Associated Students of Claremont McKenna College
Senate
November 2nd, 2015
Call to Order: 9:02 pm
Meeting Overview:
Sign in
- "Senate Briefs for TSL" Announcement
- AAA Funding Request: Diwali
- Diversity and Inclusion Chair Update
- ASCMC Financial Restructuring
- Mental Health Resources Discussion
- Open Forum

Adjourn

1. "Senate Briefs for TSL" Announcement
   A. if you attend Senate regularly and if you’re interested in being a Senate brief writer for the TSL, email Lauren Ison at newsemnitor@tsl.pomona.edu

2. AAA Funding Request: Diwali
   A. Claremont Hindu Society, 5C club, annual event that drew about 400 people last year, approx. 100 CMC students.
   B. Total cost $5200
   C. Asking us for $800, compared to $850 last year
   D. Increase in costs this year, because higher cost of catering
   E. “Because this is a culturally informative and substance free event that will benefit many students of the 7Cs, AAA felt this is an appropriate event to fund.”
   F. Motion to approve in full passes.
   G. November 15th, Edmunds Ballroom, 5-8 pm

3. Diversity and Inclusion Chair Update
   A. Subcommittee has drafted job description and possible application question/interview process.
   B. That document will be reviewed by the greater committee and then will be presented to Senate.

4. ASCMC Financial Restructuring
   A. Mikey: “This is something we’ve been talking about for a while on Exec Board and Will Su came up with a plan to reform how we do finances.”
   B. Got pretty far behind on cutting checks and reimbursing people last year and working to catch up now
   C. Come to realize that the job of CFO is slightly unsustainable and is very time consuming
   D. The idea is to split up the role into two parts so that the CFO can continue to focus on more policy oriented stuff, (ie. Crafting a good budget and coming up with new and innovative ways to keep people accountable etc.)
   E. A new role called the Treasurer, who would primarily be responsible for cutting checks and it would be around 5-10 hours a week.
   F. Specifics of this new position:
      i. Employee of ASCMC rather than a board member
      ii. Because administrative duties specific to the position
      iii. Wouldn’t be on budget committee
      iv. Would be a good position for someone who might not be as qualified as we look for in someone for CFO
      v. Underclassmen who might want to get some experience
      vi. Would probably be paid minimum wage.
   G. ASCMC was audited last year and they found some places where we didn’t have appropriate financial controls.
      i. 5 Key elements they inspected
      ii. Reimbursements → check if our protocols that were correct.
         ▷ One had alcohol expense that wasn’t reported
         ▷ One had alcohol that was reported but not on receipt
      iii. Tracking alcohol
         ▷ We’re not allowed to spend student fees on alcohol.
• Previous interpretation was gross revenue not net profits.
  ▷ NOW, only net profits can be spent on alcohol.
• New ways to create profits?
  ▷ New apparel line in the works
  ▷ Toga sales etc.
• For events like Monte Carlo, what is the profit margin?
  ▷ Depends on the year. Has varied from 5% to 50%
  ▷ Would be interesting to gauge profits that could be gained by increased attendance through hosting events in larger spaces than the event space.

iv Student payments
  ▷ 1099s forms
    ▷ None of these forms were being filed,
    ▷ Now we make sure that these forms are in

v Vendor payments
  ▷ Want to make sure that our vendors are in compliance with the IRS
  ▷ We need 1099s to be filed for these as well

vi Cash deposits
  ▷ These need to be deposited 2 weeks after the event.

vii Every check needs two signatures before they go out.
  ▷ One signature from CFO and one from President for any checks that exceed $500 or for alcohol or for equipment.
  ▷ If there was a reason why once of these people isn’t available to sign, the VP would also have signing powers.

viii DOS wants someone from their staff, currently Devon, who has access to our books so they can see what we’re spending money on and who can be more informed for our discussions.

H. The Controller is supposed to be a check on the CFO and is supposed to deal with the revenue side of things.
  i This position hasn’t been as empowered as we’ve wanted it to be so we’re trying to increase their power
  ii Give them a vote on the board and the budget committee
  iii Increase their stipend and reduce stipend of CFO

I. Brian: Is the goal of this new policy to encourage someone to take on this responsibility by offering an hourly pay rate?
  i “This is a job and they’re going to be paid hourly for it. By structuring this as a job, rather than an additional responsibility for a board officer, will make more likely that this will get done.”

J. Brian: Did you consider just adding an additional pay rate to the CFO position rather than creating a new position?
  i “It’s certainly something to think about. We wanted to empower the CFO to take on more reform issues and policy stuff rather than have them focus on these smaller things.”

K. Melia: “When would this take effect?”
  i “I would suspect that we would try and hire this person as soon as possible because we want people to get their checks. Waiting till next semester does give us more time to finalize specifics of the position.”

L. Thomas: Where is this going to come from in the budget?
  i “Will be more expensive as a hourly wage. For now, this would come out of the surplus that exists. Unsure what would happen next. But the fact of the matter is that dorms and clubs aren’t quite spending their allocations as much as they have been so this is an okay thing to do. This will benefit the student body because it ensures that people will get their reimbursements on time.”

M. Brian: “Now that CFO would now be more focused on policy, has there been the thought of making this position an elected position rather than selected?”
  i “That hasn’t been talked about but there’s still thought that we think needs to be put into how we want to redesign the role in general. What needs do you all see the CFO fulfilling in general and creative sense?”
  ▷ Geno: “Make sure that the people who get money actually use it properly. Clubs shouldn’t be letting the money they’re allocated go.”

N. Thomas: When board members haven’t done their job, they don’t get their stipends, as determined by budget committee….does this happen?
  i “Yes, approx. every other year”
  ii “CFO would act as a check to make sure that the Treasurer wouldn’t be over reporting time.

O. Board came to consensus on this language. This is amendment to the constitution. AAA will give us a recommendation and then we’ll revisit this next week and vote.
5. Mental Health Resources Discussion
   A. Email from Monsour saying that they recognize that the current wait time of 5 weeks is unacceptable and they mentioned a number of other opportunities that students can use to get any resources they might need in the mean time.
   B. Mary Spellman, dean of students, introduced that email by saying that if anyone needed any support in the mean time, to contact DOS.
   C. Sam: “Why is the wait time so long? It shouldn’t be. Counseling should also be de-stigmatized in general.
   D. Iris: Anecdotally, this is not a new problem. Not having access is a serious problem.”
   E. Luke: “They don’t seem to be inefficient, they seem underfunded.”
   F. Connor: “There is a crisis line that’s available 24/7”
   G. Iris: “Reach out to me if anyone has any specific issues or concerns…there is a 7C group that’s working on this.”
   H. We have to tell the administration that this is priority.
   I. ASCMC has a mental health task force, expect an email next week.
   J. Opportunities to work on a consortium level as well.
   K. Brian: “For students who want to schedule appointments, they’re usually going through something right now, and so the 5 week wait time is super discouraging and might lead students to not seek help at all.”

6. Open Forum
   A. Felipe: Special committee on 5c demonstration policy will meet this week
      i. Want this committee to have people that aren’t just on consortium affairs.
      ii. Email Felipe. Felipe will write down names.
   B. What’s up with the committees? (Student, Trustee, Faculty Committees)
      i. Some have been meeting and some haven’t.
      ii. Committee members need to find a point members.
      iii. Send Iris an email if you’ve met and Iris will have you present to senate.

Meeting adjourned 9:54 pm
Submitted Respectfully,
Tanvi Gandham
Secretary of the Senate