

Students' Council Weekly Meetings
Minutes from 2/7/16

Members Present: Jason, Claire, Tristan, Alana, Julia, Deedee, Saumya, Madeline, Ian, Sergio, Yan
Members Absent: Dylan, Jess, Mis, Emily, Hunter, Jay
Guests: Walt Plumlee '18

1. Moment of Silence
2. President Updates
 - a. Board Updates
 - i. Had Board Managers meeting this weekend (Fri and Sat)
 - ii. Update from the president
 - iii. Presented everything that we're doing
 - iv. Board felt passionately about the smoking policy (had four doctors, expressed concern over smoking in dorms and Res Life's policy)- might consider moving forward on (conversation has not yet ended)
 - v. Also presented results of athlete-non athlete survey, they are always very interested in/concerned about this (not used to having a gap between the two groups)
 - vi. Dining services came in- student approval from about 35% in 2014 to 70% this year (lots of reasons- pizza, extended hours, fresh food, fruit, etc)
 - b. Divestment Talk
 - i. Talked about divestment, sustainability,
 - c. Pre-Plenary meetings this coming week
 - i. Pre-Plenary resolutions coming up on Tuesday and Wednesday (Ethos, Treasurers, Honor Council- potentially getting rid of fact-finding step in cases where facts are already known/agreed upon)
 - d. Ooh La La (app for student events)
 - i. Coming soon (still need to meet with Mike though, sometime this week to hear what he has to say)
 - ii. Should be out by spring break
 - e. Monthly Digest
 - i. Submit ASAP
3. Facilities Fund Allocation Committee Updates
 - a. Co-Secs, Co-Treasurers, and Co-Pres meet
 - i. ~\$60,000 with 7 proposals
4. Appointments Committee Updates
 - a. VPs not present
 - b. Arboretum - R. Austin Huber
 - c. COH - Yancheng Dai & Zhechen Zhu
 - d. CSSP - Pending.
5. Budgeting Updates
 - a. Budget is completed (Bi-Co and Haverford)
 - b. Started off with \$250,000, with surplus from last semester had \$397,220.18
 - c. Didn't have to make any major cuts/slashing
 - d. If hadn't made any cuts whatsoever, would've been -\$2000, but after cuts we are in surplus of \$6000 (assuming that people grieve- which would be an extra \$4000- and apply for mid-semester- which would be an extra \$12000)
 - e. Have several new projects

- i. Athletic trainer- renegotiating contract to be 4x a week, at night, something for crew as well: previously \$1000, now \$4000 (looking more into depth on what a trainer could do for club sports, such as potential concussion testing)
 - ii. Affinity group fund to create more union amongst them: \$1000
 - iii. Events coordinator assistance program (Ian is interim events coordinator with Mike Elias): when have an event on campus (in Lunt, 50, James House, La Casa, BSL, Founders, etc), you hire these coordinators to help set up for and break down event (will help make spaces more accessible and cleaner); sign up in advance and put in a request for this
 - iv. Looking into getting field storage
- f. Have allocated \$17,500 to put into Facilities Fund in order to help with decision-making process (projects that don't fit into original fund will go into this one)
- g. For more transparency, are creating new documents (a letter that will be sent to the community that has an in-depth breakdown of all of these budgeting updates)
- h. Plenary resolution(s)- 3 separate changes (none of these affect the budget currently)
 - i. An officer to represent international students on Students' Council
 - ii. Usually when we have a surplus we have to put it into a special fund that is usually used at Haverfest- a better use would be toward student entrepreneurship (we're ranked #9 in the country even though we don't have an incubator type program)
 - 1. Currently the Constitution says that we can't create/generate profit- the first step is to take that clause away so we can generate through this specific program (put into this specific fund that could be utilized)
 - 2. Make it the Students' Council decision to decide where this money goes
 - 3. This would be an institutionalized program (unlike BIG, which is a club- their vision might not be completely in line with SC's vision, but will definitely be in contact with them), currently we are talking to Mike Elias and looking at similar programs around the country to figure things out
 - 4. Clubs likely won't use all of their funds (usually don't) so we will most likely have a much larger surplus again
 - iii. When Dan Weiss was here, he switched the financial aid system to a mix of loans and grants- if we had an incubator program and it ended up profitable, we could put that money into financial aid to potentially go back to an entirely grant system
 - 1. Looked into putting the funds right into financial aid (instead of this incubator program), but it's a bit odd to funnel unspent student activities money into financial aid
- i. Came to consensus on budget (everyone present consented, no one blocked or stood outside consent)

6. Officer Updates

a. Academics

- i. Not present

b. Arts

- i. Sent out the first semester email last week; will be doing that more
- ii. In contact with Esme (one of the Hurford fellows) about events and how best to broadcast those
- iii. Planning workshops for rest of semester with 50

c. Athletics

- i. Not present

d. Campus Life

- i. DC oval is being designed right now, expect to start construction this spring

- ii.
- iii. Finishing floor plan for DC basement, plan is to start construction this summer
- iv. Need someone new to work on Blue Bus committee
- e. Multiculturalism
 - i. Waiting on a response from Ben but hoping to be a part of planning Culture Week and having an event at the end of the week
 - ii. Hoping to have another event with Rufus Jones board, still figuring out
 - iii. Talking to affinity groups on campus and trying to match with counterparts in Tri-Co
- 7. Class Year Reps
 - a. 2016
 - i. Not present
 - b. 2017
 - i. Welcome to Sergio!
 - c. 2018
 - i. Going to meet with Dean Martha Denney
 - d. 2019
 - i. First Year's Dean Council met with someone from Ambitions/Communications (Meg) who reached out about being responsible for welcoming Class of 2020 (already made a Facebook, need to keep it up-to-date)
 - ii. Going to be involved in Spectrum/Accepted Students Weekend
- 8. Non-Officer Updates and Comments
 - a. Update website
 - b. Next week: pass on donations to Purple Heart Pick-Up
- 9. Moment of Silence