Carnegie Mellon Undergraduate Student Senate
Minutes: 15th General Body Meeting Fall 2009 – December 3, 2009

5:08 Call to Order and First Roll Call
Senators Present: Thomas Tuttle (SCS, .5 absence), Eric Wu (SCS, 1.5 absence), Rohan Agashe (CIT, 1 absence), Brandon Chock (CIT), Jake Flittner (CIT, 1.5 absence), Bryan Lewis (CIT, .5 absence), Matthew Kuhn (CIT, 3 absence), Robert Piston Jr. (CIT, .5 absence), Jessica Santana (CIT, 1 absence), Keshav Raghavan (CIT, 2 proxy, 3 absence), Sonali Shah (CIT, 1 proxy, 4 absence), Abdul Torffick (CIT, 3 absence), Jarrett Adams (HSS, 1 absence), Ben Gutermen (HSS), Nikhil Iyer (HSS, .5 absence), Meghan Nahass (HSS, 1 proxy, 2.5 absence), Bassem Mikhael (BHA/BSA/SHS, 1 proxy, 3 absence), Starsha Kolodziej (MCS, 1.5 absence), Michael Yang (MCS, 1.5 absence), Stacey Lu (CFA, 1.5 absence), Akshay Udiavar (CFA, 3 absence), Toro Adeyemi (TSB, 2.5 absence), Stephanie Schneider (TSB, 2 proxy, 2 absence)

Senators Absent: Eduardo J. Benatuiil (HSS, 1.5 proxy, 2.5 absence), Yael Bushoy (HSS, 1.5 proxy, 3 absence), Varun Deshpande (MCS, 2 absence), Nicholas Ferrell (BHA/BSA/SHS, 3 absence), Matthew Hwang (CIT, 2.5 absence), Abhi Jain (CIT, 1 absence), Jon Mark (CFA, 4.5 absence), Natalie Morris (SCS, 1 absence), William Zhang (SCS, 1 proxy, 1.5 absence)

5:09 Approval of Agenda from 11/5/09
5:04 Audience Participation
5:05 Final Committee Reports

Academic Affairs (Bassem Mikhael)
• Worked on improving advising and Gen Eds.
• Will change advising by fall 2010 semester—including summer workshops for advisors, and an electronic advising system.
• Establish HSS liaison advising system; provide specialized knowledge by departments.
• HSS will be revamping Gen Eds next semester.

Business Affairs (Jake Flittner)
• Camper readership program now includes graduate students.
• Want another bin in Newell-Simon by the food court.
• Moved bin to Posner Hall; looking at data to see if it is a successful location.
• Health Services improvements, done jointly with GSA.
  o Will survey students.
• Financial transparency; know what our money is going to.
• Campus dining—making sure transition is smooth.
• Printing kiosks—expand to Doherty possibly.
• Looking at complaints on print quota running out. Determine who (like what college) uses their quota the most so it’s a more efficient system.
• (Kuhn) Put one in Gates.

Campus Life (Jarrett Adams)
• Made goals over the summer; met goals and exceeded these goals in campus life.
• New campus gear sold.
• Lots of feedback from tabling.
• Lots of interest in senate and advertising campus life committee.
• Create strategic plan not related to school spirit/ pride, more about improving the actual campus committee.
Communications (Toro Adeyemi)
  • *The Gavel* is out.
  • Ben Guterman is the Senator of the Month.
  • Had no tax sign on Forbes.
  • Push more for filling vacancies...especially CFA chairs.
  • Will have a board in the UC beginning in the spring.
Internal Development (Eric Wu)
  • Lost half committee over the semester but was still successful.
  • Profiles are online.
  • Respond to emails.
Finance (Robert Piston)
  • Had 37 allocations, 38 including today
  • $33,000 was allocated this semester.
    o Have about $50,000 left.
  • Have started reviewing bylaws.
  • Used electronic Google from to keep track.
  • Need better way to refer to old allocations like SDC.
  • $5,000 to CMUtv will be coming back for $8-9,000
  • Presentation at beginning of semester...”why we fund things”
  • Have an allocations tracker—long term goal.
Chair (Aaron Gross)
  • Need to address some issues over winter break.
  • Most effective was the internal research of meeting to make substantive changes.
  • College caucuses very successful to address problems and representing colleges
  • Senate has rise in statue in light of the recent tuition tax proposal.
  • Have been able to collaborate with other universities.

