Yale College Council
Council of Representatives Meeting
Saturday, February 20, 2016

Agenda Items

1. Students for Sensible Drug Policy Presentation
2. Symplicity Discussion
3. Election Results & Follow-Up Voting
4. Petition for Associate Membership
5. Reminders & Announcements

Attendance

BK	Diksha Brahmbhatt	X	Joseph English	X
BK	Ethan Young	X	Madeline Bauer	X
BR	Mollie Johnson	X	Amour Alexandre	X
BR	Shannon Flores	E	Daniel Tovbin	E
CC	Michael Yuan	X	Sammy Bensinger	E
CC	Luis Patiño	U	Josh Hochman	X
DC	Joseph Cornett	X	Megan Ruan	X
DC	Daniel Hamidi	U	Joel Bervell	X
ES	Sydney Wade	X	Maya Sweedler	E
ES	Joseph Tomchak	X	Phan Nguyen	X
JE	Benjamin Held	X		
JE	Larry Fulton	X		
MC	Kevin Sullivan	X		
MC	Carter Helschien	X		
PC	Lauren Sapienza	X		
PC	Sofia Braunstein	U		
SY	Christopher Bowman	X		
SY	Avery Thompson	X		
SM	Katherine Oh	X		
SM	Peter Huang	X		
TD	Joshua McGilvray	E		
TC	Shah Kahn	X		
TC	Devyn Rigsby	E		

Minutes

Please note that the minutes reflect the conversation held during the Council of Representatives meeting, but may not contain every comment and are not intended to reflect exact quotations. Comments in italics are notes to give context to the minutes. The layout of the minutes is the Presentation of the Issue, Presentation of the Discussion, and Recording of the Vote. Unless otherwise noted, the Presentation of the Issue is done by the person whose name is next to the heading for that issue. Comments by representatives or other attendees are preceded by their name (e.g. Jane: comment).

Drug Amnesty Policy
Presentation by Students for Sensible Drug Policy:
- Annalisa, senior in Calhoun; Clay, junior in Calhoun; Lincoln, policy coordinator; Charlie/Cho, tags along
- Suppose a student is suffering from an overdose from an illegal drug. They need immediate attention, but are afraid to call for help because of potential consequences.
- Medical amnesty seeks to eliminate barriers by protecting the victim and any witnesses to the event, regardless of sobriety. Also covers host organization (e.g. fraternities)
- Why do we need this policy, specifically at Yale?
    - Current approach is not reducing rates of use
    - At most 50% of the time, a victim suffering from overdose gets a call for help. The number one reason not to call is fear of police involvement
- How do these policies work on college campuses?
    - Insufficient data currently
    - But at the state level, it has proven effective in increasing the rate of calls for help
- Yale has high rates of drug use: 44% of sampled Yale students violate our current drug policy (mostly marijuana, but also prescription drug use)
- There have been several deaths in the past due to drug overdoses that were not treated in time.
- YCC Survey Results:
    - A majority of students strongly agreed or agreed that if a medical amnesty policy were made clear, they would be more likely to call for help.
    - The majority have either not been in a situation where a call is necessary, or have called when necessary. However, 80 students have been in situations when they hesitated to call.
- There is a precedent for implementing a drug-related medical amnesty policy. Yale already has such a policy in place regarding alcohol.
    - Both alcohol and drugs are covered in CT state law.
    - All 8 Ivies have some form of medical amnesty; Brown, CU, Penn, Harvard, Cornell's policies cover drugs, and Princeton has severely reduced consequences for drugs
- Recommendations:
    - Implement a drug-related medical amnesty policy at Yale
    - Protect caller, witnesses, victim, host organizations
    - Only mandatory punishment: treatment and counseling
    - No limit on the number of uses

    o No referral for criminal prosecution

Q&A with Students for Sensible Drug Policy:
- Christopher: Can we review the existing drug policy?
  - Currently, no drug besides alcohol is covered by medical amnesty at Yale.
- Carter: How would the new policy be advertised?
  - It would be advertised well, which is necessary for the success of the policy.
- Josh: Should people contact the state/city/Yale? Currently, you have no choice over where your call is directed. You are either routed to Yale's 911 center or CT's 911 center and patched through to Yale. There is no guarantee that calling CT would allow you to protect yourself via CT's amnesty law.
- Jaclyn: Will this take away fear of punishment for distributors?
  - No, this policy does not protect distributors in any case except for medical emergency.
- Daniel H: Are there any statistics on drug use rates among Ivies? Is there a correlation between policy and drug use on campus?
  - No data, but SSDP will look for it. 68% of illegal drug use is on college campuses.
- Matt: Which admin body would be responsible for implementation, and why have they not done it yet?
  - No good reason why they haven't yet – they are just taking it slowly.

