



Agenda Items

1. UOC Update
2. Recommendations for the New Colleges Task Force Presentation
3. Q&A with Dean Holloway
4. Reminders and announcements

Attendance

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

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).

UOC Updates

By Aparna Nathan TC '17, UOC Director

- UOC provides funding for undergraduate organizations
- Saw a huge increase in budget this year due to increase in Student Activities Fee
- \$135,000 spent first semester; \$160,000 left so we can be more generous this semester
- Goals for second semester
 - Play more active role in supporting groups
 - Develop clearer guidelines for new funding process
 - Increase communication with Student Organization Consultants and clarify roles
 - Review grant eligibility guidelines with Dean Peck
- Changes
 - Every member of the team is assigned to a specific type of group (ie Aparna works with political groups)
 - Working with Dean Peck and business office to streamline way in which funding is allocated and how it's done

New Colleges Task Force Presentation

By Joseph Tomchak ES '17, task force director

- Background
 - Two earlier reports from University committees (2008 and 2014)
 - Met with heads of departments, professors, and College Expansion Committee's Steering Committee members
 - Other conversations with residential colleges, YCC, students, etc.
- Academics recommendations (biggest section of report)
 - Hiring more faculty
 - Already happened in advance of new colleges opening, but since the faculty increased by just 7% and we're expecting 15% more students, the student-faculty ratio will increase by 15% too
 - Shopping period reform
 - See Sarah Armstrong's report
 - Recommend a Yale College task force made up professors, students, and administrators
 - Expanding course scheduling
 - Make popular seminars offered in the morning, at night, or on Friday
 - Increased planning for course offerings
 - Today there are gaps in offerings
 - Create a sense of cohesion in classes (esp. in social sciences)

- If we're adding faculty, we should add faculty in areas a department is weak in
 - Equalization of resources across majors and departments
 - Establishing an undergraduate teaching assistant program
 - We're not going to have enough TAs once lectures expand with the growth of the college
 - Lots of times, TAs don't have expertise in the area; training undergrads in the major to serve these rolls might help
 - Prof. Richard Hersh, an education studies professor, is willing to create a curriculum that prepares upperclassmen to teach
 - Reevaluating and reforming discussion sections
 - Make sure sections are being offered because they're needed
 - Consider making some of them optional or scheduling fewer of them
 - Look at Intro Bio online module, which uses a third-party app to answer students' questions
- Questions on academics
 - Xander: What's the strategy for hiring more faculty?
 - Joseph: We can't run analysis on this so we're not going to tell which departments to hire more faculty – it'll be up to the University.
 - Xander: does the student-faculty ratio affect student experience?
 - Joseph: To some extent, yes. This report is meant to highlight that each department has specific needs.
 - Diksha: is there a professor training program to help new professors understand the logistics of teaching at Yale?
 - Joseph: It's on a by-department basis. It's a big problem. This could go back to offering a more cohesive curriculum within departments.
 - Larry: Will using undergraduates TFs affect our school's image?
 - Joseph: It's already sort of happening. We should have a pilot program the first year and evaluate the learning experience after the class.
 - Lauren: Do the grad students who are currently TAs go through a training program?
 - Joseph: No. We could use this training program for them too.
 - Joshua: Will undergrads not only teach, but grade too?
 - Joseph: Possibly. That's a discussion that needs to be had.
- Residential life
 - Student transfer
 - Allow students to transfer in groups
 - Try to find a diverse group of student transfers
 - Avoid annexing students to the new residential colleges
 - Promote new facilities to encourage student transfers; allocate funds to the master and dean to host residential college events before the colleges open
 - Non-academic mentoring and advising
 - Ensure the current class of sophomores in the new colleges is diverse in academic and extracurricular interests and improve the pairing of big sibs and freshmen

- Ensure pre-orientation programs have adequate resources and funding to accommodate an influx of freshmen
 - Explore the creation of a new pre-orientation program (maybe a community-service oriented program that introduces students to New Haven)
 - Residential college culture
 - Hard to recommend ahead of time; new masters and deans will play a huge role
 - Better integration of social and academic life: more Mellon Forums and professor dinners
- Resources
 - Continue utilization of dining halls as study spaces
 - See Lauren Sapienza's report
 - Maybe Schwarzmann Center can help
 - Expanding transportation
 - Comes from earlier reports
 - Make sure bus lines are good
 - Increase on-campus job opportunities in fields of interest for students
 - Improve Office of Career Strategy so students are better able to find paid summer positions
- Questions on resources and residential life
 - David: Might he helpful for a committee to put together a document detailing successful events to provide to new masters and deans as a starting point. The start will be very important in establishing the culture.
 - Joseph: Having the new students help recreate the events they really liked in their previous colleges could also really help. Having it come from the students could encourage freshman buy-in.
 - Joshua: Advertise the FroCo position very, very heavily. Will there be a different timeline for these new FroCos?
 - Joseph: A lot depends on logistics. I don't know.
 - Peter: In terms of transfers, what's the process? Will there be a quota from residential colleges?
 - Joseph: It'll have to be an application system, because it's hard to anticipate what you're getting a group of.
 - Associate: Pre-orientation trips are getting increasingly popular and make freshmen who didn't go on a trip feel socially awkward at the beginning. If the programs are going to grow, should we consider making them required so nobody is left out?
 - Joseph: Gut reaction is no, but want to hear others' thoughts.
 - Megan: Requiring is extreme. Promoting pre-orientation program is done by the programs themselves. University doesn't need to mandate them, but can offer resources in terms of funding to the programs.
 - Associate: Maybe the University should explain what the consequences of not going on these programs are.
 - Megan: Sort of already in brochures.
 - Adam: Duke has one; don't discount it based on the word 'mandatory.'

- Joe: We should make a project to look into mandatory pre-orientation programs.
- Maya: Can we look into when Stiles/Morse opened in '62 and see if there are possible solutions found there?
- Andrew: How can we make freshmen in the new colleges feel like a part of the freshman class to avoid Silliman/TD issues?
 - Joshua: We'll adapt.