

CMU Student Senate

OFFICIAL Minutes of November 20, 2003

5:39 Roll Call

Senators Present: James Auwaerter (CIT), Julie Beckenstein (HSS, late, 0.5 absences), Michelle Birchak (CIT), Vito Fiore (HSS), Megan Flocken (HSS), James Hazelrig (CIT, late, 0.5 absences), Steven Kling (CIT), Ben Loving (MCS, late, 0.5 absences), Nicolette Louissaint (CIT, late, 0.5 absences), Jonathan Mendelson (SCS), Erik Michaels-Ober (HSS), Rebecca Nathan (CIT), Sivanipriya Nattama (SCS), Jay Pujara (SCS, late, 0.5 absences), Matt Rado (HSS), Edward Ryan (MCS), Thomas Sabram (CIT), Nicholas Scocozzo (CIT), Alex Sussman (SIA), Wei Tang (SHS), Tom Terracino (SIA), Yanna Weisberg (SHS), Kristina Wiltsee (MCS), Jack Wu (SCS), Joshua Yearsley (HSS), Christopher Watkins (HSS)

Senators Absent: Tim Bowen (HSS, 1 absence), Naomi Haskell (SIA, 1 absence), Chen Huang (CI, 1 absence), Sooran Kim (CFA, 1 absence), Daniel Papasian (CIT, 1 absence), Deniz Secilmis (CFA, 1 absence), Michelle Webb (MCS, 1 absence)

Members at Large Present: Joe Arasin (SCS), Dynne Sung (HSS), Aaron Walker (CIT)

Members at Large Absent: Ananya Bubna (SIA, 1 absence), Pedro Ferraz (HSS, 1 absence), Elizabeth Kolmus (SHS, 1 absence), Haseeb Qureshi (HSS, 1 absence)

5:41 pm Call to Order

5:41 pm Approval of the Minutes

5:41 pm Amendments to the November 13 minutes

- 5:44 pm Change "help" to "held" in the 4th point

5:42 pm Minutes passed by acclamation

5:42 pm Motion to move Election of CFA senator before new business from committee (Steven Kling)

5:43 pm Passes by acclamation

5:43 pm Audience Participation -- none

5:43 pm Standing Committee Reports

5:43 pm **Academic Affairs** (Tom Terracino)

- Academic Affairs and Dean Murphy met to review the list of suggested Commencement speakers
- Two forums were held to explore the diploma redesign issues. Discussion covered a wide range of issues and the administration feels they have received adequate feedback regarding student concerns.

5:44 pm **Business Affairs** (Josh Yearsley)

- The dining forum went well. Ideas regarding meal plans, dining facilities, uses for Highlander, and food quality/variety were exchanged.
- Regarding the issue of student SSN being used as student IDs, undergraduates will have their numbers changed by January which is part of 7 step process.
- Bookstore is on par for getting all book adoptions in time to provide the best prices
- There will be a Bookstore and Entropy Vendor Fair in Rangos, Monday 10-4. Samples will be distributed.

5:48 pm **Campus Life** (Nicholas Scocozzo)

- Campus Life is still looking for better locations for the outdoor smoking urns and will meet with Madelyn Miller and the FMS director soon. Dormitories will be addressed next.
- Regarding cluster printing, CL is researching methods for posting cluster availability and printing cues.
- Housing and FMS are working together to give more exact dates for housing inspections.
- Athletics is fixing up some facilities; they have painted walls/ceiling of UC weight room and may redo the weight room floor floor and replace stadium lights with longer-life bulbs.
- Document protectors are being purchased to protect the poster policy guidelines that will be posted around campus.

5:52 pm **Communications** (Erik Michaels-Ober)

- The Gavel, the Student Senate newsletter, will be published Dec 3 with ReadMe.
- C4C is scheduled for Wed Dec 3 in Wean Commons – people are needed to man the table.
- T-shirts/Polos still available in most sizes

5:54 pm **Funding and Recognition** (Megan Flocken)

- There is approximately \$17,000 left in the special allocation budget for this semester.
- Two more meetings will be held to look into the Fiscal Policy, F&R internal processes, and the questionable status of certain groups

5:55 pm **Internal Development** (Sivanipriya Nattama)

- The constitutional review process is still underway and will continue into next semester. Bylaw review is also ongoing.
- ID is meeting with people to try and fill in gaps in the archives. Archiving will be finished up over Thanksgiving break.
- Please return your feedback sheets and pick up your office keys if you haven't already.
- New committee chair elections will take place at the next meeting.

5:58 pm **Transparency and Accountability** (Steven Kling and Sivanipriya Nattama)

- AB and Senate budgets have been posted to senate.web.cmu.edu. A policy for expenditure posting is being examined.
- The senate website is on an open public server and cannot Senate-only sections.

6:01 pm **Senate Chair** (Vito Fiore)

- Student Body Dining Committee chair will be reporting to Senate monthly.
- Thanks for your dedication in being here in this tough part of the semester.
- There is only one more General Body meeting before winter break.

