

CMU Student Senate

RAW Minutes of September 20, 2007

5:03 pm Roll Call

Senators Present: Sudeep Paul (TSB), Rohit Kabra (TSB), Jared Itkowitz (TSB), Evan Osherooff (TSB), Rotimi Abimbola (HSS), Alan Eaton (HSS), Abiola Fasehun (1 absence), Dorian Adeyemi (HSS), Amanda Reapsummer (HSS), Helen Lam (HSS), Brian Wade (HSS), Daniel O'Toole (CIT), Lauren Walch (CIT, 1 absence), Robert Bethea (CIT, .5absence), Mauricio Garduno (CIT), Luis Balceda (CIT, 1 absence), Matthew Maurice (CIT), Edward Oh (MCS), Prashanth Swamy (MCS, 1 absence), Jenny Han (SCS), Hao Su (SCS), Benjamin Johnston (SCS, 1 absence), Kwasi Mensah (SCS), Nara Kasbergen (CFA), Julia Li (CFA), Conor Doyle (CFA, 1 absence), Ranjit Korah (CFA), Maximilian Arocena (BHA, 1 absence), Cyrus Larijani (BHA)

Senators Absent: Douglas Facemyer (CIT, 1 absence), Sidharth Singh (1 absence)

5:05 pm Call to Order

5:05 pm Approval of Minutes from 9/13/2007

5:08 pm Audience Participation

5:08 pm Motion to move Scotch and Soda to now (Alan Eaton)

5:06 pm Call of Acclimation, Passed

5:06 pm New Business from Committee

5:06 pm 0708-001 Special Allocation of \$350 to Scotch N' Soda for Neo-Futurists

- AB offered to Scotch and Soda an opportunity to have a class with Neo-Futurists, an improv comedy troupe.
- It wasn't known earlier that this opportunity would arise and would be part of their budget.
- It is open to the entire campus.
- Committee agreed on passing this allocation.

5:09 pm Questions

- Is it free?
- ◊ Yes
- Will you publicize?

◇ Yes

5:09 pm Discussion

- We should do this. This is basically why we have special allocations.

5:10 Call the Question (Evan Osheroff)

5:10 Voice Vote, Passed

5:10 Special Business

5:10 pm **Ratification of Activities Board Chair** (Eileen Angulo)

- AB is a subsection of student governemnt
- Bylaws state Senate must ratify activities board chair
- I've been involved in AB since freshman year
- I will be chair of special events such as concerts, special events and tech events
- We've already been busy these past few weeks.

5:12 pm Questions

- Why do you want to be chair?

◇ I didn't realize the opportunities of being on the board when I joined my freshman year. Now I want to see the big picture rather than be involved from a sub committee.

5:13 pm Discussion

5:14 pm Call the Question (Timi Abimbola)

5:14 pm Voice Vote, Passed

5:15 pm Committee Reports

5:15 pm **Academic Affairs** (Evan Osheroff)

- I printed out my report.
- I met with the UEC, which meets monthly. They do mostly undergraduate work.
- We covered academic integrity and cheating. I can tell you more about that later.
- Carnegie Mellon code talks about standard codes and ethics. We've been working on the version 5 rewrite since last year. It's going to be shopped around all the administrative bodies and Senate and GSA will have to approve it.
- There will be a committee that will be formed to decide whether or not CMU needs an honor code.
- Middle States happens every 10 years. Someone will come next week to talk more about it. We are in the middle of the evaluation. We need it to get accredited.

- Middle states have new rules and regulations and we will be the first to go through the new rules
- The school is working harder than usual to set the bar.
- FCE's are changed. They're going to be called University Course Assessments. There are 3 questions on the web site so far. We want students to think of more questions
- The old FCE's are still around to look at.
- We talked about implementing a new scheduler.
- PH100 will be out of commission in the spring semester and in the summer. Some people will have to go to Mellon Institute for classes. We will work that out later.
- Sudeep, Jenny and Nara are on my committee
- Our goals this semester are to initiate the English department, work on the journalism minor, revising the CMU code, the honor code, develop new interdisciplinary degrees, and improve the Pittsburgh and Qatar campus connections

5:22 pm Questions

5:23 pm **Business Affairs** (Rotimi Abimbola)

- Abiola, Dan, Mauricio, and Ben Johnston are on my committee
- Our goal is to establish the committee within Senate and the school. It's a little all over the place now.
- Our tasks include the CEO forum with USA today. A CEO from GE will come. Tepper will be involved and we want to grab our part of it.
- We'll work on the computer kiosks. There is \$20,000 allocated to that.
- We want to lower prices in the UC and campus stores
- We want to work with administrators in anticipating problems on campus, like the freshmen buying out Entropy with their Dinex
- We will work on parking, zipcar, and flexcar. We will publicize more so people use parking properly

5:24 pm Questions

- Will the school subsidize lower prices in Entropy?
- ◊ We don't know about that. It was great freshmen could use Dinex in Entropy, but then prices skyrocketed. We just want to know why that happened. We don't want upperclassmen to stop buying at Entropy.

