



Student Government

Senate Agenda

December 1, 2015

- I. Present: Danielle, Ben, Peter, Reena, Valentin, Jacob, Laura, Launa, Halle, Deeksha, Zach
- II. Jacob Putnam: Situation with the Security Guard
 - A. Jacob: Have been in talks with senate, administration, and student body. First became aware of issue on Monday, November 16th and I sent an email to Launa, and she responded, and then a meeting was scheduled 2:30 the following day. Administration sent that out to senate and myself and gave an open invitation. Became aware that there is a disconnect between student body and administration, like where does one go to complain about a security guard? Students didn't know. Other issues like not proper representation of students of color in the meeting. Trying to get in contact with groups on campus like athletic teams and clubs, have heard back from some. Here is the plan I see: I get individual meetings going--they meet with students who were at that first meeting to be aware of what students are thinking. Ben has met with LSU and a couple of commuters. Women's soccer, volleyball, men's basketball, cross country, ecopax. Some things that cross country said was we need more professors/employees of color, symptomatic of larger problems, racial misconduct team. The Tuesday before Thanksgiving, I met with Gilberto to see what administrators were thinking about what I was doing--seemed to not have problems with it but also supports coworkers. Also talked with him about the specific roles on PC. Are you all aware of these roles?
 - B. Ben: Have had conversations, still a little fuzzy.
 - C. Zach: still learning
 - D. Jacob: Important aspect for transparency. Is there a student Senate website? Update with who PC is, what the chain of command is, little

tidbits/bios of you all. Making it more accessible via ads, communicator announcements on campus. I'll have individual groups meeting with student reps from Nov. 17th meeting. Still trying to get in contact with other clubs and teams. I was hoping to have all those meetings done by Thanksgiving, didn't happen. Need to push more for that. Once all those ideas are in a document, we'll compile it. Issue of conflicting views. That's important: we need conflicting views. One voice on campus is not good--everyone needs to express their voice on this issue. Only two commuters showed up, which shows a disconnect between the student body. It's important we get all ideas, not just ones that sound good to me or Senate. Important to find common ground. Once those meetings happen, we can have another meeting with the student reps and student senate, compile the document and give it to PC.

- E. Deeksha: What student clubs have you reached out to?
- F. Jacob: LSU, ISC, SRC, GWSA, still reaching out to BSU. Haven't gotten responses from many of the clubs and teams yet, so I need to do a better job of explaining what I'm trying to do. Any other questions?
- G. Zach: What is your end goal of the document for PC?
- H. Jacob: Helpful in showing what the student body's voices are for a better way to communicate. Planning on taking it as it goes. Any objections to the plan? What do you think, Launa?
- I. Launa: Go for it. Might be similar themes that showed up from the Wednesday convo. Good to have that broad representation. We have a list of all of the clubs.
- J. Laura will send list to Jacob.**
- K. Jacob: Reiterate that it's important to get all views. Liberal campus that many people with more conservative views don't feel comfortable sharing. Lack of trust.
- L. Ben: That's one of my questions. Once we compile the document, if it has conflicting views, how do we present that to the Administration?
- M. Jacob: That's something I've been talking to Gilberto about--important that even if there is difference, there's a chance it could become concordant. Something I've been doing in the meeting is first writing on a piece of paper how they actually feel before bringing it to a large group discussion. Once we compile the document to see how everyone feels, we'll cross that bridge when we get there. This isn't going to be a one-two punch thing, it will take time.
- N. Deeksha: So what I'm understanding, we're just going to reach out to clubs and athletic teams? Because there are people who aren't in these

groups. Communicator announcement to invite other students to give input.

