

# CMU Student Senate

RAW Minutes of September 6, 2007

## 6:09 pm Roll Call

**Senators Present:** Rotimi Abimbola (HSS, 2 absences), Robert Bethea (CIT, 1 absence, .5absence), Joel Bergstein(CIT), Byron Chou (TSB, 2 absence, .5absence), Philip Croul (HSS, 2 absences), Alan Eaton (CIT), Kate Eckerle (MCS, 3 absences), Joe Gershenson (SCS, 3 absences), Danielle Griswold (HSS, 3 absences), Jenny Han (SCS, 1 absence), Ashley Hill (CIT, 3 absences, .5absence), Lauren Hudock (HSS), Jared Itkowitz (TSB, 1 absence), Melissa Kim (CIT, 2 absence), Megan Larcom (TSB, 1 absence), Cyrus Larijani (BHA, proxy), Edward Oh (2 absence, .5absence), Evan Osheroff (MCS, 1 absence), Dan O'Toole (CIT, 1 absence), Fredrico Pineda (MCS, 3 absences), Colin Sternhell (HSS), Brian Wade (HSS), Lauren Walch (CIT)

**Senators Absent:** Julia Li (CFA, 3 absences), Paris Obdan (CIT, 3 absences, .5absence)

## 6:11 pm Call to Order

## 6:11 pm Approval of Minutes from 8/30/07

- The date is incorrect

## 6:12 pm Audience Participation

## 6:12 pm Ex-Officio Reports (Jaime Rossi)

- I have copies of nominated, interviewed candidates for student representatives on the judicial board.
- No one has sent concerns about these candidates being on the board

## 6:13 pm Questions

- Are these for this year?
- ◇ It is accurate for the fall.
- How many people are allowed on the board?
- ◇ There is no cutoff number. It is typically 30-40 students. We are now down to 5.
- ◇ The graduate students have been ratified.
- ◇ Greek members are also included in this list.
- Do you want us to go over these people individually?
- ◇ No. Just tell me if there is anyone who raises a concern.

6:18 pm Discussion

- We should ratify this.

6:18 pm Call the Question (Robert Bethea)

6:19 pm Passed by Acclimation

### **6:19 pm Committee reports**

6:19 pm **Academic Affairs**

- Basically everything is in the handout
- The Statement of FCE and the Statement of Electronic Media Usage has been passed. It will be put in the word
- Ask me if any of you have questions

6:22 pm **Business** (Jared Itkowitz)

- You can read the handout yourself.
- In the summer, a CEO of General Electric lecture has been confirmed. I'm excited about the forum. It will happen in December.
- We have \$20,000 allocated for computer kiosks in the UC.
- 8% of students used their entire printing quota, which is higher than last year. Maybe we should look at the quota issue
- I would recommend to the future chair to redefine the purpose of Business Affairs and why we have this committee.

6:25 pm Questions

- ◇ I heard entropy will be a computer cluster?
- No. It will be an extension of the bookstore

6:25 **Campus Life**

- We can read the report.
- Megan was quoted in newspaper about the Port Authority issue.
- I thought Healthy Campus was a really good thing senate did. We had a great town hall meeting about that.

6:26 **Communications** (Lauren Hudock)

- Email me if you want a copy of the final report.
- We had a successful retreat in the fall. We should do that in the future.
- We should also advertise for Senate vacancies.
- Gavel pins should be continued.
- We advertised a lot more in the spring. We advertised heavily for all 3 spring elections.

- We also had our first senate constituency barbeque. I think it was very successful and we should do something like that this fall and spring.
- In the future, Communications should advertise vacancies more heavily. Aiding to make senate more visible to the student body as a whole should be a goal.

6:31 pm Questions

6:31 pm **Finance** (Alan Eaton)

- We gave out \$80,000 last year. I think helping events happen on campus was the best way we made ourselves visible on campus. I think we handled ourselves professionally doing that.
- Thanks for a great year.

6:33 pm **Internal Development**

- ID gave their report last year
- The ropes course was the best bonding event senate did

6:33 pm **Chair** (Joel Bergstein)

- I thought we worked really well as a group last year.
- I feel that hopefully we are all friends. We should all be friends then the conversation is focused more on ideas rather than attacking each other.
- I hope returning senators will continue senate bonding activities.
- Executive committees were incredible last year.
- External committees were great at getting things done.
- Advice, work with GSA. I thought Beth and I worked really well last year.

6:36 pm **Points of Discussion**

- We had 4 elections, 2 weren't ratified, 2 didn't happen. We have to find a way to look at this positively.
- We need to show the student body that there is order.
- I think GSA's main issue was with the lack of answers provided from the elections board. We need to take a look at the voting process.
- I understand about the 6 people that were disenfranchised, but we're hurting the campus dragging this on. As a student, this is irritating.
- Beth and I will meet tomorrow to pick the next Student Body President.
- I really think it is important we can work together with GSA and not have this drift.
- We will pick the president who then picks the other spots
- The feedback we get from students is that we need action.
- We need to take initiative right now and conduct ourselves properly.

- There are many requests for money since it is the beginning of the year. Finance will have an open meeting this week. All the finance things need to be passed before starting the new session.

5:04 pm (13 September) Motion to Adjourn (Rotimi Abimbola)

5:04 pm (13 September) **Adjourn**