Associated Students of Claremont McKenna College

Executive Board Meeting
November 22nd, 2015

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

- D&I Amendment Discussion

Members Present: Caroline Peck, Melissa Muller, Michael Irvine, Griffin Ferre, Iris Liu, Mica Laber, Makari Krause, Will Su, Dean Sagafi, Joey Yamada, Kathryn Chakmak, Cristina Lee, Christine Horne, Ben Turner

Members Absent: Timmy Song, Sharan Seth


Call to Order: 7:04pm

1. Welcome & Minutes
   A. Minutes 11/15 approved
2. Introductions & Board Updates
   A. Caroline – no update
   B. Melissa – almost got a food publication but it's going 5C
   C. Michael – right now we have a vacancy for junior class president. I believe we should hold off until next semester because between Thanksgiving and finals it doesn't look like we'd have a successful election. Also allows people to return from abroad and run. For D&I chair, I'd like to send out applications soon. The group working with Iris made a description and questions. If you're okay with them, I'll send that out as the application. The group also wants the group to see and review the applications and forward the top three they recommend to elections committee with the idea that elections committee doesn't have experience working on this yet
   D. Griffin – no update
   E. Timmy (proxy – class VP) – working on shirts
   F. Sharan (proxy – Mica): reconciliation are on track and I will be completing them in the week after thanksgiving. Michael helped us get Quickbooks sorted, as I showed you and I reconciled for September. There are a few minor things to go back and change (checking account opening balance, some uncategorized expenses and incomes), but looks good going forward.
   G. Iris – I went to a national student leader diversity conference 2 weeks ago. I met great people who could facilitate diversity trainings. Still waiting on Changemaker Fund money for that. Senate last week was good, most of time spent on talking about campus climate, hoping to get back to normal agenda tomorrow
   H. Mica – spent a few hours organizing office inventory on a spreadsheet, hoping to finish that up by the end of semester and give all board access. Please let me know if you add/remove
anything from the offices so I can keep track.

I. Makari – no update

J. Will – 5C presidents met last week. Met with Dean of Health & Wellness at Mudd. Helped put together policy points for mental health at the consortium. Making joint statement soon. Requests directed at Monsour and general consortium. For example, average clinical work per week is 22 hours while national average is 26-30 hours. Why are ours working less than this? Think we can make quite an impression.
   i. Christine – Pomona subsidizes for students to go off campus
   ii. Will – Pomona is paying the co-payments for their students to see psychiatrists/psychologists off campus. 7C working group to make a 4 year discovery process about mental health on campus. Don't think that group is going to go anywhere but it just formed.

K. Will – regarding room transfer, haven't heard back from groups about what they'd like. We still have access right now but don't leave anything in there. 5C senate idea to re-brand as Associated Students of the Claremont Colleges (ASCC). Going to work on bylaws over break, hoping to start next semester. General purpose is to create united front on issues in the consortium. Provides platform. No comprehensive club funding process for 5C funds, other governments want to make reforms for 5C budgeting. Might save us time in the future as well, because Mudd might make funding requests through here.

L. Dean – no update

M. Joey – no update

N. Kathryn – thesis party in the works

O. Cristina – no update

P. Christine – Mudd requested money for Casemas for kegs, told them no

Q. Ben – no update

R. Will – the last board meeting will be December 6th. Only one left in the semester.

3. Event Debrief
   A. Caroline – A Capella TNC with wings, Christine sent DL. Only 2 groups because it's been a busy few weeks. Getting in touch with an acapella group can be difficult if you don’t contact the individuals directly
   B. Christine – preliminary dates for Spring semester set up.

4. D&I Amendment Discussion
   A. Michael – last week we left off by passing half of this (D&I chair, not committee). Want to open this up to see if you had ideas regarding composition of committee. Right now, representative from APAM, BSA, CMCers of Color, GenU, SAGA, and three at-large members
   B. Melissa – I like this. GenU submitted a charter application. Maybe a lower standard for adding clubs, higher standard for getting rid of them.
   C. Michael – rationale for 2/3rds was that we don't want committee to get to full and unmanageable. Idea is that it's people who are actively working on these issues alongside ASCMC, not a place for broad discussions.
   D. Makari – it seems a little bit weird to have the members of the committee vote someone out. Should it be outside body?
   E. Michael – Vote goes into effect after term ends, can't vote to remove an individual, it's removing a group
   F. Melissa – the reason would mostly be from losing chapter charter
G. Joey – I think Will’s alternative suggestion picked one group, but the fact that APAM is specifically mentoring takes away legitimacy from other groups

H. Will – how do you deal with a non-affiliated student? Proposal: Basic argument is that campus organization model is not effective representation and accountability. I’m worried about any non-affiliated student. You shouldn't have to be a member of a club to get your voice heard. Disagree that club is effective representation. Many groups without clubs that could also argue that they need representation.

I. Melissa – They're all open groups that anyone can join

J. Michael – one representative from each club

K. Cristina – are they open meetings?

L. Michael – up to discretion of committee right now

M. Nicky – argument well founded, but proposing idea of assemblies at a small school is difficult because we don't have infrastructure to run assembly. The person running assembly is representative. Adding too many more parts.

N. Will – good argument why someone in campaign to be assembly leader can argue their involvement in a specific club. Imagine students who just want to be a part of the assembly but not a group such as BSA

O. Michael – concern with assembly model is that we have to set up all of these different groups or find someone who will, logistically complicated. Would need good way of making this feasible.

