Formal Minutes

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

President’s Report:
President Myesha Jemison gave her weekly President’s Report updating the Senate on meetings with Dean Thomas Dunne and Vice President Rochelle Calhoun about social action at the University and the role of USG in representing all groups’ interests on campus. Jemison emphasized looking into accessibility within buildings on campus and made a proposal to move Senate meetings to different locations on campus in order to increase attendance. Jemison further encouraged Senate members to attend the Day of Action and an upcoming Graduate School Government (GSG) meeting taking place on the following Wednesday.

Social Committee Update:
Social Committee Chair Lavinia Liang updated the Senate on the Committee’s first meeting which took place on the 27th of February. Liang announced that Publicity and Promotions team of the Committee would be tabling in Frist during the upcoming week for suggestions from the student body for Spring Lawnparties, that the Arts team was working to bring student performers together for events, and that the Concert team was planning a concert series pilot for the upcoming semester. After updating the Senate, Liang introduced four new committee members, Omija Agada ‘18, Camilla Zecker ‘19, Thomas Hoopes ‘20, and Apria Pinkett ‘20, whom she selected from a pool of 15 applicants, 12 of which were completed and 7 of which were interviewed. They were approved unanimously.

Diversity and Equity Committee Update:
Diversity and Equity Committee Chair Jeremy Burton introduced four new Committee members, Jaylin Lugardo ‘20, Irma Qavolli ‘20, Sydney Jordan ‘19, and Avanthi Cole ‘18, selected from a pool of 14 applications, 11 of which were completed. Burton announced that 3 members (update to the packet) would be returning from the previous committee. Burton primarily chose the members based on their ideas to work with the centers on campus and host various events such as a multicultural talent show, film festival, and speaker series. Burton is looking forward to increasing the diversity of majors represented in the Committee in the Fall. All members were approved unanimously.

Communications Team Update:
Director of Communications David Lopera introduced his selection for Website Manager, Ikaia Chu ‘20. Lopera selected Chu for his previous experience in computer science and web development. Chu’s role will be to update relevant information and add new features to the USG website. Chu was approved unanimously.

ACA/Student Health Plan Update:
U-Councilor Nicholas Wu ‘19, updated the Senate on the University Student Health Plan and concerns about it, should changes to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) take place. Wu emphasized that because the
Plan is self-insured, it would not not be affected. He further briefed the Senate on the condition of the Plan before and after the ACA came into effect. Previously, the University had already provided students with a very generous health plan. The University later added coverage of up to one million dollars as well as unlimited number of visits for mental health-related issues as a result of ACA regulations. IUDs and Birth Control co-pays were also reimbursed fully. Wu summarized several important points from Vice President Calhoun stating that any changes to current SHP coverage would involve student input and that fees for the upcoming year had already been set based on current policies.

**Mental Health Week Recap:**
MHI Chairs Nadeem Demian and Tobji Jegede presented a recap of Mental Health Week. They noted that it was successful in terms of visibility and awareness, and that certain events such as Write Down Your Stripes and the Me Too Monologues were particularly well attended. Future Mental Health Weeks will seek to improve attendance at events similar to those hosted by CPS Councilors and the Women’s Center, by making event times more convenient for students.

**Meeting With Housing and Student Room Guide:**
Class of 2019 Senator Andrew Ma updated the Senate on a meeting he and former chair of TigerApps Ben Parks attended with Director of Housing Angela Hodgeman to update the housing guide. The meeting was set to look into installing automatic updates in the application and reinstate room reviews. IT posed two concerns, advising Ma and Parks to make sure to apply University policy especially in the case of linking data and to watch for inaccurate information on the app. Moving forward, a letter explaining the use and need of data for the application will be sent to Housing as requested by Director Hodgeman.
Informal Meeting Minutes

USG Senate Meeting Notes
Start - 5:06pm

President's Report
- VP Calhoun - think about representation w/in USG
- Accessibility w/in buildings on campus (Nassau Hall)
  - Campus life should think about this
- 2 students repping student body committee on architecture Anna March and Jack Lowman
- Day of Action is tomorrow
  - Great thing to see how event is going
  - As well as talk to students to see why they’re attending
  - Coordinate with grad
- Next grad meeting is this upcoming Wednesday
  - Good opportunity to see what they’re doing in terms of their government
- Campus plan overview
  - All members should be familiar with the strategic plan
- Action plans (refer to agenda)
- Summaries of documents which Andrew Ma will send
- Something else that came up in terms of representation
  - Have the meetings at different locations around campus
    - Move to place where students who aren’t in usg are
  - Thoughts?
    - → Q: how does that address active participation of non-usg members?
    - → A: outreach would accompany the change in location
    - → Q: would we tailor it to people’s interests?
    - → A: we would reach out and have ~5min session where they can comment and provide feedback
    - → Q: Because we have meetings on Sundays people aren’t really around
    - → Q: because we’re already meeting in frist etc. location might not be the issue
    - → A: having meetings be thematic might be a good way to start off

