Senate Meeting – 3 October 2012

AGENDA
4th Student Senate Meeting

12:15 – Call to order and agreement agenda
12:15 – Officer report: Senate Chair (Sven van Mourik) on the senate regulations
12:20 – Officer report: SGA Treasurer (Mimi Adrien) on the year’s budget
12:35 – Committee report: Club’s Committee Chair Alexandre Violet on the Club’s Committee
12:40 – Committee report: Judiciary Committee introduces an amendment
13:00 – Introduction CS Representative (Dana Kianfar), running for the vice-chair position on the environmental committee.
13:05 – Speech IBA Rep (Stephanie Galy) and Assistant Dean of Student Services (Kevin Fore) on a potential change of the senate meeting time.

Minutes
Taken by Stephanie Dissette (USC Communications Director)

Meeting begins (12:12PM)

1. Sven (USC VP): Reviewing Senate procedures and agenda
   a. Review of agenda – quick summary by Sven (USC VP)
   b. Any objections? No.
   c. Review of Senate Regulations
   d. Air of professionalism

2. Mimi (SGA Treasurer) and Alexandre (CC) on the SGA budget and Clubs
   a. See chart on SGA website: http://sga.aup.edu/budget
   b. First Social Committee Meeting tomorrow – discuss their budget needs
   c. Reminder, ASM has 40,000 euros already
   d. Giving regular updates in Senate on budget requests by clubs
   e. Laura (ICP) – questions: why does ASM already receive 40,00 euro budget?
      i. Mimi (SGA Treasurer) answer: voted in by last years Senate
   f. Max (Econ) – Does the 60% of the budget that is allotted to Clubs include the 40,000 euros already allotted to ASM?
      i. Mimi (SGA Treasurer) answer: yes
   g. Adriana (Film) – ASM counted in clubs?
      i. Mimi (SGA Treasurer) answer: yes
   h. Laura (ICP) – Can ASM request more money?
      i. Mimi (SGA Treasurer) answer: yes
i. Max (Econ) – What do you base budget plans on for this year? Can we compare last year’s usage to this year?
   i. Mimi (SGA Treasurer) answer: every year budget allocations change based on the budget we are allotted
   ii. Mimi (SGA Treasurer) answer: budget plans each year are based on the usage from the year before and monitored by the administration as well
iii. More information to follow in future meetings

3. Alexander (CC) continues...
   a. First Clubs Committee plenary session was on Monday
   b. Already reached out to club leaders that could not attend
   c. Successful so far – event coordination and supporting each other
   d. Still looking for a vice-chair (must be a Senator); contact sga_clubs@aup.edu if interested
   e. Passed around the flyer that invited club leaders to plenary session
   f. Next week should have first budget request to present in Senate, with more accurate estimates on budget usage

4. Pierre and Alex (Judiciary Committee Co-Chairs)
   a. Present an amendment: article 8, letter C* – what to do when there are vacant Senate seats
      i. Present current constitutional stand – seats would stay vacant until the next election period (end of January)
      ii. Should the new amendment be voted in, might question current Senators legitimacy – not the intention of the Judiciary Committee (different election process)
   iii. And pertaining to vacant Executive Board seats – new amendment combines the issue of vacant Senate and Executive seats
      iv. Read new amendment proposal*
      v. Note: if appointed by Execs and voted in by current Senators, then new Senators would have to run again to maintain current seats in next election period
   vi. Any questions?
      1. Max (Econ) – before hearing them speak in Senate, could we request candidates write out a list of goals or a few words about your intentions as a Senator so current Senate can review ahead of time (in order to facilitate process)?
      2. Response, Pierre: any suggestions should be written down and sent to the Judiciary Committee to review, and they will be presented at a future meeting
   b. Any motions?
      i. Laura (ICP) motions to accept amendment; Madison (History) seconds
ii. Any informative questions?
iii. Darcee (MPL/MPPA) supports amendment; nice balance in filling seats and retaining legitimacy of current Senators
iv. Adriana (Film) – should there be a deadline?
   1. Alex responds – that’s part of the discretion of the execs, unless a further stipulation is added to the amendment
v. Madison (History) – assuming it is accepted, how soon would it be implemented?
   1. Pierre responds: immediately
c. Darcee (MPL/MPPA) moves to the previous question; majority vote
d. Vote, all in favor (by roll-call vote) – unanimously voted in

5. Judiciary Committee continues by presenting their intended format for updating the Constitution
   a. Confident the Constitution should be streamlined, more readable for common student, and more accessible in general by the end of this current semester
   b. Objective is to allow for Constitution to be updated and revised by a more holistic group of people:
      i. Revisions through Judiciary Committee; however, other committees will be invited to review and rework areas that pertain to them
      ii. (See “d. ii.” for an example)
   c. Review a current outline of existing articles, reordered
d. Intention to add a system of annexes, in order to simplify and better organize current Constitution**
      i. Intention to delegate revision process to annexes that refer to them: e.g. Executive team updates the Executive Team Annex; Clubs Committee updates Clubs Annex; etc.
      ii. Questions? No.

