

# CMU Student Senate

OFFICIAL Minutes of November 6, 2003

## 5:36 pm Roll Call

**Senators Present:** James Auwaerter (CIT), Julie Beckenstein (HSS), Michelle Birchak (CIT), Tim Bowen (HSS, left early, 0.5 absences), Vito Fiore (HSS), Megan Flocken (HSS), James Hazelrig (CIT), Chen Huang (CIT), Sooran Kim (CFA), Steven Kling (CIT), Ben Loving (MCS), Nicolette Louissaint (CIT, left early, 0.5 absences), Jonathan Mendelson (SCS), Erik Michaels-Ober (HSS), Rebecca Nathan (CIT), Sivanipriya Nattama (SCS), Daniel Papasian (CIT), Jay Pujara (SCS), Edward Ryan (MCS, left early, 0.5 absences), Thomas Sabram (CIT), Nicholas Scocozzo (CIT), Deniz Secilmis (CFA, came late, excused, left early, 0.5 absences), Alex Sussman (SIA, left early, 0.5 absences), Wei Tang (SHS), Tom Terraccino (SIA), Yanna Weisberg (SHS), Kristina Wiltsee (MCS, left early, 0.5 absences), Jack Wu (SCS), Joshua Yearsley (HSS, left early, 0.5 absences), Michelle Webb (MCS)

**Senators Absent:** Naomi Haskell (SIA, 1 absence), Matt Rado (HSS, 1 absence), Christopher Watkins (HSS, 1 absence)

**Members at Large Present:** Joe Arasin (SCS), Elizabeth Kolmus (SHS), Aaron Walker (CIT)

**Members at Large Absent:** Ananya Bubna (SIA, 1 absence), Pedro Ferraz (HSS, 1 absence), Haseeb Qureshi (HSS, 1 absence), Dynne Sung (HSS, 1 absence)

## 5:41 pm Call to Order

## 5:41 pm Approval of Minutes

5:41 pm Amendments to the October 30 minutes

- 6:25 pm Vote to “fill” vacancies
- 5:51 SDC report presented by Dan Jentzen
- Correct spelling of Guerilla Girls in all instances
- Correct spelling of “Nicolette Louissaint”

5:43 pm Passed by acclamation

**5:43 pm Audience Participation - None**

### **5:43 pm Standing Committee Reports**

#### **5:44 pm Academic Affairs**

- A forum about the new diploma design will be held next Tuesday and Wednesday in the Giant Eagle Auditorium from 4:30-5:30pm.

#### **5:45 pm Business Affairs**

- Bookstore scheduling is being modified to facilitate book buy-back options.
- A committee to review parking issues on campus is being assembled
- Issues relating to the use of social security numbers as student ID numbers are still being addressed and discussed with the administration.

#### **5:47 pm Campus Life**

- In response to a complaint about housing handling of health and safety, 15 minute inspections will be conducted November 5-21 rather than waiting until the standard Winter and Spring break inspections.
- CL representatives will be walking around campus with Madeline Miller to determine where outdoor smoking locations should be set up to accommodate smokers displaced by the new smoking policy.
- A dining forum will be held to discuss the option of requiring all students to be on a meal plan will be held in 2 weeks.

#### **5:50 pm Communications (Erik Michaels-Ober)**

- The launch of the new Student Senate web site, [stusen.org](http://stusen.org), was a success! Advertising included a poster and chalking campaign. The site is now indexed on all major search engines directories and traffic has been increasing steadily.
- Posters advertising Senate meeting schedules were posted to increase Student Senate visibility. A "Cookies for Comments" is also being planned.
- Posters advertising the forums on the diploma issue have been posted. An e-mail will also be sent to all seniors about this.
- Posters for Arts Pass, the second in a series of posters promoting underutilized student services, will be posted next week.
- The first issue of the Student Senate newsletter, "The Gavel," will be published soon. Article submissions are due by Monday, October 10 at 5:00 PM.
- Student Senate shirts are available after the meeting. T-shirts are \$5, polo-shirts are \$8.