Social Committee Update
- Had first entire committee meeting and talked about breaking into project teams
  - Arts team
  - Concert team
  - Lawn parties team
  - Publicity and Promotions
- Merchandise coming up later in the semester for the entire student body (with logo on the top)
- 15 applications (12 completed. 7 interviewed. 4 chosen)
  - Committee helped interview new members
- Didn’t look for major breakdown or experience but more at how they thought they would fit in the team and what kind of campus-wide experience they brought to the table
- Ojima is a junior—good background, talked a lot about how Sprint was a big part of his life before cancelled, and how teamwork was a big part as well … wanted to repeat access to upperclassmen to a frosh
- Camilla → lots of experience planning events and leading teams
- Thomas → entire fam is in advertising (rebrand it so it’s more than just lawn parties
  - Involved in concerts and concert planning, dream job
- Apria → emphasized the importance of establishing traditions, doing more than lawn parties
- Vote: 22 for, no abstain, no against
- Committee logos could be a good idea

**Diversity and Equity Committee Update**
- Four new members selected, 14 applications total, 11 completed
  - Listed on handout
  - 3 returning members
- Interested in the 4 people because of the ideas they came up with
  - All involved in very different groups on campus (volunteer, cultural, dance teams, political organizations)
  - Ideas
    - Multicultural talent show
    - Film festival
    - Speaker series
    - Work with centers to see how different groups interact and talking about the different identities
- Q → importance of diversity in academic majors?
  - A: didn’t have a huge variety of people in the application pool, something to look forward to in the fall
- Q → students can be on multiple committees?
  - A: can have multiple appointed but not multiple elected ones
- Vote: 22 for, no against, no abstain

**Communications Team Update**
- Approval of new website manager
- He will be updating relevant information, adding new things
- Had idea for creating a way where people can also look at clubs and learn more about them
- Vote: 22 for, 0 against, 0 abstain

**ACA Update**
- Student health plan change with affordable health care
- Princeton is self-insured (Princeton is able to select what it will cover)
- Before: U already had very generous health plan, when ACA came into effect in order to comply with state law etc. extra expenses added, but didn’t really affect students (ex: “princeton will cover health expenses up to $1M)
  - Key difference: before, birth control/IUDs pretty accessible etc, but people had to pay for different levels, had to copay
- After: pretty much stayed the same but now birth control and IUDs fully reimbursed, you can still buy in house ones for the same costs
  - Students were now allowed unlimited visits for mental health issues
- Why is this relevant to us?
  - As members of senate and liaisons to student body, we should know about the health plan affecting students
  - Esp. w/ new Administration we should know what happens to students on campus
- VP Calhoun “nothing’s going to happen in the immediate year
  - Costs for health plan are decided this year for next year
  - She is very committed to getting student input before rolling out new plan
  - No huge ramifications, but we do need to consider those students who aren’t on the University plan who might want to switch
- Q → is this info going to be sent out to students
  - A → meeting said that they would, but will double check.

**Mental Health Week Recap**
- Big success!
- Every year pretty successful in terms of visibility and awareness
- Write Down Your Stripes = very successful
- Generally events where we were giving away stuff were more well attended
  - Ex: bubbles, care package event
- CPS Councilors event → found that time wasn’t the best time so attendance wasn’t very good but will continue and work on timing in the future
- Also event with Women’s Center → had many important topics discussed, but timing was an issue again
- Me Too Monologues → very successful
- Smile Monologue (performance) → sharing exp post-princeton w/depression
  - Even though there weren’t many people there, it was very successful in terms of the message and productivity in discussion around MH
- Meditation Event → issue with that was timing once again… something that will be continued but logistics need to be worked out in terms of timing
- Q → a lot of the bullet points talk about giveaways, but what’s the plan in terms of collecting metrics to measuring impact and how successful it was
  - A: no plans rn to figure out metrics
  - A: moving forward we could look to see how we could increase attendance next year.
  - A: switch afternoon events for late evening events

**Student Room Guide App**
- Ben Parks (former chair of TigerApps)
- Met with Angela Hodgeman (director of housing) as well as two people from U’s IT side to revamp the housing guide
  - Establish a good relationship with housing so that the app is sustainable
- Looking for a way to have data automatically updated
- Reinstall room reviews
- Create infrastructure so that it can be sustained after chairs graduate
- Generate data from room-reviews
  - Improve room draw process as well!
- Two concerns from IT
  - 1) make sure to apply university policy esp if we’re linking data
  - 2) issues last year w/ inaccurate information on the app (a few students complained about the data being wrong and this year requested priority draw because there was inaccurate data on the app last year)
- Moving Forward
  - To avoid problems of out-of-sync data
  - Disclaimer: that people know to check the official site along with using the app
  - Angela Hodgeman requested that we send a letter to Housing explaining why we need the data, and what data do we need
- Q→ what type of inaccurate information?
  - A: screen shots about room-sizing (will update once screen shots are seen)
- Q→ suggestions, could do course review style room review