



## **Student Government**

Senate Agenda

March 18, 2014

1. Call to Order  
Roll Call: Caleb, Ben, Elizabeth, Ellen, David, Ezra, Karsten, Isaac, Joanna, Laura, Maddie, Bill
2. Approval of Minutes: Senate\_3.11.14
  - a. Approved
3. Old Business
  - a. Campus Emergency Response (5 min)
    - i. Laura emailed PJCS people and they never responded.
    - ii. Bill: Wanted to make sure Mennonite Governing Process Information Night date was set before we set this date.
    - iii. Senate should be mentioned
    - iv. Karsten: It's good to have Senate exposed because that promotes people to run for elections.
    - v. Caleb and Joanna are interested in doing an introduction for the event.
  - b. Administration/Senate Brief Announcements (5 min)
    - i. PC minutes link to website?
    - ii. Bill: General feedback was not a consensus on publishing their minutes, instead having Bill relate information to us and our official published minutes serve that purpose.
    - iii. Ben: What's the drawback?
    - iv. Bill: For some there is a comfort level issue with it.
      1. Caleb: We were hoping to do it through GC Senate website.
    - v. Bill: Posting them publicly is a departure from our current practice of just having them on a GC server for employees.
    - vi. Caleb: Should we still be heading towards posting our minutes on our website?

1. Joanna: Yes, we should have people say to Secretary if they want information be taken out to say so.
  - vii. Ben: I think this is something that students are concerned about. Transparency of administration is something that a lot of students have talked to us about.
  - viii. Bill: We have two versions, PC would probably want a third version if it was to be made public. Difference between board minutes and reporting on board minutes.
  - ix. Ezra: Must be careful not to have double standard on transparency between Senate and PC
  - x. Ben: I would disagree with that statement in a sense. What we have to be careful about is misnomers about being public. I'm all about transparency.
  - xi. Joanna: All minutes are inherently flawed because you can't know all the details that were said here.
  - xii. Laura: But transparency is good because it would fight to squash rumors by having public information available.
  - xiii. Bill: Senate has evolved in the last two years to a way where this is a new subject being asked of PC. Never tested it before. I would say we should test it the last few minutes of this year, and see how that feels going into the third new year of "Senate excellence." I'm glad to bring this to my peers on behalf of Senate. I hope that our work doesn't come off as secretive or covert.
  - xiv. Isaac: I think the demand from student body is just some kind of information, instead of nothing at all.
  - xv. Bill: I say let's test it the end of this year, because we can have continuity going forward next year, see how it feels to have information public.
- c. Coed floor
- i. Ben: group meeting this Friday, update next week
- d. Mennonite Governing Process Information Night
- i. April 2nd, 7:00pm
  - ii. Feedback on facebook
  - iii. Finalizing people who will be on panel
  - iv. Ezra will be helping marketing
    1. Especially when questions are due
  - v. Start advertising ASAP, once details are finalized
  - vi. Ezra will talk with The Record
  - vii. Communicator Announcement, modeled from facebook draft
    1. Isaac will take care of it

- e. Elizabeth: Quinn will have news for chapels, beginning this week.
- f. Bill: No confirmations yet from board members, working on it.
- g. Ben: We should change language a little bit then in announcement.
- h. Bill: AD28 would work well. 7 PM
- i. Ezra: We have to make sure to talk to both sides of conflict within student body so we remain a neutral body, and that our minutes look neutral.

#### 4. New Business

- a. Constitution Revision:
  - i. Length of membership
    - 1. fixed length requirements
    - 2. co-running option changed on election code
  - ii. Overseeing Club Activities
    - 1. Clubs must represent themselves at club day, if they want funding
      - a. line up when we affirm clubs, do club day, then award money.
      - b. Stipulation must be made public wide-known knowledge.
- b. Vacuums
  - i. Vacuums are not good in dorms.
  - ii. Joanna has meeting with phys plant and will find out more details about vacuums and cleaning supplies.
- c. PC Update:
  - i. Three strategic topics we work with all the time, standard template framing.
    - 1. Strengthen integrative learning environment
    - 2. Increase Enrollment
    - 3. Resource allocations
  - ii. SILE: conversation about church/MEA polity event
  - iii. IE: Increasing our online degree programs
    - 1. Designating point people
    - 2. Rollout of first two programs this fall
    - 3. Attempt to grow enrollment on online front
    - 4. James Townsend reported on conference event he attended. We are not the only one struggling to enroll 18 year olds.
    - 5. Bill pulled out Student satisfaction survey data.
  - iv. RA: Software system which is campus-wide had an assessment done. Regional representative came back from Fall evaluation about how to better use software efficaciously. 45 minute

presentation.

- v. Sexual misconduct response team is working on issues to better the Sexuality Conduct Packet from external public pressure.
- vi. Jim Caskey reported on annual gifts. One estate and the Lily pathways grant have set this year ahead of last.
- vii. Jim Hestand reported on ecological stewardship committee report. Award received (silver award). Our own Joanna Epp was recognized.
- viii. ITS strategic planning.

#### 5. Open Floor

- a. Caleb: In the next couple weeks, we should start thinking about cabinet elections. When should we start?
  - i. Joanna: We should start advertising asap.
- b. Contacting student leaders of other clubs
- c. Communicator announcements
- d. Papers filed by April 11th at 5 PM to Shirley
- e. Voting Starts the 14th and ends the 20th
- f. 21st is reading day, snack attack, and announcement of who is elected to cabinet. All should plan to attend
- g. Caleb will talk to Shirley
  - i. Also about having student's statements on ballot.

#### 6. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned: 10:30