



Agenda Items

1. Rep Presentation: Women's Center and SHARE Freshman Programming
2. Lifetime Achievement Award
3. Petition for Associate Membership
4. Mentorship Program
5. The Role of YCC in Campus Dialogue
6. Social Events Brainstorm

Attendance

BK	Diksha Brahmhatt	x	Joseph English	x
BK	Ethan Young	x	Madeline Bauer	x
BR	Mollie Johnson	x	Amour Alexandre	E
BR	Shannon Flores	x	Daniel Tovbin	x
CC	Michael Yuan	x	Sammy Bensinger	x
CC	Luis Patiño	U	Josh Hochman	x
DC	Joseph Cornett	U	Megan Ruan	x
DC	Daniel Hamidi	x	Joel Bervell	x
ES	Sydney Wade	x	Maya Sweedler	x
ES	Joseph Tomchak	x	Phan Nguyen	x
JE	Benjamin Held	x	Alex Cruz	x
MC	Kevin Sullivan	x		
MC	Carter Henschien	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	x		
TC	Devyn Rigsby	x		
TC	Shah Kahn	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).

Women's Center and SHARE Freshman Programming **Presentation by Joshua McGilvray (Council Rep):**

- Problems with Yale Resources
 - Mental Health and Sexual Misconduct Response resources tend to be underutilized (with the exception of counselling)
 - Sexual Misconduct Response Resources
 - Confusion about number of resources available
 - Unknown/foreign
 - “Rape victim” misconception
 - Mental Health Counselling
 - Stigmatized
 - Negative image
- Original idea
 - FroCo led tour of the following resources, with short presentations at each:
 - SHARE
 - Women's Centre
 - Yale MH&C
 - Possibly
 - Walden
 - Title IX
- Issues with this Idea
 - Freshmen are already busy
 - FroCos are already busy
 - MH&C and SHARE are already busy and confidential
 - Camp Yale is a busy time of year
 - Dilemma: mandatory and understaffed or optional and empty?
- Slightly Revised Idea
 - Short Term:
 - Update the cultural houses tour to include the Women's Centre and Office of LGBTQ Resources
 - Longer Term:
 - Work with Maria Trumpler to implement a recommended but not mandatory Wellness Tour (or something similar) as a kickoff event for Wellness Champions. Including MH&C, SHARE elements, along with more attractive activities

Discussion:

- Diksha: What are the cultural house tours already offered and who goes to them?
- Joshua: There is a ton of mandatory stuff during Camp Yale, but in the weekends after that when FroCos still have influence, they do highly recommended but optional things like cultural house tours. They are not run by the FroCos, but advertised by them.
- Jackson: Are there still tours of Yale Health?
- Joshua: Yes but the problem is that SHARE is extremely confidential so taking 1,200 freshmen there in one day would mean SHARE losing the whole day. Move-in is already stressful so a lot of people are trying to go to SHARE, which means it's not practical to bring all the freshmen there as well. It would be great to have a more general wellness tour that wouldn't overrun Yale Health.
- Maddie: The cultural house tour was mandatory for us when we were freshmen which was really helpful. It might be good to bring that back.
- Joshua: I will happily talk to them about that, but the FroCos already are so busy with mandatory activities.
- Rayan: It wasn't really a tour this year, but just a block party festival where they take you there and then you can leave if you want.
- Joshua: I was thinking it'd be good if you walked there, they gave you an 8-min presentation and free food, and then you could hang out for 20 minutes. There are a lot of misunderstandings about these issues. People will turn to you for information as reps, so please educate yourself.

VOTE: PASSED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Lifetime Achievement Award

- There are two main ways Yale students currently engage with big-speakers we bring in:
 - Huge events in Woolsey
 - Master's Teas (very intimate but typically pretty niche speakers, not the best way to meet Yale people)
- Last year, a group met to brainstorm how to create a program where undergraduates can have a chance to intimately engage with undergrad alums and decided creating an award would be a good approach
- That group created the Yale Lifetime Achievement Award in collaboration with President's Office
- There is no award in any Ivy League Institution that comes directly from the students like this
- Last year, the award went to George H.W. Bush (wasn't able to come to campus due to poor health)
- From now on, recipients are required to come to campus (Yale will help out with costs of transportation)
- This year's process:
 - College-wide email explaining award and soliciting nominations
 - Council and EBoard will narrow down the list to 5-8 names
 - Student body wide vote on the winner

