Associated Students of Claremont McKenna College

Senate

October 26th, 2015

Call to Order: 9:02 pm

Meeting Overview:

Sign in
- Presentation on Gender-Inclusive Housing: Dean Vos/Campus Improvements Committee
- Additional Senate Committee Updates:
  - Consortium Affairs: Demonstration Policy
  - ASCMC 2015-2016 Budget Revisions: Michael Irvine
  - Diversity and Inclusion Chair Update: Iris Liu
  - College Advancement // Public Affairs Request: Caroline Lu
- Open Forum

Adjourn

1. Presentation on Gender-Inclusive Housing: Dean Vos/Campus Improvements Committee
   i. Want input and feedback on gender inclusive housing
   ▷ Should we designate residence halls other than Beckett as gender inclusive?
   ii. History/State of Affairs
   ▷ Beckett is currently gender inclusive, which means that anyone can live in the same room together.
   ▷ The bathrooms have no gender designations
     • In process of updating permanent signage.
   iii. A few options (in conjunction or alone):
     ▷ To make Super Dorm also gender inclusive
     ▷ First and second floor of marks stay single sex but make third floor gender inclusive
     ▷ Making Crown Gender Inclusive
       • This would involve no renovation
       • As it currently stands, there are no floor to ceiling doors
     ▷ Certain floors in some of the towers
     ▷ Entire tower
       • Towers would receive no renovation.
     ▷ NQ poses challenges because of the suites and half suite styles and room draw etc
   iv. Consensus among student body that this is an issue we want to tackle.
   v. Luke: Can we make everything gender inclusive on housing survey unless someone opts out?
     ▷ This would create as system of backtracking.
     ▷ This idea comes from the Mudd system (Refer to last week’s notes).
     • Differences in logistical set up for bathrooms/housing styles.
     ▷ Dean Vos: Not at a point where we can make this full on switch, there’s still value and necessity in single
       gender floors (survivors, cultural beliefs, etc)
   vi. Zach: What are the numbers?
     • There are numbers on this.
     • Freshman might not understand this.
     • Numbers aren’t going to help regarding incoming students.
     • We can’t do a strictly data based assessment.
     • Variety of options + Normalizing
   vii. This is going to have to be a phase process if whole campus is going to be gender inclusive
     ▷ Both options should be available eventually across quads and dorms.
   viii. Main point for tonight: should we have more than one option on campus than Beckett?
     ▷ Where is the initial impetus coming from? How did the initial conversation start?
       • Proposal from SAGA to expand offerings.
       • Meeting with them soon to discuss this further
       • But want this finalized before room draw.
       • Colton: Compared to most universities, this is an area where CMC is behind.
   ix. There are different options: but how many rooms are associated with these different options?
     ▷ Michael: There is a need to have more than one option, but this might not be directly need be related
       to the demand.
Should be an option other than Beckett, for people who can’t draw into that.
Normalizing gender inclusive options.
Thomas: Very in favor of gender inclusive housing, but unsure about open bathroom spaces like Crown.
Iris: Let’s straw poll on these ideas.
Colton: One of the reasons we thought super dorm was important was because bathrooms are sparse and this can make bathrooms more available to everyone
Option 1: 44
Option 2: 33
Other options would be in addition to the other ones: more floors.
Campbell: Super dorm has a ton of singles, so if anyone wanted gendered housing and wanted it a single it would then be harder.
Elliot: Why not split up by floors?
Jessica: Splitting is up by floors allows people to live in whatever dorm, by normalizing gender housing.
It might difficult to convey this splitting up the floors because Super dorm has strange floor numbering.
Mikey: this might actually do less to normalize gender inclusive housing.
People might be more spotlighted by choosing specific floors in specific dorms.
Why not just marks?
CJ: Same as Mikey, one floor makes it still stigmatized. I chose Beckett for reasons other than just Beckett being the gender inclusive dorm.
People will always find things weird, but if half the dorms are gender inclusive, it will be less strange.
One problem is that of this housing is still in mid quad, and there should be options everywhere
There should be a move towards this eventually.
Katherine: We’re not there yet, so let’s do what we can now.
Charlotte: time?
Dean Vos: Finalized by winter break, hopefully.

