

# CMU Student Senate

Minutes of April 1, 2004

## 5:38 pm Roll Call

**Senators Present:** Hussein Al Baya (SIA), James Auwaerter (CIT), Julie Beckenstein (HSS), Michelle Birchak (CIT), Tim Bowen (HSS), Matt Brooks (HSS), Maureen Burns (CFA), Hanish Dayal (CIT), Vito Fiore (HSS), Megan Flocken (HSS), Steven Kling (CIT), Nicolette Louissaint (CIT), Ben Loving (MCS), Jonathan Mendelson (SCS), Erik Michaels-Ober (HSS), Rebecca Nathan (CIT), Daniel Papasian (CIT), Nasheena Porter (HSS), Jay Pujara (SCS), Meg Richards (SCS), Edward Ryan (MCS), Nicholas Scocozzo (CIT), Wei Tang (SHS), Tom Terraccino (SIA), Kristina Wiltsee (MCS), Yanna Weisberg (SHS, came late), Jack Wu (SCS), Eleanor Zimmermann (MCS)

**Senators Absent:** Daniel Jentzen (CFA, 1 absence), Sooran Kim (CFA, 1 absence), Matt Rado (HSS, 1 absence), Thomas Sabram (CIT, 1 absence), Alex Sussman (SIA, 1 absence), Yew Choe Wong (CIT, 1 absence)

**Members at Large Present:** Joe Arasin (SCS), Andres Bermudez (HSS)

**Members at Large Absent:** Ananya Bubna (SIA, 1 absence), Waylon Lu (SIA, 1 absence), Sarah Sareen (HSS, 1 absence), Aaron Walker (CIT, 1 absence), Lisette Yoon (HSS, 1 absence)

## 5:40 pm Call To Order

## 5:40 pm Approval of Minutes

5:41 pm Amendments to the March 25<sup>th</sup> minutes

- Nicolette Louissaint was not late to meeting
- Andres Bermudez did not leave early; he went to class
- Under 6:27 pm Discussion, the 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet point should read “May be available through Space Quest”
- Nicolette’s last name should be spelled “Louissaint” under 9:11 pm Call the Question

5:42 pm Passed by acclamation

**5:42 pm Audience Participation** (none)

**5:42 pm Standing Committee Reports**

5:43 pm Motion to move Special Business A. S2004-065 Motion Relating to Sensitive Student Senate Records to before Committee Reports (Kristina Wiltsee)

5:43 pm Withdrawn (because of prior planning)

5:43 pm **Academic Affairs** (Jonathan Mendelson)

- Matt Rado has an appointment with John Papinchak next week to speak about final exams
- Steve gave summary of work of the task force of academic advising. Matt will put together the report
- CMU's library hours are similar to or better than library hours at other universities.
  - Library attendance peaked at 32-40 students at 1 am and then down to 19 students at 3 am during early Thursday to Sunday

5:45 pm **Business Affairs** (James Auwaerter)

- Disseminate the campus master plan (how all the buildings should be set up and how Warner should not exist) by posting a poster in the University Center to let students see the campus master plan

5:47 pm **Campus Life** (Rebecca Nathan)

- 2 concerned students came to meeting
- Will implement a smoking survey to ask smokers questions. Hopefully, measurable results will be out by next week.
- Contacting architecture department to find out what happened to benches for UC turnaround for escort and shuttle services.
- Working on the poster policy
  - Can issue a fine to a heavy violator
  - Considering changing the poster policy so that posters must have date on them.
- Light issue being investigated

5:52 pm **Communications** (Erik Michaels-Ober)

- Methods of advertising the election:
  - 100 Triangular tabletop prisms distributed in the UC.
  - Posters
  - Full page ad running in the Tartan.
  - Large 12 foot tall banner that will be hung on Monday from Doherty Hall.
  - Taking the fence. Please sign up if interested in helping out in any way.

- Thank Wei Tang for the graphics on the poster and Dan Papasian for folding the triangular prisms.
- Turnout for elections petitions was great. There are at least as many people running for seats as there are seats. Thanks to the Communications Committee for a great job!
  - SCS has 3 people running for 4 seats and CFA has 6 people running for 7 seats.
  - There are 2 definite spots for write-in candidates.
- Agendas and minutes have been recently posted online at [www.stusen.org](http://www.stusen.org). Fence cannot be used to promote an individual candidate but it can be used to promote elections.