5:15 New Business from Committee
09-10 046: Special Allocation of $945 to HSS Department for “So You Want to Make a Movie”
  • Wanted to make a movie and the professor with the endowment left and no longer was able to fund the class.
  • Wants to continue making the movie.
  • Screening writing students write scripts fist semester, but then make movie second semester and produce film.
  • Auditions for entire community.
  • 50 minute film
  • Will further graduate plans for students
  • Don’t have a lot of film presence
5:35 Questions
  • Rent or borrow from CMUtv; someone from CMUtv is a member
  • (Lu) Can borrow from CFA. There’s a lending process.
  • CFA has the best policy for lending; although the shooting scheduling is intense and would really need two cameras.
  • (Tuttle) The camera will stay?
  • It would be nice for department to own permanently.
  • Funding was arranged on a one time basis. Would of have $30,000 for the project, but no longer have finding source from the professor at Heinz.
  • (Lu) What is the film about?
• Broke college kids that go to a prestigious university and sell cigarettes to high school students to make money.

5:40 Move to vote. Passed. $945 to HSS Department for “So You Want to Make a Movie”

5:41 Ex Officio Report—Rotimi Abimbola, Student Body President

• GSA has a different take on the loop bus—it doesn’t serve the graduate student population.

• Will see a more comprehensive schedule to avoid waiting for the bus.

• Will have a web presence—can go online.

• Will cut some of the hours to save money and intentional PR.

• Will still run next semester using reserve money.

• The referendum is needed to continue the loop bus—approve language

• (Ruth) Money can be saved by cutting hours and there’s overlap with the PAT bus. 2/3 og GSA tabled it. Want to know how much a truncated version of the loop bus will cost. Just want more data before they are willing to approve it.

• Don’t really have to approve it yet; really just need discussion.

5:47 (Adams) Motion to table to next semester. Passed. Tabled.

5:49 Points of Discussion

Tuition Tax

• Vote on tuition tax is postponed until next Wednesday

College Caucuses

• Should continue next semester.

• (Schneider) Stat Econ major can get into any classes because she can get precedence

5:58 Adjourn

Carnegie Mellon Undergraduate Student Senate

Minutes: 1st General Body Meeting Fall 2009 – December 3, 2009

6:02 Call to Order and First Roll Call

Senators Present: Thomas Tuttle (SCS, .5 absence), Eric Wu (SCS, 1.5 absence), Rohan Agashe (CIT, 1 absence), Brandon Chock (CIT), Jake Flittner (CIT, 1.5 absence), Bryan Lewis (CIT, .5 absence), Matthew Kuhn (CIT, 3 absence), Robert Piston Jr. (CIT, .5 absence), Jessica Santana (CIT, 1 absence), Keshav Raghavan (CIT, 2 proxy, 3 absence), Sonali Shah (CIT, 1 proxy, 4 absence), Abdul Torfick (CIT, 3 absence), Jarrett Adams (HSS, 1 absence), Ben Guterman (HSS), Nikhil Iyer (HSS, .5 absence), Meghan Nahass (HSS, 1 proxy, 2.5 absence), Bassem Mikhael (BHA/BSA/SHS, 1 proxy, 3 absence), Starsha Kolodziej (MCS, 1.5 absence), Michael Yang (MCS, 1.5 absence), Stacey Lu (CFA, 1.5 absence), Akshay Udiavar (CFA, 3 absence), Toro Adeyemi (TSB, 2.5 absence), Stephanie Schneider (TSB, 2 proxy, 2 absence)

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6:02 Approval of Agenda from 11/5/09
6:02 Audience Participation

6:03 Spring 2010 Chair Elections
Chair, Undergraduate Student Senate
6:03 Speech by Aaron Gross
6:05 Questions for Aaron Gross
6:05 Move to Discussion
6:07 Move to Vote. Aaron Gross elected.

Chair, Academic Affairs
6:09 Speech by Ben Guterman
6:11 Questions for Ben Guterman
6:13 Discussion

Chair, Business Affairs
6:14 Speech by Jake Flittner
6:16 Questions for Jake Flittner
6:20 Move to vote. Jake Flittner elected.
6:18 Discussion

Chair, Campus Life
6:21 Speech by Jarrett Adams
6:23 Questions for Jarrett Adams
6:35 Move to Discussion

Chair, Communications
6:28 Speech by Toro Adeyemi
6:30 Questions for Toro Adeyemi
6:36 Speech by Nikhil Iyer
6:38 Questions for Nikhil Iyer
6:45 Discussion
7:12 Move to vote
7:19 Move back into discussion
7:25 Move to vote.
7:29 Nikhil Iyer elected.

Chair, Finance
7:31 Speech by Sonali Shah
7:34 Questions for Sonali Shah
7:38 Discussion
7:39 Move to vote. Sonali Shah elected.

Chair, Internal Development
7:40 Speech by Eric Wu
7:42 Questions for Eric Wu
7:47 Discussion
7:54 Move to Vote. Eric Wu elected

Sergeant-At-Arms
7:55 Tabled

7:55 Adjourn