Associated Students of Claremont McKenna College

Executive Board Meeting
September 6th, 2015

Highlights: (Find the matching color within the minutes for more information)

• LA Times Program
• 6:01
• AOD Policy Observations
• Diversity & Inclusion Position

Members present: Cole Mora, Eliana Keinan, Makari Krause, Iris Liu, Mica Laber, Tooba Karim, Kathryn Chakmak, Sharan Seth, Michael Irvine, Caroline Peck, Melissa Muller, Kris Brackmann (via phone), Christine Horne, Ben Turner, Griffin Ferre, Cristina Lee, Nicky Blumm, Russell Salazar, Will Su

Call to Order: 7:01pm

1. Welcome & Minutes
   A. Meeting etiquette: do not be on your laptop unless you are a journalist, taking minutes, or need your laptop for your presentation.
   B. Motion to approve minutes
      i. Change: Navajo theme was a suggestion, not the actual theme of event
      ii. Minutes approved

2. Introductions & Board Updates
   A. Board members introduced themselves, year, and what their position is.
   B. Cole – no update
   C. Eliana – no update
   D. Makari – no update
   E. Iris – line item, one update, Senate is tomorrow night at 9pm, first senate of the year, expecting the most attendance ever! If you haven't already seen, I've reopened applications for student committees; these still need to be filled.
   F. Mica – no update
   G. Tooba – we hope to pass a budget for this year this week
   H. Kathryn – CMC is currently in second for the Passion Planner contest, posted in freshman and senior class Facebook pages, we are currently at 280ish responses, need Russell and Kris to post updates in their pages, and we need to beat UC Davis.
      i. Russell – when was the last rank updates? How many points away?
      ii. Kathryn – 3 days ago, doesn't say
      iii. Will – we will get planners for each person with a CMC ID, up to 20,000 people (if we win).
   I. Sharan – need to get audit committee started
   J. Michael – I worked on the Constitution over the summer, was able to cut it in half. Down to 14 pages.
   K. Caroline – no update
   L. Melissa – we had club leader orientation last Wednesday, club fair on Friday, over 70
clubs/orgs represented, thanks to everyone who helped make it run smoothly! Having club leader speed dating event this week.

M. Kris – if you’re a junior please fill out the survey I sent out, Monte Carlo in the works, meeting with Devon so I’ll have a better update next week.

N. Christine – no update
O. Ben – no update
P. Griffin – no update
Q. Cristina – no update
R. Nicky – almost all of the RA’s have sent me who the dorm presidents are, starting the council to start events and cool stuff

S. Russell – we had 2 events over the weekend, underclassmen mixer on Saturday, sophomore class brunch Sunday. Lot of food, lot of people, a lot of leftover food.

T. Will – no update

3. LA Times Program

A. Looking at paying $650 to get all of CMC students an electronic subscription (news, database, historical archives). Looking at having 2 events on our campus during the year, looking at bringing Pulitzer prize winning journalists to campus. Creates more access into the major city closest to us. They’ve provided a beta site for what it would look like. A link would go to the student body and each student would self-enroll.

B. Kathryn – is there a mobile version of this, too?

C. Will – there’s probably an LA Times app, and you can use the browser

D. Eric - $650 for every student to get a subscription?

E. Will – breakdown is 50 cents per subscription, includes website but also benefits to events and more.

F. Russell – what does access to events mean?

G. Will – we’d probably have to arrange transport through Christine.

H. Makari – do you create an LA Times account?

I. Will – this is a personalized website, and you can also log in with an LA Times account

J. Will – it will be up to the next board to renew the contract for future students. This is for a year.

K. Michael – how often do you read the LA Times? Would you personally benefit from this? I’ve never had an issue with the LA Times pay wall. How much value would this bring to you?

L. Iris – as someone who doesn't read a lot of news and would like to be encouraged to read them more often, this could be a great incentive for people to be more worldly.

M. Makari – A lot of people that already read the news have subscriptions

N. Melissa – I read LA Times a lot, they have good state/government articles

O. Will – on campus events would be an array of speakers, career sessions. Off-campus they host tours, grand openings for arts and culture. Can't speak to specifics, but that’s the general idea.

P. Nicky – could we access as non-affiliates?

Q. Will – no

R. Kathryn – how do we hold them to bringing 2 speakers on campus, what about the quality of speakers?

S. Will – We are at the front end of this negotiations in terms of what they’re doing with other So-Cal campuses, so I’d assume they want good events to use as an example.
T. Russell – have they thought about doing this through one of the research institutes? Like the Rose?