#### **5:55 pm Funding and Recognition (Daniel Papasian)**

- Daniel Papasian has resigned as chair of the F&R Committee.

- Recommendations for future F&R improvements include not requiring the F&R Chair to simultaneously serve on JFC, keep regular meeting times with organizations and written notes of the meetings, and update org-tracker and use motion tracker.

5:58 pm **Internal Development** (Sivanipriya Nattama)

- ID started reviewing bylaws this week.
- Half of the senate archiving has been completed to date.
- Be prepared to fill out committee preferences sheets for next semester at next week's meeting.

5:59 pm **Transparency and Accountability**

- Budgets will be up as soon as webISO space is available.

6:00 pm **Activities Fee**

- The decision regarding next year's activities fee is to pass and implement cost saving measures and to increase the activities fee by 5% that will increase the activities fee pool by approximately \$66,000.
- A similar committee should be convened in F2004 to investigate how money was allocated, and whether additional measures are needed.
- A document outlining committee rationale will be available online
- GSA supports this decision.
- A resolution to this end will be voted on in a December meeting.

6:07 pm **Senate Chair** (Vito Fiore)

- Thanks to Daniel Papasian for his work as F&R chair this semester.
- New Senators, welcome.
- If Senators have any concerns about anything, please talk to Vito or the appropriate committee chair.

6:08 pm **New Business from Committee**

6:08 pm **F2003-033 Non-funded recognition of Figure Skating Club**

6:08 pm Motion to slate F2003-033 through f2003-037 (Erik Michaels-Ober)

6:08 pm Vote to slate F2003-033 through f2003-037

Fails, hand vote (8-15-1)

6:08 pm Motion to give Randolph Sinnott speaking rights (Sivanipriya Nattama)

6:08 pm Discussion on motion to give Randolph Sinnott speaking rights

6:10 pm Motion to amend to limit speaking rights to F2003-033 and F2003-038

6:11 pm Discussion on motion to amend to limit speaking rights to F2003-033 and F2003-038

- USSA issue and purpose of audience participation

6:13 pm Vote to amend to limit speaking rights to F2003-033 and F2003-038

Division, voice vote

Fails, hand vote (9-10-4)

6:14 pm Discussion on motion to give Randolph Sinnott speaking rights

6:14 pm Vote to give Randolph Sinnott speaking rights

Passes, voice vote

6:14 pm Questions on F2003-033

- The Figure Skating Club main focus is community outreach and will provide instruction to Carnegie Mellon students and underprivileged children. In addition, the club will host 1-2 competitions per year.
- The organization will likely look for funding next year

6:15 pm Discussion on F2003-033

6:15 pm Vote on F2003-033

Passes, voice vote

6:15 pm **F2003-034 Non-Funded recognition to Paintball Team**

6:15 pm Questions on F2003-034

- The team wants to operate independently from the current paintball club.
- Paintball is a competitive sport with collegiate tournaments such as the 5 man tournament coming up in a couple of weeks in Long Island

6:16 pm Discussion on F2003-034

6:16 pm Vote on F2003-034

Passes, voice vote

6:17 pm **F2003-035 Special Allocation of \$250 to Japanese Culture Club**

6:17 pm Questions on F2003-035

- The allocation will help cover food costs for a 300-400 person DDR and sushi event. The event will be open and free to all students and will provide vegetarian options.
- A similar event was held last year. This year the turnout is expected to be twice as high as last year.
- Flyers and e-mails will advertise the event.

6:20 pm Discussion on F2003-035

6:21 pm Vote on F2003-035

Passes, voice vote

6:22 pm **F2003-036 Special Allocation of \$125 to Russian House**

6:22 pm Questions on F2003-036

- Russian house would like to throw a paintball and bar-b-q social event for 25-30. Members are covering transportation and part of the paint costs.

