

**Minutes**

**Tuesday, February 11, 2014, at 6:30 p.m.**

**Denny 317**

***Call to Order***

Student Senate met on Tuesday, February 11, 2014 and was called to order by President **William Nelligan** at 6:35 p.m. Members approved the minutes from the last meeting.

***Agenda Items***

Reports

**Emily Pryor ’14 (Student Life):** Emily thanked all for attending first Friday. She is taking comments and suggestions, and would love for all to send her feedback. She mentioned the Food advisory is up and running, their first meeting last week. This week, the safety shuttle route is under review and though. The committee is also working with the Handlebar to increase presence of bike pumps.

**Sasha Reagan ’15 (PAC):** PAC is up and running. She is still taking names and suggestions for membership. There was a lecture on Education Inequality last week that was well attended. She is meeting with the Troute Gallery board next week, anyone with thoughts should email her. There is a PAC event this Thursday about LGBTQ attacks in Russia at 5pm. Next Monday, there will be showing Charlie Wilson’s War.

**Austin Davis ’15 (CAC):** In the coming weeks a rep from the county registration office will be meeting with RAs about voter registration.

Committee Reports

**Frank Williams ‘15 (ESLC)**: ESLC continued talks on neighborhood model. Information and findings will be published soon.

**Ben West ’14 (APSC)**: The academic department chairs met today, and he brought up the idea of majors committees, ideally for exploration right now.

**Celeste Hippolyte ’15 (P&B)**: P&B discussed budgeting, student employment, and the allocation of departmental internships to be more structured and outlined. There was a consensus that students are working 40+ hours per week, and there is a desire to get that down to 18.

**Margaret Price ’14 (APSC)**: She has spoken with students about receiving academic credit for music ensembles. She brought the topic up at the most recent meeting, and there was interest in developing that further --- potentially .5 credits for music, theater, dance, etc.

**Krysti Oschal ’17 (First Year Class President)**: The First Year Chipotle dinner is on Saturday evening in Allison.

***Old Business***

Finance Committee Confirmations

**Alex Toole ’14** motioned to bring nominations for finance committee to the floor. Vacancies were announced a few weeks ago: an at 2 large members and a sophomore senator. There was an application process. Nick Toole ‘16 will be the sophomore, and Cal Ruscica-Aman ‘14 And Gibson Holland ’16 will be the at large members.

**Nick Toole ’16** explained he is on PAC and is interested in getting further involved.

**Gibson Holland ’16** explained he was interested in getting more involved and has experience in budget planning and grant writing.

**Kauffman ’16** motioned for a vote

Approved

***New Business***

Idea Fund Presentation

**Zack Kaiser ’14** and **Nick Bailey ’16** presented to Senate about the mission, vision, structure, and work of the Idea Fund to foster entrepreneurship and student initiative on campus through project development and implementation. Examples of projects they have assisted are The Peddler, the Handlebar, and the Dickinson DogHouse. Following the presentation, they took questions, further explaining components of their summer program. Specifically, the Idea Fund Summer Program is open to all students and is advertised through the usual portals when the applications are available.

LifeLine Club Approval

**Austin Davis ’15** explained that lifeline is a service oriented bible study group. They have 21 members spread across class years, fitting all the criteria. The Club Affairs Committee passed the club unanimously.

**Russ Allen ’14**, the President of LifeLine, explained LifeLine is a Christian group focused on open discussion and dialogue specifically for skeptics, atheists, and those who have been hurt by religion. Members range from non-christians to those without faith. Meetings are discussion based on questions. Service is also included and will be expanded at interest. Currently, they are interested in a possible service trip to upstate New York to work as grounds crew at a YoungLife camp.

A discussion followed about whether there were any other groups on campus similar to LifeLine. Currently, there are none.

**Emily Pryor ’14** asked about a clause in the resolution pertaining to membership denial.

**Russ Allen ‘14** accepted a friendly amendment to remove the wording “legally sanctioned” from the clause.

**Caroline Kapustynski ’15** motioned to vote.

The club was approved.

Senate Financial Audit

**Alex Toole ’14** motioned to bring forward the Senate Audit for Fall 2013. Over winter break, Alex performed an audit of senates funds: including club/org funding, class years, and special funds. Checking that money was being spent the way we deemed, and that the internal funds weren't being spent too quickly. Alex showed the breakdown for of the club budgets. 88 clubs are under senate purview, 44 received funding. He showed the class year budgets. Classes request money as they need it from the class budget fund. The media accounts, however, deal with their budgets separately, but is under senate purview. He explained that the audit will be available on Senate’s website, and an audit will be conducted at the conclusion of each semester.

Solar Charging Stations Presentation

**Justin McCarty ’15**, Renewable Energy intern at CSE, explained his project of a solar charging station on campus. Solar charging stations are few and far between on college campuses. Examples can be found in Brooklyn. Dickinson currently has 4 solar panels in storage that could be used for these stations, which would be educational in nature and symbolize Dickinson’s commitment to sustainability. The stations would also add more outlets to Britton Plaza. In the Fall, he wrote a proposal for a feasibility study for the project, and it is time to start asking students whether they would like to see them. He will be sending out a survey soon to gauge interest. The cost is $5-6k, the largest cost being solar contractor. Justin explained would like funding to come from many sources, and the timeline of the project is to be finalized and completed by summer.

A conversation followed in which Justin further explained the solar energy would feed directly back into the grid, and it may also be possible to also do this project with the Quarry Trellis.

Club Affairs Committee Standing Rules

**Austin Davis ’15** explained that over the past few weeks he has trying to fit something into the standing rules of his committee that would allow exclusivity in groups. The Student Investment Group has an application process to keep their numbers from exceeding the max, and Austin wanted to create a process that would allow a club or organization to limit membership. He used Colgate, Bates, and Harvard as models when writing the new rules. The models limited their clauses to groups that provided a reasonable reason. Austin expanded the process to be more fair. The application process must be shown to the committee and proven fair. If someone is denied, they have the ability to appeal to the committee. Both the organization and person come before the committee and explain their case. It takes 2/3 majority of a committee vote to accept the appeal.

**Ben Kauffman ’16** asked if club affairs would be involved in club sports tryouts?

**Austin ’15** explained sports don't limit membership, they have A and B teams.

**Ben Kauffman ’16** asked about a Capella groups.

**Will Nelligan ’14** explained that anyone can appeal. If Senate is going to allow this to happen, there should be a process. It is important that clubs and organizations be able to justify why they deny someone membership. It shouldn't be an unwritten rule. It also requires that all organizations put on a certain number of public events that benefit the community.

**Sara Sweeten ’17** commented this will make groups think closely about whether they restrict membership.

**Austin** ended the discussion explaining that the new rules will be communicated clearly to all current and future clubs.

***Good of the Order***

* Ocatalgrams on Thursday and Friday
* Green drinks tomorrow
* Saturday 1-3pm field hockey bingo
* Senior week almost finalized

Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm