Formal Minutes

USG Senate Meeting
Lewis 138
Sunday, February 21st, 2016 4:00 pm

Projects Board Proposals
The Projects Board had two project proposals to present. The first was for the Farmers’ Market, a community event that would last for five consecutive Wednesdays. The organization planning the Market already has funding from campus dining, the High Meadows Sustainability Fund, and from graduate student funding. There are four or five undergraduates currently working on the project and the target audience is the entire Princeton community, including the town. With one abstention and everyone else in favor, the proposal is approved. The second project proposal was given by Service in Style for their annual Fashion Speaks show. Proceeds from this charity event go towards Eden autism services in Princeton. The large-scale, professional-grade fashion is only allowed to ask donors for money to go towards Eden, not running the show itself. With no abstentions and everyone in favor, the proposal is also approved.

President’s Report
President Aleksandra Czulak first raises the idea of how to make wellness information more accessible, after conversations with PPP, MHI, and USLC. There are sample wellness tabs in school-wide emails, but other possibilities include using the Mindful Princeton website. This transitions to a conversation about using USG websites in general, which Lucas Ramos is currently working on. Czulak mentioned the use of the Resoltz app as a web-based and mobile app that would have videos on fitness tips and how to maintain healthy choices. Before it is released to everyone in a big campaign, the goal is to try and get PSH and SHAB involved. An announcement is made on the Whig-Clio debate that will happen on Wednesday, February 24th on the renaming of the Woodrow Wilson school. There is discussion about what role USG should play in the debate and the consensus leans towards USG publicizing the event, but not endorsing either side.

Student Groups Recognition Committee
Student Groups Recognition Committee Chair Paul Yang presents members of his committee for the upcoming term. Apart from three returning members to the committee, one new freshman member is nominated. After a brief introduction, the Senate votes; no abstentions, all in favor, the member is approved.

Projects Board
Projects Board Chair Nicholas Fernandez announces that the Projects Board had received eight applications from students who put Projects Board as their first choice. Two freshmen and one sophomore were added to the board. They all represent a wide variety of campus groups and have diverse interests. With no abstentions, all in favor, the new members are approved.

Communications Committee Update
Director of Communications Katie Cion is working on getting projects running for the semester. The Facebook page is more active and two member profiles will be released every week. David
Lopera filmed a video on the retreat that happened on February 7th and it is a good way to share everything and reach a wider network of people. Cion explained that she will be meeting with Academics Committee Chair Shannon Osaka about a publicity campaign for the calendar survey that is to be released on March 1. Another goal for the Communications team is to create a better online feedback mechanism for USG. The communications team is also working on ways to redecorate the USG office and making it look generally more appealing. After spring break, there will be a big release of the new office that will include vintage t-shirt giveaways as a way to get students into the office.

MHI Update
Mental Health Initiative Board Chairs Sarah Sakha and Nathan Yoo explain their application process for this term. With 21 applicants, mainly freshmen and sophomores, the MHI Board accepted eight students. This is one of the biggest boards MHI has ever had and their aim for the semester is better daily programming, since there is no Mental Health Week for the current semester. U-Councilor Miranda Rosen pointed out that she was impressed at the number of applicants for the group, which really speaks to the great work MHI has done. With no abstentions and everyone in favor, all new members are approved.

CCA Committee Member Approval
CCA Committee Chair Michael Cox explained that he had a pretty standard interview process. With mainly freshmen applicants, among the selected members include a freshman from the Princeton area, which Cox feels like is necessary for the group. One new member will attempt to make part of Princeton a nationally-certified arboretum. With no abstentions and all in favor, all new members of the CCA Committee are approved.

Social Committee Member Approval
Social Committee Chair Rachel Park explains her application process for the term. With 41 applicants, including old members, Park accepted three new members. Big projects coming up for the Social Committee include Lawn Parties and Dean’s Date, which are core projects that are expected to be carried out every semester. With no abstentions and all in favor, all members of the Social Committee are approved.

