

Meeting of the General Assembly

2 November 2016

Daggett Lounge, Thorne Hall

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

- a. Missing: Tessa Westfall, Reeder, Annie, Jack Arnholz

III. Approval of Minutes

IV. Public Comment Time

V. Introduction of Guests

VI. Old Business

- a. The Free Flow Movement: Proposal to make menstrual products free at Bodoin.

Elizabeth Fosler-Jones and Alex Westfall present to talk about the proposal.

Elizabeth - Make menstrual products free on campus in buildings like Smith Union, library, and dining halls. It is a necessity and burden on those with periods. Free Flow Movement aims to take away stigma of periods and to stop disruption in classes due to periods amongst other things. 20 bathrooms will be stocked until the end of the semester; a group will restock each week and keep a meticulous log of the number of products being used. They will in baskets hanging on the wall of bathrooms.

i. Ben: Is there a long-run plan? Harriet and Elizabeth: The hope is that the

college will eventually take over (will likely happen).

ii. Ben: What is the best way that BSG can support this? Alex: through

funding the purchase of the products.

- iii. Alex had idea of calling it free flow movement and make stickers and posters to take away stigma.
- iv. Quincy suggest purchasing baskets at goodwill for a more reasonable price. Irfan: BSG has spare money from unused money in the budget that they can provide.
- v. Reeder: How soon will this happen? Alex: within two weeks, housekeeping approved but facilities hasn't yet.
- vi. Paloma: what happens if they are all gone within the first week? Alex: Brown ran into that problem, but there's no precedent so will just go with it as it comes.
- vii. Jacob points out the use of "discreet" on disposal bags and how it should change. Perhaps make an amendment to the language or look into changing products. Harriet clarifies these are bags to dispose of used tampons and pads.
- viii. Harriet: Vote to fund a month. Ben asks where the money will come from. Harriet and Irfan: from loose funds, \$1000 from Harriet's budget.
- ix. Quincy brings up using goodwill baskets and use the spare money for more tampons. Harriet: Bowdoin will probably want a standard basket across the bathrooms. Evelyn suggests going to Target to buy cheaper baskets.
- x. Reed and Ben suggest voting to give \$500 to the committee and they decide what to do with the money.

- xi. Katie: will there eventually be a fund established after the next two months? Harriet: there is a good chance that this will become institutionalized by Bowdoin; only a fraction of Bowdoin budget.
- xii. Ben motions to suspend two week rule. Approved. Proposition to provide \$500 fund to the committee passes.

## VII. Reports of Committees

- a. Student Affairs—*Benjamin Painter '19*
  - i. No Hate November now! Sent out an email about the events happening. Yarborough pushed back common hour and committee is looking for a new speaker.
  - ii. Harriet: Black Lives Matter event on Thursday on police brutality.
- b. Student Organizations Oversight Committee—*Kelsey Scarlett '17*
  - i. 10-14 clubs were chartered and did training on Wednesday afternoon.
  - ii. Club proposals have been dying down.
- c. Academic Affairs—*Evelyn Sanches Gonzalez '17*
  - i. Continuing talks on inclusivity, steps still being taken.
  - ii. Harriet, Jacob, Danny Miro and Evelyn attended a meeting with faculty members who want to create a more inclusive environment in the classroom. Discussions on students with disability. Email Evelyn and Harriet if you have suggestions.
  - iii. Harriet: staff asked about how they should handle sensitive race topics
  - iv. Victoria: does staff have diversity and inclusivity training? Evelyn: they want to do it but it's difficult to make it mandatory. Recommended that

faculty comes together and discuss what is working and what isn't. Use flashcards at the beginning of the semester asking about preferred pronouns as an example to being more inclusive.

- v. Creating a survey for students to gage what courses students would be interested in that aren't offered

- vi. Harriet: Wellness week before finals.

- 1. Reed suggests bringing in puppies instead of dogs.
    - 2. Quincy: there is farmer market woman that breeds bunnies.
    - 3. Carlie: poll to decide on animal to bring in for wellness week

- d. Facilities & Sustainability—*Caroline Rutan '19*

- i. Committee met on Sunday. Night lighting walk next week Wednesday.  
Email will be sent out. Randy, Matt Orlando, Lisa Rendall will all be there
  - ii. Expand Brunswick public transportation to Portland on the weekends and on breaks. Buses. Local business will be willing to contribute if there is student interest.
  - iii. Succeeded in getting bigger bowls in Thorne Dining Hall.

