

CMU Student Senate

OFFICIAL Minutes of October 23, 2003

5:39 pm Roll Call

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

Senators Absent: Chen Huang (CIT, excused), Michelle Webb (MCS, 1 absence),

Members at Large Present: None

Members at Large Absent: Ananya Bubna (SIA, 1 absence), Haseeb Qureshi (HSS, 1 absence), Dynne Sung (HSS, 1 absence), Aaron Walker (CIT, 1 absence)

5:41 pm Call to Order

5:41 pm Approval of Minutes

5:41 pm Amendments to the October 9 minutes

- Amending amendments to October 2 minutes, Nick's report from October 2 should include "The diagnosis can be removed from the doctor's note for privacy reasons."
- 6:32 pm correct F2003-023 name
- 6:13 pm strike pm in autumn ball point
- Correct spelling of Joshua Yearsley in F2003-022 items

5:43 pm Passed by acclamation

5:43 pm Audience Participation - None

5:43 pm Standing Committee Reports

5:43 pm **Academic Affairs** (James Hazelrig)

- The moratorium policy is a priority now that the HSS overloading policy has been taken care of.
- AA proposed changes to the HSS overloading policy were passed unanimously
- Although the official date for student graduation keynote speaker ideas was last Monday. Since response rates were low, a poster campaign was undertaken and feedback is still being accepted.

5:46 pm **Business Affairs** (Steven Kling)

- Proposal officially submitted last night for students who want to get cashless vending options on campus. The BA committee supports the idea and will work to push the proposal along.

"On October 22, 2003 Stephanie Lo and Candace Spier submitted a proposal for cashless vending on campus to the Business Affairs Committee of the Carnegie Mellon University Undergraduate Student Senate. After careful review of their proposal, we, the Business Affairs Committee, find their proposal reasonable, well written, and with merit. We believe that cashless vending is an excellent opportunity for the student body to more easily utilize vending machines on campus. Therefore the Business Affairs Committee will, with the assistance of Miss Lo and Miss Spier, present the proposal and its issues to Vending Services and other appropriate university officials, with a goal of implementing a trial run by the Fall semester of 2004."

- Bookstore issues are still underway.
- SDC is going well – response boxes are out.

5:53 pm **Campus Life** (Nick Scocozzo)

- CL has meeting coming up to discuss cluster problems
- In response to the new smoking policy, better locations for outdoor smoking ashtrays are being explored.
- CL is working with FMS in response to B-boards issues.
- The rate of athletic equipment replacement at the UC and Skibo gyms is being investigated.
- A student complaint was received regarding student storage in the Margaret Morrison basement.
- SBDC have new feedback boxes at most dining locations on campus.
- Regarding the campus police report given 2 weeks ago, campus police say the recent cluster of crimes is not necessarily cause for alarm and that, although there are only 2 police officers on campus at night, there are other security guards on duty.
- A bust of Andrew Carnegie was stolen.

5:56 pm **Communications** (Erik Michaels-Ober)

- The beta version of stusen.org, the new external web site for Student Senate, has been released and will be officially unveiled to the Student Body this Tuesday with a full-scale advertising campaign.
- New posters regarding CFA and CIT vacancies have gone up. Posters advertising requests for commencement speaker input also went up, as did posters promoting Escort Service. The Escort poster was the first in a series of four that will advertise underutilized student services.
- Senate shirts are on hold until trademark approval is received from the Trademark Licensing Office.
- Communications Committee meets Mondays 6:30 in UC 320. All are welcome to attend.

6:04 pm **Funding and Recognition** (Daniel Papasian)

- There is \$21753 remaining in the allocation budget
- Org-tracker will hopefully be updated soon

6:05 pm **Internal Development** (Sivanipriya Nattama)

- The senate social is this evening after the meeting
- ID has been reviewing the constitution and will hopefully have recommendations in the next few weeks. Bylaws will also be reviewed this semester.
- Archiving is not yet complete
- Keys to the office are available for those who haven't picked them up yet – please populate the office.

6:07 pm **Transparency and Accountability** (Sivanipriya Nattama and Steven Kling)

- TASC didn't meet this week but will meet again next week
- Budgets will be posted shortly.

6:09 pm **Senate Chair** (Vito Fiore)

- This is the first meeting with the new discussion rules.
- Committee business is going well.
- Info is getting sent out earlier per senator requests.
- The senate social will be held after this meeting.

