

CMU Student Senate

OFFICIAL Minutes of September 25, 2003

5:38 pm Roll Call

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

Senators Absent: Michelle Birchak (CIT, 1 absence), Tim Bowen (HSS, 1 absence), Wai-Loon Chan (CFA, 1 absence), Jason Chen (CFA, 1 absence), Chen Huang (CIT, excused), Ben Magallon (CFA, 1 absence)

Members at Large Present: Aaron Walker (CIT, left early, excused)

Members at Large Absent: 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 September 18 minutes

- Change all motion numbers from an S2003 numbering system to an F2003 numbering system.
- Julie Beckenstein did not leave early.
- In attendance, Haseeb Qureshi should be noted as from HSS, not CIT
- Kristina Wiltsee left early excused.
- At 6:49pm, Steven Kling's motion to amend amendment was ruled out of order.

5:42 pm Minutes pass by acclamation

5:42 pm Audience Participation – None

5:43 pm Ex-Officio Reports

5:43 pm **Activities Board** (Chris Smoak)

- AB Film movies are showing as usual this week
- There will be an Underground concert this Saturday
- AB visited Westminster College to discuss the idea for future joint activity. No concrete proposals or plans have been decided on as of yet
- Question about Senate insert in Read-Me

5:46 pm **Campus Police** – Not present

5:46 pm **Graduate Student Assembly** – Not present

5:46 pm **Greek Council** (Ben Loving and Misty Muscatel)

- Ben Loving has resigned as the Greek Council representative.
- Greek Week is coming up October 5-10. Money raised during the event will go towards the Up Till Dawn event
- There will be a blood drive on Tuesday, October 7.
- Up Til Dawn is a yearlong philanthropy event. The finally will be an all night dance-a-thon. Proceeds will go towards St. Jude's Hospital. A letter-writing fundraising activity is tentatively scheduled for Monday, October 6.

5:50 pm **Student Affairs** (John Hannon) – No report

5:50 pm **Student Dormitory Council** (Dan Jentzen)

- General introduction about the role of SDC on campus
- A new dorm laundry service may be set up so that students will be required to pay an additional \$75 in room fees that will allow residents unlimited use of laundry facilities on campus with no additional charge.
- An e-mail system will be installed shortly allowing students to receive an e-mail message when their laundry is done. The service will be provided this year free of charge.
- SDC has allocated \$5000 to cover the start-up costs of a student DVD lending library service to be operated by Hunt Library. In future years, additional funds will be allocated to keep the collection current.
- The SDC screening of "Finding Nemo" set a new attendance record high.
- Please come to the SDC meetings Monday at 5:30 pm SDC office on the UC third floor if you have comments on SDC related issues.

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

- Dan participated in the annual campus security tour checking to make sure blue-light phones were working, adequate lighting was provided, bollards were in place, etc. Security precautions are much improved from last year.
- College City Weekend is scheduled for Saturday October 4. This downtown event will host bands, rollerblade and skateboard courses, climbing walls, and more. Admission is free if you purchase a \$5 shirt. Volunteers are welcome.

6:03 pm **Student Body Vice President** (Gilbert Dussek)

- A preliminary decision regarding the student activities fee issues has been reached. A report will come out next week.
- A focus group of students is being assembled to evaluate the new web portal. Web portal is a single website integrating several campus on-line services.

6:06 pm New Business from Committee

6:06 pm **S2003-010 Special allocation of \$617.80 for Water Polo** (3/4 vote)

6:06 pm Motion to amend orders of the day to change upcoming motions from S2003 numbering system to F2003 system (Steven Kling)

6:06 pm Motion passed by acclamation

6:07 pm Questions on F2003-010

- Due to dramatic increase of membership, last year's JFC budget is insufficient to cover league fees and equipment costs for members.
- Organization was first funded 3 years ago, recognized 4 years ago
- Equipment will include new balls and a locking cage for storage. The number of balls is based on the number of members, the requirements of competition hosting, and the quantity of balls needed to get a discount.
- A fan recently damaged by a ball will be replaced and cages will be installed around fans to reduce future risk.

6:11 pm Discussion on F2003-010

6:11 pm Vote on F2003-010

Passes voice vote

6:11 pm Special Business

6:11 pm **F2003-009 Approval of the Judicial Board**

6:11 pm Questions on F2003-011 answered by student life rep

- Nominations for new student members are made through the division of student affairs. Most nominees have been involved with student affairs in the past in

various capacities. Some Greek houses are actively recruited to ensure representation.

- Grade and judicial checks are conducted of all nominees. The relevance of past infractions are considered on a case by case basis.
- The final nominee list, after evaluation by student life and Mike Murphy, is submitted to student senate for concurrence.
- Student Life tries to maintain approximately 75 active students in the pool.
- There are four boards that students may be asked to serve on.
- Most offenses do not actually go through a hearing process and can be solved through mediation. Mediation is encouraged where possible.
- All students have passed the judicial check, but, due to privacy, individual records cannot be publicly disclosed.

