



## COLLEGE COUNCIL MINUTES

March 7, 2012  
Hopkins Hall

Can You Solve This? "32 is the DF at which WF"? Apparently most of CC can't...

CALL TO ORDER 7:30 PM

### ROLL CALL

**Krista Pickett '13 (Co-President)** started off the meeting by introducing the proxies for the evening. **Zach Evans '12 (Community and Diversity Rep.)** and **Brandon Abasolo '13 (Wood Board.)** were present. She also congratulated the new JAs for the Class of 2016 (**Adrian Castro '14 (Secretary)** and **Emily Calkins '14 (Class of 2014 Rep.)** and **Ben Shuham '14 (Dodd At-Large Rep)** for getting accepted to Oxford University (WEPO).

#### I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (2 min)

*Approve the College Council minutes for **February 29, 2012***

**Motion:** Ali Magruder '15(Mills Rep.)

**Second:** Emily Calkins '14 (Class of 2014 Rep.)

**Vote:** Unanimous

#### II. FUNDING REQUESTS (3 min)

*Approval of Finance Committee budget recommendations for the week.*

**April Jenkins '14 (Treasurer)** presented the funding requests for Combo Za and ACE (Kap Slap). **Henry Bergman '15 (Willy Rep.)** asked about the relationship between ACE and Security for their event (Security stated they would allow ACE to plan a party that went further into the night if they used Greylock). **Katy Carrigan '14 (Spencer At-Large Rep.)** responded that Security wants ACE to utilize Greylock (because it is more suitable to accommodate masses of drunk kids who love pushing each other to get into buildings ←problem with Hoodrich). In order to push this, they are willing to be on campus longer to avoid the dangerous mob. **Julia Hoch '15 (Armstrong Rep.)** also responded and stated that this was a one time offer. **Katy** also said that there will hopefully be an opener so Kap Slap may not even start until midnight, which should assist with the party scene.

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

**Second:** Emily Calkins '14 (Class of 2014 Rep.)

**Vote:** Unanimous



## **SOCIAL SCENE (15 min)**

Look at the Williams social scene and discuss how Council can address these shortcomings.

**Krista Pickett '13 (Co-President)** opened the conversation by reiterating that College Council is NOT a programming body and that this conversation arose from the fact that since Council represents students and students are commonly complaining about the lack of diversity of events on campus, CC can hopefully help student groups with the social scene in some way. She stated that she plans on creating a taskforce to look at the shortcomings of the social scene to look at how to proactively address them. She asked Council who they believed should sit on this committee. **Peter Skipper '13 (Co-President)** stated that they want students to talk about their personal experiences as well to look at the best way to proceed forward.

**Zach Evans '12 (Community and Diversity Rep. (proxy))** asked what their specific directive would be. **Peter** responded that the task force would come in two stages: 1. To recognize the shortcomings (mostly around communication) and 2. A committee that meets weekly to talk about the social calendar and ensure that there aren't too many or no events. **Benjamin Augenbraun '15 (Class of 2015 Rep.)** asked if there is anything now to assist students in letting them know when weekends are not available for programming. **Krista** stated that there is an integrated calendar on Williams homepage that isn't utilized.

**Rani Mukherjee '15 (Dennett Rep.)** stated that ACE is looking into this type of thing as well. They want to change ACE into something more like an umbrella organization to include people from the neighborhoods, Minco, etc. **Caroline Miller '14 (Currier Board Rep.)** stated that the problem with scheduling is that people don't know about events until they are set in stone. She is in favor of groups talking weekly to get the word out to change plans ahead of time in an effort to increase communication about events. **Emily Dzieciatko '15 (Sage Hall Rep.)** stated that the College Council Communications Team will have a role in this in terms of advertising the online calendar. She stated she wants a sort of private calendar only available to students to post all parties, not just school registered parties. **Krista** stated she was looking more at advertising the calendar for registered parties.

