

CMU Student Senate

OFFICIAL Minutes of December 6, 2007

5:04 pm Call to Order

5:04 pm Roll Call

Senators Present: Sudeep Paul (TSB, 1.5 absences), Rohit Kabra (TSB, 2 absences), Jared Itkowitz (TSB), Evan Osheroff (TSB), Rotimi Abimbola (HSS), Alan Eaton (HSS), Dorian Adeyemi (HSS), Amanda Reapsummer (HSS, 1 absence), Helen Lam (HSS, 1 absence), Brian Wade (HSS, 1.5 absences), Vivake Prasad (HSS), Daniel O'Toole (CIT), Lauren Walch (CIT, 1 absence), Mauricio Garduno (CIT), Matthew Maurice (CIT, 2 absences), Marcela Partida (CIT, 2 absences), Ioannis Goutakis (CIT, 1 absence), Chansaly Ker (CIT, 5. absence), Hemant Bothra (CIT, .5 absence), Edward Oh (MCS, 2 absences), Prashanth Swamy (MCS, 2 absences), Guangzu Gao (MCS, 2 absences), Joonho Hwang (MCS, 2.5 absences), Jenny Han (SCS, 2 absences, Proxy), Hao Su (SCS), Benjamin Johnston (SCS, 1 absence), Kwasi Mensah (SCS, 1.5 absences), Nara Kasbergen (CFA), Julia Li (CFA, .5absence), Ranjit Korah (CFA, 2.5 absences), Steven Burton (CFA, 1 absence), Cyrus Larijani (BHA, 1 absence), Conor Flanagan (BHA)

Senators Absent: Robert Bethea (CIT, 2 absences), Luis Balceda (CIT, 2 absences), Steven Reilly (MCS, 3 absences), Jerry Wang (CFA, 1 absence), Joey Cordes (CFA, 1 absence)

5:06 pm Approval of Minutes from 11/29/2007

5:06 pm Audience Participation

5:13 pm Final Committee Reports

5:13 pm Academic Affairs (Evan Osheroff)

- This week was UCEF. We talked about the statistics for the freshman class this year compared to last year. This year they had an 18% increase in applicants and admitted 100 fewer students.
- A four point scale is used to admit students. Each gets a score for their GPA, SAT's, SATII's, extra curricular activities, and leadership.
- I met with Indira. There is a business/law type course being introduced in CMUQ.
- They will do case studies on businesses.

- The things accomplished this semester were things that were already in the works. We had a new CSW workshop, a new FCE, and library improvements.
- We have started talking about a lot of new subjects for next semester. There has been trouble with registering, more BHA/BSA type programs, and introducing pass/fail grades for freshmen.
- Indira said it was a really good time to start the pass/fail grades. Starting next week, pass/fail grades may be a part of their strategic plan.

5:21 pm Questions

5:22 pm **Business Affairs** (Timi Abimbola)

- We're going in the right direction. We've worked on long term goals this semester. Hopefully they will be completed in the spring
- The kiosks will be up in the spring.
- Business Affairs and Campus Life got together and decided on our mission statements because there was a lot of confusion between the two in the past.
- We'll be working on raising awareness of Campus Readership.
- The job of Business Affairs next semester is to decide the allocation of leftover money from Campus Readership.

5:25 pm Questions

- How is the CEO forum arranged?
- The Campus Readership program brings these speakers to campus. We're partners with USAToday's program. USAToday brings its senior reporter, who works to bring the CEO.
- Tepper had the ability to inform which CEO they would like to bring.

5:31 pm **Campus Life** (Cyrus Larijani)

- Sign up for a shift for hot chocolate at the fence on Wednesday.
- We did a lot of brainstorming this semester.
- Campus gear sale was great. We got a lot of feedback.
- Healthy campus is moving towards the direction of smoke free, but students aren't involved in it.
- We're working on getting lights on campus to make it more attractive and to have them up until March.
- There is a committee forum that forbade lights around holiday season because they bring up notions of Christmas. We took it to Faculty Senate and they were all for it.

- We're looking to install permanent light fixtures on the UC and Purnell. We'll probably conduct a survey.

5:38 pm Questions

5:38 pm **Communications** (Robert Bethea)

- The biggest thing accomplished was getting a full Senate.
- The BBQ was great. Next year, we'll make some sort of way to get comments from everyone.

5:40 pm Questions

5:40 pm **Finance** (Alan Eaton)

- We had a great semester.
- We went through 30-34 funding motions.
- We have about 37000 for the spring.
- Your funding motions affect the campus as a whole. Keep up the meaningful discussion.

5:41 pm Questions

5:41 pm **Internal Development** (Julia Li)

- I'm excited for having this full Senate.
- ID has developed a lot especially in the past year.
- I really want the next ID chair to combine the social and paperwork aspects, such as updating the bylaws.
- I thought the retreat went really well.
- Hoodies will be here next week.

6:07 pm Questions

6:07 pm **Chair** (Jared Itkowitz)

I wrote up the State of Senate. I'd like you to read it later.

It focuses on issues important to this body and what we discussed in the past.

I talk about the student visibility committee. We put together six action items. Some of the ideas we'll be working on next semester will make us a much more respected body on campus.

I encourage everyone to get involved and be productive in discussion.