2. Additional Senate Committee Updates:
   A. Consortium Affairs: Demonstration Policy
      Tomorrow is the board of student stakeholders at the library and they’re taking suggestions on funding, so talk to Felipe about that if you have ideas.
      Demonstration policy
      Background: Oct 6th, new proposition for demonstration policy was signed by 7C administrators after fall of last year, the deans of the institutions decided to revise this policy for the first time since 2001.
      Implementation of policy is delayed until student input is taken and reviewed.
      Pomona Senate meeting went into depth on this today:
      Draft resolution on this
      • Main idea to defend our rights to demonstrate.
      • Reword this positively and emphasize what we are allowed to do.
      • Avoid vague language and eliminate variable room for officers and administrators
      They address the concerns of lack of student input
      Address concern of student free speech + student safety
      The wording as it currently stands implies that violent protests have been happening and that isn’t the case.
      Call for administration to respond to student protest
      • Written response to student demonstration from administration.
      • Presented by a group that called themselves a 5c coalition: presentation was done by 4 Pomona students to ASPC
      • A proposal that was brought up was that all 5C could come up with their own resolutions or we could work with other schools and created a join resolution.
      • It’s important that we have a voice in this process.
      • Ideally we would want to work together as a consortium
      • But there might be discrepancies between what the schools want individually.
      • Create a special committee of senators to tackle this head on
      • Want to finalize this before semesters over.
      • Special committee can take this forward. Those interested and committed to this cause should email Felipe.

3. ASCMC 2015-2016 Budget Revisions: Michael Irvine
A. We sent this back with the provision that development fund be administered by Senate.
   i Board member who wanted to access that fund, would have Senate vote on it and either approve it or reject it
B. Other change: Board of Directors Retreat Fund allotment down to 500 from 1000, after concerns that arose in Senate last week.
   i Provision: cannot be used on alcohol.
   ii Administered by President.
C. Michael: Big change in projected liabilities from last year, it’s clear that we don’t have as much to pay off as we thought we did. Probably around 2k.
D. Questions:
   i Thomas: Retreat fund went down to 500, where did the other funds go?
      ▷ Not allocated.
E. Michael: Revenue less expenses = $42,022.35, can be reallocated in the spring but didn’t want to randomly give that money away. Exec board could choose to allocate that, but given what’s in the general fund and intentions of budget committee, this will likely not be touched until the spring.
F. A lot of this is this in the minutes from last week: Please read these!
G. We can vote on this right now
   i Budget is approved.
4. Diversity and Inclusion Chair Update: Iris Liu
   A. Meeting last Wednesday 10/21
   B. Subcommittee drafting the language by Monday.
5. College Advancement // Public Affairs Request: Caroline Lu
   A. Opportunity for freshman to work with the PA office.
   B. PA does a lot of surveys and polling for CMC on a national level
   C. PA office gives this information back to admissions and administration
   D. Instead of contracting these services out to outside consultants, we could instead hire CMC students, freshman only.
   E. Looking for passionate and committee members.
   F. Clu16@cmc.edu
6. Open Forum
   A. CJ: If you’ve received a survey on financial aid, please take it. If you want to take it and you have not received this email,
   B. Ryan: Join Glip if you haven’t and use it.
   C. Eric: Maybe the freshman class should get a bigger budget.
      i Iris: there’s a way for the freshman class president to ask for more if they want it. Freshman Class President also has a shorter term than anyone else.
   D. Will Su: This year ASCMC discontinued their fellows program.
      i Would first years, transfers, etc, find it useful if I ran seminars on how the college worked?
      ii Anyone interested in getting more involved with and sexual assault theres a It’s on Us week in November, and there’s an 11:30 am call on Wednesday with Joe Biden. Email Wsu16@cmc.edu for more information.

Meeting adjourned 10:01 pm
Submitted Respectfully,
Tanvi Gandham
Secretary of the Senate