Lawn Parties Fund Request
Social Committee Chair Rachel Park runs through the Spring 2016 Lawn Parties Fund Request. For the main act, the Social Committee is requesting $70,000 for the operational and food costs, $12,000, for a total of $82,000. Reasons for the higher than usual main act cost is that in the past, the headliner was always around $50,000 and the opener was around $20,000. However, the act that will be booked for the Spring has its own opener. Princeton has a relatively smaller budget compared to other universities and so this act was only accessible through personal connections and with the influence of Dean Dunne. Treasurer Hunter Dong explains that this budget plan actually makes sense, seeing as how Spring Lawn Parties are typically more expensive than the Fall and that these types of performances have costs that are rising. The headliner is coming on at 5:00 pm and so Park is working closely with the ICC to figure out scheduling to keep the Street packed for longer that day and keep students out for an extra hour. With no abstentions and all in favor, the Social Committee Lawn Parties budget is approved.
Treasury Committee
Treasurer Hunter Dong explains that the Treasury will have their inaugural committee and committee members starting in the Spring 2016. With 15 applications, Dong accepted three students, all of whom will be helping Dong in attending Projects Boards meetings, collecting receipts from Senate members, and joining the working group to research how other universities receive funding and how their funding systems work. Additionally, the Treasurer position in the Senate has typically been filled by a newcomer to the system and this way, the Treasurer could now potentially be an individual with experience working with the previous Treasurer. With no abstentions and all in favor, the Treasury Committee and the three members are approved.

Treasury Budget Report
Treasurer Hunter Dong runs through the budget for the Spring 2016 semester. The budget will be more flushed out as the semester goes on and as Dong gets more concrete reports from other projects and committees, but the skeleton budget is based on previous years’ budgets. The Helios election system costs a fixed amount and that will not change. The Academics Committee has a certain amount of money allocated for Communiversity. The Diversity and Equity Committee gets money for sending individuals to the LEAD Summit. The IT Committee gets money to run their websites and apps. Committees like MHI and PPP have not yet submitted detailed budget reports for the semester, but their budgets typically do not change from year to year. Office supply budget is based on previous year budgets as well. The Social Committee budget consists mainly of funds to operate Lawn Parties and Dean’s Date. Finally, the USLC budget usually does not change as well and requires funds to run free fitness classes. A lot of Senate projects end up being free, but money is reserved for them in the budget just in case. With no abstentions and all in favor, the budget is approved.

CPUC Update
U-Councilors Naimah Hakim and Brandon McGhee present an update on the CPUC meeting. Two major presentations took place at the CPUC meeting. The first was on the undergraduate student increase that is set to occur in a few years. The graduate student population is wondering about a possible graduate student population increase as a result, but President Christopher Eisgruber does not believe this is a cause for worry and that graduate student admissions would be on a department by department basis. Eisgruber at the meeting mentioned that there are a number of students in the upcoming class that are Pell eligible, around 18%. The second major presentation was on the Wilson legacy. As of February 19th, the page that discusses Wilson’s legacy released by Princeton had 601 comments and serves as a town hall opportunity for people to voice their opinions. Administrators want to hear opinions from the university community, but big emphasis was placed on how that the committee is looking for comments, their actions are not necessarily going to be reflective of the majority opinion. They want to see how people are thinking and talking about the issue. The next CPUC meeting will be March 28th and if there is a pressing issue that any Senate member believes should be discussed, they should speak with Hakim.

Sustainable Events Working Group
Class of 2019 Senator Andrew Ma presents an update from the Sustainable Events Working Group. The group wants to endorse a set of guidelines and principles that are running themes for
sustainability that campus groups. These guidelines are not binding and are not yet approved, but USG could potentially also endorse these principles with our own events.