- Will there be formal survey to see if people will stop buying at Entropy?
- ◊ Yes
- What is the CEO forum?
- ◊ Campus Readership Program is bringing the CEO of GE to give a lecture and have discussions afterward. Everything is covered financially.
- A week later the discussion is published in USA today. It's on December 10.

5:28 pm **Campus Life** (Cyrus Larijani)

- We'll continue projects from last semester; increasing shuttle services, working on shuttles to games, increasing school pride
- We'll continue the campus gear sale. Our prices are cheaper than bookstore's and we usually sell out.
- We will address dining issues such as Entropy and Dinex
- Smoking 2010 is still around. We will be meeting with Health Services to see where that group is going
- We are working with Carnegie Clan. There is a tailgate party this weekend for the football game
- We want to uphold postering policies
- Rohit, Amanda, Prashanth, and Doug are in my committee

5:29 pm Questions

- What about chalking policies?
- ◊ They aren't as imposed upon as postering policies

5:31 pm **Finance** (Alan Eaton)

- We have \$37,000 this semester
- All student organizations got a letter regarding funding
- Ed, Kwasi, and Lauren are in my committee

5:31 pm Questions

- Any organization can receive funding?
- ◊ Yes. They are favored if they are Coso recognized. The funding can't have anything to do with academics

5:31 pm **Internal Development** (Julia Li)

- We're going to work on a more connected Senate, Senate pride, having a retreat, Senate gear, sweatshirts, food, whatever you guys want
- We'll see if we want to go out to dinner, plan icebreakers, get binders together, get copies of Roberts Rules for new members.

- Max, Conor, Ranjit, Hao, and Luis are in my committee

5:32 pm Questions

5:32 pm **Chair** (Jared Itkowitz)

- You have up to 3 absences per semester. Once you have 2 absences you'll get a notification and if you miss the next one, you are out.
- I take attendance seriously, these seats are valued
- Committee attendance I'll leave up to the committee chair.
- Proxies come from your college and can vote on your behalf. You get up to 2 proxies per month.
- No excused absences
- If you get to the meeting after committee reports or after 5:20, whichever is earlier, you get a half absence. If you leave before points of discussion, you get a half absence
- You can work off half absences. So far we only have tabling.

5:34 pm Questions

- What about constituency meetings?
- ◊ Last year we had a big barbeque for all the schools. Attendance is mandatory
- We will be poster for Senate vacancies in the next 2 weeks
- GSA and Senate will have joint meeting this Monday. It is a mandatory emergency meeting to elect a Student Body President and Student Body VP Finance.
- The Constitution lays out a plan in cases like this. Candidates have to ask for petitions again. They have 10 school days to get 100 signatures, signatures need to be validated, and GSA and Senate have to elect a Student Body President and VP Finance
- Currently we have 1 validated petition for St Body VP Finance
- On Monday, each person will speak in front of the 2 bodies. There will be questions and a discussion.
- Both bodies need to agree on same person with a simple majority
- There are 2 elections?
- ◊ Yes, for VP Finance and Student Body President
- In the last meeting, the graduate students had an issue. Were they addressed already?

- ◇ As of now, there are no graduate students running. I'm confident we will have a peaceful discussion
- Does it count as an absence if we can't come Monday?
- ◇ No. But we really need quorum.

5:41 pm Ex-Officio Reports

5:41 pm **Director of Athletics** (Susan Bassett)

- I supervise intercollegiate athletics and under the umbrella are intramurals, recreation, club sports, and instructional programs
- I was a swimming coach for 15 years. I also coached field hockey, lacrosse, and taught physical activities
- I invite all of you to participate in some part of our programs. Take a class or go to Skibo gym. I hope that we have something for everybody
- Roughly 80% of the student body participate in our programs.
- We have a lot going on this weekend. We have men's and women's soccer double header this Saturday. The football game is at 7pm, against Allegheny College. There is a volleyball tournament Friday and Saturday at the UC.
- We have a contest where we pick 2 names randomly and they get to try for a field goal. They get free text books for the semester if they make it. The bookstore also offers discounts according to football scores.