6:23 pm Discussion on F2003-036

6:23 pm Vote on F2003-036

Passes, voice vote

6:23 pm **F2003-037 Special allocation of \$775 to South Asian Students Alliance**

6:23 pm Questions on F2003-037

- SASA is holding an event in Rangos this Saturday, Nov 8 at 7:30pm. Approximately 200 people are expected to attend.
- The total budget, including AB Tech, security, and FMS charges, is \$1000. OID is providing \$200 and GSA is not contributing.

6:27 pm Discussion on F2003-037

6:27 pm Vote on F2003-037

Passes, voice vote

6:28 pm **F2003-038 Introduction of a resolution from the Fall 2003 Ad-Hoc**

**Committee on the Student Activities Fee** (to be voted on 12/3/03)

**6:29 pm Special Business**

6:29 pm Motion to move F2003-039 before F2003-016 (Steven Kling)

6:29 pm Vote to move F2003-039 before F2003-016

Passes, voice vote

6:30 pm **F2003-039 Filling the vacancy for the Funding and Recognitions**

**Committee Chairperson**

6:31 pm Nominations for the F&R Committee Chairperson: Megan Flocken, Daniel

Papasian

6:31 pm Candidate speech and questioning: Megan Flocken

6:32 pm Candidate speech and questioning: Daniel Papasian

6:39 pm Discussion on filling the F&R Chair vacancy

6:39 pm Motion to fill the F&R Chair vacancy with Daniel Papasian

6:39 pm Discussion on filling the F&R Chair vacancy with Daniel Papasian

6:40 pm Vote to fill the F&R Chair vacancy with Daniel Papasian

Fails, voice vote

6:40 pm Discussion on filling F&R Chair seat with Megan Flocken

6:44 pm Motion to end discussion

6:44 pm Vote to end discussion (2/3 vote)

Passes, voice vote

6:44 pm Vote to fill F&R Chair seat with Megan Flocken

Passes, voice vote

6:45 pm **Motion to withdraw speaking rights from Randy Sinnott** (Erik Michaels-Ober)

6:45 pm Discussion on withdrawing speaking rights from Randy Sinnott

6:46 pm Motion withdrawn (Erik Michaels-Ober)

6:46 pm **F2003-016 USSA Referendum** Reconsideration by Student Body Directive

6:46 pm Discussion on F2003-016

- Personal nature of political and religious opinion
- Method of gathering signatures
- Information that will be presented to students prior to vote
- Pittsburgh union and GSA lobbying precedents
- Adequacy of student representation in Student Senate and referendum process

6:57 Motion to amend referendum timing to take place at end of year in conjunction with general student senate elections for next three years and to reword to state: "Do you want the Carnegie Mellon undergraduate student body to become members of the United States Student Association for period of one year beginning Fall of 2004 for a cost of \$.40 per semester per student?" (Erik Michaels-Ober)

7:01 Motion to divide section dealing with future year elections from the rest of the amendment (Steven Kling)

7:02 pm Vote to divide question

Passes, voice vote

7:04 pm Discussion on rewording and timing of this year's election

- Bureaucratic issues
- Voter turnout

7:05 pm Vote on rewording and timing of this year's election

Passes, voice vote

7:06 pm Discussion on motion to vote on issue for the next three years

- Process

- Changes in the student body
- Controversial nature or not

7:11 pm Straw Poll (James Hazelrig)

7:11 pm Motion to withdraw amendment (Erik Michaels-Ober)

7:12 pm Discussion on F2003-016 as amended

- Wording to clarify separate fee from activities fee
- Potential graduate student involvement
- Official university lobbying group's relationship with USSA and political ideology
- International students financial aid
- Accuracy of representation in petition, level of information available to students, and advertising prior to referendum
- Political ideologies or non-partisan nature of USSA
- Democratic process
- Past concerns about time and effort required for referendum, diversity guidelines, and popular student support
- Lobbying on behalf of students vs. lobbying for particular ideologies
- Communications chair possible conflict of interest

7:30 pm Straw Poll

7:30 pm Discussion on F2003-016 as amended

- USSA size and influence of single university on policies
- Diversity classifications
- Relationship of fee to student activities fee

