

6 April 2020 Senate meeting minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:01pm

Quorum is met

Community Comment

no speakers

Committee Updates

Co-President Bhakta: I am going to go through and have each of the committee chairs give an update.

Chair Yangh: We are looking at the introduction of a sustainability credit. Additionally, we are compiling information for the Fall since we can no longer do what we had planned on this Spring.

Chair Dunna: Yes, I have still been working on the gus bus initiative, but with covid things have slowed down a lot. I am also still trying to figure out a plan for take your professor to lunch.

Controller Johnson: We have the budget amendment proposals for the meeting tonight and we are also working on some changes to making the virtual budgeting process run more smoothly.

Chair Carlson-Sather: I have been working on looking at the budget for feminine products. A lot of the other things we had planned were supposed to be on campus, so we will just be looking at how to share that information effectively for next fall. I am also trying to figure out a way to virtualize the heart safe campaign.

Chair Gruber: Yes, I am just working on putting out the next issue in the gavel gazette.

Ombudsperson Menke: I have been looking at the bylaws and it looks like the only thing we cannot fulfill is having a public polling place, so I have created an amendment in case there is a future instance where people are required to be off campus, then no one will be breaking the bylaws.

Old Business

Co-President Bhakta: We will now be taking a look at the finance bylaws if Ombudsperson Menke can pull that up. Controller Johnson, do you want to explain some of these changes?

Controller Johnson: First this bylaw, we thought it wouldn't be necessary to have several

meetings with orgs throughout the semester. A lot of this can be done via email. We added this section of how to suggest alternative sources of funding if they cannot get it from the Senate. Another bylaw that affects a lot of student orgs is that we used to have a maximum spending amount of \$1,100 and this will increase to \$1,250. Another change is that from club sports to Primary Competitive organizations - so groups like speech and debate and model UN. They will now be able to get \$4,500 for their yearly budget. They can also receive an additional \$1,000 to help pay for a professional coach or trainer.

Co-President Bhakta: Does anyone have any questions?

- Advisor Ruble: Are referees considered support staff?
 - ◆ Controller Johnson: As of right now we do not consider them support staff, so funding for that will be considered on a case by case basis

- Chair Yangh: What is the definition of a primary competitive organization?
 - ◆ Controller Johnson: They are organizations that do a majority of traveling and competing against other colleges.

- Chair Yangh: And what if someone wants to get training that is not available on campus?
 - ◆ Controller Johnson: That would just fall under a regular budget.

Advisor Ruble: I think we should change the word tournament to competition, because club hockey for instance do not participate in tournaments

- Young: I move that we amend the amendment to reflect the previous speakers statement.

Motion is seconded

- Co-President Bhakta: All those in favor to amend the current amendment proposal say aye.

The ayes have it. Motion Passes.

Co-President Bhakta: We can now proceed to a discussion.

Young: I move that we consider the bylaws amendment changes just for the sake of abiding by the constitution.

- Co-President Bhakta: Does anyone second this?

Motion is seconded

- Co-President Bhakta: All those in favor of considering the budget amendment proposals say aye..

The ayes have it. Motion Passes.

Co-President Bhakta: Now we can move onto a discussion of the content of the changes.

Senator Young: Yes, I helped write these up as part of the finance committee so I agree with the changes that are proposed.

Co-President Bhakta: If there is no more discussion we will now move to a vote. All those in favor say Aye.

The ayes have it. Motion passes.

New Business

Appointment of new ombudsperson

Co-President Bhakta: We need to appoint an ombudsperson for next year. Anyone in the senate can recommend someone from the entire student body.

- Senator Patterson: I would like to nominate Ombudsperson Ombudsperson Menke. He has already been doing such a great job and seems to know the bylaws very well and I would like to see him continue this work.
- Co-President Bhakta: Do you accept the nomination?
 - ◆ Ombudsperson Menke: Yes, I accept.

Co-President Bhakta: Any questions for Ombudsperson Menke?

- Co-President Elect Doran: What is your favorite bylaw and why?
 - ◆ Ombudsperson Menke: After looking through all of them, my favorite is the new one that allows funding for any competitive groups and not just athletics.
- Chair Carlson-Sather: Our last ombudsperson reached a pretty high goal of how many amendments she would have. What is your goal for how many amendments you are going to try and make?