6:12 pm New Business from Committee

6:12 pm **F2003-025 Special Allocation for \$200 to Julian Chen** (Men's Athletics Special Interest Housing)

6:12 pm Questions on F2003-025

- Allocation will go towards a bonfire tomorrow night in the Donner ditch, specifically FMS cleanup costs.
- Last year's turnout was low due to rain, but this year the skies should be clear.

6:14 pm Discussion on F2003-025

6:14 pm Vote on F2003-025

Passes, voice vote

6:15 pm **F2003-026 Special Allocation of \$250 to Sustainable Students**

6:12 pm Questions on F2003-026

- The allocation will go towards the maintenance of a garden created this semester near the Printing and Publications building.
- The garden, planted this semester by StuCo students, was funded by a SURG Grant of \$1000
- It is unclear if there will be another similar StuCo class next semester.

6:17 pm Discussion on F2003-026

- Benefits to club and to general student body

6:20 pm Motion to end discussion

6:20 pm Vote to end discussion (2/3 vote)

Passes, hand vote (20-5-1)

6:21 pm Vote on F2003-026

Passes, voice vote

6:21 pm **Proposed Changes to Diploma** (Guest: Vice Provost for Education Indira Nair)

6:21 pm Presentation and questions about changes to diplomas (Indira Nair)

- The two changes are to remove minors and college dean signatures from diplomas
- Decision made in 2000-2001 through proper avenues receiving support from appropriate bodies
- The intent is to make the diploma clearly state what is awarded while the other details will be left to transcripts making the diploma appearance more elegant
- The changes were supposed to be implemented last semester but were not due to the lateness of notifying students. This year, students are being given proper notice and the implementation process is beginning again.
- In 2000-2001, student feedback was solicited through USAC, Student Senate, and Graduate Student Assembly.

- The delay in implementation was due to complications with enrolment services.
- Since the university has an identity greater than its current student enrolment, current student opinion is being weighted against the creation of historical university identity.
- A student forum can be held, but a single uniform style must be adopted. Independent student response has already been received. Student surveys are not encouraged by the administration because of the lack of context these surveys include.
- August diplomas have not been released and December diplomas will not be ordered until January so there is time to change those diplomas if necessary. All diplomas have been certified and are on the transcripts.
- Diploma printing costs are not affected by this decision.
- Administration didn't intend to make students feel unimportant as was the result when, last semester, students were notified at the last moment of the change.
- Admission to Carnegie Mellon is college specific – students apply to the university as well as the specific school – and some students feel that distinction should be reflected.

7:06 pm **F2003-027 Resolution regarding the diplomas controversy** – two amendments from Academic Affairs Committee

7:06 pm Questions on F2003-027 Resolution regarding the diplomas controversy

- Due to new insight after this evenings presentation, some points in resolution 2 may need to be reconsidered

7:13 pm Questions on Academic Affairs amendment 1

7:16 pm Discussion on Academic Affairs amendment 1

- Appropriate level of scope and specificity of resolution

7:32 pm Straw Poll (Wei Tang)

7:32 pm Discussion on Academic Affairs amendment 1

- Appropriate level of scope and specificity of resolution
- Strength of wording
- Accuracy of “fundamentally believes” wording

7:41 pm Vote on Academic Affairs amendment 1

Passes, hand vote (10-9-2)

7:42 pm Questions on Academic Affairs amendment 2

7:43 pm Discussion on Academic Affairs amendment 2

- Abrasiveness of language and potential response levels
- Definitions and connotations of “condemn” and “disapproves

7:47 pm Motion to end discussion (Wei Tang)

7:47 pm Vote to end discussion (2/3 vote)

Passes, hand vote (16-0-4)

7:48 pm Vote on Academic Affairs amendment 2

Division, voice vote

Passes, hand vote (11-6-2)

7:49 pm Discussion on F2003-027

7:50 pm Motion to strike “and is currently being” in first paragraph in section for amendment 2 (Tim Bowen)

7:50 pm Discussion on motion to strike

7:50 pm Vote on motion to strike “and is currently being” in first paragraph in section for amendment 2

Passes, voice vote

7:51 pm Discussion on F2003-027

7:51 pm Motion to strike third paragraph of preamble (Steven Kling)

