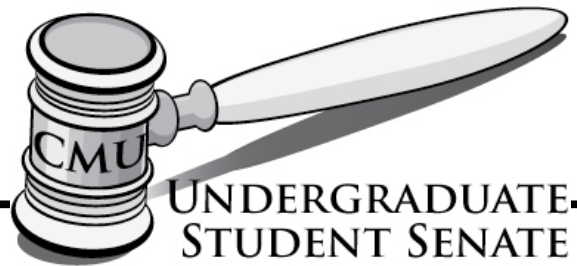


Minutes

General Body Meeting Fall 2011
October 6, 2011



Senators Present:

SCS: Peter Liang (1.5 absence), Daniel Pomeroy, Amy Quispe (0.5p),

CIT: Alyssa Danesh (1 absence), Anshul Dhankher (.5 absence), Ashley Dickson, Willy Elmore, Jake Flitter, Kyra Gould (1 absence), Christopher Jarrett, Abigail Ondeck, Sohini Roy (0.5 absence), Mala Shah (0.5 absence), Joshua Yee (2 absence)

HSS: Nancy Brown, Aaron Chiu (0.5 absence), Jennifer Li (0.5 absence), Mike ShinAndres Velez (0.5 absence), Seth Vargo, Bryan Wade (1.5 absence), Will Weiner,

BHA/BSA/SHS: Joseph Vukovich, Andrew Biar (0.5 absence)

TSB: Rishi Patel (0.5 absence)

CFA: Jonathan Mark (1.5 absence), Travis Rozich, Nikhil Sambamurthy

MCS: Neha Chaurasia (0.5 absence), Fermin Liang (1 absence), Ashley Reeder (0.5 absence), Rafael Segal, Stephen Tjader

Senators Absent: Jessica Lee (1 absence), Dixon Liang (1 absence), Bryan Spencer (1 absence),

5:02 – Approval of Agenda

- Motion to Approve Agenda and Minutes. Seconded by Kyra. Voice Vote. Motion passed.

5:02 – President of the University – Dr. Cohon

- Thank you for your leadership and participation
- Commentary on Key Things Year
- **Announcement of the Dietrich Gift**
 - o We will not receive a \$265 million in a bulk sum, but we will receive a percentage of that sum from a trust for an indefinite period of time added to the endowment
 - o The effects of this gift will not be felt for at least five to ten years
 - o The university's future administrations will be decided on how that money will be used
 - o What the money will be used for
 - o What role the students will play in the utilization of the gift
- **President of Rwanda**
 - o We will be starting a new graduate program in the capital of Rwanda
 - o We hope that the growth of Carnegie Mellon's program there will increase the economic standing of Rwanda and neighboring nations

- We have heard 2 major concerns about this program:
 - Physical Security Risks
 - Human Rights Record of the current President's regime
- Since receiving these letters, the administration have met with undergraduate and graduate students
 - There has been a thorough response to the concerns
- Physical Security of Carnegie Mellon abroad is of paramount importance
- In all of our international locations, the start of the discussion is the Carnegie Mellon's integrity as an educational institution, and we require complete control
 - Any violation of this agreement, we will have full right to leave Rwanda
 - We will be able to operate as Carnegie Mellon operates currently, with full freedom of expression and study
- The human rights issues raised by the Rwandan regime are valid
 - Some people were arrested and detained for encouraging ethnic divides: such a provocation is illegal in Rwanda due to its previous experience. This includes labeling someone Tutsi or Hutu.
 - A parallel in Germany is that it is illegal to deny the Holocaust
- We did very thorough diligence on both Rwanda as a country and its President, by speaking with high level people in the United States
- We think the benefits far outweigh the risks
- We are proud because this is the first time a major American university has committed in producing its own graduate program in Africa
- **Remainder of my term here**
 - I will be stepping down June 20th, 2013
 - There is a two year process for searching for Presidents at Carnegie Mellon
 - During the first year, the faculty produce a document, "white paper," about the current challenges that the university faces
 - There will be a search committee that the Board of Trustees (likely next semester); this will go to find the new president
 - Students will be involved in both processes, but the level of involvement is not yet determined
 - My goal is exceed a billion dollars for the endowment before I leave, and far exceed it
 - We expect launch a new energy futures institute next year; this will be a \$100 million effort
 - A high priority that I expect to see movement within the next year is the field of Brain and Learning Sciences; this is a field where Carnegie Mellon is considered to be at the top of the world
 - We have already produced some fantastic results in the field of technology-based learning, e.g. Open Learning Program

