Hiram College Student Senate
Meeting Minutes

Date: October 17, 2022  Time: 7:30pm  Location: East Hall Forum

Call to Order & Roll Call

Vice President Hussain — 7:30PM

Presidential Announcements

President Johns — 7:30PM
- President Johns announced that Sherman Dean will be speaking at Senate on October 24th to discuss academic changes and Degree Works.
- She also gave a shout out to the TAB Executive Board and Julie Hild for their work in planning Homecoming.
- The Fall Board of Trustees meeting will also be taking place this week where President Johns and VP Streator will be presenting a report about Senate.

Guest Speaker

Advisor Steiner – 7:31PM

Mick Steiner, Changes To Student Handbook

- Advisor Steiner encouraged students to attend Homecoming events this week.
- He then discussed Student Conduct and Student Handbook Updates. Normally, the student handbook is released a few weeks before the fall semester but this year it was a bit delayed due to the finalization of new campuswide policies.
- He talked about his position at the college and his responsibilities.
- He asked Senators what they think of when they think of student conduct. He then asked senators why managing student conduct is important. Senators responded with a variety of responses.
- He then talked about how misconduct gets reported. It can be 1 of 3 ways: through Residential Education, through Campus Safety, or through external forces (ie. Parents, community members, police/fire).
- He then talked about Philosophy & Guiding Principles. He expressed the importance of transparency, expectations, prevention, accountability, and trust. He then introduced students to the conduct team and those who hear cases dependent upon the level of severity.
- He asked students how many incident reports have been submitted this year? Approximately 42 (some are duplicates).
- He also talked about big picture changes to Student Conduct. This includes language modification, improved communication, consistency in experience, training for area coordinators, pausing community council, and the handbook launch and confirmation of receipt.
- He also talked about major student handbook changes:
  1. Formal integration of a medical amnesty policy (preserving life over policy). The spirit of this policy encourages good Samaritans to see something, say something, and do something (such as call 911, alert police, or seek assistance from Residential Education staff) when a policy is broken but life is at risk. It’s better to be safe than sorry.  
    a. Note: Police still have the authority to cite students at their discretion.
2. Ban on tobacco and smokeable products of any kinds in all places of campus. Cannabis and medical marijuana are also banned.

3. Violence and Hazing: “Threat of bodily harm” is replaced with “endangering behavior” as well as “infliction of bodily harm” is replaced with “physical violence.” This new change also complies with Collin’s Law. Hiram is obliged to report any hazing instances to law enforcement.

4. Guests and Animals: Policies regarding emotional animals, vs. registered pets, vs, emotional support animals are more clear and guests must be 16 or older unless accompanied by parent/guardian. Roommates must also be notified in advance if a visitor is coming and babysitting is not allowed.

- He then talked about sanctioning and the 3-pronged approach. This approach highlights standing sanctions (status), educational sanctions, and punitive sanctions.
- VP Flaherty asked about issues that go unnoticed due to improper reporting. She asked how can students help in this matter. Advisor Steiner encouraged students to report anything. She then asked how campus safety and Dean of Students more approachable. Advisor Steiner let students know that submitting reports anonymously is an option through the public incident report form.

Executive Board  

Vice President Streator — 8:11 PM

- Senators voted on creating the Mental Health Committee. The motion passed on a 17-0-0 unanimous vote.

Clubs and Student Organization Updates  

Vice President Flaherty – 8:15PM

- VP Flaherty talked about a possible club that will be coming into Senate next week known as Cru. She asked senators to research this organization to make a decision about if they feel that this should be club on campus.
- VP Cebulla talked about the budgets and how he will be emailing clubs their finalized budgets for the year.

Committee Updates:  

Academic Planning Committee - 8:20PM

- APC Update: Senator Travis discussed how APC is considering adding a CNXT in the attributes section of the schedule. Senator Barnes also mentioned that 4 new classes were approved unanimously.

Senator Action Item Updates  

President Johns — 8:22PM

- Library Updates: Timings for the library can be find in the Hiram Highlights. The Clocktower Café does not work with institution cash at the moment but it does work with Terrier cash.
- Colton Update: The Executive Board reached out to ABM and were told that doors open at 7am. If students need to go in earlier, they can discuss this with their professors.

New Senator Action Items  

Vice President Streator – 8:25PM

- Senator Travis talked about the concern some students have with the weight room dress code update. Senator Mongold and Senator Barnes dittoed. Senator Bernhardt said that this rule will not change from the athletics end.
- Senators suggested making signs that specifically draw out the rules and well as creating an educational video.
  - *Senator Galecki* talked about how campus safety and police were in the halls of B/C at 2AM. She also talked about how there is no heat in B/C as well.

**Adjournment**

*Vice President Streator — 8:40PM*