**Committee Updates**
Academics Committee Chair Shannon Osaka gives the penultimate calendar update. All Senate members are advised to encourage everyone on campus to take the survey. It will be a huge effort and if we do not get good response rates, the whole project will not be very fruitful. The issue of publicity bias was brought up, but Senate members should be fine as long as every individual only publicizes that the survey exists. Senate members are also allowed to express their own personal opinions, but those opinions should not be expressed from a position on USG, but only from an individual level.
Informal Minutes
February 21st, Lewis 138

Call to Order 4:03

Katie Wolf
Farmers Market
5 Consecutive Wednesdays

- Already have funding from campus dining, sustainability fund (high meadows), graduate
  student funding, looking to USG for more funding
- Aleks: how has this been funded in the past
- High meadows sustainability fund, not a renewable fund, asking for a little less, also used
  to get money from graduate student government and donations from regional and
  community affairs, a little more expensive this year because of electricity
- Four or five undergraduates working on this
- Ethan: who is the target, who is involved?
- Want to target as many people as possible, including staff and community members,
  really trying to get everyone together, campus dining is involved doing demo stations
- Ethan: How many vendors:
- Typically 8-10, they have around 9 right now
- Ethan: Is there room to grow?
- We’ll definitely have more farmers this year, more vendors this year for sure compared to
  previous years
- Shannon: overlap with Thursday farmers market in front of PPL?
- That only happens one Thursday a month, overlap in a sense, that one Thursday will
  overlap, but we hope to advertise their market at our market as well
- 1 abstention
- no not in favor
- rest in favor
- approved

Second Projects Board Funding Request
Service in Style

- 14th annual fashion speaks show, service in style puts on show every April, autism
  awareness month, supports Eden autism services in Princeton, helps students on autism
  spectrum until 18, professional help, over 100 students involved in the organization on
  different committees or models, largest student fundraising org at Princeton
- 2014, over 40,000 for Eden, last year over 19,000
- two shows, April in Schultz Dining Room, around 500 expected to attend
- not allowed to ask donors for funding for the show, all donations go to Eden
- large scale, professional grade fashion show
- last year Projects Board gave 3000, every dollar was essential
- past years funding from Alcohol initiative, departments for printing/chairs, varies from
  year to year, has used USG in the past
- funding request is lower this year because there is no banquet
• Ethan: why are you requesting more money from us this year?
• Alcohol initiative is less this year, less cost in total, but more from USG this year
• No abstentions
• No not in favor
• Approved
• Michael: did KASA happen?
• Nicholas: no, they are having issues with ODUS, they did not get money from us yet
• Aleks: in the future, we should have updates on all events we give money to

President’s Report
• Wellness tab, sample wellness tab in emails, coming from PPP, MHI, USLC conversations, want more wellness information to be available, might use Mindful Princeton website, where can this information be resourced to?
• Naimah: Mindful Princeton website is a great resource, the only issue is getting someone on top of it regularly, since IT is moving more in the direction of apps, how would we fill that gap of a role
• Alek: overall, we are just looking at our websites, with Lucas Ramos, how can we use them, since Aleks sends out two emails, she can say when information is uploaded
• Nathan: two members of MHI are in charge of updating that website this semester, put them in touch with IT
• Providing resources for students to use, Resoltz app, should it be a USG or USLC partnership? Website and mobile app, have videos on fitness tips, wants to maintain healthy choices, very easy to binge, encourages watching health, alum post-Princeton decided to make this, has Campus Rec support
• Naimah: are they in touch with UMatter? There could be opportunity for collaboration
• Aleks: should spearhead it more after spring break, really good point, before it is released as a campaign to everyone get PSH and SHAB involved
• Alek: who came to the open forum that board of trustees had on Friday? Recap on that, points brought up by alumni, faculty and staff, concern about the number of students that came, Aleks hears the same students speak at these types of events, Whig Clio hosting a debate on Wednesday, how can we bring together different groups and this debate is good for that, should we partner with Whig Clio to get students to attend? Should it be a part of the school wide email? We want students to be a part of it, Aleks is meeting with the president of Whig Clio later today
• Katie: publicity is a no-brainer, it’s a big event on campus, encouraging attendance shouldn’t be problematic
• Ethan: good publicity, hesitant about sponsorship, USG should not be a part of the controversy, Princeton should know about it though
• Naimah: speaks to a larger question of how does USG relate to activism, creating a website that provides resources for students, topic worth flushing out more, agrees that publicity the move over sponsorship
• Lavinia: having the logos mean on the posters mean that organizations are sponsoring it, Whig Clio, BJL, POCC, if USG sponsored the debate, it should be fine because it by definition explores both sides, USG was criticized in the past for being inactive
Student Groups Recognition Committee
Paul
- 3 returning members to Students Recognition Committee
- 1 new member, freshman, Aleks’s zee
- no abstentions
- no not in favor
- approved