- This is something that's important to us both as developer and user
 - There are also a lot of bottom-up things that will be happening as well
 - We will continue to pursue our international expansion
 - India and China are high priorities; this will be difficult, but we have some progress in this regard
 - Another high priority is the Master Plan, which the Student Senate is familiar with
 - This only identifies the location at which buildings can be built
 - We have some near-term building priorities
 - Nanotechnology and Biomedical Research Labs between Hammerschlag and Wean
 - The next two priorities are athletic facilities
 - Renovation of Skibo Gym
 - Building out of the University Center
 - This will create a lot more recreational space
 - This will allow us to correct a big error in Campus Design, as we often enter the UC from the back
 - We will be able to create a front door to the UC
 - This is an idea
 - Another priority is new Building complex for the Tepper School of Business; this will go on the Lowell parking lot
 - I will focus on diversity with these near-term building priorities; our focus is helping our students take advantage of the increased diversity
 - Pittsburgh is a also priority
 - One of the things we've done over the summer is to green-light start-ups
 - You can propose, as a student, to receive a grant to start a business; receive \$50,000 if accepted
- Questions:
 - [Rishi] Is the \$50,000 for the entrepreneurship from a loan, or will we have to pay it back?
 - I think it's "free money"; it's not to burden you or your company
 - [Will Zhang] We seem to be pushing to go global, and what's the rationale behind that?
 - We are committed to being a global university, with global campuses
 - 3 reasons:
 - To expand our "brand"

- The effect of globalization is that geopolitical and wealth influence is turning away from the Western Hemisphere to the East
 - My own feeling is that we need to be engaged in parts of the world where economic activity will be growing in some decades
 - We don't want to fall into the same trap that Oxford and Cambridge from the 19th century
- There are instances and places in the world, that as a our part of our mission, to have an opportunity to improve the human condition
 - Rwanda is a good example of this
 - I think that as a University, being committed to improving the world is a good idea
- Money
 - We haven't made any international program at a profit, but we don't do a international program if we are going to lose money
 - We produced a net income about \$100 million dollars from international programs, and utilized some profits to better the Pittsburgh Campus
- [Andres] Would any of the international programs abroad be undergraduate? Like in India and China, perhaps?
 - The Indian program would be undergraduate, under current discussion; this may change
 - The Chinese program would be undergraduate eventually
 - We are very aware that the Carnegie Mellon undergraduate program experience is in Pittsburgh; we were very careful when we went to Qatar to recreate reproduce the undergraduate experience here, but that was very difficult to achieve
- [Steph] How do you feel about the fact that students may not feel attached to the global identity of Carnegie Mellon?
 - Students enrolled in Pittsburgh have many opportunities; we hope that students here can go to other campuses around the world in the future
 - The network of campuses of programs is hoped to become much more valuable
 - We are very early in our globalization efforts, so we are still learning
- [Jon Mark] What are you doing to increase the transparency of the Carnegie Mellon budget?
 - There's some routinely public information, like the financial reports that we file annually

- We also have a lot of presentations that our CFO makes around campus
 - Senate should think about inviting the CFO to talk about finances; she's made a great presentation for the faculty, and I'm sure that she'd be happy to give to you
 - If you think we're doing something wrong, then come speak to us. I can't disclose confidential information like salaries
 - The university budget is difficult to parse through, and I would encourage you to look at the overview that the CFO can give you so that you can have more crystallized questions
 - [Seth] As we expand our graduate and undergraduate programs, what's the plan to maintain educational and culture consistency across international campuses?
 - We will do quality control, and every international program is controlled by the faculty
 - Every degree that the college awards must be approved by the faculty's standards, and that quality will be controlled actively
 - [Vivek] How are we creating a situation where a broad population of international campuses will be able to apply, not just the elite? Especially in places like Rwanda?
 - This is a very hard issue
 - Realistically, we know why we are there; that is to provide a Master's Degree program. I know feel no institutional obligation to make it available to anyone but those that are able to pay.
 - We are there to help produce an IT industry in Rwanda and we can't do that by addressing the entire social problem
 - We will, however, be there for a long time; this will help us be in contact with those that are not the elite.
 - [Anshul] How do you look in the future to bringing a reputation of other schools that don't involve technology?
 - CMU is committed to Humanities and Social Sciences, but the world doesn't give it so much credit as the technological schools
 - We've committed to the Dietrich College, and we will produce an endowment solely for the Dietrich School that will be substantial
 - We will earn that reputation
 - We are doing well currently at improving the Humanities Program
- Times of London Higher Education Ranking this year ranked Carnegie Mellon at 21 in the world
 - Discrepancy between US News Rankings (Rank 23) is due to:
 - Retention rate
 - Endowment
 - Acceptance Rate