P. Ben – you can join multiple groups, but if we don't keep it open for future groups then there's a problem with openness. Assemblies are good to represent groups, but even with the diversity within groups considered diverse, there's overlap – women, Jewish students, queer groups, etc. There could be 3-4 assemblies for one person to be a part of. Why create extra system by which people have to organize. People already have hard time showing up even to clubs they are very involved in. With overlapping identities, it's more time to be involved in. Don't necessarily want to be a part of multiple different assemblies

Q. Aaron – assembly idea is good idea, but in terms of the scale, it would be very difficult to implement. We don't have as many students to be actively involved in doing something like this. Even club leaders know that at normal club meetings you aren’t getting as much attendance as large schools. Club and assemblies seem similar to me, club like mini version of assembly

R. Nicky – would it be possible to make a mandate that by some process the clubs have to publicize meetings regarding campus climate or things involving D&I committee.

S. Will – perhaps, but that infringes a bit on the mission of the initial organization

T. Nicky – philosophically we all say you’re right, if we had infrastructure for assemblies it would make sense but it would be difficult

U. Will – 5 people of an identity creates an assembly

V. Nicky – is that better than a club

W. Christine – no, it’s just making new clubs. It's ineffective at CMC, at large schools you have maybe multiple clubs and that problem but at a school this size it's a silly idea

X. Iris – why would we place more importance on the person who doesn't want to be in BSA but wants to identify as a black student in a formal way

Y. Will – their identity comes first. Why do you have to be a member of the club?

Z. Iris – the students that would make up this committee from the standing seats based on club model, they're not going to be representative of every voice in the club as it is. So why
would a leader of the assembly represent every single voice of an identity group?
AA. Straw poll – majority of board prefers club model
BB. Michael – are we comfortable moving forward?
CC. Ben – to what extent is CO chair involved in this with club involvement? Not that they need to sit on committee, but help facilitate the clubs
DD. Melissa – working on training for future CO chairs, can add section about identity clubs and the D&I committee
EE. Michael – next board can revisit if there are concerns/problems
FF. CJ – how did we come up with 3 seats? Was it arbitrary? Could it be more/less?
GG. Jessica – it was an arbitrary number to keep the group small
HH. CJ – there may be an argument with the club model that it could not be as representative. Maybe there could be an even number of clubs and at-large. How do students know that these at-large seats exist?
II. Michael – we would send out applications to the school. It would be open. I like the idea of opening avenues to include past club spots. There's a method to add club spots though, so this could also balloon into a large number. Something to consider
JJ. Kathryn – I like CJ's point. Could be smart to start out with having equal amount of independent and club spots. Have committee think twice about adding a club because then they have to add an open spot. Really evaluating decision.
KK. Nicky – could talk about starting equal, or that also every time a club is added you add at-large
LL. Iris – I would push back on making it equal. The standing positions are there to make sure that at least these groups are being represented. I don't see it as a power dynamic issue. The idea is so that affinity groups are fielding people for these positions.
MM. Michael – making it equal would be 11 people including the chair
NN. Nicky – we can assume there will be other groups that want to get in, so can realistically assume there'll be more than 10
OO. Kathryn – we're going to re-evaluate in a year so it can change. It's going to differ year to year depending on club involvement/activity
PP. Michael – does anyone want to speak against adding it up to 5 people
QQ. Iris – it'll be easier to have conversations with a smaller group, I would err on side of making it smaller. I don't feel very passionately about it, but given that this was the original proposal given by the group I think it's okay
RR. Melissa – maybe we should add process of 2/3rds vote to add another at-large seat like clubs
SS. Jessica – the idea is that when you need more group representation you add a club, and at-large is people who want to be in conversation but don't necessarily identify with a group
TT. Melissa – consider a student in a wheelchair: at a small school like CMC, may not be enough people to create a club for these students but they want to sit on committee
UU. Jessica – the idea isn't to represent another identity, but to have another voice in the conversation
VV. Kathryn – there are groups that could not have a club, and are there to speak for themselves and only a few others
WW. Motion to pass original model with committee's ability to increase club and/or at-large members passes

5. Finance Amendment Discussion
A. Moved to next meeting

6. Open Forum
A. CJ – because we don't have a junior class president, how would events (like during finals week) work?
B. Kathryn – class presidents talking about including juniors in our events (such as snack)
C. Christine – also, if there's a specific thing you want to do come to a junior on board and we can help make it happen.
D. Melissa – last time looked at apparel designs. Got prices. 200 of each, the long-sleeves would be 850 if we get 220, and jacket would be 3400.
E. Will – do you have form from earlier in the semester?
F. Melissa – for creating assets? I don't, I was going to make a funding request first
G. Michael – I think the idea was to have that form before we allocate funds
H. Melissa – Might just make sense to do 100 or 150 of each
I. Kathryn – 400+ items seems like a lot. Assuming 1/3rd of population will buy
J. Melissa – maybe will buy for parents/family?
K. Makari – just do 100 of each to start
L. Melissa – so if we get less, the price per unit goes up
M. Will – can we see 2 proposals with different inventory amounts?
N. Kathryn – Thesis fountain party is 12-2 the Monday after thanksgiving. Need help checking seniors in for champagne bottles. Moving inflatables out to fountain, making sure music is set up. I need help starting at 10:45-noon, and then noon-2 to work the event. GoPro pictures, clean up glass if dropped
O. Michael – any objections to the two topics I brought up during my update? (no objections). Timeline will be to get in apps next Wednesday or Thursday and have elections committee meet during the weekend.

Adjourn: 7:58pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Mica Laber
Executive Secretary