

COLLEGE COUNCIL MINUTES

May 2, 2012
Hopkins Hall

CALL TO ORDER 7:00 PM

ROLL CALL

Peter Skipper '13 (Co-President) began tonight's two-hour long meeting by welcoming everyone to Council. **Krista Pickett '13 (Co-President)** introduced the two proxies present: **Sandy LaTourrette '14** and **Harry Gilbert '14**. **Rani Mukherjee '15 (Dennett House Rep.)** was a no-show to the first vote. Get here on time next time!

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS (4 min)

***Krista Pickett '13 (Co-President)** announced that **Long Dang '15**, representative of recently approved Men for Consent, is looking for board members to join their board! All girls and guys are welcome and should submit a self-nom by Sunday night.*

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (1 min.)

*Approval of Minutes for **April 22, 2012**.*

***Motion:** Julia Hoch '15 (Armstrong House Rep.)*

***Second:** Emily Dzieciatko '15 (Sage Hall Rep.)*

***Vote:** 19-0-0*

III. OPINIONS@WSO (5 min.)

Presentation of student submitted opinions for the week!

There were three opinions for the week! They are attached below.

IV. BUDGETS (10 min.)

***Motion to Approve General Funding Slate:** Ali Magruder '15 (Mills Hall Rep.)*

***Second:** Nicole Chen '15 (Pratt House Rep.)*

***Vote:** 12-0-7 (Finance Committee members recused themselves)*

***Motion to Approve Co-Sponsorship Slate:** Henry Bergman '15 (Williams Hall Rep.)*

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

Vote:

*At this time, **Kate Flanagan '14 (Community and Diversity Rep.)** motioned to vote line by line. This was seconded by **Caroline Miller '14 (Currier At-Large Rep.)**.*

Men for Consent: 11-0-8 (Finance Committee and **Harry Gilbert '14** abstained)
Aristocows: 11-0-8 (Finance Committee and Harry Gilbert '14 abstained)

Motion to Approve Nationals Fund Recommendation: Ali Magruder '15 (Mills Hall Rep)
Second: Henry Bergman '15 (Williams Hall Rep.)
Vote: 11-0-8 (Finance Committee and Harry Gilbert '14 abstained)

V. DEBIT CARD FUNCTION ON ID CARDS (5 min.)

Presentation of a project that **Max Heninger '14** has been working on, looking at the possibility of integrating our student IDs with a debit card that can be used not only on Spring Street, but anywhere debit cards are accepted. Think of questions you may want to ask and ideas you may have for this proposal.

Max Heninger '14 (Currier At-Large Rep.) presented an item he has been working on this semester. He spoke about getting a debit card function onto our student IDs that may be used at all locations that accept debit cards. The idea for this came out of demand for it. He also mentioned that there are no costs to the school and that the company doesn't normally do this for small schools, but is willing to do so for Williams. Another benefit of this is the fame of the bank that will be doing this. Since many students are not from the northeast and therefore, don't have access to TD Bank or Williamstown Savings Bank, it makes sense to give them this option with a nationally known bank so that students can access funds from home. The President would have final approval and may do so by the 2013-2014 school year. That is the time line.

The following questions and answers were presented:

- Where would one deposit and withdraw cash? They might potentially install an ATM onto campus, though depositing might be an issue. Direct deposit is still an option, though.
- Would using this feature require students to open a new checking account? Yes.
- What bank will be used? As of right now, either Wells Fargo or US Bank.
- Do peer institutions have this? Yes, but mainly the large universities.
- What happens after graduation? Account would automatically transfer over.
- Is this competing with banks on Spring Street? No, it might help bring more business to them.
- Incentive for students? All cards on one card.
- What happens if it gets lost? Working on details like that currently.

VI. COMPOSITION OF COLLEGE COUNCIL (65 min.)

Presentation of a proposal by with regards to the composition of College Council. What does Council want CC to look like? Should this plan proceed? Should new plans be presented? These are just some ideas that you should be thinking about when preparing

for this discussion. Come with more ideas and suggestions to ensure everyone's voice is heard.

Peter Skipper '13 (Co-President) presented the proposed changes to the composition of College Council. He went through each individual section and allowed Council to debate on each item.

Unless the items presented were motions or garnered a lot of debate in College Council, this agenda item will be summed up to simply include questions and answers presented with no name attached.

Section One: Class Representatives

- Who gets year long position? Person with most votes
- What happens with students who go abroad, but got most votes? They have to opt out.
- When would year long reps get elected? In the spring time.
- How are freshman elected? In the fall, per house. In the spring, at-large.

