

HIRAM COLLEGE STUDENT SENATE
February 5th, 2018 MINUTES

Call to Order and Introductions: 7:31pm

We had 5 Executive Board members, our Advisor, and 18 Senators present for the evening.

Those Senators present were: Andrzejewski, Bennett, Bessner, Bhau, Cook, Daniels, Dietzen, Hart, Kidd, Colton, Lisser, Louis, Oswald, Robb, Street, Thornton, and Toich

Those Senators absent for the evening were: Harris (excused), Daniels, Hudson (excused) Dualan, Rodgerick, and Rivard

Our guests this evening were: Danni Lynn McDonald, Kate Cawley, Maddi Linville, Ka Shing Allan So, and Madelyn Spehn

Presidential Announcements

President Enoch announced that President Varlotta will be attending next week's meeting. Posters advertising her appearance, as well as notecards to write down questions for her, were distributed. She will speak at least in part on the new academic schools, but she is invited to speak before Senate yearly as a tradition.

Executive Board Reports

VP of Activities Lang introduced Madison Spehn and Ka Shing Allan So to present a proposal to found a new club on campus — Cubing Club. The officers are as follows: President Madison Spehn; Vice President Ka Shing Allan So; Treasurer Mary Spehn; and Secretary Josephine Dunn-Foster. Further, their advisor is Professor Ernest. In response to *Senator Dietzen*, the officers explained that club funds would be used to purchase cubic puzzles and to travel to participate in puzzle competitions. *Senator Bennett* raised concerns that their constitution does not reflect their mission articulated during their presentation, and other Senators agreed that the document should be changed to better reflect their purpose. Once edits are made, *VP Lang* will notify Senate.

VOTE: 14-1-5. Approved!

VP of Communication Lyon presented the five nominees of the Election Committee to Senate for confirmation — Senators Kidd, Rivard, Cook, Maddi Linville, and Jenna Nelson. The nominees are confirmed as a whole as one committee.

VOTE: 19-0-1. Approved!

ARTICLE I- MEMBERSHIP

Section 6:

- A. One week before the above appointments take place, any student who is being considered for positions of Vice President of Finance, Vice President of Activities, or Vice President of Communication, must submit to the Student Senate Executive Board, one week prior to nomination approval vote, a summary of qualifications outlining how they are best suited to complete the duties of the position to the Student Senate.

VP Lyon presented proposed constitutional changes from *Article I Membership, Section 6* of the Student Senate Constitution.

VOTE: 18-0-2. Approved!

ARTICLE II- POWERS AND DUTIES

Section 5:

- Each Senatorial position has specific duties, as listed here:
 - A. Scarborough School of Business & Communication, School of Arts, Humanities & Culture, School of Science & Technology, School of Health & Medical Humanities, and School of Education, Civic Leadership & Social Change Senators:
 - a. Meeting with the director of the school that they represent at least two times during their appointment. It is suggested to have more meetings.
 - b. Contacting and introducing oneself to all professors in their subject area within the first two months of appointment as a Senator.
 - c. Attending at least one college events within the Senator's school per semester.
 - Commuter Student and Townhouse Senators:
 - Meet at least once a month with the Director of Commuter Students or the Director of the Townhouses.
 - Host at least one event per semester to gather commuter students together.
 - C. Residential Hall Senators:
 - Meet at least once a semester with the Resident Director of the Senator's respective hall. This will be planned in accordance with Residential Education.
 - Attend at least one Resident Assistant Building Meeting every semester.
 - Attend at least 50% of all floor meetings that occur within the Senator's Residence Hall.
 - Attend at least two floor programs that occur within the Senator's Residence Hall per semester.
 - D. International Senators:
 - Attend at least 80% of the Intercultural Forum's meetings.
 - Address International Student concerns or needs.
 - Encourage diversity and cultural education across campus.
 - E. Athletic Senators:
 - Meet with the SAAC.
 - Work to ensure fair rights for all athletes.
 - Engage in work to strengthen and engage our athletic community on campus with the entirety of the Student Body.

These duties must be communicated (via verbal and written communication) from the Executive Board to the senators within the first two meetings of the school year.

VP of Administration Stevenson presented proposed constitutional changes from *Article II Powers and Duties, Section 5* of the Student Senate Constitution. Discussion was held.

VOTE: 16-0-4. Approved!

ARTICLE V- FINANCE

Section 1. Function

- h. The Funding You Board reviews student organizations funding requests and allocates funding for:
 - b. New clubs approved by the S.O.A.C and Senate;

- F. The Vice President of Finance will choose the seven (7) students to represent the Funding You Board Finance Committee of Hiram College in consultation with the Director of Campus Involvement;
- a. The seven students must be chosen before the end of the Spring Semester. Members may choose to continue with the Funding You Board through their remaining years, providing a consistent Funding You Board.
 - b. Members may be removed or replaced at the discretion of the Vice President of Finance.
 - c. Once the seven students are chosen appointed, they must be reviewed and approved by Student Senate. They will be voted in by the Senators in through a 2/3 majority vote.
- G. Funding You Board has the right to meet at least once a month at the discretion of the VP of Finance.
- a. The VP of Finance must provide reasonable notice of the Funding You Board agenda, as if requested by Senate.

VP of Finance Eddinger presented proposed constitutional changes to *Article V Finance, Section 1* of the Student Senate Constitution. Discussion was held.

VOTE: 16-0-4. Approved!

ARTICLE VI- STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND S.O.A.C

A. The Student Senate body is responsible for affirming or not affirming the suggestions of the VP of Activities S.O.A.C. in the creation of clubs.

