

# CMU Student Senate

RAW Minutes of March 1st, 2007

## 5:04 pm Roll Call

**Senators Present:** Matt Adams (TSB, 2 absences), Robert Bethea (CIT, 1 absence, .5absence), Joel Bergstein (CIT), Gerrit Betz (HSS), Byron Chou (TSB, .5absence), Alan Eaton (CIT), Kate Eckerle (MCS), Matt Erhard (CIT, 1 absence), Joe Gershenson (SCS, 1 absence), Danielle Griswold (HSS, 1 absence), Jenny Han (SCS), Ashley Hill (CIT, 1 absence, .5absence, proxy), Lauren Hudock (HSS), Jared Itkowitz (TSB), Melissa Kim (CIT, .5absence), Megan Larcom (TSB), Cyrus Larijani (BHA), Emily Leathers (SCS, proxy), Paris Obdan (CIT, .5absence), Colin Sternhell (HSS), Krishan Taylor (SCS), Brian Wade (HSS, .5absence), Lauren Walch (CIT)

**Senators Absent:** Rotimi Abimbola (HSS, 3 absences, .5absence), Philip Croul (HSS, 2 absences), Julia Li (CFA, 1 absence), Edward Oh (MCS, 1 absence, .5absence), Evan Osheroff (MCS, 1 absence), Fredrico Pineda(MCS, 2 absences)

**Members at Large Present:**

**Members at Large Absent:**

## 5:04 pm Call to Order

### 5:04 pm Approval of Minutes from 02/22/07

- There are no senators listed as absent

### 5:05 pm Audience Participation

### 5:06 pm Committee Reports

5:06 pm **Academic Affairs** (Evan Osheroff)

- No report

5:06 pm **Business Affairs** (Jared Itkowitz)

- The collaborative learning center in the old Entropy space is not happening. The bookstore will take that space
- Tim Michael likes the idea so we are thinking of other locations.
- We are thinking of taking the space by Andy's eatery and closing it off.
- We're thinking of adding computer kiosks on the back wall of the new Entropy or on the wall by the black chairs. I'm looking for feedback

#### 5:06 pm Questions

- I don't like enclosing the area by Andy's eatery
- Andy's space is a good location
- We're thinking of making the West Wing cluster all Linux computers. We'll take the Linux computers from Wean.
- ◇ Clusters in the Baker Hall area are also for learning purposes and teachers prefer working with Windows and Macs
- What version of Linux would it be?
- ◇ I don't know. People want Linux computers, but they are not optimal for educational purposes
- A lot of programming is done on Linux computers and they are very useful in Wean for the CS majors
- It's really important for Linux computers to be in Wean
- The West Wing cluster is used by a lot of people and not all of us can use Linux
- It's a bad idea to put just one kind of computers in one cluster
- We're going to try set up a meeting with business affairs to see about making a student space in the UC. We want both the Bookstore and Housing and Dining to be there.

#### 5:13 pm **Campus Life** (Megan Larcom)

- I'm still working on the Facebook project.
- Jenny is working to get more tables for the Newell Simon eating area.
- We want to move the Gear sale to sometime in the beginning of April to coincide with elections

#### 5:14 pm Questions

- We got a lot of people who weren't students going to Gear sale during carnival. If that were the objective, then having it in Carnival would be useful.
- ◇ Our objective is to bring gear to students at a reduced price
- I would prefer it in April.

#### 5:15 pm **Communications** (Lauren Hudock)

- We tabled and it probably went well because I didn't get any emails about it. Tabling is an easy way to work off half absences.
- The head of Campus Conversations asked if senate would like to give feedback on campus art. There will be meeting about it in campus conversation and I want to know who would like to attend.

5:15 pm Questions

- No Questions

5:16 pm **Finance** (Alan Eaton)

- No Report

5:16 pm **Internal Development** (Gerrit Betz)

- No Report

5:17 pm **Chair** (Joel Bergstein)

- Every Friday we have a meeting discussing campus financing and reserve funds
- We found that the Master Activities Fee surplus does not contain \$35,000 so the vote for McConomy renovation is null because we can't fill the allocation.
- We can still revote on new solution
- Hopefully by 2 weeks from now, we'll have a new solution

5:18 pm Questions

- What happened to the \$30,000?
- ◇ The surplus is the projected number of everyone's activities fees minus what is actually there. The fund fluctuates depending on refunds or when people drop out.
- ◇ In mid January there was a negative \$30,000 because of people getting refunds.
- ◇ The surplus was true then, but not anymore

5:20 pm **Special Business**

5:20 pm **Election for CIT Vacancy**

- Nominee: Dan O'toole

5:20 Speech for Dan

5:20 Questions for Dan

5:22 Discussion

5:23 Hand Vote, Dan Confirmed

**5:24 pm New Business from the Floor**

- Motion for 0607-072 Special Allocation of \$250 to Swing Dance Club (Gerrit Betz)
- Swing dancers anonymous uses the area by Andy's every other Sunday night.
- We are trying to put on an event for the whole campus.
- We want to have lessons from 8pm-9pm and have a band playing from 9-12.
- Lessons are conducted for free by an alumn.