U. Will - $650 for a program like this is not expensive

V. Ben – we've talked about this for all the years I've been on board and more, and I think it's important to provide access besides just our on-campus events to LA and cool opportunities like this. This serves to benefit our exposure to things going on outside the Claremont community.

W. Iris – motion to approve contract

X. Michael – word of caution: we do not have a budget yet. We can make that promise and figure it out, but in my opinion it's a bad idea to make expenditures without an approved budget.

Y. Tabled until we pass a budget in the next few weeks.

4. Event Debrief

A. 6:01

   i. Christine – I meet with Devon on Mondays so don't know what he thought yet. Fencing issues, a lot of people were outside the event for actual 6:01. We had a lot of non-CMCers in north quad and couldn't get inside so it was hard to disperse. Liked having the same Pirate Party footprint. The post-party, by nature of setting it up and having space between the events, we had people at the apartments and BYOB only lasts so long.

   ii. Kathryn – a lot of issues with camp sec and the wristbands, I was being blamed for giving out too many wristbands (when DOS gave them to me), and camp sec wouldn't ask people to leave the balcony so I had to be policing everyone and getting yelled at. A lot of non-CMCers, and people made fake wristbands

   iii. Ben – because there were so many people up there, I wasn't allowed to go up even though I'm an RA. There were things besides champagne up there, there was a glass handle that was dropped. We need to be more conscious of that. Quad side of green needs to be watched as well because people went through suites. Camp sec got there at 5:45

   iv. Ben – when there's that many people up there, it's hard to get people to leave because there's already so many people. Had to identify the people who dropped things, a lot of the RA's were being disrespected and talked back to. There were also pros to it, but it could have been better.

   v. Christine – people were prematurely popping champagne bottles.

   vi. Iris – how and why we had the post game

   vii. Christine – we were approached by Devon around 6:45 saying we could throw a post-game like on Thursday. It's a hard position because either we don't and then the RA's have a hard time, or we could try to put something together last minute. It was more successful than I expected.

   viii. Kathryn – I'm glad we can do this with no restrictions, they're approaching us an hour before it needs to be done, when members of ASCMC are not in a position to go get more resources. If we could have a conversation with DOS about them helping us get more resources, that'd be fairer. Or them telling us that's what they expect beforehand.

   ix. Iris – I'm so wowed by ECs and Steen putting together all of these events, and this is a huge responsibility. Throwing bad parties hurts our branding.
x. Christine – we have set parties for the rest of the semester so I hope this won't be an issue.

xi. Kathryn – threw senior event, people were respectful helping clean up.

xii. Iris – we're adults at the apartments

5. AOD Policy Observations

A. Isabel – if we could communicate to the other 5C's about these policies, that'd be helpful to us as the RA's. The most non-compliant are not CMC students, they're 5C students. A large reason is because they don't understand the gravity of the policies on CMC students if they're not followed. We need to try to get people to buy-in on the idea of the party zone. We need to have students spreading the word that the party zone is a cool place to hang out. For some reason people don't go to ASCMC weekly events, we need to shift that mindset to help the policies.

B. Russell – I hosted a pre-party for 6:01 from 2-4. Having an event at that time of day in the summer is a bad idea because of the sun, doesn't draw people there. Hopefully we can think of something with renovations.

C. Christine – I met with other event heads during dry period before this had been released so I didn't say anything, but I've been messaging them about better ways to communicate to their students.

D. Charlotte – I agree with Isabel with the idea of making ASCMC parties the place to end up, and it would make the evening smoother for everyone in this room. Speaking to upperclassmen, it would help to act like a leader in this kind of time. Don't tell people that parties will be lame; make them sound fun. It's disappointing to have freshmen complain about how the “social scene is changing” when they've been here two weeks. They're getting that message from upperclassmen. It's in the best interest of the school. I hope that juniors and seniors take a leadership role on this.

E. Ben – RA's were not fully included in the conversations. You have to be patient with us, too, because we're trying to understand messages coming through various different groups. We appreciate everyone being patient and respectful, and sometimes we don't like everything we have to do but that's our job. Thanks ASCMC for committing itself to students having fun.

F. Kathryn – I had seniors that were all for BYOB but everyone was too tired. They like the idea, they just weren't in that place Saturday night.

G. Charlotte – it's all about the messaging you hear, freshmen are easily influenced by upperclassmen.

H. Isabel – this happens no matter where you are: we had a lot of people who didn't read the policies and were already criticizing them. As a school we should say let's give it 3 months and then see how it goes and talk to DOS.

I. Aviv – is there thought of bringing back ideas of holding 5C students accountable even on this topic?

J. Will – I'm meeting with the 5C presidents next week, Christine has been meeting with the event heads. We hold the consortium social burden. We do need them accountable, maybe financially or helping us set up.

