

Carnegie Mellon Undergraduate Student Senate

Minutes: 6th General Body Meeting Fall 2009 – September 24, 2009

6:48 Call to Order and First Roll Call

Senators Present: Natalie Morris (SCS), Eric Wu (SCS), William Zhang (SCS, .5 absence), Brandon Chock (CIT), Jake Flittner (CIT), Bryan Lewis (CIT, .5 absence), Matthew Hwang (CIT, .5 absence), Diane Lee (CIT, 1.5 absence, .5 proxy), Matthew Kuhn (CIT, 1 proxy), Robert Piston Jr. (CIT), Keshav Raghavan (CIT), Jessica Santana (CIT), Sonali Shah (CIT, 1 absence), Jonathan Mark (CFA), Jarrett Adams (HSS), Eduardo J. Benatuil (HSS, 2 absence), Meghan Nahass (HSS, 2 absence), Bassem Mikhael (BHA/BSA/SHS), Starsha Kolodziej (MCS, .5 absence), Michael Yang (MCS, .5 absence), Stacey Lu (CFA, 1 absence), Jon Mark (CFA, 1.5 absence), Akshay Udiavar (CFA, 3 absence)

Senators Absent: Toro Adeyemi (TSB, 1.5 absence), Rohan Agashe (CIT, 1 absence), Yael Bushoy (HSS, 1.5 absence), Nicholas Ferrell (BHA/BSA/SHS, 1 absence), Nikhil Iyer (HSS, 1.5 absence), Kush Mangal (MCS, 1.5 absence), Stuti Pandey (HSS, 1.5 absence, 1 proxy), Stephanie Schneider (TSB, 1 proxy, 1 absence), Thomas Tuttle (SCS, 1 absence), Jeffrey E Dahlen (MCS, 3 absence),

6:52 Approval of Agenda/Minutes from 9/10/09

6:52 Audience Participation

6:52 Motion to Move 09-10 010: Special Allocation of \$150 to People to People International to before Committee Reports. Passed.

6:52 09-10 010: Special Allocation of \$150 to People to People International

- Recently CoSO recognized—need funding.
- For a community service project—“King or Queen for a Day”
- October 23rd.
- Will be at the Children’s Institute in Shadyside.
- Will work with cancer patients.
- About feeling special inside—maybe of the patients have low self-esteem.
- Age range: 5-12 years old.

6:55 Questions

6:55 Discussion

6:55 Move to Vote. Voice vote. Passed.

6:55 Committee Reports

Academic Affairs (Bassem Mikhael)

- Looking at GenEds and advising. Implementing FECs
- H&SS doing a lot of work

Business Affairs (Jake Fittner)

- Assigning members as different point people.
- Dining, printing, shuttle service (changing times), campus readership and fees.

Campus Life (Jarrett Adams)

- Website is done: cmutshirt.com
- Had four t-shirt submissions.
- Next semester tackle the recycling issue.

- Needs better advertisement—will be advertised in *The Gavel*.
- Last day for submissions is Oct. 9th
- Screen on the Green—talking with AB films to look a feasibility.

Communications (Toro Adeyemi)

- Absent.

Internal Development (Eric Wu)

- Moved meeting from 8:30 to 9:00.
- Members-at-large cannot get half absences; only senators can.
- Working on updating the handbook.

Finance (Robert Piston)

- Why do we fund events and give out special allocations?
- Special allocations for any organization on campus that we see will make our student experience better.
- Like to hear thoughtful questions regarding allocations.
- Spirit of the allocation: unforeseen expense of the organization.
- (Meghan Nahass) Why do we fund repeat events?
 - Something that we'll discuss in the near future.

Chair (Aaron Gross)

- Roberts Rule of the Week: Motion to refer to Committee

7:07 New Business from Committee

09-10 011: Special Allocation of \$1000 to ASO

- Middle East North Africa Day
- Promote cultural awareness
- First event of its kind in Pittsburgh
- Will be on Oct. 4th
- Have a traditional middle eastern dinner
- Then will have a fashion show and dinner
- Will choose an NGO to donate: this year Orphan Sponsorship Organizations
- Takes \$600 to sponsor an orphan each year
- Allocation is only for the operating costs of the event.

7:10 Questions

- (Jake Flitter) Where will it be held?
 - Rangos 1, 2, 3
- (Natalie Morris) How much?
 - Dinner + show is 10
- Expecting around 300 people.
- (Diane Lee) Have you already sold tickets?
 - A few. Start selling mostly this week.
- (Diane lee) Are you also getting funding from Chatham and Pitt?
 - Selling to those schools because they are helping with the performances.
- (Jon Mark) Have you considered a discounted rate to CMU students?
 - There are discounted tickets available through the Residence Halls.
- (Ruth) Money charged for admission
 - Ticket sales revenue will be used for donation.
- (Jake Flittner) What happens to extra ticket sales revenue?
 - Will help fund operating costs.

