Formal Minutes

USG Senate Meeting
Frist MPR B
Sunday, February 12th, 2017 5:00pm

President’s Report:
President Myesha Jemison gave her weekly President’s Report, updating the Senate on the meetings she has been involved in over the week, concerning the direction the University Administration and USG will be pursuing this term. Meetings primarily concerned the Undergraduate Student Life Committee (USLC), specifically two future working groups informed by student concerns about how future programs would adapt and work in conjunction with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and the Affordable Care Act (ACA), and how the University will approach mental health and wellness, as evident through conversations with the Mental Health Initiative and USLC chairs. Jemison further discussed the shift in IT to TigerApps which has focused more on what students desire on campus, such as those apps developed by students through HackPrinceton and implemented through USG.

Senate Appointments:
The Senate voted and approved Soraya Morales Nunez as Class of 2018 Senator, Nadeem Demian as Mental Health Initiative Co-Chair, Aaron Sobel as Student Groups Recognition Committee Co-Chair, and Laura Hausman as Chief Elections Manager. All candidates had full support from the Senate. Nunez was endorsed by current 2018 Class President Brandon Mcghee for her ability to work well with others and with diverse communities as demonstrated by her involvements on campus. Hausman looked to bolster voter turnout using incentive structures and to collect convent information and Listserv communication strategies to connect with voters until voting day.

Honor Committee Appointments:
After two positions on the committee opened up, the application was released to all freshman seminar professors, writing seminar professors, the Dean of Diversity and Conclusion, and varsity athletic coaches, in order to pull from different campus groups to increase representation on the Honor Committee. Diversity of majors was most heavily emphasized in this selection cycle. According to Academics Chair Patrick Flanigan, both candidates Camille Moeckel ‘20 and Wade O’ Brien ‘20 responded to interview and application questions with integrity as well as handled the case study very well. Both Moeckel and Wade, students on the premedical track, were motivated to apply to represent the University as ambassadors, to bolster student-faculty relationships, and to pursue interests to study how people make decisions. Chair of the Honor
Committee Carolyn Liziewski, further addressed a referendum for a task force for honor and discipline to handle issues regarding the consequences of breaking the Honor Code. More information will be coming out late spring. In terms of concerns about the racial and ethnic diversity of the Committee, Liziewski reported reaching out personally to students who had been suggested by Administration, and hopes to expand future outreach efforts by reaching out to general groups and majors instead of individual students.

**Treasury Update:**
A formal budget proposal was scheduled for the next meeting. Most of the budget is predicted to remain the same.

**Communications Update:**
Director of Communications David Lopera provided an update to the Senate, reporting the focus on Instagram as a growth platform for the upcoming term.

**Student Groups Recognition Committee Update:**
SGRC Co-chair Aaron Sobel presented the Senate with a list of groups for approval. Concerns arose over the Center for Interdisciplinary Psychedelic Study, and the appropriate naming of the group as a “center.” The Senate decided to vote on the packet as a whole excluding the Center for Interdisciplinary Psychedelic Study, and voted down CIPS as named the “Center for Interdisciplinary Psychedelic Study. The Senate agreed to vote again on officiating the group once it had changed its name. Sobel reported that one third of applicants were rejected, including a group that had not completed its forms, a second that had not garnered enough on-campus support, and a third about Princeton University gun safety that required more Administrative clarification. The benefits of receiving student group recognition were clarified to be more access to listservs and to have more legitimacy in relation to the advertisement and coordination of group events.

**Social Committee Budget Request:**
Social Committee Chair Lavinia Liang, presented the budget breakdown allotting $73,000 for Lawnparties and $7,000 for the Dean’s Date Celebration at the end of the semester. She anticipated that the full budget would not be spent for Lawnparties, increasing funds for other USG sponsored events such as the Spring concert series which would bus students to concerts happening around New Jersey. Liang addressed concerns about approving a budget earlier for next term, saying that the budget is allocated by school year.