- O. Jacob: Have thought about reaching out to RAs. Haven't done that yet because RAs also have a lot of things to do. Going to talk to Neal. Can't do this by myself. Need support from you all. Want to see the student body happy. This incident is a small indication of how unhappy the student body is, so you putting in the time to help.
- P. Deeksha: We want to help you. Another thing, I know that Senate started talking about diversity at the beginning of the semester. But a question is, if you do not receive the response you want from the administration, what will you do?
- Q. Jacob: Cross that bridge when it gets there. I believe the administration wants to make this a better place too. One thing that was brought up was a workshop for staff and faculty on race and sexuality. Would the administration support that?
- R. Launa: That is something we can request. No harm in asking HR department for employee education.
- S. Jacob: What do you all think--what steps should we take?
- T. Ben: Give RAs training too.
- U. Deeksha: SRC also discussed doing anti-oppression training of Goshen police
- V. Ben: want to continue dialogue with you--be as involved as you want us to be.
- W. Jacob: Launa, I wanted to ask you about what happened in the two weeks between when you knew about the incident and the Tuesday meeting.
- X. Launa: Approximately two weeks before the the photos of the bumper stickers were sent, Jan Bender Shetler caught me in the stairwell. She mentioned a vague report she heard of an employee with a confederate flag sticker. She did not have a name, but thought the employee might be in security. I received the report and followed up. I contacted the Director of Safety and provided the report, asking the Director to investigate. Ross Peterson-Veatch later confirmed that the Director of Safety acted on the report Launa submitted; at this point the situation was addressed as an employee matter.
- Y. Jacob: It didn't seem like Ross or anyone in the meeting knew what had happened, so that's why students thought nothing was done.
- Z. Launa: That's quite unfortunate, because that's not what happened. It was addressed prior to receiving your photos.
- AA. Ben: Difference between Jan telling you about it and when Jacob sent

the photos, it became very serious and action was taken upon it quickly.

BB. Launa: Report was vague and less verifiable compared to the level of acuity represented in the photos.

CC. Peter: So, action was taken during those two weeks, but the employee was still on campus and parking his car?

DD. Launa: I cannot speak in more detail about what transpired between the supervisor and employee during that time.

EE. Jacob: Sounds like maybe we should talk to the Head of Security.

FF. Launa: More interested in what you are doing now with different student groups' feedback on anti-racism on campus. We can't talk about the employee because of legality. That's all I can say about that tonight.

GG. Jacob: I want to know what the head of security said to the individual during those two weeks.

HH. Launa: You could visit with the Director of HR about the instructions to supervisors for addressing performance issues with supervisees.

II. Jacob: My concern is that this wasn't addressed as a serious issue by the head of security.

JJ. Deeksha: What exactly is the status of the security guard right now?

KK. Launa: He has been separated from GC.

LL. Deeksha: On what grounds?

MM. Launa: I'm not able to release that information.

NN. Jacob: Thanks for inviting me, keep in contact.

III. Ross P.V.: Scheduling meeting

A. who will help me (2-3 people, 4 at the most)

1. **Deeksha, Reena, Ben, Peter** will meet with Ross
2. Wednesday, 6th: 1pm, 4pm,
3. Friday 10am, 1pm, 4pm

B. three times all those people could meet for an hour the first week back in January

IV. New Business:

A. Follow up on goals for next semester

1. Do we want to accomplish anything over Christmas break?
2. Peter: written response from PC about co-ed apartments
3. Zach: Senate event at the College Cabin? I can try to work on that before break to get that sorted out. Night of Fun?
4. Valentin: Friday or Saturday night?
5. Zach; that first weekend?
6. Launa: We have the Student leadership gathering at Camp Mack on Saturday.

7. Zach: Will talk to Shirley; do planning over Christmas break
- B. Ken Newbold's email on search committees
1. Ben: What do we want to do about that?
 2. Zach: Talked with Ken two weeks ago, his goal is to have a couple students on those; fair amount of work to read resumes, sit in on interviews with people, keep that confidential; have students on that, we can choose those students.
 3. Deeksha: Approach students outside of Senate?
 4. Zach: Giving him names of students.
 5. Laura: Really good experience to be on a search committee: have to be professional. We could have applications, promote through the communicator, hand them to people, they could turn into us or Ken. It will take effort from us to pass out these applications, tell profs to promote this.
 6. Laura: I think Ken wants this at the beginning of January? Yes, week of Jan. 4.
 7. Zach: At that point we might as well shoulder tap.
 8. Ben: If it's only one or two students, it won't be representative of the student body, so maybe we should just contact BSU and LSU?
 9. Peter: Ask for BSU, LSU, and ISC for one name a piece?
 10. Deeksha: or make it four?
 11. Launa: Ken wants the group to be small.
 12. Ben: I suggest we nominate Deeksha, and then shoulder-tap others
 13. Launa: "Would you be willing to submit your name to be considered to serve on a search committee?" Probably better if you give a few names so that there is flexibility with schedules. Asking for willingness instead of appointment.
 14. Deeksha: We could say "your spot is not guaranteed"
 - 15. Zach will talk to BSU, LSU, ISC.**
- C. Syrian Housing Family (good idea? read by next meeting)
1. Peter: I've heard some positive feedback. If we could get the first round of edits done by Saturday, so then by Saturday I can make the first round of edits, and then second round of edits by next Saturday so that I can send it to PC
 2. Deeksha: Should focus on good will not PR; SRC doing a fundraiser next semester.
 3. Laura: Suggestion that families can live with profs or community members and senate can put a money amount towards it
 4. Peter: There is some educational value/community involvement for

