Meeting Notes of the General Assembly
Wednesday, 6 April 2015

I. **Call to Order**

II. **Roll Call:**
   Absent: Harriet, Khealsea, Michelle J, Chase S

III. **Approval of Minutes**

IV. **Public Comment Time**
   - Justin Pearson: It should be BSG’s priority to create a campaign/election process that is fair
   - Robo: Wants to speak out against the good standing clause/revision. As a former BSG member, doesn’t think that the executive team is equipped for that process.
   - People can be removed from good standing for any type of reason.
   - If this clause passes, it will affect class council and many don’t know about this new amendment. The good standing clause should be circulated to class council as well.

V. **Introduction of Guests**

VI. **Old business**

VII. **Reports of Committees**
   a. **Student Affairs- Luke Von Maur ‘16**
      - Professor Yarbrough will be having a Common Hour – She will be speaking about lack of diversity of thought and give a voice to the “other side”.
      - Good ideas fund has spent $4100 there are $900 left
      - One of the ideas is a musical act, thanks to Ben. The concert will be in Ladd
   b. **Student Organizations Oversight Committee - Emily Server ‘16**
      - In the process of re-chartering groups. (applications for clubs with operating budgets were due today.)
      - Re-charting forms are due next week for other organizations
      - There is an estimate of about 120 clubs
   c. **Academic Affairs - Andrew Millar ‘16**
      - Jack and Harriet are organizing “Get a meal with a professor week”
      - One more food for thought before the end of semester
   d. **Facilities and Sustainability – Kevin Hernandez ‘18**
      - Partnering with security for video about Ivies
      - The design firm is coming to campus next week Thursday- it’s all about sustainability and energy efficiency
   e. **Student Activities Funding Committee- David Levine ‘16**
      - SAFC has 4 more meetings. Coming to the last bit of our money.
      - There are a couple groups who overspent and are asking for more money
      - Sending out an email to clubs letting them know that session is coming to an end and they should submit their budgets
      - Funded the BOC through spring break, and funded half of what they asked for
      - There are about 10 clubs on an operating budget.
   f. **Executive Committee- Daniel Mejia-Cruz’16/ Michelle Kruk ‘16**
      - Elections are happening soon – want to make sure everyone knows about positions.
      - There’s elections for at large presidents
      - Camille and Rory’s reports will be coming soon (race and inclusivity) when it comes out we should all read it.
      - Would like BSG to invite student body for discussion about the Report, (not sure how long the report will be).

Proposal: **Legal Protection of the BSG**
   - No one said that they were going to sue us. Adults in the school said that it was a possibility that we were at risk for a law suit
People in student activities have been sued, and Bowdoin has represented them, we want to mimic that for the BSG, so that Bowdoin covers us as an employer.

Being able to sue is an important restraint, if people can't afford it.

Do any other colleges have system?

Student Government President from Middlebury and Harvard are looking into similar things.

How can someone determine the difference between someone who sues you me or sues me as a BSG member?

Executive team has been looking into making BSG members as employees of the college – Focusing on the Executive Team getting paid first.

There are some people who want to run for an Executive position but choose not to because they do not have the time to commit since they are working an x amount of jobs.

Spoke to Nate Hintze – could be a stipend, or we could long-in hours.

We should be cautious of not turning BSG into an extension of college administration.

Proposal: Legal Protection of the BSG - Passes

Will this Proposal affect other clubs? - Maybe

In terms of changing election rules; funding has caused tensions. We helping students print posters. It is hard to track down how/who spends what for the campaign.

Proposal: Good Standing Clause

If a student is unable to approach executive committee, they should reach out to dean to connect issue of sensitivity of their situation to the president.

Can’t imagine an exec committee that demands every last detail of someone’s personal situation that caused bad standing.

The way we have it now preserves our independence.

Other schools have a similar clause in place; to run for a position you have to be in good standing in the college.

Automatic removal = social/ academic probation. Probation might happen to student for various reasons. Example: If someone gets caught with alcohol- put on social probation.

We need to hold ourselves to higher standards. We are elected representatives and need to hold ourselves to standards of social and honor code that binds all students.

This process is fair; someone can always claim defamation. When linked to impeachment it opens up to defamation. Good standing clause operates the less of two evils.

Gives us ability to do things quietly. No names to the orient. It is a closed process without publicity and noise that comes with impeachment.

There isn’t a procedure that the executive team would move by, (good standing clause) could be antithetical to the student government.

For elections: Appeal process would be done if you’re in a ballot if you are not in good standing, appeal to the ballot so you can still run.

What bad standing would merit someone removed? It’s up to the exec committee, and majority vote. A lot of things and scenarios come to mind.

Do we feel comfortable that the exec would have that power?

If someone plagiarizes, having someone who did that on BSG is questionable.

That is a lot of discretion for executive committee.

We can work to outline a procedure to a T. There’s a reason people are elected to position; there isn’t much power to be gained after that. It’s a reasonable responsibility for exec committee.

We just have to be consciences – we have to trust ourselves.

If u think about politicians, they usually step down themselves (when they do something bad). It is a big deal because they are meant to be leaders. It’s not unreasonable to have that expectation for each other.

We could have done nothing for Gangta and Tequila Party and be quiet but we were part of the conversation.
• For other organizations on campus, you can’t run for a position while you are on probation
• There are many concerns of privacy and connection with administration in regards to the “good standing clause”
• If removal is automatic, it takes away from “punitive measure”. If this is a rule on the bylaws, its not up to the decision of the student.
• This clause was approved by dean foster
• Edit made on 4a.
• The vote will be held in secret ballot, via email.

VIII. Reports of Members
a. Class Councils
   • 2019- Organizing Dodgeball Tournament. Prospee’s next week
   • 2018- Ordered water bottles for ivies and planning gala
   • 2017- Ordered cool ivies long sleeves. Movie night Thursday- playing 21 Jump Street
   • 2016- Planning senior week. Found new venues for senior night. Class gear coming along, soon.
b. Inter- House council
   • New College house decisions are coming out tomorrow

c. Entertainment Board
   • Will let us know about ivies soon
   • DJ contest is up. Vote for opening for Saturday act
   • The student DJ is NOT the opening act.
d. Athletic Council absent

e. McKeen Center
   • Opportunity to host 9th graders and show them around campus
f. Multicultural Coalition
   • Maine Wabanoki Reconciliation on April 11 3-4
g. At-Large Representatives
   • Instead of printing out all of the agendas we can use our computers
   • At- Larges can be doing more (in the past there has been ambiguity as to what people in the position do)

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

X. Announcements
• Sign up for spring service day April 23rd. There are two 2 hour shifts

XI. Adjournment