K. Will – some of the RA's were taking pictures of the “consortium criminals” yesterday

L. Ben – Amit and I were in NQ and saw a Pitzer guy picking up a longboard and trying to walk away with it

M. Christine – 2 Pomona guys tried stealing tables
N. Aviv – I would avoid a blanket ban because CMC friends want to bring their friends
O. Charlotte – CMC-only events are actually much harder
P. Russell – idea: portable card readers (like those used at Collins snack) to check attendance and you know who was in the event
Q. Will – we discovered that there is a black market for CMC ID’s. They’re accessing our parties and taking resources that way.
R. Kathryn – having lived at Pitzer, other than their few big events, they don’t hold events, it’s a quiet campus, maybe we should advocate them holding smaller events on their campus
S. Christine – we hold the burden of the social scene, but we are also the more social campus. The best incentive is monetary.
T. Eric – would it be feasible, if there is a student acting out, take a picture of their ID and if they show up to the event, not let them in?
U. Iris – one other point, don’t know how plausible the card reader is, but it could provide good metrics for the events (i.e. 80% Pitzer students and ask for more money).
V. Mica – a lot of the students that cause trouble might not get into the event, but can still cause trouble in NQ
W. Will – yesterday we had the justification that they still had dry period on their campus, but in the future weeks we need to think about regulating 5C attendance on our campus
X. Guest – you can’t make north quad CMC-only
6. Student Event Plaza Renovations
   A. Will – fixing the walls, outdoor furniture, speakers, outdoor bar
   B. Christine – most of the renovations will be done over winter break, by Monte Carlo the floor and speaker system fixed. String lighting across the top, the bar will be like Pomona’s outdoor grill/bar spaces so clubs can do low-key events there.
   C. Cristina – what happens to the speakers when it rains
   D. Christine – there are weather-proof ones they’ll deal with it
   E. Russell – can we reroute water into the event space for water
   F. Nicky – are we resolving shade/roof?
   G. Christine – don’t want to build a roof because then it’s just another building
   H. Will – this semester soft renovations, winter break infrastructure renovations
   I. Will – showed options for outdoor seating online, trying to get weather-resistant.
   J. Cristina – more modern, like simple/minimal
   K. Marshall – better to have more seating smaller couches, if there’s 2 random people on a 4 person couch you’re less likely to sit
   L. Christine – seeing how things go, want space for dancing, space for seating
7. Diversity & Inclusion Position
   A. Iris – not a proposal yet. Many of you may remember the ongoing discussion in the spring about the need for some kind of representation for diversity and inclusion on ASCMC. Since then, that discussion has come from numerous sources. Various groups with a petition saying this is a need, with a number of demands that would satisfy this need. We’ve also been in discussion on board about this for a while, and I’ve been in discussion with other campus leaders across the 5Cs. The other 5Cs have more, but they all manifest themselves in different ways. One of the proposals is a diversity chair that sits on board, whether it be appointed or elected. Pitzer has a committee. I’ve spoken with Nyree Gray, the Title IX coordinator, and she’s mentioned that just looking at the other 5C’s isn’t going to get us our right fit. It’s really important to have an organic and genuine look at how this
can and will function at CMC. That said, I've floated around various ideas, there are pros/cons to all possible approaches. The purpose of this discussion is to keep the ball rolling from the spring, and to start potentially discussing what we best think about this. The sooner the better. If we want this to be an elected position, it makes sense to hold this election at the same time as frosh elections, also makes sense to get this person on board now. Another idea is having a committee at senate, and have the committee chair act as liaison between senate and exec board. Pro of elected is a lot more visibility to be coupled in with frosh class elections, but at least there's a speech and campaigning. A con to an election, is who ultimately decides who the right diversity chair is. Maybe having the general student body decide on the minority/diversity chair isn't the best way. Who's the champion of diversity? Nobody. The idea is that there are multiple identities represented. I'm not sure that one person is going to have the resources and bandwidth to work on everything this encompasses. Don't need to come to a conclusion today.

B. Kathryn – I like the idea of a committee. I can't speak for a lot of different groups. The committee themselves could choose who the liaison will be with us. Having it similar to Ben and Michael would be a good fit with board.

C. Cole – personally I like the idea of a committee and the liaison with exec board as part of the constitution. What bugs me is that it won't be as visible as it could be. I feel like it would be difficult to put on one person all the issues of diversity and inclusion. I feel like there could be a really interesting, helpful way of assembling this committee on senate. The seats on it isn't voted on in the meeting, maybe it's a public discussion. Given the gravity of a committee like this, making it a more public election than senate, don't know if that's something we're allowed to do. Make it a campus-wide discussion, people at least thinking it. In terms of structure, bigger fan of the committee approach.