Projects Board Approvals
Nicholas
- 8 applications for students who put projects board as first choice
- wanted at least 2 freshmen
- selected 1 sophomore, because no junior or senior applicants
- represent wide variety of campus groups, more women was a consideration, all were very qualified, diverse interests
- no abstentions
- no not in favor
- approved

Communications Committee Update
Katie
- working on getting things running for the semester
- Facebook is more active, two member profiles per week, please respond to google form, want to be able to post profiles whenever they’re most relevant
- posting updates out of Aleks’s emails, David did a really cool video on the retreat, welcome video to the new USG, share everything, helps us reach a wider network of people
- meeting with Shannon tonight to talk about publicity campaign for calendar survey that’s coming out March 1
- online feedback mechanism for USG, talked about a couple different platform, should comments be public? Should we respond to all comments? Let her know comments
- redoing the office, snazzing it up, getting more posters, ideas for helping with that, any materials
- Aleks: 10-15 responses she gets already, but she wants a more formal way for students to reach out to all of USG, not just the president
- Jeremy: we used to do this week at Princeton, will we continue that?
- Katie: we did talk about that at the comms meeting, the way it worked last semester was a little weird, better way to solicit and present the information of what is going on, but also work with timeline because the two initiatives seem to overlap
- Jeremy: is there a form for groups to use if they want USG to publicize something?
- Aleks: no not yet
- Jeremy: about the timeline pilot, ideally all of senate will be piloting it, everyone will be using it in some capacity, everyone is getting a 30-minute demo on how to use it, Jeremy will send out a doodle poll, ideally this Friday, we all have to know how to use it if we are going to give feedback
• Aleks: student lounge is open to all student, letting office workers know that the room needs to be clean a little more, big release of the office will happen after spring break, a big revamp, vintage t-shirts will be given away, will be a good way to get people into the office

MHI Update
Sarah and Nathan
• 21 applicants, mainly freshmen and sophomores, difficult to narrow it down, everyone has such a tangible interest
• 8 accepted, roughly 20 members of the board, one of the biggest boards ever
• policy and programming ideas, aiming for daily programming because there is no more Mental Health Week this semester, individual and group projects, meeting with administrators and CPS, very excited for the year
• Miranda: really impressed that they had 20 applicants, we should take note that this committee had so many applications, incredible, speaks to how great MHI is
• No abstentions
• No not in favor
• Approved

CCA Approval
Michael
• Pretty standard interview process
• Screened the applications, had 8
• Mainly freshmen, 1 freshman from Princeton, obviously CCA should have someone from the town, will have connections
• Matthew Ramirez, interested in trees, wants a nationally certified arboretum, originally applied for a position on USG, but will now have the support of a committee
• And picked a sophomore, all very qualified
• Michael was very adaptable, all very qualified
• No abstentions
• No not in favor
• Approved

