**Senate Meeting Minutes – April 1st, 2020**

Approved by USC Communications Director Alex Lane

Taken by USC Social Director Liv Jenkins

**12h10 – Attendance**

**12h10 – Updates**

* **Service Committee**
  + Events**:** Tv/movie night
* **Elections postponed**

**12h20 – Killian Announcement**

* Online Campus- AUP digital campus
  + tool for community to connect, access to resources and student initiatives
  + student senate could be made available there as well
  + five different sections
    - **Explore and Discovery section**
      * faculty and staff discuss the pandemic from their areas of expertise
    - **AUP at home blog**
      * tips from the community
      * how they adapt to new way of life
      * Good Morning podcast (highlights one particular AUP aspect, this week was GPS program)
    - **Learn and Work section**
      * Adapting to remote life
        + Remote learning (guides, links, help etc) for students
        + Remote working tips for staff and faculty
    - **Ask and Find section**
      * How-to’s,
      * How all aup services are still available for community (library, health, GPS) and where to find them
    - **Connect and Communicate**
      * Have something where initiates across the university are highlighted here
      * Sandra’s movie and game night here
      * Sections for SGA and student senate possible
      * Community board where you post if you organize something by yourself and just want and open invite
      * Community art gallery
      * Weekly mediating guides/ mental health
      * Digital open mic, digital world’s fair?
* How to contact for ideas/questions:
  + [communications@aup.edu](mailto:communications@aup.edu)
  + [kordelheide@aup.edu](mailto:kordelheide@aup.edu)
* Website Link:
  + <https://www.aup.edu/digital-campus>
* Questions from SGA:
  + Mitchell; how many people have accessed website thus far?
    - Had around 500 views for first week, still up and running. Working on making it on a platform for the community, but no pressure for those who don’t have the time

**12h30 – Anita/Ted Ex Announcement:**

* The Issue:
  + Moved to beginning of September but no date confirmed
  + Paid the venue already but venue say they could move the date
  + Catering not paid yet, but could be paid ahead of time and used whenever the date of event is
  + How do we go about the budget?
* 1) Return money and pay them again next semester?
  + cancel it and do another budget request (but wouldn’t really have time)
* 2) Or pre-approval for next semester
  + Similar to ASM so Ted Team can jump in straight away, planning taking place now/will be ready for September
* Kevin comments:
  + If you do agree to earmark additional funds to be spent next fiscal budget, that will come out of next year's SGA budget and Nike should write up an exact account of what funds have been set aside to avoid confusion with senate in the fall. Keep in mind that with senate elections being postponed, we won't have our first senate session until the end of September
* Nike:
  + This year’s budget would pay for venue, catering, and possibly videographer
  + Pre-allocated budget for next semester’s budget for the rest

**12h45 – Open Forum:**

* Alessandra invited Salome
  + Recap of Petition:
    - online classes not helpful
      * (getting assignments but not classes/ or not being explained during class)
    - Partial Refund? Of tuition or BS housing/rent?
    - “Feels like the school isn't being understanding in the fact that we’re going through a difficult time”
* Marc:
  + Rent only covered for businesses and only if they are at risk of going bankrupt
* Alessandra
  + “could tuition be adjusted possibly? Professors still being paid so if that’s not changing is there room in the budget”
* Marc:
  + Unfortunate about profs who are possibly abusing the situation
  + but there are many faculty going beyond what they do (two sessions for students around the world)
  + moved online but services still available
* Leo
  + What would tuition adjustment even look like if we’ve already been paid?
  + Alessandra: isn’t set on that idea, its just unfortunate people are stuck paying blue stripe when they are in the US
  + Michael/Bileh: this is something then we need to bring up with BlueStripe Representative, perhaps next senate
* Kevin (paraphrased summary) :
  + *“Can’t do tuition refund because still want and have been working towards offering an education plan that achieves our goals and mission, albeit not the one we had in mind going into the semester. So for issues with classes, we want to fix the problem of what is not working, make it work, and not scrap the whole system”*

**13h20 – Senate Closes**