

Meeting Notes of the General Assembly

Wednesday, 2 December 2015

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Approval of Minutes

IV. Public Comment Time

- Evelyn Sanchez
 - Multicultural coalition has been working with different multicultural students.
 - Asian students aren't on the proposal
 - Multicultural students = first generation, low income, students of color
 - Multicultural Coalition believes that the BSG should address issues that concern the coalition, if there is a multicultural rep someone could be accountable to speak on the specific issues concerning multicultural students
- Ben Painter:
 - Do you only deal with issues of race, or does it concern issues of LGBTQ, religious minorities, etc?
- Evelyn:
 - Mainly issues of race
- Victor:
 - We provide cultural comfort; gender issues are important to address, and the coalition understands that there are students that are multicultural and identify with other identities
- Evelyn:
 - The representative will create collaborations that will hopefully bring bigger audiences to events that are primarily attended by students of color. If BSG advertises them more people would probably show up.
- How will you go about electing the representative?

- Evelyn:
 - Some organizations don't have a hierarchy (and have board members), we think that each group should have one vote in deciding who the Representative should be.
- James Jelin:
 - Pleased and excited with BSG, as being one of the first to comment on the issues of race on campus.
- Ashley:
 - We hope that the concerns of multicultural students aren't only brought up in times of crisis.

V. Introduction of Guests

VI. Old business

- *Proposal to vote: Amendment to the bylaws*
- Andrew:

We need to give this full consideration. Would like to see more attention to see how we can approach the issue if it happens again
- Brian:
 - We jumped from a vote saying that "this is okay" then we jumped to the assumption that this is "our best option". We did not vote whether we even want an interim individual. What are the exact reasons why we need someone in the summer
- Michelle:
 - This was a month into a school and well into someone needing to perform their duties
- Student:
 - There needs to be an elective position from someone in the assembly. We need to have a full assembly so that we can vote on issues affecting campus. We don't have some where in the constitution that explains what to do in the situation we were put in during the summer. The amendments clarify that.
- Nick:

- If we are assembled that means that the vacant position is filled. This is the best way to deal with the problem.
- David:
 - You need someone in place from the very beginning of the school year. The summer might seem like an unimportant time, but that is when a lot of the planning and groundwork for the school year is made.
- Andrew:
 - The idea of having someone elected could be more important to people
- Brian:
 - There are more benefits for having a full election (with the student body) than this process.
- Michelle:
 - But, the election would not be in the hands of the student body, it would be in the hands of us
- Andrew
 - There were a lot of public concerns made; we need more time to think/discuss the proposal
- David:
 - In terms of more time- we have been discussing this for an entire semester. We have had 2 meetings worth discussion. This is the simplest and best idea. I agree with Brian that we will be able to figure out and make it work, but why would we make it difficult for our selves if we already have a solution?
- Jack:
 - Why couldn't the assembly already in the assembly select one of the people that have already been elected?
- Kevin:
 - We would have to make a change into the constitution.
- Vote for *Proposal- Amendment to the Bylaws* postponed

VII. Reports of Committees

- a. Student Affairs- Luke Von Maur '16
 - No Hate November was a big success
 - Want to formalize the safe walk group on Facebook
 - Professor Purnell's common hour was a big success
- b. Student Organizations Oversight Committee - Emily Server '16
 - Following up with all chartered clubs to make sure they have all started
 - Started planning activities next semester
- c. Academic Affairs - Andrew Millar '16
 - Textbook website
- d. Facilities and Sustainability – Kevin Hernandez '18
 - Proposal to Vote: Promoting Reusable Mugs
 - Free bowling will start next Thursday
 - Working on issues of class, called a focus group to start more effective dialogue.
- e. Student Activities Funding Committee- David Levine '16
 - Last meeting will be next Monday, and the SAFC will be back in January.
 - Money is good.
- f. Executive Committee- Daniel Mejia-Cruz'16/ Michelle Kruk '16
 - Daniel:
 - Explains Multicultural Representative Proposal
 - Jacob:
 - We spend time speaking about issues within us, but we should also focus about issues on campus. We should make this [proposal] a priority on campus
 - Jack:

- This is an important motion and very critical in light of the recent events. It gives voice to the people who have been underrepresented at Bowdoin.
- Chase:
 - We spent 20 minutes talking about a constitutional amendment, but we should focus on encouraging people to vote.
- Jacob:
 - It is hard to vote “No” on this proposal. The challenge will be getting 600 votes.
- Emily:
 - This proposal isn’t the first time it has been brought up. There are people on campus who are not for the proposal. Talk people and listen to their opposition, and enlighten them. Dissenting views do exist.
- Michelle:
 - We are making Bowdoin history and institutional change. This is very important to people who have felt disenfranchised,
- Emily:
 - [This proposal] would send a message about the student body if this referendum passes, but the student body votes “no” or there weren’t enough votes.
- ***Multicultural Representative Proposal*** - passes.

VIII. Reports of Members

a. Class Councils

- 2019- planning freshman/sophomore formal
- 2018- planning freshman/sophomore formal
- 2017- junior/senior ball on Friday; expecting ¼ zips
- 2016- junior/senior ball; expecting class gear

b. Inter- House council

- There was a lot of great programing from the Houses this semester

- “How Islamic is the Islamic State?” for No Hate November was hosted in Mac House
- College house people were encouraged to come to the town hall meeting with President Rose

c. Entertainment Board

- BORNS coming in February

d. Athletic Council

- 200 rally towels were ordered; cost was about \$400
- Meeting with captains about things teams can do as an extension of No Hate November

e. McKeen Center: *Absent*

f. At- Large Representatives

- Concerns over the ticket distribution of the Bowdoin v. Colby Hockey game.
- Concerns over why there isn't an LGBTQ rep
- Concerns in regards to more “quiet spaces in the library”. (The first floor tends to be loud)

IX. Report of the President- Daniel Mejia- Cruz '16

- Daniel Mejia:
 - Thanks for a successful No hate November
- Kevin:
 - Proposal to Vote: Promoting Reusable Mugs***
 - Promoting reusable mugs will start initiating a decrease in the use of paper cups
 - Mugs will be sold December 9-12
 - Motion passes

X. Announcements

XI. Adjournment