Social Approval
Rachel
• 41 applications, obviously a lot, includes her old members, focus was on accepting the returning members, wanted to take on a few new freshmen so they could have a better understanding the process of how Lawn Parties/Dean’s Date is planned, core projects that Social Committee is expected to carry out every year
• 14 returning
• 3 new members, varied interests across the board
• includes Lucas, who will revamp the website for social committee and work on publicity thing
• Kasia is theater-y, which is good
• Liam is into music
No abstentions
No not in favor
Approved

Miranda: can we approve through emails? Trusts the chairs discretion
Ethan: in the constitution, we might have to vote in person
Aleks: the reason why I think this is important is because of differences in gender/interests, Senate members can catch things
Aleks: if anyone has any suggestions on how to change the voting process, email her and Jeremy

LP Fund Request
Rachel
- Main act 70k, operational 12k, recognizes this past they spent 40k on the headliner, which cut down the total cost significantly, but the main act will go on at 5 pm instead of 4 pm, so we need more food to keep students on the street, which is why food cost isn’t going down
- Ethan: why so high?
- Very small budget compared to other universities, able to pull this act through personal connections and through Dean Dunne, haven’t had an act like this in a long time
- Rachel is trying not to be vague but is trying to give us as much information as possible
- In the past, the headliner was 50 and 20 for opener, but this act has their own opener
- Shobhit: how feasible is this?
- Hunter: this makes a lot of sense, spring is always a little more expensive, not cutting into deans’ date fund, this is in line with what we have spent in the past and taking into account that this price should increase year after year
- The group has a concert the night before and they need to pack their equipment and fly here the day of, huge favor to Dean Dunne
- Michael: do the clubs know that it’s going to be at 5?
- Talking to ICC and figuring out their schedule, want to keep the day packed to keep students on the street
- Rachel: we have a whole plan going on, just met with LP committee earlier today, logistics will come out at the next senate meeting
- No abstentions
- No not in favor
- Approved

Treasury Update
Hunter
- Has a committee now
- We need to approve the committee and the new members
- 15 applications, took 3
- was looking for a good mix of realism and ambition, integrity, organization, willingness to work, attacking people to get receipts
- hanseul, diego, Daniel, two freshmen, one sophomore, minorities, gender equality
- prospective econ, hanseul, good ideas, understood what we could and couldn’t do
- diego, tired of the same systems, wants to fix/understand it better
- Daniel, prospective orfe, also experienced with on-campus funding procedures
- Shobhit: what was Hanseul’s reason for Fetty Wap
- He’s from NJ, good for him to come back to his roots
- Naimah: recap how the treasury committee came about?
- Aleks suggested it, hunter agreed with it, treasurer job is not particularly difficult, but difficult in the sense that he has to keep track of everyone by himself, some roles of treasurer that have been unfulfilled for a while, committee members can go to projects board meeting, attach for receipts, organization can get very daunting and this can help streamline things
- Hunter: reason why he took three was projects board, getting receipts, on working group on how other universities receive funding and how funding works
- Also treasurer position in the past has been a newbie, very few people interested in general, would be good for a type of training
- Ethan: what was the makeup of the applicants in the sense of degrees? Was there more academic diversity?
- Hunter: make up was not particularly unexpected, but there was nothing we could really do about that, but it makes sense that the are all social science oriented
- Bundling voting on committee and members
- No abstentions
- No not in favor
- Approved

Treasury Budget Report
- Will be more flushed out as the semester goes on and as he gets more concrete reports from other organizations
- Top line, revenue, how much we have available, starting off with more money than last year at this time
- Helios is going to cost that much
- Recruitment, pretty much constant, pretty much set
- Academics, more or less a free committee, has food at meetings
- CCA, communiversity requested was 8500, but communiversity is getting larger and CCA is looking to do more events, so that’s why it’s 10000 now
- Div and Equity, LEAD Summit gets larger, 4000 after external funding comes in
- IT, trying to consolidate to AWS backend, but as is, 350 for the semester
- MHI has not gotten back to him on specific planning for the semester, but this is based on what they have done in the past
- PPP, save, hasn’t gotten back to Hunter on their own schedule, based on the past
- Office stuff usually stays the same, it could change
- Social, lawnparties fund request was discussed, dean’s date was how much it was last year, concert series, buses to basketball games, battle of the bands, last year all that was 10k, but it is now cut to 7k but LP is costing more
- USLC, free fitness classes are regular, USLC doesn’t usually change
- A lot of senate projects usually ends up being free, all projects need to apply for funding, but this is just what is expected, if projects want funding, first email Jeremy to make sure
that is an appropriate spending amount, this is probably what this will look like for the spring

