

CMU Student Senate

Minutes of October 23, 2008

5:06 Roll Call

Senators Present: Cassandra Abernathy (CIT, 2 proxies, .5 absences), Dorian Adeyemi (HSS, .5 absence), Mana Ameri (CIT), Miriam Cha (CIT, 1 absence), Zexi Chen (SCS, 1 absence), Christopher Franzi (HSS, 2 proxy), Aaron Gross (HSS, 2 proxies), Michael He (CIT), Jayesh Kapoor (TSB, 2 proxies), Barbara Kasbergen (CFA), Chansaly Ker (CIT, 1 proxy), Eunjin Kim (CFA), Diane Lee (CIT, 1 proxy), Kush Mangal (MCS), Bassem Mikhael (BHA/BSA/SHS, 1 proxy), Natalie Morris (SCS), Daniel O'Toole (CIT, 2 proxies, 1.5 absences), Stuti Pandey (HSS), Marcela Partida (CIT, 1 absence), Dina Patel (MCS, 1 absence), Robert Piston Jr. (MCS, .5 absences), Vivake Prasad (HSS, 1 proxy), Sonali Shah (MCS), Prashanth Swamy (MCS, 1 proxy, 1 absence), Benjamin Trump (BHA/BSA/SHS, 1 absence), Thomas Tuttle (SCS, .5 absences), Damian Valdes (TSB, 1 proxy, 2.5 absences), Carolina Velez, (HSS, 2 proxies), Brian Wade (TSB, 1.5 absence), Lingshui Wang (CFA, 1 absence)

Senators Absent: Nik White (CIT, 1.5 absences)

Members-at Large Present: Jarett Adams, Katie Chong, Jake Flittner, Meghan Nahass, Zack Pierce, Keshav Raghavan (1 proxy, 1 absence), Stephan Schneider (1 absence), Zachary Stockwell (1 absence), Krishan Taylor, Eric Wu (1 absence)

Members-at-Large Absent: Urna Biswas (1 absence), Mariluz Orbay Cerrato (1 absence), Gurmukh Chhabra (3 absences), Amy Kao (2 absences)

5:06 Call to Order

5:08 Agenda Approved

5:08 Minutes Approved

5:08 Audience Participation

- (Chris, audience member) Feels the proposed smoking ban is unfair.
- (Rotimi Abimbola) We can provide you with the initiatives from Healthy Campus

5:10 Committee Reports

- **Academic Affairs (Brian Wade):** No report.
- **Business Affairs (Benjamin Trump):** Met with Scott Street, the liaison for USA Today. Campus readership has improved. Other off campus sites will get places to distribute newspapers. Presented the plans for a banner to be put in front of Doherty Hall. Debating to buy a Tartan Ad. Will also get help of Gallup International. Is also working to Increase transparency with tuition committee and is looking into an off campus printing site.

5:13 Questions

- (Vivake Prasad) Who would pick up cost for the Ad?
 - USA Today.
- What is the need when people get their news from other sources?
 - The purpose is to increase campus readership. The goal with this partnership is to give students the opportunity to lookup what is happening globally. Readership has been going up gradually over the past few years. This is another important medium besides the internet.
- (Krishan Taylor) What off campus buildings are being considered for new printing locations?
 - Not sure; it will be an issue for next week.
- (Stuti Pandey) What is the nature of your discussion with the National Gallup?
 - Scott is putting me in contact with them.

- (Natalie Morris) USA Today gives us a certain amount of money for the papers and this increases with the number of readers, right?
 - The Student media fee covers the cost of newspapers.
- **Campus Life (Dorian Adeyemi):** On the recycling issue, it will happen on the Greek Quad. Housing will provide bins to each house. Also looking into the Beeler house incident.

5:20 Questions

- (Stuti Pandey) Anything new happening with the gear sale?
 - Perhaps sell in conjunction with alumni relations but need to first contact bookstore.
 - (Diane Lee) We should have people who live on Beeler come to the meeting next week and have them provide their input.
- **Communications (Nara Kasbergen):** No report.
- **Finance (Marcela Partida):** No report.
- **Internal Development (Vivake Prasad):** There will be a workshop next week on writing resolutions. It's something that's been lacking with Senate in the past couple of years.

5:26 New Business from Committee

Amendment to Fiscal Policy (Marcela Partida)

- Change the fiscal policy because some laws are out of date and others are not in accordance with the way we fund things.
- Remove some duties of the Finance Committee.
 - No longer appoint the JFC slate.
 - No appointment of the Coso slate because there's a separate Coso slate.
- Funding uniforms policy—Senate would subsidize 25% of cost. If there's need for more subsidies, it can be voted on.
- Only operational cost for charities can be funded, policy was initially written as a loan, but that is no longer the case.

5:30 Questions

- (Zach Flittner) How arbitrary was 25%.
 - JFC does 25%, so it's not unreasonable for the organization to come up with the other 50%
- (Mana Ameri) Did organizations pay back Senate in the past?
 - It is more reasonable to treat it as an allocation, not a loan.

5:34 Discussion

- (Benjamin Trump) This is a great way for Senate to update itself and a way to remain functional.
- (Thomas Tuttle) If you pay the activities fee, then everyone should pay the same price for events.
- Streamline areas so people understand where we're coming from.
- By laws leave breathing room to determine things case by case.
- (Steve Burton) It allows more interpretation on our part.
- (Vivake Prasad) Want to motion to get rid of 9a because it's repetitive.
- (Diane Lee) We should pass it, we do it all anyway.

5:42 (Jerry Wang) Call to question

5:42 Hand vote (2/3 Majority). Amendments passed.

5:43 Special Business from Committee

Election for CIT Vacancy

5:46 Speech by Peter Choi

5:48 Questions for Peter Choi

5:53 Speech by Jake Flittner

5:56 Questions for Jake Flittner

6:02 Discussion

6:21 Move to Question

6:22 Vote (Simple majority). Tie (20-20).

6:26 Discussion

6:34 (Jerry Wang) Call to Question

6:36 Vote (Simple Majority). Jake Flittner elected as new CIT Senator.

6:42 (Jerry Wang) Nominate Peter Choi as Member-at-Large

6:43 Nomination by Acclimation

7:12 Points of Discussion

- “Be there”

7:19 Second Roll Call

6:46 Announcements

- SACs
- Need one additional person on the Finance Committee.
- For future reference, Senators can motion to limit debate for 20 minutes

6:49 Adjourn