7:14 Discussion

- (Jon Mark) Would feel more comfortable if the group provides a discount to CMU students.
- 7:15 Move to Vote. Voice vote. Passed. \$1000 to ASO.**

09-10 012: Special Allocation of \$500 to Badminton Club

- Didn't get their JFC budget in. Need a kick-start to keep them active.
- Money would be used to purchase equipment.
- Small club but has been expanding—need new supplies each year.
- Want help to remain active.
- Have about 40 students interested in the competition—will receive revenue from competition sales.

7:18 Questions

- (Keshav Raghavan) Were you JFC funded last year?
 - Yes.
- (Diane Lee) How do you ensure that the shuttle cocks don't get lost?
 - They actually wear out—it's a fixed cost.
- (Jarrett Adams) Have you considered charging dues?
 - We are trying to raise awareness about badminton; don't want to discourage people with dues.
- (Will Zhang) Do you have a competitive team?
 - No. Hard to maintain a team because you need travel funds.
- (Jake Flittner) Why can't you use rackets from last year?
 - We add rackets every year, we just need more rackets. Typically buy 4-5 rackets every year.
- (Jarrett Adams) If you don't get your full \$2000, what will you do to keep afloat?
- (Jake Flittner) What sort of supplies from the UC could be utilized?
- Shuttlecocks.
- (Sonali Shah) Are you going to look into other funding sources?
 - SDC.

7:25 Discussion

- (Jon Mark) Suggest collecting a small due.
- (Jarrett Adams) Does Rob feel comfortable raising the actual donations? Would it be found friendly?
- (Jon Mark) Motion to raise motion to \$750.
- (Jake Flittner) Motion to lower back to initial \$500.
- (Bassem Mikhael) We don't know what other sources that they'll get and it's unfortunate that they didn't receive JFC funding but that is what happened.
- (Jake Flittner) cap of \$500 is a good precedent; good starting point.
- (Sonali Shah) They can come back next semester and we can see how far \$500 goes.

7:30 Move to vote to lower special allocation form \$750 to \$500. 10-8-2. Passed.

7:31 Move to vote. Hand vote. 17-0-3. Passed. \$500 to Badminton Club

09-10 013: Special Allocation of \$250 to Undergraduate Marketing Organization

- Want to bring marketing opportunities and awareness to CMU.
- It's a very interdisciplinary field—major goal is to diversify the membership base.
- Have a different event on marketing every day to discuss different types of marketing.
- Want to have a banner on Doherty Hall—allocation will go toward the cost to print and hang the banner.
- (Jarrett Adams) Have you looked at using other companies to make the banner?

7:36 Discussion

- (Jarrett Adams) Sounds like a great event. We should fund the full amount.

7:37 Move to vote. Voice vote. Passed. \$250 to Undergraduate Marketing Organization

7:38 Old Business from Committee

09-10 007: Spec. Allocation of \$150 to Lambda Phi Epsilon Fraternity | *Tabled 9/17*

7:38 Motion to move from table. Passed.

- Organizations have been outreaching a lot to get teams together.
- (Jarrett Adams) Did they move the event date?
 - It's this Saturday.

7:39 Move to vote. Hand vote. 17-0-3. Passed. \$150 to Lambda Phi Epsilon Fraternity

7:55 New Business from the Floor

7:55 Points of Discussion

G20 Events/Happenings

- All of the CFA studios are closed.
- Someone was hit by a car jaywalking.

College Caucuses

- Formalize relationships in colleges.
- Similar to a committee, but ad hoc—just meet with your college.
- 1st Discuss what needs to be changed.
- 2nd Constituent meeting (tabling, well-published office hours).
- 3rd Meeting with dean or high-level ranking faculty member to discuss based on first two meetings.
- (Jon Mark) Have we talked with directors that we can communicate that this is going to be happening.
- Would be created as an ad hoc committee with endowed rules and then later put it into the bylaws.
- Online discussion board to communicate outside of meetings?
- A structure for an online voting mechanism would be nice to have for an emergency.

Dining Feedback for DSAC

- They are very open to critique and feedback.
- Spice Up grill is really slow.
- People are mad that Entropy closes early on Sunday (2AM).
- Soggy croutons :-(
- Pattern: slowness...
- Are students getting more value with their blocks?
- More bottles of syrup!!
- Some price increases from Parkhurst.
- Students often miss the time cutoff for blocks.
- Maybe have overlapping blocks?
- Dining counts on students wasting blocks to make money.

Printing Quota

- Have a system for refund for printing quota as an incentive to not waste paper.
- Give the people what they need!!
- It's not actually really money (not line items), it's used to cap people's printing habits.

8:03 Second Roll Call/Announcements

- a. JFC Applications – Due September 25th, online
- b. StuGov Relay for Life team – Sign up!
- c. Go get Senate Keycards!

8:07 Adjourn