



Student Government

Senate Agenda

October 6, 2015

- I. Present: Launa, Zach, Valentin, Peter, Ben, Laura, Reena, Danielle, Achieng, Deeksha
- II. Continuing Business and Quick Updates:
 - A. Update on meeting w/ Record
 1. Ben: Reena and I went to this meeting on Friday morning and I posted the summary of it with my thoughts, Anya's thoughts, and Reena's thoughts. Do we want to continue publishing our minutes right away? Are we ever going to have things in here kept within this body? I'm not trying to advocate either way.
 2. Valentin: People sometimes say "I want this off the Record"
 3. Launa: The other thing is that people here have more context and so when someone doesn't have context, there are pieces missing.
 4. Zach: So Laura should be a better typewriter...just kidding.
 5. Peter: If someone wants something kept off the Record they can say so and then we'll discuss it.
 6. Zach: But this meeting is public so anyone could be here
 7. Danielle: I don't think it would be taken well if people knew we were keeping things off the record.
 8. Zach: We could make a controversial statement in each week's meeting.
 9. Peter: So what are we doing about the Record?
 10. Ben: What do you mean?
 11. Peter: Last week we thought that the Record was doing something funky, so do we care enough about it?
 12. Ben: But what action do you want to do? We can't make the Record do anything.

13. Ben: We had limited air-time and at times it seemed merely like a lecture on journalism, without taking our considerations seriously.
14. Reena: There was a lot that I learned through the meeting that I didn't know before so I thought it was good they were lecturing us. It didn't seem like there was a lot of back and forth. I personally liked the Record and I didn't know it was autonomous, how they chose articles. Maybe we can meet again and say, now that we know that stuff, we can talk again.
15. Zach: I would like to fact-check their claim that they aren't menno-centric.
16. Peter: I would like a meeting with the editor-in-chief, not necessarily to talk to PC about it
17. Reena: They don't want a diversity article every week because it would get old, so they look for different subject matter
18. Deeksha: It's not about just perspectives. I don't think international students or people of color are being presented well in the Record. There's one coffee house that is covered really big, but not much other news cover. What if we had a section in the newspaper to cover international events, like someone could cover the ISC Friday event, LSU event, etc.
19. Zach: The argument that if the article is "boring" is privileged because it is people's lived experience. Did you bring up the editorial page?
20. Ben: Going back to the meeting with Grace, I don't want the opposite thing to happen with only student senate people speaking.
21. Laura: There is a Record talk-back that anyone could go to, according to Ramona.
22. Ben: Not sure if that's true.
23. Zach: Isn't at least one more meeting with the Record worthwhile? Duane is a very intelligent, well-spoken person.
24. Deeksha: Can we have Ramona, Grace, Duane, 3 Senate people, and 3 SRC people? Going into this, I don't want have a bad relationship with them.
25. Ben: We also never addressed the other subjects like editorial pages, writing as Senate as a whole, etc.
26. Deeksha: We want to clarify and build better communication, work with them.
27. Zach: Can we submit these articles as letters to the editor?
28. Deeksha: Another thing we talked about is that we will give the

names to Ramona and Ramona will do the shoulder-tapping.

29. Danielle: I like the idea of having an international editor.

30. Reena: Are writing/editor positions open any time or at the beginning of the year?

31. Ben: Or people in the Comm-department?

32. Peter: When you have an institutionalized problem rather than an individual problem, it is much more likely that people of color wouldn't apply to a white institution.

33. Ben: Who will attend? **Let's invite them to our meeting and invite SRC.**

B. Bulletin Board Suggestion Box Proposal

1. Valentin: Is the Bulletin Board focused on what we have done, our plans for the future? If we give people too much information it could be too crowded.

2. Zach: We could post the weekly update and make sure to constantly update the board.

3. Senate passed this last week--looks good

4. Launa: **Zach, email Clay Shetler and copy me**

C. Coed Apartment Proposal

1. Ben: These past couple of years we worked on the coed floor proposal, so what I'm trying to do is say that much of the new proposal builds off that one. I'm just stating excerpts from the last proposal. Vote?