**Ali Magruder '15 (Mills Hall Rep.)** stated that the task force committee will be helpful, but even just to get a listserv together to let everyone know ahead of time will be helpful. Setting up a Facebook page for students will also help. **Max Heninger '14 (Currier At-Large Rep.)** agreed. agreed and believes it'll be beneficial to get everyone together. He also wants to create a Google Doc so that students can see clearly what's going on. **Katy Carrigan '14 (Spencer At-Large Rep.)** likes the idea of the taskforce to encourage co-sponsorship. She also stated that creating a private calendar would not "fly" with administrators. **Peter** responded that it is up to the taskforce to come up with the communication method in the end.



**Krista** asked Council who they believed should sit on this taskforce. The following is a list without names attached:

- Neighborhoods
- ACE
- Someone from the Office of Student Life
- Black Student Union and other similar groups known for throwing parties
- Frosh Council
- Minco Representative/Intern from the Multicultural Center
- Someone associated with Chaplin's Office
- Men from Consent
- RASAN
- All performance groups (acappella, theater, etc.)
- Social Calendar (Krista's former baby that she gave up!)

**Stefan Lainovic '14 (Dodd At-Large Rep.)** stated that he believed people already checked online for events, so he didn't understand the purpose of this task force since the main issue seems to be unregistered parties, which we can't control. **Peter** responded that while there are many events at times, there are also nights when there are no parties at all. **Henry Bergman '15 (Willy Rep.)** asked if there was an umbrella organization for sports teams. He stated he remembered that at the beginning of the year, sports teams had parties. **Krista** stated that SAAC is the umbrella organization.

**Emily Calkins '14 (Class of 2014 Rep.)** stated that she was worried that the people who usually plan these events are the people who are usually spread too thin and making them attend these weekly meetings might make it harder on them. **Krista** responded that they envision these meetings last for roughly an hour at first, but once the taskforce gets adjusted, they'll be able to set their own timing. She stated students have constantly asked her for this type of taskforce.

#### **IV. EPHCAPELLA (15 min)**

*Discuss the current issue with the Music Department and Acappella groups and discuss what Council can do to support EphCapella.*

**Krista Pickett '13 (Co-President)** began the discussion by informing College Council that currently, the Music Department does not allow acappella groups practice in the buildings overseen by the department. She also mentioned that since these groups are CC groups, we should look at ways to advocate for them. Krista continued by introducing two guests for this discussion: **Greg Kaskan '12, Springstreeters** and **Megan Behrend '12, EphCapella President**. **Megan** began by stating that Ephcapella helps ease the processes of all acappella groups on campus (in terms of performance planning, room scheduling, etc.). Because this policy is new this year, **Krista** asked Megan to talk about her progress on this issue thus far.



**Megan** began by stating that she made a lot of attempts via email to contact and set a meeting time with Professor Bloxam, Chair of the Music Department, who was the person who kicked out the groups from their facilities. She also stated that the chair is good at responding to emails, but always gets around the issue at hand. Megan also stated that she emailed Dean Bolton, but has received no response thus far.

Initially, Professor Bloxam asked Megan to wait to have this conversation until the completion of Chapin Hall. Now, however, she says that because of a certain amount of disrespect shown to the facilities, she is tabling the discussion and not allowing the groups to use the facilities.

**Greg** reiterated that the department told the initially told the acappella groups that the reason they weren't allowed in was because of the construction. **Megan** added that when they asked if this was in response to issues with the different acappella groups, Professor Bloxam responded that it wasn't mostly punitive. Recently, though, the email they received stated that it was mostly punitive. Megan also explained that when the professor talked to Ben Lamb, she wrote that the acappella groups were a burden to the department due to the over 500 students and faculty that use the facilities

**Peter Skipper '13 (Co-President)** asked what they were trying to get out of the discussions. **Megan** stated that at their most recent meeting, they agreed that they simply want the privilege to use the facilities to practice and perform again. She stated they understand the concerns about how the spaces have been used in the past and are willing to talk about accountability. **Greg** added that the important first step is to allow for this first conversation to occur. The second step is to think about how to move forward.