7:35 pm Motion to add, "in addition to the activities fee" at the end of the question (Jay Pujara)

7:36 pm Vote to add, "in addition to the activities fee" at the end of the question  
Passes, voice vote

7:37 pm Discussion on F2003-016 as amended

- Information availability and publicizing of issue
- Democratic process and senate role/responsibility

7:47 pm Motion to end discussion on F2003-016 as amended

7:47 pm Vote to end discussion on F2003-016 as amended  
Passes, hand vote (15-5-3)

7:49 pm Vote on F2003-016 as amended

Fails, roll call vote (10-11-2) – See appendix 1

**7:53 New Business from the Floor**

7:53 pm **Motion to bring F2003-023 from the table** (James Hazelrig)

7:53 pm Vote to bring F2003-023 from the table

Division, voice vote

Passes, hand vote (11-8-2)

7:53 pm **F2003-023**

7:53 pm Questions on F2003-023

- Committee will initially be chaired by Student Body President, will review the constitution to propose amendments and remove inconsistencies
- This committee will be a presidential committee as it effects both graduate and undergraduate students
- The current ID committee may opt to continue its independent constitutional review

7:58 pm Discussion on F2003-023

- Scope and responsibility of constitutional maintenance
- Executive influence in constitutional issues

8:05 pm Recess

8:11 pm Recall to order

8:11 pm Discussion on F2003-023

- Legislative committee vs. executive committee involving constitutional modification
- ID committee does not support motion
- Undergraduate and graduate cooperation

8:16 pm Straw Poll

8:16 pm Discussion on F2003-023

- ID committee role and responsibility regarding constitutional issues

8:18 pm Vote to end discussion (Megan Flocken)

8:18 pm Vote to end discussion

Passes, voice vote (17-2-3)

8:20 pm Vote on F2003-023

Fails, hand vote (6-13-2)

8:21 pm **Motion to charge the ID committee to review constitution and involve GSA and executives in process** (Nicholas Scocozzo)

8:21 pm Discussion on charge to ID committee



8:23 pm Vote on charge to ID committee

Division, voice vote

Passes, hand vote (12-8-1)

**8:24 pm Points of Discussion**

- Constitutional review and GSA interest in the issue
  - Charging of a committee
- USSA Referendum

8:28 pm Motion to end discussion on this point of debate (Steven Kling)

8:28 pm Motion withdrawn

8:29 pm Points of Discussion

**8:29 pm Announcements**

- Diploma forum is upcoming
- Next Friday night there will be capture the flag in Wean Hall

**8:31 pm Adjourn**

Appendix 1: Roll Call Vote on F2003-016 as amended

James Auwaerter	CIT	Yes
Julie Beckenstein	HSS	No
Michelle Birchak	CIT	No
Tim Bowen	HSS	Not present
Vito Fiore	HSS	Abstention
Megan Flocken	HSS	Yes
Naomi Haskell	SIA	Not present
James Hazelrig	CIT	Yes
Chen Huang	CIT	No
Sooran Kim	CFA	No
Steven Kling	CIT	No
Ben Loving	MCS	Abstention
Nicolette Louissaint	CIT	Not present
Jonathan Mendelson	SCS	Yes
Erik Michaels-Ober	HSS	Yes
Rebecca Nathan	CIT	No
Sivanipriya Nattama	SCS	No
Daniel Papasian	CIT	Yes
Jay Pujara	SCS	Yes
Matt Rado	HSS	Not present
Edward Ryan	MCS	Not present
Thomas Sabram	CIT	Yes
Nicholas Scocozzo	CIT	No
Deniz Secilmis	CFA	Not present
Alex Sussman	SIA	Not present
Wei Tang	SHS	Yes
Tom Terraccino	SIA	No
Yanna Weisberg	SHS	No
Kristina Wiltsee	MCS	Not present
Jack Wu	SCS	No
Joshua Yearsley	HSS	Not present
Michelle Webb	MCS	Yes
Christopher Watkins	HSS	Not present