



Student Government

Senate Agenda

September 8, 2015

- I. Present: Ben, Zach, Achieng, Deeksha, Laura, Grace Weaver, SRC Club (Any Kreider and Alex Moon)
- II. Record Updates
 - A. Grace: From now on, the Record will have a reporter cover meetings that are important and you want people to be there for. Duane wants it to be in an article format so that it's more interesting, not the Five Points. You can post the 5 points in the communicator if you want transparency, then publish big changes with us. We don't want to cut off communication. The perspective's page is much more open than the rest of the paper, but it would be better if it came from the perspective of one student from senate
 - B. Zach: What about putting a statement out?
 - C. Ben: What if it's an open letter to the administration?
 - D. Grace: That could be a letter to the editor.
 - E. Zach: It couldn't be from the entire student senate?
 - F. Grace: No, because no other student groups have a direct line to the Record.
 - G. Zach: Student Senate is a little different than other student groups though.
 - H. Grace: I still don't feel comfortable with that. If you think there are things that should be reported on, let me know and please stay in communication.
- III. Announcements/Organization
 - A. Senate's culture
 1. Ben: This is us talking with the Senate at large about how everyone wants our meetings to run, how we want to make decisions, how we want to interact. Let's talk about this next week.

- B. Meetings with Gilberto first Wednesday 1pm every month
 - 1. Ben: We're going to meet him again in a month.
 - 2. Achieng: Checking in with him and talking about how to be leaders.

IV. Continuing Business and Quick Updates

- A. At large election
 - 1. Ben: Right now only one person has turned their application in.
 - 2. Deeksha: I know some people who are applying. The 100 word statement might be a problem to get people to do last minute though.
- B. Meeting with adult classes
 - 1. Ben: Zach is meeting with Pat Lehman's class right now and would welcome other people to help him talk to these classes.
 - 2. (later) Zach: They liked the ideas, they were disappointed that the Senate meeting was at 8:30 because that's during their class, obviously. They like the email announcement/chain idea. Regular communicator announcements. 5:00 on weekdays was their best time to do things on campus. They also suggested publicizing more events that they could go to. Make something earlier in the evening.
 - 3. Achieng: And publicize kick-off to them?
 - 4. Zach: And they suggested a pop-corn study time. So if they were getting together to do a project with an on-campus student, they could meet within a specific place. For the accelerated business classes, they are here at night because a lot of them work during the day, so best times are early evening. Other adult classes might be different. It will be interesting to talk to them.
 - 5. Ben: The next class is on Thursday at 5:30 and 7.
 - 6. Achieng: I can go to both times.
 - 7. **Zach: Great, Achieng and I can do it on Thursday.**
- C. Coffee Club
 - 1. Zach: There were some good suggestions. The meeting with the convo committee went well and they liked the idea, and so they thought about giving it 1 or 2 times this semester as convo credit, not a half-credit every time. The suggestion got thrown out to have it one time at 10 AM and one time at 7 PM on Fridays for those who are busy either of those times. The committee is thinking about it. There will be at least one credit that comes out of it, probably. Another suggestion was for a senate member to be on the convocation committee because they're trying to restructure how convos are done.

2. Achieng: What would be the purpose?
3. Zach: To restructure and because we often have events we may need convo credit for. They also suggested that we could have a Wednesday chapel next semester if we wanted a very very public forum. And I think that's worth taking. And I already told them that we want it.
4. Achieng: Are there notes from the last public forum?
5. Laura: **Yes, I'll post those.**
6. Zach: And can we change the picture from our senate page? The capitol building is gross.
7. Consensus.
8. Zach: Why don't we have club forms and election forms online so that people can print them off?
9. **Achieng: I'll do the facebook and the website.**
10. Zach: And if you have suggestions for pictures, let me know.

D. Reusable grocery bags

1. **Deeksha: I wrote that and I'll post that on the facebook page.**

E. Computers in apartments

1. Deeksha: Let's get an at-large member.

F. Bidet on campus

1. Laura: Maybe put it in the 1st floor connector instead of the Union?

G. Statement on Diversity

1. Laura: I have some wording questions, other than that, it's done and you can read it.

H. Transitioning back from SST. New course, programs, workshops, etc.

V. New Business

A. Club funding: Shirley has forms by 5pm on the 14th. First decisions on allocation by senate meeting, 8:30pm on the 15th.

1. Last year's finances

a) Ben: not enough time to talk about it tonight.