D. Michael – I think that all of us here should feel free to be creative on how we pursue this so we're not held back by how things have been in the past, tradition.

E. Christine – Could we have a public election where they chair a senate committee, so it's a school-wide election?

F. Russell – right now we're looking at a single person on board to inform all decisions. Could have some open forum meeting regularly of people who care about this, everyone else is giving in their input and it's part of our role to attend and learn these issues.

G. Iris – this position needs to be a full-time job, having a position does not preclude the rest of board from getting involved. Facilitator of discussions

H. Kathryn – apprehensive about the idea of an election, when the concerned citizens on diversity came and said they haven't run for an ASCMC election because they didn't feel comfortable. Would they be comfortable with this? I don't have a solution.

I. Christine – the committee might help

J. Kathryn – leader may not be most informed

K. Iris – some members of the students that approached us in the spring are here, please jump in. ASCMC as an institution did not have a history of caring about that issue, didn't feel comfortable running for a position that wasn't necessarily that job. What the position says is that ASCMC cares about diversity. I as VP care a lot about diversity. They're tackling barriers to entry of ASCMC rather than not wanting to be in it

L. Ben – I think that this is best thought of as a place to best celebrate diversity. A lot of members on board are from different backgrounds than what the norms suggested. No one person is going to be a perfect rainbow of diversity, but they're there to help us
celebrate diversity instead of making it feel like an owner. No matter how we go about it, this is a great thing. Philosophically, the tone is still negative here, and it'll be great to have someone even if they're not the perfect embodiment of diversity. A way to help us operate better

M. Makari – my issue with an election is that it's someone representing the majority of the population instead of the minority, which is the point.

N. Michael – have we spoken to the groups that were here in the spring about what they think? That could be more productive than this conversation

O. Iris – not formally, will do

P. Will – the point of this conversation is to put this on board members' minds

Q. Kathryn – need to move quickly with frosh elections

R. Cristina – When I was talking to Denys, she had the misunderstanding that it was an elected position and her opinion is that is should not be elected. Good to have more voices with more groups represented.

S. Iris – if board or guests want to be more involved please email me, iliu16@cmc.edu

T. Will – we are going to have various trainings this semester. Ally training, TealDot, vetting outside training for diversity & inclusion.

8. Asset Creation Operating Procedures

A. Will – Proposed to better regulate the creation of our assets, we've had a lot of waste of student body fees, e.g. we still have pirate party 2013 tanks. Waste of resources. Formal procedure of asset creation. Allows a public open comment period because sometimes we may have controversial phrases or images, final signature process keeps us in check of financial management aspects.

B. Ben – this is important and really good, this applies not only in a formal setting, but also thinking “will this sell?” and it's important to have this judgment in board members' thinking process.

C. Will – there's a formal proposal that has to be submitted to board, discussion period, discussing. An electronic signature is valid.

D. Kathryn – will we have a set up form to fill out?

E. Will – we can create a template

F. Russell – for consistency, let's make the term for exec board the same

G. Kathryn – motion to approve

H. Tooba – second

I. Motion passes. If you are creating assets, please follow this procedure.

9. Open Forum

A. Kathryn – I'm starting to plan 200 days. Officially it's on October 27th (Tuesday) week before Halloween. I was looking at the informal event calendar, and this is usually on a Thursday, I was thinking the Thursday before so it doesn't interfere with Halloween festivities. I need to start booking and I want everyone on board ok. Sports – football wouldn't be able to go because of their 48 hour rule.

i. Michelle – what about Wednesday or Tuesday?

ii. Makari – there's that whole thing where we're in school

iii. Kathryn – I'm apprehensive about a Monday or Tuesday because people do have class and early work, it's midterm time.

iv. Ben – can football not drink, but still go?

v. Kathryn – not sure, I was emailing with a football player and asked if they could go on a
Thursday, and he said no but he might have been thinking they wouldn't go if they wouldn't drink. They can't go out in those 48 hours

vi. Will – let's check with the football captains for the rules and their schedules

vii. Kathryn – is there an issue with a Saturday?

viii. Christine – it's Pitzer's party the 24th so I don't care, go for it

ix. Kathryn – tentatively, since venues are harder to get and more expensive, let's put in Oct. 24th for 200 days and I will have updates next week on venues

B. Marshall & Michelle – we wanted to know what ASCMC's views are on these alcohol policies. Every time they're like “be good or it'll get worse”. Our main concern is wanting to know where the stance in this room is on them, where did the numbers and locations come from, and what was the reasoning? We can represent these, but I don't feel informed or represented and we've read all the documents.