We secured \$200 from GSA and we still need \$250

5:26 pm Questions

- No questions

5:26 pm Discussion

- This is a great idea

5:26 pm Call the Question (Jared Itkowitz)

5:26 pm Voice Vote, passed

5:27 pm Confirmation of Elections Board

- We need to pass the Elections board today to meet deadlines

5:28 pm Questions

- What does the Election board do?
- The Elections board verifies election results. They make sure candidates campaign fairly, the names on their petitions are real names, no one votes twice, etc.
- They set dates for when petitions have to be due and when the election is.
- Do the people on the board have enough experience?
- The Elections website last year was a technical problem. We'll try to make contingency plans if the server doesn't work this year.
- Meg Richards is a long time alumn. Ben Hackett was a senator off and on. I have confirmation from most of them that they can do the work when it needs to be done.

5:30 pm Discussion

- I remember Masheena was nominated for JFC and there was a conflict. She was on JFC but dropped out due to time commitments.
- JFC is a higher time commitment than the Elections board.

5:32 pm Voice Vote, passed

**5:33 pm New Business from Committee**

**5:33 pm 0607-068 Special Allocation of \$3000 to AB concerts (3/4)**

- AB concerts is throwing a spring concert for Spring Carnival on the Cut.
- They asked for \$10,000. They came to Senate and GSA.
- Committee decided to fund one third.
- AB is \$10,000 under budget according to projections
- The price for bands increased over time.
- Flaming lips is \$75,000, which is our budget. Secret Machines, who performed last year, were around \$15,000-\$20,000.

- We're looking at different bands and all of them are a cost we can't cover with our current budget.

5:35 pm Questions

- No questions

5:35 pm Discussion

- Where did you get the number of \$3000?
  - ◇ It was based on projections for the rest of the year and what we felt we were responsible
- Do you know where you would go for \$7000?
  - ◇ We asked SDC in the past, but they didn't give us a lot of help. We can also go to GSA.

5:37 pm Voice Vote, passed

5:37 pm **0607-069 Special Allocations of \$600 to OM for Holi**

- OM is having its annual Holi festival.
- It is on Flagstaff hill. There will be a catered lunch. It is religious in nature but it's open to the campus community.
- They've been coming to senate for four years. They went to GSA and Dean Church and covered the rest of their needs.

5:38 pm Questions

- No questions

5:38 pm Discussion

- We usually don't fund t-shirts but in this event people throw paint at each other so they're giving plain white t-shirts
- \$600 is the general budget
  - ◇ When is this?
    - It's on the Saturday of Carnival

5:39 pm Voice Vote, passed

5:40 pm **0607-069 Special Allocation of \$1000 to Kappa Phi Lambda and Lambda Phi Epsilon for Magdalen Hsu-Li (3/4)**

- Hsu-Li will give a concert and have a talk regarding issues around Asian Americans in the community
- Committee decided to fund 1/3 of the honorarium
- There will be an interactive lecture first, then a concert.
- Diversity awareness

- Hsu-Li is a bisexual, overcame illness, asian American, basically someone who can relate to a lot of different people
- We wanted to bring someone who will target the Asian community and GLBT members

5:41 pm Questions

5:42 pm Discussion

- This combines many members of our community

5:42 pm Call the Question (Colin Sternhell)

5:42 pm Voice Vote, passed

5:42 pm **0607-070 Special Allocation of \$650 to ARCC**

- ARCC is doing One Night in Beijing. It's an annual event.
- JFC gave the less than they wanted and they have an expansive budget. Committee decided to fund half of what was originally asked for
- We always sell out. It's in Rangos. There will be a cultural performance. It's centered around Chinese culture.
- The only weekend available was the weekend after Carnival. That's the weekend when AB doesn't do student activities. There is a special need this year because we need to contract an outside vendor for lighting, etc.

5:44 pm Questions

- No questions

5:44 pm Discussion

- I like funding extenuating circumstances

5:44 pm Call the Question (Gerrit Betz)

5:44 pm Voice Vote, passed

**5:45 pm Points of Discussion**

The Post Gazette had a poll and a negative article about CMU's gender neutral

This was an opinion article

It was definitely a satire and it was all for gender neutral housing

We already have gender neutral housing on campus.

**5:47 pm Announcements**

There is a late night this Saturday, from 9:30 to 1:30. They will be showing Casino

Royale for free. There will be a casino

March madness. It's the Championships week.

No Senate next week.

I suggest meeting at India Garden at the normal senate time next week. There will be free food. Meet at the UC turnaround.

There will be committee shuffling in excom. You may receive an email asking to move committees

5:51 pm Move to Adjourn (Krishan Taylor)

**5:51 pm Adjourn**