

CMU Student Senate

OFFICIAL Minutes of November 13, 2003

5:37 pm Roll Call

Senators Present: James Auwaerter (CIT), Julie Beckenstein (HSS), Michelle Birchak (CIT), Tim Bowen (HSS), Vito Fiore (HSS), Megan Flocken (HSS), Naomi Haskell (SIA), James Hazelrig (CIT), Chen Huang (CIT), Sooran Kim (CFA, came late, 0.5 absences), Steven Kling (CIT), Ben Loving (MCS), Nicolette Louissaint (CIT), Jonathan Mendelson (SCS), Erik Michaels-Ober (HSS), Rebecca Nathan (CIT), Sivanipriya Nattama (SCS), Daniel Papasian (CIT), Matt Rado (HSS), Edward Ryan (MCS), Thomas Sabram (CIT), Nicholas Scocozzo (CIT), Deniz Secilmis (CFA), Alex Sussman (SIA), Wei Tang (SHS), Tom Terraccino (SIA), Yanna Weisberg (SHS), Kristina Wiltsee (MCS), Jack Wu (SCS), Joshua Yearsley (HSS), Christopher Watkins (HSS), Michelle Webb (MCS)

Senators Absent: Jay Pujara (SCS, 1 absence),

Members at Large Present: Elizabeth Kolmus (SHS), Aaron Walker (CIT)

Members at Large Absent: Joe Arasin (SCS, 1 absence), Ananya Bubna (SIA, 1 absence), Pedro Ferraz (HSS, 1 absence), Haseeb Qureshi (HSS, 1 absence), Dynne Sung (HSS, 1 absence)

5:39 pm Call to Order

5:39 pm Approval of Minutes

5:39 pm Amendments to the November 6 minutes

- 8:21 pm Correct spelling of Nicholas Scocozzo spelling

5:40 pm Passed by acclamation

5:40 pm Audience Participation - None

5:40 pm Ex-Officio Reports

5:40 pm **Activities Board** (Chris Smoak)

- Great movies will be shown this week as normal.
- A political speaker came and spoke with last Wednesday's movie.
- Guerilla Girls came and got a good turnout.
- Tuesday night amine showings are going well.

- Every Tuesday night, pilot shows that are not aired for whatever reason are shown to students.
- McConomy speaker problems are beyond the control of AB.
- Green bikes have gotten a lot of use this semester but use is now slowing down due to cold weather.

5:44 pm **Campus Police** (not present)

5:44 pm **Graduate Student Assembly** (not present)

5:44 pm **Greek Council** – not present

5:44 pm **Student Affairs** (Jackie Isaacson)

- The office of the assistant dean can help students find service opportunities.
- Organizations cannot drop off money to the Student Activities Office anymore. Money in provided envelopes can be deposited directly into the safe.
- A house fair will be held on November 19 from 12-2pm and 4-6pm.
- The January 2004 leadership conference will be held on Jan. 18 and the theme is “The Power of an Hour”.

5:47 pm **Student Dormitory Council** (Dan Jentzen)

- SDC is looking to raise the dorm fee from \$12-\$15. There has been no increase in 7 years and facilities have been expanded (e.g.: the DVD lending library).
- The Underground Battle of the Bands was a success.

5:49 pm **Student Body President** (Dan Gilman)

- There is approval to float the idea of turning Danforth Lounge into a fitness center to accommodate the overflow in the existing UC fitness center. Some students have expressed concerns about the issue and all sides of the issue will be explored.
- Approval has been secured to investigate the possibility of flat screen activities monitors to be installed in the UC. These screens will show university activities and headline news.
- University Center operating policies will be reviewed.
- Two forums regarding the new diploma designs were held. Approximately 30 people attended and the meetings were conductive.
- The undergraduate tuition meeting was held last night to discuss how Carnegie Mellon compares to other university, current and upcoming financial issues, etc.

- A man representing Bulldog Savings contacted the university and met with Dan Gilman last night. They are offering a promo to students – the Dean has not yet decided if they will be allowed on campus to sell their program.

5:58 pm **Student Body Vice President** (Dan Gilman)

- First Year Council met – midterm grades are lower than in past years. Possible causes are being explored.
- The Gay/Strait alliance council met and is working to get more unisex restrooms, a proposal that does pose security threats of drug use, sexual assault, etc.
- A web-portal meeting was held reviewing success of the changes and possible future changes and consolidations.
- Student Activities Fee was presented to GSA. Cost cutting measures were supported and the issue will be voted on in December.

6:01 pm **Student Body Vice President of Finance** (Vito Fiore)

- JFC is going well

6:01 pm **Student Body Dining Chair** (Russ Borum)

- Weekly meetings are held Mondays 4:30-5:30 – all are invited to attend.
- The committee's main semester objective this semester is soliciting feedback from students through e-mails, feedback boxes, access to managers and chefs, the dining website, and residence halls visits by committee members.
- Issues addressed in the Statement on Dining which came out of Campus Life Committee last year are being explored and the following issues are being enforced and addressed:
 - Vendors are required to sell food for the same price on campus as at their off-campus locations for equivalent items.
 - Continued opportunities for improvements in food service are being explored.
 - Increased vegetarian/vegan/kosher/Hillel options are being developed.
 - Dining committee is working to enhanced late night dining options every day and during break periods.
 - Increased availability of a greater variety of food types
 - Establishment of a viable all-you-can-eat dining facility Monday-Thursday and a traditional dining hall option
 - A forum in Schatz Dining Room regarding possible alternative uses for Highlander is scheduled.

6:17 New Business from the Floor

6:17 pm Points of Discussion

- Quality of dining on campus
 - Competitive vs. monopoly and situation on campus
 - Quality on campus and comparison to other universities
 - Variety of food
 - Availability of student feedback – dining Committee meetings are open to everyone on campus and feedback is important for change
 - The zebra café
- Possible internal disputes and constructive venues for problem solving

6:27 pm Motion to end this point of discussion

6:27 pm Vote to end this point of discussion

Passes, voice vote

6:28 pm More points of Discussion

- Role of the press
 - Opportunity to spread awareness of issues and activities
 - Possible imbalance of sides receiving coverage

6:30 pm Motion to end this point of discussion

6:30 pm Vote to end this point of discussion

Passes, voice vote

6:30 pm More points of Discussion – None

6:30 pm Announcements

- The Student Body Dining Committee currently meets Mondays at 4:30 in the Caffee Room. Please stop by, share your views, and help improve dining on campus! Submit dining feedback to dining@andrew.cmu.edu, and contact the SBDC committee chair at sbdc@andrew.cmu.edu.
- Graduate Student Assembly Representatives are having a meeting on health insurance with Health Services and the plan managers on Wednesday, November 19th at 5:30PM in the Caffee Room. Interested undergraduates are also invited.
- Student Senate's next meeting is Thursday, November 20 at 5:30 PM in UC Rangos 1.
- Please fill out senator questioners and committee preference sheets.
- A petition is going around regarding the rights of custodians on campus.

- Senate shirts are available.
- Please submit any additional information you would like on the webpage to Erik Michaels-Ober.
- Tomorrow night at 7pm, Capture the Flag will be held in Wean and Doherty Hall.
A rules session will be held in Doherty Hall 7500.

6:34 pm Adjourn