

Senate Meeting – 3 October 2012

AGENDA

4th Student Senate Meeting

- 12:15 – Call to order and agreement agenda
- 12:15 – Officer report: Senate Chair (Sven van Mourik) on the senate regulations
- 12:20 – Officer report: SGA Treasurer (Mimi Adrien) on the year's budget
- 12:35 – Committee report: Club's Committee Chair Alexandre Violet on the Club's Committee
- 12:40 – Committee report: Judiciary Committee introduces an amendment
- 13:00 – Introduction CS Representative (Dana Kianfar), running for the vice-chair position on the environmental committee.
- 13:05 – Speech IBA Rep (Stephanie Galy) and Assistant Dean of Student Services (Kevin Fore) on a potential change of the senate meeting time.
- 13:10 – Old business + New Business
 - Announcements and Adjournment

Minutes

Taken by Stephanie Dissette (USC Communications Director)

Meeting begins (12:12PM)

1. Sven (USC VP): Reviewing Senate procedures and agenda
 - a. Review of agenda – quick summary by Sven (USC VP)
 - b. Any objections? No.
 - c. Review of Senate Regulations
 - d. Air of professionalism

2. Mimi (SGA Treasurer) and Alexandre (CC) on the SGA budget and Clubs
 - a. See chart on SGA website: <http://sga.aup.edu/budget>
 - b. First Social Committee Meeting tomorrow – discuss their budget needs
 - c. Reminder, ASM has 40,000 euros already
 - d. Giving regular updates in Senate on budget requests by clubs
 - e. Laura (ICP) – questions: why does ASM already receive 40,00 euro budget?
 - i. Mimi (SGA Treasurer) answer: voted in by last years Senate
 - f. Max (Econ) – Does the 60% of the budget that is allotted to Clubs include the 40,000 euros already allotted to ASM?
 - i. Mimi (SGA Treasurer) answer: yes
 - g. Adriana (Film) – ASM counted in clubs?
 - i. Mimi (SGA Treasurer) answer: yes
 - h. Laura (ICP) – Can ASM request more money?
 - i. Mimi (SGA Treasurer) answer: yes

- i. Max (Econ) – What do you base budget plans on for this year? Can we compare last year’s usage to this year?
 - i. Mimi (SGA Treasurer) answer: every year budget allocations change based on the budget we are allotted
 - ii. Mimi (SGA Treasurer) answer: budget plans each year are based on the usage from the year before and monitored by the administration as well
 - iii. More information to follow in future meetings
- 3. Alexander (CC) continues...
 - a. First Clubs Committee plenary session was on Monday
 - b. Already reached out to club leaders that could not attend
 - c. Successful so far – event coordination and supporting each other
 - d. Still looking for a vice-chair (must be a Senator); contact sga_clubs@aup.edu if interested
 - e. Passed around the flyer that invited club leaders to plenary session
 - f. Next week should have first budget request to present in Senate, with more accurate estimates on budget usage
- 4. Pierre and Alex (Judiciary Committee Co-Chairs)
 - a. Present an amendment: article 8, letter C* – what to do when there are vacant Senate seats
 - i. Present current constitutional stand – seats would stay vacant until the next election period (end of January)
 - ii. Should the new amendment be voted in, might question current Senators legitimacy – not the intention of the Judiciary Committee (different election process)
 - iii. And pertaining to vacant Executive Board seats – new amendment combines the issue of vacant Senate and Executive seats
 - iv. Read new amendment proposal*
 - v. Note: if appointed by Execs and voted in by current Senators, then new Senators would have to run again to maintain current seats in next election period
 - vi. Any questions?
 - 1. Max (Econ) – before hearing them speak in Senate, could we request candidates write out a list of goals or a few words about your intentions as a Senator so current Senate can review ahead of time (in order to facilitate process)?
 - 2. Response, Pierre: any suggestions should be written down and sent to the Judiciary Committee to review, and they will be presented at a future meeting
 - b. Any motions?
 - i. Laura (ICP) motions to accept amendment; Madison (History) seconds

- ii. Any inforamatory questions?
 - iii. Darcee (MPL/MPPA) supports amendment; nice balance in filling seats and retaining legitimacy of current Senators
 - iv. Adriana (Film) – should there be a deadline?
 - 1. Alex responds – that’s part of the discretion of the execs, unless a further stipulation is added to the amendment
 - v. Madison (History) – assuming it is accepted, how soon would it be implemented?
 - 1. Pierre responds: immediately
 - c. Darcee (MPL/MPPA) moves to the previous question; majority vote
 - d. Vote, all in favor (by roll-call vote) – unanimously voted in
- 5. Judiciary Committee continues by presenting their intended format for updating the Constitution
 - a. Confident the Constitution should be streamlined, more readable for common student, and more accessible in general by the end of this current semester
 - b. Objective is to allow for Constitution to be updated and revised by a more holistic group of people:
 - i. Revisions through Judiciary Committee; however, other committees will be invited to review and rework areas that pertain to them
 - ii. (See “d. ii.” for an example)
 - c. Review a current outline of existing articles, reordered
 - d. Intention to add a system of annexes, in order to simplify and better organize current Constitution**
 - i. Intention to delegate revision process to annexes that refer to them: e.g. Executive team updates the Executive Team Annex; Clubs Committee updates Clubs Annex; etc.
 - ii. Questions? No.
- 6. Dana (CS) invited to speak, running for Vice Chair position of Environmental Committee
 - a. Goal: tackle recycling program problems on two levels – administrative and student
 - b. Believes AUP is open minded and prepared to resolve current problem
 - c. Stephanie (IBA) motions to approve; Laura (ICP) seconds
 - d. Adriana (Film): have you spoken to current Chair? Attempted, but she’s out of town
 - e. Stephanie (IBA) motions to move to previous question
 - f. Vote approved by a majority
 - g. Dana voted in unanimously
- 7. Max (Econ), invited to speak, running for Sports Committee Vice Chair
 - a. Current captain of football team and captain last semester; already a committee member; puts lots of time and effort into team and program in general