- Naimah: how soon do you think they will hear from other committees?
- Hunter: they usually come to him on an event by event basis, but now that there is a treasury committee, that is a job for them
- Aleks: PPP MHI good that they are trying to look to funding from other sources, less from USG, more from residential colleges
- No abstentions
- No not in favor
- Approved

CPUC Update

Naimah

- Two major presentations
- Graduate students worried about undergraduate student increase, would graduate student population also increase? Department by department basis possibly, but Eisgruber does not believe this is a cause for worry
- Eisgruber talked about how there are a number of students in the upcoming class with Pell Grants, 18% being Pell eligible, increase from past years, Eisgruber is hoping you will be able to find the report on the website, Fall of 2018 university will be able to accept transfer applicants
- Wilson, 575 comments, now they have 601 as of February 19th, town hall opportunity for people to voice their opinions, wanted to hear from university community, big emphasis that this committee is looking for comments but that their actions are not necessarily going to reflect that consensus, they just want to see how people are thinking/talking about this issue
- Next CPUC meeting will be March 28th, if there is anything pressing, let Naimah know and she will help with the topic setting
- Aleks: mention how the structure of CPUC meeting is going to be at ExComm meeting
- Cailin: wants to add that generally, students might feel discouraged from attending because Board of Trustees doesn’t have to act on behalf of popular opinion
- Myesha: is the pell grant the only number they are using to diversify the student body?
- Naimah: transfer students is another vehicle to bring in military service backgrounds and socioeconomic diversity, racial diversity is looking to expand through other means
- Brandon: something they said explicitly was some students can go to community college for a couple years and then they might feel prepared to come to Princeton

Sustainable Events Working Groups

Andrew

- Stepped in Dallas’s place
- Endorse a set of guidelines and principles, talked about general themes of the group
- Principles can be found in packet
- Goal is to endorse them by next meeting
- Would USG be willing to endorse these principles with our own events?
• Not binding, but it sends a good message to the school that we are being environmentally friendly, not pressing because the principles haven’t become official yet

Committee Updates
Will have more updates in the future
Shannon
• Penultimate calendar update, calendar will come out next Monday, March 1, encourage everyone on campus to take the survey, huge effort, this is the opportunity to change the calendar for the next ten years based on how often this happens institutionally
• If we don’t have good response rates, this will be dead in the water
• Briefed several committees about the survey, talked to faculty about this
• Will be open for 2 weeks, want to get as many responses
• Naimah: this is so huge, everyone should know about, a cover photo or facebook campaign? I think we should move in that direction, move social media wise
• Shannon: Katie is coming to the meeting tonight and will help work on that, wants to reach out in every possible way
• Michael: publicity bias? Will that be an issue?
• Shannon: if we just publicize that the survey exists, that can be find, infographic in the Prince and it is hard for her to get perspective because she has been working on it for a really long time, but that will be useful to publicize it
• Cailin: as Senate members, are we allowed to express an opinion, convince our friends to vote a certain way
• Shannon: encourage people to take the survey, encourages people to heavily weigh all their options, express her feelings as an individual, but not as a USG member, be cautious, don’t send school-wide emails or something related to your position to express your opinions, but you are allowed to have one and talk about it
• Aleks: lots of surveys coming up for the semester, this is the first one, others include We Speak, enrolled students, Combos survey