i. Will – Iris and I came back to campus early to work on these issues. I've been involved with this since May. The original policies were much stricter, restricting drinking completely. The end product is a lot more lenient than the original policy.

ii. Marshall – every year the policies change and are stricter and when does DOS end?

iii. Will – these policies aren't necessarily hard and fast, we need to comply with these and see how it works in practice, and then come back to the table and re-discuss. It's not necessarily a good policy, but as student government need to work with it in order to have a voice when we return to the policy. I just want you to know that we’re working on it, we have a forum this week we’re holding to have students come debate the policy. The reason administration gave for involving fewer students was to keep the ball rolling.

iv. Michelle – do you feel like you actually have bargaining chips?

v. Will – we actually do, the old numbers were 10 and 20 and a ban on drinking games, but we explained that the physical space on our campus doesn't allow this, we pushed it up to 15 and 30, came up with a difference between low risk vs high risk drinking games (beer pong vs. battle shots). This was accomplished with bargaining chips. Every time a student is disobedient, we lose a bargaining chip. We will have an open forum this week and you'll have the opportunity to discuss with admin and students.

vi. Ben – a lot of this came from Board of Trustees, not so much DOS. The deans in charge of RA's were not involved in these conversations over the summer, so we had no seat at the table besides Will (who did an admirable job). The problem is that this directive is being funneled down and through different sources, so people start name-calling. Then the Board of Trustees and Chodosh say we're being disrespectful to everyone. There's a sense of entitlement, privilege, and incredibly risky behavior that causes dangerous things to happen among the students. The language hurts the people who are working so hard for us. It's not fun by any means, but we've been working tirelessly on this, and the RA's will diverge because of interpretation, but we have to do what our job says. We've not been backing down. No lack of trying. We have to set a precedent.

vii. Marshall – for so many students it came out of nowhere, we used to be able to drink in a lounge, and now it limits to extremely inconvenient places to drink.

viii. Ben – part of the thing about location is thinking about tour groups coming around and prospective students. Our first event of the year is dousing new students with alcohol, no other school baptizes their freshmen like that. It may be inconvenient but the DOS is still letting this happen.
ix. Michelle – my concern is not to attack you guys, my concern is how do we address the trustees? I had no idea Dean Vos had never heard of this. How best can we work to voice the general public perspective to the trustees and others?

x. Will – we’re going to have a formal forum this week, and moving down this semester, we’re going to have an opportunity to create a new proposal that's better.

xi. Michelle – more transparency is what we're here for. We care about what is happening because we don't get information.

xii. Zippy – majority of people I've heard of want to comply because we don’t want it to get worse, we're trying to comply (and some aren't and that's not good) and we’re having concerns about having unity as a class and we’re not nearly as close as some other classes have been at this point.

xiii. Christine – this gives you power to register as event hosts, it gives power to your dorm president and your class president power to throw huge events, there are other avenues that you are able to explore and figure out with the rest of us. It's not meant to limit interactions with each other, it's just about going about it differently than years back.

xiv. Will – to clarify, this is a pre-party policy. They endorse pre-parties; they just want it to be accountable. Once the freshman class president comes in, and even now before they're elected, we should be throwing events where the class can bond.

xv. Eric – what concerns me is not the current policy, but hearing about the blanket ban on drinking. Any ban that tells the students “you have nowhere to go but your room”, that's when I've seen people get most messed up because they're rapidly taking shots rather than socializing outside, playing beer pong and drinking casually. My other question is to what extent does executive board have a conversation with the Board of Trustees?

xvi. Will – I think the trustees do understand, many of them came here or have kids here and they do try to preserve the social culture. You don't see this freedom at colleges across the country.

xvii. Russell – a trend I'm seeing is that everyone is trying. DOS is trying to see what they can do, we as an event planning committee are trying to see what events we can do. This gives power to different groups like class presidents and dorm presidents to have events. I registered an event in 2 days that allowed 600 people to play beer pong and hang out. How can we make students feel like this isn't some bureaucratic thing? It took me 5 minutes to ask for this event. Before looking to the future with this huge concern, look at what we have right now and how it truly is flexible. Get creative.

C. Eric – if there's anything said in this meeting that you would not like said in the Forum update, please let me know, I don't want to jeopardize any bargaining chips.

D. Christine – Mudd has a party “Mudd goes Mad” and they want funding for paint guns and condoms. The condoms are part of their fundraising efforts.

i. Will – motion to table because I want a formal proposal and no budget yet.

10. Adjourn

Adjourn: 8:40pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Mica Laber
Executive Secretary