. The first one will be elected in Spring 2016, and have a 1.5 year term. Then the second will be elected in Spring 2016, so that the two officers can have some overlap to get used to BigPulse. In this way, the Co-Sees can do more other things, and the work can be divided more equally.
   ii. Ian & Tristan: Just having 2 officers at budgeting is tricky, so we are thinking about getting more officers present at budgeting interviews.
   iii. Maybe will combine the two resolutions.

5. Elections Updates
a. DRPs
   i. Saumya: Maybe just send out emails to ask if people are interested, instead of doing elections.
   ii. Natalie: We will send out email to see if people are interested within the next week, and give the names of DRPs to Saumya.

6. Appointments Committee Updates

2. Will do more appointments this week.

7. Budgeting Updates
   1. Made a decision to push grievances. 20 clubs handed in grievance, asking for more money than the amount we can offer. So we will have interviews coming up this week. Officers will need to come for interviews.

8. Officer Updates
   a. Discussion of survey results
      1. Saumya: 366 people responded, which is pretty good.
   b. Academics
      1. In the survey, asked students if they want to reverse the Thanksgiving break and fall break (2 days for fall break, and 10 days for Thanksgiving), but students prefer the current combination.
      2. Still working on graduation requirements. Maybe will make some changes. Students will probably have 1 less course that they need to take. And still talking about the quantitative requirement. However, the changes would not affect anyone in college right now. The changes are all for the future.
   c. Arts
      1. The survey asked how people use different resources in James House, and what people want to see.
      2. Freshman are unhappy about how callbacks of a capella are done— you can only go to one callback among all callbacks. Will send emails to a capella groups.
      3. Students also have difficulty finding out events on campus, so will continue to send weekly emails.
         a. Saumya: Also trying to get Go! board useful, and looking into mobile apps.
   d. Athletics
      1. Working on finding ways to advertise athletic events to people other than through emails.
      2. There was a lot of concern about club sports not having access to basic medical supplies, so I’m talking to Health Services about possibly supplying club sports with a first aid kit.
      3. There was also a concern about the social gap between athletes and non-athletes. Talked with Claire and Jason about possibly doing a pilot for a “pals program”, in which a varsity team was paired with a Custom hall, to try to get both sides more involved.
      4. Also planning on meeting with Wendy Smith to discuss more about these issues.
   e. Campus Life
      1. A lot responses focused on laundry, Blue Bus, and Wifi issues. After meeting with Dean Walter and Residential Life, found out that these are standing issues.
      2. Meeting with Residential Life about laundry.
      3. If anyone is interested in working on blue bus, email me. I’m also looking into Swat vans. One issue with blue bus is that we have 2 buses, but they are at the same place at the same time. I’m working to make them at different places.
   f. Multiculturalism
      1. A lot of comments talked about that no one knows when and where affinity groups are meeting. There are lots of emails sent out about these meetings, but people don’t read or open them. Maybe will have a Facebook group or affinity group calendar for people, so that it is for all affinity groups instead of individual ones.
      2. Claire: Seems that lots of Officers want to get calendars. Maybe people can work together?
9. Class Year Reps
   a. 2015
   b. 2016
   c. 2017
   d. 2018
   e. Delegating tasks

10. Non-Officer Updates and Comments
    1. Jason: SC had dinner on Friday in Golden Bowl. It was a great experience.
    2. Claire: Still working on Plenary Rules of Order. Also working on video project of sexual misconduct, social Honor Code, etc. with Cohen and Maria. The videos will be ready for the next Custom.

11. Moment of Silence