B. Once a club has been approved reviewed by the Vice President of Activities and the club constitution has been sent to the entire Student Senate, S.O.A.C., the club will come before the Student Senate and will make their claims as to why they should be a club, how best they can serve the Hiram College Community, and answer any questions of the Student Senate. The Constitution must be given to the Student Senate at least 48 hours in advance of the Student Senate meeting when the club's creation will be voted upon. Once all discussions have occurred, the Senate will vote to allow the proposed club to become an official club of Hiram College with all the rights and privileges thereof.

C. The Senate may reject a club and send it back to the Vice President of Activities S.O.A.C for further revision before repeated voting. The Senate is not in charge of determining Tier Status or making recommendations as to the level of funding a club should receive.

D. In instances deemed appropriate by the Senate and Executive Board, a club may be approved with Constitutional changes pending. This club will not be an official club of Hiram College until the Vice President of Activities gives their official approval. Tier status will not be awarded to a club that has not completed their Constitutional changes requested.

E. If a club wants to change the name of their organization, they must meet with the Vice President of Activities to discuss the reasoning behind the change. If the Vice President of Activities approves of the change, the club must update their constitution and other public information to match the new name. Once this is done, the Vice President of Activities must report the new name to Student Senate.

VP Lang presented proposed constitutional changes to *Article VI Student Organizations, Sections A-E*. Discussion was held.

ARTICLE I- MEMBERSHIP

Section 6:

- B. The Vice President of Activities will be appointed by their predecessor. in SOAC
- C. The Vice President of Finance will be appointed by their predecessor The Vice President of Finance will be appointed by the following process:
 - The current VP of Finance will take applications from the current members of the Funding You Board only.
 - If no members apply then the process will be open to the student body.
 - Applications will be reviewed and the applicants will be interviewed by the VP of Finance and the Director of OCI. Invitations to sit in on the interviews will be offered to the Senate Advisor and Senate executive board members.
 - Results of the interviews will be shared with the FYB and they will be asked for their input regarding the candidates (This will exclude any FYB member who applied for the position). The FYB will give their preferred VP of Finance recommendation.
 - The final decision is then given by the VP of Finance and Director of OCI with considerations from the FYB members, Student Senate executive board members, and Senate Advisor.
 - The appointed VP of Finance will be voted in by the Student Senate, as stated under letter D.
 - If for any reason, the Student Senate does not approve the appointed candidate through their vote, the FYB reserves the right to hold a vote to veto that decision. The veto must pass by a majority vote.
 - If the veto does not occur, then the current VP of Finance and Director of OCI must appoint another candidate from the applicant pool.

VP Stevenson and VP Eddinger proposed constitutional changes to Article I Membership, Section 6. Discussion was held.

VOTE: 14-0-6. Approved!

ARTICLE I- MEMBERSHIP

Section 4:

- A. Senatorial Voting
 - b. If a Senator brings forth a proposal of their own creation that must be voted on by Student Senate, that Senator must be sent out of the room during voting. However, before they leave, they must give their own vote to the Vice President of Administration, who will add this to the total vote of the senators. This law applies to the Executive Board, as well.

Our reasoning:

We are on a small campus. Students who see others vote down a proposal that they created may feel anger or hurt. This could cause a feeling of uncomfortableness for both the voters and the proposer. This could also cause someone to vote yes or no on an issue they might not vote similarly for, should the one who proposed the topic be present.

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- B. Constituent Voting: Only student members of each respective constituency may cast a vote for each Senator position during elections. Each Student Senator represents a specific constituency, and during elections, students can only vote for Senators that represent a constituency that they are a part of.

VP Stevenson presented proposed constitutional changes from Article I Membership, Section 4 of the Student Senate Constitution. Discussion was held in regard to whether or not Senators should or should not be in the room when a vote is held on their proposal.

VOTE: 12-3-5. Approved!

ARTICLE I- MEMBERSHIP

Section 7:

- D. The Senate must confirm each appointee by a 2/3 vote to the following:
 - any College Governance committee (except for CESC),
 - Any vacant Senator position
 - The Vice President of Finance, Activities, or Communication
- F. In the case of the Senate disapproving of the appointee, the Executive Board will bring forth another recommendation for vote within one (1) week.
- G. The Student Senate reserves the right to know all potential nominees for any senatorial position once all applications have been submitted. The Executive Board must communicate the nominees within 24 hours, if asked.

VP Stevenson presented and explained changes to *Article I Membership, Section 7* of the Student Senate Constitution. *Senator Dietzen* suggested that the two-thirds vote be altered to a simple majority, and this motion passed. The Executive Board will review other voting procedures throughout the constitution apply this change as they deem fit, and present said changes before Senate.

VOTE: 16-0-4. Approved!

ARTICLE I- MEMBERSHIP

Section 2:

- All members of the Executive Board...
- After "student has the proper GPA" we propose the phrase: Each senators' individual GPA will be reviewed at mid-terms and the end of each semester by the Dean of Students.

Section 3:

- A. The Student Senate shall be recognized as a the primary legislative assembly of the electorate.
- C. The Student Senate may invest such the following powers...

Section 10:

- A. Any member of the Student Senate, either a Senator or member of the Executive Board, who does not, to the best of their abilities, carry out the duties assigned to them in this Constitution or is brought before the Community Council and found guilty of the accusations charged, shall be removed from their

position with a 2/3 majority vote of the Senate. If any member of Student Senate is in question, that member may not vote in the matter.

- B. Any member of the Student Senate, either a Senator or member of the Executive Board, who does not fulfill their duties or who breaks the rules set forth in this Constitution, under the judgement of the Executive Board, can be put up for a 2/3 majority vote in the Senate for removal from office. If passed, the Senator or Executive Board member must vacate their position.

VP Stevenson presented proposed constitutional changes to *Article I Membership, Sections 2-3 and 10*.

VOTE: 16-0-4. Approved!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 by VP Stevenson.