Yale College Council
Council of Representatives Meeting
Saturday, December 5, 2015

Agenda Items

1. Preregistration Fair Presentation
2. Room Request Centralization Presentation
3. Graduate and Professional School Mentors Presentation
4. Move Out Deadline Presentation
5. Petitions for Associate Membership
6. Reminders

Attendance

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<th>BK</th>
<th>Diksha Brahmbhatt</th>
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<td>BK</td>
<td>Ethan Young</td>
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<td>Madeline Bauer</td>
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<td>BR</td>
<td>Mollie Johnson</td>
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<td>Amour Alexandre</td>
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<td>Shannon Flores</td>
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<td>Daniel Tovbin</td>
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<td>Michael Yuan</td>
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<td>Sammy Bensinger</td>
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<td>Luis Patiño</td>
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<td>Megan Ruan</td>
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<td>Joseph Tomchak</td>
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<td>Benjamin Held</td>
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<td>Joshua McGilvray</td>
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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).

Preregistration Fair
Presentation by Devyn Rigsby, TC ‘19:
- Centralizing advice for preregistration for freshman
- Potentially starting next fall: August 29 (day of preregistration) and one the day before
- Ensures freshmen know what classes are right for them
- Informal format
- Teaches freshmen how to use the website
- Particularly helpful for English placement
- Use freshman advisers, FroCos, Deans to publicize event

Questions:
- Ethan: It’s a necessary event. Wants freshmen to understand to what extent preregistration means for a class.
- Christopher: Does the academic fair already cover this information?
  - Some of the information is, but since Camp Yale is so crazy, freshmen can’t plan ahead
- Carter: Unsure if people will want to go. Another option: standardize websites and have more comprehensive websites.
- Kate: Professors at academic fair advised freshmen on how to shop. Wonders if we can bring them in.
  - Mollie: Good idea, as it can serve as a reminder.

VOTE TO SUPPORT PREREGISTRATION OPEN HOUSE: PASSED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Room Request Centralization
Presentation by Shah Khan, TC ‘19
- Explained that there are three different systems, one for each of the following: class rooms, study spaces, residential colleges
- Possible solutions:
  - Google Calendars for each individual college on their website that shows when rooms are booked
  - Ask residential colleges to create a website that allows every student to book rooms (but expensive, and not every college allows students from other colleges to book their rooms
- Use existing Yale website (Yale RRS) and work with ITS to add residential colleges
  - Already features a calendar
• Requires NetID and majority of rooms that can be reserved and confirmed there
• Some colleges are already thinking about moving on; Branford already has
• Saves time for operation managers, students, etc.
• Implementation
  o Work with masters and operation managers
  o Provide feedback about Branford’s experience and make presentations to teach them how to work the site
  o Connect them with Matt Pretka from ITS to help with setup

Questions
• Diksha: any way to get Masters’ Office hours on the site and explain when people need to pick up keys/work with Masters Aides?
  o Sure
• Carter: Did you talk to colleges other than Branford?
  o Yes, Trumbull — they’re waiting on Branford
  o Goal is to get Trumbull on the site by early spring
• David Liu: Is the RRS easily found?
  o You’ll have to search Yale room reservations
  o Can also get the site on college websites
• Ethan: how are reservations verified?
  o The ones that need confirmation will say so, and push the request to the appropriate party
  o But some don’t need confirmation
• Joel: Any way to check that people actually use their reservations?
  o No

VOTE TO SUPPORT PREREGISTRATION OPEN HOUSE: PASSED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Grad and Professional School Mentors
Presentation by Carter Helschien, MC ’18
• There’s OCS programs that exist, but they’re poorly publicized
  o Low-income and minority students have expressed desires to speak with older students who might’ve had similar experiences
  o There’s no current link between grad/professional school students and undergrads
• 69% of students said talking with GPSS students would be helpful; 35% thought OCS was helpful
  o So, students would rather talk to students
• Role of mentors:
  o College students complete YCC survey to catalog interests
  o GPSS solicits mentor volunteers, who fill out a similar survey
  o Match mentors and students at 1:2 or 3 person ratio
  o GPSS and YCC both promote service, but it will be housed within YCC
• Grad and professional schools have said they’re down to do it
• Will be rolling out in the spring

Questions
• Associate: How to address mentee surplus? Will juniors or seniors be preferred?
  o Right now, there is no preference, though the topic has come up
- Needs to be promoted on both ends, and we can’t know if we will have to preference people until signups happen
  - Peter: Will there be some type of training for mentors? And if so, who covers it?
    - No, not right now
    - Current plan is to have a ‘meet your mentors’ event and have YCC fund it
    - No current plan for training
    - Will conduct survey at end of program and consider implementing training program once we see results
  - Shannon: Are there general guidelines to sign up? Like be accessible over email, meet three times per semester?
    - Carter thinks it’s an awesome idea
  - Katherine: Will GPSS promote earlier, so we can get an idea of how many mentors are willing to participate? That will allow us to cap number of mentees.
    - YCC and GPSS will promote at the same time, but we’ll pitch it as ‘apply’
    - We can match people at a rolling basis
    - Assuming numbers won’t match up
    - Josh: GPSS is willing to target certain schools after initial push
    - Amour: thinks this will be great, especially when Schwarzmann goes in
- Phan: Who reads through mentor applications?
  - Carter says we do
  - Phan points out this isn’t sustainable, as it requires massive amounts of work
  - Sammy: maybe vice-president can take it over, as VP currently solicits applications for other standing committees or bodies
- Christopher: Can we get this into Yale College? It’s a lot to put on one rep’s shoulders, and could peter out after a year or two.
  - Open to having a standing body
  - Joe: Can fall under Communication Director’s purview
- Associate: want to pair based on interests, rather than background, to ensure goals align
  - Carter likes the idea
  - Wants to find connections
- Megan: can we set it up like Tinder so students can swipe through and pick mentors?
- Diksha: rather than having a database, can we make it a mutual decision?
  - Kate: agree. Pairs need to have some agency in order to maximize chemistry

**VOTE TO SUPPORT GPSS MENTORS: PASSED**

**Extending Move-out Deadline**

*Presentation by Sydney Wade, ES ‘18*

- Currently, students have to move out the at 12:00 after the final day of exams
  - Hard for everyone: facilities barely has enough time, students feel stress with move-out, things are stolen
  - Students are very unhappy with current requirements
- Students want to push deadline by five hours or 12 hours
  - Puts a lot of pressure on facilities, who already contract out lots of work
  - This year, every res college and OC building will be used for commencement
  - Term-time students also move in to Old Campus at 2:00 pm day of move-out
- Shared timeline for move-out in spring
Improvements:
- Don’t extend current move-out policy
- Advertise storage options much earlier
- Assist and/or endorse Spring Salvage, a charity organization
- Create student job/working program to have Yalies help Yalies pack/carry/move (coordinate with Dean Genoni and Master Chun)
- Provide security options for monitoring personal belongings of post-term students for those two hours between move-out and move-in

Questions
- Carter: How can we get students proactive?
- Daniel: Consider increasing accessibility of carts to move boxes, particularly from Old Campus to residential colleges
  - Lots of assent
  - Maddie: it’s much more helpful to have more students positioned on Old Campus because it’s hardest to move from OC into colleges (tends to be farther)

VOTE TO SUPPORT MOVE-OUT RECOMMENDATIONS: PASSED

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP PETITIONS: Unanimously passed
Congrats, Ronny and Jaylen

REMINDERS:
1. Financial Aid Town Hall on Monday at 7 p.m. in LC 102
2. YCC Toasting on Saturday, December 12 at 8 p.m. in Branford’s Mendell Room