Mentorship Program

Goal: Create FCC-YCC mentorship program that pairs up members of FCC and members of YCC

- Sammy: Basically, I've noticed a lot of informal FCC-YCC mentorship relations and I think it'd be great to expand on this and create a program. Some things that are up for discussion is whether it would be one-on-one or involve families, mandatory or optional, random pairings or interest-based, and structured or more autonomous.
- Matt G: I think this is a great idea. There are already lots of FCCers in YCC. However, I have one concern: some FCC members might not see the connection between FCC and YCC because there are such different goals. One idea is having Joe, Maddie, and Sammy come to a future FCC meeting and run through the relationship between the two and ways for freshman to get involved. After that meeting, once members can really see the connection, this will be a really popular idea.
- Rayan: I agree. I really like the idea of families. I did CC and still love my CC family and it's a great bonding experience. I feel like that'd make it slightly less awkward and maybe more productive. Maybe we can send out a google survey.
- Daniel H: I agree that we should do a survey for interest. I find that usually big sibs and little sibs with similar interests tend to hang out and get meals more.
- Matt G: Because current FCC members are so event focused, we've had opportunity to meet a lot of last year's FCC members. It might be helpful to try to work that in too.
- Joshua: In TD, we do a point system where if you send a selfie to the GroupMe with 3 or more members of your family, you get points. There are prizes for the most points.
- Sammy: Would you want to have structured events for the families, like an ice cream social?
- Mollie: I like the ice cream social idea. I think it'd be a good way to kind of kick it off.
- Katherine: I think in general families should have autonomy with meeting with each other, but having an ice cream social or other big events would be good too.
- Diksha: Maybe a prize could be restaurant reimbursement so you can go on a restaurant date. I like the family idea better than one-on-one. The only thing that is complicated is I am already part of so many families and what ends up happening is there is always that one person that can't make it to anything, so that's something to think about.
- Chris: Would it be FCC-YCC or freshman-upperclassmen?
- Phan: It can be either way.
- Megan: In the interest form, you could have people preference whether they want to be a mentor or mentee based on their level of familiarity with YCC and how much they want to learn.
- Josh: To Diksha's point, I think it's totally true that it will be difficult for everyone to make it, but the family model is better because if someone is slacking and it's one-on-one, it just doesn't happen at all.
- Kate: I like the idea of making it such that anyone new to YCC who can have a mentor, because I would definitely benefit.
- Lauren: Megan is my big sib in Pierson and that is awesome.
- Andrew: Do we have a limit on the size of families? If they got like 7-9 people, that'd be too big.
- Maddie: I think we'd do like 3-4 people.
- Joshau: In TD it's 2 older, and 3 younger.

- Maddie: Let's vote on whether we'd like to do this program with the family model.

VOTE: PASSED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

The Role of YCC in Campus Dialogue

- Joe: Please take a few minutes to read Associate Dean Christakis' email and the open letter in response. Should we host a campus wide dialogue on this?
- Carter: No. It would be intervening in a way that is not our place in this issue.
- Matt G: The open letter reminded me of the open letter written in regards to the renaming of Calhoun College. Did YCC have any role in that dialogue/what is typically our authority in these cases?
- Joe: That happened over the summer. We have no power in the naming of the college. That was a very specific policy action item that we are not involved in. This one I'd imagine would be a more discussion-based sort of thing.
- Diksha: I think discussions have already been happening. I've talked to 7 people about this already since last night.
- Daniel H: Has someone approached you asking to host a discussion or is this just an idea?
- Joe: Just an idea.
- Kevin: We should stay away from playing the role of arbiter in this situation. I don't want to necessarily prolong the argument especially since it's Halloween today and tomorrow it's not.
- Sydney: Dean Nelson and some other deans at the cultural houses are already on this.
- Joshua: I find the more public the discussion, often the less useful it is.
- Phan: I think we should also think about what would YCC do if the people leading the movement asked for support because after all we do represent the student voice and this issue doesn't just stop after Halloween ends. Racism doesn't stop after events like this. It's the attitude.
- Josh: I think we would have to really deliberate long and hard on what our criteria are for when we amplify student discussions. It would be a mistake to make this when we inject ourselves into the debate rather than trying to have a discussion about things that are a little bit larger.
- Daniel H: I don't think it's something that we should worry about until someone approaches us and then maybe have them come to the meeting to pitch what a discussion would look like. I like the idea of doing something in partnership with other organizations if we were to do something.
- Joe: One more general question is when are we reactive and when should we be proactive?
- Daniel T: I just think it's so hard to generalize that because it's so specific to whatever occurs.
- Rayan: I think there is a risk reward thing. Stepping in could backfire and look bad on YCC.
- Maddie: Do you think it's okay to host campus-wide conversation/open forums for issues YCC is supporting (e.g. financial aid, mental health)?
- Joe: Town halls are almost always used to follow up on a task force. These are the things we have questions about and are advocating on.
- Maddie: It also usually coincides with campus dialogue.

