

# CMU Student Senate

OFFICIAL Minutes of October 7th, 2004

## 5:32 pm Roll Call

**Senators Present:** Adam Atkinson (HSS, proxy), Abigail Barnes (CIT), Andres Bermudez (HSS), Michelle Birchak (CIT), Maureen Burns (CFA), Trevor Clark (CFA), Laura Drogowski (MCS), Andrew Gehling (CFA), Aftyn Giles (CFA), Rachel Gougian (MCS), Benjamin Hackett (HSS), Kirk Higgins (CIT, left early), Jonathan Lee (CIT), Kevin Lee (HSS), Nicolette Louissaint (CIT, proxy), Sophia Nagornaya (HSS), Margaret Richards (SCS), James Rogers (CIT), Samantha Rosenthal (CIT), Stephanie Rosenthal (SCS), Edward Ryan (MCS), Thomas Sabram (CIT), Nicholas Scocozzo (CIT), Tanvir Suri (TSB), Wei Tang (SHS), Courtney Thompson (TSB), Yew Choe Wong (CIT), Joshua Yearsley (HSS)

**Senators Absent:** Joe Arasin (SCS, excused), Ananya Bubna (TSB, 2 absences), Mark Caola (SHS, 3 absences), Jean Lester (CFA, 2 absences), Jonathan Mendelson (SCS, excused), Nasheena Porter (HSS, 1 absence), Akil Simon (CFA, excused)

**Members at Large Present:** James Hazelrig (CIT), Aaron Kao (CIT), Louisa Kinoshi (HSS), Aaron Walker (CIT), Sean Weinstock (HSS)

**Members at Large Absent:** Hanish Dayal (CIT, 1 absence), Brittany McCandless (HSS, 3 absences), Corrine Pascale (CIT, 3 absences), Haseeb Qureshi (HSS, 3 absences)

## 5:40 pm Approval of Minutes

5:40 pm Amendments to the Minutes of September 30<sup>th</sup>

- Yew Choe Wong was absent last week, but excused.
- Aftyn Giles was here last week
- Courtney Thompson was excused last week.

5:41 pm Minutes approved by acclamation

**5:41 pm Audience Participation** (none)

**5:41 pm Ex-Officio Reports**

5:41 pm **Activities Board** (not present)

5:41 pm **Campus Police** (not present)

5:41 pm **Graduate Student Assembly** (not present)

5:41 pm **Greek Council** (not present)

5:41 pm **Student Affairs** (not present)

5:42 pm **Student Dormitory Council** (not present)

5:42 pm **Student Body President** (Erik Michaels-Ober)

- Student government sponsored a viewing of the first Presidential debate.
- Due to registration efforts, now there's 500 more people voting.
- We will have right before the election free newspapers - USA Today, New York Times, and Pittsburgh Post Gazette, as a trial.
- UC renovation committee meeting tomorrow in UC 318G at 4:30pm and will talk about proposed 3rd floor renovations.
- Videoconference with the Qatar Campus Student Majlis in the Posner Center Board Room at 9 am. Please come if you can.

5:46 pm **Student Body Vice President** (Julie Beckenstein)

- Represented Student Government with Trevor at the Greek Week casino night.
- The concept of Unisex bathrooms has hit the campus community and there are some that dislike the idea, but also there is some misinformation flying around.

5:49 pm **Student Body Vice President for Finance** (Steve Kling)

- He doesn't know anything about Michael Moore.
- GSA has vetoed the funded recognition of Dance Marathon. GSA and Steve will be working with Dance Marathon so that GSA can approve them.
- The GSA bboard is [assocs.gsa](http://assocs.gsa)
- Has a motion to have Dan Papasian to be an Assistant to the VPF

5:52 pm **Student Body Dining Chair** (Maureen Burns, filling in for Jay Pujara)

- Continued discussion on possible Highlander plans and how can we get feedback from the Student Body on this subject
- People from CFA don't fill out electronic surveys.

5:54 pm **Activities Board** (Andrew Moore)

- He's sorry he's late. This was due to his classes.
- Michael Moore has pneumonia, and had to cancel for this past Wednesday. Will be trying to reschedule him.

