Minutes 1/13/2014

Absent: Bobby, Selness, Harbeck, Hare, Wilkes, Burggraf, Adam Larson, Brogan Barr, Janet Montes Osorio, Nate Jenson, Zoe May.

Minutes: No discussion. Vote passes.

Community Comment: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

* Ombudsperson Election:
  + Afreh: Vote them in tonight?
  + Cabrera: Correct.
  + Cabrera: floor is open.
  + Nigro: Nominate Thomas Olsen
  + Schwictenberg gets second.
  + Thomas Olsen: Senior. Previously Complex Rep. Chapel View Representative. Would love to be. Spring Senior year equal low load. Occupy time. Thinks awesome committee chair to be a part of. Would like to reformat the Constitution and By-Laws. Would like to chair Elections Committee during the Election.
  + Siatta: Have you read the By-laws and everything?
    - Olsen: Yes.
  + Roland: What else are you involved in?
    - Olsen: OK’s. Thesis. Looking for a job.
  + Thayer: When do we need to have amendments on the ballot?
    - Cabrera: Correct.
  + Thayer: Do you have enough time on your plate to handle the compressed timeline?
    - Olsen: Yes. Does not see needing an overhaul.
  + Thayer: Does see need for overhaul.
  + Hoppe: Point of information? Nominate self?
    - Cabrera: Yes.
  + Hoppe: Nominates self. Wiest seconds.
  + Been very involved in Ethics. Very experienced leading committees. Philosophy major calls interest in Ethics. Allows him to be unbiased. Tries to remain level-headed. Willing to change mind and admit when he is wrong. Wants to go over By-laws since they were not gone over. Complete overhaul necessary? Ad Hoc committee issues need to be addressed. Wants to deal with how absences are dealt with. How is it dealt with? Tossing out an idea. Fall complaint required a reconciliation path.
    - Richardson: Concerns with time?
  + Hoppe: Not really. VP of SAE during spring; not concerned. Thesis should not be of great concern. Wants to move extremely quickly.
  + Cabrera: Nominations are closed. Hoppe and Olsen, please, respectfully leave the room for discussion.
    - Siatta: Both candidates have been on Senate before. Both respectful candidates. Candidate Hoppe has had more experience on the Ethics committee thus running things more smoothly with remaining time. Strongly suggest everyone place their faith in Hoppe.
    - Thayer: Senator Hoppe’s experience is phenomenal. Also, accepted that there were failures within the committee that Hoppe was a part of. Throws support behind nominee Olsen. There were a few things that did not resonate with Hoppe’s speech. Some sort of process to hold Senators accountable? Already in place. Olsen would serve as great Ombudsperson.
    - Marino: Underestimating time that VP of SAE requires.
    - Afreh: Wants to acknowledge both nominees. Supports nominee Olsen. Ombudsperson is time consuming.
    - Thrash: How much time is left?
      * Cabrera: First meeting of April is the new election.
      * Thayer: Time commitment is large.
    - Nigro: Speak on behalf of nominee. Loves Senate. Tom studied abroad. Looking to get involved. Would be thrilled to lead a committee. Has experience in Senate.
    - Richardson: Hoppe seemed much more goal-oriented. Was very concentrated on what he wanted to get done. Nomination of self speaks to his understanding and confidence in his ability. Applauds his acceptance of previous mistakes.
    - Hinnenkamp: Echo all Hoppe traits. Specific ideas were tangible. Preferred Hoppe’s approach.
    - Wiest: Both great persons. Worked with Hoppe this past semester. Working with Sam, he knows what needs to get fixed. Has some great goals. With the amount of time we have, both would recognize problems, but Sam has greater grasp on what needs to be amended.
    - Schwichtenberg: Speaking in favor of Olsen. OK relationship. Quick witted. Great addition.
    - Nigro: Thinks Hoppe is an excellent candidate. Thinks terrible decision. Therefore new vacancy in the Ethics Committee. Hoppe would be a shift in power-structure. Adding another person provides infinitely more value. Obvious choice.
    - Thayer: Olsen is coming outside of Senate wanting to come into Senate. Willing to take it on. Great courage and power coming from outside of Senate, yet, has experience.
    - Siatta: Even if we do nominate Senator Hoppe to take the vacancy, there would still be a vacancy on both Ethics and Finance. Could that spot on Ethics vacated by Sam be taken by a person outside of Senate?
      * No.
    - Birkey: Would also vacate Senate seat.
    - Thrash: Would lose his input on the floor.
    - Richardson: We are judging who would be the best candidate for the position; not what is easiest.
    - Thayer: What is best for Senate as a whole? What is best for Ombudsperson, yes, but we need to think of Senate as well.
    - Ballot Vote:
      * Tom Olsen 8
      * Sam Hoppe 3
      * Abstention 1
        + Tom Olsen is approved.
  + Thayer: Health and Housing meeting it came up. Currently sits as Heart Safe Champion. Doesn’t mean I won anything. Wants to take the Heart Safe committee into Senate. Wants it to become part of Health & Housing. Wants to hear questions and comments.
    - Marino: By-law change?
      * Thayer: Yes.
    - Wiest: Can I ask a question? I’m just a farm kid. I remember attending the Heart Safe meeting in the fall. It’s made me think a lot more about AED’s and stuff. Thinks it is a great cause for Senate to take up. I would back it.
    - Thayer: Point of Information: Should I be making a presentation about this?
      * Cabrera: Bring it to committee. Committee will bring it to cabinet.
  + Announcements:
    - JoNes: Let your peers know that they are responsible for their guests. Should monitor guests’ behaviors. Strive from getting people in trouble. Encourage students to think carefully about their decisions.
    - Timmons: Welcome Olsen. Come chat about amendments.
    - Richardson: Beck 101 Wed. 8PM. Gay Term movie night.