Section Two: Executive Committee Structure

- Two options: an executive committee comprised of the Co-Presidents (or President and Vice President), Secretary, Treasurer, Community and Diversity Rep., and four class officers OR Co-Presidents (or President and Vice President), Secretary, Treasurer, and four VPs.
 - There is also a slight difference between section two and Section Two (a). Section Two (a) would require each of the Vice Presidents to have standing committees.

Kate Flanagan '14 (Community and Diversity Rep.) clarified the differences between the different models. Model 2(a) institutionalizes model 2. There is little difference between 2 and 2(a). In terms of what these positions are, the VP for Community and Diversity Rep. does what the rep currently does. VP for Student Life addresses non academic issues of student life. Student Orgs. does what Kate currently does. Idea behind that is that there is an institutional, symbolic, and concrete commitment to clubs. And VP for academic affairs addresses all issues of academic life. Provides a student point person to liaise between different offices on campus. In this model, class reps would not serve on the executive committee. Kate also emphasized the importance of these proposed changes. By changing this structure, it gives more students the chance to be on College Council.

The following ideas were proposed:

- Class reps in the VP model? Would not serve on the executive board.
- Would people feel boxed in with specialized role? No, it would just be a little more structured.
- How often would committees meet? Up to chair. Would meet at ad-hoc basis.

- Can someone be year-long, but not on the executive board? We can't make it too insular, but open for discussion.
- How would these committees interact with the other College Council committees? The Vice Presidents will oversee the other committees. When the VP and/or Council is working on a specific issue, they can communicate directly with the VPs.

Benjamin Augenbraun '15 (Class of 2015 Rep.) added that Council need not have VPs with specific focuses because that may add one position lobbyists onto Council.

With regards to committees, **Peter** reminded Council that the bylaws dictate that all committee chairs are required to remain in contact with College Council. Per our bylaws, they are required to submit to Council an update as to their committee activities.

Rani Mukherjee '14 (Dennett House Rep.) added that changing Council will allow to shift the age group as well. The more experienced people, although not exclusively for them, will be allowed to serve as VPs and give more students more leadership roles within Council.

Jack Fitzhenry '12 (SAAC Liaison) added that it is important for Council to interact with Council and for other groups (MinCo, JAAB, SAAC, etc.) to ensure there is communication with all the groups. He asked how Council envisions the vice presidential model working with them.

Section Three: Finance Positions

The biggest argument presented here was whether or not an assistant to the treasurer-type of person would or would not have a vote in Council. There were many different perspectives presented. There were also many different perspectives with regards to whether or not this position would be an appointed position to Council or an elected position by the student body. Many different members of Council presented different options. Lastly, Council was split with regards to whether or not this person should have a vote.

April Jenkins '14 (Treasurer) presented the importance of having an assistant that has a lot more responsibility to assist with the daily doings of the treasurer. She also advocated for a person who deals with bookkeeping so that the treasurer would have more time to work on Council policy, including but not limited to the rollover fund, endowment fund, etc.

At this point, **Peter** called the following straw polls:

Council was largely in favor of an assistant to the treasurer elected by the student body with the power to vote in Council..

Council was largely in favor of a vice presidential model who are required to have standing committees and more oversight over committee chairs.

VII. ADAM FALK PRESENTATION (30 min.)

Presentation by President Adam Falk! Come prepared to ask tough (!) questions to our Commander in Chief about any issue you believe is important! Take advantage of this great opportunity to ask him questions and listen to the projects he is currently working on!

Krista Pickett '13 (Co-President) presented President Falk to Council. It is tradition for the president to attend a Council meeting each semester in order to maintain communication with him! **President Falk** answered questions that Council members presented:

- Priorities this year/mission for Williams: Continuing to build the community, especially in light of the recent hate crimes on campus. It is his goal to have students come to and leave Williams with more knowledge not just about academics but about interacting with and dealing with all sorts of people and ideas. (He also made a reference to the discussions on WSO. HAHHAHAHA, funny.)
- How do you engage students who are not engaged? The students themselves need to get their own peers involved. Additionally, every method of communication needs to be exhausted (#occupyWSO).
- What is the future for the entry system? Entries are fascinating because they are one of the great potential tools of change on campus. That being said, they need to be utilized further to continue teaching students about Williams life and properly introduce them to Williams.
- Young alumni on the Board of Trustees? Will present it to the Board to see what they say

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

And now...I GET TO GO TO SLEEP!

Opinions

- There needs to be laundry in Hubbell! CC does great things; can it fix this?
- Is there a way to find out where the assessed for fines goes and whether or not it is being spent back on students?
- Is there a possibility of getting soup in a to-go cup at Grab-N-Go?