5:57 pm **Funding and Recognition** (Megan Flocken)

- Closed meetings to organizations this week.
- Checking with Student Activities about money.
  - Looking at about \$5000 in future requests.
- Internal Issues:
  - Fiscal policy additions: added definition for academic, limitation on funding things on a professional nature, clarified primary purpose clause. Technically only allowed to give money to groups holding events primary to their cause.
- Charity issues: paid admission cannot be demanded to groups holding events.
- Any organizations violating the school's statement of assurance cannot receive special allocations.
- Working Activities Fee committee and JFC to try to quantify accessible and detailed information.
- By next week, there should be F&R motions.

6:04 pm **Internal Development** (Nick Scocozzo)

- Received recommendations for fiscal policy from Megan and will be looking at it and hopefully will have bylaws changes.
- Senate Social planned for April 8 and looking at the intersection lounge for location. Pizza, soda, and possibly Halo will be there Send a message to [ID@stusen.org](mailto:ID@stusen.org) if there are any questions or suggestions regarding the social.
- GSA will be considering the constitutional amendments passed by this body.
- ID is bringing one motion to the floor this week to be discussed later.

6:06 pm **Senate Chair** (Vito Fiore)

- Elections coming up on Tuesday and Wednesday. Elections board will do a lot of work w communications. If you are running, then campaign and work hard. We want this to be a great turnout. There are a lot of people on the ballot.
- Minutes and agendas are posted.
- Excited about the social.
- A lot of committee business going on.
- Only 3 more general body meetings left.
- Really excited all the work that has gone (all the issues regarding dining)

**6:07 pm Special Business**

6:07 pm Presentation on the State of Carnegie Mellon Dining, the

Future of Dining, and Recommendations of the Student Body Dining Committee

6:07 pm Summary of proposals from the Student Body Dining Committee

6:14 pm Questions on proposal #9 of the Summary Proposal for '04 –'05

6:18 pm General Questions

- Reasoning behind forcing students to eat at Schatz at least 1 night a week is to give freshmen the proper communal dining experience freshman experience that Highlander used to provide (4 years ago). This will be enforced by a meal block being taken off the meal plan if the block is not used at Schatz.
  - The labor costs of all you can eat are really high. 1 meal a week is a restriction to students but it is not unreasonable. Some schools require that you eat 30%+ of your meals at a particular dining hall.
- Parentheses signify loses on the balance sheet.
- Proposal #6 is financially feasible because there are enough students who want vendors to stay open later.
- Meal blocks can only be used to purchase meals so that parents are not being lied to and also to encourage healthier habits (instead of allowing students to waste money of meal blocks on only candy bars or water bottles). Every vendor would have 1, 2, or 3 value meals packaged together which students can purchase using their meal blocks. They can also use a meal block to purchase a subset of the meals (ex. Just a muffin, instead of the whole meal). If you call it a “meal block” then you should get a meal, not 7 waters or candy bars. If the university is calling it a meal, they should deliver a meal to the students.
  - This may not be practical at places like the Zebra lounge.

- Students can use DineX to purchase any items they wish to
- Dining services is projecting a loss of \$400,000. No tuition dollars go to the dining services so they will have to pay for that themselves. Dining services are laboring under past deficits and trying to eliminate that problem.
- Students will be able to go on the web and see the meals available. Nutritional values for those meals will also be posted.
- Trying to give students a more communal feel, more options to those with special dietary needs while creating flexibility and attempting to solve the deficit problem.
- There is a deficit because a lot of dining services' practices are consistent with university value but they wouldn't necessarily do if they were running a normal business. Examples: Would not run the number of units of vendors given the demand, would not pay the premium for the labor because they are making a better wage working for the university than if they had worked for Parkhurst. There are more charitable health insurance policies for the universities.
- Will address issue about meal blocks and non-soda choices.
- June 07 is when contract with Parkhurst expires.
- These proposals will make a substantial difference. Hopefully this will take dining services out of debt by next year but that may be too optimistic. The change in meal plans, the slightly different attitude to make changes with the data, and the partnership with Parkhurst will hopefully fix the problem and have balanced budget next year.
- Parkhurst is paid to manage the overarching system.
- Skibo and Zebra lounge report to Student Activities.
- The trucks don't operate on the same quality standards, trash standards, or environmental standards (not using Styrofoam) as those of the university. If the trucks moved to the UC, this would translate into costs for the students.
- There are major issues with purchasing alcohol licenses and liability licenses of serving alcohol on campus. Responsible use of alcohol should be a personal choice but university cannot compete.
- The proposals for 05-06 apply to all students. Percentages refer to the part of the overall meal plans.
- Food quality is always considered.