5:58 – Raffle

- **Dante Haywood: T-Shirt**
- **? : Hoodie**
- **Samuel Nalbone: Portfolio**
- **Chelsea Hulse: Speakers**
- **Brent Heard: iPod Shuffle**
- **Shannon Willams:**

6:04 – Special Allocation

-
- Finance:
 - They are a new group on campus, and don't have JFC funding
 - They are looking to make ends meet
 - They are looking to have students pay \$150 out of pocket
 - They are looking for money to go to a SpaceVision Conference
- SEDS:
 - We want to make people more enthusiastic with space
 - We want to introduce people to the jobs that are available in the field
 - SpaceVision Conference that introduce a lot of space related topics
- Questions:
 - [Seth] How is different from other groups?
 - We want to do outreach to middle schools, and get people more excited about the Space
 - [Jon Mark] How many people are in the group?
 - There's about 30 people, and we've had two general body meetings
 - [Andres] Are most members in CIT?
 - No we want to make it broad, especially with business, design, and MCS
 - [Anshul] How many people do you want to send?
 - About 8 people
 - [Rishi] Is this conference a competition?
 - No. There's a job fair, panel discussions, competitions, astronaut banquet, etc.
 - Mala: How are you going to fundraise otherwise?
 - We're speaking to DoSa and looking to member dues
- Discussion:
 - [Fermin]: Call to Question. Objected by Jon Mark.
 - I think following the Spring Break Trip Metric is appropriate, but we should consider if they're going to come back after
 - Point of Information [Kyra]: This is using the Spring Break Metric
 - [Ashley Reeder]: I think it will be good for people to go to the conference and spread the word

- [Anshul]: They've already mentioned that people will go to
- [Andrew]: Are you going to fundraise before this trip:
 - Yes.
- [Kyra] We use the Spring Break Metric when it is only benefitting a small group of individual students
- [Jon Mark] I am ok with supporting this, but I just want to point out to new senators that we have only given \$500 in the past to new groups
- [Seth] There's a difference between a fixed cost and an annual event; I feel like we're not funding a newly started group and a trip
- [Kyra] Something that I thought a lot for this funding, and had they gone to JFC and received \$500, they would've come anyway. That's why I don't feel uncomfortable funding this
- [Rafael]: How are you going to fundraise later?
 - Individual members will have to pay more
- [Jon Mark]: Call to Question. Hand Vote. 23-4-4. \$1520 to SEDS

6:19 –JFC Slate Approval Vote

- My Le, VP of Finance
- I need slate of members ratified.
- [Seth] Motion to end discussion. Voice Vote. Passed.
- [Seth] Motion to approve JFC Slate. [Objection] Jon Mark.
 - [Jon Mark] What was the nature of the pool of applicants, and could there have been more diversity?
 - I think it's pretty good.
- [Seth] Motion to approve JFC Slate. Seconded by Alyssa. Hand Vote. 20-1-6. Slate is approved.

6:24 – Committee Reports

- **Academic Affairs**
 - Working on Student Services Suite, that will take over SIO and OLR; hopefully this will be available before registration 2012
 - There will be an online profile that you can put in resumes, etc.
 - We are also working on improving your ability to meet with your advisers; we are piloting a program in three schools to make an appointment with your adviser online
 - We are working on buffing up Interpretation and Argument; we like the fact that that's a class that people can take with people from different schools
 - We will be providing a mini for people that want to take a college-level writing course
 - We are working on an undergraduate and graduate mentorship program; we are gathering students of both categories that are interested in the program
 - We are working on getting a set of required books for classes in the library