2. Vote Approved by Consensus

D. Alcohol Policy Proposal

1. Ben: There were some suggestions. Did you change that Peter? Other thoughts or suggestions?

2. Peter: In summary, the evidence to support dry-campus rules is more shaky. The best way to prevent secondary effects is to have the student body involved in creating the alcohol policy. Students are often more conservative than administrations think, but the policy won't be followed if they don't help create it.

3. Valentin: How would students get involved?

4. Peter: Several ways--focus groups, etc.

5. Achieng: Could we give this to Reslife?

6. Deeksha: Or PC?

7. Launa: Implementation would go to Reslife, but PC would have to look at the policy and maybe the Board too.

8. Danielle: So if students get more involved in this, what changes

would take place?

9. Peter: I don't know what students would change it to, but often students change it to a tiered system, continue to ban hard liquor, but less stringent punishments about non-hard alcohol.
10. Zach: Yeah, I don't know if you can accurately gage what the outcome would be.
11. Achieng: I think we should spend more time on it before sending it to PC.
12. Peter: It's not proposing concrete action, it is just saying they should consider reconsidering the policy. I want this to be pushed through quickly because of all the logistics that would go into actually changing it.
13. Zach: I guess I agree with Achieng a little bit because you [Peter] are looking to start a conversation and PC isn't looking for that.
14. Ben: **Everyone read and comment on the proposal by next week**
15. Laura: I think it would be bad to flesh it out and make an actual alcohol policy. We are simply requesting that the college start this conversation.

E. Defining Gender Proposal

1. Ben: Highlighted about language changes
2. Zach: Very pointed at calling out their lack of knowledge around gender language.
3. Reena: For cost, it could be printing money and donors, res-life material
4. Zach: Good proposal, but needs time to edit
5. Peter: Yes, but hopefully by next week we can vote on it. Anyone can edit/comment on it--I'll try to deal with edits.

F. Diversity Initiative

1. Laura: Added a paragraph about the process.
2. Passed by Consensus

III. New Business:

A. Piano

1. Reena: Did we vote on a piano that I missed?
2. Ben: Last year. It's going to be outside under the overhang. Do we want to advertise this--put a sign that senate made this happen/put it in the Record
3. Deeksha: Put the sign on the piano?
4. Ben: Does someone want to create a poster to put there and

lamine it?

5. Achieng will make it and also advertise it on res-life and facebook.

6. Zach: Someone should write a communicator announcement.

7. Peter will.

8. Ben: Could people post on our private page first before posting on our public page?

B. Party at Launa's!

1. Ben will email her to ask about some Friday after Fall Break.

C. Proposal Ideas document

1. Everyone go through and write your name next to a proposal you will start working on.

IV. Announcements/Organization:

A. Meet with Gilberto tomorrow at 1pm CIIE

B. Board Development w/ Corie Steinke

1. Zach: Legacy building, maybe? To make Senate carry on the "active" mindset.

2. Ben: and that ties in with keeping Senate's trust up. **Ben will email her back.**

C. Next public meeting date

1. Deeksha: It should've been this week.

2. Ben: Yes, but we shouldn't do it tomorrow since we haven't planned it.

3. Zach: Do the week after fall break? Yes.

4. Deeksha: Could we do it in the first floor connector instead of java?

5. Ben: We have to reserve it.

6. Zach: I'll talk to Neal again about it.

7. Achieng: Don't you have to talk to Java?

8. Valentin will talk to Neal and Java about that.

9. Wednesday, 28th at 8:30.

10. Ben put on minutes next week to plan advertizing

V. Open Floor:

A. Deeksha: Can we revisit the Bidet proposal at some point? **Deeksha will write it.** A bidet is a like a toilet seat that squirts water, blows air and dries your bum ;) It is more sanitary and doesn't use toilet paper. Probably in the first-floor connector.

B. Idea for AVI--what if instead of the pasta at fusion they could make stirfry. People could make their own stirfry.

C. Reena: Kiernan's email--what was that?

1. no one knows? Moving on....

VI. Meeting Adjourned: 10:00 pm