

## COLLEGE COUNCIL MINUTES

April 18, 2012

**Quote of the Week:** (While talking about whether or not students get in trouble for reporting drunk friends), students can be “Heroes...or Hero-ines!” –Steve Klass, Vice President of Campus Life

CALL TO ORDER \_\_\_\_\_ PM

### ROLL CALL

*Krista Pickett '13 (Co-President)* welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting and introduced the proxies for today: *Clyde Engel '15* and *Josh Revkin '13*.

### I. ANNOUNCEMENTS (10 min)

*Krista Pickett '13 (Co-President)* announced that *Peter Skipper '13 (Co-President)* sent an email to the student body about CC committees and stressed the importance of getting all students to apply for these committees. There is no certain experience that is necessary. She also mentioned that there have been recent complaints about the dance studio policy. Current groups have sought to use this room, but they have recently heard that they are not allowed to. Lastly, she thanked the College Council Communications Team for all the posters they made for the Committee advertisements.

### II. BUDGETS (8 min)

*April Jenkins '14 (Treasurer)* began by announcing to Council that Susan Hogan, Williams College Controller, sent her an email thanking Council for appointing an Assistant to the Treasurer (way to go Council!).

#### Slate 1

*Three Appeals: Badminton Team, Cycling Team, All Acoustic Alliance.*

*Budget Request: Springstreters. Clyde Engle '15 (Class of 2015 Rep. (proxy))* asked if this was unprecedented funding for them, since it was higher than usual. *April* responded that this group has already received a lot of money and therefore, it was not fiscally responsible to fund them again.

**Motion (to Approve):** *Kate Flanagan '14 (Community and Diversity Rep.)*

**Second:** *Henry Bergman '15 (Williams Hall Rep.)*

**Vote:** 20-0-0 (Motion Passes)

#### Slate 2

## Great Ideas Committee Video Game Library Request

**Motion (to Approve):** Emily Dzieciatko '15 (Sage Hall Rep.)

**Second:** Henry Bergman '15 (Williams Hall Rep.)

**Vote:** 20-0-0 (Motion Passes)

### III. RUGBY (5 min)

*Update from the College Council Treasurer with regards to the Women's Rugby Team and their current finances*

**April Jenkins '14 (Treasurer)** began by stating that she worked with the Controllers Office to solve the current fiscal crisis with the Women's Rugby Team. Throughout this and previous years, the Women's Rugby Team has been in debt for several reasons. In order to allow them to continue receiving College Council funding, they have worked out a deal where they owe \$1500 per year until they pay off their debt.

**Benjamin Shuham '14 (Dodd At-Large Rep.)** asked how groups can go in debt when College Council has oversight. **April** responded that they were using unapproved p-cards, which is how they got around April. During fiscal year 2011, they were roughly \$4000 in debt, which was taken into account during the subgroup allocation process. Despite the large sum of money they owe, they didn't get away with the debt. Unfortunately, money from alumni donations cannot be donated specifically to club sports, which is why they haven't received outside money. **Peter Skipper '13 (Co-President)** added that Council needs to look at censuring groups like this in the future. **Adrian Castro '14 (Secretary)** asked **Peter** to clarify the process of censuring for Council. **Peter** responded that censuring is an act that Council can take against a group per our bylaws, which is us basically telling them that they did something wrong and that we will watch them more carefully

**Katy Carrigan '14 (Spencer At-Large Rep.)** asked while they needed to go over and whether or not this was due to a misallocation. **April** stated that students determined their own budget, but the funding was mismanaged by the coach. **Josh Revkin '13 (Wood Board Rep.)** added that there is something in the bylaws that states there is a limit to busses and that the rugby coach is paid a large sum of money. If there is a way to look at all these fees and assess them to one person, we should make that person pay and not the club. **April** stated that she will draft enforcement mechanisms to ensure this doesn't happen again.

**Peter** added that he is uncomfortable that the Controller and other administrators are able to make all the decisions about a College Council group and coming to a consensus about their status without Council there. **April** stated that so many administrators are getting involved

*because of the college rules that were broken and because of the way the cards are set up, she wasn't able to track the expenses until the end of the month.*

#### **IV. OPINIONS@WSO (1 min)**

*A student submitted an opinion about beautifying Mission Hill! There are students who are currently working on doing this!*

#### **V. MENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE BYLAW (10 min.)**

*Presentation of a Mental Health Committee bylaw to institutionalize the Mental Health Committee as an approved College Council committee, open to all students on campus.*

***Krista Pickett '13 (Co-President)** began by stating that this bylaw is a reworded copy of the bylaw from the previous week. **Clyde Engel '15 (Class of 2015 Rep (proxy))** asked if there was going to be a set number of positions per class available. **Krista** responded that while it doesn't specify a specific number of positions, there is room for at-large members.*

**Motion (to Approve):** Emily Dzieciatko '15 (Sage Hall Rep.)

**Second:** Katy Carrigan '14 (Spencer At-Large Rep.)

**Vote:** Unanimous

#### **VI. GAS REIMBURSEMENT RATE (17 min)**

*A presentation on the current College Council gas reimbursement rates and proposals to possibly increase the rate to offset costs many other groups face.*

***Peter Skipper '13 (Co-President)** started off the conversation by stating that he has been approached by many students who are concerned with the gas mileage rate. Currently, CC reimburses at \$0.17 per mile if under 5 passengers and if above 5 and less than 8, they get \$0.20. A lot of students complain that they don't get enough money to reimburse themselves. He stated his goal was to come up with a number that is fair for everyone.*