- We are working on meaningful engagement to take advantage of the incredible diversity we have on campus
- Questions:
 - [Stacy]: Are you getting interpretation and argument?
 - NO. We are just adding a choice of a mini
 - [Vivek]: Is there any discussion of changing the timing of AA?
 - Yes, please email me if you want to work with AA, and we will survey
 - [Seth]: CPDC with AA or BA?
 - I think it's with both
 - TartanTrak is violating some federal laws, and I notified them; I was very badly treated, and I want that addressed
 - I will have it addressed
 - [Jon Mark] Can you put the bulletpoints on the board?
 - Yes
- **Business Affairs**
 - We are doing a lot evaluations
 - We are looking at other dorms than just upperclassmen dorms for lighting
 - We're looking at how effective the reserve textbook system would be
 - We are looking at the bike sharing system, and it's very possible we will roll it out by next semester; security and storage will be under consideration; we'll come back once we have more ideas
 - Magazines in the UC will come out soon; we are designing some signs for that
 - We are talking with Computing Services, and we will be bringing updates on that next week
 - Questions:
 - [Daniel]: What were you asking Computing Services about?
 - We just work together with them about feedback, etc.
 - We asked them to get the signs up for Doherty Printer
 - We asked for getting Mac Adapters
 - Is the GSA sign still on Campus Readership?
 - Yes. We will deal with it
- **Campus life**
 - There's a new club on campus, and they want to fix the gym, so we want to work with them
 - We have a lot of extra large clothes, and we want to sell them to the parents; we want to get smaller sizes as well
 - Questions:
 - [Seth] You should read some of the suggestions, like having an overhead for the smoking areas
- **Communications**
 - You guys are doing really well for Senate Week

- Pie-a-senator went really well; people are excited about Senate
- Tomorrow, we have the barbeque
- We are looking to launch the Gavel pretty soon, but we don't know if we can put it into the Tartan
- We are working with the Tartan more closely
- We are still working on the new logo
- The sunglasses will be here on the 10th
- **Finance**
 - We'll probably have 2 Special Allocations next week: CMU Computing and CMU Unicef
- **Internal Development**
 - There's some half-price event for Senate next week
 - Question:
 - [Dan] Can we make a senate group on Facebook?
 - Good Idea
- **Chair Report**
 - There's been some issues about sending emails to new senators, and that's being worked on
 - Absences is not a big issue
 - I'm going to try a model that we use in Scotch and Soda, where we have a wrap-up meeting about Senate Week; we can discuss about what went well or not
 - We will talk about Exec Meeting Next Week
 - Questions:
 - [Seth] What happened to the WiFi?
 - Computing Services didn't recognize the problem with WiFi, they have GoogleDocs; they are looking at the complaints
 - We are going to see if there's a change in complaints
 - The Computing Services stated that when they said they had WiFi on the Cut was just for Carnival, but by Spring term, it should be permanently available
 - [Seth] We don't want every person posting a complaint, since that will become unsustainably large

6:45 -VPO Committee Slate

- Will Zhang: University Center Allocations Board
 - We'll probably be working on space improvement projects in the UC
 - Questions:
 - [Seth] Why do you have such an H&SS heavy UCAB?
 - H&SS students have been more interested generally in this field
 - I made my selections based on interviews, and how much time I thought people would have

- [Andres] What are the last three people on the group involved in?
 - They have a lot of office-space improvement experiences
- [Seth] Motion to End Discussion. Seconded by Fermin.
- [Kyra] Motion to Slate. Seconded by Anshul. Voice Vote. Slate
- [Kyra] Motion to Approve. Seconded by Fermin. Hand Vote. 24-0-2. Passed. UCAB approved.

6:49 – President’s Cabinet

- Sangita:
 - We sent out an application about the Cabinet, so we could have committees to help us with the work
 - We have a pretty good representation, but we don’t have any sophomores
 - Questions:
 - [Rishi] Are these people paid?
 - Yes. Application Manger is.
 - [Kyra] Can you define the roles for us?
 - Chief of Staff is someone who leads the staff and we are going to modify roles a little
 - Constitutional Advisor is explained by the vernacular
 - Application Manger is the tech
 - Public Relations is someone who helps with marketing
 - Logistics and Coordination Officer is someone who can figure out what’s happening on campus
 - [Anshul] How are these people selected?
 - People applied, and we came to advertise at Senate and GSA; we reviewed applications
 - [Bianka] I think it’s interesting that you went to Senate, since they can’t be on both.
 - We came to senate because people weren’t sure about how they wanted to involved
 - [Rishi] Didn’t you have Greek Liason position last year?
 - We don’t have that this year explicitly. Nothing from last year had to stay, so we just made a task-orientated group
 - Discussion
 - [Bryan] Motion to End Discussion. Seconded by Fermin. Voice Vote. Passed. President’s Cabinet acknowledged.

6:57 – Announcements

- Anshul: Keep on helping out with Senate Week

- Jon Mark: Drama's main production starts this year today, and I have free tickets, so see me if you want to go
- Will Weiner: Help out with Senate Week and come to barbeque; come to the night football game!

6: 59 – Second Roll/

- Motion to Adjourn. Seconded by Anshul. Adjourned