7:51 pm Discussion on motion to strike

- Accuracy of statement and overall document flow

7:54 pm Vote on motion to strike third paragraph of preamble

Passes, hand vote

7:54 pm Discussion on F2003-027

7:54 pm Motion to add at end of resolution “BE IT RESOLVED that the Carnegie Mellon University Undergraduate Student Senate sponsors a forum in the month of November 2003 to discuss the diploma issue and submit a recommendation to the relevant Carnegie Mellon administration and that all relevant members of the administration be invited to attend forum. (Erik Michaels-Ober)

7:55 pm Discussion on motion to amend

7:55 pm Motion to amend amendment to add: “A letter will be sent to the senior class informing them of this forum (Tim Bowen)

7:55 pm Motion accepted as friendly

7:56 pm Discussion on motion to amend

- Placement in document

8:00 pm Motion to amend amendment to strike “in the month of November” (Megan Flocken)

8:00 pm Motion accepted as friendly

8:00 pm Discussion on motion to amend

- Type and number of forum

8:02 pm Vote on amendment

8:02 pm Passes, voice vote

8:04 pm Discussion on F2003-027

- Authority of resolution
- Need to communicate with resolution

8:05 pm Motion to end discussion

8:05 pm Vote to end discussion

Fails, hand vote (6-7-4)

8:06 pm Discussion on F2003-027

8:06 pm Motion to amend to strike “If there is no approved ... “ from current third from bottom paragraph, add in the current second to last the results of this questionnaire “OR FORUMS” be considered, and switch the new paragraph added to the end to the second to last paragraph (Steven Kling)

8:09 pm Discussion on motion to amend

- Relevance of points in relation to document

8:11 pm Vote on motion to amend

Passes, voice vote

8:11 pm Discussion on F2003-027

8:12 pm Motion to strike fourth to last paragraph in amended resolution (Megan Flocken)

8:12 pm Discussion on motion to strike

8:13 pm Motion withdrawn

8:13 pm Discussion on F2003-027

- Timing, necessity, and value of resolution

8:16 pm Motion to strike paragraph relating to questionnaire and other language referring to the questionnaire (Erik Michaels-Ober)

8:17 pm Discussion on motion to strike

- Potential levels of informed opinion reflected in questionnaire vs. forum and value of additional forms of feedback

8:25 pm Motion to end discussion (Tim Bowen)

8:25 pm Vote to end discussion (2/3 vote)

Passes, hand vote (15-1-2)

8:25 pm Vote on amendment to strike

Passes, voice vote

8:26 pm Discussion on F2003-027

- Timing and value of passing resolution at this point
- Authority backing resolution

8:29 pm Motion to end discussion (Yanna Weisberg)

8:29 pm Vote to end discussion (2/3 vote)

Passes, voice vote

8:29 pm Vote on F2003-027

Passes, hand vote (11-4-3)

8:30 pm New Business from the Floor

8:30 pm **Motion to elect Elizabeth Kolmus as a Member at Large** (Yanna Weisberg)

8:30 pm Candidate speech and questioning

8:34 pm Discussion

8:34 pm Vote to elect Elizabeth Kolmus as a Member at Large

Passes, voice vote

8:34 pm **Motion to introduce amendment to the bylaws changing VII.A.1.c.** (Daniel Papasian)

8:35 pm Motion to elect Pedro Ferraz as a Member at Large (Erik Michaels-Ober)

8:36 pm Discussion

8:38 pm Vote on electing Pedro Ferraz a Member at Large

Passes, voice vote

8:39 pm **Motion to elect Joe Arasin as a Member at Large**

8:39 pm Candidate speech and questioning

8:39 pm Discussion

8:39 pm Vote on electing Joe Arasin a Member at Large

Passes, voice vote

8:40 pm Points of Discussion

- Value of resolutions

8:40 pm Motion to limit discussion to 2 points per senator (Matt Rado)

8:40 pm Passes by acclimation

- Value of resolutions

- Value of relationship building with administrators
- Service to student body

8:45 pm Motion to end points of discussion (Nick Scocozzo)

8:45 pm Passes by acclamation

8:45 pm Announcements

- Unofficial minutes are currently being posted on the cmu.student.government bboard in advance of each meeting at which they are to be approved. Official version (with amendments incorporated) will also be posted later. The stusen.org website will also have agendas and minutes as well once it goes live shortly.
- There are currently 2 CIT vacancies and 5 CFA vacancies. Petitions are available at the UC Info Desk and are due back Tuesday, October 28 at 5pm to the Info Desk to UC Box 46.
- Senators, the Senate Social begins immediately following this meeting at the Margaret Morrison Intersection Lounge.

8:47 pm Adjourn