VOTE PASSED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT

<u>**Symplicity**</u>
Discussion with Kate Tanawattanacharoen:
- Kate: What are some issues we face on Symplicity?
- Sydney: The source of information about student profile/qualifications is often incorrect.
- Carter: Often, students are qualified, yet Symplicity still thinks they are not (e.g. class year). The search feature is unwieldy and the filters need to be fine-tuned. Adding a favorite reloads the entire page or redirects to home page, which is problematic. Essentially, navigating the website is a not good.
- Lauren: There are two document libraries - can they be merged?
- Joseph: When certain categories are clicked, things disappear - are certain jobs tagged incorrectly?
- Michael: Uploading of resume and cover letter is strange. Also, the marking of one resume as default is faulty.
- Lauren: OCR notifications are not timely.
- Mollie: The system of check boxes and stars is confusing - pick one.
- Adam: Overall, it is old, slow, and counterintuitive. I would recommend that we totally scrap and redo it from the ground up. The most annoying thing is the way the filters work. We should get rid of useless/excess filters to streamline process.
- Joe: It's confusing when there are multiple listings for the same company.
- Aparna: The summer activities survey was not working.
- Adam: It would be helpful to give dates/length of time for internships.
- Carter: Can we make it easier to search for documents, or organize them better?

- Jaclyn: I have found that OCR info, interview dates/times, and workshop dates/times are often incorrect.
- Josh: I would suggest that they make the list of past Yale employers more salient.
- Amour: Don't name things "Summer Internship," because this makes it difficult to search.
- Sydney: The need to put quotation marks around jobs is unnecessary and impedes search.
- Xander: I would suggest that they make company names and their job listings clearer and more consolidated.
- Phan: If you want to apply to jobs that require documents other than resume/cover letter, you can't easily do this right now.

Voting Results & Follow-Up
- 100% participation in the online vote, two remaining questions
- 1) How do we populate class councils?
  - Two Most Popular Options:
    - A) President elected in spring + 6 at large delegates, rest of council appointed, apply, or join ad hoc
    - B) President/VP elected in spring, rest of council filled by appointment
  - Kevin: We should not be voting on this since many of use are not on class council. I really do not like Pres/at large delegates (the sense of power is ambiguous). Can we have more time for SoCo/JCC to discuss?
  - Joe: Do you see more commitment/consistency for elected members because they feel more obligation?
  - Kevin: Can we consider not voting on this? We need Council member input.
  - Larry and Kevin: Elections make people feel more committed.
  - Kevin: Spring is better than the fall because earlier planning is helpful.
  - Joe: Let's decide this soon. After Council gets more information from Soco, we can then vote. Come back next week.
- 2) What should the freshman representative positive look like?
  - Shah: Two freshman positions. Fill by election.
  - Matt Guido: These would be different elections from FCC elections.
  - Nick: Especially for TD/SM perspective, it is hard to meet people early.
  - Kate: They should be filled by appointment.
  - Diksha: By appointment. Campaigns are really hard.
  - Adam: It's hard to know so early why you want to run for something.
  - Larry: No appointment. It's hard to know if people know people in the class if you're appointing.
  - Xander: We need to listen to concerns. Appointment at the end of the fall semester is best.
  - Daniel: We don't know how well-connected a person is by appointment. This is student government. People could be required to get signatures.
  - David: Agree.
  - Lauren Maybe we can elect a few and choose one.
  - Adam: Maybe we can only choose FCC or YCC.
  - Xander: I think we should move back the application deadline to the end of the fall semester.

- Josh: Appointment is not a legitimate mode of representation. We need to move back elections later - FCC elections, in fact, should happen later.
- Matt Guido: FCC elections are very early. We need to educate people more about relationship between YCC and FCC.