5:46 pm Questions

- How do you think attendance at athletics events are? How can we help you advertise?
- ◇ It would be wonderful if you helped. I think there is great community spirit, but we haven't raised the consciousness level of these events. We've had good support between and among athletic teams, but I don't think it has extended to the rest of the student body to the level we would like.
- I notice attendance night football games is higher. Could we have more of them?
- ◇ Last year was the first time we had a night football game in many years. There are some travel implications for the other team. It would add an overnight for a lot of teams. Last year, the deal was that if we play them next year, we would play at night. There are always logistical and travel issues.
- How do you advertise club sports?

- ◇ We try to meet once a month with all the club sports to know what is going on. We want articles in the Tartan. We have a link on our website for contact information
- Has the issue with info sessions at Skibo been worked out?
- ◇ We have a free weight room in Skibo. We've been trying to improve access, safety, and equipment. It's a really small room so we need it to function flawlessly. This year we started an orientation program. We have one every month. Everyone who uses the gym must go through it to know the policies and procedures. 700 people have gone through those orientations already. We think it will help the weight room function better. You only need to go through orientation once.
- Will there be an orientation for working out in the UC?
- ◇ No. We chose Skibo gym because of all the free weights. There's a higher level of knowledge required for free weights.
- Does it seem like the gym is in better situation now than last year?
- ◇ The staff says they feel it is better. We'll still have to be in there to remind people about policies and procedures.

5:54 pm New Business from the Floor

5:54 pm 0708-002 Resolution Acknowledging the HOCs and Orientation 2007

- We have a couple of resolutions to pass. Read through it- it's on the overhead.

5:58 pm Questions

5:58 pm Discussion

5:58 pm Call the Question (Kwasi Mensah)

5:58 pm Voice Vote, Passed

5:58 pm 0708-003 Resolution Acknowledging the 2006-2007 Elections Board

6:00 pm Questions

6:00 pm Discussion

- Elections Board is definitely deserving of this. They really stuck it through.
- Please thank Meg if you see her around.

6:00 pm Call the Question (Alan Eaton)

6:00 pm Voice Vote, Passed

6:01 pm Special Business

- Kwasi has resigned his position as Sergeant at Arms. Do we have nominations?

6:02 pm Speech for Luis Balceda

6:03 pm Questions for Luis

6:04 pm Luis withdrew

6:04 pm Speech for Lauren Walch

6:05 pm Questions for Lauren

6:06 pm Discussion

6:06 pm Call the Question

6:06 pm Hand Vote, Passed

6:08 pm **Communications Committee Report** (Robert Bethea)

- We want to report business to the community and hopefully improve infrastructure of communicating
- We want to decrease student apathy
- We want to work with the Tartan to get the Senate name out in the community

6:09 pm Questions

6:09 pm **Robert's Rules Session**

- We use Roberts Rules of Order. It is up on the overhead. The formalized structure is there to help us move meetings more fluently, so not to get stagnant.
- I'll print out the sheet for you guys next week. The two most important and relevant points are calling the question and moving the question
- Roberts Rules are there to make the meeting efficient, not to slow it down.

6:15 pm **Points of Discussion**

- I want to introduce Kaycee Palko, our Senate Advisor.
- At the meeting on Monday, it's important for us to set a precedent and start bridging the gap with the GSA. Let's go in there with a positive attitude and work with them to make a resolution
- It's an open meeting, the Tartan will be there. Let's be on our best behavior.
- GSA is also made up of students. There's no reason to have antagonism. They have a huge funding pool we often refer people to so it would help to be on good terms with them.
- On Monday, I will hopefully be the only undergraduate student candidate for Student Body President. I already have 100 signatures but I'd like to have all of Senate sign my petition to show I have Senate's backing
- Don't sign the petition if you signed for another president candidate.
- Regarding the CEO lecturer, would Senate be interested in having a regular lecture series?

- Yes.
- I remember discussing last year possible salaries for the Student President and VP Finance
- That can be discussed now, but it will be discussed on October fourth. And we'll have a full senate by then.
- In the past, we printed minutes for everyone, other times we printed out 5. Are there any preferences?
- Let's print out 5 copies.
- As a reminder, Senate vacancies can be run for in 2 weeks. Petitions are available at the UC info desk

6:25 pm Motion to Adjourn (Edward Oh)

6:25 pm **Adjourn**