6:03 pm Special Business

6:03 pm **F2003-045 Election to fill the CFA vacancy** (5 vacancies, 1 candidate)

6:03 pm Candidate speech and questioning: Daniel Jentzen

6:06 pm Discussion on F2003-045

6:06 pm Motion to fill the CFA vacancy with Daniel Jentzen

6:07 pm Vote to fill the CFA vacancy with Daniel Jentzen

Passes, voice vote

6:08 pm New Business from Committee

6:08 pm **F2003-040 Non-Funded Recognition of SALA**

6:08 pm Questions on F2003-040

- SALA, an organization dedicated to animal rights campaigns, has 4 or 5 current members and a complete constitution.
- SALA may work with Dining to change the meat served on campus.

- No other campus group that does this type of work. The organization is not affiliated with any larger group.
- Once established, the organization can request funded status.

6:14 pm Discussion on F2003-040

6:15 pm Vote on F2003-040

Passes, voice vote

6:15 pm **F2003-041 Special Allocation to Winter Gala** of \$5000

6:15 pm Questions on F2003-041

- Winter Gala is a remake of last year's successful Casino night. This year's theme will be Cruise Ship.
- Winter Gala requested \$8500 but F&R is recommending \$5000 and will ask AB to contribute as well.
- Whereas Student Activities planned last year's event, many more students are involved planning this year's festivities.

6:21 pm Discussion on F2003-041

- Last year's event was successful.
- If this is to be an annual event, perhaps Winter Gala should go through the JFC process.

6:22 pm Vote on F2003-041

Passes, voice vote

6:22 pm **F2003-042 Special Allocation to Fencing Club**

6:22 pm Question on F2003-042

- Fencing Club has 20-30 current Carnegie Mellon members and is asking for the allocation to cover costs for electronic fencing equipment used in tournaments.
- The total JFC subsidy would be \$1770

6:26 pm Discussion

6:26 pm Vote on F2003-042

Passes, voice vote

6:27 pm **Motion to move F2003-044 to before F2003-043** (Megan Flocken)

6:27 pm Passes by acclamation

6:27 pm **F2003-044 Special Allocation to Amnesty International**

- Amnesty frequently organizes letter-writing campaigns sent to foreign governments about political prisoners/prisoners of conscience. This allocation will

help cover stationary and postage costs of a soccer tournament/letter writing event. No funds will be given to charity.

- 200 people are expected to come and generate 300-400 letters.
- Issues addressed in letters include people imprisoned for religious reasons, free speech infringements, conflict diamonds, etc.

6:32 pm Discussion on F2003-044

6:32 pm Vote on F2003-044

Passes, voice vote

6:33 pm **F2003-043 Special Allocation to Racquetball Club**

- There are 25 current members, hold practices and tournaments, and would like funding to purchase new equipment.
- Budget breakdown: \$90 for racquetballs, \$25 for UC locker, \$10 shipping
- The organization has no dues to cover costs.

6:36 pm Discussion on F2003-043

6:36 pm Motion to postpone until a member of Racquetball Club can be here

6:37 pm Vote to postpone

Passes, hand vote, 13-8-2

6:38 pm New Business from Floor

6:38 pm **Motion to approve Yew Choe Wong as a Member at Large**

6:38 pm Reading of Statement

6:39 pm Discussion on approving Yew Choe Wong as a Member at Large

6:40 pm Vote to approve Yew Choe Wong as a Member at Large

Passes, hand vote

6:41 pm Points of Discussion

- TASC will finalize their policy soon but would like feedback regarding how often expenditure updates should be posted
 - Annually, to make sure numbers are totally correct
 - Once a semester would coincide with personnel changeovers
 - Current recommendation is to have numbers published monthly and modified as needed.
 - Quarterly might be an option since this would help inform new chairs.

6:49 pm Announcements

- Senate will be hosting “Cookies 4 Comments” Wednesday, December 3 from 10 AM to 2 PM in UC Wean Commons. Senators are encouraged to sign up for a time to staff the table.
- The Student Body President has called a Special Meeting of the Senate and GSA for Wednesday, December 3, 2003 at 5:00 PM in Doherty Hall 2210. Issues will include the JFC Appeals approval and the Activities Fee. Please attend, or send a proxy, to this important meeting.
- There is no Senate meeting next week due to Thanksgiving Break. Committee business will (or will not) take place that week at the discretion of committee chairs.
- Senate’s next general body meeting is December 4, 2003 in UC Rangos 2, the last of the semester. At the conclusion of this semester’s committee business on that date, elections for all internally elected officials will take place. This includes all 6 Committee Chairs, Senate Chair, and Sergeant-at-Arms. All Senators will be eligible to be nominated.
- Vendor Fair in Rangos on Monday 10-4 of vendors that sell through Entropy, Bookstore, includes free samples, door prizes
- F&R closed to orgs on Monday, if you have any insight and friends in groups with problems with F&R process, please tell F&R chair or come to the meeting 4:30 Monday
- Bylaws/Constitution being done by ID
- If you want a new photo on stusen.org, please line up to get a new picture

6:53 pm Adjourn