students if they lived on campus.

5. Deeksha: I don't want them to be paraded around.
6. Ben: Campus housing changes a lot; doubtful college would make that commitment.
7. Deeksha: How do we bring people here?
8. Peter: Will follow up on logistics of how exactly having a refugee family happens.
9. Zach: Give PC a first-read?
10. Peter: Will email to members of PC
11. Ben: Please look to comment on fb
12. Launa: If we can't do actual housing of refugees we could do some assembling of relief kits for refugees that MCC is doing.
13. Halle: I cut hair and donate all the money and double it. It would be one way to contribute to this.
14. Peter: First step is seeing what the college is trying to do.
15. Deeksha: **Should do the relief kits in first two weeks of January**
16. Halle: Buy in bulk from Costco
17. Deeksha; Make it a college event
18. Laura: We could promote it over social media, and over break people's parents will buy them extra stuff like soap to bring back to school.
19. Peter: Write a social media release by Tuesday

20. Zach will do this with SRC

- D. Follow up on Monday's Java meeting and our open letter
1. Ideas from Java: Peter put them on proposal list online
 2. Deeksha: Still do Java, but during lunch hours do the Rott
 3. Peter: or right outside of the Rott
 4. Zach: eat with your prof day at the Rott--get as many profs as we can to come to the Rott on a certain day.
 5. Deeksha: Next semester
 6. Deeksha: Have a poster on our bulletin boards saying when our meetings are.
 7. Ben: occasionally we don't meet here
 8. Deeksha: Putting up a sign-up sheet for emails.
 9. Peter: got 82 signatures on the letter--13% of the student body
 10. Peter: Doesn't want things off the record.
 11. Ben: Who is taking the suggestions out of the box?
 - a) Valentin will.
 12. Peter and Zach can be there from 12-2. Deeksha can be there

12-1. Halle sometime. Danielle and Valentin can do 11. Laura and Ben will do 10.

E. Reminder Saturday, January 9, 2016: Student Leadership Winter Retreat

1. Launa: Will have some time there to do some planning. Prioritize what we want to talk about -- strategic planning time.
2. Bring your schedules!
3. February is board meeting with students. What do we want to engage with them?
4. Halle: do we get paid?
5. Ben: yes, each semester

F. Spring club funding

1. Laura: Ask Shirley for the amounts clubs have spent this semester and their original request.
2. **Deeksha will do this.**

G. Zach: Bev Lapp said we might get a convo. Team up with another student club.

V. Open Floor:

- A. Halle: I think because of the season it's hard for me to find people with puppies and kittens. Still going to work on it. If I don't get solid word, there probably won't be puppies or kittens.
- B. Zach: Have you asked profs?
- C. Halle: Not yet--does Shirley have a prof email list?
- D. Deeksha: Send out the relief thing to profs/email list we got in the beginning too.
- E. Halle: If I were to buy 5 puppies, would anyone want one?
- F. Peter: Talking to faculty a lot about administrative policies; faculty agree with students a lot--on race things, on gender things, on all sorts of things. Coalition building with them next semester. Also, on agenda for next year, assessing where we are with anti-oppression work. Changing bylaws to disallow election of white men. Can discuss later, think about it.

VI. Meeting Adjourned: 10:24