**5:56 pm New Business from Committee**

5:56 pm **Motion to move 0405-030 before 0405-027**

Passes by acclamation

## **5:57 pm Special Business**

### **5:57 pm 0405-030 – Approval of Assistant to the Vice President for Finance**

- Steve wants majority approval of Senate to get Dan Papasian to be his Assistant so that he can review budgets of organizations
- He would be a great asset to the VPF's work

5:58 pm Questions on 0405-030

5:58 pm Discussion on 0405-030

5:59 pm Call the question

Objection

5:59 pm Discussion on 0405-030

- He's currently a paid assistant, and now he will get the ability to review budgets and the non-paying title of Assistant to the VPF.

6:01 pm Vote on 0405-030

Passes, voice vote

### **6:01 pm 0405-027 – Non-Funded Recognition of Engineers for a Sustainable World**

**6:02 pm Motion to table 0405-027 until a representative from Engineers for a Sustainable World is present (Tom Sabram)**

6:02 pm Vote on motion to table 0405-027

Passes, voice vote – Motion tabled

### **6:03 pm 0405-028 – Special Allocation of \$300 to Taiwanese Student Association**

6:04 pm Questions on 0405-028

6:06 pm Discussion on 0405-028

6:08 pm Vote on 0405-028

Passes, voice vote

### **6:08 pm 0405-029 – Special Allocation of \$1337.50 to University Rowing Club**

- They suffered flood damages including electronics on six-foot high shelves.
- One four man shell damaged and a single man shell cracked in half.
- Insurance from the university wasn't able to cover much.

6:08 pm Questions on 0405-029

6:13 pm Discussion on 0405-029

- Senate and GSA have a reserve and items like this should come from it. Thus, we should have no problem, going into debt and thus covering it.

**6:17 pm Motion to amend 0405-029 to \$2900 from \$1337.50 (Maureen Burns)**

6:17 pm Discussion on the amendment to 0405-029 to \$2900 from \$1337.50

- Rowing will receive \$250 from Insurance, so does not need full amount

6:22 pm **Motion to amend the amendment to \$2650 instead of \$2900**

- Amendment is considered friendly

6:22 pm Recess due to Fire Alarm

6:32 pm Call to Order on the Cut in the dell by the Tennis Courts

6:32 pm Quorum Call

More than quorum of the Senate is present

6:33 pm Discussion on amendment to 0405-029 to \$2650 from \$1337.50

6:34 pm Call the question

6:34 pm Vote on amendment to 0405-029 to \$2650 from \$1337.50

Passes, voice vote

6:34 pm Discussion on amended 0405-029

6:34 pm Call the question

6:35 pm Vote on amended 0405-029

Passes, voice vote

6:35 pm **Motion to remove 0405-027 from the table due to a representative**

**appearing** (Tom Sabram)

Passes by acclamation

6:35 pm **0405-027 – Non-funded Recognition for Engineers for a Sustainable World**

6:35 pm Questions on 0405-027

6:37 pm Discussion on 0405-027

6:37 pm Call the question

6:38 pm Vote on 0405-027

Passes, voice vote

**6:38 pm New Business from the Floor**

6:38 pm **Motion to have Student Senate host a town hall meeting during October, before Michael Moore is rescheduled, on the use of the Student Activities Fee bringing political speakers for lectures** (Josh Yearsley)

6:38 pm Discussion on the motion

6:40 pm Call the question

6:41 pm Vote on the motion

Passes, voice vote

**6:42 pm Points of Discussion**

- Unisex bathrooms are currently a topic on electronic discussion boards. There is a large discussion on the use of one's tuition and activities fee towards these. There are a lot of misconceptions out there.

#### **6:48 pm Announcements**

- We do have two vacancies – one in CFA and one in MCS. The deadline is Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm in UC Box 46 at the Info Desk. You can get petition forms at the UC Info Desk or online at <http://senate.web.cmu.edu/id/petition.pdf>.
- Senate's next meeting is October 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm in the Posner Center Board Room. See you there.
- At our next meeting, we will be having a discussion on the Report from the Natrat Commission and what part does Senate play in this.
- Being that the fire alarm is now off, we can get our stuff out of the conference room now.

#### **6:51 pm Adjourn**