

## Meeting Notes of the General Assembly

Wednesday, 2 December 2015

### **I. Call to Order**

### **II. Roll Call**

### **III. Approval of Minutes**

- “Announcement will happen in a couple hours- 72 hours to be exact”

### **IV. Public Comment Time**

- Justin Pearson: There should be reform in the election committee so that campaigning can be equal for people from different socio-economic backgrounds.

### **V. Introduction of Guests**

- Dean Levy and Maggie Acosta

### **VI. Old business**

### **VII. Reports of Committees**

#### **a. Student Affairs- Luke Von Maur ‘16**

- Received first idea for “Good Ideas” fund
- Students can borrow a charger in the smith union info desk by giving in their
- Professor Reizbaum for uncommon

#### **b. Student Organizations Oversight Committee - Emily Server ‘16**

- Met with 6 clubs. 5 were chartered (weight lifting club, financial literacy club)
- Creating process to evaluate the clubs

#### **c. Academic Affairs - Andrew Millar ‘16**

- Food for thought next week Monday
- *Dean Scanlon – Dean for Academic Affairs*
  1. Thank you all for being part of the student government, my daughter is in student government in Brunswick high school; there are many quiet ways to exercise leadership
  2. Academic affairs recruit excellent faculty, help departments think more broadly when they decide to hire someone, oversee overall hiring of faculty, organize new faculty orientation, evaluate faculty for tenure process and promotion to full time, and orchestrate the conversation of what a Bowdoin curriculum should look like
  3. How often do you meet? – meet once a month at 4pm
  4. Have students presented at the meeting? – meetings are attentive to faculty demands and ends at 5 o’clock for those who have to pick up their kids. It is a condensed meeting.
  5. What challenges do you face when seeking to hire diverse faculty? People moving to Maine who have partners. Not easy for people in different backgrounds. Bowdoin offers partner accommodation process – try to get spouse in touch with businesses. Some say Maine is difficult place to attract people – however, not comfortable with that reason.

6. How do you decide which department gets priority in hiring? Econ and Government Departments are most popular majors. Popular majors vary per year. Student affairs acknowledges where there is student demand, however there are lots of factors. Support all different majors and evaluate how key is that study of area to a liberal arts education
7. When recruiting, what other factors do you look for that isn't ethnic diversity? Bowdoin made the decision to racial and ethnic diversity is priority. Political diversity and diverse viewpoints should be woven into that. But the commitment is racial and ethnic diversity. Their political beliefs aren't in the conversation.
8. Minimum qualifications? They must have a PhD. Those who don't have a PhD would have an MFA
9. Faculty are looking for interesting people with interesting work. Most important thing is not pedigree, it's how they talk about what they do, if they are intellectually engaging.
10. What is the tenure and promotion process like? It depends on how you balance teaching or publication. At a research school scholarship is what counts. Other models depend on how many courses you are teaching. Bowdoin's focus is on teaching. The expectation is Excellence in teaching and distinction in field. Publications get evaluated in eye of guild. All of their written work gets sent out randomly nationally and the work gets evaluated. It's a little bit of both.
11. What else you look at? BCQ's are an element of evaluation process. Syllabus, sample assignments, repeats of the course or adjustments. Retrospective letters. Random sampling solicited for students to write letters about this professor and what impact did they have.
12. How do people know about job openings? Have hundreds of applicants a year. Tough job market. Interested faculty have to apply to a job that is posted.
13. Professors have been hired as full faculty before how is this process? We hire junior faculty members- recent PhD graduates. Depending on needs of department, we hire people with tenure.
14. Any areas in the curriculum looking to revamp? Public health initiative. Looking of ways students can explore public health from a variety of fields.
15. Students with learning disabilities, hard to identify who has learning disabilities- Offer a variety of services in Center of Learning and Teaching
16. How does the college support ESL students? Center for Learning and Teaching. Small program but they are able to meet the needs of students.
17. How do you facilitate relationships between students and faculty? How to you access those relationships? Faculty spend time talking about their relationships with students. Try to communicate what kind of place is this. Our faculty very invested in teaching.

18. You don't see tenure professor touch out. How do you maintain culture? We mentor professors. Bowdoin students make you want to deliver.
  19. Route for CFDs to be hired as professors? Students should be giving feedback. Doesn't happen often.
  20. No priority if they were a Bowdoin alum
- d. Facilities and Sustainability – Kevin Hernandez '18
    - Master plan event went well. Huge turn out with students.
    - Jacob and Kevin trying to implement safe walk
    - Sustain abilities for ivies
    - How to improve the shuttle
  - e. Student Activities Funding Committee- David Levine '16
    - David explains the changes expressed in Proposal
    - Groups like BOC that operate on a budget, is there a discussion for budget for annual program? The idea is to give current leaders flexibility to not be bound by a certain amount of money.
    - Michelle: having a ball park is helpful specially if it's a yearly event
    - Jacob- proposes change; David will consult with friends in the SAFC
    - Break down of past years compared to our year: Started 80k last year, started 70k year before last, 59k year before that, started this year with 81k.
    - BOC- working alleviating BOC's financial difficulties. They submitted strip down budget request of bout 5k. Going to fund then around 1700 which will be enough to get them through some programing until spring break. Found places where they can cut down.
    - Why did it fall upon SAFC if BOC has a pool of different funding- When they were hit with the extra cost they were not expecting they borrowed from SAFC budget to pay off debt.
    - Is anyone going to be held accountable? BOC needs to end the fiscal year at 0
  - f. Executive Committee- Daniel Mejia-Cruz '16/ Michelle Kruk '16
    - Camille Charles and Rosemary Crammer. Meet with them. They are evaluating issues of race and inclusion.

## **VIII. Reports of Members**

- a. Class Councils
  - 2019- Roses went well, planning dodgeball tournament
  - 2018- Bucket hats for ivies
  - 2017- Socks for ivies
  - 2016- Senior night & class gear
- b. Inter- House Council
  - Cold War Party
- c. Entertainment Board

- Waka Flocka for Ivies
- d. Athletic Council- Absent
- e. McKeen Center
  - Apply for OT and Common Good Day
- f. At- Large Representatives – N/A
- g. Multi-Cultural Rep
  - Black History Month

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

**X. Announcements**

**XI. Adjournment**