***April Jenkins '14 (Treasurer)** stated that she has worked with Controller to get information on gas and travel. Many student groups mess up their vouchers and therefore, it's hard to track who is actually facing funding issues. We've spent roughly \$35000-\$40000 this year alone on gas. She recommended that we stick with the \$0.17 for more conventional budgets and re-evaluate for other vans. She stated that the bigger concern is not \$0.17, but for deciding when a group is using a 7 person van versus 12 person. There is a large variation with those rates. **Peter** added that it is also important to look at how MPG is skewed by equipment taken to meets.*

***Katy Carrigan '14 (Spencer At-Large Rep.)** asked how we'd be able to find out the weight of the gas and how much to reimburse. **Peter** stated that we'd look about their gas mileage to figure it*

*out. **Krista Pickett '13 (Co-President)** added that it's important to take into account the age of the cars too because that skews the gas mileage they get.*

***April** added that as it stands, the current rate is effective, but at the same time, there are some groups that need special consideration. We should look at some procedure within bylaws that allows for a FinCom or Treasurer Discretion to bypass the per mile rate for extenuating circumstances.*

## **VII. ROLLOVER TASKFORCE SELF-NOM SOLICITATION (10 min.)**

*Presentation of the rollover taskforce and solicitation of self-noms for the experimental group that will remain in effect this fall*

***April Jenkins '14 (Treasurer)** started off by explaining the goal of the task force. This group of students would look at the issue and decide how they'd like to proceed forward. They won't be making any final decisions, but will simply provide a recommendation to the Council. As it stands, some ideas include endowment, payment plan, etc. She hopes to have an open forum and will write an op-ed next week to let students know how to get involved. If Council members are interested in getting involved, self-noms should be emailed to April by Saturday night. It will currently be limited to CC members, but once the actual discussion commences, students at large will be allowed to apply.*

## **VIII. SOPHOMORIENTATION (2 min)**

**Krista Pickett '13 (Co-President)** asked the committee to give a brief summary. **Rani Mukherjee '15 (Dennett Hall Rep.)** spoke on behalf of **Benjamin Augenbraun '15 (Class of 2015 Rep)** who wasn't able to attend the meeting (but he did send a proxy!!). **Rani** started by explaining the goal of the program (help students with the infamous "Sophomore Slump"! ) and also stated it was their to help ease the transition from freshman year to sophomore year. There will be many different types of events that have been done in the past and some new ones as well. **Henry Bergman '15 (Williams Hall Rep.)** added that this program is designed to build school unity, so they will be working on that specifically. **Rani** also added that they will be updating the book to make it easier to read. **Krista** gave a quick recap of the program: SophomOrientation, currently in its fourth year, was designed to combat the sophomore slump. College Council got involved because it was a CC Great Idea and soon after, became institutionalized by the Dean's Office.

## **IX. OPEN TIME**

## **X. ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE (25 min.)**

*Presentation from our own Dean Bolton and Steve Klass for a nice administrator update!*

**Krista Pickett '13 (Co-President)** started off by introducing Steve Klass, Vice President of Campus Life (oversees Chaplin's Office, Community Engagement, Security, Office of Student Life, Dining, Facilities, the Health Center, and the Conference Office) and Sarah Bolton, Dean of the College (oversees Academic Resources, Writing Director, Registrar, Fellowships Office, and study abroad. **Peter Skipper '13 (Co-President)** told Council to take advantage of the opportunity to talk to them both and to ask questions. Before continuing, **Dean Bolton** complimented CC in all that it does and has done (thanks Dean Bolton!).

**Katy Carrigan '14 (Spencer At-Large Rep.)** began by stating that there have been a lot of items stolen this year. Has there been an increase? **Steve:** Looking at stats, they are relatively constant year to year. Most of crime is burglary or thefts and more are preventable if people keep stuff in their rooms and lock them. He added that most thefts are preventable; students need to get educated. There has been a lot less damage as well. **Sarah** stated that, regarding electronics, Campus Safety (CS) works closely to track electronics that remain on campus via Wi-Fi mode. **Steve** added that students also use Tip Line a lot more now. That's how they caught the people breaking into Dodd.

**April Jenkins '14 (Treasurer)** as if there was a way to publicize successes of security? **Krista** responded that this would be a great task for the Student Safety and Security Committee. **Kate Flanagan '14 (Community and Diversity Rep.)** asked a similar question, but instead, focused on student safety as a whole. **Dean Bolton** stated that there is a system in place for texts to students, email, phone calls, etc. so all cell phones know. It requires that student cell phones go into PeopleSoft so that security has that. They will work on reminding students to update information periodically.

**Max Heninger '14 (Currier At-Large Rep.)** asked the following question: A big issue we're talking about is ACE's funding for next year and whether or not we want to fund a homecoming concert. We learned that other schools are able to do it without it being such a huge impact on student budgets. Under what circumstances is administration willing to help CC? **Steve** responded that they'd be willing to help only if he got to choose the band! On a more serious note, he stated that it is hard to respond now. What they'd have to do is look at a business plan before discussing the feasibility of this. He also added that it is interesting to hear this come up because he is under the impression that big concerts aren't drawing in as many people as is.

Other questions include:

- How will Sawyer space be used after the demolition? More greenery on campus!
- What is the policy for transporting students to NARH? Security will do it if they have officers that are free to do so. They will look at the policy and inform the student body at a later date.
- Policy for reporting drunk friends? Do it! Unless you're obviously breaking the law in front of security, call them when in doubt! It's better to be safe than sorry!
- Parking policy on campus during off-time hours? An issue the Student Safety Committee can tackle!

- What is in store for Weston? Unsure yet. They are looking at long term plans for all buildings and are conducting a lot of studies to come up with a plan for the future Williams College.
- How can students get more involved There are many committees that students can be part of to become involved!

**Krista** thanked them for coming. (Make sure you come back to CC!)

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Finally, without too much trouble, I walked on over to the wall for a JA Date! So excited to potentially meet my future CO...