

CMU Student Senate

Minutes of October 30, 2008

5:06 Roll Call

Senators Present: Cassandra Abernathy (CIT, 2 proxies, 1 absence), Dorian Adeyemi (HSS, .5 absence), Mana Ameri (CIT, 1 proxy), Miriam Cha (CIT, 1 absence), Zexi Chen (SCS, 1 absence), Jake Flittner (CIT), Christopher Franzi (HSS, 2 proxy), Aaron Gross (HSS, 2 proxies), Jayesh Kapoor (TSB, 2 proxies), Barbara Kasbergen (CFA), Chansaly Ker (CIT, 1 proxy), Eunjin Kim (CFA), Diane Lee (CIT, 1 proxy), Kush Mangal (MCS), Bassem Mikhael (BHA/BSA/SHS, 1 proxy), Natalie Morris (SCS), Daniel O'Toole (CIT, 2 proxies, 1.5 absences), Stuti Pandey (HSS, .5 proxies), Marcela Partida (CIT, 1 absence), Dina Patel (MCS, 1 absence), Robert Piston Jr. (MCS, 1 absence), Vivake Prasad (HSS, 2 proxies), Sonali Shah (MCS, .5 absence), Prashanth Swamy (MCS, 1 proxy, 1 absence), Benjamin Trump (BHA/BSA/SHS, 1 absence), Damian Valdes (TSB, 1 proxy, 2.5 absences), Carolina Velez, (HSS, 2 proxies), Brian Wade (TSB, 2 absence), Lingshui Wang (CFA, 1 absence), Nik White (CIT, 1.5 absences)

Senators Absent: Michael He (CIT, 1 absence), Thomas Tuttle (SCS, 1.5 absences)

Members-at Large Present: Jarett Adams, Katie Chong (2 absences), Meghan Nahass, Mariluz Orbay Cerrato (1 absence), Zack Pierce, Stephan Schneider (1 absence), Zachary Stockwell, Eric Wu (1 absence)

Members-at-Large Absent: Urna Biswas (2 absences), Amy Kao (3 absences), Keshav Raghavan (1 proxy, 2 absences), Krishan Taylor (1 absence)

5:06 Call to Order

5:07 Agenda Approved

5:07 Minutes Approved

5:08 Audience Participation

5:09 Committee Reports

- **Academic Affairs (Brian Wade):** No report.
- **Business Affairs (Benjamin Trump):** Recently spoke with Scott of USA Today about an opportunity with the election—write an article about the election by November 3 and there's a chance that your article will be published in USA Today in the first several pages. Additionally, Natalie has met with professors and a grad student in the Statistics department concerning the Gallup poll. They are eager to help Senate with analyzing the data from the Gallup polls.
- **Campus Life (Dorian Adeyemi):** "What's happenin'?" Late Night hosted by Senate and GSA will be on November 22. It will be a casino night theme and whoever gets most tokens gets a prize. Also working to get another movie night—in the past we've played movies in the pool. Also preferably have it on reading day. Still having trouble selling excess campus gear but will still purchase more merchandise. Lastly, the committee is working to get free trade coffee sold on campus.
- **Communications (Nara Kasbergen):** Issue 3 of *The Gavel* is out. There are two mistakes in the issue that went out with readme; issue passed out tonight contains the revisions. Covered what the Committees are working on but need other ideas—talk to Rob, Stuti, or Nara with ideas. Also want to encourage students to attend GB meetings and bring issues and find out what Senate can do for them. Also, make sure you put posters in the correct location or else it's in violation.
- **Finance (Marcela Partida):** No report.
- **Internal Development (Vivake Prasad):** No report.
- **Member-at-Large Caucus Report (Zach):** Process of joining committees and SACs, except for

finance. Will be holding “hot-topic” meetings in first year residence halls so first years can see what Senate can do for them.

- **Chair: Senator of the Month:** Robert Piston—Congrats!!

5:26 New Business from Floor

Appointments for President’s Cabinets (Jared Itkowitz)

- Megan Larcom: former Senator.
- Vanessa Cook: Junior Design Major—will help with PR.
- Aneesh Devi: currently on JFC—will bring fresh perspectives to the executive.

5:26 Questions

- (Daniel O’Toole) Have you asked them about their time commitments?
 - Yes. It’ll be about a 3-5 hour/ week time commitment.
- (Evan) How many people applied?
 - 6 or 7—major advertising was through postering, emails and organizations

5:28 Discussion

- Move to vote.

5:28 Move to Vote: Passed.

5:29 New Business From Committee

5:29 Funding Motion 08-09015 IFS Dance Competition Late Night \$300.00

- IFS wants to have a Late Night dance competition in the UC.
- Initially wanted \$600.00 but the committee decided on \$300.00.