- Joshua: You said town halls are a way for us to connect with admin and facilitate dialogue. I've seen town halls and there is no dialogue, only yelling.
- Maddie: We've had other town halls with administrators, which were really about asking questions and not fiery like the one you so, so that might've been atypical but that is a legitimate concern.
- Larry: What was the subject of that town hall?
- Joe: Mental health and counselling.
- Maddie: Mental health was a very hot topic on campus last year. There was lots of finger pointing and story sharing.
- Lauren: From what I've experienced, in terms of mental health and financial aid, there was a lot of ambiguity and misinformation out there that needed to be corrected, but here there isn't any of that.
- Joe: Moving on from this, the AAU survey results came out a few weeks ago. The lack of student reaction is on the minds of almost every administrator. I think the Overheard at Yale phenomenon is very real: there is a huge flash, a couple of intense op-eds run in YDN, and as a result, many students on campus either detach or disengage. Should we find a way to engage students in this discussion?
- Matt G: Would our goal be to inform them or get them involved in taking a side?
- Daniel T: In terms of the survey, there are many informal conversations happening. I have been having conversations about it like every day. I don't think there is a lack of conversation about the survey. There is a fine line between what YCC can make available to students in terms of controversial issues.
- Lauren: You know how the Schwarzman center emails were sent out tons of times asking for input? Could we do that with a survey about this and make it anonymous?
- Phan: Maybe instead of a survey, we could make an anonymous chat forum online.
- Joshua: The AAU survey was 110 pages long and people would take one statistic, post it, and go from there. The same is true for financial aid – people misunderstand it. Maybe YCC, at the risk of seeming like we are speaking for administration, could do some kind of impartial fact file.
- Sammy: What about an in-person town hall/campus wide brainstorming session?
- Joseph: My fear is that the people who would come to that are the ones who are already talking. We have to get the ones who aren't already talking to talk.
- Adam: Maybe instead of one huge town hall, we could do something similar to the Schwarzman center listening tours.
- Joshua: The CCEs are already doing something similar. People like to comment as long as it's a 50-word comment but when you ask them to come for 45-min discussion, it's much tougher. Melanie went to every cultural house and every college for dinners and people didn't show up.
- Maddie: Maybe that's why there is an apparent lack of dialogue. One thing that we've brainstormed with Dean Boyd about is the It's On Us Campaign. We could go to each group, ask if they upheld their pledge and if they have any new pledges.
- Andrew: Is it within the scope of the YCC to go through the actual report, find the most important pieces of information, and summarize them in something easy and friendly to students?
- Joe: There is an executive summary available.

- Ethan: Maybe we can have an online presence where we have links for each topic to relevant summaries/full docs. That way, rather than a student needing to know which office to go to, they have all the links presented to them.

Social Events Brainstorm

- Diksha: We are super excited about a Holiday/Thanksgiving dinner kind of thing in Silliman kitchen coming up. I have two other questions: what would you actually want to do and what would be the time that is most feasible?
- Daniel: Rollerblading.
- Joel: Ice skating on a weekend around 8pm.
- Daniel H: Bowling on a weekend afternoon (before or after council).
- Daniel: A carnival.
- Mollie: Fancy restaurant dinner on a Friday night.
- Joel: Paintballing.
- Matt G: Sunday morning hike.
- Maddie: YCC running club.
- Phan: A froyo and popeye chicken event.