- Ability to use DineX for off campus locations such as Vocelli's Pizza and Subway due to student demand. Freshman want to be able to go off campus to eat a meal.
- Restaurants are not permitted to advertise to the public to come on campus. Therefore, the only customers they will ever have are the students of the university. There are hidden expenses to be on campus. Vendors stay open during hours where it is not profitable for them to do so. Meal block rollover will be discussed, but it is unlikely that it can be done due to financial reasons.

7:37 pm Motion to give Alex Meseguer, the editor-in-chief of the Tartan, speaking rights during the presentation

7:37 pm Passed by acclamation

7:37 pm General Questions about dining proposal

- There are sources that bugs were found at the salad bar at the Grab and Go. Jane clarified that there was a bug found and the manager offered to replace the item. The Allegheny County Health Department was called.
- Constantly looking for student feedback. SBDC meetings are at Mondays at 4:30 at Schatz. Email [dining@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:dining@andrew.cmu.edu) for any questions or comments

#### **7:41 pm New Business From Committee**

7:42 pm **S2004-065 Motion Relating to Sensitive Student Senate Records**

7:43 pm Amend Fall of 2000 to Fall of 1997 and accessible to Chair of ID alone to accessible to Chair of ID and Student Senate as a SLATE (Steven Kling)

7:45 pm Questions

- There are some impeachment proceedings that include personal information that should be kept private. There is a huge amount of personal information in these records that is not relevant to the current student senate body.
- Anything personal that would be released in the future is a concern.
- This is about a drawer and a half of filing cabinet and also electronic material.

8:01 pm Motion to move to discussion (Michelle Birchak)

8:01 pm Discussion of the amendments

8:02 pm Motion to pass the proposed SLATE of amendments (Erik Michaels-Ober)

8:02 pm Passed by acclamation

8:02 pm Discussion of Motion proposed by Internal Development, as amended.

8:02 pm Motion to location of off-campus to Student Activities (Jay Pujara)

8:03 pm Passed by acclamation

8:04 pm Discussion of motion, as amended

- This will be a 2/3 vote due to sensitive nature.

8:08 pm Straw Poll (Meg Richards)

8:11 pm Motion withdrawn – April Fools Day!

8:11 pm Motion to censor ID (Jonathan Mendelson)

8:11 pm Motion to consider motion (Jonathan Mendelson)

8:11 pm Vote

Passes, hand vote (18-8-2)

8:13 pm Motion to suspend the Senate Rules and change the rule so that the “Question phone” must be used to call the question for the remainder of the meeting” (Erik Michaels-Ober)

8:13 pm Vote

Fails, voice vote

8:14 pm Move the Question (Matt Brooks)

Moved, hand vote (16-7-2)

8:16 pm Vote

Passes, hand vote (15-10-2)

### **8:17 pm New Business From the Floor**

8:17 pm Motion to commit the Women’s Center Constitution to reviewing by the F&R because they discriminate against men due to their voting procedures (James Auwaerter)

8:18 pm Discussion

8:18 pm Call the Question (Steven Kling)

8:18 pm Vote

Passes, voice vote

8:19 pm Motion to remove speaking rights from Erik Michaels-Ober, Dan Papasian, and Megan Flocken (Jay Pujara)

8:19 pm Out of order

8:19 pm Motion to read the Announcements, then adjourn (Hussein Al-Baya)

8:20 pm Vote

Passes, hand vote (19-4-2)

### **8:21 pm Announcements**

- ELECTIONS ARE TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY at <http://elections.andrew.cmu.edu> and during the day in UC Wean Commons. Tell

everyone you know to vote! SBP/SBVP, SBVPF, and all Senate seats are up for election. Candidates should review the Election Rules at [stusen.org](http://stusen.org).

- Stusen.org has been fully updated with official versions of the minutes and agendas for the entire session. Check it out!
- Senate is taking the Fence to publicize elections next Monday night! Sign up to participate.
- Senators: Senate's Social will be held on campus immediately following the general body meeting on April 8. Stay tuned for details.
- The Tartan is hosting a Student Body President debate Friday at 5 PM in UC Conan.
- The next Student Senate meeting is Thursday, April 8, 2004 at 5:30 PM in UC Rangos 2. See you there!
- KGB is having a masquerade ball tomorrow night at the UC Peter/McKenna/Wright Room at 7:30 pm
- The Co-op on Neville will be hosting a SBP debate on Monday and WRCT will be hosting a radio debate airing at Tuesday at 6:00pm

**8:23 pm Adjourn**