5: 30 Questions

- (Jerry Wang) What is the \$150.00 for the panel of judges?
 - They are not students and they should be compensated for their time.
- (Jake Flittner) How many people outside of IFS will come?
 - Maybe 100 spectators—it was popular in the past.
- (Carolina Velez) What are the judges qualifications?
 - They dance with our organizations and have many years of experience dancing.
- (Evan) What are the prizes?
 - Money.
- (Miriam Cha) What is the fee for moving chairs in Kirr Commons?
 - It’s required in the UC so we can ignore that.
- (Jarett Adams) What are we paying the panel of judges?
- (Zach) Why can’t the judges be students?
 - Students don’t have enough experience and they can be biased.
- (Dorian Adeyemi) What is their experience?
 - They have been dancing for over 8 years.

5:36 Discussion

- (Carolina Velez) I think this is a great idea.
- (Jay Kapoor) Student judges could be viewed as biased.
- (Benjamin Trump) I think it’s a great event, but I encourage you to look elsewhere for other judges.
- (Dorian Adeyemi) I went to it last year; it’s definitely a great event. It’s hard to find judges and 7-8 years of dance experience is enough for qualifications.

5:39 Move to Vote (voice vote). \$300.00 to the IFS Dance Competition.

5:39 Funding Motion 08-09016 Pi Delta Psi Iron Chef Competition \$500.00

- \$500.00 asked for the Iron Chef Competition.
- It will be held in Rangos Hall.
- Want to extend beyond Asian community

5:40 Questions

- (Jerry Wang) Is there an entrance fee?
 - No.
- (Damian Valdez) What organizations have participated in the past?
 - Mostly Asian ones in the past
- (Dorian Adeyemi) How many people have you had in the past?
 - 13 last year and 20 this year.
- (Diane Lee) Where are the promotion costs going?
 - Posters, etc.

5:43 Discussion

- (Zexi Frank) I went last year and it was a good event.

5:44 Move to vote (simple majority, voice vote). \$500.00 to the Iron Chef Competition.

5:44 Funding Motion 08-09017 Bhangra in the Burgh \$3,000.00

- \$4,500.00 was asked.
- Impressive list of other funding resources.
- Committee decided to fund \$3,000.00.
- A few sponsors pulled out at the last minute.

5:48 Questions

- (Dorian Adeyemi) Why did the sponsors pull out?
 - Resources
- (Diane Lee) How much did SDC fund?
 - \$400.00
- (Stuti Pandey) Are the ticket sales the projected ticket sales?
 - They are projected, but, at this point, we have surpassed last year.
- (Stuti Pandey) Why was the original funding amount decreased?
 - Fiscal responsibility, we didn't think \$4500.00 was too much.

5:52 Discussion

- (Gurmukh Chabra) I think it's a great event.
- (Mana Ameri) It reflects well on Carnegie Mellon for this event to be successful.
- (Sonali Shah) They are working even harder this year for PR.
- (Bassem Mikhael) It's basically a guaranteed success.

5:54 Move to vote (simple majority voice vote) \$3000.00 to Bhangra in the Burgh.

5:55 Funding Motion 08-09018 CMU Variety Hour \$500.00

- Money would cover operational costs.

5:56 Questions

- (Stuti Pandey) How large is the group of people performing?
 - Between 30-40 people in cast and in crew involved.
- (Eric Wu) Why are publicity expenditures \$500.00?
 - It's the same as budget as last year for printing costs, etc.
- (Nik White) What other funding sources did you approach?

- We're not JFC funded yet. Meeting with them tomorrow and SDC on Monday.
- (Mana Ameri) What is this expenditure for a red carpet?
 - It's more cost effective to purchase than to rent.

6:00 Discussion

- (Dorian Adeyemi) Have large gathering at their premier last year—there is a large following.
- (Carolina Velez) It allows me to express myself artistically—different than the conservatory style of Purnell.
- (Aaron Gross) It will not be a recurring request.

6:03 Move to Vote (simple majority voice vote). \$800.00 for productions.

6:04 New Businesses From Floor Student Activities Fee Proposal (Evan Osheroff)

- Increasing the fee.
- Increase of 5%. \$4.40 per semester...so it would be \$4.00 a semester/ \$8.00 per year.
- Will still be increased by a minimum of 2 dollars.
- Groups inflate budget.
- Goal of increase is to help bridge the gap.
- Introduce it this week, vote on it next week
- Senate and GSA have authority to increase it by 5%.

6:10 Questions

- (Benjamin Trump) When are the results if the audit?
 - Hopefully the end of this semester
 - The results of the audit are to decrease fluf. It'll change behavior of groups regarding spending.
- CMU-Q must also vote on this.
- (Stuti Pandey) How often and to what capacity is the fee increased for inflation?
 - Consumer price index. About 2-3 dollars per year
- (Chansalay Ker) When will this occur?
 - Fall of 2009
- (Diane Lee) Could we use the Gallup poll?
- (Marcela Partida) This is something that needs to happen in my opinion.

6:21 Points of Discussion

- (Diane Lee) Design students want the woodshop open later. Especially applies to athletes and students.
- (Kush Mangal) Gavel as a powerpoint. Was through the visibility committee.
- (Nara Kasbergen) Initial idea was make Student government commercials

6:32 Second Roll Call/ Introductions/ Halloween Costumes!

6:29 Announcements

- Elections next week.

6:49 Adjourn