**Katy Carrigan '14 (Spencer At-Large Rep.)** asked about the possibility of College Council emailing the Chair of the department to possibly invite them to a meeting (and secretly invite Megan!). **Peter** mentioned that this has been an issue that has been presented to Dean Bolton and Steve Klass. There has been a lack of clear conversation on this issue and it's at the point where, while Dean Bolton and Steve Klass listen, they don't know where to take this. He also stated that despite this, CC needs the administrators to vouch for the students. College Council, however, can make a clear statement about what we expect and could pass this as a resolution to show our priorities since we do spend a big portion of our budget on these groups.

**Emily Calkins '14 (Class of 2014 Rep.)** stated that it might be productive to not only remind the music department that this issue is a priority, but it is also important for the entire school. People get stoked about acappella groups and many want to be in one. She asked what Council's history was in terms of supporting student petitions. **Krista** stated that in the past, they have taken the form of resolutions and then other students signed on and supported them. An example of this is the resolution for the



dance studio in Goodrich. She also stated that it has been a consistent fight to get it open for non-dance groups, but easier with other groups signing on.

**Caroline Miller '14 (Currier Board Rep.)** are if there are any statistics about how many people go to acappella concerts at non-music owned buildings (like Currier Ballroom) to look at the possible security concerns from the amount of people who attend. **Ali Magruder '15 (Mills Rep.)** asked if there was any way of looking at the capacity in Chapin and the number of students being kicked out from performances elsewhere. **Max Heninger '14 (Currier At-Large Rep.)** asked if anyone has had the chance to talk to the Music Department about this from CC. **Megan** stated that there has been a conversation in the fall that wasn't productive and then a recent conversation with Dean Bolton. **Francesca Barrett '12 (Former CC President)** stated that there was a conversation with Professor Bloxam where they also stated that this conversation was useless in the Fall because of the construction. She also mentioned that it wasn't productive to talk to her in the Fall because she wasn't willing to look at or talk about the future at all. **Zach Evans '12 (Community and Diversity Rep. (proxy))** stated that because this could be simply punitive, it is important to look at all the issues, take responsibility, and look at ways to circumvent this. **Benjamin Fischberg '14 (Wood At-Large Rep.)** asked if there was merit in acappella destroying music property. He also asked if acappella groups take space away from other groups. **Megan** stated that there was one incident last year where two acappella groups left a mess after a concert in Brooks-Rogers. These groups, however, met with Professor Bloxam and left thinking it was very productive. Other claims made against the acappella groups have been loosely founded, though. **Greg** added that aside from those two groups, no other groups have been informed about any misuse of equipment. He also stated that as of right now, there is no Code of Conduct for using the equipment. Lastly, if they simply allotted the groups a certain amount of time, they'd be able to schedule themselves around it; the burden would be on them. **Megan** added that currently, you could walk by the music rooms at 9PM and see the place completely dark. No one uses them and it wouldn't be more strenuous for the departmental groups.

**Brian McGrail '14 (Spencer Board Rep.)** added that it'd be productive to construct a resolution for next week's meeting. That way, the department cannot run out the clock. **Peter** responded that the problem with a resolution, however, is that spring break is coming up. Passing one next week might cause it to fall through the cracks. He did state, however, that he and **Krista** are meeting with Dean Bolton soon so they could talk directly to her about this issue. **Francesca** added that it was successful last year when she and Nick would have discussions with OSL, Security, and other departments that advocated on behalf of students. This would allow all sides to answer questions that may arise. She also mentioned that this kind of plan of action was useful. **Krista** and **Peter** called a straw poll to see whether or not Council was in favor of them talking to Dean Bolton prior to moving forward in Council. Council unanimously vote in favor of this approach.



**CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND (30 min)**

*Review the Capital Investment Fund and discuss whether or not Council wants to change the way it currently functions.*

*Please refer to Resolution 7 under the 2010-11 Council for a copy of the resolution that was discussed.*

**Krista Pickett '13 (Co-President)** introduced the guests for this conversation: **Francesca Barrett (Former Co-President and Treasurer)**, **Josh Revkin '13 (Treasurer)**, and **Sara Clark '15 ('12-'13 Treasurer)**.

**Peter Skipper '13 (Co-President)** began the conversation by stating that this conversation arose because the Sailing Team asked Council to consider removing the current two year waiting period stipulated in the resolution to allow them to possibly receive more funding for their boats. He stated that the idea of the CIF is to take a portion of the rollover from every fiscal year to then add to this fund for groups. WOC, for example, has an agreement whereby CC puts aside \$1,000 every year for them, which allows them to purchase a new van every ten years. This current process (of waiting 2 years) incentivizes groups to plan ahead and also helps CC ensure it doesn't drain rollover in any given year. It also doesn't mean Council has more money than it does; it's just a transfer of funds. **Krista** mentioned that this was an item brought up during the CC retreat at the beginning of the year and we want to ensure we look at a long term plan for rollover

At this point, **Francesca Barrett (Former CC Treasurer)** began by informing the Council that she was the person who created the fund during her time as CC Treasurer. She added that another reason why she added the two year provision was so that groups had time to fundraise for their item(s) prior to receiving Council money. This helped ensure that all groups worked for their money as well.

**Zach Evans '12 (Community and Diversity Rep. (proxy))** asked why we were considering changing this policy when it has been around for less than two years. He stated he believed that we needed to give it more time before we considered its flaws and change it. **Krista** responded that we hadn't considered whether it was working or now, but it was a concern raised (Sailing Team) that they wanted to examine. **Ali Magruder '15 (Mills Hall Rep.)** asked about the two year period and whether or not it was possible to bypass this case by case. **Francesca** responded that the two year waiting period (which could be more than two years) gives groups time to think things through and set a plan of action. In terms of sailing, they needed boats for a long time, but only received them two Councils ago. She wanted to reiterate that Sailing has not been kept in the dark anymore. **Krista** added that this fund was created so that this wouldn't happen again. It is a committee by Council to clubs and future Councils to honor such requests, despite any changes in administration.



**Max Heninger '14 (Currier At-Large Rep.)** stated that we should change the CIF to allow it to renew for groups like WOC. **April** stated that that is the goal of the fund. The goal is not for all purchases, but for those which last longer than 5 years. **Emily Calkins '14 (Class of 2014 Rep.)** agreed with Zach and stated that the fund is still in its infancy. **Brian McGrail '14 (Spencer Board Rep.)** stated that Council need not worry about precedent and instead, focus on Sailing at the moment.

**Josh** stated that Sailing supports the two year guidelines. He also mentioned that they want another set of boats to complete their fleet so that they could host tournaments at home. **April** clarified the way the fund currently serves the sailing team. As it stands, the Sailing team is set to receive \$10,500 from this years SAT and next years. They will receive their funding during the 2013 fiscal next (July 2012).

**Francesca** directly responded to Brian and stated that it is unwise to consider spending more from rollover before this Council looks at what they want to do with it. She believes this discussion should be tabled until the formerly mentioned discussion occurs. She also stated that she was happy that sailing got CIF, but it is unfair to other students on campus to allot them anymore money this year. It sets a bad incentive system.

**Emily Dzeiciatko '15 (Sage Hall Rep.)** asked how many people were on the sailing team. **Josh** stated there are 20 regular members, on top of the students who attend their open sail program. **Ben Shuham '14 (Dodd At-Large Rep.)** stated that he believes only a few groups on campus will take advantage of this CIF and therefore, it was basically written for sailing. He also agreed with Francesca and her idea to invest it. **Krista** replied that this fund was NOT created specifically for sailing, but it was created in response to an issue with them. **April** stated that the initially, Rachel Hudson, CC Treasurer '09-'10, proposed a sort CIF for groups during her time for WOC. Following that, Francesca created the CIF because of sailings' situation. The CIF, though, was Rachel's baby

**Henry Bergman '15 (Willy Hall Rep.)** asked if Sailing could host regattas without these new boats. **Josh** said no. **Peter** asked how many boats were functional. **Josh** staid that only a few on some days. Last year, a boat sank and the problem with this is that many times, the water is extremely cold and conducive to hypothermia.

**Benjamin Fischberg '14 (Wood At-Large Rep.)** said that he is worried about creating entitlement programs on campus. He believes we need to avoid this because it could put us in a bad position. He asked if money was put into the fund in general or because of requests. **April** stated it's per group requests. **Francesca** added that when a CIF ends, groups have to re-apply for another CIF



**Wen Han '13 (Class of 2013 Rep.)** asked what last Council did with this discussion.

**Francesca** stated that last Council approved of the CIF for sailing.

**Josh** also mentioned the cost of boats and the possibility of the cost rising if we don't pay for the boats now. **Francesca** responded that she hopes CC will come up with a plan of action for the rollover to account for inflation.

**Peter** called for a straw poll. **Ali** immediately asked for a Point of Information and asked what the straw poll would mean in terms of the way CIF currently works. **Ben Shuham '14 (Dodd At-Large Rep.)** also asked for a Point of Information and asked if he could amend the vote to exclude Sailing and allow them to receive funding immediately instead of after the two years. **Peter** answered that the only way for this to happen is to re-write the resolution. We cannot overrule a resolution or bylaw unless it specifically states we could.

**Krista** responded to an earlier concern about the importance of precedent. She stated their goal is simply to create a sustainable way to purchase these large capital goods. This hasn't been done in the past.

**Schuyler Hall '10 (Student Centers Coordinator)** asked why Council was focusing on a resolution and not a bylaw. He stated this will force CC to have a better discussion on the addition of the bylaw versus the resolution. He asked why this hasn't been written in yet. **Peter** responded that in the bylaws, this is mentioned, but not clarified. He also stated that technically, a resolution, like a bylaw, must be followed and is only different in that it is amendment with a different percentage of Council. He then called the two straw polls:

1. Those in favor of keeping the CIF structure the way it currently is (no change):  
12 students were in favor
2. Those in favor of bringing this issue up again after we talk about rollover:  
10 students in favor

**Peter** thanked the members of the sailing team for coming and stated that Council will continue working on this in the coming weeks.

## VI. **DINING UPDATES (20 min)**

Presentation by Chris Abayasinghe and Bob Volpi from Dining Services to discuss current issues, upcoming attractions, and get a chance to ask questions about dining.

**Krista** welcome Chris and Bob from Dining Services. Bob is the Director of Dining Services and Chris is the Assistant Director. **Peter** mentioned that Chris and Bob are some of CC's oldest friends and stated that we are lucky to have people like them (great resources and strong advocates





**Bob** started off by thanking the Record for a recent Letter to the Editor (“Letter to the Editor: Thanking Dining Services for Exceptional Work,” March 7, 2012). He stated that they wanted to talk to College Council because of several concerns that were brought up in the Food Committee. He also stated that aside from Dining, they are responsible for overseeing the laundry system and vending machines on campus.

**Chris** thanks Peter and Krista for inviting them to Council. He also reminded Council that the friendship is “old” in terms of longevity and not age (haha). [as a side note, Peter will no longer be receiving Christmas gifts from them. Sorry Peter!]. He added on that Dining also oversee mail services and told Council that they brought a surprise for everyone.