- b. Would like to help keep Senators informed
 - c. Stephanie (IBA) moves to approve; Alena (Comp Lit) seconds
 - d. Comments or questions? No
 - e. Madison (History) move to previous question
 - f. Vote approved by majority
 - g. Max voted in unanimously
8. Stephanie (IBA) and Kevin Fore potential change to Senate meeting time
- a. Stephanie (IBA) informs of problem (three Senators have class during current Senate Meeting time), and reads letter written by PPE Rep, Junior Rep, and Sophomore Rep: letter to be attached***
 - b. Summary:
 - i. Meeting time was not decided by the Senate
 - ii. A matter of representing the student body properly
 - iii. There needs to be an impeachment trial – not automatic impeachment (*Note: impeachment procedures laid out in the Constitution – there is no “automatic” impeachment procedure*)
 - iv. Reviewed last year’s Senate attendance and care
 - v. Upset about last year’s budget decisions
 - vi. Request for current Senators to vote in favor
 - c. Kevin Fore – presents other side to argument
 - i. Passes out a flyer**** about what he wishes to present
 - ii. No intention to interfere, but wish to express another side of the argument
 - iii. Please consider how the current meeting time represents the current Senate; Senators voted in Spring had months to prepare for current Senate time; scheduled their classes around it
 - iv. Reminder that last year the meetings were late, not well attended, and lost focus; day meetings maintain focus and organization; and now meetings are weekly
 - v. University itself will pay more attention with current time
 - vi. Point: please note, this meeting time was thought out; worked with Registrars Office
 - d. Stephanie (IBA), agrees with Kevin; however, her hope is that next semester this time slot will be completely open and available
 - e. Kevin Fore: the intention is to get better and better about keeping this slot open;
 - i. Involves having faculty and administration understanding the importance of Senate and all Senate accomplishes;
 - ii. Work in progress (next semester, current guarantee is only 6 courses will fall in this time slot)
 - f. Sven (USC VP) – call to order, please remember to follow Senate procedures, not to open debate
 - g. Stephanie (IBA) – proposes that three Senators are exempted from absences; Alena (Comp Lit) seconds
 - h. Motion up for debate

- i. Madison (History) – Is it not written in Constitution that students elected for Senate must attend Senate meetings? Does that not make them ineligible to be a part of Senate if those students did not consider the current time? Should we allow them an objection?
- ii. Laura (ICP) – understands the frustration; consider how things worked last semester
- iii. Stephanie (IBA) – requests exemption, particularly because Sophomore and Junior Reps have major responsibilities to fill and there are currently two people willing to fill them (elected Senators)
- iv. Madison (History) – Senate meeting time wasn't on the application; however, it was elsewhere, all the other Senators knew how to find it and asked; Senators should be responsible enough to discover time on their own
- v. Stephanie (IBA) – did we vote to have a set Senate Meeting time?
 - 1. Referred to Pierre as last year's president and current judiciary committee chair:
 - a. Nothing written in Constitution about Senate need to vote; in fact, written that Executive team is in charge of doing their best to ensure appropriate meeting time
 - b. Impeachment procedures: not many regulations; three absences are sufficient grounds for impeachment (<http://sga.aup.edu/constitution>)
 - c. Three absences from *scheduled* Senate meetings is an appropriate ground for impeachment
- i. Sven (USC VP) other comments?
 - i. Max (Econ) – agrees with Stephanie; do we have other students who will take over the positions? Currently elected Senators are ready and willing, need another solution.
 - ii. Darcee (MPL/MPPA) – impeachment is not automatic; can we video meetings or have missing Senators review minutes; etc.?
 - 1. Is there another option? Even if a request is made for impeachment, it is a formal process; in the meantime, can we find solutions?
 - 2. Please remember many current Senators chose classes based on this time
 - iii. Adriana (Film) – these students do care about involvement; they should propose a solution?
 - iv. Kevin Fore – does not intend to discourage participation; however:
 - 1. New amendment can help fill Senator roles; those students can get involved in other ways

2. Current time increases credibility and visibility of Senate

- j. Stephanie (IBA) motions: not eligible for impeachment until another solution is found (reiterating earlier motion)
 - i. Sven (USC VP) clarifies, a motion has already been made, cannot make another until this is resolved
- k. Laura (ICP) – are we allowed to vote something that goes against Constitution? Does that take away a Constitutional right?
 - i. Response, Pierre: it would not be 100% constitutional to pass this vote;
 - ii. Should a Senator propose another amendment to the Constitution, Judiciary Committee would need another week to review, prepare, and present to the Senate
- l. Motion off the table, as it is unconstitutional; can be moved to next meeting
- m. Any motions?
- n. Darcee (MPL/MPPA) moves to table motion; Laura (ICP) seconded
- o. Motion tabled

9. Any new or old business? No.

10. Announcements

- a. Stephanie (USC Communications)
 - i. Please send in bios for those of you who haven't
 - ii. Please use your Communications Director as a resource
- b. Sven (USC VP)
 - i. Reiterates USC Communications Director's announcements
 - ii. Reminder: there is nothing you (as Senators) cannot discuss or make a motion about; please continue to talk to constituents and look around campus for things that can be brought to meetings
 - iii. Senator email addresses are now working – check in with IT Helpdesk if you need help figuring it out
 - iv. For next week and from now on: Senators, two or three a week, (Daniel and Toghzan next week), will be asked to present current projects and to speak for constituents

Meeting adjourned (13:22)

**See attached document*

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