6:22 pm Discussion on F2003-010

6:22 pm Motion to correct spelling of nominee

6:23 pm Motion accepted as friendly

6:23 pm Discussion on F2003-010

6:24 pm Motion to divide question to vote on two nominees separate from slate

6:24 pm Discussion to divide question to vote on two nominees separate from slate

6:25 pm Motion to recess for 10 minutes

6:26 pm Vote to recess

Passes, voice vote

6:44 pm Re-call meeting to order

6:45 pm Discussion to divide question to vote on two nominees separate from slate

6:45 pm Motion to strike all discussion from record and ask all in attendance who are not senators or members at large to vacate the meeting

6:45 pm Discussion to strike all discussion from record and ask all in attendance who are not senators or members at large to vacate the meeting

6:53 pm Vote to strike all discussion from record and ask all in attendance who are not senators or members at large to vacate the meeting

Fails, hand vote

6:54 pm Discussion to divide question to vote on two nominees separate from slate

6:57 pm Straw Poll

6:57 pm Discussion to divide question to vote on two nominees separate from slate

7:00 pm Vote to divide question to vote on two nominees separate from slate

Passes, voice vote

7:01 pm Discussion on F2003-009, 11 remaining names on slate

7:01 pm Vote to approve 11 remaining names on slate

Passes, voice vote

7:02 pm Discussion on first independent name

7:02 pm Motion to table indefinitely

7:03 pm Objection

7:04 pm Objection considered out of order

7:05 pm Vote on tabling indefinitely

Fails, hand vote

7:07 pm Discussion on first independent name

7:08 pm Vote to approve first independent name

Fails, voice vote

7:08 pm Division

7:08 pm Vote to approve first independent name

Fails, hand vote

7:09 pm Discussion on second independent name

7:10 pm Vote to table indefinitely

Fails, hand vote

7:10 pm Discussion on second independent name

7:12 pm Vote to approve second independent name

Fails, hand vote

7:13 pm **F2003-011 Approval of the Fall 2003 Senate Committee Budgets**

7:13 pm Question on F2003-011

- Communications does want to buy staple guns

7:15 pm Discussion on F2003-011

- Chair fees cover printing costs for general meetings.
- Discussion about using staples on bulletin boards and the cost-benefit of purchasing a staple gun instead of a regular stapler. Pushpins may be an option for consideration.

7:24 pm Straw Poll

7:24 pm Discussion on F2003-011

7:24 pm Vote on F2003-011

Passes, voice vote

7:25 pm New Business from the Floor

7:25 pm Motion to elect Ananya Bubna as a Member at Large

7:25 pm Candidate speech and questioning: not present

7:25 pm Discussion

7:25 pm Vote

Passes, voice vote

7:26 pm Points of Discussion

- Request for the chair to disclose results of USSA document
 - The signature has not yet been validated and the chair rules that one week limitation for validation has not yet expired
 - Discussion about the wording of the document and whether or not it is a petition or a directive.
 - The chair has decided that the motion is a petition, not a directive
 - Erik Micheals-Ober disagrees with the chair's interpretation that the document is not a directive and disapproves of the executive committee of student senate as the petition was not validated by the beginning of tonight's meeting.
 - Merits of a student directive as opposed to a petition
- Judicial board nomination process may benefit from formal or informal opportunity to discuss the issues and nominees outside of the general body meeting
 - Discussion about tabling and abstaining rather than voting no
 - Potential benefits and harms of referencing hear-say without citing specific circumstances
 - Potential value of having nominees present to answer questions or respond to concerns
 - Discussion about the value of an abstaining vote and the proper circumstances for abstaining from a vote
- USSA document
 - Reading of wording for record in the minutes

"We, the undersigned, support membership in the United States Student Association (USSA). USSA is the country's oldest and largest national student organization and works on issues of educational access including increasing federal financial aid, recruitment and retention of traditionally underrepresented students, and campus safety. USSA represents and advocates for all students. For this purpose, we

support a referendum in the amount of \$.40 per student per semester, for one year, beginning in the fall 2004 semester."

- Discussion of USSA practice and benefits to students as well as potential benefits of university affiliation with USSA.
- Discussion of potentially controversial organization agenda and practices
- Precedent of last year's war resolution and caution necessary when subscribing student body view to political affiliation
- Discussion of value of referendum vs. value of senate acting on issue without referendum
- James Auwaerter states on the record that he is not opposed to students with unique lifestyle preferences or of minority race. He is opposed to stamping student approval on potentially controversial issues.
- Practice of objecting to motions and Roberts Rules regarding recommended grounds for objection

8:04 pm Announcements

- There will be a special joint meeting of student senate and graduate student assembly October 1 at 5:30pm in UC Peter/McKenna. It is critical that we have quorum so please attend. The purpose of the meeting is the election of the Vice President for Finance. Petitions for that position are due Friday, September 26 at 5pm at the UC info desk box 46.
- The senate chief technology officer position is open (this person cannot be in senate). If you know someone who might be interested, or would like more information, contact Sivanipriya Nattama (snattama@andrew.cmu.edu). The deadline for application is Wednesday, October 1.
- Senators should all have keys to the office. Please use it and help keep it clean.
- There is a 9-hour voter registration event at Club Laga tonight from 5pm-2am.

8:06 pm Adjourn