**Emily Dzieciatko ’15 (Sage Hall Rep.)** asked what happens to the compost after we throw away our left over food. **Bob** started off by saying that they started off the semester going to Dalton, Mass, a local farm called Holiday Farm. The College believed that it was best to compost with local farms, but not centralized here in Williamstown. Because of some issues with weather and other composting issues, they decided to switch over to Caretaker Farm, located in Williamstown. They, however, have strict guidelines (no silverware, for example) and as a result, stated that CC could help by informing students about the importance of not composting these items.

**Chris** added that their relationship with Caretaker is very important to them. Currently, they not only compost with them, but buy items from them as well. As a result, the cycle from start to finish is essential. There were some logistical problems initially, but they have been worked out.

**Peter** asked if they could clarify the role of the Food Committee. **Krista** asked if they could name students on it. **Chris** stated that the Food Committee is appointed by College Council and it serves as an advisory board to the management team and the culinarians. **Bob** added that they meet monthly and go from dining hall to dining hall. With the implementation of the committee, he said it was essential during the reconstruction phase pre-closing of Greylock Dining Hall and Dodd Dining Hall. He also added that there are 12 students on the committee.

**Max Heninger ’14 (Currier At-Large Rep.)** asked if they planned on institutionalizing Meatless Mondays? **Bob** responded that this was a large topic in the food committee meetings. When the committee voted on the issue, it resulted in a tie (mainly because institutionalizing it would’ve included Lee Snack Bar. I don’t know about you, but I want my Cheeseburgers and other items with meat!!). When they looked at the expansion of the program, they faced a divided committee. **Chris** added that they looked at the models at sister institutions and learned that the decision he and **Bob** made at Williams was the best. Not only does Meatless



Monday's help boost the purchasing of local produce, but it also has enough demand to continue it. **Krista** also stated that the menus for this came to CC.

**Adrian Castro '14 (Secretary)** asked about the beverage options at Grab-N-Go and the feasibility of adding healthier drinking options (this was an opinion submitted by a student on campus! Keep sending them our way!). **Chris** responded that they will look at alternative options, but do not want to increase the amount of plastic on campus (don't want to simply add water bottles to their stock). **Henry** asked about the possibility of getting boxed water, in a compostable cardboard box. **Chris** said they will think about this and other solutions.

Dining services will be hosting a campus wide competition to see who can design the best logo for this newest gelato flavor coming out in the coming weeks. The winning student will be able to see their logo all around campus!!! More information on the specifics coming on soon!

**Peter** thanked them for coming. Prior to the end of the meeting, Dining passed out several samples of the first ever Purple Cow Gelato. This gelato was made from student recommendations, including an idea from Krista and Peter's platform, to create this since Lickety Split was taken from campus (RIP). This is the first Purple Cow Gelato ever created.

Thank you so much Dining Services; you guys rock!

**VII. OPEN TIME (3 min)**

**VIII. OPINIONS@WSO (1 min)**

No opinions this week! Send them in to [opinions@wso.williams.edu](mailto:opinions@wso.williams.edu)

**IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS (1 min)**

**Peter** reminded Council that in order to get in touch with administrators or other important people on campus (specifically for committee assignments), they should simply email them. They are open to emails at times and are willing to work with students. He reminded Council to be courteous and to use proper email etiquette. **Peter** also announced that we are in the process of creating a budget to renovate the Student Activities Resource Center. They are currently working with OSL to get new computers, a photocopier, and making it a space to make it easier for students to work in. This will hopefully start during Spring Break and will be an assignment for the Great Ideas Committee. **Krista** also announced that the second "You Are Not Alone" will be Thursday night at 8:30PM.

**X. ADJOURNMENT: 9:02 PM**



**Attendance:** (Remember, two consecutive/three absences per term results in an expulsion from Council. Send me your proxy info!)

(ex) Nicole Chen '15 (Pratt House Rep.) was absent (and very sick ☹). Hope you get better!! See you next week.

And with that, I can finally stop typing and start eating this delicious purple blueberry/blackberry flavored glob of euphoria, sponsored by Dining. Until next time!

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Adrian Castro '14**  
**CC Secretary**