



COLLEGE COUNCIL MINUTES

Hopkins 001
January 19, 2015

Meeting called to order: 7:37 PM

I. Introductions + Approval of the Minutes

Absences:

Proxies/Guests:

Alex for Grant
Conrad for Annika
Josemaria for Michael
Brandon for Katherine
Neena: guest from the Record

Motion to approve the minutes from last week: *Michelle*

Second: Ashish

Result: 20-0-0

II. Budgets (and a Funding Bylaw Discussion)

Alyssa: The film club isn't an official organization, but they're taking a field trip and requested materials for a retreat to the WOC Cabin to discuss club mission and the possibility of a short film. They requested \$120 and we approved in full.

Motion to approve the budget from week: *Michelle*

Second: Alyssa

Result: 20-0-0

III. Dean Topp

Dean Topp: I'm Dean Topp, I just relocated from South Carolina and I'm the new assistant dean of the college. The idea in me coming was less that I'd take over any position and more that—with my 15 years of higher education experience—I could come in and see what Williams needs. That ended up being me addressing the so-called "sophomore slump" where you don't have as many goals or specific pursuits as in upperclassmen years. So, we're creating a sophomore year experience which is a full year of programmatic planning that can hopefully continue some of the support of freshman year. I also want to take a look at contract majors.

Ashish: Are you reformatting contract majors so they can be incorporated into double majors?

Dean Topp: I haven't had that expressed to me before, but I'd love to work with that and see what we can do to best serve student interests. So with regard to combating the sophomore slump, we're going to take a look at career center options, helping students find a major, finding internships with faculty, and helping people transition into healthy alcohol consumption as



Seniors. So I'm here to discuss and really reach out to you to see what sort of interests we can serve.

Michelle: Can you talk a little bit about what that programming would look like?

Dean Topp: We're hoping for a retreat to address concerns and build affinities. We'll be doing monthly "M&M" (munch and mingle) events to replace "sophomorientation." In addition, we'd be interested in sophomore symposiums or sophomore launches. Strength-finding activities to assist with job searches and major identifications, too. That's why I'm here to reach out to see what other ideas or questions you might have.

Alyssa: Is this targeting this year's sophomores too?

Dean Topp: The full program will likely be geared toward 2019, but of course I'm more than happy to help current sophomores if they want to have a part in a similar program or want some assistance. You can drop by during my office hours listed on my website

IV. Ben Lamb

The meeting with Ben Lamb was pushed to the following week (meeting of January 26).

VI. SOC

Web: We have WAC (acronym would change with video/topic), a provocative but not-too-offensive political or socially satirical video sketch comedy series. SOC unanimously approved this group as OSL and WAC saw themselves as best operating as two separate entities.

Motion to approve WAC: *Allegra*

Second: Josemaria

Result: 20-0-0

Web: Next, Ephboiz. They're breakdancers and are essentially a continuation from a winter study course that some people really enjoyed. They have a faculty advisor and got approval from Ben Lamb as for their rehearsal space. They'll be an open group, and safety concerns have been OK'd.

Motion to approve the budget from week: *Allegra*

Second: Michelle

Result: 19-0-1

Web: Next, Film Club. They've been operating unofficially for a year and a half and wanted some CC funds and wanted to maybe film a short film or expand screenings. SOC approved unanimously.

Motion to approve the budget from week: *Allegra*

Second: Elizabeth

Result: 19-0-1



Web: Next, League of Legends Club. We thought it was too niche but there's 30 regular members and it was deemed separate from other gaming groups.

Motion to approve the budget from week: *Elizabeth*

Second: Allegra

Result: 19-0-1

VI. Student Leadership

Elizabeth: Not too much news here, but just a reminder that we'll be having a forum on Thursday to educate regarding the Sunday event with the board of trustees. Hopefully that will help guide and inform as to the Saturday event's direction.

Marcus: This event on Saturday is really the first with just students there, so it's a really big first example as to what we can do on our own or how we can handle ourselves with the conversation. The Board really wants to hear about the student experience—it's not about divestment, for example, or a time to attack the board. It's a time to talk about student experience. People want greater access to the board, so we should really be able to have a conversation directly with them.

Tobias: How will this really translate to the board of trustees?

Marcus: It's moved away from the concrete connection that I had imagined, but, even if it's a smaller group, then that'll build up to Saturday and conversation will begin. If people really show up, that'll be huge.

Michelle: For Saturday, do we have advertising plans?

Elizabeth: I definitely think we should make a Facebook event or advertise. It's for them to see demonstrated interest even more than a negotiating forum.

Ben: Are we going to have guiding questions?

Elizabeth: It might start off with a brief summary of who people are speaking to, but then it'll open up into a bigger dialogue.

Ben: I think we should definitely frame questions positively too.

Tobias: Yes, like asking what we think Williams does well and really guiding discussion that way.

Michael: Maybe we should guide the meeting more on Thursday so then we can really let the discussion roam more freely because we've infused the positive thinking into the Saturday talk.

Elizabeth: Bushra and Penny are also working to get some unifying experiences together for the talk: agreement signs or a unified color t-shirt, for example.



VII. CDC Updates

Elizabeth: We've been doing a lot of focus groups and reaching out to people via surveys on student experience and haven't gotten too much response, but will be continuing

VIII. Fact Sheets

Allegra: Where are we putting these?

Michelle: I was thinking just regular printer paper posters.

Allegra: What if we put it on the napkins holders with dining services? And, it'd be great if we could get a unified aesthetic with the new website.

Ben: We should make sure to also emphasize that CC is the last resort for funding.

Michelle: Actually, they're for different types of funding.

Ava: I think it'd be good just to make general factsheet about how to get in contact with CC.

Alyssa: We could also make this less about just what CC has funded and also about what we do.

Josemaria: Let's incorporate how people can get involved as well as just what CC does on our own.

Tobias: For the listserv sheet, maybe incorporate why people would want to have a listserv.

Michelle: If we're doing another one, what would you guys think of having a document that has FAQs regarding projects that can't be done (i.e. two-ply toilet paper).

Projects:

See project spreadsheet for updates.

Marcus: I know I've been distracted the past couple weeks, but we're gonna stick to project deadlines much more closely.

Alyssa: Should we solicit responses from people who ran unsuccessfully?

Grant: What if we make a list to create a "proxy bank"?

Allegra: We can also keep freshman interested even if they don't win by keeping those people engaged.

Alyssa: Maybe I'll make a new by-law taking deadlines and absences into account.



ZILKHA CENTER UPDATE

Josemaria: We were thinking about creating some sort of environmental fund that would replenish itself over time, anywhere from lightbulb replacements to finding different produce. It'll be funded by its own cost-savings.

Ashish: We should look into this regarding the always-on lights in common rooms and entries.

Ben: Maybe we should publicize the new code of conduct or alcohol policy with the new CC PR campaign?

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 PM