2. Ben: Usually the treasurer and one person can help you come up with suggestions for the funding so that next week we can go quicker and fund up and down. Clubs almost always ask for more funding than we can ever give. Last year it was \$20,000. Problem is you'll get it Monday at 5 and we'll have to have them by Tuesday's meeting.

3. **Deeksha: How about Monday at 7? Java?**

4. **Zach: Yes, I can.**

5. **Achieng: I can too unless I have work.**

B. Meeting with SRC re: interim positions

1. Zach: What happened at the SRC forum?
2. Ben: We generally talked about our club plans and common grievances. We're going to meet again later this semester. We definitely want to collaborate with SRC.
3. Anya: And we're here specifically to talk about putting people of color on the search committee to fill the interim positions, potentially: Gilberto, Launa, Dominique, Devonn, Regina, a student
4. Anya: Model SRC side like open letter. But I have some mixed feelings. I know that with the Open Letter, it was pretty Menno-centric.
5. Deeksha: I think the t-shirts and signatures created awareness.
6. Zach: They were effective at what they did, but we shouldn't necessarily do the same exact thing.
7. Deeksha; giving it our own personality and perspective but taking ideas from open letter
8. Ben: **If you want to get caught up from our end, we can send you the doc.**
9. Anya: So it's from Senate on behalf of the student body. We have to make it public besides just giving it to PC.
10. Deeksha: We should print it and post it everywhere on campus.
11. Anya: Put it in the Record?
12. Laura: Well, not so much anymore. I guess I don't understand if the Senate agrees as a whole, why shouldn't we be able to send a letter to the editor as a Senate--if we all agree, how is that different than an individual?
13. Laura: Should I put in the demands part of the letter about putting multiple people of color, women, and a student on the search committee?
- 14. Ask Launa what the interim positions mean.**
15. Anya: An SRC goal is to get student backing for what you are doing.
16. Zach: Getting student backing helps our position.
17. Ben: Student backing in what form?
18. Deeksha: Should we wait for the response?
19. Anya: And we could give it formally, have some presentation around it.
20. Zach: My question around this, is, I think the ultimate goal is to get an African American studies department out of this. So could we

form a list of demands that we want? Can we put this in a broader context with a timeline? Contextualize it so that they don't think they can hire one person and be done. Get a facebook page, do everything at once. There needs to be more planning of a long-term goal. I think that the statement could wait until the committee is formed.

21. Deeksha: I like the idea of waiting for the student to be on the committee.
22. Ben: Let's have a well-thought out plan.
23. Achieng: Hold off on this, write a proposal for a search committee.
24. Ben: And I mean, wait to make sure SRC is in collaboration and Malcolm too with the signatures and student response.
25. Zach: I don't think that putting a student on the search committee will be controversial.
26. Deeksha: But if you build everything up and can't handle it then you fall flat on your face.
27. Anya: So to start, Sarah is planning on writing an article in the Record with an interview with Launa and Gilberto and stuff like that will build student support. She hasn't started working on it yet.
28. Laura: Let's create a timeline for ourselves. Have a platform with specific demands. SRC will gather articles for the Record that will be personalized.
29. Ben: I have this vision that people in t-shirts will continually pour into AD 2, disrupting things and handing in these proposals and signatures.
30. Zach: Can we all meet together?
31. Achieng: Sunday?
32. Deeksha: 3-5
33. Ben: morning or evening would work better for me. **7-9 Sunday?**
Does someone want to contact LSU, BSU, ISC, and Malcolm?
34. Zach: And anybody else who wants to work on these things. That's like 20 people right there, which could be hard to work with.
35. Ben: have a plan that's there for editing.
- 36. Achieng: I can create that doc.**
37. Zach: Add to the google doc before Sunday--have some structure but still leave it flexible.
38. Ben: and SRC can come with more ideas for logistics for signatures.
39. Achieng: How are we going to get people to write articles?

40. Laura: People are frustrated, so if we asked them, they'd probably say yes.

41. Deeksha: a lot of people don't read the Record, are there other ways--communicator and social media? print outs on bulletin boards? Talk to RAs and MLs to talk to people.

42. Ben: Let's meet on Sunday at 7. I will contact security

C. Email announcement chain

1. Zach: Senate table on club day so that people can sign up for emails. Is there a way senate can send things out?

Ben: I have no idea.

2. Deeksha: **I'll ask Shirley.**

VI. Open Floor

VII. Meeting Adjourned:10:08