◆ Ombudsperson Menke: After the previous ombudsperson I think the bylaws are now near perfect so I do not have a specific goal.

□ Co-President Villarreal: What is something you have learned through being in Cabinet this year that you would carry into next year if elected?

◆ Ombudsperson Menke: I think I just learned how to talk to different kinds of people and help their voices be heard which is really important.

Co-President Bhakta: Alright seeing no other questions, we will now move onto a discussion.

□ Co-President Elect Concepcion: I worked with Ombudsperson Menke first semester as tech chair and he did a great job. He has also seemed to be doing a good job thus far in this new role and I would love to have him next year.

□ Chair Carlson-Sather: Yeah I would agree with the previous speaker.

Co-President Bhakta: Seeing no other discussion we will move to a vote. All those in favor of appointing Ombudsperson Menke into the position next year say aye.

The ayes have it. Motion passes.

Virtual tabling

Co-President Bhakta: As co-presidents we have to approve the tabling hours so the way we have set this up is that there are a number of time slots so you can find something that fits in your schedule. Everyone has to do two tabling hours. If you have already done them, you do not need to sign up for more but if you have not done them make sure to sign up for 2 slots or tell admin director Cook the slots that you would like. We recommend letting your constituents know so you are not just sitting around waiting for an hour.

□ Senator Patterson: So I did tabling for the ethics committee for the election. Does that count for my two hours?

◆ Co-President Bhakta: No, that is actually separate.

□ Senator Jeremiason: I have not been able to find my constituents email alias. How do I get that?

◆ Co-President Bhakta: We'll make sure to get that to you once you sign up for your hours.

◆ Co-President Elect Doran: The list should be in the drive that has all of them.

Co-President Bhakta: Seeing as there are no other questions, we can now move to a discussion.

Co-President Bhakta: Seeing as there is no more discussion, we will now move to a vote. All those in favor of the new system of virtual tabling say aye.

The ayes have it. The motion passes.

Faculty Reports

Co-President Bhakta: We will be sending out links for new forms and this will also be pretty open ended. The goal is just getting information from professors.

- Senator Johnson: Great that makes sense.

Community Comment Format

Senator Young: Maybe we should send out an email on Sunday night or early Monday to let community members know they can join the zoom call if they have anything they wish to present to the Senate.

Bylaw Change Proposal

Senator Young: I move that the ethics committee change the language to get reports from all the various staff at the college rather than just faculty.

- Co-President Bhakta: Does anyone second?

Second goes to Speaker Ellingson

- Co-President Bhakta: Do you also want to include class representatives in doing faculty reports and not just hall representatives?

◆ Senator Young: Yes, I would friendly that into my amendment proposal.

Co-President Bhakta: Seeing no discussion or further questions, we will move to a vote. All those in favor of broadening the category of faculty reports, and having class representatives collect them along with hall representatives say aye.

The ayes have it. Motion passes.

President Bergman speaking with us

Co-President Bhakta: I know things are different with everything being virtual and it is not as easy to have people come in to speak with us. How do you guys feel about Bergman joining our

zoom call?

- Senator Jeremiason: I personally feel like it would be very awkward
- Co-President Elect Doran: I feel that it would be very beneficial with everything given the circumstances, but we should have a very set agenda of what to talk to her about
- Ombudsperson Menke: I would like to echo the previous speaker's sentiments. Knowing what questions we want to ask would be helpful. I think it is important to see how leadership is handling what is going on at the college by speaking with her in person.
- Senator Young: I do think it would be advantageous to speak with her, but I think we should wait a month until more information has been decided on. They will know more about summer and graduation.
- Senator Olono: I am in favor of having her come in. I also think it could be good to advertise she will be coming in during our virtual tabling hours.
- Chair Carlson-Sather: I would also agree that we should ask some questions related to the coronavirus and how it might impact us even next fall.

Co-President Bhakta: We will take your feedback when we go to speak with her next week!

Announcements

Advisor Ruble: Cabinet applications are due tonight. All of you in this meeting would make great candidates for cabinet and should really consider applying!

Chair Johnson: May 1st from 7pm to 8:30pm we will be holding a virtual diversity ball. Keep checking your emails for more information on that.

Co-President Bhakta: Thank you all for being here today! We got a lot of important things passed and had a lot of great discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01pm.