6. Dana (CS) invited to speak, running for Vice Chair position of Environmental Committee
   a. Goal: tackle recycling program problems on two levels – administrative and student
   b. Believes AUP is open minded and prepared to resolve current problem
   c. Stephanie (IBA) motions to approve; Laura (ICP) seconds
d. Adriana (Film): have you spoken to current Chair? Attempted, but she’s out of town
e. Stephanie (IBA) motions to move to previous question
f. Vote approved by a majority
g. Dana voted in unanimously

7. Max (Econ), invited to speak, running for Sports Committee Vice Chair
   a. Current captain of football team and captain last semester; already a committee member; puts lots of time and effort into team and program in general
b. Would like to help keep Senators informed
c. Stephanie (IBA) moves to approve; Alena (Comp Lit) seconds
d. Comments or questions? No
e. Madison (History) move to previous question
f. Vote approved by majority
g. Max voted in unanimously

8. Stephanie (IBA) and Kevin Fore potential change to Senate meeting time
a. Stephanie (IBA) informs of problem (three Senators have class during current Senate Meeting time), and reads letter written by PPE Rep, Junior Rep, and Sophomore Rep: letter to be attached***
b. Summary:
   i. Meeting time was not decided by the Senate
   ii. A matter of representing the student body properly
   iii. There needs to be an impeachment trial – not automatic impeachment (Note: impeachment procedures laid out in the Constitution – there is no “automatic” impeachment procedure)
   iv. Reviewed last year’s Senate attendance and care
   v. Upset about last year’s budget decisions
   vi. Request for current Senators to vote in favor
c. Kevin Fore – presents other side to argument
   i. Passes out a flyer**** about what he wishes to present
   ii. No intention to interfere, but wish to express another side of the argument
   iii. Please consider how the current meeting time represents the current Senate; Senators voted in Spring had months to prepare for current Senate time; scheduled their classes around it
   iv. Reminder that last year the meetings were late, not well attended, and lost focus; day meetings maintain focus and organization; and now meetings are weekly
   v. University itself will pay more attention with current time
   vi. Point: please note, this meeting time was thought out; worked with Registrars Office
d. Stephanie (IBA), agrees with Kevin; however, her hope is that next semester this time slot will be completely open and available
e. Kevin Fore: the intention is to get better and better about keeping this slot open;
   i. Involves having faculty and administration understanding the importance of Senate and all Senate accomplishes;
   ii. Work in progress (next semester, current guarantee is only 6 courses will fall in this time slot)
f. Sven (USC VP) – call to order, please remember to follow Senate procedures, not to open debate
g. Stephanie (IBA) – proposes that three Senators are exempted from absences; Alena (Comp Lit) seconds
h. Motion up for debate
i. Madison (History) – Is it not written in Constitution that students elected for Senate must attend Senate meetings? Does that not make them ineligible to be a part of Senate if those students did not consider the current time? Should we allow them an objection?

ii. Laura (ICP) – understands the frustration; consider how things worked last semester

iii. Stephanie (IBA) – requests exemption, particularly because Sophomore and Junior Reps have major responsibilities to fill and there are currently two people willing to fill them (elected Senators)

iv. Madison (History) – Senate meeting time wasn’t on the application; however, it was elsewhere, all the other Senators knew how to find it and asked; Senators should be responsible enough to discover time on their own

v. Stephanie (IBA) – did we vote to have a set Senate Meeting time?
   1. Referred to Pierre as last year’s president and current judiciary committee chair:
      a. Nothing written in Constitution about Senate need to vote; in fact, written that Executive team is in charge of doing their best to ensure appropriate meeting time
      b. Impeachment procedures: not many regulations; three absences are sufficient grounds for impeachment (http://sga.aup.edu/constitution)
      c. Three absences from scheduled Senate meetings is an appropriate ground for impeachment

i. Sven (USC VP) other comments?
   i. Max (Econ) – agrees with Stephanie; do we have other students who will take over the positions? Currently elected Senators are ready and willing, need another solution.
   ii. Darcee (MPL/MPPA) – impeachment is not automatic; can we video meetings or have missing Senators review minutes; etc.?
      1. Is there another option? Even if a request is made for impeachment, it is a formal process; in the meantime, can we find solutions?
      2. Please remember many current Senators chose classes based on this time
   iii. Adriana (Film) – these students do care about involvement; they should propose a solution?
   iv. Kevin Fore – does not intend to discourage participation; however:
      1. New amendment can help fill Senator roles; those students can get involved in other ways
2. Current time increases credibility and visibility of Senate
j. Stephanie (IBA) motions: not eligible for impeachment until another solution is found (reiterating earlier motion)
   i. Sven (USC VP) clarifies, a motion has already been made, cannot make another until this is resolved
k. Laura (ICP) – are we allowed to vote something that goes against Constitution? Does that take away a Constitutional right?
   i. Response, Pierre: it would not be 100% constitutional to pass this vote;
   ii. Should a Senator propose another amendment to the Constitution, Judiciary Committee would need another week to review, prepare, and present to the Senate
l. Motion off the table, as it is unconstitutional; can be moved to next meeting
m. Any motions?
   n. Darcee (MPL/MPPA) moves to table motion; Laura (ICP) seconded
   o. Motion tabled


10. Announcements
   a. Stephanie (USC Communications)
      i. Please send in bios for those of you who haven’t
      ii. Please use your Communications Director as a resource
   b. Sven (USC VP)
      i. Reiterates USC Communications Director’s announcements
      ii. Reminder: there is nothing you (as Senators) cannot discuss or make a motion about; please continue to talk to constituents and look around campus for things that can be brought to meetings
      iii. Senator email addresses are now working – check in with IT Helpdesk if you need help figuring it out
      iv. For next week and from now on: Senators, two or three a week, (Daniel and Toghzan next week), will be asked to present current projects and to speak for constituents

Meeting adjourned (13:22)

*See attached document

**See attached document

***See attached document

****See attached document