6:10 pm Questions

5:53 pm Old Business from Committee

5:53 pm 0708-037 Student Senate Bylaws Amendments

5:53 pm Discussion

- This is a lot of good work. Good job to everyone who worked on it.
- The point of tabling is to make up for the missed meeting, so I decided you should do it within two weeks of the absence.
- What if there are no tabling opportunities?
- There are other opportunities the chair can deem appropriate. It is up to the Senator to take the initiative to get rid of the half absence.
- We added this to have more Senators table. If there is no tabling opportunity, then there is no need for Senators to table.

6:00 pm Call the Question (Dan O'Toole)

6:01 pm Hand Vote, 29:0:2, Passed

- The Bylaws are long, so we'll be coming back with more controversial material.

5:48 pm New Business from Committee

5:48 pm **0708-039 Special Allocation of \$1125 to Chak De**

- Chak De wants to have a South Asian drum, the case, costumes, and an event at UVA.
- Currently they borrow a South Asian drum from UPitt.
- This is capital equipment and sending them to UVA
- The only way to get the equipment is from India over winter break. If we don't get it now, we'll have to ship it and it would be twice as expensive.

5:51 pm Questions

5:51 pm Discussion

5:51 pm Hand Vote, 28:0:2, Passed

5:44 pm **0708-040 Special Allocation of \$2000 to SPIRIT**

- SPIRIT wants to bring an acting troop to campus. They will put on a show called Auction Block for Hip Hop.
- This production focuses on the commercialization of minorities.
- This falls in line with Black History Month.
- We've gone through a lot of places for funding.
- A lot of organization akin to us put money towards this event

5:46 pm Questions

- When is the exact date?
- We need to get our money together before we can sign a contract and have a specific date. It will be in February.

5:47 pm Discussion

- This is a great thing to fund. I wish there were more awareness events.

5:47 pm Hand Vote, 29:0:2, Passed

5:06 pm **0708-041 Special Allocation of \$1500 to Sustainable Earth**

- In the early part of next semester, Sustainable Earth will be doing a presentation over three days concerning environmental issues.
- One event is a live webcast with a lecture. A lot of it is meetings with local and national representatives.
- It is part of a nationwide movement to get institutions and businesses focused on sustainability issues and the climate crisis.
- More and more students come in interested in sustainability issues.
- Our organization wrote last year to the president for the university to invest in renewable resources.
- We're organizing with Chatham, Pitt, and Duquesne.
- During the week of January 31st, students from Sustainable Earth will go around getting students to give statements about their feelings of the climate change on video. We'll play the clips during lunch on Thursday.
- We have to pay for equipment for the webcast.
- We'll also have a political forum with City and State Council representatives.

5:10 pm Questions

5:11 pm Discussion

- Carnegie Mellon graduate students won a contest in writing an open letter to the presidential candidates. It was published in USAToday. Hopefully we can get them to come to campus.
- GSA gave \$3000 and they got a bunch of other places to fund them. Committee decided to fund half of their promotional material.

5:12 pm Voice Vote, Passed

6:05 pm Special Business

6:06 pm **Midterm Elections**

6:07 pm **Chair**

6:07 pm Speech for Jared Itkowitz

6:10 pm Questions for Jared

6:13 pm Discussion

6:16 pm Roll Call Vote, Passed

6:16 pm **Academic Affairs**

6:16 pm Speech for Evan Osherooff
6:17 pm Questions for Evan
6:19 pm Discussion
6:19 pm Passed by Acclimation
6:45 pm **Business Affairs**
6:45 pm Speech for Timi Abimbola
6:47 pm Questions for Timi
6:49 pm Discussion
6:49 pm Passed by Acclimation
6:50 pm **Campus Life**
6:50 pm Speech for Cyrus Larijani
6:52 pm Questions for Cyrus
6:55 pm Speech for Sudeep Paul
6:57 pm Questions for Sudeep
7:02 pm Discussion
7:09 pm Roll Call Vote, Sudeep Paul
6:20 pm **Communications**
6:20 pm Speech for Nara Kasbergen
6:22 pm Questions for Nara
6:24 pm Speech for Helen Lam
6:28 pm Questions for Helen
6:31 pm Discussion
6:45 pm Roll Call Vote, Nara Kasbergen
7:12 pm **Finance**
7:12 pm Speech for Ed Oh
7:14 pm Questions for Ed
7:20 pm Speech for Lauren Walch
7:28 pm Discussion
7:31 pm Roll Cal Vote, Lauren Walch
7:33 pm **Internal Development**
7:35 pm Speech for Dorian Adeyemi
7:38 pm Questions for Dorian
7:41 pm Speech for Vivake Prasad
7:44 pm Questions for Vivake

7:48 pm Discussion

7:52 pm Roll Call Vote, Vivake Prasad

7:54 pm **Sergeant at Arms**

7:54 pm Speech for Dorian Adeyemi

7:55 pm Questions for Dorian

7:55 pm Discussion

7:55 pm Passed by Acclimation

7:55 pm New Business from the Floor

7:56 pm Points of Discussion

7:56 pm Announcements

- HAPA Buttons are on sale next week. They will be 50 cents each.
- For Student Activities Appreciation Day, there will be food in the UC Art Gallery this Wednesday from 12:30 – 6pm.
- CEO Forum is on Wednesday.

7:59 pm Motion to Adjourn (Dorian Adeyemi)

7:59 pm Adjourn