- e. Student Activities Funding Committee—*Irfan Alam '18*

- i. Ifran will bring proposal to change guidelines next week. Significant changes have been made. Will send document of new guidelines.

- f. Executive Committee—*Harriet Fisher '17 / Reed Fernandez '17*

- i. **Proposal to Vote:** Amendment to the Bylaws – *Reed Fernandez '17*
    - 1. Reed reads out the proposal

2. Ural: giving each candidate \$12 gave them room to be creative, not only rely on posters for campaigning. Carlie: The \$12 are only used for posters. Harriet: candidate can petition to use funds in alternative ways.
3. Proposal of amendments to the bylaws passes.

## VIII. Reports of Members

- a. Class Councils
  - i. 2017: Senior night tomorrow at Sea Dogs. Prices will be cheaper. On Sunday, there is a study break in Coe Quad.
  - ii. 2016: Class quarter zips – sample in Smith. Meeting with seniors on Friday for senior-junior ball on December 3rd.
  - iii. 2019: Class shirts coming in within a couple of weeks. Planning semi-formals - will contact freshman soon. Try to get class to attend one big sporting event.
  - iv. 2020: Working with sophomores for semi-formal. Will start working on an event for diversity and inclusion.
- b. Multicultural Coalition
  - i. Microaggression panel with representatives from ASA, LASO, AFAM, and NASA on November 13 – part of No Hate November.
- c. Inter-House Council - none
- d. Entertainment Board

- i. The E-Board is working on bringing back UCB (Upright Citizen Brigade) – professional improv group. The two Bowdoin improv groups will present them.
  - ii. Cannot share anything on Ivies.
- e. Athletic Council - none
  - f. McKeen Center
    - i. Quincy: writing proposal with Harriet for intergroup dialogue. Try to get faculty involved, and try to make it a real class. Bring in teachers to support Dean Amaez.
    - ii. Forming committee on green teams. The McKeen center will direct groups to the right resources.
  - g. At-Large Representatives
    - i. **Proposal to Vote:** Off Campus Safety and Town Relation – *Jacob Russell '17*
      - 1. Quincy: What is this committee actually going to do? Jacob: first step is to reach out people who know town officials well (Lisa Rendall, Randy and then meet town officials and just introduce selves (committee members). Town officials are happy to meet Bowdoin College students.
      - 2. Ben: who will be in committee (BSG, other students)? Jacob: getting a representative from ASAP and A-Team to show that there is student interest of keeping good town relations.

3. Carlie: Randy will like to meet Jacob before moving forward as to not disrupt relations.

#### **4. Proposal on off-campus safety and town relations passes**

- ii. Reed: Last week the at-large representatives met on how to make more themselves more visible. Attend house meetings, flinners, etc. Jack talked about how at-large are good to take up small projects such as the tampon initiative since it doesn't fall into anyone's jurisdiction.
  - iii. Harriet: Conversations on race from last week are continuing. Theo Greene from Sociology Department will come to talk about how spaces can have predominantly gendered, sexual identities. If there are things that come up, approach her.
  - iv. Reed: what happens if another bias incident happens? But there is no one way to do it for every bias incident that occurs. More prepared to take this on still. Harriet: BSG members signed something outlining that if they fall out of good standards with the college, it will come to the attention of Harriet and she will deal with it.
1. Victoria: it is our responsibility to educate ourselves in order to be able to speak to others on these issues. Encourages BSG members to attend multicultural events to stay informed. BLM event on Thursday. It is important to have different opinions present at these events. Juno Diaz is tomorrow. Live-streaming to Kresge. Fund-raiser for Haiti in 30 college by LASO. Evelyn: potluck of

different Latinx foods. Harriet encourages members to be in spaces where these discussions and events are happening.

2. Ural: BSG should be facilitating discussion and not debates on these issues. How would these discussions take place? Reed: There was no issue in getting people here. Last year was more of a debate rather than a dialogue around bias incidents. How can we make it more of a dialogue? Jacob: initially, the situations were handled similarly (issuing statement of solidarity), but the impeachment in the second occurrence heightened tensions.
3. Reed: shout-out to Jenna for making the behind the scenes reports happen.
4. Reed: feedback on the guests. Shorten the time they spend speaking on what they do. Encourages members to ask questions that relate to BSG and the student body as a whole.

IX. Report of the President – *Harriet Fisher ‘16*

X. Announcements

- a. Library representative will come next week.

XI. Adjournment